

[Report 1940] / Medical Officer of Health, Pontypool R.D.C.

Contributors

Pontypool (Wales). Rural District Council.

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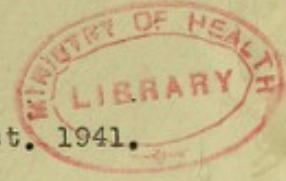
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PONTYPOOL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

May 1st, 1941.



Gentlemen,

In conformance with Circular 2314 (Wales) dated the 26th. March I beg to submit an interim report to take the place of the usual Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health. This Report contains only urgent and important matters which affected Public Health during the year 1940 and contains none of the statistics usually associated with that report.

The year saw a large increase in the number of cases of notifiable disease reported-sixty nine against thirty two in the preceding year. This was to some extent accounted for by the Act making compulsory the notification of Measles but the notifications at the beginning of the year contained a disturbingly large number of cases of cerebro spinal meningitis. A case of this disease occurred in a dormitory at the Monmouths hire Institute of Agriculture and in view of the fact that a case occurring in such a situation might have been followed by an epidemic stringent measures of isolation were adopted. With the kind and immediately forthcoming assistance of the County Medical Officer and his staff all students and staff were swabbed and positive reactors - of whom there were a surprisingly large proportion - isolated.

It is gratifying to state that no further cases occurred in the Institution.


In June approximately four hundred children evacuated from Barking and Folkestone were received at Pontypool Road Station and after transfer to New Inn School were medically examined. The physical condition and cleanliness of all the children were of a surprisingly high standard and distribution to their billets in the Pontypool Rural District was much facilitated. It transpired afterwards that a fairly high proportion of the children suffered from nocturnal enuresis (Bed-wetting).

During September a meeting was held with a member of the Welsh Board of Health concerning the water supply at Llangybi and it was decided that the water in the former well in its present state was unfit for human consumption. The Council was refused the controlled materials required for pumping the water in the lower well to the villages.

The incidence of tuberculosis in the area continues to be average - twelve new cases were reported during the year.

Births in the Rural District during the year totalled eighty nine and deaths in the same period uncorrected for inward and outward transfers totalled sixty two.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
J.C.H. Bird.



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THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PONTYPOOL.

INTERIM ANNUAL REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR
YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 1940.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,
12, Porthycarne St.,
Usk, Mon.

Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit an interim report for the year ending 31st. December 1940, as instructed in the recent circular from the Welsh Board of Health.

The duties were taken over on the 2nd. December 1940 to act during the military service of Mr. Jolliffe who was called up in June last.

The work of this Department, though rather upset by the changes which took place, was carried out efficiently but was encroached upon by more urgent duties to some extent. The essential duties in the interval between June and December were performed by your Surveyor. The work of Mr. Jolliffe was devoted in the main to the sampling of water supplies at Military Establishments and other inspections in connection with these. He carried out a Housing Inspection and was able to secure repairs to several properties. Cowsheds and dairies also received his attention and a number of milk samples were taken and he took action when bad samples were found.

During the month of December I was engaged in getting to know the District, but was able to inspect 62 houses under the Public Health and Housing Acts and took informal action in 23 cases. 6 nuisances were dealt with under Section 93 of the Public Health Act 1936. The number of animals examined under the Slaughter of Animals Act was 8.

(signed) Wilson Hogarth

Sanitary Inspector

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