

[Report 1948] / Medical Officer of Health, Radnorshire County Council.

Contributors

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Radnorshire County Council.



Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for

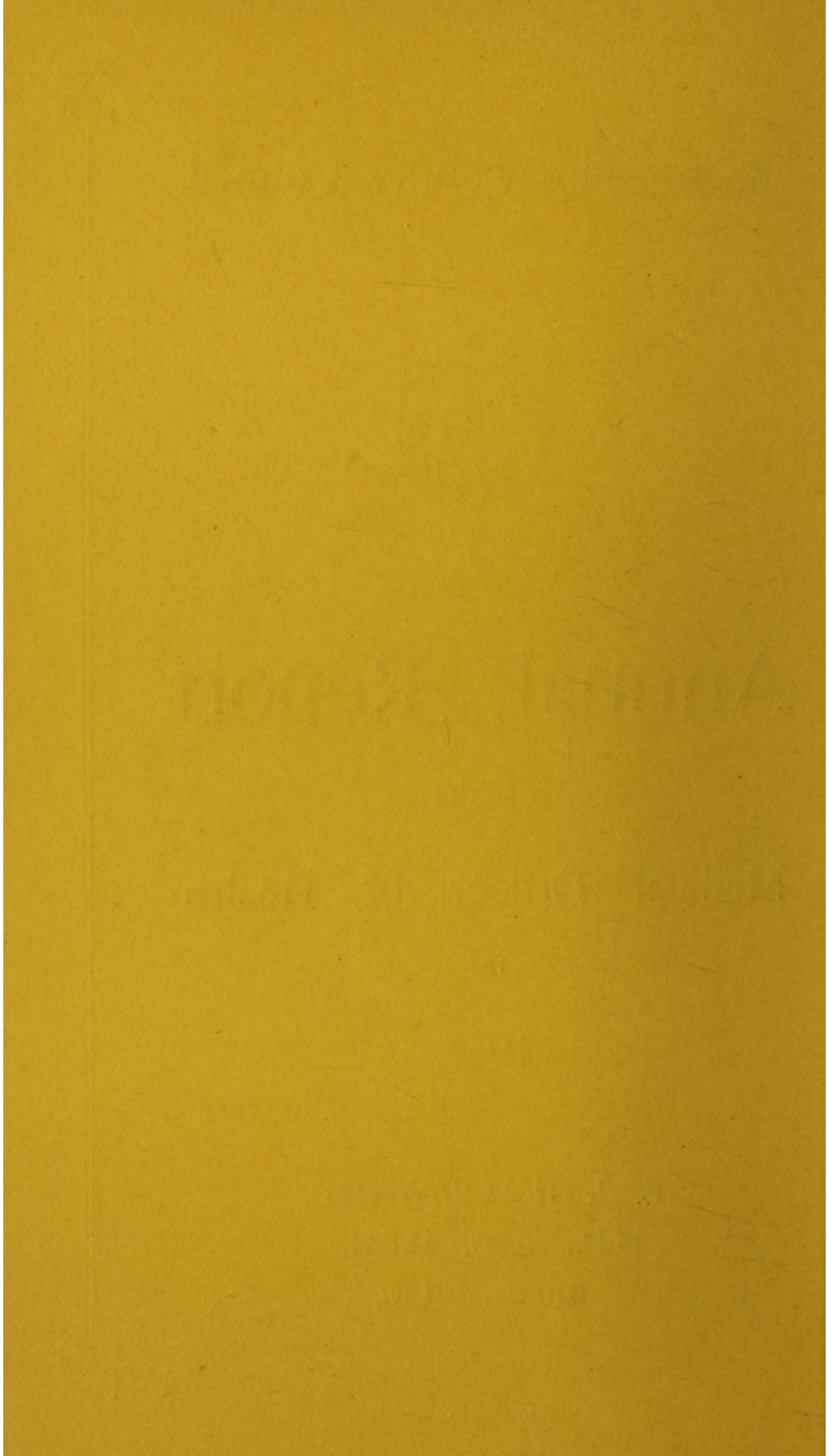
1948.

F. J. H. CRAWFORD,

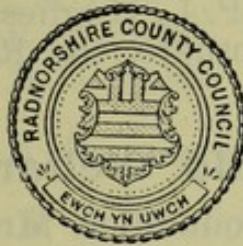
M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H.,

Barrister-at-Law.





Radnorshire County Council.



Annual Report

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Medical Officer of Health

for

1948.

F. J. H. CRAWFORD,

M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H.,

Barrister-at-Law.

Radnorshire County Council.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman: Councillor T. P. Davies.

Aldermen R. Hughes, Richard Price, T. L. Vaughan and Col. Sir Charles Venables-Llewelyn, Bart.; Councillors S. W. Brisbane, W. G. Bufton, W. H. Edwards, D. J. Ellway, Mrs. Gibson-Watt, R. P. L. Hughes, E. T. Kinsey Morgan, Col. J. L. Philips, J. Prothero, the Rev. W. M. Williams and Dr. M. Dilys Owen.

Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee.

Chairman: Councillor Mrs. Gibson-Watt.

The Members of the Health Committee and Mrs. F. J. Edwards, Mrs. T. A. Price, Mrs. E. P. Rogers, Miss Mary Thomas and Lady Venables-Llewelyn,

Mental Health Services Sub-Committee.

Chairman: Councillor J. Prothero.

The Members of the Health Committee, and Mrs. T. A. Price.

County Ambulance Transport Sub-Committee.

Chairman: Councillor E. T. Kinsey Morgan.

The Members of the Health Committee, and Mrs. E. G. Freeman, Mr. F. H. Lloyd, Mr. C. Roberts and Mr. R. Lane Walker.

Staff of the County Health Department.

County Medical Officer of Health : F. J. H. Crawford, B.Sc., Ch.B. M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Barrister-at-Law, Middle Temple.

Deputy County Medical Officer of Health (part-time). M. Dilys Owen, B.Sc., M.B. B.Ch., D.P.H., D.R.C.O.G

School Dental Officer : Eileen Rich, L.D.S.

Superintendent Nursing Officer : Julia Todd, S.R.N., S.C.M. H.V.Cert.R.S.I., Q.N.S.

Clerical Staff : R. Percy Bufton, Chief Clerk
W. J. Meredith, Rosalind N Middleton, Frances M. Allen and Margaret E. Powell.

District Nurses :

The following District Nurses are employed by the Radnorshire County Nursing Association under arrangements made by the Local Health Authority. They undertake Health Visiting, General Nursing and Midwifery work in their areas on behalf of the County Council.

Nursing Areas.	Names of Nurses.	Qualifications.
Knighton	Sister O. Roberts	S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.S.
	Sister E. J. Tate (left 14-10-48)	S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.S.
Llangunllo	Sister B. C. Green	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.R.S.I., Q.N.S.
Beguildy	Nurse A. Saunders	S.C.M.
Boughrood	Nurse E. M. Summers	S.C.M.
Clyro	Nurse C. Dodd	S.C.M.
Paincastle	†Nurse S. A. Davies	S.C.M.
Cwmbach	†Nurse M. A. Price	S.C.M.
Hundred House	†Nurse M. K. Chaplin	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Llanbister	†Nurse M. A. Evans	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Llandewy	†Nurse H. Evans	S.C.M.
Llandrindod Wells	†Sister W. M. Hasler (left 31-8-48)	S.R.N., S.C.M.
	†Sister G. A. Jenkins (left 15-7-48)	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert., R.S.I., Q.N.S.
	Sister S. S. Bowen (appointed 20-7-48)	S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.S.
	†Nurse K. Morgan (appointed 9-11-1948)	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Newbridge-on- Wye	†Sister V. M. Hamer	S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.S.
New Radnor Presteigne	†Sister M. Miller	S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.S.
	†Sister J. Morris	S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.S.
	†Nurse A. Haynes	S.C.M.
Penybont	†Nurse J. Thomas	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Rhayader	†Sister M. H. Williams	S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.S.
Nantmel	†Nurse L. C. Jones	S.C.M.
Llanwrthwl	Nurse E. Tudor	S.C.M.
St. Harmon	†Nurse S. E. Davies	S.C.M.
Supply Nurse	†Nurse D. M. Davies	S.C.M.

†Qualified to administer Gas/Air Analgesia.

Authorised Officers in the Mental Health Service (part-time):
G. W. Griffiths, A. J. James and H. E. Morris.

ASSOCIATED OFFICERS.

Clerk of the Radnor County Council : Philip Parker.
Deputy Clerk of the Radnor County Council :
Edmund E. Pearmain, D.F.C.
County Treasurer : T. R. Moore.
Director of Education : Major J. Mostyn, M.C., T.D.
County Surveyor : Lt.-Col. J. A. Paterson, J.P., D.L.
County Architect : Charles W. Watsham.
Welfare Officer and Clerk to the Children's Committee :
W. J. Beavan.
Children's Officer : Mrs. E. Brunsdon.
Inspector of Weights and Measures and
Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act : C. S. W. Powell.

HEALTH OFFICERS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH :

(1) Authority.	Medical Officer of Health. (Part-time Officers).
Knighton Urban District.	G. H. H. Booth, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., Wylcwm Street, Knighton.
Llandrindod Wells Urban District.	J. E. Jenkins, M.A., B.M., B.Ch., Chalfont, Llandrindod Wells.
Presteigne Urban District.	R. H. Jobson, M.B., Ch.B., The Laurels, New Radnor. (resigned 23-10-48). W. J. Walker, M.B., Ch.B., Warden Court, Presteigne. (appointed 24-10-48).
Colwyn Rural District	D. F. Cameron, M.B., Ch.B., Tyn-y-berllan, Builth Wells.
Knighton Rural District.	J. G. Garman, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., The Cottage, Knighton.
New Radnor Rural District.	R. H. Jobson, M.B., Ch.B. The Laurels, New Radnor.
Paincastle Rural District.	W. W. Wilson, M.B., Ch.B. Broad Street, Hay.
Rhayader Rural District.	J. D. O'M. Poole, M.B., Ch.B. Bryncoed, Rhayader.

SANITARY INSPECTORS.

(2) Authority.	Sanitary Inspector.
Knighton Urban District.	E. J. Morgans, B.Sc., M.R. San. Inst. Town Hall, Knighton
Llan'dod Wells Urban District.	R. J. Morris, M.R. San. Inst., P.A.S.I. Town Hall, Llandrindod Wells.
Presteigne Urban District.	R. P. Morris, M.R. San. Inst. Westfield, Kington.
Colwyn Rural District.	C. H. Wright, M.S.I.A. Ashfield, Builth Wells.
Knighton Rural District.	D. Llewellyn, A. R. San.Inst., M.S.I.A. Wylewm House,, Knighton.
New Radnor Rural District.	J. P. Lingen, Broad Street, New Radnor.
Painscastle Rural District.	Garfield G. Evans, M.R. San. Inst. M.S.I.A. Council Offices, Hay.
Rhayader Rural District.	H. J. Sleigh, A.M.I.S.E., M.R. San. Inst., Council Offices, Rhayader

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health Services in Radnorshire for the year 1948.

The health of the people of the County continued to be good.

Details of the health services of the County as they were before the 5th July will be found in the report for the previous year.

The coming into operation of the National Health Service Act on the 5th July led in this County to less change than in many areas. There were three reasons for this. First, apart from the Knighton Public Assistance Institution, there were no Local Authority Hospitals here. Second, the nursing services, midwifery, general nursing and health visiting, were already being carried out efficiently by the Radnorshire County Nursing Association, which has maintained a high standard of work. Third, it has not been possible in this County to develop a system of clinics, as our population is much too small and scattered to warrant or even permit this, and we have not been able to organise a transport scheme whereby mothers and others needing clinic facilities are brought to central clinics. It might be added that the answer to this problem may be to take the clinics to the people rather than bring the people to the clinics and perhaps this County offers as good an opportunity of providing a mobile clinic service as any in the country.

The development of services under the National Health Service Act made it necessary to have a properly qualified part-time Deputy County Medical Officer who would be available when I was away on holiday or for other reasons. Fortunately Dr. M. Dilys Owen, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., D.R.C.O.G., was able to undertake this work and she was appointed as part-time Deputy County Medical Officer by the County Council on the 7th May.

No report on the work of the Health Department would be complete without reference to the wonderful services rendered to the people of this County by Sir Charles Venables-Llewelyn who, on account of ill health, was unfortunately compelled to resign his Chairmanship of the Health Committee during the year. He, with Lady Llewelyn, founded the Radnorshire County Nursing Association in April, 1922 and his wisdom and experience have been of the greatest help to me and to my predecessors in formulating policy in the health services.

I must thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee, the Mental Health Services Sub-Committee and the County Ambulance Transport Sub-Committee for the interest which they have shown in the work and the continued encouragement which they have given.

I am grateful also for the help of the Committee of the Radnorshire County Nursing Association and the Superintendent Nursing Officer and Nurses and to the clerical staff of the County Health Department for their cheerful and loyal service.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

F. J. H. CRAWFORD,

County Medical Officer.

Climate and Social Conditions.

Two-thirds of Radnorshire is classified as mountainous and the county is in fact mainly mountains and high moorlands with fertile valleys separating them. The average height is more than 1,000 feet above sea level.

The climate may be summarised as one which gives long periods of low temperature with a low annual mean temperature and a rather heavy rainfall, the western part having a higher rainfall than that portion of Radnorshire situated to the south and east and bordering on England.

The county is notable in having the lowest density of population in England and Wales, namely, one person to 15 acres.

The people are mainly occupied in agriculture particularly sheep farming, but in Llandrindod many are employed in the hotel and tourist industry, and in various administrative services.

General Statistics.

Area	301,165 acres.
Population, 1948 (Registrar General's Estimate)				20,288.

Particulars are as follows:—

Urban Districts—				
	Knighton	1,841		
	Llandrindod Wells	3,381		
	Presteigne	1,271		
		6,493		
Rural Districts—				
	Colwyn	1,766		
	Knighton	3,235		
	New Radnor	2,224		
	Painscastle	1,872		
	Rhayader	4,698		
		13,795		
	Total County			20,288

Rateable value	£191,984
Product of a Penny Rate (estimated 1948-49)				£790 13 8

Live Births:	M	F	Total.
Legitimate	167	138	305
Illegitimate	8	9	17
Total Live Births	175	147	322

	Radnor.	E. & W.
Birth Rate per 1,000 of population	15·9	17·9

Still Births:	M	F	Total.
Legitimate	7	5	12
Illegitimate	1	1	2
Total Still Births	8	6	14

Deaths:	Radnor.	E. & W.
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population	11·1	10·8
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:		
All infants per 1,000 live births	74·5	34·0
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live birth	72·1	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	117·6	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	32	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) -		

Of the 24 deaths of infants under one year of age (males 14, females 10) death occurred in 10 cases during the neo-natal period, i.e. in the first month of life.

Number of Deaths at different Periods of Life:

Age Group	Male	Female	Total
0—1	14	10	24
1—5	1	1	2
5—15	1	—	1
15—45	9	7	16
45—65	14	8	22
65+	85	76	161
Total deaths (all ages)	124	102	226

Infant Mortality.

The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age in the County during 1948 was 24, compared with 12 for 1947; the infant mortality rate (number of deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births) was 74·5 compared with 35·2 in 1947. Of the deaths 5 (2 males, 3 females) occurred in the Urban Districts and 19 (12 males, 7 females) in the Rural Districts.

Particulars in connection with the various districts for 1948, and the 10 years 1936-45 are as follows:—

INFANT MORTALITY RATES.

Area.	No of Deaths under 1 year. 1948.	Rates per 1000 births.	
		1948.	1936-45.
Urban Districts :			
Knighton -	3	100·0	36
Llandrindod Wells	2	41·6	55
Presteigne -	-	—	49
Rural Districts :			
Colwyn -	4	22·2	12
Knighton -	5	84·7	55
New Radnor -	-	—	38
Painscastle -	1	32·2	51
Rhayader -	9	111·2	46
Urban Districts -	5	51·0	48
Rural Districts -	19	84·8	44
Administrative County	24	74·5	45

INFANT MORTALITY - FIVE YEARLY RATES.

	Radnorshire.			E. & W.
Five yearly period	Births	No. of deaths under 1 year	Rate per 1,000births	Rate per 1,000births
1934-1938	1449	79	54	57
1939-1943	1636	68	42	53
1944-1948	1687	72	43	42

When the population is very small as in a county like Radnorshire, a rate such as the Infant Mortality rate will inevitably fluctuate violently and a wrong impression may be gained from a perusal of the figures for any one year. By working out the rates for five yearly periods a much truer picture may be obtained. From these figures it will be seen that the Infant Mortality Rate is at present almost stationary, but that it has dropped significantly from what it was in the years immediately before the War.

Administration.

Apart from the school health service which continues to be administered by the Education Committee, all health services of the County Council, as Local Health Authority, are now under the control of the Health Committee.

Three Sub-Committees of the Health Committee have been established. The Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee deals mainly with the work formerly undertaken by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee and is generally responsible for the nursing services carried out on behalf of the Local Health Authority by the Radnorshire County Nursing Association. The Mental Health Services Sub-Committee is responsible for the duties formerly undertaken by the Mental Deficiency Committee and also deals with duties under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts. The Ambulance Transport Sub-Committee is concerned with the provision of a service of ambulances and sitting case cars.

All these Sub-Committees meet quarterly prior to the meetings of the Health Committee.

Ambulance Service.

Although the population of the county is small, the area is large and communications are frequently difficult. It was thus a problem to organize an efficient service at a cost comparable to that of a service serving the same population in an urban area, and that such a service is possible is a tribute to voluntary enterprise.

The ambulance arrangements in general continue those in operation prior to the 5th July except that from this date all the vehicles became part of one co-ordinated service and every vehicle is made available for the transport of every type of case including infectious cases. The service is provided through the agency of the Welsh Home Service Ambulance Committee of the Order of St. John and British Red Cross Society, although day to day executive control remains with the County Medical Officer. The function of the County Ambulance Transport Sub-Committee is to supervise the administration of the service and to make to the Authority and the Welsh Home Service Ambulance Committee such recommendations as may be necessary from time to time for the improvement of the service.

The main Ambulance Station for the county, which is also the operational Headquarters of the service, is at the Llandrindod Wells Hospital, and two ambulances are based there. The garage at the Hospital will, however, accommodate only one vehicle and eventually a garage to accommodate another ambulance vehicle must be erected there, together with residential accommodation for a second driver.

One whole-time ambulance driver is employed although our approved proposals state that three drivers/porters will be employed, of whose wages the Local Health Authority through the Welsh Home Service Ambulance Committee, will pay one-third.

The great advantages of having the operational headquarters of the ambulance service at the Hospital have been apparent, and as the hospital telephone is constantly manned, there has never been difficulty in getting an ambulance through the ambulance headquarters at any time of the day or night.

The three ambulance sub-stations are subordinate to the Central Station at the Llandrindod Wells Hospital.

The Knighton ambulance was formerly the property of the Urban District Council and was presented to the County Council free of charge. This vehicle is manned by part-time drivers and attendants, some of whom are employees of a local garage.

The Presteigne ambulance vehicle is the property of the County Council, and is manned by part-time drivers and attendants who are members of the Presteigne Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

The Rhayader ambulance vehicle is the property of the Welsh Home Service Ambulance Committee, and is staffed by part-time drivers and attendants who are members of the Rhayader Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

The southern area of the county, that is the Painscastle Rural District and the Parishes of Newchurch and Michaelchurch-on-Arrow are served, by arrangement with the Breconshire Local Health Authority, by their ambulance station at Hay.

SITTING CASE CARS.

In this area there is no hospital car service organised by any voluntary body, and sitting cases are conveyed under the Ambulance Scheme by private hire cars at the request of doctors and authorised officers as required. This service is paid for out of the grant which the Local Health Authority makes to the Welsh Home Service Ambulance Committee for the ambulance service in this area.

The monthly mileages undertaken by ambulances and sitting case cars after the coming into operation of the National Health Service Act are shown in the following table:—

Month	— Ambulances —		—Sitting case Cars—	
	No. of Patients carried.	Total Mileage	No. of Patients conveyed.	Total Mileage
1948				
July	20	627	1	140
August	21	1080	6	445
September	17	574	6	207
October	28	1080	9	1091
November	17	634	19	1015
December	21	741	20	1933
Total	124	4736	61	4831

Care of Mothers and Young Children.

Under Section 22 of the National Health Service Act the County Council is responsible for providing a service for the care of Mothers and Young Children.

Under arrangements in operation before the coming into effect of the National Health Service Act every expectant mother was entitled to be examined by the doctor of her choice, who received a fee for the carrying out of an examination and sending in a report to the County Medical Officer. No limit was placed by the County Council on the number of examinations carried out under the scheme in each case. During the year 167 such reports were received from Medical Practitioners.

In the majority of cases, expectant mothers after the "Appointed Day" booked a doctor for their confinement, under the scheme administered by the Executive Council. Unfortunately, however, reports on the ante and post natal examination of such patients are not available in the Health Department, and so it is not possible to pass them on to the Nurses concerned. In some cases the midwife who will act as maternity nurse accompanies the patient to the doctor's surgery for ante-natal examination, but this is not always the case and less information has been passed by the General Practitioner Obstetricians to the Nurses concerned since the Appointed Day than before.

A post-natal scheme was also in operation before the Appointed Day and every mother was entitled to attend a doctor for examination after her baby was born. This service never became popular, and it is gratifying to be able to record that one effect of the coming into operation of the National Health Service Act seems to be that far more post-natal examinations are carried out, although here again these reports are not always available for the nurses.

It cannot be too often emphasized that every mother should be examined by an experienced doctor on or about the sixth week after the confinement, as action could then be taken to repair injuries which have occurred during the confinement, and thereby much chronic ill-health now so common among parturient women can be avoided.

HOSPITAL PROVISION FOR MATERNITY PATIENTS:

This is mainly at the Llandrindod Wells Hospital where there are four beds in the Maternity Ward, and three beds in a semi-private ward used for maternity cases. Patients were also admitted during the year to the Knighton Hospital (formerly the Knighton Public Assistance Institution); to the Builth Wells Cottage Hospital and to the Llanidloes Hospital.

113 maternity cases were admitted to the Llandrindod Wells Hospital during the year for the following reasons:

Albuminuria	1
Anaemia	1
Ante-partum haemorrhage	2
Cardiac	2
Contracted Pelvis	4
Delayed 1st Stage	1
Delayed 2nd Stage	1
Diabetes mellitus	1
Early rupture of membranes	1
Elderly primipara	2
Fibroids	1
Flat pelvis	3
High blood pressure	3
Hydramnois	1
Malpresentation	9
Marginal placenta praevia	1
Nephritis	1
Obstructed labour	1
Post maturity	2
Previous complicated confinements	5
Prolapse of uterus	2
Rheumatic endocarditis	1
Toxaemia	9
Unsuitable home conditions	58

MATERNAL MORTALITY :

No maternal deaths occurred in the County during the year.

PREMATURE BABIES :

Premature babies are those who weigh $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs or less at birth irrespective of the period since conception. During the year, 17 premature babies were born at home, 10 in Hospital and 3 in Nursing Homes. Of the 17 babies born at homes, 15 were nursed entirely at home.

Death occurred in 11 cases as follows :

Died at home	...	6
„ Hospital	...	3
„ Nursing Homes		2

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Child Welfare Clinics are held at the following centres :

Place.	Time.	Medical Officer.
Knighton, Church Hall	First Tuesday in month, 2-30 p.m.	Dr. J. G. Garman.
Llandr'dod Wells County Buildings	1st & 3rd Tuesdays in month 2-30 p.m.	Dr. M. D. Owen.
New Radnor, Walton Village Hall	Last Monday in month, 2-30 p.m.	Dr. R. H. Jobson.
Presteigne, Shire Hall	Second Tuesday in month, 2-30 p.m.	Dr. R. Walker.
Rhayader, Bryngwy	Second Wednesday in month, 2 p.m.	Dr. J. O'M. Poole & Dr. P. Shankey.

The total number of attendances at the various Centres during the year was as follows:—

	Knighton	Llan'dod Wells	Presteigne	New Radnor	Rhayader	Tota
Under 1 year						
of age	140	420	103	84	184	931
1-5 years of age	175	239	282	91	124	911
Total (all ages)	315	659	385	175	308	1842

THE MIDWIVES ACTS.

It is not always realised that the County Council remains the local supervising authority under the Midwives Acts, and as such is responsible for supervising all midwives working in the County. The fact that a Hospital has been taken over by the Regional Hospital Board does not relieve the County Council, as Local Health Authority, from the close supervision of the Midwives' work in that Hospital which is required under the rules of the Central Midwives Board.

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY.

The County Council's duties under Section 23 of the National Health Service Act are carried out by delegation of this work to the Radnorshire County Nursing Association which employs 22 District Nurse Midwives under the supervision of the County Nursing Superintendent, who is also the Superintendent Nursing Officer of the Local Health Authority. The County Nursing Association is affiliated to the Queen's Institute of District Nursing. This has many advantages in an area such as Radnorshire and helps to ensure that the standard of work is maintained at the highest level.

One hundred and ninety-one mothers were confined in their own homes during the year, of which 69 were maternity cases where the confinement was supervised by a doctor, and 122 were midwifery cases, that is, cases where the confinement was supervised by the Midwife.

At the end of the year 15 midwives employed by the Radnorshire County Nursing Association held certificates for competence to administer analgesia and all these midwives were provided with efficient gas/air machines of the Queen Charlotte Hospital type. Of patients whose confinements were supervised by midwives 66 were given analgesia by the Nurses concerned.

This percentage of midwives cases receiving analgesia must be regarded with satisfaction when consideration is given to the extremely difficult transport problems in this County. Some homes are two miles or more from the nearest road useable by a car, and in such cases heavy analgesic apparatus has to be carried over fields for considerable distances. In

the past the great handicap of the midwife working in the patient's home was that she was unable to offer her patients any relief of pain. Gas/air analgesia, particularly now that the percentage of nitrous oxide permitted to be used by the midwives has been raised from 45% to 50%, results in marked alleviation of pain in the vast majority of cases.

Summary of the work of the Inspector of Midwives :

Regular inspections of Midwives	90
Special visits of enquiry	13
Other visits to midwives	64
Inspections of Nursing Homes and Hospitals	27

Notifications received from Midwives of :—

Intention to practice	31
Sending for medical help	47
Still-births	8
Liability to be a source of infection	5
Artificial feeding	30
Deaths of infants	9
Having laid out a dead body	5

In connection with the sending for medical help 12 notifications were received from Nurses working in the Urban Districts and 35 from the Rural Districts.

Particulars are as follows :

MOTHER—(a)	ANTE-NATAL.	
	Albuminuria	5
	Ante-partum hæmorrhage	2
	Cystitis	1
	High blood pressure	1
	Miscarriage	3
	Pyelitis	1
(b)	LABOUR AND PUERPERIUM	
	Breech presentation	2
	General condition of patient	1
	Marginal placenta	1
	Occipito posterior	3
	Post-partum hæmorrhage	1
	Prolonged first stage	4
	" second stage	4
	Premature Labour	1
	Ruptured perineum	11
	Uterine Inertia	2

INFANT.	Blue asphyxia	1
	Deformity of foot	1
	Jaundice	1
	Prematurity	1

In 43 cases (91.5 per cent) the aid was on behalf of the mother ; and in 4 cases (8.5 per cent) in connection with the infant.

Dental Care of Mothers and Young Children.

Under the approved scheme for the dental care of mothers and children under the age of 5 years, invitations are sent to all expectant and nursing mothers and children under school age, inviting them to attend for dental inspection by the School Dental Officer. These inspections are carried out as convenient at schools, after the dental inspection of the scholars, and also at clinics held regularly at Llandrindod Wells and Knighton, and at other centres as required. Such a scheme is of the utmost value in Radnorshire, where dentists in private practice are available only in the towns of Llandrindod Wells, Knighton, and on certain days at Presteigne and Rhayader, so that the majority of the population live some distance from a dentist, and except by making a long journey are unable to receive dental attention under the scheme administered by the Executive Council. The advantage of the County Council's dental scheme for mothers and young children (which is a "priority service" for such persons, in addition to the service which they are entitled to get under the arrangements made by the Executive Council) is that as the School Dental Officer travels to all parts of the County on regular visits to the schools, the dental service is made available for mothers and young children in every village with a school.

General Nursing.

Under Section 25 of the National Health Service Act the County Council was made responsible for the provision of a comprehensive domiciliary nursing service. As there was already in existence an efficient nursing service provided by the District Associations affiliated to the County Nursing Association, the coming into operation of the Act merely transferred the final responsibility for this service from the County Nursing Association to the County Council. In fact the County Council decided that the County Nursing Association should continue to carry out this work on their behalf, but accepted financial responsibility.

The demand for nursing care of general cases increased somewhat during the latter part of the year. Possibly this was because under the Act all such services must be provided free of charge to the patients.

The total number of nursing visits paid to general cases nursed at home during the year was 21,963.

Health Visiting.

There are no full-time Health Visitors in the County the work being carried out by the District Nurses. Two District Nurses possess the Health Visitors Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Particulars of the number of visits paid during the year by all District Nurses acting as Health Visitors were as follows:—

(1) To Expectant Mothers—

First visits	232
Total visits	1898

(2) To children under one year of age—

First visits	232
Total visits	3312

(3) To children between the ages of 1 and 5 years—

Total visits	5464
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(4) To Tubercular patients—

First visits	8
Total visits	610

(5) Other Health Visits (not specified)—

Total visits	5168
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Infectious Diseases.

Table III at the end of the Report shows the number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified in each Sanitary District in the County during the year.

Regulations made under the National Health Service Act require District Medical Officers of Health to send a copy of every notification of infectious disease received by them to the Local Health Authority within 12 hours, and provide that the fees paid by the District Councils for such notifications shall be reimbursed by the Local Health Authority. On such notifications being received in the County Health Department, the Health Visitors visit the homes to ensure that all necessary measures have been taken to prevent the spread of infection, and to advise patients generally.

VACCINATION.

Until the 5th July, 1948, vaccination was in theory compulsory although of recent years this obligation has been evaded by those who declared conscientious objection to such procedure. In the years 1943-47 the average percentage of children vaccinated against Smallpox was 48.

It had been hoped that if compulsion was abolished and people encouraged to have their children vaccinated as they had them immunised against Diphtheria more children would be vaccinated. This has, however, not yet proved to be the case. The percentage of children vaccinated in the last three months of the year was 42 as compared with 58 for the last three months of 1947.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The County Council is responsible as Local Health Authority for immunisation against Diphtheria. Many of these immunisations are carried out by the School Medical Officers during his visits to schools and welfare centres. Nevertheless many young children live so far from the nearest school or welfare centre or Doctor's Surgery that they never accept immunisation in spite of efforts on the part of the Health Visitors to make patients realise the importance of this protection.

There were no cases of Diphtheria notified as occurring in the County during the year.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS.

One doubtful case was admitted to the Monkmoor Isolation Hospital in June. On clinical examination nothing abnormal was found except partial paralysis of one side of the face and some weakness of a muscle in the neck.

SCARLET FEVER.

Eight cases were notified during the year. This disease continues to be extremely mild and no deaths occurred during the year.

ENTERIC FEVER.

A case of Enteric Fever was notified as occurring in the Llandrindod Wells Hospital. The patient (a Breconshire case) had been under treatment at the Robert Jones & Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry, but was discharged on the outbreak of Typhoid Fever there. He was later admitted to the Llandrindod Wells Hospital and diagnosis was confirmed on the 20th October. The patient recovered.

Tuberculosis.

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and deaths from the disease in the area during 1948 are as follows:—

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—								1
1—								
5—		1		1				
15—	4	3	2		1	1		
45—	1				1		1	
65+					1			
Total	5	4	2	1	3	1	1	1

The following table shows the total number of cases on the County Register at the end of the year :

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total All forms
	M	F	M	F	
0—					
1—					
5—		1	1	1	3
15—	25	19	9	4	57
45—	6	5	4	2	17
65+	2	2	3	1	8
Total	33	27	17	8	85

Radnorshire has always had a lower incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis than any other county in Wales. Thus the death rate per million from pulmonary tuberculosis during the year was 197 for Radnorshire, as compared with 548 for the whole of Wales and Monmouthshire, and 440 for England and Wales. The death rate for non-pulmonary tuberculosis was, however, 99 per million as compared with 82 for Wales and Monmouthshire, and 67 per million for England and Wales.

As much non-pulmonary tuberculosis is caused by the drinking of milk infected with the germs of the disease, it will be appreciated that it is of vital importance to ensure a safe milk supply particularly for children.

Section 28: Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care.

This Section of the Act at present mainly concerns the care of tuberculous patients living in their own homes. The "community care" of such patients is undertaken by the District Nurses.

Patients suffering from tuberculosis are entitled to the loan by the Local Health Authority of beds, bedding and other equipment, the provision of extra nourishment and clothing, but during the year no calls were made for such equipment.

In other types of illness the County Nursing Association loan to patients who are confined or nursed at home such articles of sick room equipment as are required.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

The County Council make an annual contribution of £5 to the Central Council for Health Education. In return the Central Council provide free literature as required up to the value of the County Council's contribution.

The County Medical Officer and the Superintendent Nursing Officer give talks on health topics to voluntary societies and organisations from time to time.

Home Help Service.

No whole time Home Helps are employed by the Authority but a list is maintained of women who have volunteered for part-time work and who have been approved. The persons on this list receive no retaining fee in view of the infrequent use made of their services owing to the scattered nature of the population of the county. District Nurses report cases where help is required and patients themselves make application for assistance. The Superintendent Nursing Officer who acts in this matter as Organiser of Home Helps, decides whether a Help is necessary, and the number of hours work per day which is required. Home Helps are employed in each case on the authority of the Chairman of the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee, and are paid at prevailing rates of pay for domestic work, generally 2/- per hour. The whole or part of the cost is recovered from the household concerned, according to a scale of assessment of income, accepted by the Health Committee.

Because of the liberal provision of neighbourly help, there were few calls upon the Home Help Service, but such calls will undoubtedly increase in number as the scheme becomes better known.

No. of Home Helps supplied during the year, 3.

No. of hours worked during the year, 395.

Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts.

The functions of the Health Committee under the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-1938, and the Regulations made thereunder, and the administration of the Mental Health Services in accordance with the National Health Service Act, 1946, are undertaken by the Mental Health Services Sub-Committee.

Under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts a weekly psychiatric clinic was commenced at Llandrindod Wells on the 26th November. The Medical Superintendent of the Mid-Wales Hospital, Dr. Gordon Diggle, is the visiting psychiatrist.

Seven patients attended on 10 occasions.

Community care of such cases was organised by an arrangement made between the Local Health Authority and the National Association for Mental Health, under which a trained Social Worker gave part-time service in this area.

Three former Relieving Officer of experience who continued to be in County Council employment as Registrars of Births and Deaths were appointed as Duly Authorised Officers. One of these Officers is stationed at Llandrindod Wells, one at Knighton and one at Rhayader, each being responsible for one third of the county for this work. After the appointed day the Authorised Officers arranged for the admission of one case to the Mid-Wales Hospital. Seven voluntary patients were also admitted during the same period.

Duties under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

General supervision of mental defectives in their own homes is undertaken by the District Nurses and also by the County Medical Officer as required.

During the year 6 cases were reported to the Mental Health Services Sub-Committee and these were placed under Statutory Supervision.

The total number of Mental Defectives on the register on the 31st December, 1948, was as follows :

Sex.	Feeble-minded.	Imbeciles.	Idiots.	Total
Males	19	7	1	27
Females	18	4	2	14
	—	—	—	—
Total	27	11	3	41

Defectives from the County are in the undermentioned Institutions.

Institutions.	M.	F.
Pantglas Hall ...	—	10
Stoke Park Colony, Bristol	4	—
Royal Earlswood Institution, Surrey	1	—
Brentry Colony ...	1	—
Rampton ...	—	1
Forden ...	7	1
Caersws ...	1	2
	—	—
	14	14

No defectives were under Guardianship during the year.

Two defectives were awaiting institutional accommodation at the end of the year.

TRANSPORT.

The County Ambulance Service undertakes the transport of patients suffering from mental illness and defectiveness as required. The Authorised Officers have their own cars, and in addition hire saloon cars when required, and the cost of transport in these cases is defrayed under the County Ambulance Service arrangements.

Nursing Homes.

Although Hospitals were transferred to the Minister of Health under the National Health Service Act, no alteration was made by the Act in the existing arrangements under the Public Health Act, 1936, under which registration and supervision of Nursing Homes is the responsibility of the County Council.

There are three registered Nursing Homes in the county, and one registered Maternity Home. No new applications for registration were received. These Nursing and Maternity Homes contain 3 maternity beds and 24 beds for other cases, and 36 babies were born in them during the year.

Eighteen visits of inspection were paid to these Nursing Homes during the year. These visits are important and on each occasion the books are carefully inspected to see that all records are kept as required by the Public Health Act, 1936, and full inspection of the home is carried out. All were found to be conducted in a satisfactory manner.

Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act.

Under this Act the Local Authority must register and may supervise.

- (1) Premises, called "Day Nurseries", where children are received to be looked after for the day or substantial part thereof or for any longer period not exceeding six days.
- (2) Persons, called "Daily Minders" who for reward receive into their homes children under the age of 5 to be looked after for the day or substantial part thereof or for any longer period not exceeding six days.

No applications for registration under this Act were received during the year.

Blind Persons.

Under Sections 29 and 30 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, which came into operation on the 5th July, 1948, the County Council is required to submit for approval to the Minister of Health, a scheme for the provision of welfare services for blind persons. In Radnorshire the County Council made the Health Committee responsible for the administration of this scheme.

Under the approved arrangements the provision of blind welfare services is mainly carried out on behalf of the County Council by the Birmingham Royal Institution for the Blind, which provides Home Teaching as required, supervises Home Workers, and gives Occupational Training as necessary.

In addition all blind persons are visited each month by the appropriate District Nurse, who gives general supervision.

BLIND REGISTER.

There were 23 registered blind persons in the County on the 31st December, 1948, as compared with 22 at the end of 1947.

The age groups of persons on the register were as follows:—

Sex.	Age Periods.							Total
	0—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65+	
Males		1		1	4	1	8	15
Females				2		4	2	8
Total		1		3	4	5	10	23

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Under the Food and Drugs Acts inspection and supervision of food is carried out by the County Inspector of Weights and Measures. During the year there was one prosecution for food offences under these Acts. This was in connection with two samples of milk taken on consecutive days, one of which contained 19 per cent of added water and the other 26 per cent. The vendor was fined £10 and £4 4 0 costs.

381 samples were taken by the Inspector of Food and Drugs for analysis. The following table gives particulars of the 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.
New Milk	201	187	Golden Raising		
Cake and Pudding			powder	2	2
Mixture	14	9	Sardines	1	1
Butter	17	17	Porage Oats	1	1
Beet Sugar	9	9	Oatmeal	1	1
Brown Sugar	1	1	Barley Flakes	2	2
Demerara	6	6	Lard Compound	1	1
Granulated Sugar	2	2	Veal Loaf	1	1
Castor Sugar	1	1	Orange Juice	1	1
Cheese	15	15	Diced Carrots	1	1
Syrup	8	8	Marmite	1	1
Baking Powder	3	3	Epsom Salts	1	1
Margarine	8	8	Liver Pills	1	1
Tea	11	11	Eucalyptus Oil	1	1
Marmalade	2	2	Mixed Spice	1	1
Bread	4	4	Aspirins	1	1
Vinegar	2	2	Boracic Powder	1	1
Jam	2	2	Bi-carbonate of Soda	1	1
Coffee and Chicory	3	3	Ground Ginger	1	1
Biscuits	1	1	Bouillon Cubes	1	1
Fish Paste	9	9	Bouillon Extract	1	1
Mustard	2	2	Stomach Tablets	1	1
American Mustard	1	1	Bacon	2	2
Condensed Milk	1	1	Flavouring Essence	2	2
Dried Egg	1	1	Canadian Baby Cereal	1	0
Potted Meat	5	5	Sultanas	1	1
Tinned Salmon	1	1	Mincemeat	1	1
Benergy	1	1	Oxo	1	1
Cube Sugar	4	4	Bovril	1	1
Fruit Sauce	1	1	Gelatine Powder	1	1
Tinned Beetroot	1	1	Horse Radish with		
Custard Powder	1	1	Vitacream	1	1
Meat Soup	3	3	Pexicon	1	1
Sago	1	1	Chutney	1	1
Colouring Liquid	1	1	Senna Leaves	1	1
			Vermicelli	1	1

Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944.

Under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944, the following schemes for the provision of water supplies and sewerage were submitted to the County Council by the Local Authorities :

District Council.	Particulars of Scheme.	Estimated Cost.	Remarks.
Knighton Urban	Water supply to Fronhir Housing Estate.	1,400	Scheme approved by County Council
Knighton Rural	Norton Water Supply	3,900	Scheme approved by County Council as an interim arrangement Provisional Grant of £1,000 made by Welsh Board of Health.
	Llangunllo Water Supply	2,960	Scheme approved Provisional Grant of £750 made by Welsh Board of Health.
	Llanbadarn-fynydd Water Supply	3,340	Scheme approved Provisional Grant of £850 made by Welsh Board of Health.
	Llandewy- Ystradenny Water Supply	3,350	Scheme approved Provisional Grant of £850 made by Welsh Board of Health.

	Beguildy Water Supply	6,280	Scheme approved Provisional Grant of £1,550 made by Welsh Board of Health.
	Llanbister Water Scheme	2,870	Scheme approved subject to it being demonstrated beyond doubt that even in the driest period the flow is amply sufficient to meet the require- ments of the village.
	Dolau Water Supply	7,800	Scheme approved.
	Knucklas and Lloiney Water Supply	7,200	Scheme not ap- proved. District Council asked to consider tapping the Elan Supply as recomended in County Water Survey of 1946.
rhayader Rural	Crossgates Sewerage Scheme	17,405	Scheme approved.
	Rhayader Sewerage Scheme	45,000	Seheme deferred pending fuller examination.

TABLE I.
Causes of Death in Administrative Areas in the County of
Radnor for 1948.

Causes of Death	Urban Districts				Rural Districts					County								
	Knighton.		Llandri'dod Wells.		Presteigne		Colwyn.		Knighton.		New Radnor.	Painscastle		Rhayader.		M.	F.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F				
Whooping Cough		1															1	
Tuberculosis of respiratory system			1							1			1	1		3	1	
Other tuberculous diseases								1						1		1	1	
Influenza ...									1	1						1	1	
Measles ...	1															1		
Cancer, malignant disease ...	2	1	5	5	2	1		2	1	2	1	3		1	5	1	16	16
Diabetes ...						1				1				1		1		2
Intracranial vascular lesions	1	2	4	3		1	3	1	4	1	1	3	2	3	2	18	13	
Heart disease ...	3	5	7	4	3	2	3	4	1	1	2	4	4	5	7	10	30	35
Other circulatory diseases ...						1			1			1		1			1	3
Bronchitis ...	2		1	1					1	1					2	1	6	3
Pneumonia ...											1				1		2	
Other respiratory diseases ...				1					1						2		4	
Appendicitis ...		1																1
Other digestive diseases ...				1			1		1				1			1	4	1
Nephritis ...	1	1												3	1	4	4	2
Premature Birth		1		1					1		1				2		4	2
Con: malformations, birth injury, infant disease ...	1	1					3	1	2				1		1	4	8	6
Suicide ...			1	1					2								3	1
Other violence ...				2		1								2	1	2	2	4
All other causes	2	2	1					2	6	1	1	1	1	2	4	1	15	9
All causes ...	13	15	22	17	5	7	10	10	22	8	9	12	9	9	34	24	124	102

TABLE II.

Causes of death at the various periods of life in the County of Radnor, 1948

Aggregate of Urban Districts.

Causes of Death.	All Ages.		0-		1-		5-		15-		45-		65+	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Whooping Cough		1				1								
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1													1
Other Tuberculous diseases														
Influenza														
Measles	1				1									
Cancer, Malignant disease	9	7							1		2	2	6	5
Diabetes		1												1
Intracranial vascular lesions	5	6											5	6
Heart Disease	13	11										1	13	10
Other Circulatory Diseases		1												1
Bronchitis	3	1									1		2	1
Pneumonia														
Other Respiratory Diseases	1		1											
Appendicitis		1								1				
Other Digestive Diseases	1												1	
Nephritis	1	1								1			1	
Premature Birth		2		2										
Con. malformations, birth injury, infant disease	1	1	1	1										
Suicide	1	1							1	1				
Other violence		3								1				2
All other causes	3	2											3	2
All Causes	40	39	2	3	1	1			2	4	3	3	32	28

TABLE II.

Causes of death at the various periods of life in the County of Radnor, 19

Aggregate of Rural Districts.

Causes of Death.	All Ages.		0-		1-		5-		15-		45-		65+	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Whooping Cough														
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	2	1							1	1	1			
Other Tuberculous diseases	1	1		1							1			
Influenza	1	1									1			
Measles														
Cancer, Malignant disease	7	9									1	1	6	1
Diabetes	1	1												
Intracranial vascular lesions	13	7											1	13
Heart Disease	17	24					1			1	3	2	13	2
Other Circulatory Diseases	1	2								1				1
Bronchitis	3	2		1							1			2
Pneumonia	2													2
Other Respiratory Diseases	3										1			2
Appendicitis														
Other Digestive Diseases	3	1	1								1			1
Nephritis	3	1							1					2
Premature Birth	4		4											
Con. malformations, birth injury, infant disease	7	5	7	5										
Suicide	2									1				1
Other violence	2	1								1	1			
All other causes	12	7								3			1	9
All Causes	84	63	12	7			1		7	3	11	5	53	

TABLE III.

Number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified in each Sanitary District during the year.

Districts.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Acute Polio- myelitis.	Acute Pneumonia.	Measles.	Whooping Cough	Dysentery.	Chicken Pox.
Urban Districts :								
Knighton -	1			1		1		
Lland'dod Wells		1			23			
Presteigne -						46	4	1
Total Urban -	1	1		1	23	47	4	1
Rural Districts :								
Colwyn -								
Knighton -	2			1		3		
New Radnor -	1				1			
Painscastle -	2			2	3	4		
Rhayader -	2		1	9	37	1		
Total Rural -	7		1	12	41	8		
Total County -	8	1	1	13	64	55	4	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT.

	In Institu'ns on 1-1-48	Number admitted during year.	Number transferred	Total.	Number discharged.			Died.	Number transferred	In Institu'ns on 31-12-48
					Quies- cent.	Impro- ved.	No mat- erial im- prov'm't			
HOSPITAL: Pulmonary: Definitely Tuberculous	3	2	-	5	-	2	-	-	-	3
Doubtfully Tuberculous	-	-	-	-	Tuberculous	Non- Tuberculous	Doubtfully Tuberculous	-	-	-
Non-Pulmonary: Definitely Tuberculous	4	4	-	8	Quiescent	Improved	No material improvement	-	-	1
Doubtfully Tuberculous	-	-	-	-	Tuberculous	Non- Tuberculous	Doubtfully Tuberculous	-	-	-
In SANATORIA: Definitely Tuberculous	2	3	-	5	Quiescent	Improved	No material improvement	-	-	2
Doubtfully Tuberculous	-	-	-	-	Tuberculous	Non- Tuberculous	Doubtfully Tuberculous	-	-	-
Grand Total	9	9	-	18	2	6	2	2	-	6

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