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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year 1927,

BY

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

Barrister-at-Law,

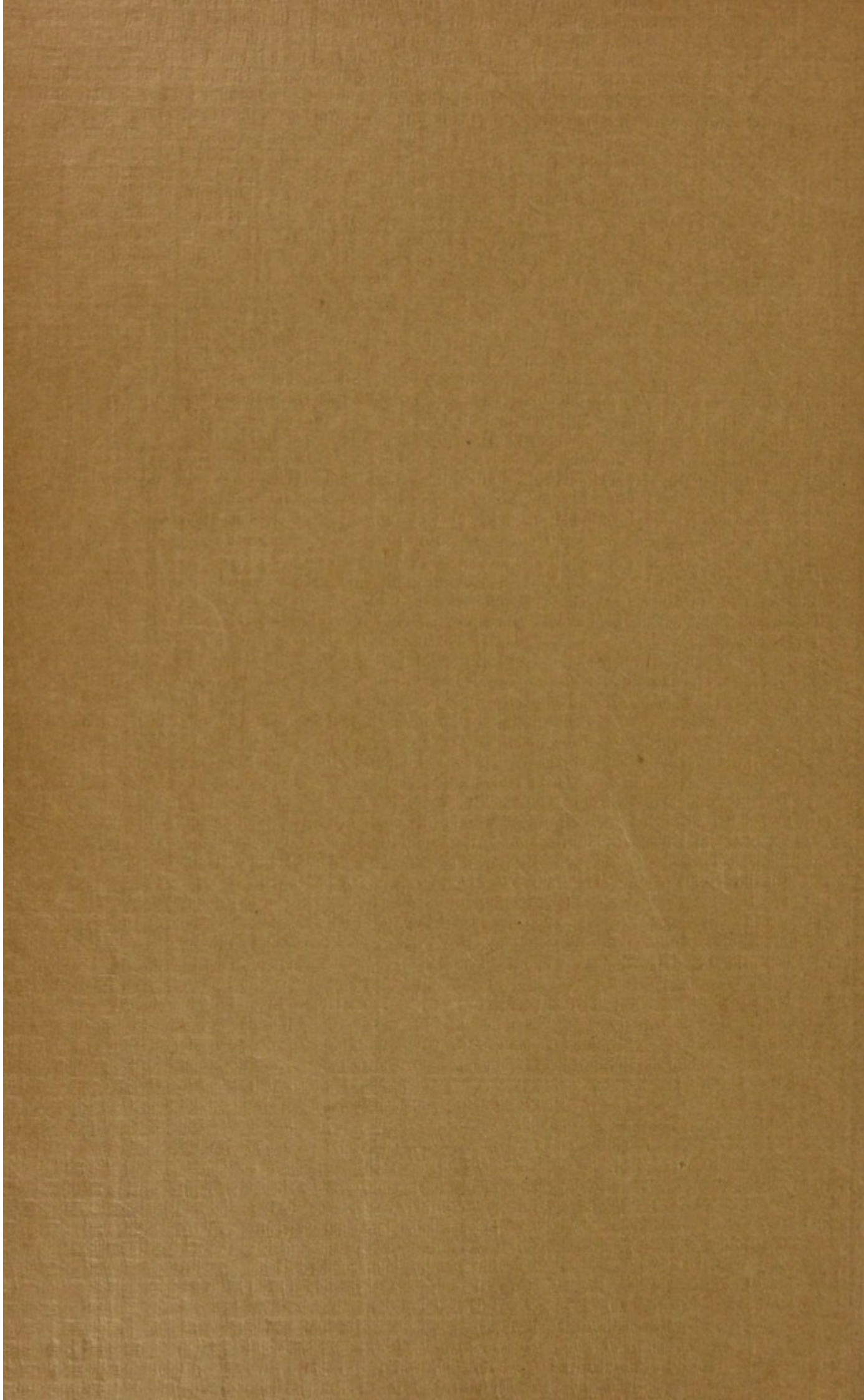
County Medical Officer of Health.

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LLANDRINDOD WELLS:

*Sayce Brothers, Printers, Caxton House Works.*



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# COUNTY OF RADNOR.

## PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Chairman ; Councillor B. P. Lewis.

Aldermen Coltman Rogers, Moseley, Stephens and William Thomas ; Councillors Abberley, J. Evans, John Hamer, Hughes, Lloyd, Major Philips, J. P. Price, Rd. Price (G), Major Thompson, Col. Sir C. Venables Llewelyn, Bart., and Watson.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE AND MIDWIVES ACT COMMITTEE.

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

## DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH FOR 1927.

NAME.	URBAN DISTRICT.
D. M. Hunter, M.B., CH.B. Wylewm Street, Knighton.	Knighton
J. J. McCormick, M.B., D.P.H. Havod Awen, Llandrindod Wells.	Llandrindod Wells
E. A. Milner, M.B., C.M. The Garth, Kington.	Presteigne
	RURAL DISTRICT.
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
B. Fawsett, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. The Laurels, New Radnor.	New Radnor
T. E. Hincks, M.B., CH.B. Broad Street, Hay.	Paincastle
A. Gordon Richardson, M.B., C.M. Bryncoed, Rhayader.	Rhayader

## SANITARY INSPECTORS FOR 1927.

NAME AND ADDRESS.	DISTRICT.	QUALIFICATIONS.
W. Jordan, 9, Russell Street, Knighton.	Knighton Urban	Cert. R. San. Inst. Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods.
W. A. Millward, Town Hall, Llandrindod Wells.	Lland'nd'd Urban	—
R. P. Morris, Westfield, Kington.	Presteigne Urban	Cert. R. San. Inst.
W. Evans, Spring Gardens, Llanwrthwl.	Colwyn Rural	—
D. Davies, Chandos, Temperance Hotel, Knighton.	Knighton Rural	—
J. P. Lingen, Broad Street, New Radnor.	New Radnor Rural	—
J. J. Price, Hardwick House, Clifford, Herefordshire.	Paincastle Rural	—
R. Worthing, Tegid House, Rhayader.	Rhayader Rural	—

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Clerk to the County Council : H. Vaughan Vaughan.

Inspector of Midwives : Miss A. M. Lansdown, Cert. C.M.B,  
Cert. R. San. Inst.

Inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts : C. S. W. Powell.

County Analyst : Herbert J. Evans, B.S.C., F.I.C.

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

## TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE RADNORSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my seventh Annual Report for the year 1927 on the Health administration of the County.

**BIRTH RATE.**—The rate for the County was 17.4 per 1000, and shows a continued decline, but there is still a proportion of births over deaths; during 1927 this amounted to 114. The birth rate is higher in the Rural than the Urban Districts, ( page 6 ).

**DEATH RATE.**—The crude rate for the County was 12.3 and the standardised rate 9 per 1000 of the population; the death rate for the rural districts was slightly lower than that of the urban districts. Llandrindod Wells continues to have the lowest death rate in the County, and the average death rate is as low as any urban district in England and Wales ( page 7 ).

**INFANTILE MORTALITY.**—The rate for the County was 52 per 1000 births, and was lower in the urban than the rural districts (page 9 ), and this was so for the 5 years 1921—25. The percentage of breast-fed infants is still low; at least 90 per cent and over should be breast-fed; even where there is insufficient breast milk supplementary feeding can be adopted. It is well known that Rickets almost invariably occurs among artificially-fed infants. Where Rickets does occur among breast fed infants, it is generally found that the infant has not been taken out enough in the open-air, and has in consequence not obtained the beneficial effects of the ultra-violet rays from the sun.

The Infantile Mortality rate continues to decline, and the result is largely due to the greater enlightenment of the mothers on the health of the infant, through the visits of the Health Visitors at the homes ( see page 12 ). Useful work has been done at the four Infant Welfare Centres ( page 14 ) but it is important that a larger number of children, aged 1—5 years, should attend the Centres.

**MATERNAL MORTALITY.**—This is still high. Information is given on pages 18—20. As the number of deaths in any particular year is low, it is necessary to calculate rates over a series of years. I have given particulars ( Table 111. Appendix, ) of deaths from Puerperal Sepsis and Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy since 1911. There were no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis in the Urban Districts during the last 17 years, and the mortality rate from other causes in the urban districts was rather more than one half that in the rural districts. The whole County is now covered for midwifery purposes. Information is given on page 17 and particulars of sending for medical help are given on page 16.

Information in regard to cases treated in the Maternity Ward at the Llandrindod Wells Hospital is given on page 17, valuable work has been carried out, and deaths have been prevented. It is most important that Doctors and Midwives should be booked in the early stages of pregnancy, in order that any abnormality may be detected. The majority of cases are attended by Midwives, who are also district nurses and health visitors. Instruction is given to the mothers by the health visitors in regard to their health (see page 12), and the urine is examined periodically; by this means it is possible to prevent eclampsia.

ORTHOPAEDIC SCHEME.—Particulars of the attendances of infants at the Centres is given on page 15: the total attendance was 45. If deformities are detected early, and remedial measures used, it is possible to prevent crippling. I have already referred to the prevention of rickets.

ARTIFICIAL LIGHT TREATMENT.—The beneficial effects of the ultra violet rays are well known; during the Winter months when there is very little sun, and when the intensity of the rays is diminished, infants with rickets etc., benefit considerably if exposed to Artificial Sunlight. I have given particulars of attendances of infants during the first quarter of 1928 in my quarterly report for the quarter ended March 31st. The treatment at the Baths, Llandrindod Wells was commenced in January and good results were obtained; full particulars will be given in my Annual Report for 1928.

TUBERCULOSIS.—There has been some decline in the number of deaths during the year; I gave information in my Annual Report for 1925 in regard to rates calculated over a series of years. On page 4 of my Annual School Report for 1927 I gave information in regard to number of children with nutrition below normal; so long as there are over one third of the children suffering from defective nutrition, tuberculosis will continue to gain a foot-hold; in this connection the importance of proper feeding cannot be over-estimated, reference to this matter has been made in previous reports.

OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—Smallpox is on the increase in England and Wales on account of the decrease of vaccination, it is therefore necessary that Hospital provision should be made. This matter is referred to on page 23, and information in regard to other infectious diseases is given on pages 22 and 23.

Apart from the provision of Hospital accommodation for Smallpox cases it is essential that there should also be provision for cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever, etc. In this connection economy can be effected by Sanitary Authorities joining together to provide Joint Hospitals.

MENTAL DISEASE.—The examination and treatment of early



cases of this disease at a clinic, and the use of beds at a General Hospital for early cases of the disease are referred to on pages 30 and 31.

Until the same trouble is taken, as with cases of Tuberculosis, to detect the disease in its early stages, a good deal of money will continue to be spent on the treatment of a number of cases at the Mental Hospital, which if treated early would never have been certified as insane.

HOUSING.—I have given some detailed information in regard to housing on pages 34 and 37. There are a number of people in the County, in the urban and rural districts, living in houses which are insanitary, and in other cases the accommodation is inadequate. There is need for greater activity on the part of the Local Sanitary Authorities, more particularly the Rural. The Housing (Rural Workers) Act 1926 enables alterations to be carried out (information is given on page 37).

GENERAL REMARKS.—The treatment of disease, and this especially applies to cases of Tuberculosis, Smallpox and Mental Disease is expensive, and prevention is therefore much more economical. On account of economy, and in order that the work should be carried out more efficiently, it is desirable that Local Sanitary Authorities should combine together for the purpose of appointing a whole time Sanitary Inspector, who also possesses the Meat Inspector's certificate; this appointment should be separate from that of Surveyor. On page 3 a list is given of the Sanitary Inspectors in the County and their qualifications.

The cost of the Public Health and allied services during the year 1926—27 amounted to a rate of 3.17d. in the pound, made up as follows:—Maternity and Child Welfare .5d.; Venereal Diseases .02d.; Tuberculosis 1.33d.; Welfare of the Blind .03d.; Other Public Health Services .34d.; School Medical Service .91d.; Mental Deficiency .04d. The amount spent is relatively small in comparison with the cost of other services under your County Council, and a greater return is obtained.

In conclusion I desire to express my thanks to those Members of the County Council, who have given me their support, and to the members of the staff for their co-operation and assistance.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

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

County Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,

County Buildings,

Llandrindod Wells.

July, 1927.

## AREA AND POPULATION.

Full particulars were given on pages 6 and 8 Annual Report for 1923, and on pages 5 and 6 Report for 1925. For purposes of vital statistics the Registrar-General gives the following estimates of the population for 1927 : Urban Districts, 5760 ; Rural Districts, 16,440 ; County, 22,200.

The population of the 3 Urban Districts is estimated as follows : Knighton, 1,744 ; Llandrindod Wells, 2,906 ; Presteigne, 1,110. The population of the 5 Rural Districts is as follows : Colwyn, 2,172 ; Knighton, 4,164 ; New Radnor, 2,639 ; Painscastle, 2,322 ; Rhayader, 5,143.

The occupation of the inhabitants was referred to on pages 23—27, Annual Report for 1923, and pages 9 and 10 Report for 1925.

## RATEABLE VALUE.

Particulars of each District were given on page 6 Annual Report for 1925; for the County, a penny rate produces £869.

## NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Particulars were given on pages 6—10, Annual Report for 1925.

## BIRTH RATE.

The total number of births registered in the County during 1927, after due correction, was 386, compared with 393 in 1926 ; the rate was 17·4 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 17·6 in 1926 and 18·9 for the 5 years 1921-25.

Particulars in regard to rates (per 1,000 living) for the various districts for 1927, and for the 5 years 1921—25 are as follows :—

Areas.	Number of Births, 1927.	Birth-rate 1927.	Birth-rate 1921—25.
URBAN DISTRICTS :			
Knighton ...	27	15·5	18·5
Llandrindod Wells ...	30	10·3	14·9
Presteigne ...	20	18·0	20·2
RURAL DISTRICTS :			
Colwyn ..	32	14·7	20·7
Knighton ...	85	20·4	20·4
New Radnor ...	58	22·0	18·9
Painscastle ...	47	20·2	21·9
Rhayader ...	87	16·9	17·7
Urban Districts ...	77	13·4	17·1
Rural Districts ...	309	18·8	19·6
Administrative County ...	386	17·4	18·9
England and Wales ...	—	16·7	19·3

### ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

There were 31 (17 males and 14 females) during 1927 (Urban Districts, 3 ; Rural Districts, 28), equal to 8 per cent of the total births. The percentage of illegitimate births for the County for the 5 years 1921—5 was 7·4, being the same for the urban and rural districts.

### DEATH RATE.

The total number of deaths, which occurred during 1927 in the County, after due correction for residents and non-residents, was 272 compared with 250 in 1926 ; the rate was 12·3 per 1,000. Of the deaths, 81 (39 males, 42 females) occurred in the Urban, and 191 (109 males, 82 females) in the Rural Districts.

Particulars in regard to crude death rates and standardised rates (per 1,000 living) for 1927, and for the 5 years 1921—25 are as follows :—

AREAS.	Number of Deaths, 1927.	Crude Death Rate, 1927.	Standardised rate, 1927.	1921—1925.	
				Crude Death Rate.	Standardised Death Rate.
URBAN DISTRICTS :					
Knighton ...	36	20·6	14·9	15·6	11·3
Llandrindod Wells	28	9·6	7·4	10·9	8·4
Presteigne ...	17	15·3	10·4	17·6	11·0
RURAL DISTRICTS :					
Colwyn ...	24	11·0	9·5	11·1	9·5
Knighton ...	44	10·6	8·6	13·1	10·6
New Radnor ...	30	11·4	8·1	14·0	9·9
Painscastle ...	25	10·8	8·3	11·4	8·7
Rhayader ...	68	13·2	9·6	13·8	9·9
Urban Districts ...	81	14·1	10·0	13·7	10·4
Rural Districts ...	191	11·6	8·2	13·0	9·7
Administrative County ...	272	12·3	9·0	13·2	10·0
England and Wales...	—	*12·3	—	*12·2	—

\*Death Rate.

On page 7, of my Annual Report for 1926, I give the standardising factors for each district in the County, and for the County as a whole. By means of these factors corrections can be made for any differences in age and sex distribution in comparison with England and Wales as a whole.

Information given over a period of 5 years is more reliable as it is necessary to avoid small numbers; Llandrindod Wells continues to have the lowest death rate in the County.

Full particulars of the causes of death in each district and of the deaths at each age period are given in Table I and II. appendix.

The following were the chief causes of death for the year :

Causes of Death.	1927. No. of Deaths.	1927. Percentage of total deaths	1921—25 Percentage of total deaths
Diseases of Circulatory System (Heart Disease, 45, Arteriosclerosis 8) ...	53	19·5	16·8
Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	29	10·7	9·0
Diseases of Respiratory System (including Bronchitis 12, Pneumonia 10, other 3)	25	9·2	12·3
Infectious Disease (other than Tuberculosis)...	23	8·4	5·7
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc. ...	21	7·7	8·0
Congenital Debility, Malformation and Premature Birth ...	15	5·5	4·0
Nephritis (Acute and Chronic) ...	13	4·8	4·3
Tuberculosis (including Phthisis 6) ...	7	2·6	8·8
Total ...	186	68	69

Particulars of deaths in age periods are given in Table II Appendix. The percentages are as follows:—

Age period	0-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 & over	Total
Number	23	7	11	15	52	164	272
Percentage of Total deaths	8·5	2·6	4·1	5·5	19·0	60·3	110

The 7 deaths, at the age period 5-15 years, were of 3 males from Scarlet Fever, Rheumatic Fever and other disease respectively, and of 4 females, 1 from Whooping Cough and 3 from other diseases.

### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The Number of deaths under one year in the County during 1927 was 20 compared with 18 in 1926; the infantile mortality rate (no. of deaths under 1 year per 1,000 births) was 52 compared with 46 in 1926.

Of the deaths 2 (1 male and 1 female) occurred in the Urban Districts and 18 (14 males and 4 females) in the Rural Districts.

Four deaths (3 males and 1 female) of illegitimate infants occurred in the Rural Districts, and the infantile mortality rate calculated on the 31 illegitimate births was 129.

Particulars in connection with the various districts for 1927, and the 5 years 1921—25 inclusive are as follows:—

AREAS.	No. of deaths under 1 year 1927.	Rate per 1,000 births 1927.	Rate per 1,000 births 1921—25.
<b>URBAN DISTRICTS—</b>			
Knighton ...	—	—	25
Llandrindod Wells ...	—	—	57
Presteigne ...	2	100	60
<b>RURAL DISTRICTS—</b>			
Colwyn ...	1	31	68
Knighton ...	6	71	72
New Radnor ...	5	86	40
Paincastle ...	5	106	48
Rhayader ...	1	11	58
Urban Districts ...	2	26	48
Rural Districts ...	18	58	59
Administrative County ...	20	52	56
England and Wales ...	—	69	76

Of the 20 deaths under one year during 1927, the causes of death were as follows : Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth, 15 ; Diarrhoea, 2 ; Whooping Cough, 1 ; Bronchitis, 1 ; Pneumonia, 1. Particulars in regard to cause, of infantile deaths, for the last 5 years 1921—5 are given on page 10 of Annual Report for 1926.

Information was given on page 10 of the same Report in regard to deaths under 1 year, where enquires were made by the Health Visitors, during the 4 years 1922—25 inclusive. Of the 71 deaths investigated nearly one half occurred during the first month, and over two thirds during the first 3 months.

Enquiries were made by the nurses in regard to 10 deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year, the particulars are as follows :—

No.	Sex.	Age at death	Cause of death.	Feeding		Weight at Birth
				Breast	Artificial	
1.	M.	3 days	Prematurity	—	Cows Milk	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs
2.	F.	2 days	Prematurity	—	—	—
3.	M.	3 weeks	Prematurity Bronchitis	Yes	—	4lbs.
4.	M.	11 Months	Convulsions	Yes	—	5lbs.
5.	M.	1 week	Prematurity Syncope	Yes	—	4lbs.
6.	M.	19 days	Convulsions	Partly	Partly on Cows milk	6lbs.
7.	M.	4 days	Prematurity	—	—	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
8.	F.	2 hours	Inanition	—	—	—
9.	M.	7 weeks	Premature Marasmus	—	Cows Milk	—
10.	F.	2 days	Premature Convulsions	—	—	—

Nos. 5 6 and 7 were emergency cases, no midwife or doctor had been engaged.

Five deaths occurred during the first quarter, three in the second quarter, and two in the third quarter.

The home conditions were on the whole satisfactory.

#### DEATHS OF INFANTS AGED 1—5 YEARS.

Three deaths occurred during 1927 in the Rural Districts from Pneumonia, 1 ; Diarrhoea 1, and other cause 1.

#### DIARRHOEA AND ENTERITIS.

Under the age of 2 years, three deaths occurred in the

Rural Districts of Knighton New Radnor and Rhayader. The death rate per 1,000 births was 7·8 compared with a rate of 6·3 for England and Wales. The rate for the County for the 5 years 1921—25 was 6·2.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.—During 1927 the number of births notified was 362 (live 347, still 15) ; of these 272 were notified by midwives, 16 by matrons of hospitals and maternity home, 66 by doctors, 2 by parents and 4 by handy-woman. From the returns supplied by the Registrars of the District and otherwise, it was ascertained that 8 live births had not been notified. Altogether 98% of all births were notified compared with an average of 93% for the 5 years 1921—25.

In cases of non-notification, as ascertained from the District Registrars, a communication is sent to the father and also to the doctor and midwife, drawing attention to the Notification of Births Acts.

For the 5 years 1921—25, the proportion of still births to live births notified was 3·4%.

REGISTRATION OF STILL BIRTHS.—The Deaths Registrations Act, 1926 came into operation on 1st July 1927, this Act requires the registration of still births by the Registrars of Births and Deaths.

Sec 7 of the Act provides that when a still birth is registered, the relatives or other persons giving information must either (I) deliver to the Registrar a written certificate that the child was not born alive signed by a registered medical practitioner or certified midwife who was in attendance at birth or, who has removed the body, of the child ; or (II) make a declaration in the prescribed form to the effect that no registered medical practitioner was present at the birth or has examined the body, or that his or her certificate cannot be obtained, and that the child was not born alive.

Enquiries were made by the nurses respecting 12 still births which occurred during the year ; the particulars are as follows :—

#### STILL BIRTHS;

No.	Present- ation.	Compli- cation.	No. of previous confin- ements.	No. of previous miscar- riages.	No. of children living.	No. of children dead.
1.	Vertex	Prolapse of cord	5 (3 still births) (2 twin births)	1	2	1



2.	Vertex	Premature 2 months macerated	—	—	—	—
3.	—	Mother did heavy work up to time of birth	6 (1 still birth)	—	5	—
4.	Vertex	Premature 2 weeks Macerated	2 (1 still birth)	—	1	—
5.	—	Precipitate labour Premature 3 months	—	—	—	—
6.	—	Albuminuria	8 (5 still births)	2	3	—
7.	Vertex	Macerated	1	—	—	1
8.	—	Premature Mother suffered from Gastritis and Nephritis	4 (1 still born)	—	—	3 (Premature)
9.	Vertex	Macerated Mother had fibroids	2 (1 still born)	—	1	—
10.	—	—	6 (1 still born)	—	3	2
11.	Vertex	Short cord around neck	1	—	—	1
12.	Vertex	Premature	4 (2 still born)	—	1	1

Cases Nos. 5 and 9 were illegitimate. The urine was tested for albumen in cases Nos. 1, 2, 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12 ; there was no albumen except in case No. 6.

In Nos. 2 and 5 there had been no previous confinement

HEALTH VISITING.—The whole of the county is now, covered for this purpose. At the end of December, 1927, there were in addition to the Superintendent Nurse, 1 whole-time nurse and 18 subsidised nurses employed ; the latter under 16 District Nursing Associations.

The following is a summary of the work carried out by the Health Visitors during 1927 :—

#### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE—

Expectant Mothers (first visits 287)	...	975
Infants under 1 year ( „ 373)	...	2803
Infants 1—5 years ( „ 358)	...	4932
Attendance at Infant Welfare Centres	...	65

#### TUBERCULOSIS—

Home Visits (first visits 21)	...	448
Attendance at Stations	...	52

## OTHER WORK—

Measles	(first visits 395)	...	687
Whooping Cough	(,, 107)	...	192
Chicken Pox	(,, 30)	...	60
Mumps	(,, 65)	...	91
Influenza	(,, 434)	...	614

The large majority of the visits re Infectious Diseases were in connection with children of school age.

FEEDING, ETC.—In connection with 341 infants under 1 year, the information obtained by the nurses in regard to feeding was as follows :—

Breast-fed	...	222	...	65.1%
Breast and artificially fed	}	63	...	18.5%
Artificially fed	...	56	...	16.4%

Thirty were entirely breast fed for a time.

Of 96 infants visited in 1927, who reached the age of 9 months, within the year, 64 (66.6%) were entirely breast fed 14 (14.6%) were breast fed for a time, 7 (7.3%) were breast fed and artificially fed, and 11 (11.5%) artificially fed; in the 14 cases where breast feeding was carried out for a time, the period was as follows :—

Months.	Under month						
	1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—6	6—9
No.	6	—	3	4	—	—	1

In 64% of all the cases breast feeding was for 1—3 months only.

The reasons given for artificial feeding during 1927, in 25 cases were as follows : insufficient milk 14 ; ill-health of mother 4 ; ill-health of infant 3 ; work of mother (illegitimacy) 2 ; in 2 cases there was refusal to feed.

Of the 32 babies artificially fed, the feeding was as follows : cows' milk 23 ; condensed milk 3 ; dried milk 2 ; patent foods 4.

The kind of feeding bottle used is very important ; information was obtained in 103 cases ; in 97 a boat-shaped bottle with an indiarubber teat was used, and in 6 cases a bottle with a long indiarubber tube.

Thirty-eight infants were provided with comforters (dummies) ; these are a frequent source of flatulence and other troubles. It was ascertained that 283 babies (the majority) slept with their mothers and only 12 in a cot ; the danger of overlaying is well-known. In connection with 12 the clothing was unsatisfactory.

Twenty-two houses were damp ; 3 houses were in a bad state of repair ; in two houses the sanitary conveniences were in a bad condition ; 2 houses were overcrowded and in 6 the houses were dirty and also the inmates. There was insufficient fresh air in 23 houses, and in 24 the light and ventilation were poor.

I am indebted to Miss Lansdown, Superintendent Nurse and Inspector of Midwives, for summarising the information in regard to the work for Health Visitors.

#### INFANT WELFARE CENTRES—

	Howey	Knighton	Llandrindod Wells.	Presteigne	Total
*No. of Meetings.	11	12	22	12	57
Total number of individual mothers who attended during the year.	14	34	33	42	123
Total number of individual children who attended during the year.	24	38	44	59	165
New cases					
[1] Under 1 year	7	17	9	17	50
[2] 1—5 years	2	3	2	2	9
Old cases—					
[1] Under 1 year	4	1	16	3	24
[2] 1—5 years	11	17	17	37	82
Total number of attendances of children	104	123	312	213	752

\*Doctor in attendance at each meeting at Knighton ; 7 out of 11 meetings at Howey ; 11 out of 22 meetings at Llandrindod Wells, and 11 out of 12 meetings at Presteigne.

Useful work is being carried out at the various centres ; it is hoped to start a centre at Rhayader shortly, this would be very useful for the town of Rhayader and the rural area in the immediate vicinity.

A larger attendance at the centres of infants aged 1—5 years is desired. This matter was referred to on page 16, Annual Report for 1926.

### ORTHOPAEDIC SCHEME.

On pages 25 and 26 of my Annual School Report for 1927, I referred to the scheme which was formulated for the County. Children under school age are examined at the various centres and in addition adult cripples, the latter on the recommendation of a private medical practitioner. A grant is paid by the Ministry of Health in regard to infants under school age, but no grants are available in connection with adults.

Five children (4 boys and 1 girl) attended the Orthopaedic centre, Llandrindod Wells during the year. The ages of the children at the date of first attendance were as follows :—

Boys : 10 months, 2 years, 3 years 4 months, and 3 years 6 months.

Girl : 1 year 6 months.

The defects were as follows :—

Paralysis (Spastic Diplegia (2) Cerebral Diplegia) (1, Congenital Flat Feet (1), and Torticollis (left side) (1).

The boy aged 3 years 6 months had been operated on at the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital on May 5th 1926, and had afterwards attended the Hereford Orthopaedic Centre.

The Health Visitors have been asked to report all children suffering from crippling defects. Up to the present during 1928, there have been 4 new cases—2 boys aged 1 year 2 months, and 1 year 6 months, and 2 girls aged 1 year 6 months and 3 years 10 months. The boy aged 1 year 2 months had Congenital club foot (left), and the other 3 children had bowing of the legs caused by Rickets. Defects caused by Rickets can be remedied, if taken at an early stage, the general treatment being codliver oil, sunshine, fresh air and suitable diet ; the limbs are moulded and kept in plaster splints for a time. This disease can be entirely prevented if proper attention is given to feeding in early infancy. It is the exception for breast-fed infants to develop Rickets.

### THE MIDWIVES' ACT.

#### SUMMARY OF INSPECTOR'S WORK—

Regular Inspections of Midwives	...	140
Special visits of enquiry	...	12

Other visits	...	10
Inspections of Maternity Home	...	3
Letters and Notices sent out	...	418

Notifications received of : —

Intention to practice	...	32
Sending for Medical help	...	68
Artificial feeding of infants	...	10
Still births	...	3
Having laid out a dead body	...	11
Liability to be a source of infection	...	4
Death	...	4

In connection with the sending for medical help, 10 notifications (13% of total births) were received from the 3 Urban Districts, and 43 (14% of total births) from the 5 Rural Districts.

The following were the reasons for sending for medical help :—

MOTHER—

Ruptured Perineum	...	6
Delayed second stage of labour	...	10
Prolonged labour	...	5
Uterine inertia	...	1
Breech Presentation	...	1
Presentation not made out	...	1
Abortion	...	6
Threatened Abortion	...	1
Retained Placenta	...	5
Ante-partum Haemorrhage	...	2
Post-partum do.	...	1
Albuminuria	...	1
Puffiness of hands and face	...	1
Eclampsia (post-partum)	...	1
Rise of Temperature	...	1
Slow Pulse and sub-normal Temperature	...	1
Abscess (labia)	...	1
Purulent discharge	...	1
General Weakness	...	1

INFANT—

Dangerous Feebleness	...	5
Unsatisfactory Eye Development and Snuffles	...	1

—  
53

MIDWIVES PRACTISING—

Number of trained Midwives working under		
District Nursing Associations	...	18
Whole-time Health Visitor	...	5
Trained Midwives in private practice	...	3
Bona-fide Midwives practising in Radnorshire	...	2

Of 33 midwives, who notified their intention to practice in 1927, 5 left the county, 4 did temporary work only, and there were 24 on the register at the end of the year.

HOSPITAL TREATMENT.—During 1927, 5 women were treated at the Llandrindod Wells Hospital under arrangements made by your Authority.

The particulars of the cases are as follows :

(1) Age 25 ; admitted from Llaithddu parish on Jan 19th and discharged on Feb 18th. Delivered of a female living child on January 10th ; difficult and prolonged labour terminated by forceps. Home conditions bad.

(2) Aged 22 years ; admitted from Llanbister Parish on on January 31st and discharged on March 5th. Marked pelvic contraction probably due to rickets ; at last pregnancy craniotomy was necessary. Admitted to Hospital for induction of premature labour ; this was effected and a male child was born alive on Feb 7th.

(3) Aged 32 years ; admitted from Knighton Urban District on March 18th and discharged on June 15th, was admitted on account of haemorrhage from placenta praevia. Several slight haemorrhages after admission. A living child was born on May 16th. Post-partum haemorrhage followed delivery and caused a good deal of anaemia ; there was a rise of temperature on the third day, but the temperature was normal by June 6th.

(4) Aged 30 years ; admitted from Llananno Parish on April 6th and discharged on April 11th. At the eighth month of pregnancy there was severe headache, oedema of hands and feet, and scanty urine ; these symptoms gradually subsided after 6 days in hospital.

(5) Aged 32 years ; admitted from Dolau on July 7th and discharged on August 7th. Admitted on account of contracted pelvis with a view to induction of premature labour; at the previous pregnancy there had been a still birth. After the induction a female living child weighing 6lbs was delivered by forceps on July 19th. The infant had jaundice, but made a good recovery ; it was breast fed.

### MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis ; 2 deaths occurred at the age period 25—45 years, in the Rural Districts of New Radnor and Rhayader.

Particulars were obtained of the death in the New Radnor District. The patient was under a doctor for some months preceding the delivery. A male child was born on July 16th; the delivery was normal, but the mother was very weak and died 24 hours after the birth of the child. There was a history of high blood pressure probably associated with kidney disease.

A women aged 26 years, whose home was in Rhayader District, died in the Memorial Hospital, Llanidloes, on July 29th; the cause of death was Pulmonary Embolism. She had a contracted pelvis, and a Caesarean operation was performed on July 6th.

Full particulars in regard to maternal mortality in Radnorshire were given on pages 22—24 of my Annual Report for 1925.

In Table III. Appendix. I have given particulars in regard to maternal deaths in each sanitary district in the County since 1911.

The maternal mortality rates (number of maternal deaths per 1000 births) are as follows :—

#### PUERPERAL SEPSIS

	Urban Districts.	Rural Districts.	County.
1911—27	—	1·2	·9
1918—27	—	1·3	·9

## OTHER ACCIDENTS & DISEASES OF PREGNANCY.

	Urban Districts.	Rural Districts.	County.
1911—27	3	4·5	4·2
1918—27	2·2	5·3	4·6

The rate for England & Wales 1917—26 in connection with Puerperal Sepsis was 1·5, and for other accidents and diseases of pregnancy for the same period 2·5 per 1000 births; in the administrative counties (including London) the rates were 1·4 and 2·6 respectively.

The rates for the various districts were as follows—

1918—27.                      Puerperal Sepsis.                      Other Conditions

URBAN :

Knighton	—	3·4
Llandrindod Wells	—	2·7
Presteigne	—	—

RURAL :

Colwyn	—	2·5
Knighton	1·1	6·8
New Radnor	—	7·4
Painscastle	—	2·0
Rhayader	3·4	5·6

During the 10 years 1918—27, no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis occurred in the Urban Districts; since 1921, information, as far as possible, has been obtained in regard to the causes of maternal deaths in the County.

The death which occurred in the Urban District in 1923 was of a female aged 36 years from Eclampsia.

Of the 13 deaths in the Rural Districts, in 11 the cause was ascertained.

Two unmarried women aged 17 and 19 years respectively died from Eclampsia, and a woman in the age group 25—45 years from Uraemia; another woman in the same age group had high blood pressure probably in association with inflammation of the kidneys. These diseases are the result of toxæmia, and can be prevented if diagnosed at an early stage of pregnancy; if albumen is detected in the urine, by means of dieting etc. further trouble can be prevented.



Other causes of death were: aged 28 years, Placenta Praevia; aged 31 years, Pulmonary Embolism; aged 43 years, Thrombosis of veins of legs, Congestion of Lungs; 1 in group 25—45 years from Heart Failure; aged 41 years; Difficult Labour (Craniotomy was necessary); 1 in group 25—45 years, Rupture of Uterus, and another in the same group from Pulmonary Embolism.

It is important that a Doctor or midwife should be booked early in order that any abnormality may be detected. The whole County is now covered by qualified midwives.

Since 1925, 14 women have been treated in the Llandrindod Wells Hospital, and there has only been one death. There can be no doubt that some of the cases would have died had they remained at home.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Particulars of notifications and of removals to Hospital during 1926, are given in the accompanying tables.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	31	2	1
Diphtheria ...	15	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	1	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	4	—	—
Erysipelas ...	1	—	—
Pneumonia ...	22	—	10
Encephalitis Lethargica...	1	—	—

\* NUMBER OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN EACH DISTRICT.

Cases notified in each locality, year ended 31st December, 1927.

Name of District.	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria.	Enteric Fever	Puer- peral Fever	Puer- peral Pyrexia.	Erysipelas	Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	Other Forms of Tuberculosis	Pneu- monia.	Encephal- itis Lethargica
Urban—										
Knighton	4				1		1	3	1	
Llandrindod Wells	1	5					2	1	2	
Presteign	6						3			
Total Urban	11	5			1		6	4	3	
Rural—										
Colwyn										
Knighton	1			1	1		2		2	1
New Radnor	1	2		1	1		2		5	
Painscastle		8		1	1		1	1	1	
Rhayader	18		1		1		4	2	6	
Total Rural	20	10	1	1	3	1	9	3	19	1
Total County	31	15	1	1	4	1	15	7	22	1

\* Returns taken from weekly notification cards.

**SCARLET FEVER.**—This disease was prevalent in the parish of Cwmdauddwr and in the town of Knighton during the last quarter of the year. A death occurred of a male in the age group 5—15 years in the Rhayader Rural District.

**SMALLPOX.**—On page 20 of my Annual Report for 1921, and in succeeding Reports, I have referred to this disease, which is on the increase in England and Wales on account of non-vaccination. The percentage of children (medically inspected in 1927) unvaccinated was 45, and in 1926 the figure was 43; only one half of the number of children who entered school in 1927 were vaccinated.

Particulars obtained from the different unions showed that in 1926 the number of infants in the County unvaccinated was 45%, the higher percentages being 62 in the Kington union, and 54 in the Knighton area; the percentage of unvaccinated for 1927 is greater. During 1927, 1901 cases of Smallpox were notified in the County of Monmouth, 440 in Glamorgan, and 52 in Breconshire, (these cases occurred in the Brynmawr Urban District).

**MEASLES.**—This disease occurred in Boughrood parish during the first quarter; in the parishes of Llanyre and Nantmel during the second quarter; in Llandrindod Wells Urban District, and in the parishes of Cwmdauddwr, St. Harmon's, Dissert and Trecoed, and Llanelwedd parishes during the third quarter. The disease was also prevalent in the parishes of Llandrindod Wells Rural, Llanbadarnfawr, Llanyre, Llandewey, Llantihangel Rhydithon, and Llangunllo during the last quarter. No deaths occurred in the County.

**WHOOPIING COUGH.**—This disease was prevalent in the parishes of Newchurch, Glasbury, Aberedw, and Rhulen during the first and second quarters; in the parish of Stanage in the second quarter; and in the parishes of Felindre and New Radnor during the third quarter. Two deaths occurred in the Rural Districts, one under 1 year, and the other in the age group 5—15 years.

Insufficient attention is still given by parents to Isolation of Measles and Whooping Cough. Quite apart from Isolation it is necessary that children should be kept in bed to avoid respiratory complications.

INFLUENZA.—This disease was prevalent throughout the greater part of the County during the first quarter. There were 20 deaths, (10 males, 10 females) from the disease (6 in the Urban and 14 in the Rural Districts); 5 deaths occurred in the age period 45—65, 8 at the period 65—75 and 7 at the age of 75 and over. The majority of deaths occurred over the age of 60 years.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.—One case was notified in the beginning of May, a male aged 21 years. The man who was a farm labourer resided in the parish of Colwyn.

PUERPERAL FEVER, PYREXIA.—One case was notified, a married woman aged 31 years, who resided in the parish of Llananno.

Three cases of Pyrexia were notified, viz; a female aged 24 years, in the Knighton Urban District, and 2 females aged 25 and 35 years in the Rural Districts; all three were married. The female aged 25 years was admitted to the Llandrindod Wells Hospital a week after the onset.

There were no deaths from Puerperal Fever or Pyrexia in the County during the year.

OTHER DISEASES.—No cases of Acute Polio-Myelitis, or Ophthalmia-Neonatorum were notified during the year.

### ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

Full Particulars were given on pages 29 and 30 Annual Report for 1923, and on pages 30 and 31, Annual Report for 1925.

At the present time accommodation is important, on account of the increasing existence of cases of Smallpox in the adjoining Counties.

An extension of the Isolation Hospital at Hay has been made in the form of a separate building containing 2 wards; cases from the Painscastle Rural District are admitted to this Hospital.

At the Rhayader Hospital, additional accommodation for the Nursing Staff is being provided, and the Hospital is being rendered fit for the admission of cases.

The question of providing improved Hospital accommodation near Knighton is under consideration at present by the Knighton and Teme Joint Hospital Board; the present accommodation is unsatisfactory.

There is no Hospital accommodation for the Districts of Presteigne Urban, and the Colwyn and New Radnor Rural Districts. I have suggested that the Presteigne and New Radnor District Councils should join in with the Knighton Urban and Rural, and Teme Rural Districts, in the provision of Hospital accommodation; in any case if additional accommodation is provided by the joint Hospital Board, which consists of representatives of the 3 last Districts, an arrangement might be made to allow of the admission of cases in the Presteigne and New Radnor Districts.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

During 1927, reports of 13 cases of Tuberculosis notified on Forms A. and B. (8 Pulmonary and 5 Non-Pulmonary) were received through the District Medical Officers of Health, and in addition information in regard to 7 new cases (5 Pulmonary and 2 Non-Pulmonary) was furnished by Dr. Jordan, the Tuberculosis Physician under the Welsh National Memorial Association; 3 cases (Pulmonary), which were not notified on Forms A. or B. were notified on Form D. after their discharge from Hospital. Information was received from another County of the removal of 1 case (Pulmonary) into Radnorshire. One case, which had previously been notified as Pulmonary Tuberculosis was discharged from Hospital after observation as non-tuberculous.

Of the 10 cases (8 Pulmonary and 2 Non-Pulmonary) which were not notified on Forms A. or B., 3 resided in Llandrindod Wells Urban District, 1 in Presteigne Urban District, 1 in New Radnor Rural District and 5 in Rhayader Rural District.

DEATHS.—During the year there were 6 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (3 males, 3 females) and 1 death (a female) from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, particulars in regard to districts and age periods are given in Tables I and II Appendix.

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.— Information was received on Form A. in regard to 5 cases. There were 2 males, whose ages were 24 and 32, and 3 females aged 11 (2) and 13.

The 2 males (aged 24 and 32) suffered from Tuberculosis of the Abdominal Glands, and Spine respectively. The two females (aged 11) suffered from Tuberculosis of the Hip; another female (aged 13) had Tuberculosis of the Bladder. Two other females (aged 2 and 29 years) suffered from Lupus and Tuberculosis of the Hip respectively, but neither of these cases were notified on Forms A. or B.

Of the cases of Tuberculosis notified and reported in 1927, it was ascertained that two had died during the year; both were cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, a male (aged 52 years), and a female (aged 14 years).

PREVENTION AND TREATMENT.— Full particulars were given on pages 21—25, Annual Report for 1924 and on pages 34—39, Annual Report for 1925.

Miss E. Rowlands of the Educational Staff of the Welsh National Memorial Association, completed in January 1927 her Lectures at the Elementary Schools on "Tuberculosis" and the "Laws of Health," and her talks to the senior girls on "Infant Care." The series was started in November 1926.

Dr. R. Owen Morris, Superintendent of Education and Chief Medical Lecturer, of the Welsh National Association, gave a very interesting lecture on "Health and Tuberculosis" on Monday evening, January 17th, 1927, at the Albert Hall, Llandrindod Wells. The lecture was listened to by a large and appreciative audience.

#### TUBERCULOSIS, 1927.

##### 1. Number of persons examined for Diagnostic purposes :

	Adults.		Children.		Contacts.				Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	Adults.	Children.	M.	F.	M.	F.
(a) Under observation										
beginning of year	5	2	8	4	1	3	2	6	16	15
(b) New cases and										
Contacts examined										
during year	16	20	20	19	4	15	14	14	54	68

Adults.	Children.	Total.
M. F.	M. F.	M. F.

(c) Number found to be suffering from Tuberculosis :—									
Pulmonary	6	3	3		1	1		1	10 5
Non-Pulmonary	2	1						2	2 3
(d) Number with no evidence of active Tuberculosis	5	6	11	11	2	12	14	14	32 43
(e) Number who ceased attendance before completion of Diagnosis	4	6	6	1	1	2		1	11 10
(f) Number under observation pending diagnosis at end of year	4	6	8	11	1	3	2	2	15 22

2. Number of Children attending Public Elementary Schools, who were referred by the School Medical Officer for examination by the Tuberculosis Physician, with result of examination :—

(a) Number under observation at beginning of year ...	...	9	4	9	4
(b) Number examined during 1927. ...	...	14	14	14	14
(c) Number found to be suffering from :					
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	...	2	1	2	1
Non-Pulmonary ...	...		1		1
(d) Number with no evidence of active Tuberculosis ...	...	16	11	16	11
(e) Number still under observation pending diagnosis at end of year ...	...	5	5	5	5

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

(a) Number under treatment at beginning of year :—					
Pulmonary ...	...	3		2	5
Non-Pulmonary ...	...	1		2 1	3 1

		Adults.		Children.		Total.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
(b) Number admitted during the year :—							
Pulmonary	... ..	6	2	1	3	7	5
Non-Pulmonary	... ..	1	2	1	2	2	4
(c) Number discharged :							
Fit for light work—Pulmonary	1					1	
Sent to Sanatorium —							
Pulmonary			2				2
Improved Pulmonary	... ..	2	1		2	2	3
„ Non-Pulmonary	1				1	1	1
Stationary Pulmonary	... ..		1		1		2
Admitted for observation & discharged as Non-							
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	... ..	1			1	1	1
Non-Pulmonary				2		2	
Deaths certified as primarily due to Tuberculosis :							
Pulmonary	... ..		1				1
(d) Number still under treatment at the end of 1927							
Pulmonary	... ..	2		1	1	3	1
Non-Pulmonary	... ..	1	2	1	2	2	4

		Adults.		Children.		Total.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
4. Results of Sanatorium treatment of Pulmonary cases.							
(a) Number under treatment at beginning of year ... ..							
	5			1		6	
(b) Number admitted during the year ... ..							
	3	3		1		4	3
(c) Number discharged :							
Fit for full work	... ..	3	1			3	1
Fit for light work	... ..		1				1
Stationary	... ..	1				1	



	Adults.		Children.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Admitted for observation and discharged as Non-Tuberculous ...	1				1	
(d) Number still under treatment at end of year ...	3	1	2		5	1

5. Results of Institutional Treatment of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary cases.

(a) Number under treatment at beginning of year 1927.						
Pulmonary ...	13	7	5	6	18	13
Non-Pulmonary ...		1	2		2	1
(b) Number of new cases during the year.						
Pulmonary ...	1		2		3	
Non-Pulmonary ...				1		1
(c) Number resuming treatment :						
Non-Pulmonary ...				1		1
(d) Number of deaths certified as primarily due to Tuberculosis :						
Pulmonary ..	1				1	
(e) Number under treatment at end of year :						
Pulmonary ...	13	7	7	6	20	13
Non-Pulmonary ...		1	2	2	2	3

6. 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 or supervision at beginning of year :						
Pulmonary ...	7	5	2	1	9	6
Non-Pulmonary ...		2		1		3
(b) Number of New Cases during year :						
Pulmonary ...		1				1
Non-Pulmonary ...	1				1	

	Adults.		Children.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
(c) Number resuming treatment during year :						
Pulmonary ...	1				1	
(d) Number transferred from Residential Treatment or other areas :						
Pulmonary ...	1				1	
(e) Number left off treatment against advice :						
Pulmonary ...	1				1	
(f) Number lost sight of or left the area :						
Pulmonary ...	2	2			2	2
(g) Number of deaths certified as primarily due to Tuberculosis :						
Pulmonary ...	2				2	
(h) Number under treatment at end of year :						
Pulmonary ...	4	4	2	1	6	5
Non-Pulmonary ...	1	2		1	1	3

## VENEREAL DISEASES.

Full particulars in regard to prevention and treatment were given on pages 42 and 43 of my Annual Report for 1925. During 1926, 3 males with Gonorrhoea attended on 13 occasions at the Hereford Clinic, and 2 females with the same disease on 14 occasions.

## CANCER, MALIGNANT DISEASE.

There were 29 deaths under the above heading, 9 deaths (6 males, 3 females) occurred in the Urban, and 20 (12 males, 8 females) in the Rural Districts.

Information in regard to age periods is given in Table 11. Appendix.

Particulars in regard to deaths, which occurred during the 5 years 1921—25 were given on page 44 of my Annual Report for 1925. Cancer is increasing and it is important that chronic irritation, from whatever source, should be prevented and medical advice should be sought early. Operative treatment is only successful if the disease is removed completely in its earliest stage.

## RESPIRATORY DISEASE.

There were 25 deaths from Respiratory Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year ; compared with 19 in 1926. Eight deaths (3 males, 5 females) occurred in the Urban and 17 (13 males, 4 females) in the Rural Districts. Particulars are given in Tables I. and II. Appendix.

There were 4 deaths from Bronchitis, in the Urban and 8 in the Rural Districts.

Ten deaths occurred from Pneumonia, (Urban 3, Rural 7), and 3 deaths (Urban 1, Rural 2), occurred from other Respiratory Disease. On pages 44 and 45, Annual Report for 1925, I gave information in regard to deaths during the 5 years 1921—25.

## MENTAL DISEASE.

This was referred to in pages 45 and 46 Annual Report for 1925.

I pointed out that it was most important that Mental Disease should be treated in its early stages, if this were carried out there would be fewer cases for admission to the Mental Hospital. Mental clinics should be established in connection with General Hospitals. Beds for early cases of mental disease should be reserved in the larger Hospitals ; there should be some scheme for linking up the small with the large hospitals for the treatment of certain diseases (including mental) and also arrangements for treating persons during the convalescent stage, so as to enable a larger number of beds to be available for the more acute cases.

Professor J. M. Robertson, of the Royal Edinburgh Hospital for Mental and Nervous Diseases, in his annual report for 1927, says, "How comparable is this new Psychiatric crusade to the successful campaign against Tuberculosis . . . Forty years ago patients were sent to hospitals with cavities in their lungs and in the last stages of the disease. Arrangements were therefore made to discover the disease at an earlier and more hopeful stage; out-patient clinics and dispensaries were instituted; finally the family and home came under review for early and preventive treatment. Let Psychiatrists go and do likewise, and may they be as successful".

### BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK.

During 1927, 13 throat swabs were examined by the Clinical Research Association, London, for the presence of Diphtheria bacilli. In one case a positive result was obtained.

Six specimens of blood were examined at the Public Health Laboratory, University of Birmingham for the Wasserman re-action, for the detection of Syphilis; 3 were positive and 3 negative.

### SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS.

The following are particulars of samples taken by Mr. Powell, Inspector, under the Food and Drugs Acts, during the year.

#### Milk and Cream Regulations.

##### 1. Milk and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream.

No. of samples examined for the presence of preservatives.	No. of samples in which a preservative was reported as being present.
Milk : 43	Nil.
Cream : Nil.	Nil.

##### 2. Cream sold as Preserved Cream.

Nil.

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

Nature of Sample.	No. of Samples taken.	No. found to be genuine.	Nature of Sample.	No. of Samples taken.	No. found to be genuine.
Cake Flour ...	1	1	Blanc Mange ...	2	2
Corned Beef ...	1	1	Sauce ...	1	1
Bread ...	1	1	Health Salts ...	4	4
Beer Extract ...	1	1	Flour ...	3	3
Biscuits ...	2	2	Salmon ...	1	1
Chocolate ...	1	1	Gravy Salt ...	1	1
Cayenne Pepper ...	1	1	Whiskey ...	1	1
Oatmeal ...	1	—	Sponge Mixture ...	1	1
Olive Oil ...	1	1	Ginger Wine Essence ...	1	1
Sausage ...	1	1	Custard Powder ...	3	3
Cornflour ...	1	1	Lard ...	1	1
Jam ...	1	1	Mustard ...	3	3
Cocoa ...	3	3	Mincemeat ...	1	1
Coffee Extract ...	1	1	Suet ...	1	—
Bisto ...	2	2	Lemon Cheese ...	1	1
Oxo ...	3	3	Spice ...	1	1
Margarine ...	1	1	Canned Fish ...	2	2
Rice ...	1	1	Condensed Milk ...	4	4
Butter ...	2	2	Brown Sugar ...	2	2
Tea ...	7	7	Baking Powder ...	5	5
Meat Paste ...	6	6	Cheese ...	5	5
New Milk ...	39	31	Egg Substitute ...	3	3
Lemonade Powder ...	2	2	Table Jelly ...	2	2
Packet Peas ...	1	1	Epsom Salts ...	2	2
Tartaric Acid ...	2	2	Sugar ...	2	2
Bicarbonate of Soda ...	2	2			

Total number of Samples taken 138

Total number found to be genuine 128

The action taken in regard to adulterated samples was as follows —

	Found Adulterated.	Number Warned.	Number Prosecuted.	Summons Withdrawn.
New Milk	8	6	—	2

Preliminary testing of Milk—During the year 19 samples of milk were tested by the Gerber method by the Inspector.

### COWSHEDS, DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

Under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, Part III, 6 (4), there is an obligation on the part of the Local Sanitary Authority to give information to the County Council in regard to the registration of Cowkeepers, and also in regard to alterations in the registers.

This information was given on page 34, of my Annual Report for 1926.

There is room for improvement in regard to cleanliness of milk; this matter was referred to on page 50, Annual Report for 1925.

Ten samples were taken by the Inspector of Food and Drugs, and sent to the Public Analyst for bacteriological examination; the samples were packed in ice. Two samples were taken from purveyors, who resided in the Urban District of Knighton, 7 from purveyors who resided in the Rural Districts (Colwyn 2, Knighton 2, Rhayader 3); in addition a sample was taken at Knighton from a purveyor, who resided in Shropshire.

The result of the bacteriological examinations are given below; the numbers refer to thousands of bacteria per cubic centimetre (17 drops) of the milk; the number of colonies on Agar are counted after incubation for 48 hours at a temperature of 37° centigrade.

5-10	10-20	20-50	50-100	100-200
1	1	4	2	2

All the 10 samples were up to the standard of grade A milk (not more than 200,000 bacteria per c.c., and no bacillus coli in 1/100 c.c.). In 2 cases samples had previously been taken in 1926.

It would be useful if a larger number of samples were taken. There were, in 1926, 118 purveyors of milk in the county; so far, from only a small proportion have samples been taken.

Until greater precautions are taken in regard to milk, it is important that all milk for human consumption should be pasteurized before use.

Four samples were taken in the Rhayader Rural District and sent to the Public Health Laboratory, University of Birmingham for examination for tubercle bacilli; in no case were the bacilli detected. A large number of samples should be taken for this purpose.

## HOUSING.

On pages 51 and 52, Annual Report for 1925, I gave information in regard to Housing, and pointed out that bad housing conditions were detrimental to health.

Particulars, in tabular form, in regard to the above are required by the Ministry of Health. I have extracted the following information from the Annual Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health. Up to June 25th, 1928, only 3 Reports had been received in respect of Presteign Urban, and Colwyn and Painscastle Rural Districts.

NEW HOUSES.—No new house was erected in Presteign during 1927, with State Authority, either by the Local Authority or by other Bodies or Persons. One house was erected in each of the 2 rural districts by other bodies or persons.

## (a) NEW HOUSES.

Number of new houses erected during the 3 years 1924—26 inclusive.

District	Unit State Assistance under Housing Acts.		Total.
	By Local Authority.	By other Bodies or Persons.	
Urban :—			
Knighton ...	5	—	5
Llandrindod Wells ...	—	13	13
Presteigne ...	—	—	—
Total ...	5	13	18
Rural :—			
Colwyn ...	—	1	1
Knighton ...	—	2	2
New Radnor ...	—	—	—
Painscastle ...	—	—	—
Rhayader ...	—	—	—
Total ..	—	3	3
County ...	5	16	21

Under the Housing and Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919 8 houses were erected, previous to 1924, by the Colwyn District Council, and 6 by the Presteign Urban District Council.

I referred to the erection of new houses on pages 51 & 52 of my Annual Report for 1925. From information given in the census 1921 returns, I ascertained that there were 33



houses overcrowded in the Urban Districts, and 132 in the Rural Districts. Some houses are unfit for habitation and if these are to be closed, it is necessary that new houses should be erected.

(b). DEFECTIVE HOUSES, 1924—26.

District	No. of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects.	Found unfit for human habitation	Found not reasonably fit for human habitation,	No. of defective houses rendered fit	
				(a) Informal action.	(b) formal notices.
URBAN :					
Knighton ..	*53	10	36	18	15
Llandrindod Wells ...	272	1	13	13	
Presteign ...	15	4	11	11	8
Total	*340	15	60	42	23
RURAL :					
Colwyn ...	113		6	10	
Knighton ...	254		19	16	33
New Radnor ...	†				
Painscastle ...	56	3	9	12	
Rhayader ...	†				
Total	423	3	34	38	33
County ...	*763	18	94	80	56

\*Also informal inspections in 1924. †Information not given.

The dwelling houses were inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts. No closing orders were made during the 3 years 1924—6 inclusive. One house in the Knighton Urban District was demolished after the service of a demolition order.

## HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACT, 1926.

This Act, which came into force in 1927, is intended to aid in the reconstruction and repair of dwellings in Rural areas, and the conversion into dwellings of buildings not previously used for that purpose. The word repair includes: structural alteration and repairs; additions to premises; water supply and drainage; sanitary conveniences and other like works; but not ordinary repair and upkeep.

A County Council may give a grant or loan to an owner, but this is limited to two thirds of the estimated cost of the works. The grant or loan can only be made if the cost of repairs is not less than £50 in the case of any one house.

The house must on completion be fit for habitation, and the normal agricultural rent must be charged, as determined by the County Council increased by 3 per cent on the owner's share of the expenditure.

A scheme was submitted to the Ministry by your Authority in May. The Act enables a cottage with 2 bed rooms to be enlarged so as to provide an additional living room and bed room, it also enables a cottage to be re-roofed, walls to be rebuilt etc.

## GENERAL SANITATION.

POLLUTION.—Your Council is the Authority for dealing with pollution. I gave particulars of pollution on page 53 of my Annual Report for 1925.

SCAVENGING.—In the town of Rhayader there is no provision for the removal of refuse from houses and shops. There is no destructor in the town of Knighton, and this applies to Rhayader and Presteign.

## BLIND PERSONS' ACT, 1920.

During the year, 3 males aged 52, 63 and 71 years; and 3 females, aged 59, 70 and 82 years were added to the register.

Two males, aged 84 and 96 years ; and 1 female aged 75 years died during the year. A female aged 75 years removed to Montgomeryshire.

TRAINING.—A male age 21 years was admitted to the Royal Midland Institution for the Blind, Nottingham in October, 1927.

A male aged 24 years, and a female aged 21 years were still in the Swansea Institution at the end of the year.

HOME WORKERS.—A male aged 23 years, boot repairer, receives 4/- a week.

UNEMPLOYABLE.—During the year your Council granted 2/6 a week each to 2 males, aged 55 and 72 years.

At the end of December, 1927, there were 33 persons (18 males, 15 females) in Radnorshire, who came under the Act. The ages in years were as follows :—

Males—6, 20, 21, 24, 33, 48, 52, (2) 63, 64, 66, 71, 72, 77, 78, 88.

Females—17, 21, 39, (2) 42, 56, 58, 59, 70 (2), 74, 77, 82, 83 (2).

### MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

At the end of the year there were 33 persons (19 males and 14 females) in the County, who came under your Authority, including a male in an Institution. Mentally defective children, other than Imbeciles, are not included in the above number.

The question of Radnorshire joining in with the West Wales Joint Board for the provision of institutional accommodation at Pantglas was considered by your Council during the Autumn, and at the time of writing your Authority had made application to join in with Breconshire. The three Counties represented in the West Wales Board are Cardigan, Carmarthen, and Pembroke.

At present the accommodation is for females only (including children).

# INDEX.

	PAGE.
Area	5
Bacteriological Work	31-33
Birth-rate	5
Blind Persons' Act 1920	37
Cancer	29
Clinics	29
Death-rate	6
Death, Causes of	8
Diphtheria	20-21
Food and Drugs Acts	31
General Sanitation	37
Housing	34
Infantile Mortality	9
Infant Welfare Centres	14
Infectious Diseases	20
Influenza	23
Isolation Hospitals	23
Measles	22
Mental Disease	30
Mental Deficiency	38
Maternity and Child Welfare	11
Midwives' Acts	15
Maternity Mortality	18
Orthopaedic Scheme	15
Phthisis	24
Respiratory Disease	30
Rateable Value	5
Scarlet Fever	22
Smallpox	22
Statistical Tables	40-42
Still Births	11
Tuberculosis	24
Venereal Diseases	29
Whooping Cough	22

TABLE I.

Causes of Death in Administrative Areas in the County of Radnor for 1927.

Causes of Death.	URBAN DISTRICTS			RURAL DISTRICTS					COUNTY		
	Knighton	Llandrin- dod Wells	Presteigne	Colwyn	Knighton	New Radnor	Painse'stle	Rhayader	M	F	Total
Scarlet Fever ...								1	1		1
Whooping Cough ...						1	1		1	1	2
Influenza ...	2	3	1	3		2		3	10	10	20
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	1				2		1	2	3	3	6
Other Tuberculous Diseases					1					1	1
Cancer, malignant disease...	5	3	1	2	4	2	3	9	18	11	29
Rheumatic Fever ...			1					1	1	1	2
Diabetes ...		1		1	1	1			1	3	4
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	4	1	3	2	4	3	1	3	11	10	21
Heart Disease ...	5	7	3	3	8	3	4	12	22	23	45
Arterio-sclerosis ...	1	1		1	1		2	2	5	3	8
Bronchitis ...	1	2	1	2	2			4	10	2	12
Pneumonia (all forms) ...		2	1	4	3				3	7	10
Other Respiratory Diseases ..	1					2			3		3
Ulcer of Stomach or duodenum ...	1	1							1	1	2
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 yrs)					1	1		1	2	1	3
Appendicitis and Typhlitis							1			1	1
Cirrhosis of Liver ...					2				2		2
Acute & chronic nephritis	3		1	1	1	2		5	7	6	13
Other accidents and dis- eases of pregnancy and and parturition ..						1		1		2	2
Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth ...			2		4	4	4	1	11	4	15
Suicide ...	2			1					2	1	3
Other deaths from violence	1			1	2		2	1	5	2	7
Other defined diseases ...	9	7	3	3	8	8	5	16	29	30	59
Causes ill-defined or unknown ...							1			1	1
All Causes ...	36	28	17	24	44	30	25	68	148	124	272

TABLE II.

Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life in the County of Radnor, 1927

Causes of Death.	Aggregate of Urban Districts										Aggregate of Rural Districts									
	All Ages	0-	1-	2-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-	All Ages	0-	1-	2-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-
Scarlet Fever ...										1				1						
Whooping Cough ...										2	1			1						
Influenza ...	6							3	1	2	14							2	7	5
Tuberculosis of respiratory System ...	1				1					5					2	3				
Other tuberculous diseases ...										1						1				
Cancer, malignant disease ...	9							4	3	2	20						1	5	7	7
Rheumatic Fever ...	1							1		1				1						
Diabetes ...	1									1	3				1		1	1		
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc. ...	8					1	1	4	2	13							2	5	6	
Heart Disease ...	15							4	5	6	30					1	9	11	9	
Arterio-sclerosis ...	2							1	1	6								2	4	
Bronchitis ...	4								1	3	8	1					1		6	
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	3							2	1	7	1	1				1			4	
Other respiratory Diseases ...	1							1		2							1	1		
Ulcer of Stomach or duodenum ...	2							1	1											
Diarrhoea, etc. ...										4	2	1				1				
Appendicitis and typhlitis ...										1						1				
Cirrhosis of Liver. ...										2										2
Acute and chronic Nephritis... 4								1	1	2	9						2	4	3	
Other Accidents and Diseases of pregnancy and parturition										2						2				
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	2	2								13	13									
Suicide ...	2				2					1									1	
Other deaths from violence ...	1				1					6					1	1	1	1	2	
Other defined diseases ...	19			1	2	2	1	7	6	39		1	2	1		7	8	20		
Causes ill-defined or unknown										1			1							
All Causes ...	81	2		1	6	3	20	24	25	191	18	2	1	6	5	12	32	47	68	

TABLE III  
Puerperal Sepsis.

	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
Urban :—																	
Knighton ...																	
Llandrindod Wells ...																	
Presteign ...																	
Rural :—																	
Colwyn ...																	
Knighton ...						1								1			
New Radnor ...																	
Paincastle ...				1													
Rhayader ...	1									2					1		
Urban Districts ...																	
Rural Districts ...	1			1		1				2				1	1		
County ...	1			1		1				2				1	1		

Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition.

	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
Urban :—																	
Knighton ...									1								
Llandrindod Wells ...						1	1						1				
Presteigne ...		1															
Rural :—																	
Colwyn ...															1		
Knighton ...	1		1	1			1		1				2		1	2	
New Radnor ...		1				1					1	1		1			1
Paincastle ...													1				
Rhayader ...		1			1		1		2	1		1					1
Urban Districts ...		1				1	1		1				1				
Rural Districts ...	1	2	1	1	1	1	2		3	1	1	2	3	1	2	2	2
County ...	1	3	1	1	1	2	3		4	1	1	2	4	1	2	2	2

