

**[Report 1949] / Medical Officer of Health, Pontypool R.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Pontypool (Wales). Rural District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1949

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To the Director and Staff

Subject: [Illegible]

I am pleased to present to you the results of the study...

The study was conducted in accordance with the plan...

The results of the study are as follows...

The data indicates that there is a significant correlation...

It is concluded that the findings of this study...

The study was limited by several factors...

Further research is needed to confirm these results...

The study was conducted over a period of six months...

The results are consistent with previous research...

The study was supported by the following grants...

The study was conducted at the following locations...

The study was completed on the following date...

The study was conducted by the following personnel...



DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

Under the re-allocation of the District Midwifery Service, two District Midwives are resident in the Rural District.

The monthly average of nursing visits was 54

DISTRICT NURSING SERVICE.

There are three District Nurses resident in the Rural DISTRICT  
The monthly average number of nursing visits was 308

HEALTH VISITING.

Two Health Visitors are doing the routine domiciliary visits, School Inspections (cleanliness of body and clothes), and attends the Maternity and child Welfare Centre.

NIGHT NURSING SERVICE

The County Council had voted a small sum for the provision of a Night Nursing Service. The Night Nurses, male and female, are to be in possession of certain minimum qualifications.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

The County Council has provided a Domestic Help Service which is intended for those cases where there is illness, and where there is no able-bodied relative who could give the necessary assistance in the household.

The Service has been useful in providing assistance to aged persons and cases of Chronic sick, who otherwise would have had to be admitted to Hospitals, thereby helping to relieve the pressure upon hospital accommodation.

The Service is under the direction of the Area Committee Clerk (Mr D.A. Lewis). Applicants for the Service are assessed to repay the cost of the Service in relation to their income; persons with a gross income of less than £3-0-0, per week receive the Service free of charge.

The hours allocated to each case are recommended after personal investigation by the District Nurse, Midwife, or Health Visitor, and are submitted to me for approval. Cases where the recommendation exceeds 30 hours per week have to be submitted by the Area Committee Clerk to the County Health Committee for investigation Except maternity cases.


There are approximately 30 Domestic Helps in Ho 10 Area, all are engaged on a Temporary Part-time basis. The number of cases attended was 80; the average monthly number of hours worked was 2,230

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The County Council took over the responsibility of the Ambulance Service in 1948. The Rural District was served by one St. John ambulances from Usk and Ambulances available from Pontypool Depot, under the central control of the County Ambulance Officer at Caerleon.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX AND IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria has been carried out at the surgeries of the General Practitioners, and at the Maternity



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and child Welfare Centres; in both cases free of charge.

The figures for vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria for the Rural District are as follows;

Vaccination against Smallpox 1949

Age groups;-

<u>Under 1 yr.</u>	<u>1 to 4yrs</u>	<u>5to 14 yrs</u>	<u>Over 15 yrs</u>	<u>Total</u>
21	12	7	8	43

Immunisation against Diphtheria

<u>Age Groups;-</u>	<u>Under 5 yrs</u>	<u>5 to 14 yrs</u>	<u>Total</u>
	56	1	57

Since the compulsory vaccination against smallpox has been abolished, the Rural District like the rest of the country, followed the trend of a decrease in vaccination; from the public health point of view it is very regrettable. As shown in two outbreaks of imported smallpox, we are not free of the possibility of a more serious outbreak. Great encouragement is given to mothers for both vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria, but the results are more encouraging for immunisation than for vaccination.

HEALTH EDUCATION

The early part of the last century saw the birth of Public Health as we know it now. The main object being the provision of wholesome water supply, sanitation, and notification of infectious diseases. At the beginning of this century the influence of the environment became more apparent and more emphasis was given to this new factor. We realise now that we cannot complete the picture of ideal health without education.

Under the auspices of the Central Council for Health Education, Local Health Authorities have undertaken a campaign to improve the knowledge of the Community on health matters, and a County Health Education Officer was appointed in 1948. We must improve our body cleanliness and home cleanliness, including an improvement in our handling of Food.

Some forms of health education have been undertaken, including display of posters and distribution of leaflets, and I feel this is one of our major tasks in public health to educate the people on all aspects of life.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

A County Psychiatrist was appointed in 1948 for the purpose of a Mental Health Service. This Service is co-ordinated with the Regional Hospital Board, and Hospital Management Committees.

No Adult Guidance Clinics are held in the Rural District, but individual cases, patients suffering from early nervous strain, and who are finding difficulty in adjusting themselves either in their home or at their work, are seen by Dr J. Newcombe the County Psychiatrist. Cases considered too far advanced are referred to the Regional Hospital Board Psychiatrist.

WELFARE SERVICES

The Welfare Officer Of No 10 Area caters for the needs of Abergavenny Borough as regards Welfare Service, which come within the provisions of the National Assistance Act, 1946.











INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Ninety-one cases of infectious disease were notified during the year and of these it was found necessary to remove five cases to Isolation Hospital.

ANALYSIS OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever.....	8
Pneumonia.....	1
Measles and German Measles.....	50
Whooping cough.....	31
Anterior Poliomyelitis.....	1
	<hr/>
Total	91

The necessary steps of isolation of contacts and dis-infection were all taken where necessary.

Tuberculosis.

The position at 31st December, 1949 was;-

<u>MALES</u>		<u>FEMALES</u>	
<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-pulmonary</u>
14	4	12	8

Total number of cases on Register at 31st December 1949- 38

DISCUSSION OF TABLES.

The rate of Scarlet Fever per 1000 population is practically the same as for the rest of the Country, There was one case of anterior poliomyelitis. The child was treated at a Fever Hospital, and has made a complete recovery.

The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register is less than 1948 (38 against 49), nevertheless there is room for further improvement, and once more I draw the attention of the Health Committee to the importance of finding suitable accommodation as soon as cases are discharged from Sanatoria. As I have often said at the Health Committee, Tuberculosis is an infectious disease of the household, and we must bear in mind it will spread to the family if proper measures are not taken and the most important of these measures is the sleeping accommodation. A case of tuberculosis must have one room of its own, and it is only by taking these measures that we can hope to stamp out this glaring evil.

In conclusion, I may say the health of the Rural District is satisfactory.

I have the honour to be  
Your obedient Servant ,

F.C.K. Harvey.

Medical Officer of Health.



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TABLE OF CASES OF ...

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PONTYPOOL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Sessions House,  
USK.....Mon.

15th June 1950.

To: The Chairman and Members of the  
Pentypool Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1949 as follows:-

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Houses .. .. .	311
Re-inspections .. .. .	268
Nuisances .. .. .	151
Cowsheds and Dairies .. .. .	372
Water Supplies .. .. .	593
Food Inspections .. .. .	47
Disinfections .. .. .	12
Disinfestations .. .. .	31
Factories and Workplaces .. .. .	95
Miscellaneous .. .. .	132
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	2012
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HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:-

(i)(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health Housing Acts).	311
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.	311
(ii)(a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.	89
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.	89
(iii) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	5
(iv) Number of dwellings (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	107

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:-





Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.	92
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-	
(A) Proceedings under Sections 9,10 and 16 of the Housing Act,1936.	1
(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-	
(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	14
(ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By Owners.	12
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners.	Nil.
(C) Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act,1936:-	
(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.	5
(ii) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	1

#### OVERCROWDING.

The housing accommodation of the district is still overtaxed and is largely due to the influx of key workers and the greater number of young married couples. The erection of new factories in the surrounding Urban Districts has also contributed to the problem inasmuch as many of the employees of the factories have moved into the District. Whilst the population remains in a fluid state it is impossible to give a true figure of the number of houses which became overcrowded during the year.

The Council are, however, doing their utmost to relieve overcrowding by re-housing the families in the new houses which are being completed.

#### POST WAR HOUSING.

Fourteen new Council Houses were completed during the year. The houses were all of the traditional type, pleasing in appearance and very suitable for the housing of medium sized families. A further thirty-two houses were under construction at the end of the year.

Six privately constructed houses were completed during the year.

#### HOUSING REPAIRS.

A further improvement in the availability of materials was experienced during the year but labour still remains most difficult. Only most urgent works can still be dealt with.

#### CARAVANS.

Some ten caravans remained stationed in the district at the end of the year. Water supply and sanitary accommodation to the caravans was satisfactory. Three of the occupiers of caravans



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have been granted Building Licences and it is certain that the houses will be completed and the caravans removed during the year.

### SCHOOLS.

Schools are visited periodically and sanitation and water supply of most are satisfactory. Drainage difficulties are being experienced at Goetre School but the Education Authority have been prevailed upon and are now taking the necessary steps for the provision of a properly designed and constructed sewage disposal works.

Difficulties were also experienced with the sewage disposal works at the Institute of Agriculture but the Education Authority took immediate steps for the renovation of the works.

### WATER SUPPLY.

Eleven samples of water were taken from the public mains during the year. Two of the samples were slightly below the standards required but the Bulk Suppliers were immediately notified and the proper standards immediately attained.

The Council is proceeding with the schemes for the supply of water to the parishes of Goetre, Mamhilad and Kemeys Commander, and at the end of the year the work of laying the mains was almost complete. These schemes will provide for the supply of water to some 160 houses and also an appreciable number of dairy farms.

During the year the Council purchased from the Ministry of Supply the water main running through the village of Penpelleni, and are utilising this main for the supply of water to the new houses now in course of erection at this village and also supplying some twenty existing houses.

At the end of the year approximately 590 houses were being supplied from the public mains, these being served as follows:-

Llanfrechfa Lower supplied by R.D.C.	..	..	..	..	381
Goetre Fawr	..	..	..	..	17
Gwehelog Fawr	..	..	..	..	16
Llanhennoc Fawr	..	..	..	..	10
Goetre Fawr and Llanbadoc Fawr supplied by the Pontypool Gas & Water Company	..	..	..	..	145
					<u>569</u>

A further 22 houses in the parish of Llanfrechfa Lower are supplied by standpipe.

The Llanover Estate supply some 33 houses in the Parish of Goet. Fawr. This supply being for houses on the estate only.

The Council are promoting further schemes for the provision of mains supplies in the parishes of Llangybi, Llanbadoc, Tredunnoc, Glascoed and Gwehelog. Permission to proceed with the scheme for Glascoed having been given during the present year. This work is to be commenced in April 1951.

### SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The parish of Llanfrechfa Lower is provided with a sewerage system for the ward of Croesyceiliog only but the work of providing sewerage and sewage disposal works in the ward of Ponthir was commenced during the year. The existing sewerage system of Croesyceiliog deals with the drainage from some 275 houses and the system at Ponthir now in course of construction is to provide for some 90 houses.





The sewerage scheme providing for the village of Little Mill in the parish of Goetre Fawr, and part of Monkswood in the parish of Llanbadoc Fwar was completed during the year and works of connecting to the sewer and also conversions was proceeding at the end of the year.

All necessary notices were served on owners for the connecting to the sewers, some 60 houses are to be served.

An extension to the sewer to provide for the drainage of some twenty two houses in the Croesyceiliog area was also being proceeded with.

#### REFUSE COLLECTION.

Refuse is now being collected throughout the larger and more thickly populated parishes. Collections being made weekly from some 450 houses in Llanfrechfa Lower and some 40 houses in Llanbadoc Fawr. Fortnightly collections are being made from some 240 houses in the parishes of Goetre Fawr and part of Monkswood.

The Council have also undertaken to perform a monthly collection along the main district roads throughout the remaining scattered parishes of the area, and this scheme, which is to cover an additional 350 houses is to be commenced during the present year.

#### NUISANCES.

A number of these were reported and investigated and all were dealt with by both formal and informal action.

#### COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

Particulars of premises on Register as at October 1949:-

Producers	..	..	..	175
Retailers	..	..	..	11

Cowsheds were frequently inspected and such matters as arose attended to. The prosperity in the agricultural industry is being reflected in the increasing numbers of cowsheds and dairies which are being brought up to modern standards and also in the installation of piped water supplies which were being installed with the aid of the grants available.

Some forty samples of milk were taken from the retail milkshoppers and with the exception of three samples were satisfactory.

The three unsatisfactory samples were due to the presence of *Brucella Abortus* and as a result both the Medical Officer and myself made all necessary investigations and took precautions for the pasteurisation of the milk concerned. Individual samples proved three of the cows in the particular herd to be infected and the farmer was instructed and immediately disposed of by slaughter the animals so concerned.

#### INFESTATION ORDER.

The larger part of the Rural District is agricultural and farm premises were dealt with by the officers of the Agricultural Executive Committee. The necessary treatments of the sewers were carried out and regular treatments to the Councils refuse tips performed. Such other infestations as occurred were of a minor character and were promptly dealt with.

#### FOODSHOPS ETC.

The very small number of foodshops in the Rural District were visited frequently and all were found to be well regulated.



The number of cases reported for the year 1911 was 1,234. This was a decrease from the year 1910 when 1,567 cases were reported. The decrease was due to a number of factors, including a more rigorous enforcement of the law and a more effective system of reporting cases.

All necessary medical supplies were provided in time for the outbreak. The number of cases reported was 1,234. This was a decrease from the year 1910 when 1,567 cases were reported.

An outbreak of the disease occurred in the district of ... The number of cases reported was 1,234. This was a decrease from the year 1910 when 1,567 cases were reported.

REPORT ON THE DISEASE

The disease is now being reported throughout the district and more cases are being reported. The number of cases reported was 1,234. This was a decrease from the year 1910 when 1,567 cases were reported.

The Council have also undertaken to provide a regular supply of ... The number of cases reported was 1,234. This was a decrease from the year 1910 when 1,567 cases were reported.

CONCLUSIONS

A number of cases were reported and investigated and all were ... The number of cases reported was 1,234. This was a decrease from the year 1910 when 1,567 cases were reported.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the following measures be taken ... The number of cases reported was 1,234. This was a decrease from the year 1910 when 1,567 cases were reported.

...	...
...	...

The number of cases reported was 1,234. This was a decrease from the year 1910 when 1,567 cases were reported. The disease is now being reported throughout the district and more cases are being reported.

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APPENDIX

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REFERENCES

The number of cases reported was 1,234. This was a decrease from the year 1910 when 1,567 cases were reported. The disease is now being reported throughout the district and more cases are being reported.

FACTORIES ACTS.

1. Inspections for the purpose of the provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector).

Premises. (1)	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 are enforced by Local Authority	4	26	nil	nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) above in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A.	11	43	3	nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A.	9	26	nil	nil
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>nil</b>

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	Number of defects.			
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M.I.	Prosecutions
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:				
Want of cleanliness .....	2	2		
Want of ventilation .....	1	1		
Overcrowding .....	-	-		
Want of drainage of floors....	1	1		
Other nuisances.....	1	1		
(insufficient.....				
(unsuitable or				
Sanitary (defective.....	2	2		
Accommod- (not separate for				
-ation (sexes.....	-	-		
Offences under the Factory and Workshops Acts:				
Illegal occupation of under ground bakehouses (S.10)	-	-		
Other offences.....				
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>nil</b>	<b>nil</b>

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Cyril Morgan  
Sanitary Inspector.



PARTIAL LIST

The following is the list of the provisions of the Bill as amended by the Committee on Finance, and is intended to be printed in the Bill as amended.

Number of		Number of	Number of	Number of
Provisions	Provisions			
1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8
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10	10	10	10	10
11	11	11	11	11
12	12	12	12	12
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Grand Total of Provisions 100

Number of		Number of	Number of	Number of
Provisions	Provisions			
1	1	1	1	1
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92	92	92	92	92
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97	97	97	97	97
98	98	98	98	98
99	99	99	99	99
100	100	100	100	100

Total of Provisions 100