

**[Report 1946] / Medical Officer of Health, Pontypool U.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Pontypool (Wales). Urban District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1946

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/qyq8afcx>

**License and attribution**

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

THE URBAN DISTRICT  
COUNCIL OF PONTYPOOL

---



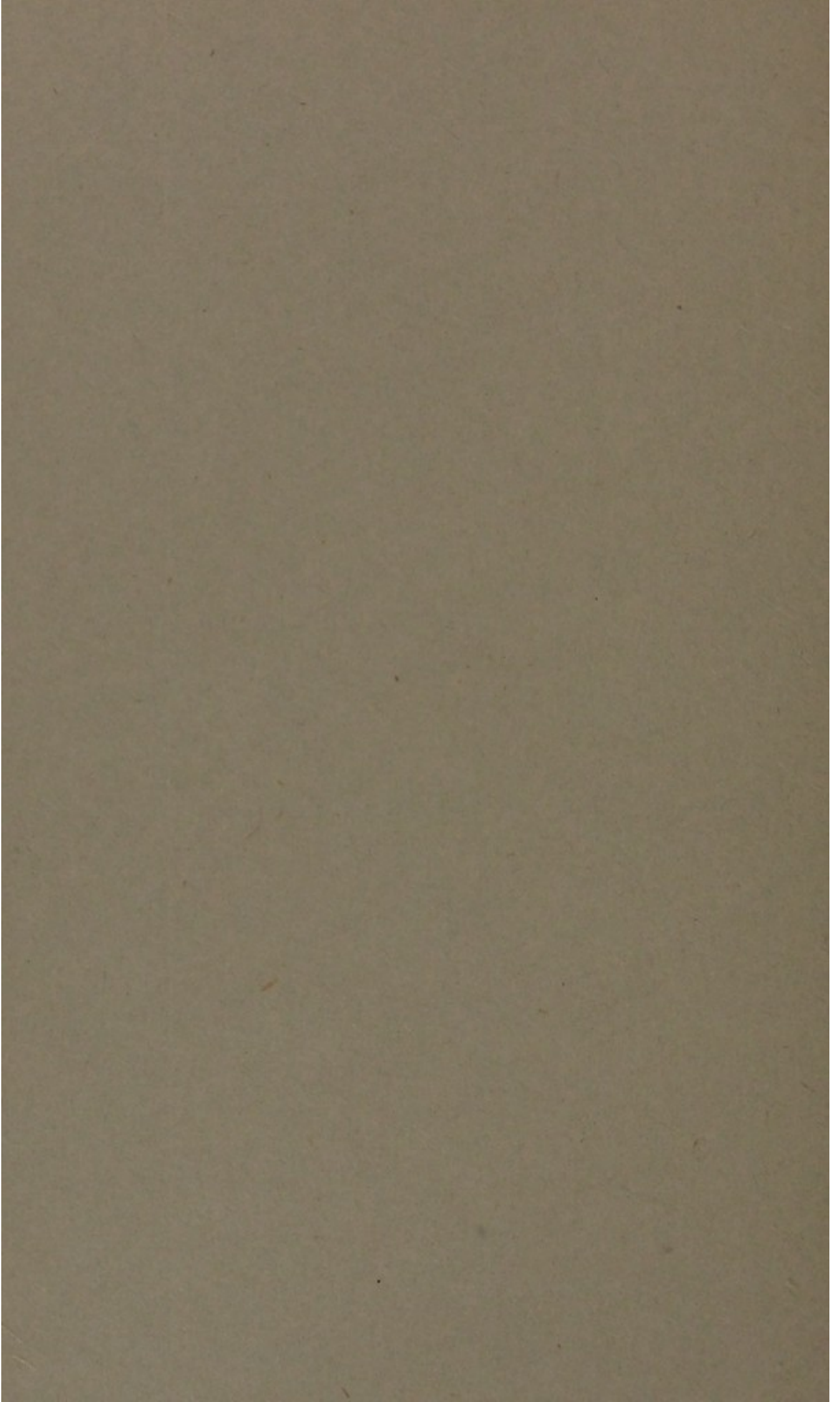
Medical Officer's  
Annual Report

---

FOR THE YEAR 1946.



Curzon, Printer, Pontypool and Abersychan.





THE URBAN DISTRICT  
COUNCIL OF PORTYNOE

---

Medical Officer's  
Annual Report

---

FOR THE YEAR 1914

THE URBAN DISTRICT  
COUNCIL OF PONTYPOOL.

---



Medical Officer's  
Annual Report

---

FOR THE YEAR 1946.



Curzon, Printer, Pontypool and Abersychan.

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Pontypool Urban District Council.*

Mrs. DAVIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The Welsh Board of Health have requested that Medical Officers of Health confine their Annual Reports for 1946 to essential and urgent matters, and I beg to submit mine in this form.

### **Physical Features**

Items under this heading correspond with my report for 1938.

## **STATISTICS**

### **General Statistics**

Information under the above heading has been purposely omitted.

### **Vital Statistics**

Birth Rate	18·07 per 1,000 population
Death Rate	12·09 " " "
Infantile Death Rate	42·005 per 1,000 live births
Infectious Disease Death Rate excluding Tuberculosis	00·47 per 1,000 population
Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate	00·47 " " "
Other Tuberculosis Diseases Death Rate	00·09 " " "

### **Birth Rate**

The total number of births returned by the Registrar General for the calculation of Birth Rates for 1946 (known in Table I. as "B.R.") and for the calculations of Infant and Maternal Mortalities (known in Table I as "I.M. &c.") was as follows—



Live Birth Rate	17·9 per 1,000 population
Illegitimate Birth Rate	39·3 per 1,000 live births

The number of women dying in consequence of childbirth was 2.

From puerperal sepsis (No. 29)	0
From other maternal causes (No. 30)	2

Total deaths under headings (Nos. 29 and 30)	2
--	---

Death rate of infants under one year of age—

All infants per 1,000 live births	41·84
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	43·5
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	64·5

	Total	Male	Female
Deaths from measles (all ages)	0	0	0
„ whooping cough (all ages)	0	0	0
„ cancer	85	39	46
„ diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	8	2	6

### AGES AT DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

Under one week	.....	13
1—2 weeks	.....	4
2—3 „	.....	2
3—4 „	.....	1
		—
Total under one month	.....	20
1—3 months	.....	7
3—6 „	.....	3
6—9 „	.....	2
9—12 „	.....	1
		—
Total under one year	.....	13

### INFANTILE DEATH RATES (1,000 LIVE BIRTHS) COMPARED

Year	England & Wales	Monmouthshire	Pontypool
1946	43	47·6	42·05

Table 1.—Causes of Death in Pontypool Urban District 1946

CAUSES OF DEATH		Males	Females
All Causes	...	293	254
1	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—	—
2	Cerebro spinal fever	1	—
3	Scarlet fever	—	—
4	Whooping cough	—	—
5	Diphtheria	—	—
6	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	13	8
7	Other forms of tuberculosis	4	1
8	Syphilitic diseases	—	—
9	Influenza	4	1
10	Measles	—	—
11	Ac. polio-myel and polio-enceph.	—	1
12	Ac. inf. enceph.	—	—
13	Cancer of B; cav: and oesoph: (m) uterus (f)	6	4
14	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	12	4
15	Cancer of breast	—	14
16	Cancer of all other sites	21	24
17	Diabetes	4	3
18	Intra-cran: vasc; lesions	19	29
19	Heart disease	92	71
20	Other diseases of circulatory system	4	4
21	Bronchitis	18	14
22	Pneumonia	11	5
23	Other respiratory diseases	11	4
24	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	9	1
25	Diarrhoea, (under 2 years)	2	6
26	Appendicitis	—	2
27	Other digestive diseases	9	15
28	Nephritis	8	6
29	Puerperal and post-abort. sepsis	—	—
30	Other maternal causes	—	2
31	Premature birth	5	4
32	Con. mal. birth inj. infant dis.	6	4
33	Suicide	—	1
34	Road traffic accidents	4	—
35	Other violent causes	9	4
36	All other causes	21	23

		M	F
		For I.M. etc.	
Live Births	Total	399	389
	Legitimate	383	374
	Illegitimate	16	15
Stillbirths	Total	15	7
	Legitimate	14	6
	Illegitimate	1	1

		M	F
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	Total	17	16
	Legitimate	16	15
	Illegitimate	1	1



# **GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA**

## **Public Health Officers of the Authority**

These were similar to my Report for 1945 with one exception—Dr. A. Carveth Johnson, Tuberculosis Physician from the King Edward VII Welsh National Memorial Association visits the Park Buildings, Pontypool, on Tuesday only of each week.

## **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA**

As stated in my Annual Report for 1945, several items under this heading will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report at the end of this Report.

## **FACTORIES ACT, 1937**

This is reported on by the Sanitary Inspector in his Report.

## **HOUSING**

This is also reported on by the Sanitary Inspector in his Report.

## **INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD**

Items under this heading are as reported in my Annual Report for 1938.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector has reported on the work carried out during the year in his Report.

The Council is the authority for the administration of the Food and Drugs Act.

## **PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES**

No alarming disclosures under any of the headings set out in my Annual Report for 1945 and no alteration from the information stated therein.

## **Prevention of Blindness**

No action was taken by the Council under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.



**TABLE II.**  
**INFECTIOUS DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS**  
**NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR ARRANGED IN AGE GROUPS.**

DISEASE	Under										65 and over	Total all ages	Cases removed to Hospital	
	1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35				35-45
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...
Malaria and Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	...
Erysipelas	...	...	2	...	3	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	1	...	...	...	...	29	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	...
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	...
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	0	...
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	...
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	...
Measles	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Whooping Cough	5	9	4	13	11	15	...	...	...	2	...	...	59	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	5	9	7	15	15	29	12	2	7	4	4	1	110	6



**TABLE III.**  
**ANALYSIS OF DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS,**  
**IN AGE GROUPS.**

DISEASE	Under	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Total all ages
	1 year												
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Malaria and Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Pneumonia	4	2	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	2	5	...	16
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Poioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Meningitis (C.Spinal)	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	5	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	1	2	5	20

ONE DEATH FROM SMALL POX TRANSFERRED IN.

## **Tuberculosis**

Thirty-two (19 male and 13 female) cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and Fourteen (11 male and 3 female) of the other forms of the disease were notified during the year.

There were Twenty (12 male and 8 female) deaths from the pulmonary form of the disease, and Four (2 male and 2 female) of the non-pulmonary form.

The King Edward VII Welsh National Memorial Association have an Institute at the Park Buildings, Pontypool, where Dr. A. Carveth Johnson attended on Tuesday of each week to see new cases referred to by the Medical Practitioners for examination, and old cases still requiring supervision or treatment. Visits were also made by Dr. Johnson to the homes of people too ill to attend the Institute.

No action for the compulsory removal of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis under Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936 became necessary.

No cases of Tuberculosis among employees engaged in the milk trade came under my observation, therefore no action under the Public Health Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations 1925, became necessary.

All deaths from Tuberculosis during the year had been previously notified in the district.



**TABLE IV.**

Particulars of New Cases of Tuberculosis and Deaths from the Disease during 1946.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
5—15	1	2	4	1	...	...	...	...
15—25	4	6	5	1	...	1	1	1
25—35	6	4	...	1	5	1	...	...
35—45	3	...	2	...	2	1	...	...
45—55	3	..	...	...	4	2	...	1
55—65	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
<b>Totals</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

## **Diphtheria Immunisation**

During the year 24 Clinics were held at the Schools and Child-Welfare Centres conducted by Assistant Medical Officers from the County Council Staff.

The number of children who completed the course during the year is 512.

Total number of children immunised is—

Children under 5 years	5 to 15 years	Total
4,098	6,267	10,365

## **Venereal Disease**

This complaint is dealt with by the Health Department of the County Council.

Posters have been placed in all the Public Conveniences throughout the Area, giving full particulars of the dangers attendant on the disease and directing the patient to apply to the County Medical Officer for particulars of treatment, and giving the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport, as the Central Clinic for this purpose. Bedclothes and bedding are disinfected at the Council's Steam Disinfector.

## **Recommendations**

As stated in my Annual Report for 1938.

I am,

Mrs. Davies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

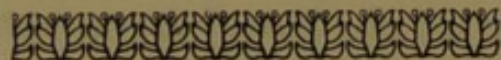
**THOMAS McALLEN.**



THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
OF PONTYPOOL.



Chief  
Sanitary Inspector's Report  
FOR THE YEAR 1946.



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
MARKET BUILDINGS,  
CRANE STREET,  
PONTYPOOL, MON.

Following is my report on work carried out by the Department for the year ending December 31st, 1946.

## NOTICES SERVED.

Informal notices	.....	325
Statutory notices	.....	42

## DEFECTS IN DWELLINGS.

Houses repaired externally	.....	262
Houses repaired internally	.....	83
Number of inspections and reinspections	.....	1002

## DRAINAGE.

Drains examined	.....	15
Drains opened and cleansed	.....	7
Drains connected to sewer	.....	2
New drains provided	.....	5
Defective drains repaired	.....	36
Defective W.C's. put in order	.....	42
Defective flushing tanks repaired or renewed	.....	8
New tanks supplied to W.C's.	.....	23
New pans supplied to W.C's.	.....	18
New lavatories provided	.....	2

## OTHER NUISANCES.

Accumulation or refuse removed	.....	8
--------------------------------	-------	---

## TENTS, SHEDS and VANS

The small number of vans and sheds occupied as dwellings have been inspected, and cleanliness kept to a reasonable standard. Action in regard to these dwellings is held up by the present housing conditions consequent upon the war.

## FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS and WORKPLACES.

Inspections of workshops and workplaces has been carried out, and below is a report on inspections made—

Premises	No. of Inspections	Notices served	Action necessary
Factories (including Laundries)	48	8	nil
Workshops	50	2	nil
Workplaces	18	—	nil

All notices served in connection with these premises were complied with.



## CINEMAS.

Number of cinemas in the area	.....	6
Number of inspections made	.....	30
Notices served and complied with	.....	8

## INSPECTION of MEAT and OTHER FOODS.

Below is my report of meat inspected at the Central Slaughter House Abersychan, showing the number of cattle killed and meat condemned.

### ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED.

Cattle	.....	1393	Pigs	.....	23
Sheep	.....	14063			
Calves	.....	1288	Total		16,767

### MEAT CONDEMNED.

Beef	.....	9789 lbs.	Lamb	.....	37 lbs.
Mutton	.....	1472 ,,			
Pork	.....	202 ,,	Total		11,500 lbs.

### OFFAL CONDEMNED.

**Cattle**—346 livers, 188 lungs, 172 melts, 26 heads and tongues, 11 complete offal, 23 heads, 13 other organs.

**Sheep**—2,316 livers, 888 lungs, 207 plucks, 27 heads.

**Calves**—One pluck.

**Pigs**— One complete offal.

### OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED.

166 tins milk, 76 lbs bacon, 1,306 lbs fish, 72 tins beans, 42 tins salmon, 25 lbs raisins, 41 tins pilchards, 25 tins sardines, 32 tins peas, 40 lbs dates, 610 lbs corned beef, 42 lbs tinned mutton, 5½ lbs lard, 11½ lbs butter, 150 eggs, 7 lbs cake flour, 8 tins pears, 40 jars jam, 2 tins fruit salad, 20 packets spices, 16 lbs ham, 8 tins sausage meat, 28 tins stewed steak, 30 lbs cheese, 11 tins pineapple, 18 lbs brawn 50 lbs sausages, 6 tins meat roll, 10 lbs prunes.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

All cases of Infectious Disease notified were dealt with by the Department, terminal disinfection carried out, and all precautions taken against the spread of the disease.



Three cases of Infectious Disease were removed to the Isoiation Hospital. Enviremental Reports were made on all cases of Tuberculosis notified. 13 cases of Scabies were removed to hospital and 15 cases treated at home.

### **WATER SUPPLY.**

Six samples of water were taken from springs and wells at Varteg, Plasycoed, Panteg and Cwmylyscoy, and submitted to the County Analyst for examination—

Four samples were found to be satisfactory, and Two samples unsatisfactory.

61 samples were taken from the Company's Main Supply—of these, 13 were not satisfactory.

The Company was informed, and check samples taken, and found to be satisfactory.

180 samples were taken by the Company's Inspectors, and of these, five were below standard.

Samples were again taken in a few days and the results were satisfactory.

Generally the water supply to the area is of good quality and well maintained.

### **FOOD and DRUGS ACT, 1934—1938.**

63 samples of milk were taken under the above Acts, and submitted to the Public Analyst. All samples were genuine milks and no action was necessary against vendors or producers. The quality of milk supplied in the area is good.

61 samples of various other foods were also sent for analysis, and all found to conform to the standards laid down, and were of the quality and substance demanded by the purchaser.

### **ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.**

Four complaints of Bug Infestation were dealt with, and the use of Cimex Blocks and a good insecticide spray proved successful in abating this nuisance.



## RATS and MICE DESTRUCTION.

The intensifying of the "War against Rats" by the Ministry of food resulted in a survey of the area being carried out under the Circular "N.S. 12," and up to December 31st showed the following results—

Major Infestations	.....	10
Minor Infestations	.....	875

Baiting at all points was carried out and a good take of bait noted. The final poison bait brought about excellent results. The Council sewers and tipping grounds were also treated, as well as the yards and depots.

Complaints received were also dealt with.

62 visits were paid to business premises where rats were found and successfully dealt with.

Two piggeries were also treated.

Cinemas and factories throughout the area were regularly inspected and baiting carried out, resulting in the keeping down of the rat population.

Complete co-operation between the Department and the property owners has resulted in good work being done, and continued requests for the services of the Rodent Officer is proof of successful work.

### SCHOOLS.

Inspection of Schools has been carried out, and no nuisances found to exist in the premises.

I am,

Mrs. Davies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

**F. G. MEEK**  
(Chief Sanitary Inspector)





