

[Report 1937] / Medical Officer of Health, Pontypridd U.D.C.

Contributors

Pontypridd (Wales). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

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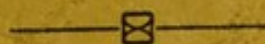


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Pontypridd Urban District Council.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1937.



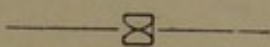
A. G. M. SEVERN, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical
Officer and Medical Superintendent of the
Isolation and Smallpox Hospitals.





Pontypridd Urban District Council.



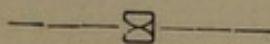
ANNUAL REPORT

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A. G. M. SEVERN, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical
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Pontypridd Urban District Council.

Chairman of the Council :

Councillor ARTHUR PEARSON, C.C., J.P., M.P.

COMMITTEES, 1937-1938.

Health Committee :

Chairman : Councillor A. SEYMOUR.

Councillor WALTER COLLIER.

„ A. J. CHAMPION.
„ C. W. DAVIES.
„ DANIEL FRANK EVANS, J.P.
„ H. GARDNER.
„ JOHN HOWELL.
„ E. P. JAMES.
„ C. H. JAMES.
„ T. L. JENKINS.
„ D. T. JONES.
„ J. COLENSO JONES, M.B.E.
„ JOHN JONES.
„ WILLIAM JONES.
„ H. G. JOSHUA.
„ EVAN MORGAN.
„ GEORGE PAGET.
„ ARTHUR PEARSON, C.C., J.P., M.P.
„ E. M. PHILLIPS.
„ J. POWDERHILL, C.C.
„ Mrs. BLODWEN RANDELL.
„ D. J. RICHARDS.
„ G. H. ROGERS.
„ EDWIN ROWBOTHAM.
„ HOPKIN SMITH.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

Chairman : Councillor A. SEYMOUR.

The Members of the Health Committee, together with the following co-opted Members :—

Mrs. A. J. CHICK.	Mrs. D. T. JONES.
Mrs. W. B. FLOYD.	Mrs. W. JONES.
Mrs. L. I. HOBBS.	Mrs. M. M. MARRAN.
Mrs. G. HUGHES.	Mrs. H. L. PORCHER.

Solicitor—Clerk of the Council : Mr. H. LEONARD PORCHER.

OBITUARY.

Councillor EDWARD HUGHES.

Died 18th January, 1937.

**Pontypridd Representatives on the Pontypridd and Caerphilly
Joint Smallpox Hospital Committee :**

CHAIRMAN OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillor E. P. JAMES.
Councillor E. ROWBOTHAM.

Public Health Department Staff.

**Medical Officer of Health and Medical Superintendent of the
Isolation and Smallpox Hospitals :**

A. G. M. SEVERN, M.A. (Camb.), M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer :

DORIS WILLIAMS, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Specialist Medical Officers (part-time) :

Orthopaedic Surgeon :

J. BERRY HAYCRAFT, M.B., Ch.B. (Ed.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.).

Ophthalmic Surgeon :

BERNARD GLUCK, M.A., M.B., M.Ch., D.O.M.S.,
F.R.C.S. (Ed.).

Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon :

R. D. OWEN, B.Sc., F.R.C.S. (Ed.).

Medical Officers (part-time) :

SYBIL M. MORGAN, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

GLADYS M. AITKEN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Dental Surgeon :

CHAS. L. SAIES, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

a.b. D. JAMES JONES, F.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspectors :

a. MICHAEL DALEY.

a.b. D. GEORGE DAVIES.

a.b. JOHN EWART DAVIES.

Caretaker, Public Abattoir :

R. J. STROUD.

Disinfecter :

A. H. SEYMOUR.

Health Visitors :

c.d.e.f. BEATRICE M. DAVIES.

c.f. FANNY EVANS.

c.d. DOROTHY C. HOPKIN.

c.d.g. GWENDA M. WILLIAMS (Orthopaedic)

Senior Clerk :
S. G. ASTON.

Clerks :
E. J. LEWIS.
J. SOULSBY.
A. L. GLAVES.
I. EVANS.
K. WRIDE.

Matron of Isolation Hospital :
d.e. EDITH CUTTER.

-
- a. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Sanitary Inspectors.
 - b. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
 - c. Certificate of Central Midwives' Board.
 - d. State Registered Nurse.
 - e. Registered Fever Nurse.
 - f. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Health Visitors and School Nurses.
 - g. Orthopaedic Trained Nurse.
-

TELEPHONE NUMBERS.

Public Health Offices, Municipal Buildings—Pontypridd 2007.
Central Clinic, Ynysangharad Park—Pontypridd 2007 (Ext.).
Medical Officer of Health (Private Residence)—Pontypridd.
2368.
Assistant Medical Officer (Private Residence) Pontypridd 2532.
Tonteg Isolation Hospital, Llantwit Vardre — Newtown
Llantwit 10.
Joint Smallpox Hospital, Mynydd Mayo—Senghenydd 43.
Public Vaccinator, The Ash Grove—Pontypridd 2153.
Vaccination Officer, Church Street—Pontypridd 2058.
Pontypridd Burial Board and Cremation Authority, Gelli-
wastad Road—Pontypridd 2352.
Medical Referee, Pontypridd Cremation Authority—Ponty-
pridd 2368.

Pontypridd Urban District Council.

Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Pontypridd.
June, 1938.

To the Chairman and Members of the Pontypridd Urban
District Council.

Mrs. Randell and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your consideration the
Annual Report of the Health Department for the year 1937.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The death-rate and infantile mortality rate for the Urban District, during the year under review, show a small increase as compared with 1936 and the provisional figures for England and Wales during the corresponding period. Deaths locally from cancer and tuberculosis tended to increase. On the other hand, the birth-rate exceeded the low level of last year; and a small reduction in the maternal mortality rate is recorded.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Scarlet fever was exceedingly prevalent throughout the year and taxed the resources of the Department to the utmost. Although no deaths occurred, many of the patients were seriously ill, and their fortunate recovery may in many instances be attributed to the use of the new synthetic drug, sulphonamide, which successfully combats the causative organism.

The Joint Smallpox hospital at Mynydd Mayo, which was opened for the reception of scarlet fever cases for several months of the year, proved of great utility, although the buildings are not particularly well adapted for winter occupation, and relatives of patients are incommoded owing to its remote situation.

The incidence of diphtheria was above the average, but sufficient hospital accommodation was available for every case.

Typhoid fever was not notified during the year. Other infectious diseases remained at a normal or low level.

CENTRAL CLINIC EXTENSION.

The scheme for the improvement and extension of the Central Clinic premises, mentioned in my previous annual report, has now been completed. This building serves its purpose admirably and is a valuable asset to the town.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

The attendances of expectant mothers at this clinic have reached such proportions that the appointment of an additional part-time medical assistant will be necessary if each patient is to receive adequate attention. This urgent requirement has had the sympathetic consideration of the Council and is now about to be met.

RED CROSS DEPOT.

A depot has for some years been maintained at the Central Clinic, under the auspices of the Pontypridd and Treforest Division of the British Red Cross Society, for the issue of medical comforts and sick-room appliances to persons in need.

The stock has lately been considerably augmented and a suitable store-room in the Clinic has been placed at the disposal of the Society.

CREMATORIUM.

The Pontypridd Crematorium is still the only one in Wales. The steady growth in the number of cremations has led to the necessity for increasing the accommodation, which has been met by the installation of an electric furnace of the latest design. This highly efficient unit will suffice for many years to meet the increasing demand for this hygienic means of disposal of the dead.

HOUSING.

Pontypridd displayed some activity towards slum-clearance in 1937. Twenty houses in the Maesycod district, together with a group of fifty-two houses, well-situated in Treforest, were completed and tenanted.

Plans were also prepared for a further 76 houses, of various types, to be erected to rehouse displaced tenants under the Housing Act, 1936.

The problem of overcrowding is as yet untouched in this locality, although proposals for a building scheme to meet this need are under consideration. Financial restrictions appear to present the main difficulty at the moment.

TREFOREST TRADING ESTATE.

The aspect of Treforest is constantly changing with the erection of new factories, relating to many different industries. Although few are yet in production, it is obvious that this trading estate will broaden the basis of industry in Pontypridd; the full effects of which cannot at present be predicted. The possibility of the creation of public health problems new to this locality must not be overlooked.

STAFF.

No staff changes of any significance have taken place recently. Loyal and conscientious attention to duty has been the most obvious feature of the past year's work, on the part of the staff; and on this the comparative success of the Health Department depends.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. G. M. SEVERN,

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS.

Population (Mid-year, 1937) as estimated by Registrar General	39,070
Population (Census, 1931)	42,717
Area	(acres) 8,140
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1937)	9,103
Number of families or separate occupiers (Census, 1931)	10,178
Rateable Value (end of 1937)	£147,159
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£534

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS :—

Legitimate Males, 317. Females, 291. Total, 608 }	637
Illegitimate Males, 12. Females, 17. Total, 29 }	
Birth Rate	16.3

DEATHS : Males, 313. Females, 256. Total	569
Death Rate	14.5
Percentage of Total Deaths occurring in Public Institutions	30.9

DEATHS OF INFANTS under 1 year :—

Legitimate Males, 21. Females, 20. Total, 41 }	44
Illegitimate Males, 1. Females, 2. Total, 3 }	

Infant Death Rate, per 1,000 Live Births :—

Legitimate, 67.4. Illegitimate, 103.4. Total	69.0
Neo-Natal Death Rate (up to 4 weeks) Total	31.4

STILL-BIRTHS :—

Legitimate Males, 22. Females, 17. Total ..39 }	42
Illegitimate Males, 1. Females, 2. Total .. 3 }	

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Deaths from puerperal causes :	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 (live and still births).
(1) Puerperal sepsis	—	0.00
(2) Other puerperal causes.....	3	4.42
Total	3	4.42

	Total Deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000 Population.
Cancer (all ages)	54	1.38
Measles (all ages)	6	0.15
Whooping Cough (all ages)	—	0.00
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	2	0.05

TABLE I.
VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE WHOLE DISTRICT DURING
1937 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population.		Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
	For Birth Rate.	For Death Rate.	Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.	Of Non-Residents Registered in the District.	Of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 year of age.		At all Ages.	
									Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Population.
1928	45950	45950	869	18.9	531	11.6	73	64	66	75.9	522	11.3
1929	45320	45320	808	17.8	617	13.6	109	57	54	66.8	565	12.4
1930	45320	45320	777	17.1	510	11.2	107	68	52	66.9	471	10.4
1931	42950	42950	710	16.5	595	13.8	119	87	53	74.6	563	13.1
1932	42670	42670	709	16.4	599	14.0	112	58	49	69.1	545	12.8
1933	42580	42580	758	17.8	591	13.9	133	88	63	83.1	546	12.8
1934	42020	42020	728	17.3	577	13.4	151	92	49	67.3	518	12.3
1935	41240	41240	692	16.8	604	14.6	164	64	42	60.7	504	12.2
1936	40100	40100	627	15.6	623	15.5	152	54	33	52.6	525	13.1
1937	39070	39070	637	16.3	646	16.3	166	89	44	69.0	569	14.5

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Urban District of Pontypridd is situated in Glamorganshire, at the convergence of the Rhondda, Aberdare and Merthyr valleys. The River Taff traverses the area, together with its main tributary, the River Rhondda. The district is hilly, the climate mild, and the rainfall considerable.

The Parliamentary Division of Pontypridd returns one member to the House of Commons. The prosperity of the inhabitants fluctuates largely with the demand for coal, and the depression in this industry during the last ten or twelve years has led to extensive unemployment and large-scale migration; smaller numbers are engaged in stone quarries, an iron works, and in brick-making.

The development of the Government subsidised Trading Estate at Treforest, where numerous factories are in course of erection, will bring many new industries into the locality and will reinforce the shift in population, already in evidence, towards the southern boundary of the urban area.

The town itself, which lies twelve miles from Cardiff, is the business centre of a large area, and is usually crowded with shoppers on market days, which are held on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Urban development has coincided with the discovery and exploitation of the coal measures of the Rhondda Valley, and what was a hundred years ago merely a village, has become a well organised community, presenting all the amenities of an enlightened and progressive civic administration.

HOSPITAL PROVISION.

A. (1). **Fever.** The Council's Isolation Hospital at Tonteg is situated about three miles from the centre of Pontypridd. The hospital consists of two pavilions and a cubicle block, forty beds in all, together with a nurses' home and administrative block. The nursing staff comprises the matron, one charge nurse, two assistant nurses and four probationer nurses.

(2). **Smallpox.** The Smallpox Hospital, shared in common with the Caerphilly Urban District Council, with accommodation for 36 patients and five staff, is situated on Mynydd Mayo in an isolated but healthy position several miles from the centre of Pontypridd. The hospital is supported by the above two Urban District Councils in equal shares.

A resident caretaker, together with his wife, herself an experienced nurse, are appointed jointly to look after the hospital premises. Suitable quarters, with telephone, are provided.

The Pontypridd Council have resolved, subject to general agreement, that in times of emergency, and during periods of freedom from smallpox, this hospital may be utilised for the treatment of convalescent cases of other infectious diseases.

In accordance with this arrangement the hospital was opened for the reception of cases on May 5th and closed on 28th July. It was found necessary to re-open the hospital for the purpose indicated on 19th November and cases were still being treated therein at the end of the year.

B. (1). **Tuberculosis.** Throughout Wales provision is made for dealing with tuberculosis by the King Edward VII. Welsh National Memorial Association ; their (a) Central Dispensary, (b) Sanatoria for early cases of tuberculosis, and (c) Hospitals for advanced cases, are available for tuberculosis cases occurring within the Pontypridd Urban area. The County Council make a contribution to the funds of the Association. The closest co-operation is maintained between the local Health Department and the King Edward VII. Welsh National Memorial Association.

(2). **Maternity.** The Pontypridd Council have made arrangements whereby complicated and necessitous obstetric cases occurring within the area are received by the Royal Infirmary, Cardiff, and the Llwynypia Hospital ; the latter hospital being under the control of the Glamorgan County Council. During the course of the year 66 such patients were admitted to Llwynypia Hospital and 7 were received by the Cardiff Royal Infirmary. In addition, the Central Homes Infirmary, Pontypridd, accepted 8 cases, and one case was sent to the Bridgend Public Assistance Institution, as there was no accommodation available at that time at any of the above hospitals.

These numbers represent a total increase of 25 cases as compared with those of the previous year, and a total increase of 43 above that for the year 1935.

Similar facilities are available at the two hospitals for the reception of cases of puerperal pyrexia, and during 1937, three patients were sent to the Llwynypia Hospital by this Authority under the Regulations governing this disease.

(3). **Children and General.** The Pontypridd and District Hospital is available for emergency surgical cases. This hospital is favourably situated and is fully equipped with a children's ward, general and isolation wards, operating theatre, X-ray department and nurses' home.

The present accommodation is 32 beds, and 32 children were admitted during 1936.

The Hospital is not rate-aided ; a voluntary annual contribution of twenty guineas is made by the Pontypridd Council.

The Royal Infirmary, Cardiff, also receives a small number of children from this district requiring medical or surgical in-patient treatment. Arrangements exist for the supply of in-patient and out-patient letters to suitable deserving cases in this locality.

(4). **Other.** The General and Maternity Hospital, administered by the Glamorgan County Council is situated in Courthouse Street, Pontypridd. The Institution contains the following hospital accommodation :—

Maternity	15
Children's Wards	29
Nurseries	42
V.D. Wards	8
Scabies Wards	12
Sick Wards	127
<hr/>	
Total No. of Beds and Cots....	233
<hr/>	

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS.

There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children in the district other than that provided by the Glamorgan County Council at the Central Homes, Courthouse Street, Pontypridd.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(A). **For Infectious Diseases.** The Council's motor ambulance provides transport for infectious cases to the Council's Isolation Hospitals.

(B.) **For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases.** All the colliery companies are required to provide suitable ambulances. One large colliery company has made arrangements with the Order of St. John of Jerusalem for a motor ambulance service. The cars of the Order are also available for any persons who require them on payment of the necessary charges.

(C). **For Maternity Patients.** Transport for maternity cases to hospital is provided by the motor ambulance of the Llwynypia Hospital. A suitable privately owned ambulance car is also available locally for hire when required.

The above Ambulance services may be regarded as adequate to the needs of the district and population.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Particulars are given in the following table:—

TABLE II.

Name.	Situation.	Nature of Accommodation.	By whom provided.
Maternity & Child Welfare Centre. (Town Ward).	Central Clinic, Ynysangharad Park, Pontypridd.	Consulting, Infant weighing and Waiting Rooms.	Pontypridd Urban District Council.
Maternity & Child Welfare Centre. (Rhydyfelin Ward)	Ebenezer Chapel Vestry, Rhydyfelin.	Do.	Do.
Maternity & Child Welfare Centre. (Cilfynydd Ward).	Primitive Methodist Chapel Vestry, Cilfynydd.	Do.	Do.
Maternity & Child Welfare Centre. (Rhondda Ward).	Workmen's Hall and Institute, Hopkinstown.	Do.	Do.
Ante-Natal Clinic (Town Ward).	Central Clinic, Ynysangharad Park, Pontypridd.	Consulting and Waiting Rooms.	Do.
Minor Gynaecological and Birth Control Clinic.	Central Clinic, Ynysangharad Park, Pontypridd.	Consulting, and Waiting Rooms.	Pontypridd Urban District Council.
School Clinic.	Central Clinic, Ynysangharad Park, Pontypridd.	Consulting, Treatment and Waiting Rooms.	Pontypridd Education Committee.
Tuberculosis Dispensary.	Courthouse Street, Pontypridd.	Consulting, Treatment, Waiting Rooms, and Radiographic Department.	Welsh National Memorial Association.
Venereal Diseases Clinic.	Central Homes, Courthouse Street, Pontypridd.	Consulting, Treatment and Waiting Rooms.	Glamorgan County Council.
Clinic for Nervous Disorders.	Central Clinic, Ynysangharad Park, Pontypridd.	Consulting and Waiting Rooms.	Do.

BIRTH CONTROL AND MINOR GYNAECOLOGICAL CLINIC.

The scope of the Council's former Birth Control Clinic now includes the diagnosis and treatment of minor diseases of women, and this Clinic is administered by the Health Committee.

The medical staff give advice on birth-control methods to married women where medical reasons exist which make such advice desirable and even essential. Cases of advanced heart disease, tuberculosis and kidney diseases, amongst other indications, occurring in married women come within the purview of this clinic, even though these patients may not be eligible to come within the Council's Maternity and Child Welfare services.

Dr. Sybil Morgan is the medical officer in charge of this clinic, attended by one of the Council's nurses.

The consulting gynaecologist appointed for this purpose is Mr. G. I. Strachan, F.R.C.S. (Eng.), Gynaecologist Royal Infirmary, Cardiff, and cases are referred to him when necessary. Should operation be advised, patients are accommodated at the Pontypridd and District Hospital, the cost being defrayed in necessitous cases by the Council, and otherwise in accordance with Scale No. 2.

Dr. Kingsley Lewis, a member of the Hon. Staff of the above Hospital, is the anaesthetist for the time being.

Additional assistance necessary at the Clinic is supplied by voluntary helpers who have devoted considerable time to this important work. One of these ladies, Mrs. Archibald Daniel, has kindly submitted the following brief report :—

"Twenty sessions have been held at which 179 patients have attended. Of these, 48 were new patients and 131 re-visits.

Of the new patients, 25 attended for advice on Birth Control, 18 for examination and treatment for minor gynaecological ailments, and 5 for both reasons.

In five of the gynaecological cases, patients were found to be suffering from more serious conditions and were referred to doctors for operative or other treatment.

The majority of patients were referred from the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics and Ante-natal Clinics by Dr. Severn and Dr. Doris Williams, and the remainder were sent by the following medical practitioners :—Dr. Kingsley W. Lewis, Dr. Gwyn H. Evans, Dr. Fraser, Dr. Aitken, Dr. B. E. James, Dr. Melbourne Thomas and Dr. R. M. Hiley, Tuberculosis Physician.

By arrangement a lady doctor from an adjoining county attended the clinic to study the technique and routine of a Birth Control Clinic."

Arrangements exist with the Glyncorrwg Urban District Council for giving birth control advice to appropriate cases referred for this purpose by the Medical Officer of Health of that Authority. No patients from Glyncorrwg were, however, sent in 1937.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Infant Welfare Centres. There are at present four permanent Infant Welfare Centres holding regular sessions in the town. One centre serves the Rhydyfelin and Treforest district, and is held weekly. Another is situated in Cilfynydd and meets on alternate weeks. This centre serves the inhabitants of the northern section of Pontypridd. In addition, a Centre was established at Hopkinstown towards the latter end of the year 1936, and this clinic was put on a permanent basis during the year 1937. It serves the needs of the Maesycod, Hopkinstown and Trehafod districts, and sessions are held on alternate weeks. The main clinic is held weekly in the Council's Central Clinic premises, where ample accommodation and every facility are available. This clinic meets the needs of the Town Ward and those persons living in the central area. The attendances are, on the whole, extremely satisfactory, and the four centres are much appreciated by a large number of mothers who bring their babies regularly to the clinics and take a keen interest in their progress and welfare. The total attendances at the four centres during the year was 7,047, as compared with 7,171 in 1936. Dried milk and other dietary products are sold at the infant welfare centres at approximately cost price, but no one is allowed to purchase food unless it is prescribed by the Medical Officer in charge.

The days and times of meeting and the average attendances per session at each centre are set out below :—

Centre.	Day and Time of Meeting.	Average Attendances.
1. Town CentreTuesday, 2 p.m.	65
2. Rhydyfelin Centre	..Wednesday 2 p.m.	50
3. Cilfynydd Centre	..Alternate Fridays, 2 p.m...	34
4. Rhondda Centre	..Alternate Tuesdays, 2 p.m.	30

The Pre-School Child. Children aged between two and five years, not attending school, are medically examined at the above clinics and a complete medical record card, similar to those used in the routine examinations of the School Medical service, is filled in by the Medical Officer in respect to each child. Dental and other defects are referred for treatment and the parents are advised as to their children's health. This scheme has been devised in order to bridge any possible gap between the baby stage and the Infants' School. Parents are responding fairly well in bringing their young children for these examinations. It should be noted, however, that in this area a large proportion of those children above three years of age are admitted to the Infant Departments of the Council's elementary schools. Of the total number of children, 6,715 on the registers of the Pontypridd Elementary Schools at the end of December, 1937 (excluding the Special School), no less than 679, were under five years of age.

Sale of Dried Milk, etc., at Clinics. The total value of dried milk, cod liver oil emulsion and vitamin preparations sold at cost price during the year ended December 31st, 1937, amounted to £755.

Ante-Natal Clinic. Sessions are held in the Central Clinic premises each Thursday afternoon at two o'clock. The rooms used for the purpose are provided with dressing cubicles and are otherwise suitably equipped for the purpose.

The attendances are satisfactory and represent 62 per cent. of the total notified births during this period.

The co-operation of the local midwives and medical practitioners has enhanced the value of this service.

Total attendances for 1937 :—	
First visits	407
Re-visits	1,024
	<hr/>
	1,431
	<hr/>
Average attendances per session	28

Comparative figures for 1936 are :—	
First visits	440
Re-visits	958
	<hr/>
	1,398
	<hr/>

Infant Life Protection. Children Act, 1908 ; Children and Young Persons Acts, 1932 and 1933.

In pursuance of the recommendations of the Local Government Act, 1929, on April 1st, 1930, in accordance with the Council's decision, the administration of Part I. of the Children Act, 1908, formerly discharged by Poor Law Authorities was delegated to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, the decisions of such Committee to be subject to confirmation by the Council. Accordingly the Medical Officer of Health was designated the Officer to whom notices required by the Children Act, 1908, shall be sent, and the Council's Health Visitors were appointed Infant Protection Visitors under the Act.

No deliberate contraventions of any of the provisions of those parts of the Acts for which the Local Authority is responsible were reported during the year.

Supply of Milk to Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Young Children (Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918).

The administration of the scheme in connection with the Council's maternity and child welfare centres and ante-natal clinics was continued substantially on the same lines as in previous years. The total cost of fresh milk, dried milk and cod liver oil preparations supplied free for the twelve months ended 31st March, 1938, amounted to approximately £764. The comparative cost for the previous year was £851. The 3,625 applications granted were divided as follows:—

	Year 1937—38.	Year 1936—37.
Expectant and nursing mothers receiving a supply of milk free of charge for one month	1,060	1,702
Children under five years of age receiving a supply of milk or cod-liver oil pre- parations free of charge for one month	2,665	3,462

Grants free of cost under this scheme are made to :

- (a) Expectant mothers during the later months of pregnancy.
- (b) Mothers who are breast-feeding their infants.
- (c) Children up to school age.

Foods are given free only on medical grounds when the family income, after deducting rent, is below the scale denoting necessity which has been adopted by the Council in concurrence with the Ministry of Health.

Dried milk preparations, many of which are medicated or fortified by the addition of extra vitamins, continue to be widely used in our clinics.

Where fresh milk is prescribed "Tuberculin Tested" quality only is supplied by one or another of the local milk vendors licensed to retail this grade of milk. This arrangement, which was first introduced in 1933, has been continued throughout the year.

The milk, dried or fresh, is granted for a period of 28 days, after which the application has to be renewed and the family circumstances again reviewed. The quantity supplied is usually one pint per person per day in the case of fresh milk, or an equivalent amount of dried milk.

The Council have also authorised the free provision of cod-liver oil preparations, etc., when prescribed by the medical officer to children below school age who show any indication of rickets or other deficiency diseases. The same scale of income denoting necessity is in operation in these cases as pertains in the supply of milk.

Health Visiting. The following is a summary of the work of the Health Visitors during the year :—

To expectant mothers :—First visits	280
Total visits	629
To children under 1 year of age :—First visits	671
Total visits	2234
To children between the age of 1 and 5 years :—	
Total visits	2626
Visits to investigate infant deaths and still-births....	42
Visits and re-visits to notified cases of ophthalmia neonatorum	7
Visits to notified cases of puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia	13
Visits to convalescent cases of scarlet fever and diphtheria after discharge from the Isolation Hospital	316
Miscellaneous visits	405

The Health Visitors, if required, have carried out the necessary nursing in cases of ophthalmia neonatorum when the midwife has been prohibited from attending on account of the risk of transmitting infection.

All births notified to the Medical Officer of Health under the Notification of Births Acts, 1907 and 1915, are visited by the Health Visitors as soon as the doctor or midwife has ceased to attend. Infants are visited five times during the first year; more frequent visits being made in the case of delicate babies. Children over 12 months are, as far as possible, seen every six months until they commence attending school.

PROVISION FOR OPHTHALMIC TREATMENT.

The Council provide ophthalmic treatment for errors of refraction, squint, and other eye diseases in children under school age attending the maternity and child welfare centres. The examinations are carried out at the School Clinic by the Ophthalmic Surgeon in the part-time employment of the Council. Free spectacles are provided when the income of the parents falls below an approved scale. The number referred to the oculist is not large as a considerable portion of the children above the age of three years attend school and therefore come under the Education Committee's scheme.

Children examined during 1937	8
Number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed	4
Number of spectacles provided :—	
Under Authority's scheme (free) ..	Nil.
Otherwise	4

The eye defects diagnosed in the above children by the Ophthalmic Surgeon are as follows :—

(a) Errors of refraction :	
(1) Hypermetropia with or without Astigmatism	7
(b) Squint :	
(1) Internal	6
(2) External	Nil.
(c) Other Diseases or Defects :	
(1) Symptoms due to causes other than Ophthalmic	1

PROVISION FOR DENTAL TREATMENT.

The Council provide for the dental treatment of children under school age and mothers attending the maternity and child welfare centres. Sessions are held once a week. In addition to extractions and fillings, dentures are provided for expectant and nursing mothers. Nitrous oxide gas is administered as an anaesthetic where indicated. Patients are asked to pay 6d. per attendance for extractions, which is waived in cases of necessity, but no charge is made for the dentures supplied if the family income is below the approved scale adopted for this purpose.

The Dental Surgeon submits the following record of the work done under this heading in the course of the year :—
“ Herewith, I beg to report on the work of the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic during 1937.

The tabulated results are as follows :—

(a) Number of sessions held	56
(b) Attendances for treatment—women 337)	393
Attendances for treatment—children .. 16)	
(c) Absentees and postponed visits	89
(d) Fillings :—(i) in temporary teeth nil.)	
(ii) in permanent teeth 6)	6
(e) Extractions : (i) temporary 37)	964
(ii) permanent 927)	
(f) Dentures supplied to 52 women :—	
Full sets	35
Part sets	14
Remodelling	3

The number of children of pre-school age who attend is very small; of the women, they nearly all continue to require extractions of a more or less drastic nature and the subsequent fitting of dentures.”

Public Health (Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations, 1926).

Provision is made for the investigation and treatment of cases of puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia under the above Regulations. The arrangements provide for bacteriological examination of pathological material and other facilities.

Mr. G. I. Strachan, F.R.C.S. (Eng.), Gynaecologist, Cardiff Royal Infirmary, acts as consultant under these arrangements. His services, however, were not called upon during the year.

Hospital accommodation, both at the Cardiff Royal Infirmary and Llwynypia Hospital, is available for cases recommended by the Medical Officer of Health. Free treatment is provided in necessitous cases. Three patients were admitted for in-patient treatment under these Regulations during the period under review.

The Council has approved of the free issue of suitable serum or antitoxin to medical practitioners desiring the same for the treatment of puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia. A small stock is kept at the office of the Medical Officer of Health.

CONSULTING SERVICE IN MATERNITY CASES.

The Pontypridd Council have a scheme providing for the services of a consultant for assisting local doctors in difficulties or complications arising during pregnancy or confinement.

Mr. Strachan, F.R.C.S. (Eng.), is the obstetrician appointed under the same conditions as at present apply in cases of puerperal fever and pyrexia.

This surgeon's services were not required in this connection in 1937.

PROVISION OF MIDWIVES IN NECESSITOUS CASES.

In accordance with the scheme previously outlined, the Pontypridd Council continued until August 31st to pay for the attendance of a midwife in special necessitous cases under powers conferred by the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918. These facilities terminated with the coming into force of the scheme of the Glamorgan County Council for a midwifery service for this town under the provisions of the Midwives' Act, 1936. The number of mothers granted the free services of a qualified midwife by the Pontypridd Council during the period mentioned was 44.

PAYMENT OF FEES TO MIDWIVES IN CASES OF ABORTION.

In the first half of the year 1937, the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee authorised, in eight cases, the payment of a fee of 5/- to midwives for their attendance in

cases of abortion subject to certain conditions, previously defined. The fee paid was intended to cover the initial attendance in each case. This scheme similarly came to an end for the reason indicated in the previous paragraph.

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

The Council possess a very complete and efficient orthopaedic scheme which has been in existence for a number of years past. This service is comprehensive and provides for the orthopaedic treatment of children under five years, not attending school, through the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee: and for school children up to the age of 16 years through the Education Committee. Details of the work done by the latter Committee are given in the Annual Report of the School Medical Officer. The scheme provides for hospital treatment (both in-patient and out-patient treatment) at the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Cardiff, and for remedial exercises, massage and after-care by the orthopaedic nurse, for which purpose, the Council have a suitably equipped clinic. The expenditure under this head during the financial year 1937-38 amounted to £146, as compared with £247 for the previous corresponding period.

The orthopaedic surgeon who is a member of the hon. staff of the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Cardiff, holds a clinic at Pontypridd periodically and sees all new patients and any old cases that require further examination. Here the necessary treatment for each case is prescribed and arrangements made accordingly. The orthopaedic surgeon held clinic sessions during 1937 in Pontypridd, in May and November.

The following data give an indication of the orthopaedic work carried out during the year by the Maternity and Child Welfare Department:—

Number of new cases under the maternity and child welfare scheme examined by the orthopaedic surgeon at the Pontypridd clinic in 1937..	29
---	----

Number of old cases re-examined	16
---------------------------------------	----

The above 29 new cases were diagnosed and treatment advised as follows :—

Bow-legs (slight)—observation	3
Bow-legs—manipulation	1
Knock-knee—corrected boots	4
Knock-knee—observation	3
Dislocated head of radius (right arm).....	1
Flat feet—corrected boots	8
Flat feet—observation	4
Enlarged second toe—hospital for operation	1
Talipes Valgus—manipulation and strapping	1
Torticollis—collar and stretching	1
Flat feet—no treatment	2
	—
	29
	—

Six children attended the Out-patient Clinic of the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Cardiff, as emergency cases and the diagnosis with treatment recommended was as follows :—

Bow-legs—observation	1
Sacro-coccygeal sinus—no treatment	2
Mild talipes with adduction of fore part of right foot	3
	—
	6
	—

Particulars of other orthopaedic work are given below :—

Appliances supplied	6
Appliances repaired	13
Inspections by Medical Officer at Clinics	29
Admitted to Hospital	5
Discharged from Hospital	3
Attended out-patients' Department of the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Cardiff	5
Visits paid treating cases at home.....	58
Visits paid inspecting cases after discharge from Hospital	146
Visits paid by children for treatment at Clinic (exercises, etc.)	256
Suspected new cases seen at home.....	15
Attendances at Clinic (enquiries, etc.)	108
Other visits	4

ARTIFICIAL LIGHT CLINIC.

Sessions of the above clinic are held at least twice weekly under the supervision of the medical staff.

Two mercury vapour lamps provide the usual source of ultra-violet radiation, although carbon and tungsten arcs are available.

A Wood's filter is used for observing fluorescence for diagnostic purposes, more especially in ringworm of the scalp.

This clinic is available for the treatment of babies and young children as well as mothers referred from the maternity and child welfare centres.

The following is a condensed report on those cases treated during the year, coming under the purview of maternity and child welfare. The main work of this clinic, however, is concerned with school children, and is dealt with fully in the Annual Report of the School Medical Officer.

No. of children	21
No. of attendances for treatment	572
No. of expectant and nursing mothers	—
No. of attendances for treatment	—

Diseases or ailments treated :—

Retarded development	1
Cervical Adenitis	1
Recurrent tonsillitis	1
Nervous debility	2
Sub-normal nutrition	9
Deformity of spine	1
Anaemia	6
Debility	1
Rickets	1
Paresis—right arm	1
Dermatitis	1
Cerebral diplegia	1
Debility after whooping cough	1
Enuresis	1

Of the above children, 13 showed improvement in their general condition and gained, on an average, 1.8 lbs. in weight; 5 cases received only a short period of treatment during 1937, insufficient to produce results; in two instances the weights of the children were not recorded. In one case only a child lost one pound in weight.

X-RAY TREATMENT OF RINGWORM.

Ringworm of the scalp occurring in school children is treated by X-ray epilation at the clinic of the Cardiff Corporation Health Department; and where infected contacts or cases below school age are met with, the Maternity and Child Welfare Department accept responsibility for similar treatment.

This service is provided free in those cases recommended by the medical officer.

No cases were discovered in 1937. Those children suspected of this disease all proved negative on examination under filtered ultra-violet light.

COUNCIL'S SCALES OF INCOME FOR DETERMINING NECESSITY.

The undermentioned two scales of income for determining necessity were adopted by the Council and approved in the first instance by the Ministry of Health in 1930.

Scale No. 1 is applied by the Health Department in connection with applications received for:—

- (a) Supply of milk to mothers and children.
- (b) Provision of free spectacles.
- (c) Payment of midwives' fees.

These two scales were the subject of consideration by the Council during the year and certain improvements were made. The revised scales are as follows:—

SCALE No. 1.

No. in family (including parents).	Weekly income per head of family (rent deducted).
1	15/-
2	12/-
3	9/6
4	8/-
5	7/6
6 and over.....	6/6

Scale No. 2 is applied in connection with applications received for :—

- (a) Dentures for nursing and expectant mothers.
- (b) Orthopaedic treatment.
- (c) Hospital provision for maternity cases.
- (d) Hospital treatment of minor gynaecological cases.

SCALE No. 2.

No. in family (including parents).	Total family income (less rent) for four weeks.
	£ s. d.
2	6 10 0
3	7 4 0
4	9 4 0
5	11 0 0
6	12 12 0
7	14 0 0
8	15 0 0
9	16 4 0
10	17 0 0
11	17 12 0
12	18 0 0

If the family income (plus the amount received in maternity benefit in the case of hospital treatment for maternity cases) is below the scale, the Council bear the whole cost; if the income is above the scale, patients are required to contribute the sum which is in excess of the standard income for the four weeks.

In the case of hospital treatment for puerperal pyrexia under the Council's scheme, the financial circumstances of applicants are individually considered by the Council in determining the contribution payable; this being in accordance with the recommendation of the Ministry of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

The only staff change during the year 1937 was the appointment of Sanitary Inspector J. E. Davies, who took over the district formerly apportioned to Inspector R. M. Lewis, who left Pontypridd to take up an appointment as a Sanitary Inspector in an adjoining area.

A complete list of the public health personnel is given on pages 4 and 5 of this Report.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) **General.** The Pontypridd and Treforest Division of the British Red Cross Society now employ four qualified nurses for the treatment of medical and surgical cases in the home.

The Pontypridd Council, through its Transport Department, provide each of the above nurses with a free pass available on all routes of the Local Authority's omnibus services within the area.

This Society has also provided a Medical Comforts Depot at the Council's Central Clinic premises, where a good stock of sickroom appliances are kept for hire at a nominal charge to persons needing such assistance. Officers of the Society attend at the Depot daily to issue requirements.

This scheme is proving a boon to the sick, and is administered in co-operation with the Health Department which has provided suitable waiting-room and storage accommodation without charge.

At the Albion Colliery, one District Nurse is engaged by the Workmen's Federation, for general nursing,

(b) **Infectious Diseases.** When not otherwise engaged, the above Red Cross nurses may assist in the nursing of selected infectious cases in the home.

(c) **Maternity.** In accordance with the scheme previously outlined the Pontypridd Council provided, until the end of August, 1937, for the home nursing by qualified midwives of necessitous maternity cases. This arrangement, however, came to an end when the County Midwives appointed by the Glamorgan County Council under the Midwives' Act, 1936, took up duties in this area on 1st September.

The M. & C. W. Committee have not, up to the present, considered it essential to provide Home Helps (non-professional) for employment in maternity cases. There does not appear to be any demand for this type of assistance in this locality.

MIDWIVES.

On the 1st January, 1937, the number of midwives in the area was 23, all of whom were trained. In accordance with Part II. of the Midwives' Act, 1936, the Glamorgan County Council, as the Supervising Authority for this district, appointed seven permanent and two permanent relief midwives for the Pontypridd area and these are resident in the respective wards of the town as follows :—

Graig	1	Hopkinstown	1
Graigwen	1	Treforest & Rhydy-	
Cilfynydd	1	felin	2
Coedpenmaen	1		

The two relief midwives are delegated to the Coedpenmaen and Treforest districts.

In addition to the above there is a small number of trained midwives available in each ward when called upon by private patients.

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

Pontypridd is not a local supervising authority under Acts relating to the registration of maternity and other nursing homes. This work is carried out for the Pontypridd area by the Glamorgan County Council.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Maternal deaths occurring within the area are investigated by the Medical Officer in consultation with the medical practitioner concerned with the case.

In the course of the year three deaths of persons resident within the area were registered attributable to causes associated with pregnancy. The maternal mortality rate for Pontypridd in 1937 was accordingly 4.71 per thousand live births; with the inclusion of still births, the figure is reduced to 4.42. These death rates are in excess of those for England and Wales as a whole, which are 3.23 and 3.11 respectively.

LABORATORY WORK AND FACILITIES.

Arrangements exist with the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory for examination of pathological specimens and reports thereon. A table is given below showing the results of examination of suspected specimens sent to the laboratory during the year 1937. The total figure represents a considerable increase over that of the previous year.

TABLE III.

Nature of Specimen.	Results.		
	Num-ber.	Posi-tive.	Nega-tive.
Swabs for diphtheria bacilli :—			
Throat.....	944	145	799
Nasal	60	24	36
Swabs for diphtheria bacilli, Viru- lence test :—			
Throat.....	4	2	2
Nasal	3	2	1
Sputum for tubercle bacilli.....	33	9	24
Pleural fluid for tubercle bacilli....	1	—	1
Cerebro-spinal fluid for meningococci	4	2	2
Cerebro-spinal fluid for tubercle bacilli	1	1	—
Cerebro-spinal fluid for streptococci	2	2	—
Blood for Widal reaction (Typhoid group)	2	—	2
Blood for agglutination test (B. abortus)	1	—	1
Milk for bacteriological estimation and tests	96	—	—
Milk for tubercle bacilli	6	—	6
Ice-cream for bacteriological esti- mation and tests	16	—	—
Water for bacteriological estimation	14	—	—
Totals	1187	187	874

Outfits for the collection of specimens for transmission through the post are kept at the office of the Public Health Department for the use of the medical practitioners of the town.

LIST OF ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYE-LAWS AND LOCAL
REGULATIONS RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH IN
FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

ACTS.	Date of Adoption.
The Infectious Disease (Notification Act, 1889)	7th November, 1889.
The Public Health Acts (Amendment Act, 1890 (Parts II., III., IV. & V.)	6th November, 1890.
The Private Street Works Act, 1892	16th December, 1892.
The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907 (Parts II., III., IV., V., VI. and X.)	29th April, 1909.
The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890	29th April, 1909.
The Bath and Wash-houses Act, 1846-99	1st June, 1920.
The Public Health Act, 1925 (Parts II., III., IV. and V.)	15th December, 1925.

BYE-LAWS.

Slaughterhouses	17th February, 1887.
Cleansing of Footways and Pavements, and the Cleansing of Earth Closets, Privies and Cesspools and Nuisances....	17th February, 1887.
Houses let in Lodgings and Common Lodging Houses	17th February, 1887.
Nuisances in connection with the removal of Offensive or Noxious Matters	20th September, 1893.
The Public Slaughterhouse	5th March, 1896.
Removal of, and collection of House Refuse	23rd July, 1896.
Nuisances	23rd July, 1896.
Employment of Children Act, 1903 .	6th July, 1907.

LIST OF ADOPTIVE ACTS, ETC. (Continued).

BYE-LAWS.	Date of Adoption.
Offensive Trades	12th September, 1911.
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops..	30th July, 1912.
Means of Escape in Case of Fire in Certain Factories and Work- shops	3rd September, 1912.
Conduct of Persons using Sanitary Conveniences	3rd December, 1912.
Tents, Sheds, Vans, etc.....	6th December, 1914.
New Streets and Buildings	19th November, 1929.
Employment of Children	1st November, 1934.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER SUPPLY.

Pontypridd in general is supplied with a constant piped service from the mains of the Pontypridd and Rhondda Joint Water Board. This water is usually of good bacterial quality, soft in character and neutral or faintly alkaline.

The supply is amply sufficient to meet the needs of the community even in the driest seasons; the storage capacity of the reservoirs under the control of the Board is capable of withstanding a long period of drought.

The Public Health Department samples the water regularly and maintains close co-operation with the Engineer and Manager of the Board.

A sample of tap water taken in September was somewhat below standard as regards bacterial purity, and the report was referred to the Board, together with a suggestion that the condition of the small open reservoir at Lan Park should be given careful attention. This matter is still under consideration.

Typical bacteriological and chemical reports are reproduced herewith.

THE CARDIFF AND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY.

Report on Chemical Analysis of Sample of Water.

Date received June 24th, 1937.
 Delivered by Sanitary Inspector Davies.
 Sample Labelled Public Water Supply, Pontypridd.
 Date of Analysis June 25th-29th, 1937.
 Appearance in two-foot tube Pale green, clear.

Reaction	} PARTS PER HUNDRED THOUSAND.	Neutral; pH 7.0.
Total Hardness		3.6.
a. Temporary		—
b. Permanent		—
Chlorine		0.9
Nitrogen as Nitrates		Nil.
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate		—
Saline (or "Free") Ammonia0012
Organic (or "Albuminoid") Ammonia0052
Poisonous Metals		Nil.
Nitrites	}	Nil.
Phosphates		—
Sulphates		—
Microscopic examination of the sediment		Small amount. A few infusoria.
Volume of sediment	}	.10

REMARKS :—

"A soft neutral water. Chemical analysis shows no evidence of any organic contamination."

Report on Bacteriological Examination of Sample of Water.

District Pontypridd.
 Date received June 24th, 1937.
 Description of sample Tap, Public Supply.
 Bacteria developing per m.l. at 37°C..... 8
 B. Coli absent from 50 m.l.

REMARKS :—"Satisfactory."

(Signed) J. H. SUGDEN,

Chemist and Bacteriologist.

RAINFALL.

The following statistics of the local rainfall, and the data relating to the water supply of Pontypridd for the year 1937 have been kindly provided by the Engineer and Manager of the Joint Water Board.

Number of houses supplied within the Pontypridd area on 31st December, 1937 8,901

**RAINFALL REGISTERED AT LANWOOD RESERVOIR,
PONTYPRIDD, DURING 1937.**

Month.	Inches.
January	8.24
February	9.89
March	3.85
April	4.49
May	2.40
June	1.69
July	3.55
August	1.31
September	2.51
October	3.41
November	4.07
December	4.58
Total	49.99

The average rainfall recorded at the above station for the last ten years is 59.50 inches.

The numbers of samples of water from public supply, springs, etc., taken by the Health Department during 1937, for bacteriological and chemical analysis were as follows :—

TABLE IV.

	Number of Samples.	Satis- factory.	Unsatis- factory.
Bacteriological	14	11	3
Chemical	6	6	—
Totals	20	17	3

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The Pontypridd Urban District Council Act, 1920, Part VI., confers powers upon the Council to prevent the deposition of refuse or other solid matter into the permanent rivers and streams within the district. Offenders are liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds.

Further, special powers to prevent the deposition of solid matter on the banks of such streams are also possessed by the Council. A penalty not exceeding ten pounds may be imposed for every such offence.

No action has been taken under this Part of the Act during 1937.

Few complaints of bad odours or other nuisance arising from the rivers Rhondda or Taff were lodged during the year, which reflects an improvement in the purity of the water of these two rivers from decreased pollution by sewage.

TABLE IVa.
ANALYSIS OF RIVER WATER.

(Results are stated in parts per 100,000).

Date Collected.	Description.	Suspended Matter.	Dissolved Oxygen Present.	Organic Ammonia.	Putrescibility.	Dissolved Oxygen Consumed.
23/9/37	River Taff, Railway Bridge Treforest.	23.4	0.65	0.04	nil	0.20

REMARKS :—

“Of moderate quality, with considerable amount of suspended matter.”

A sewage farm, upon which the sewage from an adjoining Local Authority is treated, extends into the northern part of our area. The effluent is discharged into the river Taff at Glyncoch on the side of the river opposite to Cilfynydd. The County Council regularly sample and report

upon the crude sewage and sewage effluent. As the purity and sanitary condition of the river water is a matter of concern to the inhabitants of Pontypridd, for information, typical chemical reports are reproduced below :—

Crude Sewage. Date collected, 30/11/37.

Result : Organic suspended matter — moderate amount.

Effluent. Date collected, 30/11/37.

Result : Organic suspended matter—trace only.

Organic ammonia—0.02.

Putrescibility—Nil.

Dissolved oxygen consumed—0.56.

Nitrogen as nitrates—1.20.

Remarks : “Good.”

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

A complete water-carriage system of sewerage, seventeen miles in length, controlled by the Pontypridd and Rhondda Joint Sewerage Board, extends from the Rhondda Urban Area to the sea. All authorised inhabited houses in the Pontypridd urban locality are connected with this main sewer, with the exception of approximately 110 dwellings, which lie outside the statutory distance.

In addition to the above a number of vans and temporary dwellings in the area are of necessity employing the conservancy system of sewage disposal.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are approximately 134 houses in the district without separate closet accommodation, one water closet serving the needs of two houses. A small proportion of water closets in Pontypridd were not fitted with proper flushing tanks when the plans for the premises were originally approved and these are presumably cleansed by means of waste water. Each year this number is being reduced through the efforts of the Sanitary Department as opportunity arises.

SCAVENGING.

The collection of house and trade refuse is under the administration of the Surveyor's Department.

Every part of the district is visited by the Council's dust

carts and lorries three times weekly for the purpose of collections, which represents a very creditable service and a public health asset of prime importance.

All refuse is conveyed to the Council's incinerator at Treforest and destroyed by burning. No other method of disposal is employed in the locality. Offal from the Public Abattoir, and all condemned meat and other foodstuffs are incinerated in this manner.

The calorific value of the refuse is utilised by the Electricity Department for generating current; and the residual clinker is used for filling and levelling land, etc.

The following are particulars of refuse and waste material destroyed during 1937 :—

	From Pontypridd Area. Tons.	From Llantwit Area. Tons.
Refuse	13,446	1,099
Offal	84	—
	—	—
Total	13,530	1,099
	—	—

Average amount destroyed per working day from both of the above areas, 47 tons, which is approximately the same as the previous year.

Some progress has been made towards the more general provision by householders of suitable domestic dust-bins of approved pattern as required by the Council's bye-laws.

The dumping of refuse of various kinds in the rivers and waterways, and on their banks, is still a prevalent nuisance which is constantly engaging the attention of the Sanitary Inspectors. It is always difficult to obtain direct evidence of this class of offence, although the vigilance of the sanitary staff tends to minimise its occurrence.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following tables record the work of the Sanitary Inspectors for the year :—

TABLE V.

Summary of Inspections and Revisits in the course of Routine Work and On Complaint during the year ended 31st December, 1937 :—

	Number.	Nuisances Found.
On Complaint	262	262
Dwelling Houses (P.H. or Housing Acts)	3893	5029
Ditto. Ditto. Revisits.	—	—
Revisits re Notice served (P.H. Acts) ..	2215	—
Infectious Diseases	480	43
Revisits for disinfection	38	—
Revisits—removal of cases	315	—
Revisits—observation of contacts	3	—
Public Abattoir	916	—
Private Slaughterhouses	1305	—
Markets	326	9
Meat and Food Shops	96	1
Bakehouses	79	8
Factories	33	7
Workshops	69	3
Workplaces	12	3
Outworkers	4	—
Common Lodging Houses	17	2
Houses let in Lodgings	35	11
Fried-fish shops	109	16
Offensive trades	47	2
Ice-cream shops	25	2
Cinemas and Theatres	20	4
Schools	35	—
Cowsheds	41	1
Dairies and Milkshops	131	7
Drains tested	95	83
Stables	—	—
Pigstyes	21	—
Visits re refuse accommodation	332	267
Rats and Mice Destruction Act	22	11
Miscellaneous inspections	124	11
Totals	11,100	5782

TABLE VI.

Summary of all Nuisances discovered in the course of Routine Inspections and Inspections made on complaint during the year ended 31st December, 1937.

	No. of Nuisances.	Preliminary notices served.	Statutory or Abatement notices served.	Nuisances abated during year.
Insufficient drainage.....	—	—	—	—
Defective and choked drains	471	254	48	513
Defective inspection chambers	54	43	1	68
Defective kitchen sinks and waste pipes	152	97	50	133
Defective soil pipes and ventilation shafts	120	97	16	78
Defective and choked W.C's	424	318	129	444
Insufficient W.C. accommodation ..	8	8	14	2
Defective flush tanks and water fittings in W.C's	639	566	141	392
Yard surfaces defective	290	195	125	190
Defective roofs and chimney stacks	577	391	162	492
Defective rainwater shutters and down-pipes	684	378	150	477
Defective external walls and internal plastering	256	198	83	173
Defective and decayed woodwork in floors, skirting boards, stair- cases and handrails	296	248	102	191
Defective and decayed woodwork in doors and door frames	211	142	70	127
Windows: defective woodwork, not made to open, etc.	383	242	57	265
Fireplaces: defective brickwork, broken firegrates and ovens ..	324	200	113	198
Smoke nuisances, including those caused by defective flues	9	10	20	2
Defective tile and stone floors	348	236	66	238
Overcrowding	2	1	20	1
Insufficient lighting and ventilation ..	32	19	—	4
Dirty and verminous premises	53	25	—	44
Animals improperly kept	3	2	1	2
Stables: Nuisances arising therefrom ..	2	—	—	2
Insufficient refuse accommodation ..	249	227	—	22
Accumulations of offensive matter ..	42	37	—	36
Walls abutting earth causing damp- ness	48	28	—	11
Insufficient subsoil drainage	4	4	—	—
Defective and insufficient domestic water supply	17	12	—	10
Rats and mice infestation	12	5	—	6
Breach of bye-laws	1	1	—	—
Breach of Factory and Workshops Regulations	11	11	1	4
Miscellaneous Nuisances	10	—	—	10
Totals	5782	3995	1369	4135

PROSECUTIONS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS, ETC.

Three prosecutions under the Public Health Acts were taken out by the Sanitary Inspectors during 1937. In each instance the owners carried out the works stipulated and the summonses were withdrawn on payment of costs.

CANAL BOAT ACTS, 1877 and 1881.

Senior Inspector Jones is the appointed inspector of canal boats under this Authority. Five canal boats operate within the area. The total number of inspections of these vessels amounted to 85 for the year 1937. Minor infringements of the regulations were met with in the case of each of the boats on one or another of the periodical inspections, but it was not necessary to resort to legal measures for their remedy. The occupants are all males; no women or children sleep on the canal boats.

Infringement in respect of.	No. of cases met with.	No. of cases remedied.
Registration	Nil.	Nil.
Absence of Certificate	Nil.	Nil.
Marking	Nil.	Nil.
Cleanliness	6	6
Painting	4	4
Dilapidations	Nil.	Nil.
No proper water vessel	4	4
Ventilation	7	7
	—	—
	21	21
	—	—

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

Inspection of and Nuisances abated in Factories,
Workshops and Workplaces during 1937.

TABLE VII.

TRADES.	No of Inspections.	Notices Served.	Nuisances Abated.					Totals.
			Water Closets cleansed and repaired.	Defective Drains repaired.	Line-washing and Cleansing.	Accumulation of filth, etc., removed.	Structural defects remedied.	
Bakeries	79	5	4	—	6	1	—	11
Dressmakers	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Milliners	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tailors	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shoemaking & repairing.	6	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Sugar boiling	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Motor Repairing Works.	7	1	1	—	—	—	1	2
Fruit Stores	5	1	—	—	1	1	—	2
Cabinet Works	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carpenters and Joiners..	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rag Assorting	9	2	2	—	—	—	—	2
Harness Making	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smiths	11	2	—	—	1	—	—	1
Printers	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wheelwrights	10	1	1	—	1	—	—	2
Knackers	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hay and Corn Mills	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
Hide and Skin Mart....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gutscrapers	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	165	14	9	—	9	2	2	22

No. of Notices of Occupation of New Workshops received from H.M. Inspector of Factories 2

No. of Notices received from H.M. Inspector of Factories re defaults 1

TABLE VIII.

(1) INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES DURING 1937.

Premises.	Number of:		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers. Prosecuted.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	85	9	—
Workshops (including Workshop (Laundries).....	67	2	—
Workplaces (other than Out-workers' Premises)	13	3	—
	165	14	—

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.		Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found.	Remedied.		
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—				
Want of Cleanliness.....	11	11	—	—
Want of Ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances	2	2	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation:—				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective	9	9	—	—
Not separate for Sexes	—	—	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:—				
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bakehouses (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers Order, 1921)	—	—	—	—
TOTALS.....	22	22	—	—

OUTWORKERS.

Eight lists of outworkers were received during the year giving the names of five males and one female. These are employed as pieceworkers in the following classes of the tailoring and dressmaking trades, viz. :—making, altering, finishing and the repairing of wearing apparel. Each of the premises was inspected and found to be kept in a satisfactory condition.

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

The Pontypridd Council employ one Inspector to carry out duties under the above Act, and this officer maintains close co-operation with the Health Department. Sanitary nuisances discovered in this manner are reported to the Medical Officer of Health and dealt with without delay.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Very few complaints of smoke nuisance were brought to the notice of the Department during the year and these were generally remedied through informal action by the sanitary staff, to the extent of the powers given under the several Public Health Acts.

BYELAWS RELATING TO HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS, TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, ETC., AND OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Adequate byelaws in regard to each of the above are in force in this area. A complete list of these and other byelaws, together with the dates of their adoption by the Council are set out in the "List of Adoptive Acts, Byelaws, and Local Regulations Relating to Public Health in force in the District," reproduced in an earlier section of this report.

OTHER SANITARY CONDITIONS REQUIRING NOTICE.

Crematorium. The Pontypridd Crematorium is an important contribution towards the sanitary disposal of the dead.

Mr. James E. Spickett, Solicitor, Clerk and Registrar of the Pontypridd Burial Board and Cremation Authority, reports that the number of cremations for the year ended 31st December, 1937, was 194, as compared with 140 in the previous year.

Owing to the growth in the popularity of cremation it became necessary to instal an additional furnace and in order to accommodate this the incinerating chamber had to be enlarged. The new furnace, which is now in operation, is heated by electricity, and is similar in type to one at Biel, Switzerland. It offers many practical advantages over the older type of furnace, including speed and efficiency, and should meet the needs of the locality for many years to come.

VENTILATION OF CINEMAS AND PUBLIC VEHICLES.

It is still, unfortunately, necessary to complain of the ventilation of some of the local cinemas. The fault is not structural, or due to the lack of suitable apparatus for removing the vitiated air, but rather to carelessness on the part of the staff, who frequently fail to carry out the instructions of the management to keep exhaust fans in use, and ventilators and windows open in the intervals.

Action by the Health Department has led to improvement this winter but the ideal is some way from attainment.

All cinemas are reported upon from the public health standpoint at the annual Licensing meeting of the Council.

No complaints were received of insufficient ventilation of public vehicles, due presumably to greater attention being paid to this matter by bus conductors and other responsible officials.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

The Sanitary Inspectors have visited premises and given appropriate advice where rat or mice infestation was reported. Help of this kind has been generally successful, and in some cases squill rat poison has been supplied free of charge.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are now only two common lodging houses in the area. These premises were frequently inspected during the year with a view to seeing that they were kept in a cleanly state, and that the periodical lime-washing and other requirements of the byelaws were carried out. A detailed report on these premises was made to the Council at their annual Licensing meeting in December, and a certificate of registration was granted in both instances.

VERMINOUS PREMISES : ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

The regular inspection by the district sanitary staff of the houses comprising the Council's housing estate has done much to improve the former verminous condition of a number of these premises, and complaints of this nature are less frequent than in former years.

Where necessary, helpful advice is given to householders by the district sanitary inspector, and fumigants are provided by the Department free of charge in suitable cases. Otherwise it is made clear to the tenants that it is their duty to keep their houses in a cleanly state and themselves to rid them of bugs and other vermin.

(1). No. of houses found to be infested with bed bugs :—

(i) Council houses	37
(ii) Other houses	25

No. of houses disinfested :—

(i) Council houses	37
(ii) Other houses	25

(2). The methods chiefly employed locally for ridding infested houses of bed bugs are spraying with a volatile liquid insecticide, fumigation with sulphur dioxide, or both. Good results are the rule.

(3). A routine inspection for vermin is made by the Sanitary Inspectors of the furniture and bedding of all tenants transferred to Council houses, in connection with Slum Clearance. Where evidence of infestation by vermin is detected the above methods are utilised for their eradication.

(4). Where the work of disinfestation is undertaken by the Local Authority, Council workmen are employed and are, for this purpose, under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The following offensive trades are established in the district :—

Rag storage and sorting	2
Fellmonger	1
Gutscraping	1
Fried-fish shops	26
Knackers' yard.....	1
Horse butchery.....	1

The above premises and trades are conducted in accordance with the Council's byelaws framed for the regulation of offensive trades.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises within the Pontypridd area in which rag flock is manufactured. This material is otherwise used or sold in very small quantities only.

RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST RESTRICTION ACTS, 1920 and 1923.

Three applications were received under the above Acts during the year. The premises concerned were inspected and reported upon to the Local Authority and certificates were granted in each case. In addition, five applications were made by owners for the withdrawal of certificates which had been issued in previous years as the whole of the sanitary requirements had been carried out. These were also reported upon by the Department and the Local Authority authorised the cancellation of such certificates.

SCHOOLS.

The offices of the School Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health are combined in the same person, and accordingly the closest possible co-operation exists between these two branches of the public health services. The general sanitary condition, water supply, and other health-promoting amenities of the Public Elementary Schools within the area continue to be maintained at a high standard.

Fuller particulars are contained in the Annual Report of the School Medical Officer, which is published separately from, and at an earlier date, than this report.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

This important subject is one of the aspects of public health which is constantly borne in mind by members of the staff who take every opportunity to promote a better knowledge of hygiene, dietetics and allied matters amongst all classes of the public with whom they come into contact. In this propaganda they are assisted by various publications of the Health and Cleanliness Council as well as pamphlets on infectious diseases and individual health subjects provided free by the Wesleyan and General Assurance Society.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

Pontypridd possesses a municipal open-air swimming bath and a paddling pool situated in Ynysangharad Park. The adult bath has a capacity of 460,000 gallons, and the juvenile pool 180,000 gallons.

A large-capacity filtration and purification plant treats the water of both baths by chemical precipitation, filtration, aeration and finally chlorination.

Water is drawn from the two baths at the total rate of 80,000 gallons per hour, and the complete contents of each bath is circulated once every eight hours.

This modern apparatus provides a high standard of performance and the clarity and purity of the swimming bath water is above criticism.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR 1937 :—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	4155
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	6370
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	Nil.

(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil.
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil.
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....	494

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.....	216
--	-----

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil.
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By owners	Nil.
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	Nil.

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	278
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	246
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	Nil.

C. Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- | | |
|--|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made..... | 15 |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders..... | 4 |

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- | | |
|---|------|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made..... | 16 |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil. |

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936.—PART IV, OVERCROWDING :—

- | | |
|---|------|
| (a) (i) No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | 422 |
| (ii) No. of families dwelling therein..... | 435 |
| (iii) No. of persons dwelling therein | 2243 |
| (b) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year..... | Nil. |
| (c) (i) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | Nil. |
| (ii) No. of persons concerned in such cases.... | Nil. |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding..... | Nil. |

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

A.—SLUM CLEARANCE.

Fifty-eight dwellings, on the representation of the Health Department, were accepted in the first instance by the Council as unfit for human habitation and incapable of being rendered fit at reasonable cost. This figure represents the year's quota of a five-year plan of slum clearance under the provisions of the above Act within the Pontypridd area.

During 1937 the Pontypridd Council built a group of 20 houses at Maesycloed, 10 being of the two-bedroom type and 10 of the three-bedroom type. In addition, 52 houses were erected at Rhydyfelin, 24 being of the two-bedroom type and 28 of the three-bedroom type; these were built to rehouse tenants displaced from dwellings which were demolished or closed in pursuance of the Act. At the 31st December, 1937, 47 families had been rehoused.

B.—OVERCROWDING.

The position in this town regarding overcrowding is unchanged. The Council's housing activities have been confined almost entirely to dealing with slum clearance. Overcrowding may possibly be considered to have been somewhat relieved by migration but from applications received almost daily by the Rentals Department for Council houses, and from enquiries made from time to time by the Sanitary Staff, overcrowding in Pontypridd is obviously still an acute problem.

COUNCIL HOUSES.

Particulars of the dwelling-houses owned by the Pontypridd Local Authority at the end of 1937 are set out below:

Duffryn Housing Estate	496
Housing Acts, 1930-1936	92
Ynys Terrace	28
Gwernygerwn	6

Taken over by the Council:

Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899-1923 and Housing Act, 1923	38
---	----

Total	660
-------------	-----

FLOODING OF HOUSES.

There is fortunately nothing to record under this heading, due to the relatively dry weather experienced locally during almost the whole of 1937.

Trouble is occasionally caused by the overflow of storm water from unmade private roads and rear lanes which have not yet been taken over by the Local Authority. These sources of trouble will be gradually eliminated as and when the roads and lanes are dealt with under the Private Street Works Act.

OTHER HOUSING MATTERS.

The Council's Surveyor reports that twelve new dwelling-houses in the locality were completed in 1937 by private enterprise, in accordance with plans approved by the Housing and Plans Committee; in addition to other non-residential premises and minor structures.

The position at Landraw and those other situations where unauthorised dwellings have been erected in the past remain unchanged.

The provision of satisfactory alternative accommodation alone is likely to encourage persons to desert these primitive habitations.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

(a) TUBERCULIN TESTED.

Three licences to bottle and retail this grade of milk were approved by the Council in 1937.

The dairy premises concerned are suitably equipped for the purpose and subject to frequent inspections by the Sanitary staff.

In addition, one supplementary licence was issued.

(b) TUBERCULIN TESTED (PASTEURISED).

(c) ACCREDITED.

No applications have been received relating to the above two grades of milk.

(d) PASTEURISED.

Five licences were granted to retail milk under this designation; all were renewals. The milk in each instance is pasteurised under licence by modern plant in large factories at Cardiff, Whitechurch and Llanharan. Each firm or dairyman has an adequate receiving depot or dairy in this town.

No graded milk is produced in the Pontypridd district.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF GRADED MILK.

Forty samples of "Tuberculin Tested" milk were submitted to the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory for examination during 1937. Four of these were reported to be unsatisfactory from the standpoint of the official methylene blue test.

The following table summarises the results as regards B. Coli :—

"TUBERCULIN TESTED" :

No. of Samples.	1 m.l.	1 m.l.	$\frac{1}{10}$ m.l.	$\frac{1}{100}$ m.l.
24	Absent.	—	—	—
13	—	Present.	Absent.	—
3	—	—	Present.	Absent.
40	24	13	3	40

The above results indicate an improvement in the cleanliness of this grade of milk.

Twenty-nine samples of "Pasteurised" milk were similarly submitted for examination and reports indicated that five were non-pasteurised and four were under-pasteurised. One sample gave a bacterial count of 224,00 per m.l. while others were well below the prescribed limit ; in one instance as low as 610 per m.l.

The following table summarises the results as regards B. Coli :—

"PASTEURISED."

No. of Samples.	1 m.l.	1 m.l.	$\frac{1}{10}$ m.l.	$\frac{1}{100}$ m.l.	$\frac{1}{1000}$ m.l.
19	Absent.	—	—	—	—
4	—	Present.	Absent.	—	—
4	—	—	Present.	Absent.	—
2	—	—	—	Present.	Absent
29	19	4	4	2	29

The table below is an attempt to classify the above samples of graded milk in accordance with the analyst's reports :—

Remarks of Analyst.	"Tuberculin Tested" Milk.	"Pasteurised" Milk.	Totals.
Good bacterial quality.....	2	4	6
Satisfactory	34	16	50
Moderate bacterial quality..	—	2	2
Unsatisfactory, with high B. Coli content	4	7	11
Totals	40	29	69

A number of samples of "Tuberculin Tested" milk were taken by the Police officials for chemical estimation. All were found to be genuine.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

(a) MILK PRODUCERS.

The number of registered milk producers in the urban area at the end of the year 1936 was 46. During the year under review, one producer gave up business. One application for transfer of registration was received by the Council, but there were no applications in respect of new dairy premises. The net figure, therefore, for milk producers on the register at the end of the year 1937 was 45.

(b) MILK RETAILERS.

During the course of the year seven applications were received and approved by the Council for registration as retail purveyors of milk. Two of these represented transfers of registration, while the remainder were applications for permission to sell sterilised milk in sealed bottles only. At the end of the year there were 115 milk vendors retailing milk within the Pontypridd district, a considerable number of whom reside outside the urban area.

In addition, there are 30 registered milk shops in the district, the majority of whom are vendors of sterilised milk, whose permits allow them to sell this class of milk at their premises in sealed bottles only.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF UNGRADED MILK.

Twenty-seven samples of ungraded milk were taken by the Sanitary Inspectors and submitted to the County Bacteriologist for examination.

Eighteen of the above were derived from sources outside the Pontypridd area, while the other nine were from dairy farms in this locality.

The following summarises the results as regards B. Coli:—
UNGRADED MILK.

No. of Samples	1 m.l.	1 m.l.	1 — 10 m.l.	1 — 100 m.l.	1 — 1000 m.l.
9	Absent.	—	—	—	—
10	—	Present.	Absent.	—	—
4	—	—	Present.	Absent.	—
1	—	—	—	Present.	Absent.
3	—	—	—	—	Present.
27	9	10	4	1	3

The table below is an attempt to classify the above samples of ungraded milk in accordance with the analyst's reports :—

Remarks of Analyst.	Milk produced within the area.	Milk produced outside the area.
Good bacterial quality.....	1	1
Satisfactory.....	5	15
Moderate bacterial purity	3	2
Unsatisfactory, total organisms excessive, with high B. Coli content	—	1
Totals	9	18

In addition, six specimens of milk were examined for tubercle bacilli at the Cardiff Laboratory. All were negative.

The action of the local Police Officials in milk sampling, together with the results are reproduced elsewhere in this report.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

The Sanitary Inspectors paid 41 visits to cowsheds and dairy farms and 131 visits to inspect dairies and milk-shops, making a total of 172 inspections. Where necessary, notices were served for attention to lime-washing and cleansing.

Conditions at the farms are, on the whole, fairly satisfactory. The only constructional work noted during the year was an improvement in the lighting of the cowshed at Berwerdy Farm where windows of larger dimensions were inserted.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF OTHER MILK PRODUCTS.

Sixteen samples of ice-cream were obtained and submitted to the Bacteriologist at the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory for examination; these were reported upon as follows :—

Remarks of Analyst.	Number of Samples.
Satisfactory	9
Total organisms numerous with qualitative results satisfactory	1
Of moderate purity	1
Unsatisfactory, bacteriological examination shows high B. Coli content.....	4
Very unsatisfactory	1
Total	16

In three instances the total bacterial count exceeded one million per m.l. On the other hand, a low count of three thousand per m.l. was reported in one sample.

The following table summarises the results as regards B. Coli :—

No. of Samples.	1 m. 1.	1 m. 1.	1 — 10 m.l.	1 — 100m.l.	1 — 1,000m.l.	1 — 10,000m.l.
2	absent	—	—	—	—	—
6	—	present	absent	—	—	—
3	—	—	present	absent	—	—
1	—	—	—	present	absent	—
1	—	—	—	—	present	absent
3	—	—	—	—	—	present
16	2	6	3	1	1	3

The above table registers a slight improvement as compared with the results of the past year, although there is obviously still room for further care and attention to cleanliness.

Methods of manufacture involving no treatment of the milk by heat appear to account for the unsatisfactory bacterial content of the ice-cream.

The Sanitary Staff have followed up those cases where an excessive bacterial count was found, and have taken the opportunity to advise the producers with a view to improving their methods of handling and preparing this product.

The wide consumption of ice-cream during the summer months, more especially by children, makes it imperative that the greatest care should be taken in its manufacture.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Three of the Council's four Sanitary Inspectors possess the special qualification for the examination of meat and other foods and this is regarded as an important part of their duties.

The large volume of foodstuffs dealt with in the course of each year is an index of the thorough manner in which this work is at all times carried out.

Food which, after inspection, is found to be unfit for human consumption is removed and destroyed by incineration at the Council's refuse destructor. During the year it was not necessary to secure a magistrate's order for this purpose as the whole of the unsound food was voluntarily surrendered by the tradespeople concerned.

Visits and re-visits made to the Public Abattoir by Meat Inspectors	916
Visits and re-visits made to the private slaughter- houses	1305
Visits made to other premises under Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924.....	125
	<hr/> 2346 <hr/>

The following are particulars of the number of animals slaughtered for food in Pontypridd, during the year 1937 :—

		Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Sheep and Lambs.	Totals.
Public Abattoir..		733	433	3359	6504	11029
Private						
Slaughtershouse	(a)	180	97	127	1308	1712
do.	(b)	323	141	1002	2621	4087
do.	(c)	209	99	530	1386	2224
do.	(d)	40	79	32	335	486
do.	(e)	58	31	78	564	731
		1543	880	5128	12718	20269

In addition to the above, 125 pigs were killed on other premises with the permission of the Health Department. In each case the carcasses were examined before being offered for sale.

There has been a further considerable drop during the year in the number of animals slaughtered at the Public Abattoir; at the private slaughterhouses a combined increase of 88 animals killed is shown in two out of the five, the other three showing a decrease for the year.

The corresponding table for 1936 is included for comparison :—

		Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Sheep and Lambs.	Totals.
Public Abattoir..		877	534	3269	8316	12,996
Private						
Slaughterhouse	(a)	176	110	187	1761	2234
do.	(b)	256	150	798	1885	3089
do.	(c)	217	119	809	1564	2709
do.	(d)	11	43	5	170	229
do.	(e)	74	24	102	691	891
		1611	980	5170	14,387	22,148

The comparative total figures for the Public Abattoir from the year 1930 are as follows :—

Year.	Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Sheep and Lambs.	Totals.
1937	733	433	3359	6504	11,029
1936	877	534	3269	8316	12,996
1935	939	1126	3190	8852	14,107
1934	1054	1459	3317	12,858	18,688
1933	1004	996	4489	16,558	23,047
1932	886	826	4443	11,373	17,528
1931	885	800	2892	7200	11,777
1930	960	843	2349	6467	10,619

The following table gives the total figures of the number of food animals killed for the whole of the district, comprising the Public Abattoir and five Private Slaughterhouses for the same period as shown in the previous table :—

Year.	Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Sheep and Lambs.	Totals.
1937	1543	880	5128	12,718	20,269
1936	1611	980	5170	14,387	22,148
1935	1642	1539	4635	14,782	22,598
1934	1804	1946	4844	19,200	27,794
1933	1657	1393	5911	23,097	32,058
1932	1481	1109	5687	16,735	25,012
1931	1575	1085	4043	11,709	18,412
1930	1722	1155	3430	11,122	17,429

CLASSIFICATION OF MEAT, ETC., CONDEMNED.

It is regretted that it is not possible this year to classify the carcasses inspected and condemned in the manner suggested by the Ministry of Health, although attention will be given to this form of table in subsequent reports.

The following are particulars of the carcasses and organs of food animals and other foods that were surrendered and destroyed during the year ended 31st December, 1937 :—

TUBERCULAR DISEASES.

	lbs.
7 beasts' carcasses	4650
7 beasts' forequarters	1386
140 beasts' heads	5320
179 beasts' lungs	2148
104 beasts' hearts	520
34 beasts' livers	476
Other beasts' organs and trimmings (15 stomachs, 42 mesentery, 15 spleens, 1 udder).....	992
15 pigs' carcasses.....	1586
297 pigs' heads	4052
54 pigs' plucks	324
	<hr/>
	21,454

The above represents an increase in weight of 1,858lbs. or 16 cwt. 2 qrs. 10 lbs. of tubercular meat dealt with by the Department as compared with the year 1936.

The following table shows the number of beasts and pigs, which are the animals mainly susceptible to tuberculosis, that were slaughtered in the district for the past four years, together with the weight of tubercular meat destroyed for each year.

Year.	Beasts.	Pigs.	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
1937	1543	5253	9	11	2	6
1936	1611	5411	8	14	3	24
1935	1642	4875	16	2	1	11
1934	1804	5043	19	3	2	5

MEAT—OTHER DISEASES.

	lbs.
1 beast's head	38
469 beasts' livers	6566
167 beasts' lungs	2004
89 beasts' udders	1424
9 sheep's carcasses	319
9 sheep's heads.....	36
1059 sheep's plucks	5295
212 pigs' plucks	1272
	<hr/>
	16,954

The corresponding figure for 1936 under this head was 20,654 lbs.

BRUISED, DECOMPOSED AND CONTAMINATED MEAT

	lbs.
Bruised fresh beef.....	149
Bruised fresh pork.....	28
Bruised chilled beef.....	107
Chilled beef, decomposed.....	616
Frozen livers, decomposed	25
Frozen beef, diseased (Fibrosis).....	50
Beef contaminated with chemicals.....	80
	<hr/>
	1055
	<hr/>

FISH AND GAME.

	lbs.
2 boxes wet fish.....	156
12 boxes filleted haddock	168
35 rabbits, decomposed	125
	<hr/>
	449
	<hr/>

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

	lbs.
142 bags of carrots	7952
1 basket of cabbages	40
83 cases of apples	4584
5 cases of oranges	560
1 case of pears	56
2 baskets of pears	80
Bananas	30
2 cases of grapes	76
2 baskets of blackcurrants.....	40
	<hr/>
	13,418
	<hr/>

**Summary of Unsound Meat and Other Foods surrendered and
Destroyed during the year ended 31st December, 1937.**

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs
Meat, tubercular	9	11	2	6
Meat, other diseases	7	11	1	14
Meat, bruised and decom- posed	—	9	1	19
Fish and game	—	4	—	1
Fruit and vegetables	5	19	3	6
	23	16	—	18

The total weight given above exceeds that of the previous year by 2 tons 11 cwts. 2 qrs. 23 lbs. Although there has been a decrease in the weight of the meat surrendered and destroyed on account of "Other Diseases," Tubercular meat, similarly dealt with, increased by 16 cwts. 2 qrs. 10 lbs. In addition, a considerable increase in the weight of unsound fruit and vegetables, amounting to 3 tons 9 cwts. 2 qrs. 18 lbs. is indicated.

The following table gives the total weights of all meat and other foodstuffs surrendered and destroyed for the previous seven years, through the action of the Health Department in the Pontypridd area.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Grand total for the year 1936 ..	21	4	1	23
" " " 1935 ..	30	12	2	20½
" " " 1934 ..	38	15	1	18
" " " 1933 ..	30	9	3	14
" " " 1932 ..	21	18	3	4
" " " 1931 ..	21	14	2	19
" " " 1930 ..	14	17	—	—

In concluding this summary of the important subject of food inspection in Pontypridd for the year under review, the Sanitary staff express appreciation of the continued co-operation of the members of the local Master Butchers' Association and the Market Authorities.

PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

The Pontypridd Council's Public Abattoir, which is under the supervision of the Health Department, is centrally situated and adequate to the needs of the locality. A resident Caretaker is appointed and meat inspection is carried out by one of the qualified Sanitary Inspectors appointed for this purpose, assisted when required, by similarly qualified members of the sanitary staff.

The normal hours of slaughtering are not later than 5 o'clock in the afternoon, although the Medical Officer of Health is empowered to grant a reasonable extension of these hours in exceptional circumstances, upon application.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

The number of slaughtermen holding valid licences on December 31st, 1937, issued by the Pontypridd Council in accordance with the provisions of Sec. 3 of the above Act, was 28.

Twenty renewals of licences, as well as three new applications, were approved by the Council in the course of the year, and certificates granted.

Electrical stunning equipment is installed in the Public Abattoir. One set is provided on the basement floor for dealing with pigs, and a more powerful type, capable of operating three pairs of tongs simultaneously, on the ground floor, for use, more particularly, in stunning sheep and other small animals.

Section 1 of the Act is applicable within this area to sheep, ewes, wethers, rams and lambs.

Captive-bolt pistols, provided by the butchers themselves, are used for the larger animals at the Public Abattoir, while the proprietors of the local private slaughterhouses employ approved captive-bolt pistols for all slaughtering purposes.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

Notices of intended slaughter respecting 125 pigs were received by the Health Department in accordance with the above Regulations, and all the carcasses and organs were examined by members of the Sanitary staff. The corresponding figure for the previous year was 241.

This small industry, which shows signs of decreasing, deserves encouragement provided always that the premises are kept in a sanitary condition, and the provisions of the above regulations complied with.

PLACES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED IN THE DISTRICT.

Fried-fish shops	26
Butchers making sausages, faggots, etc	32
Shops retailing ice-cream.....	48

MARKETS.

Pontypridd possesses in the centre of the town a large and well conducted market, which is held on each Wednesday and Saturday throughout the year. Regular visits are paid by the Sanitary Inspectors for the purpose of keeping fish, fruit, meat and other foods under observation, and at the same time securing the disposal of garbage and refuse with the minimum nuisance.

This trade refuse is burned in a one-cell incinerator erected in a shed close to the building. Owing to the close proximity of offices and business premises, care has constantly to be exercised by the persons in charge in order to avoid nuisance, which has led to occasional complaint from persons residing or employed in the vicinity.

Close co-operation is maintained between the Health Department and the Market Authorities.

FOOD AND DRUGS ADULTERATION ACT, 1928.

The Superintendent of Police, "B" Division, Glamorgan Constabulary, has kindly supplied the following table giving a summary of the articles sampled under the above Act, together with the results as reported by the Public Analyst.

The complete absence of adulterated articles during the twelve months is unusual.

Article Analysed.	Total Samples.	Gen- uine.	Not Genuine.
New Milk	52	52	—
Vinegar	1	1	—
Pepper	3	3	—
Beef Sausages	2	2	—
Butter	7	7	—
Currants	2	2	—
Lard	5	5	—
Jam	2	2	—
Margarine	3	3	—
Mincemeat	1	1	—
Tapioca	1	1	—
Rice	1	1	—
Flour	1	1	—
Ground ginger	1	1	—
Cake	3	3	—
Prunes	1	1	—
Sauce	1	1	—
Mint Sauce.....	1	1	—
Cocoa	1	1	—
Peas.....	1	1	—
Tea	1	1	—
Maccaroni	1	1	—
Paste (Meat and Fish)	2	2	—
Boiled Beef and Carrots and Dumplings	1	1	—
Chutney	1	1	—
Spice	1	1	—
Mustard	1	1	—
Sugar	1	1	—
Beef Suet	1	1	—
Total	100	100	—

NUTRITION—DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE.

In a district where many are living on the poverty line, it is of the utmost importance that the family income should be spent to the best advantage. In order to assist mothers and housewives, the Health Department has available diet tables for babies and young children, and has provided leaflets, which are obtainable free from our office and clinics, giving food values and specimen diets for working-class families. The Health Visitors assist in making known this information where it is most needed.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases.

SMALLPOX.

No case of smallpox was notified in 1937. This is the sixth successive year of complete freedom from this disease in the locality.

No contacts from other areas or from abroad, were reported to have entered the town during the year.

PUBLIC VACCINATION.

The Vaccination Officer's return for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1937, is as follows :—

	Primary Vaccina- tions.	Re-Vac- cinations.	Insuscep- tible.
Pontypridd District (exclud- ing Central Homes Infirm- ary)	120	6	nil.
Central Homes Infirmary....	13	1	1

These figures show a slight decrease below those of last year; they remain generally few in number, doubtless owing to the virtual disappearance of smallpox from this country in recent years.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (SMALLPOX PREVENTION) REGULATIONS, 1917.

No vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the above Regulations during the year 1937.

ARTIFICIAL IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA AND MEASLES.

The Pontypridd Council have approved expenditure in connection with the prophylactic inoculation of persons against diphtheria. A course of three injections of toxoid-anti-toxin floccules is usually given at intervals of one week or more. This preventive treatment is given free by the medical staff on request or on the advice of the individual's medical practitioner. There is little demand on this service.

Serum for the prophylaxis or attenuation of measles is now available on a commercial basis, but this is not yet utilised in any form by the Local Authority.

NON-NOTIFIABLE ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Influenza, persisting from the previous year, was prevalent during the early part of 1937. Twelve deaths ascribed to influenza were registered during the year, as compared with three in 1936.

Cases of measles, amongst young children, occurred in large numbers, resulting in six deaths; there was no mortality locally from this disease in the previous year.

Whooping cough was of light incidence, as was also summer diarrhoea, in spite of the prevailing dry weather. No deaths from the former disease were registered in this locality.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

Immediately on receipt of a notification of infectious disease, the premises are visited by a Sanitary Inspector. At these visits arrangements are made for the efficient isolation of the patient, or alternatively for the removal of the case to the Isolation Hospital. The circumstances in connection with the case, such as occupation or school of patient and contacts, sources of water supply and milk supply, probable source of infection, etc., are entered on individual record cards. Instructions are given as to the prevention of the spread of infection, and in the case of scholars, the patients and contacts are at once excluded from school in accordance with the regulations of the Board of Education. Special consideration is given to those cases where patients or contacts are usually employed in establishments where food is prepared or sold; where civil servants are involved, the heads of their departments are informed of the circumstances.

Books from the Public or other Libraries in infected houses are collected by the Sanitary staff and disinfected before being put again into circulation. In some instances circulating libraries have requested the Health Department either to destroy such books by burning or forward them to the Isolation Hospital for the use of patients therein.

On the termination of illness, or on removal of the case to hospital, the premises are disinfected by formalin lamps or other appropriate means, sufficient disinfectants are also left with the householder. Where necessary, infected clothing, bedding, etc., is removed and dealt with at the Council's steam disinfectator.

The number of disinfections carried out during the year 1937 is as follows :—

No. of houses fumigated after infectious disease (scarlet fever, diphtheria, etc.).....	488
No. of houses fumigated after pulmonary tuberculosis	25
No. of houses fumigated after other diseases (cancer, etc.)	17
No. of houses from which bedding, infected clothing, etc., were conveyed for disinfection at the steam disinfectator.....	29
Sundry other disinfections, books, etc.	236

REPLACEMENT OF DESTROYED BEDDING.

Under powers given by Section 167, s.s. 4, of the Public Health Act, 1936, the Council authorised in three instances the free replacement of soiled bedding which had been destroyed by the order of the Department on account of infectious disease.

This action is taken only in cases of need, where the bedding is soiled beyond any possibility of cleansing or proper disinfection.

CANCER.

In 1937 fifty-four deaths from Cancer (all forms) were recorded in Pontypridd—26 males and 28 females—as compared with totals of 49 in the previous year and 54 in the year 1935.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE (OTHER THAN
TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1937.

TABLE IX.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospital.	Total deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever.....	381	339	—
Diphtheria	88	85	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	13	3	—
Acute Pneumonia.....	44	—	20
Erysipelas	11	3	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	2	2	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Totals	542	432	23

TABLE X.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1937.

DISEASE.	Under 1 year	1-2 years.	2-3 years	3-4 years.	4-5 years.	5-10 years.	10-15 years.	15-20 years.	20-35 years.	35-45 years.	45-65 years.	65 years and over.	All ages.
Scarlet Fever	—	9	24	28	41	155	101	13	6	3	1	—	381
Diphtheria	1	—	6	3	7	40	22	4	5	—	—	—	88
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	3	—	—	13
Pneumonia	—	2	1	—	1	4	2	1	9	8	10	6	44
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Erysipelas	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	2	11
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Tuberculosis:—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	5	28	6	10	1	52
Tuberculosis:—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Respiratory	—	3	1	—	1	2	2	4	2	—	—	2	17
TOTALS	4	15	33	32	50	202	128	27	60	22	27	11	611

TABLE XI.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED IN EACH
WARD DURING THE YEAR 1937.

DISEASE.	Graig.	Rhondda.	Town.	Cilfynydd.	Trallwn.	Treforest.	Rhydyfelin	Totals.
Scarlet Fever.....	76	95	24	45	53	54	34	381
Diphtheria	33	14	8	6	10	5	12	88
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	2	1	2	2	1	2	13
Pneumonia	5	13	5	5	11	3	2	44
Erysipelas	1	3	—	2	3	2	—	11
Ophthalmia Neonatorum..	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	3
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Tuberculosis : (Respiratory)	12	11	1	7	6	9	6	52
Tuberculosis : (Non-Respiratory)	1	3	—	5	3	4	1	17
Totals	132	142	39	73	89	78	58	611

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES TREATED AT COUNCIL'S ISOLATION HOSPITAL, TONTEG.

The following table gives the number of cases treated in the Isolation Hospital during the year 1937 :—

No. of cases remaining in hospital at end of 1936 25
No. of cases admitted during 1937 (including 11

diphtheria "carriers") 403

No. of cases remaining in hospital at end of 1937 35

The following shows the nature of the cases admitted during the year :—

Scarlet Fever..... 302

Diphtheria 85

Diphtheria "carriers" 11

Cerebro-Spinal Fever 2

Erysipelas 3

Total 403

SCARLET FEVER.

An exceptionally high number of scarlet fever cases were notified in 1937 which taxed the Authority's hospital accommodation to the limit. The notifications of this disease numbered 381, as compared with 62 in the previous year.

Of the above, 339 were admitted to hospital, a percentage of 89. Twenty-seven of these cases were sent, by arrangement, to Caerphilly Isolation Hospital and ten to Llantrisant Isolation Hospital.

Owing to this unusual pressure on hospital accommodation, the Joint Smallpox Hospital at Mynydd Mayo was opened on two occasions for the reception of convalescent cases of scarlet fever transferred from Tonteg Hospital, viz. :—

Periods.	Admissions.
5th May to 28th July, 1937.....	50
19th November, to 14th May, 1938 ..	52 (to 31.12.37).
Total	102

The remaining 42 patients were treated at home, where circumstances permitted satisfactory isolation, with small risk of conveying infection to others. No deaths resulted either in hospital or otherwise, although a proportion of the cases were of a severe type. The following complications were recorded at Tonteg Hospital :—

Otorrhoea	13
Adenitis, severe.....	5
Rheumatism	2
Broncho-pneumonia	3
Nephritis	2
Glandular abscesses	1
Bronchitis	1

In addition eleven were double infections; eight being associated with measles and three with chicken pox.

The average duration of treatment of all hospital cases was 33 days; the total patient days amounted to 11,224.

A small and unimportant number of "return" cases are known to have occurred.

DIPHThERIA.

The incidence of diphtheria remained at a high level, but at no time assumed epidemic proportions. Eighty-eight cases in all were notified in 1937, 85 of whom were treated at Tonteg Isolation Hospital; a proportion of 94 per cent. Many were severe in type, but no deaths occurred from diphtheria although a marasmic baby in the diphtheria ward died from broncho-pneumonia. One transferable death took place in Cardiff. No "return" cases were recorded.

The average length of stay in hospital was 33 days, the total patient days being 2,802.

No patients are discharged until two consecutive throat or nasal, or both, swabs have been obtained.

All diphtheria contacts in the patients' homes are visited by the staff and swabbed on one or more occasions.

Ampoules (8,000 units) of diphtheria antitoxin to the number of 57 were issued free to local medical practitioners for use in their practice.

Ascertainment and Treatment of Diphtheria "Carriers."

In addition to the above-mentioned swabbing of all contacts of cases of diphtheria, a careful check is made of notifications received, in order to ascertain whether there is any concentration of cases in one or more districts or schools. If such a focus of infection is suspected through the occurrence of a group of cases amongst the scholars of a school or school department, arrangements are immediately made for all children to be examined by the school medical staff, and those with enlarged tonsils or suspicious throats are swabbed. The same routine is carried out should a large number of cases of tonsillitis be reported by the head teacher from any school.

As a result of sore throat amongst children attending three of the Council's elementary schools, a considerable number of swabs were taken, two of which were found to be positive for the diphtheria organism. These children, together with nine other "carriers" who were contacts of the disease, were treated in the Isolation Hospital until free from infection. The average length of stay in hospital of these "carriers" was 38 days, the total number of patient-days amounting to 422 days. One of these "carriers" resisted all forms of treatment until eventually arrangements were made for the removal of his tonsils and adenoids after which the infection rapidly cleared up.

ENTERIC FEVER.

No cases of enteric fever were notified or treated at Pontypridd during 1937.

PNEUMONIA.

The incidence of pneumonia was exceptionally high, doubtless owing to the long spells of dry weather experienced. Forty-four cases of primary pneumonia were notified in 1937, as compared with twenty in the previous year.

No organised arrangements exist locally for the hospital treatment of these patients, but all cases are visited in their homes by the Council's Health Visitors with a view to ascertaining that proper nursing facilities are provided. Where the nursing is found to be inadequate, the results of their enquiries are reported to the Queen's Nursing Association who are usually able to offer the needed assistance.

Although no cases of pneumonia were sent into hospital directly by the Local Authority a small proportion of the patients were accommodated at the Central Homes Infirmary.

ERYSIPELAS.

This disease again maintained a low level throughout the year. The number of notifications amounted to 11, as compared with 14 in 1936. Three cases were removed to the Tonteg Isolation Hospital and all made good recoveries.

No deaths were certified from this cause during 1937.

Suitable anti-serum is provided free to local medical men for the home treatment of notified cases of erysipelas.

ACUTE-POLIOMYELITIS.

No cases were reported and no deaths were attributed to this disease in the locality in the course of the year.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

Two cases of this disease were reported and both were removed to the Tonteg Isolation Hospital for treatment. One made an excellent and complete recovery and the other died.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

No cases of encephalitis lethargica were notified locally in 1937 but the death of a male adult in this area was attributed to the late effects of this disease.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been taken by the Pontypridd Council under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or 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. The Pontypridd Education Committee, however, employ a part-time oculist who periodically visits Pontypridd and examines any cases of eye injury or eye disease amongst children up to school-leaving age, which may be referred to him for expert advice or treatment.

The care of adult blind persons in the Pontypridd area is vested in the Pontypridd and District Institution for the Blind and the report of that Institution for the year 1937-38 shows that there were 53 journeymen and women on the registers for the year ending 21st March, 1938; this being an increase of one above the number employed in the previous year. Seventeen men are employed in the basket department, twenty-six in the mat department and ten women in the knitting department. The report adds that satisfactory progress is still being maintained in the Institution's Training Centre, the eight pupils undergoing training therein show a keen interest in their work.

Regarding the unemployable blind, there are, in the area covered by the Institution, 300 persons who are visited regularly by members of the Board of Management, such visits being greatly appreciated.

The Pontypridd Council continue to grant free travel on the Council's transport services to all blind persons residing within this district. In the case of blind persons living outside the area, facilities are given to such persons for them to travel free, to and from the workshops, as far as the Council's services extend.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

TABLE XII.

Cases.			Vision Un-im- paired.	Vision Im- paired.	Total Blind- ness.	Deaths.
Notified	Treated.					
	At Home.	In Hos- pital.				
3	3	—	3	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality During 1937.

TABLE XIII.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respira- tory.		Non- Respira- tory.		Respira- tory.		Non- Respira- tory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5 years	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 15 years	2	—	4	—	—	—	1	—
15 to 25 years	9	10	2	3	5	8	1	1
25 to 35 years	7	7	—	1	3	7	—	—
35 to 45 years	6	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
45 to 55 years	2	2	—	—	3	2	1	—
55 to 65 years	5	1	—	—	6	1	—	—
65 and upwards	—	1	2	—	—	1	1	—
Totals	31	21	13	4	18	21	4	1

NOTIFICATION.

During the year 1937, forty-four deaths from Tuberculosis (all forms) were registered, of which 40 (or 91 per cent.) were already notified to the Medical Officer of Health.

In cases of death from tuberculosis not previously notified to the M.O.H., letters are sent to the certifying medical practitioners requiring an explanation of their failure to comply with the statutory requirements. There was no evidence of wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATES.

The local death rate from tuberculosis per 1,000 of the population for 1937 and the previous four years was as follows :—

	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
Respiratory	0.99	0.7	0.75	1.02	0.96
Non-Respiratory	0.14	0.22	0.19	0.26	0.19
All form of Tuberculosis	1.13	0.92	0.94	1.28	1.15

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF
TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

The above Regulations prohibit the employment in connection with a dairy of any person who is suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis if his employment involves the milking of cows, the treatment of milk, or the handling of vessels for containing milk. If a Local Authority, on the report of the Medical Officer of Health, is satisfied that a person residing in their district is so employed, and suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, and is in an infectious state, they may require such person to discontinue his employment. Provision is made for the compensation of any person who sustains damage by reason of the exercise of any of the powers of these Regulations if he himself is not in default.

The Local Authority took no action under the Regulations during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925—SECTION 62.

AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936—SECTION 172.

The above Sections of the Public Health Acts, authorise the removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis where it is proved to the satisfaction of a Court of Summary Jurisdiction that the lodging or accommodation available for that person is such that proper precautions to prevent the spread of infection cannot be taken, or that such precautions are not being taken; and that serious risk of infection is thereby caused to other persons.

No action was taken under this head by the Health Department in 1937.

TABLE XIV.
CAUSES OF DEATH, 1937.

Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—	—	—
Measles	2	4	6
Scarlet fever	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	1	1

TABLE XIV.—Continued.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1937.

Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Influenza	6	6	12
Encephalitis lethargica	1	—	1
Cerebro-spinal fever	1	—	1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	18	21	39
Other tuberculous diseases	4	1	5
Syphilis	1	—	1
General paralysis of the insane: tabes dorsalis	2	—	2
Cancer, malignant disease	26	28	54
Diabetes	—	4	4
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	28	31	59
Heart disease	72	50	122
Aneurysm	2	—	2
Other circulatory diseases	12	7	19
Bronchitis	19	11	30
Pneumonia (all forms)	13	7	20
Other respiratory diseases	5	—	5
Peptic ulcer	5	1	6
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	—	2	2
Appendicitis	—	—	—
Cirrhosis of liver	3	1	4
Other diseases of liver, etc.	1	2	3
Other digestive diseases	5	7	12
Acute and chronic nephritis	12	10	22
Puerperal sepsis	—	—	—
Other puerperal causes	—	3	3
Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	12	12	24
Senility	18	14	32
Suicide	3	1	4
Other violence	11	7	18
Other defined diseases	31	24	55
Causes ill-defined or unknown	—	1	1
Diarrhoea 2 years and over	—	—	—
Totals	313	256	569

TABLE XV.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1937.
DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week.	1—2 weeks.	2—3 weeks.	3—4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under one year.
All causes :										
Certified	14	5	1	2	22	8	7	4	3	44
Uncertified ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chickenpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria & Croup..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdominal										
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous										
Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tubercular										
Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis										
(not Tuberculous) ..	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Convulsions	1	2	—	—	3	2	1	1	—	7
Laryngitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Pneumonia										
(all forms)	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	2	1	8
Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Gastritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation, Over-										
lying	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital										
Malformations	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Premature Birth	10	1	1	—	12	1	—	—	—	13
Atrophy, Debility &										
Marasmus	—	1	—	—	1	3	1	—	—	5
Other Causes	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	1	—	3
Totals	14	5	1	2	22	8	7	4	3	44

TABLE XVI.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1937.
DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE IN THE SEVERAL
WARDS.

	No. of Deaths.
Graig	15
Rhondda	6
Town	—
Cilfynydd	7
Trallwn	6
Treforest	5
Rhydyfelin	5
Total for URBAN DISTRICT	— 44 —

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OR MORTALITY,
MATERNAL DEATH-RATES, AND CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN
INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1937.

ENGLAND AND WALES, LONDON, 125 GREAT TOWNS AND
148 SMALLER TOWNS.

(Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	Ponty- pridd.	England and Wales.	125 County Boro's & Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Popula- tions 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Admin- istra- tive County.
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Rates per 1,000 Population.

Births:					
Live	16.3	14.9	14.9	15.3	13.3
Still	1.07	0.60	0.67	0.64	0.54
DEATHS:					
All Causes	14.5	12.4	12.5	11.9	12.3
Typhoid & Par- atyphoid fev- ers	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Smallpox ..	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.15	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01
Scarlet fever ..	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.06
Diphtheria	0.02	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.05
Influenza	0.3	0.45	0.39	0.42	0.38
Violence	0.56	0.54	0.45	0.42	0.51
NOTIFICA- TIONS:					
Smallpox ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—
Scarlet fever ..	9.75	2.33	2.56	2.42	2.09
Diphtheria	2.25	1.49	1.81	1.38	1.93
Enteric fever ..	0.00	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas	0.28	0.37	0.43	0.34	0.44
Pneumonia ..	1.12	1.36	1.58	1.20	1.18

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, etc.—CONTINUED.

	Ponty- pridd.	England and Wales.	125 County Boro's & Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Popula- tions 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Admin- istra- tive County.
--	------------------	--------------------------	---	--	---

Rates per 1,000 Live Births.

Deaths under 1 year of age ..	69	59	62	55	60
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	3.1	5.8	7.9	3.2	12.0
MATERNAL MORTALITY:					
Puerperal Sep- sis	0.00	1.97			
Others	4.42	2.26	Not available.		
Total	4.42	3.23			

Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still).

MATERNAL MORTALITY:					
Puerperal Sep- sis	0.00	0.94			
Others	4.40	2.17	Not available.		
Total	4.40	3.11			
NOTIFICA- TIONS:					
Puerperal fever	19.14	13.93	17.59	11.25	4.15
Puerperal py- rexia					
					14.34

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