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**BOROUGH OF ABERAVON.**



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# Annual Report,

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health,**

**FOR THE YEAR 1905.**

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**J. ARNALLT JONES, M.D., D.P.H., &c.,**

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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BOROUGH OF ABERAVERE



# Annual Report

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1902


ABRAHAM JONES, M.D., B.P.H., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

PRINTED BY

H. W. Jones, Aberystwyth





## **BOROUGH OF ABERAVON.**

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MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

### **Population.**

The population of the Borough at the last census in 1901 was 7553 ; the area of the district (uncovered by water) being 2060 acres ; the houses inhabited were 1513 in number with an average number of inmates per house of 4.99.

In 1891 the census shewed a population of 6850, so that the town had increased by 703 inhabitants during the ten years—an average increase of 70 per annum, and the population of the Borough in 1905 based on the assumption that the annual increase was 70 per annum since the last census would be 7830.

The Inspector of nuisances reports that there are 1554 occupied houses in the Borough with 41 houses in course of construction and 9 vacant houses, five of the villa type and four shops with dwellings attached.

Allowing 4.9 persons per occupied house and 1 caretaker for each empty house, the population would be 7623. But I have thought it best to estimate the population by logarithms based on the census of 1891 and that of 1901—thus calculated the population for 1905 would be 7871, and on that figure our averages are estimated.

The bulk of the working class are coal miners, tinplate workers, and dock labourers, a few only being employed in copper works and brass mills—many women are employed in tinplate works.

### Births.

There were 307 births during the year, 154 male and 153 female—the annual birth-rate being 39.0 per 1000.

There were 9 illegitimate births, 2 male and 7 female.

### Deaths.

There were 119 deaths during the year producing an annual death-rate of 15.1 per 1000.

### Zymotic Deaths.

There were 5 deaths due to Zymotic forms of disease, viz :—

Diphtheria ...	...	...	1
Measles ...	...	...	1
Diarrhœa ...	...	...	3
Small Pox, Scarlatina, Whooping Cough, Cholera, Plague and Enter- ic, Typhus, and Continued Fevers			0

The Zymotic death-rate is 0.63 per 1000 per annum.

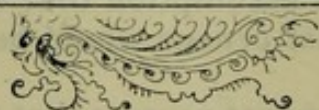




Table 1.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1905 and Previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births.		Under one year of age.		Total Deaths registered in the District.	
		No.	Rate.*	No.	Rate per 1000 births registered.	No.	Rate.*
1895	...	7130	...	271	...	...	...
1896	...	7200	...	273	...	...	...
1897	...	7270	...	291	...	...	...
1898	...	7340	...	327	...	...	...
1899	...	7410	...	252	...	...	...
1900	...	7480	...	275	...	...	...
1901	...	7553	...	264	...	...	...
1902	...	7620	...	276	...	...	...
1903	...	7690	...	283	...	...	...
1904	...	7760	...	296	...	...	...
Averages for years 1895-1904.	...	7445	...	280	...	...	...
1905	...	7871	...	307	...	...	...

Births.		Under one year of age.		Total Deaths registered in the District.	
No.	Rate.*	No.	Rate per 1000 births registered.	No.	Rate.*
...	38.0	63	...	157	22.0
...	37.9	47	...	128	17.7
...	40.0	67	...	134	18.4
...	44.5	68	...	152	20.7
...	34.9	64	...	142	19.2
...	36.7	51	...	145	19.3
...	34.7	52	...	118	15.5
...	36.2	36	...	123	16.1
...	36.7	51	...	151	19.6
...	38.1	48	...	125	16.1
Averages for years 1895-1904.	...	54	...	137	18.4
1905	...	50	...	119	15.1

\*Rates in Column 4 and 8 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water)		At census of 1901.	
...	2060	...	...
...	...	...	...
Total population at all ages	...	7553	...
Number of inhabited houses	...	1513	...
Average number of persons per house	...	4.99	...



## Infantile Mortality.

Fifty deaths occurred amongst infants under the age of 12 months, producing an infantile mortality rate of 162 per 1000 births registered.

The causes of death were various—those affections classed under the heading of “Wasting diseases” *e.g.* Premature Birth, Atrophy &c., caused 22 deaths.

Diarrhœal diseases caused 9—measles the only common infectious fever caused 1 death—there was no death due to any of the tuberculous group—the remaining eighteen deaths were caused mostly by the common infantile affections Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Convulsions.

The total number of deaths under 3 months of age was 27, and of this number 20 were brought about by wasting diseases; thus of the deaths amongst children under one year more than 50 per cent died under the age of 3 months and wasting diseases caused 74 per cent of these deaths.

Of recent years the greatest infantile mortality was in 1898, when 68 children succumbed under the age of twelve months, in that year also the number of births was largest, viz: 327, and it has been noticed that a high birth rate does not tend to conduce to a low mortality rate, because in this country a high birth rate generally pertains to a class of the population whose social circumstances and method of living are not such as to foster the healthy upbringing of tender infants.

In 1902 the births were 276 in number, and 36 infants died under the age of 12 months shewing a marked difference as compared with 1898, but it will be remembered that the summer of 1902 was a wet and cold one, and so the diarrhœal death rate throughout the country was materially lessened and was the lowest recorded.

Hot dry summers favour the development of the micro-organisms in the soil which cause these diarrhœal affections and so climatic conditions have much influence on infantile mortality.

The prospects of the survival of a tender infant may be influenced by circumstances operating before and after its birth—premature birth—congenital defects—inanition—the diseases and accidents of the lying-in woman are examples of the former and



may or may not be capable of being prevented ; whilst diseases such as convulsions, diarrhœa, gastro-intestinal catarrh, rickets, atrophy, pneumonia and the like are acquired after birth and are more easily remedied than the other groups.

Social position affects infantile mortality—the better education, the greater comfort and better surroundings of the prosperous and well-to-do are more likely to secure healthy infant life for their offspring than would be the case amongst the working classes and the poor where these features are wanting—there will always be a difference between the infant mortality rate of the villa residents of Pentyla and the hill side, and those living in the crowded streets in the centre of the Borough.

Illegitimacy is not excessive in Aberavon, 3 per cent of the total births were illegitimate, but in some towns the higher death rate amongst the illegitimate in contrast to the legitimate children has been very marked, and is doubtless caused by neglect after birth and so preventable.

I am unable to form an accurate opinion as to the extent to which infant assurance is carried on in Aberavon—I have reason to believe that it is very common—as long as these systems of insurance enable unscrupulous persons to derive profit by a child's death (and contributory neglect is often difficult to prove) then so long may infant assurance be a possible factor in infantile mortality.

Poverty, overcrowding and insanitary condition of the homes of the working classes are very potent causes of a high rate of infant mortality.

In districts where female labour is largely employed, this has a prejudicial influence on the death rate of infants. In Aberavon the proportion of women engaged in factories is not great and so it has no marked effect on the infantile death rate.

The principal causes no doubt are improper feeding and neglect—it has for very long been noted that children reared by hand and on the bottle are very prone to contract diarrhœal diseases—the best of all foods for the infant is the natural milk of the mother—it is true that a certain percentage of women nowadays and especially town dwellers, are on account of the high pressure under which they live and other conditions, unable to suckle their young, still it is also true that many mothers through indifference and love of pleasure shirk that duty, which to them should be a labour of love, and



bring their children up by hand, a method which is more expensive, troublesome, unsatisfactory, risky, and often fatal in summer.

The substitute for the natural food of the child is cow's milk properly diluted and sweetened and is the nearest approach to the mother's milk, but pure cow's milk forms but a small proportion of the food of the hand-fed children in this district—one sees in the homes tins of condensed milk sometimes good brands, often indifferent—these condensed milks usually are too sweet and often contain 40% cane sugar which causes indigestion in the infant—the directions on the tins as to diluting the milk are usually very wide of the mark and if carried out do not convey sufficient nourishment. Some of these brands, especially the cheaper ones, are made from machine skimmed milk which has had its fat removed and its value as a food diminished accordingly.

Milk of this description—patent foods of all kinds and later potatoes and gravy are administered to the long suffering infant and it is little wonder that he acquires gastric trouble, rickets, debility, atrophy, convulsions, &c.

The enforcing of attendance at school of children up to the age of 14 years has its effect in many homes—the over-worked mother of a poor family used to look to her eldest girl to help her in bringing up the little ones, and so the daughter learned how to nurse and acquired the maternal instinct which would stand her in good stead in later life—now compulsory school attendance and home lessons afterwards, lead the elder girl often to regard the baby as a nuisance and so the mother is deprived of help and the baby neglected.

It only remains to discuss the influence of intemperance—the curse of alcoholism by bringing about poverty, by blunting the parental affections, by causing neglect and deprivation of food, is in every town like ours a strong and a constant evil and contributes its quatum to the massacre of the innocents ; but we can be thankful for the good work of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in our midst in trying to check the potency for evil of this, the greatest of all evils.









**Table 2.**

The following are our averages compared with others:—

	Aberavon, 1905.	...	County of Glamorgan, 1904.	...	General rate of England and Wales, 1904.
Birth-rate per 1000 lives	39.0	...	36.6	...	27.9
Death-rate „	15.1	...	16.9	...	16.2
Infantile Mortality, i.e., death-rate of children under 1 year per 1000 births registered	162.	...	176.	...	146.
Zymotic death-rate ...	0.63	...	2.29	..	1.94
Phthisis death-rate ...	0.76	...	0.96	...	

**Table 3.**

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1905.

Notifiable Disease.	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 to 5 years.	5 to 15 years.	15 to 25 years.	25 to 65 years.	65 and upwards.	Total.	Removed to Hospital.
Small Pox ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cholera ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria ...	7	0	3	2	0	2	0	7	0
Membranous Croup	3	0	2	1	0	0	0	3	0
Erysipelas ...	6	0	0	0	2	4	0	6	0
Scarlet Fever...	21	0	12	7	1	1	0	21	1
Typhus fever ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric fever ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Relapsing fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Continued fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal fever	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0
Plague ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	39	0	17	10	3	9	0	39	1



**Table 3. (a).**

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during 1905, arranged according to their occurrence :—

		Diphtheria.	Membranous croup.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet fever.	Puerperal fever.	Total.
January	...	1	1	1	6	0	9
February	...	0	1	0	2	0	3
March	...	2	1	0	3	1	7
April	...	0	0	1	2	0	3
May	...	0	0	1	1	0	2
June	...	0	0	1	3	0	4
July	...	1	0	1	4	0	6
August	...	2	0	0	0	0	2
September	...	0	0	0	0	0	0
October	...	1	0	1	0	1	3
November	...	0	0	0	0	0	0
December	...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals		7	3	6	21	2	39



**Table 4.**

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1905:—

Deaths in whole District at subjoined Ages

Causes of Death.	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards
Small Pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping-cough	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Croup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fever { Typhus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
{ Enteric	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
{ Other continued	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Epidemic Influenza	2	0	0	0	0	1	1
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diarrhœa	3	3	0	0	0	0	0
Enteritis	4	4	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other septic diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Phthisis, (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	6	0	0	0	2	4	0
Other tubercular diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cancer, malignant disease	4	0	0	0	0	3	1
Bronchitis	7	3	0	0	0	1	3
Pneumonia	13	9	2	0	0	1	1
Pleurisy	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alcoholism Cirrhosis of liver	3	0	0	0	0	3	0
Venereal diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Premature birth	14	14	0	0	0	0	0
Diseases and accidents of parturition	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Heart diseases	21	2	0	0	0	12	7
Accidents	2	0	0	1	0	1	0
Suicides	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All other causes	36	14	1	2	2	9	8
All causes	119	50	4	3	5	36	21



### Scarlet Fever.

Scarlatina was present in the town during the first half of the year—the last cases were met with in July—we have had this disease in the Borough for several years, the number of cases being—

1900 ...	...	... 15 cases.
1901 ...	...	... 106 „
1902 ...	..	... 65 „
1903 ...	...	... 177 „
1904 ...	...	... 91 „
1905 ...	...	... 21 „

There were no deaths.

One child was removed to the Sanatorium in April.

The majority of the cases were in the Sandfields District.

### Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.

There were seven cases of Diphtheria and 39 of Membranous Croup notified—one of the latter died.

The frequency of Diphtheria continues less than in previous years and the use of antitoxin in the treatment of this disease has exercised a most pronounced influence in diminishing the mortality from this affection.

### Other Infectious Diseases.

The Council will notice with pleasure the lessened amount of infectious diseases during the year.

We had no cases of small-pox or enteric fever.

There was one death from measles.

### Mortuary.

A mortuary for the town is sadly needed—I have urged this for the last eight years.

### Water Supply.

I have been favoured by Mr. J. Cox with the following figures concerning the local rainfall during 1905—

January ...	...	... 1.01 inches.
February ...	...	... 1.19 „
March ...	...	... 4.84 „



April	...	...	...	2.78	inches
May	...	...	...	.40	"
June	...	...	...	1.16	"
July	...	..	...	3.55	"
August	...	...	...	4.62	"
September	...	...	...	2.07	"
October	...	...	...	1.77	"
November	...	...	...	4.86	"
December	...	...	...	2.95	"

Total ... 31.20 inches.

There were 211 days during the year on which no rain fell.

In 1904 the total rainfall was 40.88 inches, and in 1903 the figure was 50.03 inches.

An inch of rain represents 101 tons of water per acre.

The Borough received a constant supply of water from the reservoir up to May 19th, 1905, when it had to be made intermittent and kept so till September 10th.

The water was shut off during that period as follows ;—

May 19th to June 20th	shut off	10 p.m to 7 a.m
June 20th to July 26th	„	8 p.m to 8 a.m.
July 26th to Aug. 30th	„	5 p.m to 8 a.m.
Aug. 30 to Sep. 10th	„	10 p.m to 7 a.m.

During the period of intermittent service, the auxiliary supply from Margam was turned on, and from May 19th to September 10th we were furnished with 11,256,000 gallons of water by Margam Urban District Council, this, during the day mainly served the lower portion of the town, but during the night it served the whole town. The pressure was very low and a frequent subject of complaint, it averaged during the day say from 1 to 3lbs pressure per sq. inch. Recently a 6 inch main pipe has been laid down in Station Road in the place of the previous smaller main, and it is hoped that the pressure in future will be improved.

In January, the analyst at the County public health laboratory reported on a sample of water from the well in Ford Row, Velindre that the results of a microscopical examination were unsatisfactory and indicated organic contamination, the bacteriological examination shewed that the total number of organisms was high with evidence of contamination. This well was closed.

In February, the reports of both analyst and bacteriologist on the town supply were satisfactory.



In March, the analyst reported on the water from a well in Green Park Street, that there was no evidence of contamination, and the Report of the bacteriologist was equally satisfactory, for all that it is highly undesirable that people should drink water from a surface well in a crowded area like Green Park Street—it is always open to pollution.

In May the analyst's report on the town supply was satisfactory.

In August the reports on a sample of water taken from the Board Schools Mountain side, were—the analyst said, that the sample was not of a high degree of purity, and the bacteriologist described the sample as qualitatively unsatisfactory.

In September a sample from the spring at Pantdu was reported on by the bacteriologist who said it shewed distinct evidence of sewage contamination. This source of public water supply was promptly closed.

In November the bacteriologist reported on a sample from the public supply that it was a water of moderate purity only—the analyst at the same time reporting that it was a pure water showing no evidence of organic or metallic contamination.

### **Factories Workshops and Workplaces.**

There were 37 inspections made of Factories in the district and 61 inspections of workshops and in connection with the workshops, 2 written notices were served on occupiers, calling attention to insufficient sanitary accommodation which was in each case remedied.

There are 17 factories and 45 workshops registered in the town. The Factories are :—

Aerated Waters	...	...	...	1
Bread-making	...	...	...	1
Brick-making	...	...	...	1
Building	...	...	...	1
Coach Building	...	...	...	1
Forge...	...	...	...	1
Gas-making	...	...	...	1
Iron and Brass Founding	...	...	...	1
Printing	...	...	...	3
Sausage-making	...	...	...	1
Sawing	...	...	...	1
Tin Plate Manufacturers	...	...	...	1
Tin Stamping	...	...	...	1
Tobacco	...	...	...	1
Wood-turning	...	...	...	1



The workshops are :—

Asphalte-making	...	...	..	1
Beer-bottling	...	...	...	1
Boot-making	...	...	..	9
Bread-making and Confectionery	...	...	...	8
Cabinet-making	...	...	...	1
Cycle Repairing	...	...	..	2
Dress-making and Millinery	...	...	...	10
Hosiery	...	...	...	3
Joinery	...	...	...	1
Rag Sorting	...	...	...	1
Saddlery	...	...	...	1
Ship Repairing	...	...	...	1
Smith work	...	...	...	2
Tailoring	...	...	...	3
Wool-weaving	...	...	...	1

### Housing of the Working Classes.

In preparing for the enquiry into the necessity of providing homes for the working classes held by an Inspector of the Local Government Board, a classification of the houses in the town was attempted, and we estimated that the 1555 houses in the Borough might be classified as follows :—

4 roomed houses (type Charlotte St) rent 4/-	...	885
6        "        (type Castle Street)    ,,   7/6	..	35
5        "        (type Arthur Street)    ,,   6/6	...	450
Better class houses—villas &c.	...	215
		1555

of this number some 130 would be considered as undesirable habitations mostly in Pantdu, Blackwells, Corlanau, Cwmavon Road, Charles Street, Richard Street, Green Park Street, and Wern Square, undesirable on account of their being confined and unprovided with open space at the rear—no fire places in the bedrooms or inefficient ventilation.

Then there would be some 40 or so houses still more unsatisfactory in Corlanau, Penrhiw, Pear Tree Cots., Walnut Tree Lane, Talbot Street, Charlotte Street, Green Park Street, and Gwyn Terrace—houses damp with their floors below the level of the ground, some with light and ventilation obstructed, and some with their external walls within a few feet of the mountain side.

This classification is approximate only.



Quite 35% of the working men's houses in the Borough are old houses, many built some 50 or 100 years ago, before modern building regulations came into force.

The great fault is the dampness of these dwellings, both new and old, and it is lamentable to see new houses even now in course of erection on the marshy water-logged land in the Sandfields area, with no attempt made to protect them from the evils of dampness and ground air saturated with moisture.

A damp house fosters Rheumatism, Consumption, and Diphtheria, and other diseases as well, and in my annual report for 1903, I directed your attention to this very important question, and pointed out that Section 10 of the bye-laws relating to new streets and houses adopted by you in 1891, did not go far enough—it says “every person who shall erect a new domestic building shall cause the whole ground surface or site of such building to be asphalted or covered with a layer of good cement concrete, rammed solid at least six inches thick whenever the dampness of the site renders such a precaution necessary.” I recommended that the words “whenever the dampness of the site renders such a precaution necessary” should be deleted and there should be substituted therefor—“except where the Council are advised and consider such a precaution unnecessary.” In the case of buildings on the hill side where there is good natural drainage, it would not be necessary to enforce this law, though I consider a concrete base desirable everywhere, but in the Sandfields district generally it is an absolute necessity—go where one will, one finds damp walls with the paper discoloured and loose, and unused parlours soon exhibit that close fusty smell which is associated with dampness, mildew, and fungus growth.

Too great care cannot be exercised in seeing that houses are completed thoroughly before allowing them to be occupied. I mention this as in a recent inspection of some new buildings in Sandfields in company with the Inspector of Nuisances, we found houses which had not been finished off, but yet they had been occupied for many weeks.

Another feature one noticed was that the ground floor was below the road level and with an absence of an asphalted or concrete base, it is hopeless to expect a dry and healthy house where such obtains. I cannot too strongly try to impress on the Council the necessity of dealing effectually with this subject, it would contribute greatly to the bettering of the houses of the working classes—the cost of asphaltting or concreting is comparatively small, and it is amply compensated for by the additional comfort and better health it secures.



House accommodation appears to be sufficiently provided for by private enterprise—several new streets of houses have been erected during the last few years, these are fairly substantially built and are separately drained, but much of the old and small house property is dilapidated, damp, with floors below the ground level, and deficient lighting and ventilation.

In the new buildings the sufficiency of open space is secured by the bye-laws, but in the old houses in Corlanau, Blackwells, and Pantdu, the space is limited to about 3 ft from the back outer wall of the house to the retaining wall built up against the mountain side.

The bad state of the back roads of many streets has the effect of interfering with the cleanliness of the surroundings of many houses.

An application made during the year for a loan of £5000 to erect 24 houses under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, did not receive the sanction of the Local Government Board.

### **Scavenging, Sewerage and Drainage.**

The house refuse is collected daily in the centre of the town by the Corporation scavengers, and in the outskirts at regular intervals—I have not had any complaints brought under my notice.

The greater portion of the Borough is sewered and drained, and discharged into the tidal waters of the Afan—the sewers are regularly flushed.

The only unsewered part of the Borough is Velindre.

### **River Pollution.**

The pollution of the River Afan by the populous communities up the Afan valley continues, and no appreciable efforts are made to prevent the continuance of this nuisance.

### **Common Lodging Houses.**

There are 7 registered common lodges<sup>ing</sup> houses in the Borough, two of these are well kept, the others are not so satisfactory—it would be well to do away with those which are unsuitable.

### **Slaughter-house.**

The public slaughter-house is discreditable to the town—in the same compound are stables, and the conditions under which the



corporation horses are housed do not commend themselves to persons with a tender feeling for animals.

### **Dairies and Cowsheds.**

There are 17 cowkeepers and dairymen registered in the Borough, of these, 9 reside in the town and 8 are non-resident—there are also 6 registered purveyors of milk, four of whom reside in the Borough and two outside.

The older class of cowsheds have their drawbacks, but they are kept clean and regularly white washed, and I have not received complaints.

### **Bake-Houses.**

The ten bake-houses in the Borough have been well kept, and no fault has attracted my attention.

### **Offensive Trades.**

The only offensive trade carried on is that of rag sorting, and here the premises are satisfactorily and cleanly kept.

### **Sanitary Department.**

The BOROUGH SURVEYOR notifies me of the following :—

(a) WORKS COMPLETED :—

- 1.—Street and Water Improvements £150.
- 2.—Private Street Works Arthur and Bevan Street £130.

(b) WORKS CONTEMPLATED :—

- 1.—Repair of damaged Esplanade to cost about £3000.
- 2.—Extension and improvement of Slaughter-house, plans laid before Local Government Board } £1200.
- 3.—Corporation Stables £300.
- 4.—Steel footbridge over G.W. Railway £700.
- 5.—Private Street Works for carrying out of which loans have been sanctioned viz : Castle, St. Mary, and Croft Streets, Wellington Place, Springfield Terrace, and sewerage of Velindre } £725
- 6.—A New Cemetery.
- 7.—Drainage of the Moors.



## (c) WORKS REQUIRED :—

- 1.—A sufficient supply of pure water.
- 2.—Sewerage of Velindre.
- 3.—Mortuary.
- 5.—Steam disinfecting apparatus.

The INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES has furnished me with the following summary of work accomplished in his department :—

Premises made fit for habitation	...	8
„ closed	... ..	6
„ demolished	... ..	2
„ in foul condition	... ..	2
„ provided with troughing	... ..	43
Roofs repaired	... ..	23
Yards paved	... ..	13
Defective house drains	... ..	99
Reconstructed	„ ... ..	113
Cleaned	„ ... ..	175
Cesspools emptied	... ..	14
W. C. accommodation provided	... ..	16
Flushing tanks	„ ... ..	23
New drains	„ ... ..	32
Water supply	„ ... ..	33

“House to house inspection is regularly carried out with a view to discovering nuisances which are dealt with as expeditiously as possible.”

### Inspector of Nuisances.

On January 12th, 1906, the Town Clerk requested me to include in this report my opinion as to how the Inspector of Nuisances has discharged his duties during the year. I am glad to be able to say that the Inspector has shewn both energy and zeal in his work, and I consider the sanitary state of the town as better than in previous years, and it is only fair to say that he has contributed to bringing this about.

### The Spitting Nuisance.

I recommend the Council to adopt a bye-law dealing with the objectionable and filthy habit of expectorating in public places and buildings, such a bye-law is enforced by the County Council of Glamorgan, and it would be well if the Town Council had it put in force in the Borough.



### Disinfection.

The Corporation do not possess a disinfecting apparatus, the only methods available being fumigation of infected rooms by formalin and sulphur—the boiling of infected clothing and its treatment by chemicals.

I have the honour to be,

Your faithful Servant,

**J. ARNALLT JONES,**

Medical Officer of Health



