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RADNORSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

YEAR 1921.

BY

J. W. MILLER, M.D., D.P.H.

BARRISTER-AT-LAW,

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

COUNTY OF RADNOR.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Councillor B. P. Lewis.

Aldermen A. Edwards, A. Moseley, C. Powell, J. Price
C. Coltman-Rogers and J. W. Stephens ; Councillors J. Evans,
A. T. Hamer, John Hamer, R. Hughes, J. P. Price, R. T. Rogers,
W. A. Sims, Major Thompson and Col. Venables Llewelyn.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.
MIDWIVES ACT COMMITTEE.

The Members of the Public Health and Housing Committee,
Mrs. Venables Llewelyn, Mrs. C. Coltman-Rogers, Mrs. W. A. Sims
Mrs. Williams and Dr. John Murray.

DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

NAME.	URBAN DISTRICTS.
T. W. Graves, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., Wylewm Street, Knighton.	Knighton
E. A. Milner, M.D., C.M. The Garth, Kington.	Presteigne
J. B. Cunningham, M.B., Ch.B. Deuville, Llandrindod Wells.	Llandrindod Wells
	RURAL DISTRICTS.
W. Black Jones, M.D., D.P.H. Tyn-y-Berllan, Builth Wells.	Colwyn
J. A. K. Griffiths, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Wylewm House, Knighton.	Knighton
Richard Harding, L.R.C.P., L.M., L.R.F.P.S. The Laurels, New Radnor.	New Radnor
T. E. Hincks, M.B., Ch.B. Broad Street, Hay.	Painscastle
A. Gordon Richardson, M.B., C.M. Bryncoed, Rhayader.	Rhayader

Clerk to the County Council : H. Vaughan Vaughan.

Inspector of Midwives : Mrs. Joan M. Vaughan.

Inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act : R. Philip Gough.

County Analyst : Herbert J. Evans, B.Sc., A.I.C.

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health : C. W. Lloyd.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE RADNORSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my first Annual Report for the year 1921 on the Health Administration of the County.

Population.—This has declined since the Census of 1911, particulars are given on pages 5-7.

Birthrate.—This was 20.4 for the whole County compared with a rate of 22.4 for England and Wales.

Infantile Mortality Rate—This was 41 per 1000 births for the whole County compared with a rate of 83 for England and Wales, the rate for 1920 was 3 per 1000 higher than that for England and Wales.

Health Visiting and Midwifery.—It will be seen from the particulars given on pages 11-17 that the whole County is now covered for this purpose.

On account of the area of the County being considerable viz., 301,165 acres and the population being small in comparison, the expense of maintaining a Health Service is obviously greater in comparison with the other Counties in England and Wales.

Particulars of the work carried out by the Health Visitors is given on pages 12-13. The percentage of infants fed entirely on the breast was only 62 per cent., and this is unsatisfactory and indicates the need for instruction in matters of feeding, etc., by the Health Visitors.

I have given particulars in regard to Maternal Mortality in child-birth on page 16. The rate is very high compared with that for England and Wales and is I consider caused chiefly through the difficulty in the past of obtaining the services of a Midwife, particularly in the Rural Districts.

Since the formation of the various District Nursing Associations, the Midwifery service is much more satisfactory, as the District Nurses attend such cases, and in the three districts without a District Nursing Association Midwifery cases are attended, where necessary, by the three whole-time Nurses.

Infectious Diseases.—I have discussed the question of Isolation Hospital accommodation more particularly in relation to Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Smallpox on pages 17-20. Economy can only be affected through the co-operation of the various Sanitary Authorities.

Vaccination against Smallpox is only being carried out to a limited extent. Should an outbreak of Smallpox occur in the County on account of non-vaccination the expense incurred will be considerable.

Tuberculosis.—Full particulars are given on pages 24-30.

Out of 105 cases of Tuberculosis (in the majority Consumption) a family history of the disease was obtained in 33 cases *i.e.*, 31 per cent. These particulars should for all time refute the general idea that Tuberculosis is an hereditary disease. In connection with previous investigations in Hereford and elsewhere I ascertained that in two-thirds of the cases of Consumption there was no family history of the disease.

It will be admitted that where there is a family history of Consumption the soil is generally more suitable for the invasion of the Tubercle Bacillus, but persons with such a history who lead a healthy outdoor life are not likely to develop the disease and there still remain the majority who develop it apart from any hereditary predisposition.

It may be asked why there should be so many cases of Tuberculosis in a County where the climate is so bracing, and where an outdoor occupation is followed by a large proportion of the inhabitants. There are various factors which appear to have a direct bearing on the question. In the past there has been too little attention paid to isolation and disinfection in cases of Consumption, in consequence other members of the same family have developed the disease.

I have referred to the question of Malnutrition in my recent School Report on pages 32 and 33; attention was drawn to the want of proper feeding fresh air and sleep. One of the best safeguards against Tuberculosis is the proper rearing of children and young adults. Proper Housing is most important and it is to be regretted that the Government Scheme could not be carried out through the causes referred to on pages

There seems to be a demand for more houses with three bedrooms; it is essential that not more than two adults or four children should occupy a bedroom of the average size. If the bedroom is smaller the accommodation is insufficient for this number of persons. It is very essential to have a third bedroom in the case of illness. An adult should have at least 300 cubic feet. It is most important that the windows of living rooms and bedrooms should be made to open and that they should be kept open.

Venereal Diseases.—The prevention of these diseases is discussed on pages 30-31. If General Paralysis of the Insane and Blindness can be prevented a considerable saving to the community will be affected.

Sanitary Inspection.—From the point of view of both economy and efficiency it is very desirable that Sanitary Authorities should combine to employ the services of a whole-time fully qualified Sanitary Inspector. I have communicated with several of the Sanitary Authorities in the County in regard to this matter and would suggest that wherever practicable a joint appointment should be made. In some areas it may be possible to combine with Authorities in adjoining Counties. At present there is only one Sanitary Inspector in the County who has the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and he also has the Meat Inspector's Certificate.

Under Articles 8 and 15 of the Sanitary Offices Order 1922, before an appointment is made particulars must be submitted to the Ministry of Health and where re-payment is desired of half of the salary from County Funds, the person appointed must be approved by the Ministry of Health and possess proper qualifications.

General Remarks—True economy must always accrue from a removal of causes, which are a menace to Public Health and any action tending to lower the standard of the Health Services, e.g., payment of inadequate salaries, must be against the interests of the community, whose first wealth is found in its physical and mental fitness.

In order to effect economy in printing, I have not given summaries of the Annual Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health, but have drawn attention to any matters of importance discussed in the Reports.

In conclusion I desire to express my thanks to the members of the Staff for their co-operation and assistance.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

Public Health Offices,
County Buildings,
Llandrindod Wells,
October 5th, 1922.

J. W. MILLER, M.D., D.P.H.,
County Medical Officer of Health.

AREA AND POPULATION.

AREA—Including land and inland water this amounts to 301,165 acres, (Urban Districts 8,167 acres and Rural Districts 292,998 acres).

POPULATION—According to the Census of 1921 the population of the Administrative County was 23,528, made up of 11,475 males and 12,053 females. The following are particulars of the population at the Census of 1911 and 1921 :—

	1911.	1921.
Administrative County	22,590	23,528
Urban Districts ...	5,806	7,478
Rural Districts ...	16,784	16,050

The Census was taken on 19/20th June, 1921 and in consequence there is an error in regard to the population of Llandrindod Wells on account of visitors in the town at that date and this also applies in a lesser degree to other districts in the County. There were also a certain number of residents absent on holiday from the County.

The following tables give the populations of all the districts at the Census of 1921 and is estimated by the Registrar General for the middle of the year 1921. It is evident that some correction has been made in respect of visitors resident in the County at the time the Census is taken.

URBAN DISTRICTS.

	POPULATION.				
	Census 1911.	Census 1921.	1911—1921.		Estimated 1921.
			Increase	Decrease	
Knighton ...	1886	1701		185	1689
Llandrindod Wells...	2779	4605	1826		2792
Presteigne ...	1141	1172	31		1151
	5806	7478	1672		5652

RURAL DISTRICTS.

	POPULATION.				
	Census 1911.	Census 1921.	1911—1921.		Estimated 1921.
			Increase	Decrease	
Colwyn ...	2052	2043		9	2050
Knighton ...	4443	4192		251	4165
New Radnor ...	2758	2600		158	2653
Painscastle ...	2333	2201		132	2207
Rhayader ...	5198	5014		184	4949
	16784	16050		734	16024

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY.

	POPULATION.				
	Census 1911.	Census 1921.	1911-1921.		Estimated 1921.
			Increase	Decrease	
Urban Districts ...	5806	7478	1672		5632
Rural Districts ...	16784	16050		734	16024
Total Population ...	22590	23528	938		21656

In regard to the various districts there has probably only been a slight increase in the population of Llandrindod Wells, shown by the estimated population.

The increase or decrease in the population of the other districts is shown by the variation in intercensal period 1911-1921

There is a probable decrease in population of the whole of the County for the period 1911-1921.

The following are particulars in regard to males and females, with the exception of Llandrindod Wells the figures of which cannot be given accurately for reasons already stated.

URBAN DISTRICTS.

	MALES.		1911-1921.		FEMALES.		1911-1921.	
	Census 1911.	Census 1921.	Increase	De- crease	Census 1911.	Census 1921.	Increase	De- crease.
Knighton ..	900	803		97	986	1898		88
Presteigne ..	539	537		2	602	635	33	

RURAL DISTRICTS.

	MALES.		1911-1921.		FEMALES.		1911-1921.	
	Census 1911.	Census 1921.	Increase	De- crease	Census 1911.	Census 1921.	Increase	De- crease
Colwyn ...	1046	1063	17		1006	980		26
Knighton ...	2355	2193		162	2088	1999		89
New Radnor ...	1442	1335		107	1316	1265		51
Paincastle ...	1173	1121		52	1160	1080		80
Rhayader ...	2627	2542		85	2571	2472		99
	8643	8254		389	8141	7796		345

In the Urban District of Knighton there has been a slightly higher decrease in males compared with females.

In all the Rural Districts with the exception of Colwyn (increase of 17) there has been a decrease in males as well as females, and this decrease has been much higher in regard to males in the districts of Knighton and New Radnor and rather less in Paincastle and Rhayader districts.

The decrease in the population of Radnorshire is probably due to the tendency of the population to gravitate from the Rural areas to the larger Urban areas and also to the loss of males during the War and the lower birth-rate which was a direct result of the War.

The Registrar General in speaking of the Rural District population of England as a whole says:—

“The present Rural District population is slightly less numerically than the similar 1911 population. The increase within the existing Rural areas, however, is not seriously below the mean for the whole Country and indicates that the actual diminution is due merely to the normal growth of Urban centres and not to any serious migration from country to town, such as that which took place during the latter half of the last century.”

BIRTH-RATE.

The total number of births registered in the County during 1921 after due correction was 443 compared with 469 in 1920.

Of the 443 births, 102 (62 males and 40 females) occurred in the Urban Districts and 341 (179 males and 162 females) in the Rural Districts.

The particulars in regard to rates (per 1,000 persons living) for each district are as follows:—

Areas.	Number of Births, 1921	Birth-Rate, 1921.	Birth-Rate, 1920.*
URBAN DISTRICTS—			
Knighton	25	14·8	20·2
Llandrindod Wells ..	48	17·2	16·1
Presteigne	29	25·2	32·1
RURAL DISTRICTS—			
Colwyn	46	22·4	18·1
Knighton	101	24·2	23·5
New Radnor	44	16·6	22·5
Paincastle... ..	58	26·3	23·4
Rhayader	92	18·6	22·1
Urban Districts ...	102	18·1	20·6
Rural Districts ...	341	21·3	22·2
Administrative County ...	443	20·4	21·8
England and Wales ...		22·4	25·5

* From the report of the Registrar General for 1920, the population has been revised according to the Census, of 1921.

The birth-rate for the County is 1·4 lower than 1920.

Of the Urban Districts the highest rate is in Presteigne viz. 25·2 and of the Rural Districts the highest rate is in Painscastle viz. 24·3.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

There were 29 during 1921 (Urban Districts 8, Rural Districts 21) equal to 6·5 per cent. of the total births.

DEATH RATE.

The number of deaths which occurred in the County during 1921, after due correction for residents and non-residents, was 256, compared with 265 in 1920.

Of the 256 deaths, 70 (34 males and 36 females) occurred in the urban districts and 186 (101 males and 85 females) occurred in the rural districts.

The particulars are as follows :—

Areas.	Number of Deaths, 1921	Death rate, 1921.	Death-rate, 1920. *
URBAN DISTRICTS—			
Knighton ...	22	13·0	16·6
Llandrindod Wells ...	25	8·9	12·5
Presteigne ...	23	19·9	21·7
RURAL DISTRICTS—			
Colwyn ...	21	10·2	8·3
Knighton ...	45	10·8	11·4
New Radnor ...	23	8·7	9·9
Painscastle ...	26	11·8	9·2
Rhayader ...	71	14·3	13·6
Urban Districts ...	70	12·4	15·6
Rural Districts ...	186	11·6	11·1
Administrative County ...	256	11·8	12·3
England and Wales ...		12·1	12·4

* From the report of the Registrar General for 1920 the population has been revised according to the census of 1921.

The crude death-rate for the County is 3·6 per 1000 lower than 1920.

Of the Urban Districts, the highest rate occurred in Presteigne, viz. : 19·9, and of the Rural Districts in Rhayader, viz. : 14·3.

Full particulars of the causes of death in each district and of the deaths of each age period are given in tables II. and III. were filled in appendix.

The following table shows the chief causes of death for the year 1921:—

Cause of Death	Number of Deaths	Percentage.
Diseases of Circulatory System ... (Heart Disease 37 and Arterio-sclerosis 8)	45	17·6
Cancer, Malignant Disease ..	30	11·7
Tuberculous, (including Phthisis 21)	27	10·5
Diseases of the Respiratory System (including Bronchitis 12 Pneumonia 9)	23	9
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc. ...	22	8·6
Infectious Disease ... (other than Tuberculosis)	12	4·7
Nephritis (Acute and Chronic) ...	12	4·7
Congenital Debility and Prema- ture Birth ...	10	3·9
Total ...	181	70·7

Particulars in regard to births and deaths since 1914 are given in Table I appendix, the last printed report previous to the one issued last year, was in 1913. I therefore thought it desirable to give the statistics for the period during which no printed reports were published.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths under one year in the County during 1921 was 18 compared with 39 in 1920.

Of the 18 deaths, 6 (2 males and 4 females), occurred in the Urban Districts, and 12 (8 males and 4 females) in the Rural Districts.

The particulars are as follows:—

Areas.	No. of Deaths under one year, 1921.	Rate per 1000 Births, 1921.	Rate per 1000 Births, 1920.
URBAN DISTRICTS—			
Knighton ...	2	80	118
Llandrindod Wells ...	2	42	133
Presteigne ...	2	69	135
RURAL DISTRICTS—			
Colwyn ...	1	22	27
Knighton ...	4	40	72
New Radnor ...	3	68	51
Painscastle ...	2	34	98
Rhayader ...	2	22	73
Urban Districts ...	6	59	129
Rural Districts ...	12	35	68
Administrative County ..	18	41	83
England and Wales ...		83	80

Of the Urban Districts, the highest rate was in Knighton, viz.: 80, and of the Rural Districts the highest was in New Radnor, 68.

There were 17 deaths under one year out of 414 legitimate births, equal to a rate of 41.06 per 1000 births, and one death out of 29 illegitimate births equal to a rate of 34.4 per 1000 births.

Of the 18 deaths, 10 were classified under the heading congenital, debility and malformation, premature birth.

Three occurred from diarrhoea, one each from Whooping Cough, Bronchitis and Pneumonia, and two from other causes not mentioned.

There were four deaths under the age of two years from Diarrhoea and Enteritis. Two in the Urban Districts (Llandrindod Wells and Presteigne), and two in the Rural Districts (Knighton and Rhayader), the rates per 1000 births, were as follows:—

Period.	Urban Districts.	Rural Districts.	Whole County.	England and Wales.
1921.	19.6	2.9	6.7	15.5

Printed leaflets giving particulars of methods of prevention of Summer Diarrhoea were sent to the nurses for distribution.

The disease is usually conveyed by flies, and it is most important that the breeding places should be attacked and as many flies as possible destroyed.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS—During the year 443 births were registered (414 legitimate and 29 illegitimate).

The number of births notified was as follows:—Live Births 398, Still Births 7. Of these 299 were notified by Midwives and 106 by Parents and Doctors; altogether 89·8 were notified.

In case of non-notification, as ascertained from the District Registrars, a communication is sent to the father and also to the Doctor or Midwife in attendance, drawing attention to the provisions of the Notifications of Births Act.

HEALTH VISITING—The whole of the County is now covered for this purpose.

A new district association for Llangunllo and Bleddfa was formed towards the latter part of 1921 and the Nurse commenced her duties on January 23rd, 1922.

Nurse Tate of the Knighton District Nursing Association, commenced her duties of Health Visiting and School Work on May 1st, 1921, on the resignation of Nurse Cameron (whole-time Nurse).

The Staff now consists of a Superintendent Nurse, who is also Inspector of Midwives and Superintendent under the County Nursing Association, three whole-time Nurses for the areas of Clyro, Llanbister and Rhayader and 13 part-time Nurses employed by the following District Associations:—

Boughrood and Llanstephen, Cwmbach, Llechroyd and Llanelwedd, Hundred House, Knighton, Llangunllo, Llandrindod Wells, Newbridge-on-Wye, New Radnor and District, Penybont and District, and Presteigne and District.

Two Nurses are employed by the Llandrindod Wells and Presteigne Nursing Associations.

The Nurses carry out ante-natal visits, visits of Infants up to 5 years, and in connection with cases of Tuberculosis, Measles, Whooping Cough and Ophthalmia Neonatorum. They attend the three Infant Welfare Centres and also the Tuberculosis Stations.

A considerable amount of time was spent during 1921, in improving and re-organising the Health and School Work.

I consider that the ideal system is a whole-time service of adequately paid Health-Visitors, it is sometimes very difficult to get District Nurses to take any interest in the Health and

School Work, although they may be quite keen on the ordinary District Work, it is therefore important that Nurses should be appointed who are capable of giving proper attention to both sides of their work.

In a recent circular issued by the Ministry of Health dated July, 1922, important suggestions are made in regard to the training of Health Visitors and it is considered essential that women appointed as Health Visitors should have had certain training and possess certain certificates prescribed by the Board of Education.

In connection with work undertaken by District Nurses under County Councils it is pointed out that where such nurses are employed it is necessary to secure that they are competent and are under capable supervision. The Minister will not require as a condition of grant that such District Nurses should have undergone the course of training prescribed by the Regulations of the Board of Education for the training of Health Visitors, but he strongly recommends that County Councils should arrange that all of the District Nurses who are to act as Health Visitors should be given practical training for not less than three months under an experienced Health Visitor or otherwise.

In Urban Areas District Nurses should not as a rule act as Health Visitors.

It is important that the above suggestions of the Ministry should be taken into consideration and that any District Nurses appointed in the future should be capable of making out accurate reports and should take an interest in Health and School Work.

In some Districts it is very difficult to get the Health and School Work carried out in an efficient manner owing to the lack of interest in this branch of the work and also to the inability of the Nurse to make accurate records of her work.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during 1921 :—

	Total Visits.
Expectant Mothers (first visits 126)	... 332
Infants under one year (first visits 386)	... 1142
Infants 1-5 years (first visits 303)	... 2044
TUBERCULOSIS—	
Attendances at Stations	... 26
First visits to notified cases	... 54
Re-visits " "	... 67
OTHER WORK—	
Whooping Cough	... 58
Mental Deficiency	... 29

Of the visits to infants under one year there were 851 re-visits; 250 infants were visited a second time and 601 infants more frequently.

In connection with 291 infants under one year the particulars in regard to feeding are as follows:—

Breast-fed ...	182	62.5%
Breast and Bottle-fed ...	51	17.5%
Artificially fed...	58	20.0%

Too large a proportion of infants are artificially fed.

In 48 cases the the food used was as follows:—

Cow's Milk (undiluted) ...	1
Goat's Milk („) ...	1
Cow's Milk and Water ...	22
Cow's Milk and Barley Water ...	6
Condensed Milk ...	6
Patent Food ...	12

It will be seen that in the majority of cases milk was used.

In 40 cases where the infant was not breast-fed, the reasons given were as follows:—Illness of mother 4, death of mother 1, depressed nipples 1, insufficient milk 11, and in 2 cases the mother went out to work, in 21 cases no reason was given.

A good many of the Infant Welfare Cards were not properly filled in and it is therefore difficult to draw accurate conclusions.

Of the children who were brought up on the breast and bottle concurrently thirty-eight were fed on cows' milk (in 5 cases diluted with water or barley water); Four were fed on Glaxo, Three on condensed milk and Three on Allenbury's food.

OTHER—The majority of the infants slept with their mother, it was recorded that in 25 cases a cot was used. In 16 cases a dummy was in use. Note was made of any insanitary condition and the following were found:—10 houses, dampness, five overcrowding, one dirty and defective w.c., one, windows needed repairing, one bad social conditions.

I am indebted to Mrs. Vaughan for summarising the information from the cards. Greater accuracy is essential on the part of the Nurses if the records are to be of service.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES—Voluntary Infant Welfare Centres are established at Knighton, Llandrindod Wells, Howey and Presteigne. With the exception of Llandrindod Wells (fortnightly), the meetings are held monthly. The County Council gives to each Centre, except Howey, which is an off-shoot of the Llandrindod Wells Centre, a grant of £20 yearly. The Centres are worked by voluntary helpers and good work is carried out

Generally short talks are given to the mothers at the meetings on various matters affecting the welfare of infants and older children.

The babies are regularly weighed and advice given.

The following are particulars of the attendances during the year 1921:—

	Knighton.	Llandod Wells.	Presteigne.	Total.
No. of Meetings ...	12	24	11	47
Total number of individual mothers who attended during the year ...	93	39	33	165
Total number of individual children who attended during the year ...	93	43	46	182
Total number of attendances of children ...	100	368	163	631
Average attendance per session of children ...	8.3	15.5	14.4	12.7

The information in regard to the Howey Centre for the Quarter October to December, 1921, shows that there was an average attendance of 11.6 children per session.

THE MIDWIVES' ACT.

SUMMARY OF THE INSPECTOR'S WORK—

Regular Inspections of Midwives ...	...	263
Special Visits of Enquiry ...	...	10
Visits to non-registered Women reported to be practising ...	...	2
Other Visits ...	...	19
Letters and Notices sent out ...	...	238

NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED—

Of intention to practise ...	...	30
Of sending for Medical help ...	...	30
Of Stillbirths ...	...	9
Last Offices... ..	...	7
Liability to be a source of infection ...	...	1
Artificial Feeding of Infants ...	...	29
Death of Infants before the arrival of Doctor ...	...	—
* Death of Mother .. ..	...	1

* The Mother died from Rupture of Uterus, she was attended by a Doctor and a Midwife.

In 30 instances medical help was called for, the particulars are as follows:—

Prolonged Labour	...	...	...	8
Feebleness and Prematurity of Child	...	...	...	5
Retained and Adherent Placentae and Membranes...	...	...	...	4
High Temperature	...	...	...	3
Rupture of Perineum	...	...	...	2
Uterine Inertia	...	...	...	2
Collapse	...	...	...	1
Threatened Abortion	...	...	...	1
Dangerous Varicose Veins and Phlebitis	...	...	...	1
Skin Eruption (Infant)	...	...	...	1
Post-partum Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	1
Abnormal Presentation	...	...	...	1

MIDWIVES PRACTISING—

Number of Trained Midwives working under Local Nursing Associations (affiliated to the County Nursing Association).	...	...	...	13
Trained Midwives employed by County Council who also are Health Visitors	...	...	...	3
Trained Midwives practising on their own account	...	...	...	1
† Bonafide Midwives	...	...	...	9

† In practise in July, 1901, who do not possess the certificate by examination of the C.M.B.

There are several Midwives in adjoining Counties who attend cases in Radnorshire.

Mrs. Vaughan acted as Inspector of Midwives during 1921, and up to the end of March, 1922.

MATERNAL MORTALITY—

During the year 1921 there was one death during childbirth in New Radnor Rural District, viz. : from Rupture of the Uterus, equal to a rate of 2.25 per 1000 births.

The particulars in regard to previous years are as follows:—

Period.	Total Deaths per 1000 Births.		Death Rate per 1000 Births from Puerperal Fever.		Death-rate per 1000 Births from other complications of child-bearing.	
	E. & W.	Rads.	E. & W.	Rads.	E. & W.	Rads.
1911-13	3·94	4·6	1·36	0·7	2·58	3·9
1914	4·17	4·2	1·55	2·1	2·62	2·1
1915	2·71	2·13	1·47	—	1·24	2·13
1916	2·74	8·75	1·38	2·19	1·36	6·56
1917	2·58	11·14	1·31	2·79	1·27	8·35
1918	2·51	—	1·28	—	1·23	—
1919	2·70	10·34	1·67	—	1·03	10·34
1920	2·52	6·39	1·81	4·26	0·71	2·13
Average 1916-20	2·61	7·32	1·49	1·85	1·12	5·47

It will be seen from the figures that for the period 1916-20, the maternal mortality for Radnorshire was nearly three times that of England and Wales, and that this was due chiefly to complications of child-bearing apart from Puerperal Fever.

In particular years the rates for Puerperal and other causes are distinctly high compared with those for England and Wales.

A request was made to the Authorities of the Llandrindod Wells Cottage Hospital to reserve a few beds in the new extension for complicated cases of midwifery and also for cases where the home circumstances were unsatisfactory; this request was refused.

Where beds are allocated the Ministry of Health is willing to pay a grant. Such cases, if they do occur, will be sent into the Hospital in the ordinary way.

SUPPLY AND TRAINING OF MIDWIVES.

From the information already given it will be seen that there are 26 Midwives practising in the County, and of these 13 are District Nurses and 3 whole-time Nurses under the County Council.

As the county is very sparsely populated it is impossible for a qualified midwife to earn an adequate living apart from other work, it is only through the various District Nursing Associations that have been formed that this difficulty has to a large extent been overcome, but there are still certain districts where there is a demand for a qualified midwife.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The high maternal mortality in the past is to a large extent due to the lack of an adequate supply of trained midwives. At present no grant is given by the County Council towards the training of Midwives.

During 1921 and previously, training in certain cases has been paid for by the County Nursing Committee, which was affiliated to the South Wales Nursing Association and this is being continued by the County Nursing Association which is affiliated to the Queen's Jubilee Institute.

There were two nurses who completed their training at Plaistow for the position of Midwife and District Nurse during 1921.

NUMBER OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN EACH DISTRICT.

CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.

Names of Districts.	† Diphtheria including Membranous Group.	† Scarlet Fever.	Pneumonia.	Puerperal Fever.	Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	Other forms of Tuberculosis
URBAN—						
Knighton ...		1	1		5	1
Llan'dod W						1
Presteigne	4				1	
Total Urban	4	1	1		6	2
RURAL—						
Colwyn ...		7			4	
Knighton ...	2	12	2		9	2
New Radnor	1	9			6	
Painscastle	1	*6	1		2	
Rhayader..	4	43				
Total Rural	8	77	3		21	2
Total County	12	78	4		27	4

* Two cases admitted to the Hay Isolation Hospital.

† No cases of Diphtheria and only two cases of Scarlet Fever were admitted to Hospital.

NUMBER OF CASES OF SCARLET FEVER NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR.

District.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
URBAN.												
Knighton			1									
Llandrindod Wells												
Presteigne												
RURAL.												
Colwyn		4			1	1	1					1
Knighton	1			2	5	2	1		1		1	
New Radnor			1	1	5		1	3	2		2	
Paincastle		1	8	1						11		6
Rhayader	3	8			1	2	1					
Total County	4	13	10	4	12	5	3	3	3	11	3	7

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

In the foregoing tables particulars are given of the notifications received during 1921.

DIPHThERIA AND SCARLET FEVER—The incidence (number of cases per 1000 of the population) is as follows:—

Period.	Disease.	Urban Districts	Rural Districts.	Whole County.
1921.	Scarlet Fever	0·18	4·08	3·06
"	Diphtheria	0·70	0·41	0·55

The particulars in regard to England and Wales are as follows:—

Period	Disease	England & Wales.	Wales (including Monmouth)
1920	Scarlet Fever	3·19	4·35
1916-20	do.	2·25	2·67
1920	Diphtheria	1·86	1·94
1916-20	do.	1·49	1·27

The Diphtheria rates compare very favourably with those for England and Wales, but the rate for Scarlet Fever for the Rural Districts is high.

The death-rates from Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria are as follows:—

Period.	Disease.	Urban Districts.	Rural Districts.	Whole County.	England & Wales
1921	Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	0·03
"	Diphtheria	0·35	0·06	0·14	0·12

SCARLET FEVER—This disease was present in epidemic form in the Rhayader Rural District and in consequence the Nantmel (C. of W.) School was closed from February 15th to March 11th and the Llanbadarnfawr School from March 8th to 25th. On the advise of the District Medical Officer of Health, Rhayader and Cwmdauddwr Schools were closed from October 24th to November 18th.

It was necessary to close Nantmel (C. of W.) School again from November 28th until after the Christmas holidays.

Owing to an outbreak of Scarlet Fever in the Gladestry district, the school was closed from May 12th to June 3rd and from June 7th to June 24th.

None of the cases from Rhayader and New Radnor Rural were removed to Hospital, and had the first cases been removed some of the later cases could have been prevented.

It is very rarely necessary to close a school for Scarlet Fever, during the ten years I was Medical Officer of Health for Hereford, I only closed one school. Through the first case not being removed to the Hospital other cases in the same house occurred.

When the case is not removed to Hospital it is most important that the sanitary Inspector should visit the homes at frequent intervals in order to see that isolation is carried out.

In Rhayader Rural District printed leaflets giving instructions in regard to isolation and disinfection were sent to the parents.

SMALLPOX—There were no cases in the County during the year, there have been cases in various parts of England during 1921, *e.g.*—in Lancashire, Yorkshire and Derbyshire, and there is always the possibility of the disease being brought to the County by strangers.

On page 11 of my Annual School Report for 1921, I gave particulars in regard to vaccination. 62 per cent of the children had been vaccinated; there is a decreasing number of vaccinations and only a small proportion of infants are now vaccinated.

It is only by vaccination and re-vaccination that a community can be protected against the disease. One would have thought that on grounds of economy the general public would realise the importance of vaccination, as an outbreak of Smallpox entails considerable cost to a Local Authority.

WHOOPIING COUGH—There was an outbreak of this disease in the first quarter of the year in the parish of Cascob and the school was closed from February 7th to March 4th and from March 8th to 25th.

The disease also occurred in Llandrindod Wells and Newbridge-on-Wye in the Autumn, and the Newbridge School was closed from the 5th to the 16th of September. One death occurred of a female under one year at Llandrindod Wells; the rate for the county being 0·06 as compared with 0·12 for England and Wales.

MEASLES—No deaths occurred during the year. Visits are paid by the School Nurses to the homes of children suffering from Measles and Whooping Cough and leaflets left giving instructions in regard to isolation and other matters.

INFLUENZA—This disease became prevalent during the latter part of the last quarter of the year.

There were two deaths in the Urban Districts and six in the Rural Districts, the rate for the County was 0·37 compared with 0·23 for England and Wales.

OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES—There were no cases of Enteric Fever, Erysipelas, Puerperal Fever, or other notifiable disease during the year.

Diphtheria Antitoxin can be obtained free through the District Medical Officers of Health and Tetanus Antitoxin and Influenza Vaccine from the County Medical Officer of Health.

DISINFECTION.

There is only one steam disinfecter in the County at the Knighton Union, and I understand this is available for the disinfection of articles of clothing and bedding in the Knighton Urban and Rural Districts.

It is surprising to find that Llandrindod Wells, which is a Spa, possesses no disinfecter and I would suggest that the Urban District Council should take this matter into consideration at the earliest possible moment. The "Sack" steam disinfecter which is made by Meldrums, Ltd., is inexpensive, but I have had no experience of its working; it is recommended by some Medical Officers of Health.

In some cases disinfection of rooms is carried out after Infectious Disease by formalin or sulphur vapour but this is not general, the formalin is to be preferred.

ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

There are three Isolation Hospitals in the County situated at Llandrindod Wells, near Knighton, and at Presteigne. There is a wooden building (now used as a house) in the Rhayader Rural District, which was used for the isolation of cases of Infectious Disease at the time of the construction of the Birmingham Waterworks in the Elan Valley.

Arrangements have been made by the Painscastle Rural District Council for the admission to the Isolation Hospital at Hay of Scarlet Fever cases which cannot be isolated at home and two were admitted in 1921. (Report of the District Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Hincks, for 1921).

In his Annual Report for 1921, Dr. Graves (Knighton Urban District), writes—"I think it would be well if our Council took into consideration the question of a Nurse for this Hospital (Knighton and Teme). It would be surely possible to give a retaining fee—a small one when no cases were there—so as to have a lien upon the nurse's services if occasion arose. In this Hospital there are five beds, and I think it would be well if the Joint Board of Control arranged for more accommodation. It is quite uncertain when an epidemic may come and so far as the present conditions are, we are quite unprepared. . . . The present Hospital is not adequate."

Other comments in the Annual Reports for 1921 are as follows:—

Dr. Cunningham (Llandrindod Wells Urban District)—
"The amount of Infectious Disease has been small. I am however unable to report with enthusiasm on the provision at present made for dealing with any outbreak of Infectious Disease which may occur. In my opinion the Isolation Hospital

is not being maintained in an efficient manner and the attitude of the Council towards the matter is a reactionary one. The need for a staffed and equipped Isolation Hospital, able at any moment to deal promptly with Infectious Disease is essential in a Spa of the character of Llandrindod Wells, and it is to be regretted that the Council, from mistaken motives of false economy, have decided so to limit the usefulness of the Isolation Hospital."

Dr. Milner (Presteigne Urban District) writes:—"I inspected the Isolation Hospital during the summer and found that some parts of the structure were much out of repair and I was informed by the Surveyor that he had already noted the defects and steps were being taken to remedy them. But I do not consider the building at all suitable for the purpose. The accommodation is inadequate and very badly arranged so that proper provision for patients and nursing and domestic staff can hardly be provided. With much discomfort one patient might be attended to, but I do not think more possible. The absence of a bath and lavatory and the inconvenient sanitary accommodation are serious defects."

I have visited the three Isolation Hospitals and agree with the remarks made by the District Medical Officers of Health in regard to accommodation and premises.

In regard to the Llandrindod Wells Isolation Hospital there are obvious improvements which could be carried out. From an economical point of view, one would have thought that an agreement could have been made with the Rural Councils of Colwyn, Rhayader, and even New Radnor to admit cases of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever at a rate of so much per week for maintenance, etc.

I understand there is an objection on the part of the Llandrindod Wells Urban District Council to admit cases outside their district, as the Council consider the admission of such cases might prejudice visitors to the town.

In the table on page 18, it is shown that the majority of cases of Scarlet Fever occurred in the autumn and winter months from October to April, when there are very few visitors in the town, so that this objection does not hold good. By a suitable combination of districts there are always a sufficient number of cases to retain the services of a nurse permanently.

During the epidemic of Scarlet Fever in Rhayader Rural District, the temporary hospital could have been utilised and the number of cases reduced thereby.

In connection with the outbreak of Scarlet Fever in Gladestry, some arrangement might have been made for the admission of the cases into the Kington Isolation Hospital.

Although there is a great call for economy, practical measures cannot be adopted through want of co-operation of Local Authorities.

The Isolation Hospital under the Knighton and Teme Joint Board consists of two adjoining cottages and there is difficulty in accommodating the patients and staff.

The Presteigne Isolation Hospital is inaccessible and inadequate for the purpose.

Under section 6 of the Isolation Hospitals Act, 1893. "The County Council may direct an enquiry to be made by the Medical Officer of Health of the County as to the necessity of an Isolation Hospital being established for the use of the inhabitants of any particular district in the County and in the event of such Medical Officer reporting that such an hospital ought to be established for the use of the inhabitants of a district may take the same proceedings in all respects for the establishment of such hospitals if a petition had been presented by a Local Authority for the district named in the report of such Medical Officer of Health."

Under Sec. I, (1) of the Isolation Hospitals Act, 1901, "Any L.A. (including a Joint Board) within the meaning of the Public Health Act, 1875, which has provided under this Act or any local Act a hospital for the reception of the sick may with the sanction of the Ministry and with the consent of the Council transfer it to the Council of the County within which the hospital or any part of the district of the authority is situate."

I would suggest that action be taken later by the County Council under the powers granted to them by the Isolation Hospitals Act, 1893 and the Act of 1901 to obtain a site in the neighbourhood of Penybont and to erect an Isolation Hospital. It might be possible to use a portion of the building of the Llandrindod Wells Isolation Hospital for the purpose, the majority of cases of infectious disease could be removed to the Central Hospital referred to, and arrangement made for cases in the borders of the County to be removed to existing Isolation Hospital in other Counties.

At present I would not advise any alterations or extensions of existing hospitals except as a temporary measure pending an enquiry into Isolation Hospital accommodation for the whole County.

There is no special accommodation for Smallpox in the County and should an outbreak occur the cases would have to be treated in the existing Isolation Hospitals.

TUBERCULOSIS.

During 1921, copies of 31 notifications were received relating to 27 cases of Pulmonary and 4 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The particulars in regard to districts are as follows:

URBAN DISTRICTS.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary
Knighton	5	—
Llandrindod Wells	—	1
Presteigne	1	—
RURAE DISTRICTS:		
Colwyn	4	—
Knighton	9	2
New Radnor	6	—
Paincastle	2	—
Rhayader	—	1
TOTAL	27 ✓	4

PULMONARY.—There were 18 males and 9 females affected, the ages being as follows:—Males 17, 18, 19 (2), 20 (2), 21 (3), 22, 23, 25 (2), 30, 36, 37, 40 and 42. Females—7, 15, 18 (3), 30 (2), 35 and 37.

Occupation was followed by 14 males viz: Farmers 2, Poultry Farmer, Farm Labourers 3, Quarrymen 2 (limestone) Clerks 2, Barman, Policeman, Engine Cleaner and Railway Porter. One Female was a Dispenser.

NON-PULMONARY—Two males (Carpenter and Labourer) aged 30 and 37 years and two females (Domestic Servants) were affected.

One male and 2 females suffered from Meningitis and a male aged 37 years from affection of the bones of the feet and left forefinger.

As far as can be ascertained there are 47 people (31 males and 16 females) in the County affected with Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 20 (9 males and 11 females) affected with Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

DEATHS—During the year there were 21 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (10 males and 11 females) and 8 deaths from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis (2 males and 4 females), particulars in regard to districts and age periods are given in Tables II and III Appendix.

The rates per 1,000 of population were:—

PULMONARY.		
	Number.	Rate.
Urban Districts	5	.89
Rural Districts	16	.99
Whole County	21	.97

NON-PULMONARY.

	Number.	Rate.
Urban Districts	1	·18
Rural Districts	5	·31
Whole County	6	·28

The rate for all forms of Tuberculosis for the County was 1·25.

The rates for the years 1915-19 and for 1920 were as follows:—

	TUBERCULOSIS (all forms)		PHTHISIS	
	Radnor.	England & Wales.	Radnor.	England & Wales
1915-19	1·36	1·52	0·99	1·18
1920	1·53	1·13	0·93	0·89

PREVENTION AND TREATMENT.—A Tuberculosis Register is now used instead of the card system and some trouble has been taken to ascertain through the Tuberculosis Officer, Doctors and Nurses in the County persons affected with Tuberculosis residing in the County. Practically all cases have now been visited by the nurses at their homes and arrangements have been made for periodical re-visits, when instructions are given in regard to isolation, disposal of sputum, open windows, etc.

The work of Tuberculosis Officer for Breconshire and Radnorshire under the Welsh National Memorial Scheme is carried out in an efficient manner by Dr. Jordan who visits the following stations fortnightly, viz.—Knighton, Llandrindod Wells, New Radnor and Rhayader, in addition Radnorshire cases are seen at the stations at Builth Wells and Hay.

Particulars of treatment carried out are given in the following statement furnished by the Welsh National Memorial Association.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Number of Persons examined for Diagnostic purposes :

(a) Under observation at beginning of year	M	31	
	F	20	
			— 51
(b) New cases examined during the year	M	58	
	F	35	

(c) Number found to be suffering from Tuberculosis:—				
	Pulmonary ...	M	21	
		F	12	
			—	33
	Non-Pulmonary ...	M	2	
		F	1	
			—	3
(d) Number with no evidence of Tuberculosis		M	36	
		F	25	
			—	61
(e) Number under observation still pending diagnosis at end of year 1921		M	30	
		F	17	
			—	47

2. Number and Form of Treatment recommended by Tuberculosis Physician.

(a) Number found to be suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during 1921				
		M	21	
		F	12	
			—	33
(b) Treatment recommended:—				
Domiciliary		M	6	
		F	7	
			—	13
Institutional		M	5	
		F	1	
			—	6
Hospital		M	3	
		F	2	
			—	5
Sanatorium		M	7	
		F	2	
			—	9
(c) Number found to be suffering from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis during 1921		M	2	
		F	1	
			—	3
(d) Treatment recommended:—				
Domiciliary		M	1	
		F	—	
			—	1
Institutional		M	—	
		F	1	
			—	1
Hospital		M	1	
		F	—	
			—	1
Sanatorium		M	—	
		F	—	
			—	—

Number of Contacts examined with the result of Examination :

(a) Number under observation pending diagnosis at beginning of year 1921 ...	...	M	5	
		F	8	
			—	13
(b) Number examined during year ...	...	M	7	
		F	6	
			—	13
(c) Number found to be suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	...	M	4	
		F	-	
			—	4
(d) Number with no evidence of active Tuberculosis ...	...	M	7	
		F	10	
			—	17
(e) Number still under observation pending diagnosis at end of the year 1921 ...	...	M	1	
		F	4	
			—	5

Number of children attending Public Elementary Schools who were referred by the School Medical Officer for examination by the Tuberculosis Physician, with the result of the Examinations.

(a) Number under observation pending diagnosis at the beginning of 1921 ...	...	M	2	
		F	4	
			—	6
(b) Number examined during the year 1921 ...	...	M	4	
		F	4	
			—	8
(c) Number found to be suffering from Tuberculosis, Pulmonary ...	...	M	-	
		F	1	
			—	1
(d) Number with no evidence of active Tuberculosis ...	...	M	6	
		F	4	
			—	10
(e) Number still under observation pending diagnosis at the end of the year 1921 ...	...	M	-	
		F	3	
			—	3

Results of Sanatorium treatment for Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary cases.

(a) Number under treatment at the beginning of the year 1921.	Pulmonary ...	M	4	
		F	1	
			—	5
	Non-Pulmonary ...	M	-	
		F	1	
			—	1

(b) Number admitted during 1921	Pulmonary	M 10, F 4	14
(c) Number discharged fit for work.	Pulmonary	M 6 F 3	9
(d) Number still under treatment at the end of the year 1921.	Non-Pulmonary	M - F 1	1
(d) Number discharged Improved.	Pulmonary	M - F 1	1
(e) Number discharged worse.	Pulmonary	M 1 F -	1
(f) Number still under treatment at the end of the year 1921	Pulmonary	M 7 F 1	8

6 Results of Hospital Treatment of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary cases.

(a) Number under treatment at beginning of the year 1921.	Pulmonary	M 2 F -	2
	Non-Pulmonary	M 3 F 2	5
(b) Number admitted during 1921.	Pulmonary	M 4 F 1	5
	Non-Pulmonary	M 1 F -	1
(c) Number sent to Sanatorium.	Pulmonary	M 2 F -	2
(d) Number discharged :—	Improved Pulmonary	M 1 F -	1
	Improved Non-Pulmonary	M 2 F 2	4
(e) Stationary.	Non-Pulmonary	M 1 F -	1
(f) Number of Deaths :—	Certified as primarily due to Tuberculosis		
	Pulmonary	M 1 F 1	2

(g) Number still under treatment at end of 1921.	...	...	Pulmonary	M 2	
				F -	
				—	2
			Non-Pulmonary	M 1	
				F -	
				—	1

7 Results of Institutional treatment of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary cases.

(a) Number under treatment at beginning of the year 1921.		Pulmonary	M 17	
			F 13	
			—	30
		Non-Pulmonary	M 10	
			F 7	
			—	17
(b) Number admitted during the year.		Pulmonary	M 7	
			F 3	
			—	10
(c) Number discharged.	Improved	Pulmonary	M -	
			F -	
			—	—
		Non-Pulmonary	M 1	
			F -	
			—	1
(d) Number still under treatment at the end of the year 1921.		Pulmonary	M 24	
			F 16	
			—	40
		Non-Pulmonary	M 9	
			F 7	
			—	16

8 Results of Treatment of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary cases treated at Home by the Medical Practitioner in consultation with the Tuberculosis Physician.

(a) Number under treatment at the beginning of the year 1921.		Pulmonary	M 13	
			F 10	
			—	23
		Non-Pulmonary	M 2	
			F 3	
			—	5
(b) Number admitted during the year 1921.		Pulmonary	M 6	
			F 7	
			—	13
		Non-Pulmonary	M 1	
			F -	
			—	1

(c) Number of Deaths :—

Certified as primarily due to Tuberculosis			
	Pulmonary	M 3	
		F 7	
		—	10
(d) Number still under treatment at end of the year 1921.			
	Pulmonary	M 16	
		F 10	
		—	26
	Non-Pulmonary	M 3	
		F 3	
		—	6

VENEREAL DISEASES.

PREVENTION.—A Lecture on "How to Keep Fit," to men only, was given by Dr. Wright of Birmingham, at Llandrindod Wells, on Monday, November 28th, at Knighton on Tuesday, 29th, and at Presteigne on Wednesday, November 30th, 1921.

The Lectures were illustrated by Cinema Films at Llandrindod Wells and Knighton, and by Magic Lantern Slides at Presteigne. A large part of each Lecture was taken up with "The Prevention of Venereal Diseases" and this subject was illustrated by the films and slides. The attendance at the Kino, Llandrindod Wells was approximately 300, at the Assembly Rooms, Knighton, 150, and at the Assembly Rooms, Presteigne, 55.

Great interest was taken in the Lectures and I have had requests to arrange for Lectures for Women as well as for men in the future.

After each lecture, leaflets on the Prevention of the Diseases were distributed to persons attending the lectures.

A good many people do not realise the terrible results produced by Venereal Disease. I therefore give the following statistics from the Report of the Royal Commission :—

Estimated fresh cases of Venereal Disease every year 850,000; yearly average of British Casualties in the War, 750,000. "Gonorrhœa is said to be the commonest cause both of absolute and relative sterility in women, probably 50 per cent. of all causes."

General Paralysis of the Insane directly due to Syphilis costs the community £90,000 every year. Other forms of Insanity due to Syphilis costs the community at least another £60,000 per year.

Fifteen per cent. of the male admissions to the Asylums of large cities of Great Britain are cases of General Paralysis of the Insane due to Syphilis.

Locomotor Ataxia it is well-known is caused by Syphilis "more than half of all the cases of blindness among children are the results of Venereal Diseases in the parents." It costs seven times as much to educate a blind child as a normal child and ten times as much to educate a deaf child as a normal child. Syphilis is perhaps the commonest cause of miscarriage, sometimes the child is still-born, or it survives for a few months or years of misery."

It is obviously important that young people should be taught the dangers of Venereal Diseases.

TREATMENT.—Arrangements have been made for treatment for both sexes at the Herefordshire General Hospital on Wednesdays from 12 to 1-15 p.m., and on Saturday evenings from 5 to 6-15 p.m. During 1921 there were no cases treated from Radnorshire. It is generally found that persons affected travel outside the County for treatment. As the diseases are not notifiable, it is impossible to say how many persons are suffering from them in Radnorshire.

Where there are difficulties through the persons affected being unable to pay railway fares these may be paid by the County Council.

A grant of 75 per cent. is received from the Ministry of Health towards cost of prevention and treatment.

CANCER.

There were 30 deaths under the heading of Cancer and Malignant Disease.

There were 9 deaths (3 males and 6 females) in the Urban and 21 (11 males and 10 females) in the Rural Districts. The age periods are given in Table III. Appendix.

The standardized rates per 1,000 of the population are as follows:—

	Rate.
Urban Districts	1'33
Rural Districts	1'09
Whole County	1'15

Particulars of standardized rates in regard to Radnorshire and England and Wales for previous years are as follows:—

Period.	Radnorshire.	England and Wales.
1911-14	'87	'95
1919	1'15	'96
1920	1'11	'97

It will be seen that the cancer death is rather higher for Radnorshire. At present there is no evidence to show that cancer is caused by infection. Whatever the origin there can be no doubt that the chief causative influence in its production is chronic irritation, *e.g.*, STOMACH:—Persistant chronic indigestion or gastric ulcer which may be caused in turn by carious teeth.

TONGUE AND MOUTH :—Warty and Papillary growths and simple ulcers about the mouth are frequently due to chronic irritation from smoking, bad teeth, etc. Cancer if removed early is curable.

BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK.

Seven throat swabs were sent to the Clinical Research Association, London, for examination for the presence of Diphtheria bacilli, and these were found in one case.

Three specimens were sent to the Bacteriological Department of the University of Birmingham, for examination for the Wasserman test for Syphilis, and all three were negative.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

I have received the following report for 1921 from Mr. R. P. Gough, the Inspector under the Food and Drugs Acts.

MILK AND CREAM REGULATIONS.

1—Milk and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream :—

No. of samples examined for the presence of preservative.	No. of samples in which a preservative was reported as being present.
Milk 86	nil.
Cream nil.	nil.

2—Cream sold as Preserved Cream :—

Two samples of Preserved Cream were taken during the year 1921 and submitted for analysis, both were reported to be genuine.

MEAT INSPECTION.

There is no Public Slaughterhouse in the Colony, but the provision of such a building is being considered by the Llandudno Urban District Council.

The number of private slaughter-houses registered is as follows :—

URBAN DISTRICTS.	No.	RURAL DISTRICTS.	No.
Kapellen	1	Colwyn	1
Llandudno	1	Knights	1
Portlouis	1	New Radnor	1
		Pancreatia	1
		Rhayader	1

The following Table shows the number of samples taken during 1921, and the number found to be genuine:—

Nature of Sample.	Number of Samples taken.	Number found to be genuine.	Nature of Sample.	Number of Samples taken.	Number found to be genuine.
New Milk ...	86	72	Magarine ...	5	5
Condensed Milk ...	1	1	Butter ...	5	5
Flour ...	2	2	Epsom Salts ...	1	1
Tartaric Acid ...	2	2	Cayenne Pepper	1	1
Bicarbonate of Soda	5	5	Jelly ...	4	4
Baking Powder ..	4	4	Mustard ...	4	4
Ham & Tongue Paste ...	1	1	Custard Powder	2	2
Mixed Spice ...	2	2	Cream Custard	1	1
Egg Substitute Powder ...	6	6	Sugar ...	4	4
Arrowroot ...	3	3	Lemon Curd ..	1	1
Coffee ...	3	3	Ginger ...	3	3
Cheese ...	9	9	Rice ...	2	2
Lard ...	7	7	Cream of Tartar	3	3
Gravy Granules ...	1	1	Blanc Mange Powder ..	2	2
Potted Beef ...	1	1	Preserved Cream	2	2
Rice ...	1	1	Sago ...	1	1
Tea ...	1	1	Spongie ...	1	1
Pepper ...	5	5	Cocoa Powder...	1	1
Celery Soup ...	2	2	Milk Powder ...	1	1
Tomato Soup ...	1	1	Turkey & Ham Paste ...	1	1
Scotch Broth ..	1	1	Salt ..	1	1
			Corn Flour ...	1	1
Total number of Samples taken ...				191	
Total number found to be genuine ..				177	

REMARKS—It will be seen that with the exception of 14 of new milk all the other samples were genuine.

The action taken in regard to these samples is as follows:—

Number of samples found to be adulterated	Number warned	Number prosecuted	Number convicted	Amount of fines imposed
14	7	5	5	£11

During 1920, 190 samples were submitted for analysis and 180 were genuine; 6 samples of milk and 1 of butter were adulterated, also 2 samples of bicarbonate of soda. A sample of flour was unsound. Action taken was as follows:—6 persons warned, 3 prosecuted and 2 convicted. Fines amounting to £9 17 6 were imposed.

COWSHEDS, DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

The following are particulars of the number registered in each district :—

URBAN DISTRICTS.	No.	RURAL DISTRICTS.	No.
Knighton ...	*12	Colwyn ...	16
Llandrindod Wells ...	8	Knighton ...	2
Presteign ...	11	New Radnor ...	Nil
		Paincastle ...	Nil
		Rhayader ...	10

*Including 6 milkshops

There are no premises registered in the Rural Districts of New Radnor and Paincastle, although it is obvious that milk is being sold to the inhabitants and I would direct the attention of the Councils concerned to this matter.

At the request of the County Council, reports by the District Medical Officers of Health on Cowsheds and Dairies were sent in during 1921. On the whole the reports indicate that there is greater need of cleanliness, periodical removal of manure from the vicinity of premises, and in some cases the buildings are very defective.

Under the Milk and Dairies Amendment Act of 1922, Sec. 2, a Local Authority under certain conditions may refuse to register a retail purveyor of milk, and may remove a person from the register. Section 3 deals with 'Grade A' and Pasturised Milk, and Section 5 imposes a heavy penalty on any person who sells the milk of a cow suffering from Tuberculosis of the Udder, where it is proved that he knew, or could have ascertained by ordinary care, that the cow was suffering from that disease.

The Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act 1915, which would have had an important effect in raising the standard of cleanliness of milk and which dealt with Tuberculosis of the cow and other matters has been postponed until the 1st of September, 1925.

MEAT INSPECTION.

There is no Public Slaughter-house in the County, but the provision of such a building is I understand contemplated by the Llandrindod Wells Urban District Council.

The number of private slaughter-houses registered or licensed is as follows :—

URBAN DISTRICTS.	No.	RURAL DISTRICTS.	No.
Knighton ...	4	Colwyn ...	3
Llandrindod Wells ...	3	Knighton ...	Nil
Presteign ...	2	New Radnor ...	Nil
		Paincastle...	Nil
		Rhayader ...	Several

The only record of any condemned meat is in regard to Llandrindod Wells, given by Mr. W. Jordan, the Sanitary Inspector, and there is no mention of any carcass or portion of a carcass condemned on account of Tuberculosis, and he mentions that "The inspection of meat cannot be carried out satisfactorily owing to the facts that:—

- (1) the slaughter-houses are privately owned, and
- (2) two butchers slaughter outside the town." He states that the bulk of the carcasses are exposed for sale before he sees them, and the organs removed or concealed before his visit. He trusts that "the day is not far distant when a public abattoir will be erected in the town."

Difficulties in regard to meat inspection occur in all private slaughter houses. The Ministry of Health (Welsh Board) issued a circular dated 19th April, 1922, in regard to uniformity in Meat Inspection, and suggests that steps should be taken to secure the concentration of slaughtering in as few slaughter houses as possible. Reference is also made to Qualifications of Inspectors. The services of a County Veterinary Inspector are referred to and also as an alternative Lay Inspectors *i.e.* Sanitary Inspectors holding a meat certificate. Mr. Jordan of Llandrindod Wells is the only Sanitary Inspector in the County holding such a certificate.

HOUSING.

During the year there were no representations or closing orders in any of the Rural Districts under the Housing and Town Planning Acts and there is no mention of any in the reports of the Medical Officers of Health for the Urban Districts

Under the Housing and Town Planning, etc. Act, 1919, forms of survey of housing needs were sent to the Housing Commissioner in the latter part of 1919 with the exception of amended reports in the case of Knighton Rural June 3rd, 1920 and Rhayader Rural, July 6th, 1920.

The estimate of the number of working class houses required for the next three years was as follows:—

	No. of houses required.	No. of houses which cannot be made fit for habitation.	No. of houses seriously defective but can be made fit.
Urban Districts			
Knighton	6	—	18
Llandrindod Wells	25	1	2
Presteigne	35	1	—
Rural Districts			
Colwyn	16	—	—
Knighton	3	3	—
New Radnor	—	—	—
Painscastle	10	3	20
Rhayader	8	8	40
			(approximately)

In the return for Presteigne it is mentioned that "the greater part of the cottages contain only two bedrooms and are not suitable for a family."

The only districts where houses have been erected under the Government Scheme are Presteigne (Urban) and Colwyn Rural.

In Presteigne six houses have been erected. All the houses contain 3 bedrooms, four contain one living room and scullery, and two also a parlour. Each house is provided with bath and larder.

In Colwyn Rural District there have been eight houses erected, four in the Parish of Llansaintfraed-in-Elvel, and four in the Parish of Disserth. These houses have 2 living rooms a scullery and 3 bedrooms. There are also a bath and larder.

The Llandrindod Wells Scheme which included the erection of fourteen houses in the Duffryn Road site was abandoned by the Urban District Council in favour of an alternative site near the crossing, after a meeting of rate-payers when the voting was against the Dyffryn Road site. As the Ministry of Health will not agree to the alternative site, no houses are to be built.

In a recent report to the Presteigne Urban District Council the Architect suggests that six more houses should be erected upon the site already acquired, and mentions that Type A (non-parlour) can be built for £380, and Type B (parlour) for £430 each.

In the original scheme of the Ministry of Health, it was provided that the cost to a Local Authority, if the housing scheme was approved by the Ministry should not exceed a penny rate.

Owing to building rings, trusts, and the reduced output of labour, the cost per house rose to as much as £1,000 and even over this amount, and in consequence the scheme had to be abandoned, only those contracts which were being carried out being allowed to be completed. The Rhayader scheme therefore fell through, and this is to be regretted, as there are working class houses in the town unfit to live in.

A Local Authority can still carry out a scheme under the Housing and Town Planning Acts, but it would be necessary to let the houses at a rent to cover the cost of the repayment of loan and interest.

The 1921 census returns in regard to number of persons in the various tenements has not yet been published.

The 1911 returns show that in regard to Urban Districts' in 3-roomed houses there were 13 families containing 7 persons and over, and in 4-roomed houses, there were 14 families containing the same number of occupants. Assuming that in these types of houses there were 2 bedrooms and reckoning two children as equal to an adult there was overcrowding in 27 instances.

In the Rural Districts there were 9 two-roomed houses containing 6 persons and over, and 41 three-roomed houses, and 85 four-roomed houses containing 7 persons and over. There was thus overcrowding in connection with 135 families.

It will be seen that in at least 162 cases in the County there was overcrowding, taking a low estimate. I quite agree with the late Medical Officer of Health for Presteigne that there are an insufficient number of houses for the working-classes with 3 bedrooms.

Bad housing conditions have a direct bearing on the health of the community, and there can be no doubt that it will be largely through better housing, proper food open windows, etc. that the incidence of Tuberculosis will be decreased in the future, it is the highest form of economy to look after the proper housing of the people.

PRIVY ACCOMMODATION.—A Special Report was presented to the Urban District Council on this question as affecting Presteigne by the Medical Officer of Health during 1921. In his report he mentions that there are in all upwards of 30 different sets of dwellings provided with privies; many of them were seriously out of repair, and some unfit for use. Privies are out of date and are invariably a nuisance.

Dr. Milner states "The above conditions provide an excellent breeding and feeding ground for flies. In view of the close proximity of many of these privies to the houses they afford abundant opportunities for the contamination of food especially milk. In cases where there are young children they provide a ready means for the spread of Epidemic Summer Diarrhœa. A death occurred at Presteigne of an infant under one year during 1921.

In addition to the danger of Summer Diarrhœa, there is also the more serious danger of an outbreak of Typhoid Fever.

It is well known that in towns such as Nottingham, with a large number of privies, the incidence of Typhoid Fever is high. It is therefore to be hoped that the Presteigne Urban District Council will deal with this matter with the least possible delay.

CINEMAS.

I presented a report to the General Purposes Committee on Cinemas and dealt with the following questions: cubic feet per head, floor space per head, ventilation, heating, relative humidity, lighting and cleanliness and suggested certain standards viz. cubic feet per head, not less than 100 feet, floor space not less than 5 square feet. The County Architect reported that in the Cinemas in the County that the standards were higher.

CAUSES

The importance of electric fans was pointed out, also of natural light and the doors being arranged so that at intervals between the performances the houses could be thoroughly flushed with air. Thermometers should be fixed in the building and the temperature should not exceed 55 to 60 degrees F.

Cleanliness is very important; floors, wood-work and seats should be washed frequently.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACT.

The number of persons in the County coming under the Act of 1913 is 13 (7 males and 6 females). The particulars are as follows:—

IMBECILES—Males: 4, 7, 8, 9, 42 and 51 years of age. Females: 16 and 17 years.

IDIOTS.—Male 12 years. Females: 3, 18, 21 and 22 years.

The question of sending a boy aged 9 years to an Institution at the request of the parents has been under consideration and this boy was sent to Stoke Park Colony near Bristol, in August, 1922, the parents contributing 5/- per week towards the maintenance.

Whooping Cough									
Diphtheria									
Influenza									
Tuberculosis of Lungs									
Other Tuberculosis									
Croup									
Scarlet Fever									
Measles									
Whooping Cough									
Scarlet Fever	1	1	2	4	6	6	4	13	3
Measles		3	1	1		2		1	1
Whooping Cough		1			4	1	4	2	4
Scarlet Fever		1			1	1		2	2
Other respiratory diseases			1					1	1
Diphtheria, not specified		1			1			1	2
Croup									1
Acute Infectious hepatitis	1	3		1			2	3	3
Paratyphoid									
Other infectious diseases of progressive and fatal nature								1	
Congenital debility and malformation present at birth	2		1		3	2		2	0
Stroke		2							1
Other mental diseases		1							1
Other mental diseases	7	3	7	17	14	4	7	30	7
Cases, total of 1922									
All Cases	21	25	23	21	5	23	23	71	136

TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS 1914-1919.
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY.

Year.	Births (exclusive of Still-born).			Rate per 1000 living.	Deaths, (exclusive of Still-born). Rate per 1000 living.	Standardized Rate per 1000 living.	Deaths under 1 year.	
	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Total.				Number.	Rate per 1000 Births
1914	439	31	470	21.0	283	12.6	24	51
1915	433	37	470	21.0	318	14.6	38	81
1916	428	29	457	20.1	340	16.3	24	53
1917	339	20	359	16.3	250	12.6	23	64
1918	370	25	395	17.3	344	16.9	25	63
1919	360	27	387	17.8	287	13.7	22	57
1920	439	30	469	21.8	265	12.3	39	83
AVERAGE 1916-20.	387	26	413	18.7	297	14.4	27	64

TABLE II.
CAUSES OF DEATH IN ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS IN THE
COUNTY OF RADNOR, 1921.

Causes of Death.	URBAN DISTRICTS.			RURAL DISTRICTS.					COUNTY	
	Knighton.	Llandrindod Wells.	Presteigne.	Colwyn	Knighton.	New Radnor.	Paincastle.	Rhayader.	M	F
Whooping Cough ...		1								1
Diphtheria ...			2		1				1	2
Influenza ...		2			1	2	1	2	2	6
Tuberculosis of respiratory system ..	2	2	1	1	3	1	3	8	10	11
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1				2			3	2	4
Cancer, malignant disease	3	2	4	2	6		2	11	14	16
Diabetes ...		1	1			1	1		2	2
Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	4	1	2	3	1	2	1	8	14	8
Heart Disease	1	1	2	4	6	6	4	13	21	16
Arterio-sclerosis ..		3	1	1		2		1	5	3
Bronchitis ...		1			4	1	4	2	4	8
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	1	1		1	3	1		2	6	3
Other respiratory diseases			1					1	2	
Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 yrs)		1	1		1			1	2	2
Cirrhosis of Liver ...								1	1	
Acute & chronic nephritis	1	3		1			2	5	9	3
Puerperal sepsis ..										
Other accidents & diseases of pregnancy and parturition ...						1				1
Congenital debility and malformation premature birth ...	2		1		3	2		2	6	4
Suicide ...		2							1	1
Other deaths from violence		1		1				1	3	
Other defined diseases ...	7	3	7	7	14	4	7	10	29	30
Causes illdefined or unknown ...							1		1	
All Causes ...	22	25	23	21	45	23	26	71	135	12

TABLE III.

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE IN THE COUNTY OF RADNOR.—1921.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Aggregate of Urban Districts.										Aggregate of Rural Districts.									
	All Ages.	0-1	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65-75	75+	All Ages.	0-1	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65-75	75+
Cough ...	1	1																		
Diphtheria ...	2		2							1				1						
Erysipelas ...	2						1		1	6						2	1	2	1	
Edema of respiratory system ...	5				2	2	1			16				2	5	5	2	1	1	
Tuberculous Diseases	1						1			5						3	1	1		
Malignant disease	9						2	5	2	21						2	10	6	3	
Measles ...	2				1			1		2							1	1		
Internal hemorrhage, &c.	7						3	1	3	15						2	2	7	4	
Diarrhea ...	4						1	1	2	33				1		1	10	12	9	
Arteriosclerosis ...	4						1	2	1	4								2	2	
Stroke ...	1								1	11	1						2	3	5	
Smallpox (all forms) ...	2						1	1		7	1	1			1		3	1		
Respiratory diseases	1								1	1			1							
Scarlet fever, &c.	2	2								5	1	1					1		1	1
Diseases of Liver										1									1	
Chronic nephritis	4					1	3			8						1	5	2		
Septicæmia																				
Accidents & diseases of pregnancy and parturition ...										1						1				
Infantile debility and malnutrition pre- and post-natal	3	3								7	7									
... ..	2				2															
Deaths from violence	1				1					2						2				
Unexplained diseases ...	17	1	2				2	2	10	39	2	1	1		2	1	6	5	23	
Undefined or unclassified ...										1							1			
TOTAL	70	6	1	2	2	6	3	16	13	21	186	12	3	1	5	6	21	44	45	49

