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THE INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL MEDICINE,
10, Parks Road, Oxford.

Rhondda Urban District Council

INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL
MEDICINE
10, PARKS ROAD
OXF.

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

District School Medical Officer

For the year 1948.

W. T. Maddock & Co.
Printers, Ferndale.



Rhondda Urban District Council

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the year 1948

*THE INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL MEDICINE,
10, RAINBOW ROAD, OXFORD*

London: Glyn Jones & Co. Ltd.

REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health



Printed and Published by Glyn Jones & Co. Ltd.

Rhondda Urban District Council

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 Mrs. M. J. WILLIAMS.

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- All the Members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.



**OFFICIALS OF THE HEALTH
AND SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE DEPARTMENT.**

*Medical Officer of Health, Medical Superintendent of the
Council's Hospitals, and District School Medical Officer :*

D. J. THOMAS, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.),
L.R.C.P. (Lond.), B.Sc., (Lond.) D.P.H. (Lond.).

*Senior Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child
Welfare Work :—*

*GWLADYS D. DAVIES, M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Lond.).

Medical Officer in Charge of the Rheumatism Clinic :—

†JOHN GRIFFITH JONES, M.D., B.Ch., B.Sc. (Wales).

*Assistant Medical Officers of Health and Assistant School
Medical Officers :—*

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*JOY ALINE MACGREGOR, M.B., B.Ch. (Wales).

For portion of the year :—

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*Specialist Officers (part time) :—**Ophthalmic Surgeon —*

J. W. GLENTON MYLER, F.R.C.S. (Eng.), D.P.H. (Lond.).

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*R. GLYN MALIPHANT, M.D. (Lond.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.),
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Orthopaedic Surgeon—

NATHAN ROCYN JONES, M.D. (Cantab), F.R.C.S.(Edin.).

Medical Officer, Birth Control Clinic—

*SYBIL M. MORGAN, B.Sc., (Wales), M.R.C.S. (Eng.),
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Public Analyst (part time) :—

DANIEL EVANS JONES, M.Sc., F.I.C.

Assistant Dental Surgeons :—

MARGARET E. BYRNE, B.D.S. (Ireland).

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(for portion of year).

Lay Administrative Officer :

T. J. REES.

Matron of Fever Hospitals :

†OLIVE EVANS.

Assistant Matron :

†ANNE E. WILLIAMS.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

(a.c.) THOMAS OSBORNE Telephone No., Pentre 3255.

Sanitary Inspectors :

		<i>District No.</i>	<i>Telephone No.</i>
(a.c.)	WILLIAM J. EVANS	9	..... Ferndale 2.
(a.)	IDRIS T. WATKINS	7	..... Porth 49.
(b.c.)	ROBT. BADEN DAVIES	4	..... Tonypandy 2361.
(a.c.)	RICHD. OLIVER EVANS	2	..... Pentre 3186.
(a.c.)	JAMES JENKYN EVANS	6	..... Porth 175.
(b.c.)	R. MEREDITH LEWIS	8	..... Ferndale 63.
(b.c.)	WYNDHAM CORNELIUS	5	..... Tonypandy 3176.
(b.c.)	HAYDN GWYN THOMAS	1	..... Treherbert 285.
(b.c.)	WM. REYNOLD THOMAS		
(b.c.)	STANLEY MASON	3	..... Pentre 3224.

Shops Inspectors :

(b.c.) HARRY GLYN PRICE.

(b.c.d.) CHARLES J. BUMFORD.

Lady Supervisor of Welfare Centres and Health Visitors :

(e.g.h.) *LILIAN MORGAN.

Health Visitors and School Nurses :

		<i>District No.</i>
(g.)	*ELIZABETH HUGHES	..... 3
(g.)	*EDITH M. WATKINS	..... 2
(g.h.)	*ELIZABETH ISRAEL	..... 9
(e.)	*EDITH VIOLET GIBSON	..... 1
(e.g.h.)	*EDITH STEPHENS	..... 7
(g.h.)	*MYFANWY BUCKLEY	..... 4
(g.h.)	*SARAH HANNAH DAVIES	..... 11
(e.g.h.)	*GWYNETH M. GRIFFITHS	..... 10
(e.g.h.)	*EIRWEN BONNER —
(e.g.)	*ADA JACKSON	..... 8

Health Visitors and School Nurses—Continued.

			<i>District No.</i>
(e.g.h.)	*GWENLLIAN WILLIAMS	.....	—
(e.g.h.)	*EVELYN B. HENSHAW	.....	5
(g.h.)	*BEATRICE M. LLOYD	.....	—
(e.g.h.)	*CATHERINE DAVIES	.....	—
(e.g.h.)	*JANE A. JONES	.....	—
(e.h.)	*ROSA E. JONES	.....	—

For portion of the year :—

(e.g.h.)	*MYRA E. PHILLIPS.	.....	—
(e.g.h.)	*MARGARET DANIEL.	.....	—
(e.g.h.i.)	*MARY BETTY OWEN.	.....	6
	*MARGARET ELEANOR DAVIES.		—

Superintendent Physiotherapist :

(h.j.k.l.) †WINIFRED M. JENKINS.

Masseuses :

(j.k.)	†SYLVIA GREATREX	
(j.)	MARTHA COTTRELL (part year).	
(k.m.)	†WINIFRED M. JONES (part year).	
(j.)	†GWYNETH M. GRIFFITHS (part year).	

Radiographer :

(h.) †NANCY TIDBALL.

Nurse :

†EIRWEN BRENDA DAVIES, S.R.N.

Clerk :

†HANNAH ELIZABETH RICHARDS.

Dental Attendants :

CONSTANCE T. HARRISON.

GWYNETH ATKINS.

HANNAH M. EDWARDS (part year).

OLWEN HUMPHREYS (part year).

Municipal Midwifery Service :

<i>Wards.</i>	<i>Sister Midwives :</i>	<i>Telephone No.</i>
1-4	(g.h.i.) EDITH M. REES (pt. yr.)	Pentre 3241
5-7	(g.h.i.) *EVELINE L. JONES ,,	Tonypandy 3148
8-11	(g.h.i.) *EVELYN M. JAMES ,,	Porth 130
1-2	(g.) *ELIZ. A. MORGAN	Treherbert 278
	(g.) *LUCY THOMAS	Treherbert 277
	(g.h.) *MARTHA A. DAVIES	Pentre 3174
	(g.h.i.) *IRIS HANNAH JONES ,,	2106
	(g.h.) *CARRIE THOMAS	.....
3-4	(g.h.) *ELIZABETH HANNEY	Pentre 2190
	(g.) *EMILY PURSLOW	,, 2257
	(g.h.) *ELIZABETH G. WILLIAMS	,, 2360
	(g.h.i.) *BERYL BUTLER	,, 3214
5-7	(g.h.) *ANNA J. DAVIES	Tonypandy 3283
	(g.h.) BETTY LOCK (part year)	,, 2132
	(g.) *LYDIA STEPHENSON	,, 3183
	(g.h.i.) *EILEEN W. E. REES	,, 3254
	(g.h.) *BERTHA L. WILLIAMS	,, 3278
	(g.h.) *BLODWEN EVANS	,, 3277
	(g.h.) *SUSANNAH M. JOHN-DAVIES	,, 3116
8-9	(g.) *ANNIE M. JAMES	Porth 5
	(g.h.) *ANNIE M. WATKINS	,, 49
	(g.h.) *EVELYN C. THOMAS	,, 133
	(g.h.) MIRIAM EVANS (pt. year)	,, 318
10-11	(g.h.i.) *EDITH MAUD DAVIES	Tylorstown 32
	(g.h.) *MARY E. BOWEN	Ferndale 49
	(g.h.) *BETTY DAVIES (pt. yr.)	Tylorstown 36
	(g.h.i.) *GWYNETH REES-JONES	Maerdy 33
	(g.h.) *TEIFWEN THOMAS	Ferndale 88

Clerks :

A. O. MORGAN.	*SARAH TAYLOR.
*D. J. LEWIS.	*VERA HARE.
SELWYN DAVIES.	*ANNIE MAY JONES.
*GLYNDWR HOWELLS.	GWYNETH E. JENKINS (pt. yr.)
*GEORGE A. JONES	EDITH DAVIES (part year).
WILLIAM JOHN.	LEWIS DAVIES (part year).
†ARTHUR M. ELLIS.	RITA CHARLES (part year).
JACK WILLIAMS.	*GERTRUDE M. REES (part year)
W. CYNLAIS JONES.	MEGAN PUGH (part year).
D. GWYNN THOMAS.	BRIAN GRIFFITHS (part year).
DENNIS COLLINS (pt. yr.).	

Joint Caretakers of the Carnegie Welfare Centre :

*DAVID T. WILLIAMS and BEATRICE M. WILLIAMS.

Assistant Caretaker :

*CYRIL KINSEY.

Caretakers of Welfare Centres :

Ferndale	.....	*OWEN THOMAS WILLIAMS.
Treorchy	.....	..... *MELVYN WILLIAMS.
Ystrad	.....	*FRANCIS HENRY STUBBS.
Ynyshir	.....	..... *LLEWELLYN JONES.
Penygraig	.....	..... *HILDA MAY.

Clinic Helper :

*EDWARD LLOYD.

In charge of the Disinfector :

†R. J. FLUDE.

Rodent Control Officers :

DAVID JOHN DAVIES.
WILLIAM INGRAM.
J. MYRDDIN WILLIAMS.
WILLIAM JONES.

*Transferred to Glamorgan County Council, 5th July, 1948.

†Transferred to Regional Hospital Board, 5th July, 1948.

NOTES.

- (a.) Holds the Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate granted by the Royal Sanitary Institute.
- (b.) Holds the Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate granted by the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.
- (c.) Holds the Meat Inspectors' Certificate granted by the Royal Sanitary Institute.
- (d.) Holds the Certificate in Sanitary Science granted by the Royal Sanitary Institute.
- (e.) Holds the New Health Visitors' Certificate approved by the Ministry of Health.
- (f.) Holds the Health Visitors' Certificate granted by the Royal Sanitary Institute.
- (g.) Holds the Midwives' Certificate granted by the Central Midwives Board.
- (h.) Has Nursing experience.
- (i.) Holds Certificate in Obstetric Analgesia.
- (j.) Holds Certificate of Chartered Society of Physiotherapy in Massage and Medical Gymnastics.
- (k.) Holds Certificate of Chartered Society of Physiotherapy in Light and Electro-Therapy.
- (l.) Holds Certificate of Chartered Society of Physiotherapy in Medical Electricity and Medical Hydrology.
- (m.) Holds Certificate of Chartered Society of Physiotherapy in Medical Electricity.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS.

Medical Officer of Health—Office	.....	2139, 2140 Pentre.
Residence.....		3204 Pentre.
Dr. G. D. Davies, Assistant M.O.H.	.....	206 Porth.
Dr. J. Griffith Jones, Assistant M.O.H.		94 Porth.
Tyntyla Isolation Hospital	.....	3247 Pentre.
Carnegie Welfare Centre, Trealaw	.....	191 Porth.
Welfare Centre, Treorchy	.....	2293 Pentre.
Welfare Centre, Ystrad	.....	3254 Pentre.
Welfare Centre, Penygraig	2383 Tonypany.
Welfare Centre, Ynyshir	71 Porth.
Welfare Centre, Ferndale	33 Ferndale.

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Rhondda Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

The Medical Officer of Health

To the Chairman and Members of the
RHONDDA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith submit my annual report on the sanitary condition and state of the public health in the Rhondda Urban District during the year 1948.

The estimated population of the district at midsummer, 1948, was 112,800 persons, representing an increase of 960 persons, as compared with the corresponding estimate at midsummer, 1947. This increase indicates that the continued fall in the population of the district recorded in previous years has, at least for a temporary period, been halted, partly on account of the increase in the birth-rate in post-war years and partly because opportunities for employment in various new industries established in the district have lessened the amount of emigration of young persons, especially of female persons, who would otherwise have left in order to obtain employment.

The vital statistics for 1948 compared favourably with those recorded in previous years. The infantile mortality rate of 40 per 1,000 live births and the still-birth rate of 23 per 1,000 total births were the lowest figures hitherto

recorded for the district, and it is also satisfactory to note that the tuberculosis death rate of 0.62 per 1,000 was lower than in any previous year.

The prevalence of and mortality from the common infectious diseases remained at a comparatively low level ; no confirmed case of diphtheria was notified in the district during the year and the freedom from this disease is undoubtedly attributable to the response of parents to the campaign, which has been waged, for the immunisation of their children.

There were no important changes in the sanitary conditions prevailing in the district ; unfortunately the restrictions which have persisted after the war have prevented rapid progress in much-needed improvements such as the making up of back lanes and many private streets and in the methods of deposition and collection of household refuse.

The shortage of housing accommodation continued to be an urgent problem for numerous families in the district ; by the end of the year approximately 4,000 applications for the tenancy of Council houses had been received at the office of the Health Department and it is hoped that the provision of houses will be considerably accelerated. Though approximately 2,200 houses were repaired during the year, mainly as the result of efforts made by the Sanitary Inspectors, many houses in the district are in need of repair and are becoming increasingly dilapidated, thus emphasising the need for the provision of new housing accommodation.

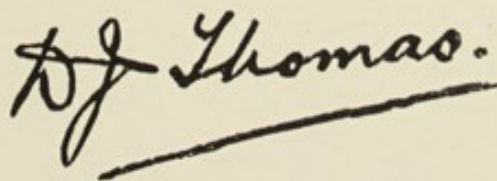
In concluding this introduction one feels justified in referring to the changes brought about by the National Health Service Act, 1946, which came into operation on the 5th July, 1948. In virtue of the provisions of the Act the District Council ceased to administer the maternity and child welfare services which were transferred to the Glamorgan County Council, and handed over the control of the Tyntyla Isolation Hospital, the Penrhys Smallpox Hospital and the clinic for the treatment of rheumatic diseases at the Carnegie Centre, Trealaw, to the Regional Hospital Board. In regard

to the maternity and child welfare services it may be noted to the credit of the District Council that they were the first welfare authority to inaugurate a scheme for the provision of milk, either free or at reduced rates, to all nursing and expectant mothers and children under school age, and were amongst the first local supervisory authorities to provide gas and air analgesia to mothers at domiciliary confinements. Table VI. in the Appendix includes some of the most important statistics bearing upon the maternity and child welfare services from the beginning of the century and during the period of the administration of these services by the District Council and it may be mentioned that the organisation of these services in the district underwent little change after transfer to the County Council.

The provision of the clinic for the treatment of rheumatic diseases also constituted a pioneer effort on the part of a local authority for the alleviation of suffering from these diseases. Having handed over the administration of the above services, it is hoped that the District Council will re-double its efforts, as a sanitary and housing authority, to extend and maintain those social and environmental amenities which will enable the members of the community to live healthily and happily. Such efforts would, in my opinion, ultimately prove of much greater value to the community than those of the authorities who are charged with the administration of the services provided under the National Health Service Act.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. Thomas.", with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

Medical Officer of Health.

TYDFIL HOUSE,
PENTRE, RHONDDA.

SECTION I.

General and Vital Statistics.

Rhondda Urban District.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR YEAR 1948.

Area	23,886 acres.
Population (Census, 1931)	141,346
Population (estimated at Midsummer, 1948)	112,800
Number of inhabited houses	29,195

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Rate per 1,000 Population.
Live Births—				
Legitimate	1,001	1,002	2,003	17.8
Illegitimate	42	32	74	0.7
	1,043	1,034	2,077	18.4

Still Births	36	13	49	0.4
Still Birth-rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			23.0	
Deaths from all causes	826	582	1,408	12.5

	No.	Rate per 1,000 Live Births.	Total Births.	
Maternal Deaths—				
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes	5	2.4	2.4	0.04
	5	2.4	2.4	0.04

Deaths under 1 year—				
All Infants	83	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	40	
Legitimate Infants	81	Rate per 1,000 Leg. Live Births	40	
Illegitimate Infants	2	Rate per 1,000 Illeg. Live Births	27	

	No.	Rate per 1,000 Population
Deaths from Special Causes :—		
Measles	1	0.01
Whooping Cough	—	—
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	5	0.04
Zymotic Diseases	1	0.01
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	60	0.53
Other Tuberculous Diseases	10	0.09
Cancer	195	1.73

AREA, POPULATION AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The area of the Rhondda Urban District remained unaltered during 1948, and covered 23,886 acres ; the greater portion of this area consists of mountain land and the declivitous sides of the mountains so that housing and recreational facilities are limited to the lower portions of the valleys and mountain sides. Having regard to the density of housing in the smaller built-up area of the district and the lack of open spaces available for housing and for recreational and industrial development, there is an increasing need for the extension of the urban district in order that the community may be provided with adequate housing accommodation and the other amenities associated with modern industrial development.

The estimated population of the district at mid-summer, 1948, was 112,800 persons, as compared with 111,840 persons at midsummer, 1947, and 141,346 persons enumerated at the census of 1931.

The natural increase of the population, or the excess of the number of births over the number of deaths, during the year amounted to 669, equivalent to 5.9 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The natural increase as indicated by the above proportion is the same as that recorded in 1947, but is lower than that recorded in 1946 by 0.5, the figure of 6.4 in the latter year being the highest since 1926 as compared with a minimum of 1.04 in 1938.

As the district is entirely industrial in nature the social conditions prevailing in the area are principally dependent on a state of full employment amongst the inhabitants. During the year there was a certain amount of unemployment, particularly amongst older male persons, who were unable to obtain work in the mines owing to disablement resulting from previous employment in the mines and it is satisfactory to note that progress was made in the erection

of factories where such persons could be employed. Some employment for redundant male labour in the district was provided in a fairly large furniture factory and in an engineering works which commenced operations during the year under review. The female labour available in the district was largely absorbed by a large clothing factory and by several other factories, which produced a variety of articles, situated at Treorchy, Dinas and Porth

Large numbers of the residents of the district were employed in collieries, trading estates or on constructional work outside the district.

BIRTHS.

	1948.	Average for ten years 1938-1947
Number of Births	2077	2042
Birth-rate in Rhondda	18.4	17.4
Birth-rate in England and Wales	17.9	16.5

The number of births registered in the district during 1948 amounted to 2,602, of which 525 belonged to parents residing outside the area and were therefore outwardly transferable, so that the net number of births allocated to the Rhondda District was 2077, giving a birth-rate of 18.4 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

The number of births in the successive quarters of the year were 586, 552, 494 and 445 respectively.

The estimated birth-rates in the various Wards comprising the district varied from a maximum figure of 32.9 for Ward 9 to a minimum of 12.9 for Ward 8.

Amongst the 2077 babies born in the district, the number of male babies exceeded the number of female babies by 7.

Illegitimacy—The number of illegitimate births in the area was 74, equivalent to 35.6 per 1,000 live births; the corresponding rate for the previous year was 38.1 per 1,000 live births, while the annual average for the ten previous years was 37 per 1,000 live births.

DEATHS.

	1948.	Average for ten years 1938-1947
Number of Deaths	1408	1632
Rate per 1,000, Rhondda	12.5	13.9
Rate per 1,000, England and Wales	10.8	12.1

During the year under review 1,211 deaths were registered in the district, 45 of which were of non-residents, whilst 242 Rhondda residents died at various places situated outside the district. The net number of deaths belonging to the Rhondda during the year amounted to 1,408, equivalent to a death-rate of 12.5 per 1,000 of the estimated population as compared with an annual average rate of 13.9 for the preceding ten years.

Amongst the various Wards comprising the district the death-rate was highest in Ward 10, with a rate of 14.0, whilst Ward 5 with a rate of 9.4 provided the lowest figure.

The diseases which were most frequently recorded as causes of death, the numbers of deaths caused thereby and the corresponding rates per 1,000 of the estimated population are shown in the following summary :—

	No. of Deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000 population.
Heart Disease	390	3.46
Cancer	191	1.69
Bronchitis	140	1.24
Intra-cranial vascular disease	134	1.19
Other Respiratory Diseases	61	0.54
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	60	0.53
Old Age	53	0.47
Nephritis	32	0.28
Pneumonia	30	0.27
Premature Birth.....	27	0.24

Heart Disease. Amongst the 390 deaths classified as due to heart disease, 266 or 68 per cent. occurred amongst persons who were over 65 years of age. The principal conditions certified as the cause of death in this age group were—myocarditis causing 88 deaths, myocardial degeneration causing 87 deaths and coronary thrombosis or atheroma causing 45 deaths. In all these conditions a preponderance of the number of deaths occurred amongst male persons ; myocarditis caused 51 male deaths as compared with 37 female deaths, myocardial degeneration caused 46 male and 41 female deaths, whilst coronary disease or atheroma caused 28 male and 17 female deaths.

In the age group 45 to 65 years there were 103 deaths, representing 26 per cent of the total of 390 ; in this age group, myocarditis and coronary disease each causing 25 deaths, and, myocardial degeneration causing 15 deaths, were the principal conditions certified and the fatalities were likewise more numerous amongst male persons in the ratio of 67 male to 36 female deaths.

It may therefore be noted that 94 per cent. of the deaths from heart disease occurred amongst persons over 45 years of age and the principal conditions which resulted in death were degenerative in nature or caused by chronic infections ; it is probable that the development of such degenerative or chronic infections could be prevented or postponed in many instances, especially amongst persons under 65 years of age, if adequate treatment of such conditions as dental and rheumatic diseases had been available or obtained earlier in life.

Amongst the 16 deaths from heart disease of persons between 25 and 45 years of age, 13 were of female and 3 were of male persons and of the 13 female deaths, 6 were certified as due to mitral stenosis and 4 were certified as caused by rheumatic heart disease ; one of the male deaths in this age group was also certified as due to mitral stenosis. In persons of this age group, mitral stenosis is usually regarded as a manifestation or complication of rheumatic fever in late childhood or adolescence, and it is probable that these deaths would have been prevented if the rheumatic infection had received adequate treatment.

Amongst persons in the younger age groups under 25 years of age, only five deaths occurred and two of these were caused by rheumatic heart disease and one was due to pericarditis, following an attack of scarlet fever.

The numbers and percentage proportions of the Rhondda deaths for the year, allocated in accordance with the respective age groups, were as follow :—

83	or	5.9	per cent.	were	under	1	year.
11	or	0.8	per cent.,	,,	1	year	and under 2 years.
9	or	0.6	per cent.,	,,	2	years	and under 5 years.
15	or	1.1	per cent.,	,,	5	years	and under 15 years.
33	or	2.3	per cent.,	,,	15	years	and under 25 years.
116	or	8.2	per cent.,	,,	25	years	and under 45 years.
393	or	27.9	per cent.,	,,	45	years	and under 65 years.
748	or	53.1	per cent.,	,,	65	years	and over.

Still-born Children. The number of still-births recorded during the year was 49, equivalent to 23.0 per 1,000 of the total live and still births registered in the district; this rate is the lowest hitherto recorded in the district and compares favourably with an annual average of 39.5 in the preceding ten years.

Uncertified Deaths. The number of uncertified deaths which occurred in the district amounted to 7.

COLLIERY FATALITIES.

Number of Deaths	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
Death-rate per 1,000, Rhondda	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.14

The number of deaths certified as having been caused by accidents in collieries during the year was 16, giving a death-rate of 0.14 per 1,000 of the estimated population. In 10 of these cases, death was caused by falls of roof and side or coal, two deaths were due to crushing by moving coal trams and the remaining four deaths to other types of accidents in the mines.

DISTRICT CORONERS.

Number of deaths certified by District Coroners in 1948	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	126
Rate per cent. of Deaths registered in the District	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.9

The principal causes of death and the numbers caused thereby were as follow :—

Pneumoconiosis	.....	.....	24
Silicosis	.....	.....	2
Heart Disease	.....	.....	26
Suicide	.....	.....	6
Accidents in Collieries	.....	.....	12
Road accidents	.....	.....	2
Chest disease (other than silicosis and pneumoconiosis)	.....	.....	4
Burns or scalds	.....	.....	3

The number of deaths caused by accidents on the roads in the district during the year was two, compared with four for the previous year. One was a child aged two years and the other a man aged 80 years residing at Gilfach Goch. Both received fatal injuries by being struck by public service motor vehicles.

SECTION II.

General Provision of Health Services.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Particulars of the officers employed in the Health Department of the Council are given at the beginning of the Report. As and from the 5th July, all officers engaged in the maternity and child welfare services were transferred to the County Council, and the personnel at the Isolation Hospitals and the Rheumatism Clinic were likewise transferred to the Pontypridd and Rhondda Hospital Management Committee.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The chemical and bacteriological examinations of materials submitted by the Health Department were undertaken at the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory. In addition to the samples of milk and other foods referred to in the sub-sections of this Report dealing with "Milk" and "Food and Drugs Act" respectively, the following samples or specimens, totalling 1529, were examined and reported on during the course of the year:—

Swabs for the presence of diphtheria bacilli	.....	.....	419
Blood or stools or urine for the presence of enteric or dysenteric or food poisoning infections	.....	.....	50
Swabs for streptococcal infections	.....	.....	989
Cerebro-spinal fluids	.....	.....	30
Sputa for tubercle bacilli	.....	.....	6
Miscellaneous	.....	.....	35

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Until the 5th July, when the provisions of the National Health Service Act came into force, ambulances were normally available for the conveyance of patients to and from the local hospitals, such ambulances being stationed at the hospitals. The Council continued to accept responsibility for payments for the hiring of private cars or ambulances for the removal of persons requiring urgent removal to hospital or to their homes as the result of accidents in the streets and, occasionally, for the urgent removal of patients to hospitals after accidents in the homes or public buildings. This service was used on seven occasions during the above-mentioned period.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

The facilities for nursing in the home, provided under arrangements made by the Glamorgan County Nursing Association and administered and supported by local voluntary committees, continued in operation until the 4th July. Subsequent to that date home nursing services were provided by the County Council.

PROVISION OF INSULIN.

Until the 4th July, the Council continued to provide insulin free of cost, or at reduced prices to persons suffering from diabetes and who were not entitled to medical benefit under the National Insurance Acts or the Poor Law Acts. The proportion payable was assessed after investigation into the applicant's income in each case.

The appended table gives details of the cases supplied during the period extending from the 1st January to the 4th July, inclusive, the net cost to the Council being

	<i>No. of patients.</i>	<i>Value.</i>			<i>Amount recovered from patient.</i>		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
School children	1	1	18	3	—	—	—
Other persons	18	39	19	10½	—	—	—
	19	£41	18	1½	—	—	—

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

There was no change during the year in the number of clinics and welfare centres administered by the Council; the five clinics situated at Ynyswen, Ystrad, Trealaw, Ynyshir and Ferndale were used in the joint interests of the maternity and child welfare and school health services, whilst the clinic at Penygraig was utilised for maternity and child welfare purposes. A portion of the Carnegie Centre at Trealaw was also used for the treatment of persons suffering from rheumatism and allied diseases.

On and after the 5th July, all the clinics established by the District Council were transferred to the Glamorgan County Council under the provisions of the National Health Service Act.

The Tuberculosis Dispensary administered by the Welsh National Memorial Association in the interests of Rhondda residents was situated at Porth House, Porth (Telephone No., Porth 192).

Addresses and Telephone Numbers of Council's Clinics.

<i>Address.</i>	<i>Telephone No.</i>
Ynyswen, Treorchy	Pentre 2293
Dyffryn Ffrwd, Trafalgar Terr., Ystrad	Pentre 3254
Carnegie Welfare Centre, Trealaw	Porth 191
Preswylfa, Hendrecafn Road, Penygraig	Tonypandy 2383
Ynys Villas, Ynyshir	Porth 71
Oakland Terrace, Ferndale	Ferndale 32

Sessional Arrangements of Council's Clinics.

Service.	Situation.	Wards Served	Sessions—		
			"M"—Morning.	"A"—Afternoon.	
Ante-Natal.	Treorchy	1, 2	M.A.	Every Wednesday.	
	Ystrad	3, 4	A.	Every Friday.	
	Trealaw	5	A.	Every Tuesday.	
		6	M.	Every Wednesday.	
	(*Special Clinic attended by obstetric consultant).	Trealaw	8	M.	Every Tuesday.
			Whole District	A.	{ *Special Clinic. Monday twice monthly (approx.).
Ynyshir		9, 10	A.	Every Thursday.	
Ferndale		10, 11	M.	Every Thursday.	
		10, 11	A.	Every Wednesday.	
	Penygraig	7	M.	Every Tuesday	
Infant Welfare.	Treorchy	1	M.A.	Every Monday.	
		2	M.A.	Every Tuesday	
	Ystrad	3	M.	Every Saturday.	
		4	M.A.	Every Thursday.	
	Trealaw	5	M.	Every Friday	
		6	A.	Every Wednesday.	
	Ynyshir	8	M.A.	Every Wednesday.	
	Ferndale	9	M.A.	Every Monday.	
		10	M.A.	Every Tuesday.	
	Penygraig	11	M.A.	Every Friday.	
		7	M.A.	Every Monday.	
Birth Control.	Trealaw.	Whole District	A.	Alternate Thursdays	
Dental.	Treorchy	1—2	M.A.	Daily, except when Dentist engaged on School Inspection. Alternate weeks at Treorchy/ Ystrad : Ynyshir/ Ferndale.	
	Ystrad	3—4	M.A.		
	Trealaw.	5—7	M.A.		
	Ynyshir	8—9	M.A.		
	Ferndale	10—11	M.A.		
Ophthalmic.	Treorchy	1—2	M.	Tuesdays and Thursdays as required.	
	Ystrad	3—4	M.		
	Trealaw	5—7	M.		
	Ynyshir	8—9	M.		
	Ferndale	10—11	M.		
Orthopaedic. (*Special Clinic attended by Orthopaedic Consultant).	Treorchy	1—2	A.	As required. *Special Clinic second Wednesday in each calendar month.	
	Ystrad	3—4			
	Trealaw	5—8			
	Ferndale	9—11			
	*Trealaw	Whole District			
Ultra Violet Light Treatment.	Trealaw	Whole District.		As required.	
Rheumatism Clinic	Trealaw	Whole District.	M.	Daily	
			A.		
Medical Inspection of School Children	Trealaw	1—7	M.	Alternate Saturdays. do.	
	Ynyshir	8—11	M.		
Treatment of Minor Ailments.	Treorchy	1—2	M.	Mondays.	
	Ystrad	3—5	M.	Thursday, Saturdays.	
	Trealaw	6—8	M.	Mondays, Fridays.	
	Ynyshir	9	M.	Mon., Wednesdays	
	Ferndale	10—11	M.	Saturdays.	
		10—11	M.A.	Tuesdays	

HOSPITALS.

The following is a brief summary of the normal accommodation at the various hospitals in the district in addition to the provision available for infectious diseases at the isolation hospitals administered by the Council. On July 5th all these institutions were transferred to and were subsequently administered by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board and it is hoped that, having regard to the resources available to the Board, extended hospital accommodation will be provided in the district, particularly for persons suffering from non-surgical conditions and for rehabilitation of the injured and the sick.

INSTITUTION.	No. of Beds.			
	For Adults.		Child- ren.	Total.
	Males.	Fe- males.		
Llwynypia Hospital (administered by the Glamorgan County Council)				
Accommodation				
General cases..... .. 146				
Ear, Nose and Throat cases..... 14				
Maternity cases				
..... 22				
..... 182	60	90	32	182
Glyncornel Maternity Annexe	—	31	—	31
Treherbert Hospital (Voluntary)	12	12	2	26
Pentwyn Hospital (Voluntary)	11	11	2	24
Porth and District Hospital (Voluntary)	44	28	18	90
	127	172	54	353

Approximately one half of the beds at Llwynypia Hospital and two thirds of the beds at Glyncofel were available for Rhondda residents.

Many Rhondda residents were also treated both as in-patients and out-patients at the Cardiff Royal Infirmary and East Glamorgan Hospital, Church Village, whilst children requiring orthopaedic treatment were admitted to Prince of Wales Hospital, Cardiff.

TYNTYLA ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The above Hospital provides accommodation for the reception and treatment of persons suffering from infectious diseases and there was no change in the numbers of beds allotted to the various diseases.

As and from the 5th July, the hospital was administered by the Pontypridd and Rhondda Hospital Management Committee of the Welsh Regional Hospital Board and this report is applicable to the period 1st January to the 4th July, inclusive, during which the hospital was controlled by the Urban District Council. It may be noted, however, that during the latter portion of the year the Council, through its officers and staff, undertook the supervision of the hospital under an agency arrangement at the request of the Hospital Board.

The following table gives the number of cases admitted from the 1st January to the 4th July, inclusive, for each disease as specified at the time of admission and the number of deaths and fatality rates in each group as thus classified :—

	No. of Cases Admitted.	No. of Deaths.	Mortality per cent.
Scarlet Fever	239	—	—
Diphtheria	15	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	10	3	33.3
Whooping Cough	3	—	—
Mumps	3	—	—
Gastro-enteritis	2	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	1	50.0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	—	—
Chicken Pox	2	—	—
Pneumonia	2	—	—
Measles	2	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—
Anthrax	1	—	—
Impetigo	1	—	—
Ringworm	1	—	1
	<hr/> 287	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 1.39

Of the 239 cases admitted as suffering from scarlet fever 30 or 12.5 per cent. were found to be suffering from a disease other than scarlet fever whilst none of the cases admitted as suffering from diphtheria was confirmed as suffering from that disease. Amongst the 10 cases admitted as suffering from cerebro-spinal fever only one was confirmed as due to a meningococcal infection ; in five instances there was no evidence of a meningeal infection, in three cases the infection was found to be due to tubercle bacilli and the illnesses ended fatally, whilst in the remaining instance the meningeal infection was of streptococcal origin which ended in recovery.

The case of anthrax was admitted from a neighbouring district and the diagnosis was confirmed by bacteriological examinations,

In addition to the above one breast-fed baby was admitted with the case of puerperal pyrexia and the nursing mother was admitted with the case of ophthalmia neonatorum.

The number of patients admitted from each of the eleven wards of the district during the above mentioned period is shown in the following table :—

Disease.	Total Cases Admitted.	Ward.										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Scarlet Fever	239	40	50	15	19	18	14	19	19	11	21	13
Diphtheria	15	.....	.....	1	1	1	2	.....	4	1	5	.....
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	10	.....	1	2	.....	1	.....	1	1	.....	1	3
Whooping Cough	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	1	.....
Mumps	3	1	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gastro-Enteritis	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....
Chicken Pox	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pneumonia	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Measles	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Erysipelas	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Impetigo	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ringworm	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals	286	41	53	18	21	22	19	26	26	13	29	18

The average period of detention of the recovered cases of scarlet fever was 27.1 days.

PENRHYS (SMALL POX) HOSPITAL.

This hospital has accommodation for fourteen beds and is adapted for the reception of persons suffering from small-pox but no case of this disease was admitted during the period 1st January to the 4th July, inclusive,

On the 5th July the hospital was transferred to the control of the Welsh Regional Hospital Board.

RHEUMATISM CLINIC.

Until the 4th July, the Council continued to administer the clinic for the treatment of rheumatic and allied diseases established at the Carnegie Welfare Centre, Trealaw.

During the above period 144 patients were examined for the first time and the following table gives a summary of the principal diseases from which they were found to be suffering :—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Rheumatoid Arthritis	8	24	32
Osteoarthritis	12	22	34
Fibrositis	14	26	40
Sciatica	5	—	5
Other conditions	11	22	33
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	50	94	144

In addition to the primary consultations as indicated above 393 re-examinations of patients undergoing treatment or who had concluded their courses of treatment were carried out and the total number of attendances for treatment amounted to 5,920.

Treatment was given free of cost, at half cost or at full cost in accordance with a scale of income prescribed for the purpose of assessment and of the 144 new cases treated during the above period 59 were treated free of cost, 13 were treated at half cost and the remaining 72 were assessable at the full fee. The total amount of the fees collected reached a total of £636 19s. 8d.

The number of X-ray examinations undertaken at the clinic amounted to 457.

The amount of work carried out at the clinic was limited by the number of staff available and at the time of transfer to the Regional Hospital Board there was a long list of applicants waiting for examination and treatment.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

Education in health matters was largely undertaken by the medical and health visiting and dental staff at the clinics and schools and by the health visitors and sanitary inspectors in the homes. An annual subscription to the Central Council for Health Education contributed towards the purchase of literature dealing with various aspects of healthy living, copies of which were also distributed whenever the opportunities occurred by the above-mentioned members of the staff of the Department.

SECTION III.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

INFANT MORTALITY.

		1948.		Average for ten years 1938-1947
Rhondda, per 1,000 births	.....	40	.....	—
126 Great Towns	.....	34	.....	55
England and Wales	.....	34	.....	49

The number of live births belonging to the Rhondda Urban District during 1948 was 2077 and the number of deaths of infants under one year old was 83, giving an infantile mortality rate of 40 per 1,000 live births ; this rate was the lowest hitherto recorded in the district and compares favourably with an annual average of 59 per 1,000 live births in the preceding ten years.

It may be noted that the mortality rate amongst infants who were illegitimate was lower than amongst those born in wedlock ; of the 74 infants born illegitimately, 2 died, giving an infantile mortality rate of 27 per 1,000 births.

Reference to Table IV (Appendix) shows that 55 deaths occurred during the first four weeks of life, giving a neo-natal mortality rate of 26.5 per 1,000 births as compared with a corresponding rate of 23 per 1,000 births recorded in the previous year. The principal causes of neo-natal deaths as indicated on the death certificates were prematurity in 28 instances, intracranial haemorrhage in 6 instances, whilst 3 deaths each were certified as due to atelectasis, asphyxia pallida and convulsions, respectively.

Of the 28 infant deaths which occurred in the post neo-natal period, 8 were certified as due to bronchitis and 3 each were caused by pneumonia and gastro-enteritis, respectively ;

amongst other causes of death it is noted that one death was caused by overlaying and another by strangulation in its cot. It is probable that these deaths could have been prevented if adequate treatment had been available in the early stages, and proper precautions had been adopted to prevent the spread of infection or to provide suitable and safe sleeping arrangements.

The infantile mortality rates in the eleven wards in the district varied between a maximum of 78 in Ward 8 and a minimum of 15 in Ward 3.

Premature Births. The number of premature babies, as defined by a weight of $5\frac{1}{2}$ pounds or less at birth, notified by midwives in the area to the 4th July, was 82 of whom 55 were born in the homes and 27 were born in hospitals.

Of those born at home 55 were nursed entirely at home and of these 2 died within 24 hours of birth, 4 between 1 and 28 days, and 49 survived at the end of the month; and the 27 born in hospitals survived at the end of one month after the dates of birth.

The following summary gives particulars relating to the premature babies notified during the above-mentioned period :—

Weight at birth. (pounds).	BORN AT HOME.						BORN IN HOSPITALS.		
	Nursed at Home.			Removed to Hospital			No.	Died in 24 hours.	Died in 1—28 days.
	No.	Died in 24 hours.	Died in 1—28 days.	No.	Died in 24 hours.	Died in 1—28 days.			
$4\frac{1}{2}$ — $5\frac{1}{2}$	37	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	22	.....	.....
$3\frac{1}{2}$ — $4\frac{1}{2}$	10	.....	1	1	.....	1	5	.....	.....
$2\frac{1}{2}$ — $3\frac{1}{2}$	6	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Under $2\frac{1}{2}$	2	1	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
	55	2	4	2	.....	2	27	.....	.....

Health Visiting. The following information relates to the activities of the health visitors in the interests of child welfare from the 1st January to 4th July, 1948.

Visits to children	}	..... First Visits	.....	1,153
under one year		..... Total Visits	.....	10,330
Investigations of still births		.....	.....	23
Investigations of deaths of infants		.....	.....	41
Visits to children, 1-5 years		.....	.....	7,704
Ophthalmia-	}	..... First Visits	.....	3
Neonatorum		..... Total Visits	.....	12

Each health visitor attended at the welfare centre on at least one day a week, when mothers and babies from her district were in attendance.

WELFARE CENTRES.

The total number of child welfare sessions held at the six clinics situated at Ynyswen, Ystrad, Trealaw, Penygraig, Ynyshir and Ferndale, during the period extending from the 1st January to the 4th July, 1948, was 468 and the average attendance of children under five years of age was 21, the total number of attendances being 9,828.

A number of children under five years of age received attention at the Authority's dental clinics on the recommendation of the medical officers presiding at the welfare centres, whilst children suffering from orthopaedic defects were referred for examination by and treatment under the guidance of Mr. N. Rocyn Jones, F.R.C.S., the Council's Orthopaedic Consultant, who visited the orthopaedic department at the Carnegie Welfare Centre regularly.

SUPERVISION OF EXPECTANT MOTHERS.

Sessions were regularly held at each of the six welfare centres for the ante-natal supervision of expectant mothers

and a member of the medical staff who was assisted by health visitors and midwives presided at each session.

The number of expectant mothers who attended up to the end of June was 960 and the total number of attendances, including revisits, amounted to 5,260.

In addition to the routine ante-natal sessions mentioned above, 13 sessions, presided over by Dr. R. G. Maliphant, Obstetric Consultant, were held at the Carnegie Welfare Centre, and 150 expectant mothers were seen at these special ante-natal sessions.

A number of expectant mothers also received dental treatment at the Authority's dental clinic and such treatment included the provision of dentures when considered necessary.

PROVISION OF MILK AND MEDICINAL FOODS.

Milk free or at reduced rates. The arrangements for the provision of milk for consumption by nursing and expectant mothers and by children under five years of age who were not attending school, were undertaken by the Ministry of Food through the local Food Offices, the liquid milk being purchaseable at 2d. per pint, or granted free of cost in instances where the family income was below a scale recognised by the Ministry.

The issue of dried milk under the above scheme was undertaken at the Welfare Centres and the Council also provided supplementary issues of dried milk in those cases where the daily quantity of one pint per person granted by the Ministry of Food was considered, on medical grounds, to be inadequate. These supplementary issues were based on

the same scale of income as that prescribed by the Ministry of Food and the cost of the dried milk thus supplied by the Council from the 1st January to the 3rd July, inclusive, amounted to £10.

Sale of Dried Milk. Certain brands of dried milk were available for sale at cost price at the Welfare Centres, the mothers being permitted to purchase such forms of dried milk after consultation with and on the recommendation of the medical officers at the clinics. The total value of the dried milk disposed of at such sales amounted to £2,558 during the above-mentioned period.

Vitamin Supplements. The distribution of vitamin supplements was carried out by the staff of the local Food Office in convenient centres scattered throughout the district and at the Welfare Clinics. The importance of these vitamins was brought to the notice of all mothers attending the clinics and by the Health Visitors during their visits to the homes.

HOME AND DOMESTIC HELP SCHEMES.

The Council continued to administer from the 1st January to the 4th July, 1948, the Home and Domestic Help Schemes established for the purpose of rendering assistance in the homes of women during confinement and in the homes of persons who were sick or infirm and unable to obtain help from relatives or neighbours. The two schemes are interchangeable so that the respective staffs can be utilised to the fullest possible advantage and thus render assistance to the maximum number of cases. The combined staffs employed on the 4th July, 1948, consisted of one full-time home help and 21 part-time domestic helps and assistance was given during the above-mentioned period to 153 cases.

The following table gives details of the cases assisted in the respective wards from the 1st January to the 4th July, 1948.

Ward	No. of Cases Assisted			Fees claimed from Householders		
	Total	Maternity	Other	£	s.	d.
1	14	10	4	17	9	4
2	17	16	1	35	4	0
3	7	3	4	15	4	8
4	10	5	5	12	16	0
5	3	1	2	4	18	8
6	12	5	7	5	17	4
7	15	9	6	14	2	8
8	18	15	3	12	9	1
9	14	6	8	3	14	8
10	16	9	7	14	18	8
11	27	9	18	15	12	8
	153	88	65	152	7	9

SUPERVISION OF MIDWIVES.

The number of midwives who notified their intention to practise in the district during 1948 was 63, of whom 28 were employed as whole-time domiciliary municipal midwives, 6 were in private practice and 29 were employed in local hospitals.

Until the 5th July, when the service was transferred to the Glamorgan County Council under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, the routine inspection of midwives was undertaken by Dr. Gwladys D. Davies, Senior Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare.

The appended table gives a summary of the cases in respect of which medical aid was summoned by midwives in accordance with the Rules of the Central Midwives Board.

Record of Sending for Medical Help, 1st January—4th July, 1948.

Reasons stated for seeking assistance.	Day.	Night.	WARDS.											Total.	
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
Prolonged labour	16	9		2	2			9		4	2		6		24
Obstructed or delayed labour	7	4	2	1	1	1	1	2				1	1	1	11
Rupture or tear of perineum	41	18	3	3	6	2	14	4	7	1	1	6	12		59
Abortion or threatened abortion	18	10	1	1	4	1	7	6		2	1	1	4		28
Ante-partum haemorrhage.....	9	3	3	1		1	1	3		1		2			15
Post-partum haemorrhage	5	2					1	1			1		4		7
Pyrexia	8	8	3	3		1	1	3	2		1	2			16
Albuminuria	7		2	1	1			1					2		7
Adherent placenta or membranes	8	4	3	1	2		2			2			2		15
Oedema	4	1	3	1			1								5
Abnormal presentation	4	6		2	1	1	2	3	1						10
Inertia		1										1			1
Eclampsia															
Other complications during pregnancy or labour	20	7		4	3	1	2	8	3		2	2	2		27
Collapse or condition of mother	3	1									3	1			4
Rash	5	1	1	1						2	2				6
Inflammation of, or discharge from baby's eyes	13	4		2	2	4		2	3	1	1		2		17
Feebleness of Infant.....	5	2	1	1			4		1						7
Prematurity	9	5		2	1	1	2		3	2		1	2		14
Malformation.....	8	4	3	2			1	1	2	2			1		12
Still birth	2	1		1			1	1							3
Asphyxia	1	1		1									1		2
Other abnormalities or complications in case of child	28	3		3		2	6	2	7	4	1	1	5		31
Totals	221	95	25	33	23	15	55	37	33	19	14	24	38		316

MIDWIVES ACT, 1936.

Municipal Midwifery Service,—During the greater part of the year between the 1st January and 4th July, 1948, the staff of the Council's Midwifery Service consisted of 28 whole-time midwives, including three sister midwives and eight other midwives qualified to administer nitrous oxide analgesia in accordance with the advisory memorandum of

the Central Midwives Board, distributed throughout the area as shown below :—

	Number of Midwives.	Sister Midwives.
Wards 1 and 2	5	1
Wards 3 and 4	4	
Wards 5, 6 and 7	7	1
Wards 8 and 9	4	1
Wards 10 and 11.....	5	
	—	—
	25	3
	—	—

The number of births attended by the municipal midwives from the 1st January to the 4th July, 1948, amounted to 767 and represented 89 per cent. of all domiciliary confinements in the area.

The appended statement gives the ward distribution and certain other details of the cases completed by the Council's midwives during the period 1st January to the 4th July, 1948 the total amount of fees collected, viz., £925 5s. 0d.

Ward.	Total Completed Cases.	Complete Domiciliary Confinements attended.	Ante- natal attend- ance only.	Abor- tions.
1	85	83	—	2
2	70	68	—	4
3	52	48	—	4
4	64	62	—	2
5	58	54	—	2
6	103	100	—	5
7	78	76	1	1
8	72	71	—	1
9	75	72	2	1
10	68	66	2	—
11	77	67	6	4
Totals	802	767	11	26

	£	s.	d.
Total value of services indicated above, calculated in accordance with the prescribed scale of fees	1,151	0	0
Amount remitted by Council in necessitous cases	211	6	0
Amount of fees payable by patients or persons responsible for their maintenance	939	14	0
Amount of fees actually collected	925	5	0
Fees outstanding at end of year	14	9	0

Gas-air Analgesia was administered by the sister midwives and other midwives to 351 women in labour during the year, the necessary medical certificates having been issued in accordance with the advisory memorandum of the Central Midwives Board.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Total number of maternal deaths	5
Death-rate per 1,000 live births	2.4
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis	0
Deaths from other Puerperal Causes	5
Death-rate per 1,000 live births	2.4

The term "maternal mortality" relates to the deaths of mothers due to conditions arising from pregnancy or child-birth and is expressed in terms of the ratio which the number of such deaths bear to the total registered live births belonging to the area.

As indicated above no death occurred from puerperal septic conditions and it is satisfactory to note that this was the third year in succession during which no death from this cause has occurred in the district.

Of the five deaths from other causes, two were due to obstetric shock following toxæmia of pregnancy and prolonged labour, respectively, one was due to post-partum hæmorrhage, one due to secondary hæmorrhage following abortion and the remaining death was certified as due to eclampsia.

Four of the deaths occurred in hospitals and three of the mothers had attended the ante-natal clinics but had been reluctant to accept the advice tendered at the clinics; if such advice had been taken, it is possible that the deaths in these three instances might have been avoided.

The death certified as due to eclampsia was of an expectant mother who was permanently employed outside the district and it is doubtful whether in such circumstances the death should have been transferable or allocated to the Rhondda Urban District.

BIRTH CONTROL CLINIC.

During the period 1st January to the 4th July, 1948, Dr. Sybil Morgan supervised the birth control clinic which was held on alternate Thursday afternoons at the Carnegie Welfare Centre, Trealaw. The number of new cases which attended during this period was 42 and the revisits amounted to 217, making a total of 259 consultations.

Mothers attended this clinic on the recommendation of the medical officers at the ante-natal clinics or of Dr. R. G. Maliphant, the obstetric consultant, and the principal conditions giving rise to these recommendations were:—heart disease, bad obstetric history, frequent pregnancies, kidney disease, tuberculosis, asthma, neurosis, debility and anaemia.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

	1st Jan., 1948.	4th July, 1948.
No. of Foster Parents Registered	1	1
No. of Children Registered	1	1

No new cases were registered during the above-mentioned period under the Child Life Protection Clauses of the Public Health Act, 1936. The Council's Supervising Health Visitor, in her capacity as Child Protection Visitor, paid 6 visits of inspection to the home of the above-mentioned child and reported that the child appeared to be well cared for and happy.

SECTION IV.

Sanitary Circumstances.

WATER SUPPLY.

During the year under review there was no change in the public water supply in the district, the houses in the upper and middle portions of the Rhondda Fawr Valley, with the exception of Cwmparc, being supplied from the Council's own system whilst the remainder of the district, with the exception of portions of Pontygwaith, being provided from the supply of the Pontypridd and Rhondda Joint Water Board.

Apart from a few complaints received from occupants of houses situated at the higher levels of the Council's system of water supply, the quantity and quality of the water supplied in the district were satisfactory. In order to obviate the complaints received from the occupiers of houses in the upper portion of Penrhys Road, Ystrad, a subsidiary tank of suitable capacity was installed at a higher level than the houses and water pumped to the tank at regular intervals.

The bacteriological examinations of 34 samples of water obtained from the intakes to the Council's system showed that 15 samples were satisfactory, 7 were fairly satisfactory, 6 were of moderate purity, and 3 each were allocated to the doubtful and unsatisfactory categories ; of 15 samples taken from the distributive system 13 were satisfactory and two were found to be fairly satisfactory. The chemical examination of the water after treatment indicated that the water was a very soft neutral water.

According to information received from Mr. Elwyn Jones, the Council's Gas and Water Engineer, the daily consumption per head of the population in the Council's area of supply was 37.2 gallons, of which 2.8 gallons were used daily for trade purposes.

The bacteriological examinations of 20 samples of raw untreated waters obtained by officers of the Pontypridd and Rhondda Joint Water Board from the reservoirs at Maerdy showed that 6 were satisfactory, 5 each were fairly satisfactory or of moderate purity and 4 were of doubtful purity ; the examinations of 20 samples obtained from service pipes showed that 19 were satisfactory and one was of moderate purity. The chemical examinations of the treated waters from this supply showed efficient purification, particularly in the reduction of discolouration as indicated on the Burgess scale applicable to waters.

There was no change in the private water supplies scattered over the district or in the number of houses and population thereof supplied from stand pipes.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The public sewers in the district were maintained in a satisfactory condition under the constant supervision of Mr. Eli Taylor, the Council's Engineer and Surveyor.

During the course of the year 335 defective sewers, formerly known as combined drains, serving 1297 houses, were referred to Mr. Taylor for attention and in 9 instances, involving 77 houses, the work was done after the service of statutory notices on the owners in accordance with the provisions of Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

There is no change to report in the condition of the rivers and streams in the district which continued to be polluted by effluents from the collieries whilst the Sanitary Inspectors continued to exercise as much vigilance as possible in order to prevent the surreptitious deposition of household and other refuse on the river banks or into the river beds in some instances.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The number of houses in the district unconnected with the sewerage system amounts to 108 ; the majority of these houses consist of isolated farm houses or cottages situated on the hillsides or small groups of houses situated in such a position that connection with the nearest sewer is not possible.

The appended table, which is compiled from reports submitted by the Sanitary Inspectors, indicates the extent and character of the means of excrement disposal in the district at the end of 1948 :—

No. of privies with fixed receptacles (middens, etc.)	41
No. of privies with movable receptacles	31
No. of water closets (fresh water, cistern flushed).....	26,537
No. of water closets (waste water)	—
No. of water closets (hand flushed).....	2,197

During the year 29 houses with hand flushed closets were provided with flushing cisterns.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The scavenging of the whole district, with the exception of that portion of Gilfach Goch which is within the Rhondda Urban District, was carried out by direct labour employed by the Council under the supervision of Mr. Eli Taylor, the Council's Engineer and Surveyor.

The total cost of the collection of house refuse and its conveyance to the tips or to the destructor amounted to £35,424 or the equivalent of £1 4s. 0d. per house per annum.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The sanitary inspection of the area was undertaken by nine sanitary inspectors under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health with the assistance of the Chief Sanitary Inspector. Each sanitary inspector was allotted a portion of the district and the following is a summary of the work done during the year :—

Inspections under the Housing and Public Health

Acts	3,447
Cases of Infectious Diseases investigated	491
Revisits to infected houses, including Disinfections	1,006

Visits to :—

Unabated Nuisances and Unremedied Defects	18,136
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	1,038
Slaughterhouses	441
Bakehouses	351
Common Lodging-Houses	2
Ice-Cream Vendors	232
Fried Fish Shops	202
Factories and Workshops	789
New Buildings (Drains of)	72
Scavenging Depots	98
Re Waste Water	114
Back Lanes	1,697
Piggeries	219
Interviews	2,907
Overcrowding Surveys	19

Total Inspections and Re-Inspections..... 32,776

Housing Inspection :—

Preliminary Notices served	.....	.....	2,122
Warning Notices served	.....	.....	13
Statutory Notices served	.....	.....	1,779
Work done without Notice	.....	.....	1,053
Notices complied with—			
Preliminary	.....	.....	139
Statutory	.....	.....	992
New Buildings certified	.....	.....	188
Drain Connections :—			
No. of connections made	.....	.....	138
No. of Houses connected	.....	.....	188
Total houses connected to 31st December, 1948			29,397
Total houses unconnected to 31st Dec., 1948.....			108
Meat condemned as unfit for human consumption, lbs.,			35,772
Meat Offal condemned	.....	.....	„ 53,818
Other Foods condemned	.....	.....	„ 16,246

**PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY
BYE-LAWS, REGULATIONS OR ORDERS.**

The number of premises or occupations subject to control by bye-laws, regulations or orders during the year was 163, and the following table gives a summary of such premises or occupations requiring periodical inspection :—

Description.	Sanitary Districts.									Total.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Bakehouses	8	5	7	6	6	5	4	4	10	55
Cowsheds	4	2	2	2	2	1	4	5	2	24
Dairies and Milk-shops	16	7	5	10	4	10	7	6	9	74
Common Lodging Houses	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Slaughter Houses	1	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	6
Offensive Trades	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	2
Totals	29	16	19	18	12	17	15	15	22	163

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

At the end of the year there were two common lodging-houses in the district. These were situated at Nos. 120 and 126 William Street, Ystrad, and had accommodation for 44 and 10 persons respectively, making a total of 54 persons.

The District Sanitary Inspector made two visits to the houses, and the premises were found to be conducted satisfactorily.

SHOPS.

Number of Shops in the District in 1947	.....	.....	1,775
New Shops established in 1948	.....	.....	116
Shops removed from the Register in 1948	.....	.....	75
Net increase in Shops in 1948	.....	.....	41
Number of Shops in district in 1948	.....	.....	1,816
Number of Shops subject to a local Closing Order	.....	.....	887
Number of Shops in which Assistants are employed	.....	.....	808
Number of Shops exempted from Weekly Half-holiday Order	.....	.....	816
Number of Shops exempted from Weekly Half-holiday Order and in which Assistants are employed	.....	.....	309
Number of Assistants in Exempted Shops	.....	.....	507
Number of Shops and other Premises or businesses in which Young Persons are employed other than as Shop Assistants	.....	.....	48
Number of Young Persons employed other than as Shop Assistants	.....	.....	104
Legal Proceedings taken under Shops Acts during 1948	.....	.....	—

The number of shops remaining on the register at the end of 1948 amounted to 1,816, which showed a net increase of 41, as compared with the previous year ; 116 new shops were established while 75 shops were closed and removed from the Register during the year. The number of shop assistants increased from 2,141 to 2,234.

In addition to the 2,234 assistants employed in the shops, there were 104 persons under 18 years of age who, though not ordinarily classifiable as shop assistants, were employed in circumstances which rendered their conditions of service subject to the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934.

The detailed administration of the Shops Acts was continued by two shops inspectors, who are also appointed as part-time sanitary inspectors in accordance with the Sanitary Officers (outside London) Regulations, 1935.

These Inspectors rendered occasional assistance in the general duties of the Sanitary Inspectors and, more frequently assisted with the inspection of meat at the Government Slaughter-house, Ton Pentre.

The following summary provides information as to the main activities of the two inspectors during the year :—

Observation Duty—number of hours	.....	.....	747
Visits to Shops :—			
Primary routine inspections	.....	.....	141
Re-inspections	.....	.....	5,517
Regarding hours of employment, meal-times, etc.			138
For De-registration	.....	.....	72
Unsound Food	.....	.....	13
Other Visits	.....	.....	121
Number of warnings given	.....	.....	33
Sampling Action (Food and Drugs Acts), No. of hours,			868

Details are given in the appended table regarding the defects discovered in shops during the year :—

Nature of Defect.	Number of Defects.	
	Discovered during 1948.	Remedied during 1948.
Failure to provide and maintain suitable and sufficient—		
Means of ventilation	—	—
Means of providing a reasonable temperature	2	1
Sanitary Conveniences—		
Not provided	3	1
Not maintained	7	6
Means of lighting	—	—
Washing facilities	5	3
Facilities for the taking of meals	—	—
Total number of defects	17	11
Number of shops involved	12	9

No application was received by the Council for a certificate under Section 10 (6) of the Shops Act, 1934, giving exemption from the obligation to provide and maintain suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences and washing facilities respectively for the use of persons employed in or about a shop.

The Shops Inspectors did not report any case during the year in respect of which it was necessary to institute legal proceedings for any infringement of the Shops Acts and the Closing Orders made thereunder.

In the following table, which gives summarised information regarding the various classes of shops in the district, it will be seen that assistants were employed in 44 per cent. of the shops as compared with 47 per cent. in the previous year. The table also shows that 25 per cent. of the male assistants and 32 per cent. of the female assistants were under 18 years of age.

FACTORIES.

The total number of premises in the district affected by the Factories Act, 1937, is 834, made up as follows :—

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>With mechanical power.</i>	<i>Without mechanical power.</i>
Factories	755	425	330
Building operations	10	10	—
Engineering construction	2	2	—
Out-workers	—	—	—
Bakehouses	55	38	17
Institutions	2	2	—
Electrical Stations	10	10	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	834	487	347

The sanitary inspectors paid 351 visits to bake-houses and 789 visits to other premises embraced by the Act, during the course of the year.

The appended tables provide information relating to the trades carried on at the premises to which the above-mentioned Act applies, the inspections made during the year and the results of action taken in connection therewith.

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

PREMISES.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power	487	1	.....
Factories without mechanical power	302	.....	.....
Other premises (including works of building, engineering construction, etc. ....)	.....	.....	.....
TOTALS	789	1	.....

2.—Defects found.

PARTICULARS.	Number of Defects.			No. of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Insp'tor	
Unsuitable Sanitary convenience (S.7.)	3	1	.....	.....
	3	1	.....	.....

Return of Factories—Continued.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total.	
Rubber Soles & Heels	1											1												1	
Rug & Basket Mkr.	2											1													4
Saddlers	4											5													3
Saw Mills	5					2	1	1				4													
Sculptors	7											1													
Smokers' Requisites	1		3									1													
Spring Interiors	1					1		1				1													
Stocking Repairs	2					1		1				2													
Swiss Embroidery	1											1													
Tailors	10						1					1													
Tinsmiths	6											2													
Toy Makers	2											2													
Travel and Luggage																									
Cases	1							1				1													
Undertakers	31	1	3	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	14	4	1	2										
Upholsters	7					1		1				2													
Wagon Builders	3											2	1												
Wireless Repairs	19	1		2	3	1				1	2	11	1	2	1	1									
Zip Fasteners	1						1					1													
TOTALS	755	29	38	40	31	25	32	66	27	20	47	425	39	50	36	18	22	32	15	54	28	7	29	330	
Other Premises to which the Act applies:—																									
Bakehouses	55	4	2	5	1	2	4	2	2	2	8	38	3	5		1	3			2		1	2	17	
Building Operations	10	7			1	2						10													
Engineering Construction	2	1	1									2													
Institutions	2	2										2													
Electrical Stations	10	2			4	2		1				10				1									
GRAND TOTALS	834	45	41	45	33	32	36	69	29	22	55	487	42	55	36	19	25	32	15	56	28	8	31	347	

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No legal action was taken during the year under the bye-law made by the Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 2 of the Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Act, 1926.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Active measures were taken under the supervision of the sanitary inspectors in relation to the disinfection of 11 houses in the district during the year. The methods adopted included spraying with zaldecide fluid containing D.D.T., together with stripping of walls, removal of skirting boards, etc., and the fumigation of rooms by formaldehyde vapour when considered necessary.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

The open-air swimming baths situated at Treherbert, Ystrad, Porth and Ferndale are owned by the Council and each bath is under the control of a suitably qualified person. During the bathing season the water in these baths is automatically filtered and chlorinated by means of purification plants whose efficiency is regularly tested by means of colorimetric tests for the presence of residual chlorine in the water in the pools.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

During the year four whole-time rodent officers were employed in order to carry out the necessary investigations and treatment of rodent infestations in the district. In

order to assist in the treatment of the sewers in the district six additional temporary assistant operatives were employed for two periods of approximately three months each.

The following tables provide a summary of (a) the general work carried out on premises in the district, and (b) the work undertaken in connection with the treatment of sewers :—

(a) **General Work.**

Premises treated :—

Private Houses	.....	.....	.....	568
Business Premises	.....	.....	.....	154
Council Property	.....	.....	.....	38
River Banks	.....	.....	.....	34
Refuse Tips and Bunkers	.....	.....	.....	20
Other Premises	.....	.....	.....	21

Token baits laid :—

No. of premises	.....	.....	.....	835
No. of doses	.....	.....	.....	16,387

Poison baits laid :—

No. of premises	.....	.....	.....	712
No. of doses	.....	.....	.....	4,607

Post baits laid :—

No. of Premises	.....	.....	.....	34
No. of Doses	.....	.....	.....	647

Traps set :—

No. of premises	.....	.....	.....	1
Traps set	.....	.....	.....	6

Estimated kill (Rats only) 2,629

(b) Sewers.

Ward	Number of man-holes treated	Pre-bait takes			Poison baits laid
		Complete	Partial	No take	
1	710	83	342	499	219
2	658	92	297	464	199
3	581	131	291	370	211
4	536	86	218	384	152
5	620	58	183	503	124
6	663	114	218	503	172
7	649	56	300	475	182
8	684	51	224	547	138
9	572	43	158	473	102
10	420	24	124	346	74
11	594	46	215	464	131
Totals	6687	784	2570	5028	1704

PUBLIC MORTUARIES.

The two public mortuaries erected by the Council on the Cemetery grounds at Trealaw and at Oakland Terrace, Ferndale, were utilised for the reception of 8 and 6 bodies respectively, whilst the number of post mortem examinations carried out at these mortuaries were 7 and 1 respectively. The mortuaries attached to the four general hospitals in the district were also occasionally used in emergencies for the reception of bodies other than those of persons who died in the institutions,

SCHOOLS.

During their visits to the schools for the purpose of carrying out the medical examination of school children, the Assistant School Medical Officers made inspections of the school buildings and defects thus found were reported to the District Education Officer for necessary action.

The sanitary inspectors also visited the schools for the purpose of fumigating classrooms when necessary, and also at the end of each term for the fumigation of blankets used in the nursery classes in the Infants' Departments.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

The appended summary gives details of the cases in which the Department's activities led to proceedings at the local Courts of Justice in the course of the year.

	No. of Cases	Result.	Amount of Fines and Costs.
Verminous Persons :—			£ s. d.
Application to Court for Order to Cleanse	1	Order refused	—
Food and Drugs Act, 1938 :—			
Milk deficient in non-fatty solids	2	Both	3 8 0
	3	—	£3 8 0

SECTION V. HOUSING.

HOUSING.

The lack of adequate housing accommodation continued to present the most serious problem confronting the authority in relation to public health in the course of the year. Numerous applications for the tenancies of council houses were received at the offices of the Health Department and by the end of the year the number of applications received had reached a total of approximately 4,000. The majority of these applications were received in respect of families containing children who were living in "apartments" in houses occupied by one or more other families, and living under such conditions invariably involved serious overcrowding, especially in regard to sleeping accommodation and lack of domestic facilities especially in regard to cooking and household washing arrangements. Lack of harmony and discord under such conditions amongst the families living in such conditions also frequently has serious effect on the happiness of the occupants.

The erection of houses was proceeded with as expeditiously as possible and the following summary indicates the progress which had been made by the end of the year since the resumption of building after the war :—

I. Permanent houses—traditional type :—			
In the course of erection	.....	.....	14
Completed and occupied	.....	.....	88
II. Temporary prefabricated houses—British Industries Steel Federation (B.I.S.F.) type :—			
Completed and occupied	.....	.....	150
III. Temporary prefabricated bungalows :—			
Completed and occupied	.....	.....	250

In addition to the above, 48 houses had been requisitioned and repaired, when necessary, and allocated to families who were inadequately housed.

As the result of inspections carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors, followed by interviews with the owners or the service of informal or statutory notices, 2,203 houses were repaired or defects discovered therein were remedied during the year.

Closing Orders under the Housing Act, 1936, were made in respect of underground rooms in 11 houses.

The following summary gives details of the nuisances and defects remedied in the course of the year :—

1. Slop Sink.

a. Slop sinks repaired or renewed	.....	.....	16
b. Waste pipes repaired or renewed	.....	.....	26

2. Water Closet.

a. Provision of new closet	.....	.....	.....	1
b. Rebuild water closet	.....	.....	.....	8
c. Walls, roofs, doors, floors, etc., repaired				285
d. Flushing appliances repaired or renewed				328
e. Flushing appliances provided	.....	.....		29
f. Pans renewed or provided	.....	.....		183
g. Ventilation provided	.....	.....	.....	—
h. Water supply provided	.....	.....		36
i. Water service pipes repaired	.....	.....		145

3. House

a. External walls, roofs, woodwork, etc., repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,142
b. Internal walls, woodwork, floors, etc., repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	486
c. Dampness abated by removal of earth	.....				1
d. Bedrooms ventilated	.....	.....	.....		1
e. Windows made openable	.....	.....	.....		6
f. Window area increased	.....	.....	.....		—
g. Pantry or food safe provided	.....	.....			2
h. Sufficient light in pantry provided	.....				—
i. Water supply pipes and fittings repaired.....					52

4. **Drains.**

a. Lip trap removed	1
b. Cement well around gully trap	28
c. Grid or cover to gully trap.....	19
d. Renew gully trap	5
e. Ventilating shaft repaired or extended	19
f. Drain ventilated	—
g. Drains unblocked	223
h. Drains repaired	68
i. Drainage of subsoil made good	4
j. Inspection chamber provided	—
k. Inspection chamber repaired or renewed.....	3

5. **Areas.**

a. Repaired	84
b. Repaired and extended	1
c. Steps repaired or renewed	43
d. Boundary walls repaired or renewed	83
e. Retaining walls repaired or renewed	37
6. Shoots and downpipes repaired or affixed anew	680
7. Dilapidated structures repaired or fixed anew	1
8. Structures obstructing light/ventilation of living rooms removed/repaired	5
9. Dampness abated	354
10. Dirty house cleaned	2
11. Fowls removed	1
12. Manure : (a) removed	—
(b) receptacle provided	—
13. Accumulation of refuse removed	5
14. Coals in house or on paving removed	2

HOUSING STATISTICS, 1948.**1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the Year :—**

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) **3,447**

(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose **3,447**

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 **103**

(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose **103**

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation **8**

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation **3,215**

HOUSING—*Continued.*2. **Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :—**

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	1,192
---	-------	-------	-------	-------

3. **Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—**

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs (Section 9)	12
---	-------	-------	----

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners	3
---------------	-------	-------	---

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners (Section 9)	5
---	-------	-------	---

(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2,122
--	-------	-------	-------

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners	992
---------------	-------	-------	-----

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	11
---	-------	-------	----

HOUSING—*Continued.*

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	8
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	4
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	11
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—

**LICENSING OF CIVIL BUILDING WORK : DEFENCE
REGULATION 56 A.**

The licensing of civil building work under the above Regulation continued in operation during 1948 and the Medical Officer of Health acted as licensing officer in respect of works licensable by the local authority.

Under the Control of Building Operations (No.II), Order 1948, which came into force on the 1st July, 1948, the cost of work which could be carried out without a licence was extended from £10 to £100 and local authorities were no longer concerned with applications for licences for work other than that connected with houses or dwellings.

All applications for licences were investigated by the sanitary inspectors in whose districts the works specified in the applications were proposed to be carried out; they also investigated applications for the purchase of controlled materials required in connection with works, the cost of which was within the limits prescribed.

The following summary relates to the licences issued from the beginning of January to the end of June :—

	<i>No. of licences.</i>	<i>Estim- ated cost £</i>
Dwelling houses—		
Repairs	608	25,758
Alterations and additions	50	4,677
Conversions	7	3,622
Painting, Heating facilities, etc.	30	1,023
Garages	12	471
New house	1	1,275
Hotels, Churches, Cinemas, etc.—		
Repairs	73	4,024
Alterations and additions	4	185
Painting	18	1,093
Heating Apparatus	4	247
Shops, Factories, etc.—		
Repairs	101	5,040
Alterations and additions	22	1,205
Painting and glazing	61	1,957
Heating Apparatus	3	135

The number of certificates issued during the above period in respect of controlled materials was 639, whilst 428 applications for timber were forwarded to the Area Officer.

The following particulars relate to licences issued in respect of dwelling houses during the latter half of the year :

	<i>No. of licences.</i>	<i>Estimated cost. £</i>
Repairs	21	5,000
Alterations and additions	66	8,293
Conversions	1	450

There were also 236 certificates issued permitting the purchase of controlled materials used for the repair of dwellings.

SECTION VI.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

MILK.

The numbers of persons carrying on businesses connected with the production, sale or distribution of milk during 1948 were as follow :—

Cowkeepers	18
Cowkeepers and Purveyors of Milk	17
Purveyors of Milk and Milk-shop keepers	75
Non-resident Purveyors of Milk	2

The daily average amount of milk sold in the district amounted to approximately 13,540 gallons, of which only 140 gallons was produced by local cowkeepers. The estimated daily consumption of milk per head of the population was 0.96 pints.

There were 95 premises in the area directly concerned with the production or distribution of milk and the number of visits made by the Sanitary Inspectors to these premises amounted to 1,038.

The number of samples of milk sold as "pasteurised" milk submitted to bacteriological examination during the year was 188 and 179 or 95 per cent. were reported upon as being satisfactory; 9 samples were considered to be unsatisfactory because the Methylene Blue Test gave decolourisation in less than 30 minutes, but in no instance did the phosphatase test give evidence of under pasteurisation or admixture with raw milk.

During the year 80 samples of treated milk were taken at a pasteurising establishment in the district, and the results

of the examinations of these samples were all reported upon as being satisfactory.

Of 21 samples of locally produced milk submitted to bacteriological examination, two were reported upon as being unsatisfactory on account of the presence of B. Coli in 1/100 millilitre ; one of these unsatisfactory samples also gave decolourisation with the Methylene Blue Test in less than 4½ hours. All the locally produced samples of milk were also examined for the presence of tubercle bacilli which were found to be present in only one sample ; the herd on the farm on which this milk was produced was subsequently visited by a Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and a sample of milk obtained from the herd later in the year was found to be free from tubercle bacilli.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations. The following licences in respect of graded milks were issued by the Council under the provisions of the above Regulations during the year under review :—

“ Tuberculin Tested ” Milk—

Dealer's Licence	1
Supplementary Dealer's Licence			1

“ Accredited ” Milk—

Dealer's Licence	1
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“ Pasteurised Milk ”—

Pasteuriser's Licence	1
Dealers' Licences	70

“ Tuberculin-tested Pasteurised ” Milk—

Dealers' Licences	.....	.....	8
Supplementary Dealer's Licence			1

MEAT.

The number of slaughter-houses licensed in the district during 1948 was eight, but nearly all the slaughtering in the area was carried out at the two slaughter-houses situated in Llanfoist Street, Ton Pentre. This concentration of

slaughtering at these slaughter-houses enabled meat inspection to be carried out effectively and one sanitary inspector devoted the whole of his time to this work and was given assistance when considered necessary.

The quantities of meat and offal surrendered and condemned owing to the presence of diseased conditions, etc., were 35,772 lbs. and 53, 818 lbs. respectively, the amounts attributable to tuberculosis being 21,028 lbs. and 12,096 lbs., respectively.

The following table gives a summary of the results of inspection of the carcasses of animals slaughtered in the district during the year :—

Carcasses Inspected and Condemned during the Year 1948.

	Cattle, exclud- ing Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	2,345	920	1,636	21,821	3,535
Number Inspected ...	2,345	920	1,636	21,821	3,535
All diseases EXCEPT Tuberculosis :—					
Whole Carcasses condemned	—	31	1	19	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,625	727	12	2,928	176
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with dis- ease other than Tubercul- osis	69.30	82.39	0.79	13.51	5.06
Tuberculosis only :—					
Whole Carcasses condemned	8	32	1	—	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	93	81	7	—	146
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with Tu- berculosis	4.31	12.28	0.49	—	4.21

During the last four years the meat inspection at the slaughter-houses has been undertaken by Inspector W. R. Thomas and the following table indicates the percentages of carcasses affected with tuberculosis during the above period. It is satisfactory to note that there has been a considerable reduction in the incidence of tuberculosis amongst pigs and also amongst calves; there has, however, been an increased incidence amongst cows whilst the incidence amongst cattle, excluding cows, has fluctuated from year to year.

Percentages of the number of carcasses inspected affected with Tuberculosis.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Cattle excluding Cows.</i>		<i>Cows.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>
1945	..... 3.37	..... 9.94	..... 1.17	..... 10.73
1946	..... 4.42	..... 9.38	..... 1.64	..... 12.72
1947	..... 2.72	..... 10.38	..... 0.61	..... 4.89
1948	..... 4.31	..... 12.28	..... 0.49	..... 4.21

It is probable that the decreased incidence amongst pigs has resulted from the precautions taken in connection with the preparation of pigs food, and that the major proportion of the infection persisting amongst these animals is of avian origin as the result of contamination by birds.

OTHER FOODS.

There are 55 bakehouses in the district, which with few exceptions were of small size. There were no underground bakehouses as defined in the Factories Act, 1937. The Sanitary Inspectors made 351 visits to bakehouses during the year.

A large bacon curing and "cooked meats" products factory was kept under regular supervision by the Sanitary Inspector concerned.

UN SOUND FOOD.

The principal articles of food, apart from meat in slaughter-houses, condemned during the course of the year were as follows :—

	lbs.
Fresh Fish	4,097
Tinned Meat	2,740
Tinned Fruit	2,073
Tinned Milk	1,687
Tinned Vegetables	1,362
Fresh Vegetables	1,186
Tinned Fish	748
Butter	526
Jam, Syrup, Marmalade, etc.	369
Fruit Juice	285
Pickles, Soups, Sauces, etc.	206
Ham and Bacon	195
Dried Fruit	187
Flour, Cake, Cereals, etc.	178
Cheese	133
Eggs	109
Biscuits	85
Chocolate and Confectionery	61
Tea	9
Fresh Fruit	3
Sausage	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
Dried Egg	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Meat Extract	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
Cocoa	$\frac{1}{2}$
	<hr/> 16,246 <hr/>

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The examination of samples of foods taken under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act was undertaken by Mr. D. Evans Jones, M.Sc., F.R.I.C., at the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory.

The total number of samples submitted during the year amounted to 653, consisting of 229 formal samples and 424 informal samples, the details of which are given in the appended summary.

**Summary of Samples submitted to the Public Analysts during
1948.**

Description.	Formal Samples.			Informal Samples.		
	No. sub- mitted.	Results.		No. sub- mitted.	Results.	
		Genuine	Not Genuine		Genuine	Not Genuine
Milk	204	201	3	338	328	10
Full Cream Sweetened Condensed Milk.....	1	1	.....
Full Cream Powdered Milk	1	1	.....
Dried Milk	4	4	.....
Butter	8	8	.....	.....	.....	.....
Margarine	8	8	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cooking Fat	4	4	.....	.....	.....	.....
Vermicelli	1	1	.....
Semolina	3	3	.....
Macaroni	3	3	.....
Ricetti	1	1	.....
Spaghetti	1	1	.....
Soyghetti	2	2	.....
Soycem	2	2	.....
Sago	1	1	.....
Farinoca	3	3	.....
Oatmeal	2	2	.....
Pearl Tapioca.....	1	1	.....
Oats	2	2	.....
Barley Flakes.....	2	2	.....
Rye Pearls	1	1	.....
Golden Raising Flour	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Self Raising Flour	3	3	.....
Cake Flour	1	1	.....
Bun and Cake Flour.....	1	1	.....
Cake and Pudding Mixture	2	.....	2
Baking Powder	2	2	.....
Tea	6	6	.....
Coffee	1	1	.....
Dried Egg	1	1	.....
Canned Peas	2	2	.....
Dried Peas	1	1	.....
Split Peas	1	1	.....
Plum Jam	1	1	.....
Gooseberry Jam	1	1	.....
Canned Gooseberries.....	1	1	.....
Bottled Cherries	1	1	.....
Tomato Juice.....	1	1	.....
Fruit Sauce	1	1	.....
Yorkshire Relish	1	1	.....
Soup	2	2	.....
Vinegar	4	4	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pepper.....	1	1	.....
Fish Paste	5	5	.....
Table Jelly	1	1	.....
Table Jelly Crystals.....	1	1	.....
Orange Squash	2	2	.....
Non-Alcoholic Cyder.....	1	1	.....
Ice Cream	14	14	.....
TOTALS	229	226	3	424	412	12

The reports of the Public Analysts disclosed that three of the formal samples of milk submitted to them during the year were not genuine, representing 1.31 per cent. of the total number of formal samples taken during the year. Legal proceedings were instituted and convictions obtained in two cases, the total sum of fines and costs amounting to £3 8s. 0d., while a warning letter was sent to the vendor in the third case when an "Appeal to Cow" sample was also reported as being not genuine.

Ten informal samples of milk were reported as being not genuine. Two of these cases were followed up by formal samples which proved to be genuine, while in each of the remaining eight cases the sample belonged to a milk vendor not resident in this District and the County Medical Officer was informed so that arrangements could be made to take formal samples.

Two informal samples of cake and pudding mixture were reported as being not genuine, and arrangements were made for the tradesmen's remaining stocks to be withdrawn from sale.

The following statement contains details of the samples reported as not genuine :—

Ref. No.	Description.	Result of Analysis.
(1) Formal Samples.		
S.419	Milk	Deficient in milk fat to the extent of not less than 12 per cent.
S.58	Milk	Deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of not less than 7 per cent.
S.84	Milk	Deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of not less than 8 per cent.

Ref. No.	Description.	Result of Analysis.
(2) Informal Samples.		
497/S	..... Cake and Pudding Mixture	..... Infested with meal mites (Tyrolygphus Farinae).
599/S	..... Cake and Pudding Mixture	..... Infested with meal mites (Tyroglyphus Farinae).
593/S	..... Milk	..... Contained 7 per cent. added water
35/S	..... Milk	..... Deficient in milk fat to the extent of not less than 8 per cent.
40/S	..... Milk	..... Deficient in milk fat to the extent of not less than 8 per cent.
63/S	..... Milk	..... Deficient in milk fat to the extent of not less than 23 per cent.
66/S	..... Milk	..... Deficient in milk fat to the extent of not less than 8 per cent.
94/S	..... Milk	..... Deficient in milk fat to the extent of not less than 9 per cent.
95/S	..... Milk	..... Deficient in milk fat to the extent of not less than 17 per cent.
98/S	..... Milk	..... Deficient in milk fat to the extent of not less than 30 per cent.
100/S	..... Milk	..... Deficient in milk fat to the extent of not less than 18 per cent.
275/S	..... Milk	..... Deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of not less than 10 per cent.

SECTION VII.

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The following table gives particulars relating to notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified in the district during 1948 :—

RHONDDA URBAN DISTRICT.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1948.

Disease.	Cases Notified.										Cases admitted to Hospital.	Deaths																
	All Ages	Under 1 year.	1-2 years.	2-3 years.	3-4 years.	4-5 years.	5-10 years.	10-15 years.	15-20 yrs.	20-35 years.		35-45 yrs.	45-65 years.	65 & over	All Ages.	Under 1 yr.	1-2 years.	2-3 years.	3-4 years.	4-5 years.	5-10 years.	10-15 yrs.	15-20 yrs.	20-35 yrs.	35-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 & over	
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	432	1	12	20	47	41	183	97	15	10	2	3	1	328	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	15	...	1	2	1	...	3	3	3	2	...	...	...	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever (including paratyphoid)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Primary Pneumonia	115	21	6	6	5	1	9	8	5	9	10	25	10	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	15	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	1	1	7	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	29	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever	3	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis	4	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Polio Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anthrax	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	289	30	35	37	58	58	68	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	138	20	22	18	36	18	23	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	1048	78	79	83	147	118	290	112	25	27	19	48	22	388	33	3	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	12	11	

Zymotic Diseases.—The number of deaths attributed to the Zymotic group of diseases, namely, small pox, measles, scarlet fever, whooping cough, diphtheria, diarrhoea, typhoid and continued fever, amounted to seven, comprising one death from measles and six deaths from enteritis which is regarded as synonymous with diarrhoea; no death was certified as due to any of the other diseases included in the zymotic group during the year.

Scarlet Fever.—The number of cases of scarlet fever notified in the district during the year reached a total of 430, representing an incidence rate of 3.8 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

The disease was most prevalent during the first quarter of the year when 203 cases were notified with a maximum monthly number of 69 during February; the lowest prevalence occurred in August, during which month eleven cases were notified. The Ward distribution of the notifications of this disease varied between a maximum of 79 cases from Ward 2 and a minimum number of 18 cases from Ward 9.

The number of cases admitted to the Isolation Hospital during the year was 328, representing 76.3 per cent. of the total number notified.

No death was certified as due to scarlet fever during the year and on the whole the disease was mild in nature with very few complications arising amongst the patients admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

Diphtheria.—During 1948, fifteen persons were notified as suffering from diphtheria and were admitted to the Isolation Hospital where, however, the diagnosis was not confirmed on clinical observation, or by means of bacteriological examinations. It is therefore very satisfactory to note that the district was free from clinical cases of diphtheria during the year under review.

Immunisation against this disease was actively and regularly undertaken amongst the younger members of the population of the district during the year and immunisation clinics were held at the welfare centres and at certain schools or other suitable premises during approximately two sessions per week. As a result of these activities 1,584 children under five years and 290 children between 5 and 15 years received the requisite course of injections for primary immunisation and 1,847 children received secondary or reinforcing injections of the diphtheria anti-gen or prophylactic. At the end of the year it was estimated that approximately 65 per cent. of all children under five years of age in the district had received the full course of injections and 90 per cent. of children between five and fifteen years of age had been similarly treated, the proportion for the whole child population under fifteen years of age treated being 81 per cent.

Enteric Fevers.—No case of typhoid fever or any of the para-typhoid fevers was notified during 1948 and during two years in succession no case of this group of diseases has been notified in the district.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—The number of cases of puerperal pyrexia notified during the year was three, representing a proportion of 1.4 cases per 1,000 live and still births in the district; the infections were not severe and no death occurred amongst the cases notified. On the receipt of the notifications appropriate steps were taken to prevent the spread of infection and midwives in attendance were bacteriologically examined in order to ascertain whether any of them were "carriers" of the haemolytic streptococcus.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.—Three cases of this disease were notified in the district during 1948, but in only two instances was the diagnosis confirmed after bacteriological examination of the cerebro-spinal fluids. The two confirmed cases resided in Ward 7, and both were between one and two years

of age ; the first case was notified in March and the second case in August and no common source of infection or association between the two cases could be traced.

No death was attributed to this disease.

Acute Poliomyelitis.—The number of cases of this disease notified during the year was four, the notifications being received in January, May, September and November respectively.

The case notified in January was a girl of 15 years, residing in Ward 7, and the illness proved rapidly fatal, the cause of death being certified as due to broncho-pneumonia and acute polio-encephalitis. Consequent upon a post-mortem examination, however, it was found that there was no evidence of encephalitis and it was concluded that the death was due to broncho-pneumonia.

The cases notified during May and November were boys aged six years and eleven months, respectively, who resided in Ward 10 ; in both instances there was paralysis in one leg. The case notified in September was a young female child aged one year eight months from Ward 8, and in this instance both legs were severely affected. All the notified cases were admitted to the Isolation Hospital and the three confirmed cases were examined by Mr. Rocyn Jones, F.R.C.S., Orthopaedic Consultant, and treated in accordance with his recommendations ; on discharge, arrangements were made for these children to continue under his supervision at the orthopaedic clinic.

No sources of infection could be traced in respect of any of the cases of poliomyelitis notified in the district during the year.

Acute Encephalitis Lethargica and Acute Polio-encephalitis.—No case of either of these two diseases was notified in the district during 1948. As indicated in a preceding paragraph, one person was certified as having died from acute polio-encephalitis but after a post-mortem examination it was concluded that there was no evidence of polio-encephalitis.

Acute Influenzal Pneumonia. The number of cases of this disease notified in the district during 1948 was 15 ; nine cases were notified during the first three months of the year and the monthly maximum of notifications was four each in March and December, whilst no notification was received during six months of the year, namely, May, June, July, September, October and November. No case was notified from Wards 1, 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9, whilst Ward 5 with five cases provided the largest number amongst the remaining wards of the district.

No death was certified as due to acute influenzal pneumonia during the year under review.

Acute Primary Pneumonia.—The number of notifications of acute primary pneumonia received during the year amounted to 115, representing an incidence rate of 1.02 cases per 1,000 of the estimated population. The disease was most prevalent during the first four months and the last two months of the year with a maximum of 25 notifications in January ; the lowest monthly incidence occurred in October when only one case was notified.

The number of deaths certified as due to pneumonia amounted to 30, giving a death-rate of 0.27 per 1,000 of the estimated population. Sixteen out of the thirty deaths occurred during the last two months of the year with a maximum of nine deaths in December ; no death from pneumonia occurred during May, June and October.

Amongst the eleven wards in the district, Ward 2 with five deaths suffered the highest mortality, whilst Wards 3, 4 and 10, with one death in each, were least affected. The sex distribution of deaths showed an excessive mortality amongst male persons, of whom 21 died, as compared with 9 deaths amongst female persons. The number of children under five years of age who died from pneumonia was five, of whom three were under twelve months old. Amongst other age-groups twelve deaths occurred amongst persons between 45 and 65 years of age and eleven deaths amongst persons over 65 years old.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—The number of cases of ophthalmia neonatorum notified in the Rhondda during 1948 was three, representing an incidence rate of 1.4 cases per 1,000 births. All the notified cases were mild in nature and recovery ensued with no resulting blindness or impairment of vision.

Measles. The number of cases of measles notified in the district during 1948 amounted to 289, of which 248 were notified during the first quarter of the year with a maximum number of 110 cases during January: the lowest monthly incidence occurred during November and December when one case was notified in each of these months.

Amongst the eleven wards in the district, Ward 4 with 67 notifications provided the largest number of cases, whilst Ward 3 with only 3 notifications appeared to be least affected.

One death of a child one year old residing at Ward 2 was certified as due to measles during the year, giving a mortality rate of 0.35 per cent. amongst the cases notified.

Whooping Cough.—During the year under review 141 cases of whooping cough were notified in the district. The disease was most prevalent during December, when 36 cases were notified, and in January and February, during which months 31 and 23 cases were respectively notified.

No notification of a case of whooping cough was received from Ward 3, whilst Ward 7 with 27 notifications provided the largest number amongst the other wards of the district.

No death was certified as due to whooping cough in the district during 1948.

Dysentery.—A female person aged 38 years, residing in Ward 5, was notified as suffering from dysentery during September; the patient was admitted to the Isolation Hospital where the diagnosis was not confirmed.

Erysipelas.—The number of cases of erysipelas notified during the year amounted to 29, the monthly distribution of the notifications varying between a maximum of seven cases during March and a minimum of no case during October. Ward 10 with seven cases suffered the highest incidence, whilst no case was notified from Wards 1, 4 and 6. No death was certified as due to this disease during the year.

Food Poisoning.—No case of food poisoning was notified in the district during the year under review and no information concerning suspected outbreaks was brought to the notice of the Health Department by medical practitioners residing in the area.

Diarrhoea and Enteritis.—No intimation was received from local medical practitioners of the occurrence of any outbreaks of diarrhoea or enteritis in the district during 1948. No death was certified as due to "diarrhoea" whilst six deaths were caused by enteritis. Of these deaths from enteritis four occurred amongst children under one year old, one was of a child in the second year of life and the remaining death was that of a person who was 62 years of age. The deaths from enteritis were evenly distributed amongst the six months—June, July, August, September, October and December. It may be noted that none of the fatal cases of enteritis occurred in a hospital and some of the fatalities might have been avoided if the sufferers had been admitted to hospital for treatment.

Influenza.—The number of deaths certified as due to influenza during the year was seven and though the disease was fairly prevalent during the early part of the year the mortality was reduced to two deaths during January and one death in February ; the remaining four deaths occurred in May, July, September and November. The disease was most fatal in the older age groups—three deaths occurred amongst persons over 65 years of age, a similar number occurred amongst persons between 45 and 65 years of age and the remaining death was of a person who was 39 years old.

Bronchitis.—The number of deaths certified as due to bronchitis during the year amounted to 140, equivalent to a death-rate of 1.24 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The monthly distribution of the deaths varied between a maximum number of 19 deaths during December and a minimum number of 4 deaths during August. Bronchitis continued to cause a higher mortality amongst male persons in the older age groups ; amongst 30 deaths certified in the age-group 45 to 65 years, 23 were of male persons and amongst 92 deaths of persons over 65 years of age 61 were of male persons. Bronchitis also continued to make a substantial contribution to the infantile mortality and nine infants under a year old were certified as having died from this disease.

Silicosis and Pneumoconiosis.—The number of deaths certified as due to these diseases amongst workers in the district during 1948 amounted to 46, of which 35 occurred amongst persons between 45 and 65 years of age, 10 occurred amongst persons over 65 years of age and the remaining death was of a person who was aged 43 years.

The numbers of deaths certified as due to this group of industrial diseases in the district since the beginning of 1937 are indicated in the following table :—

YEAR.	AGE-GROUPS.			TOTAL.
	25 to 45 years.	45 to 65 years.	Over 65 years.	
1937	.....	6	1	7
1938	1	7	2	10
1939	1	9	1	11
1940	4	11	1	16
1941	3	13	5	21
1942	.....	14	3	17
1943	2	18	5	25
1944	5	22	2	29
1945	7	21	4	32
1946	2	14	12	28
1947	2	31	18	51
1948	1	35	10	46

SECTION VIII.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of cases of tuberculosis notified in the district during 1948 amounted to 131, of which 115 were of the pulmonary form of the disease and the remaining 16 were non-pulmonary cases. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 140, 115 and 25, respectively.

The number of persons on the register kept under the provisions of the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations at the end of the year was 964 as indicated in the following summary :—

		<i>Pulmonary.</i>	<i>Non- Pulmonary.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Cases on Register				
1st January, 1948	.....	729	288	1,017
New cases registered during				
the year	.....	127	23	150
		-----	-----	-----
		856	311	1,167
Removed from Register				
during the year	.....	141	62	203
		-----	-----	-----
Cases on Register				
31st December, 1948		715	249	964

The number of deaths certified as due to tuberculosis during the year was 70, equivalent to a death rate of 0.62 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

Of the 70 persons who died from tuberculosis during the year, 19 or 27 per cent. had not been notified to the Health Department as suffering from tuberculosis prior to the dates of death. Amongst these 19 cases, seven of the deaths occurred outside the district and information concerning them was obtained on the receipt of inwardly transferable deaths ; in five instances the disease was associated with pneumoconiosis and was detected as the result of post-mortem examinations ; in three instances the patients had been admitted to the Isolation Hospital as suffering from cerebro-spinal fever but subsequently diagnosed as cases of tubercular meningitis as the result of examinations of the cerebro-spinal fluids shortly before the occurrence of the deaths ; in one instance the certifying practitioner had assumed that the patient had previously been notified in another district where the patient had been under treatment for sometime and in another instance the certifying practitioner had omitted to notify ; in two instances the patients were also suffering from heart disease according to the information given on the death certificates.

No action was required during the year under the provisions of the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, in relation to tubercular persons engaged in the handling of milk or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the removal of persons suffering from tuberculosis to hospital or other institution.

The following table gives a summary of the cases notified and deaths from tuberculosis in the Rhondda Urban District during 1948, divided into age and sex groups as well as into pulmonary and non-pulmonary forms ;—

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Under 1 year ...	2	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
1 to 5 years ...	.....	2	5	1	1	.....	1	.....
5 to 10 years ...	1	2	.....	1	1	.....	.....	1
10 to 15 years ...	3	2	2	2	.....	1	1	.....
15 to 20 years ...	5	13	.....	.....	1	1	1	3
20 to 25 years ...	4	15	1	2	2	5	.....	1
25 to 35 years ...	16	18	.....	1	6	7	1	.....
35 to 45 years ...	10	5	1	.....	8	5	1	.....
45 to 55 years ...	11	1	.....	.....	11	1	.....	.....
55 to 65 years ...	1	1	.....	.....	5	2	.....	.....
65 and upwards	2	1	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....
TOTALS ...	55	60	9	7	38	22	5	5

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.—The number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified in the district during the year was 115, representing an incidence rate of 1.02 cases per 1,000 of the estimated population. The ward distribution of the notified cases varied between a maximum number of 18 cases each in Wards 8 and 11, and a minimum number of 4 cases from Ward 7.

The number of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis was 60, giving a death rate of 0.53 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The ward distribution of the deaths varied between a maximum of twelve deaths in Ward 10 and a minimum of one death from Ward 7.

The above table shows that pulmonary tuberculosis was more prevalent amongst female persons in the adolescent age groups up to 35 years of age, whilst above this age the disease was more prevalent amongst male persons. The male sex suffered greater mortality from tuberculosis, especially in the age group ranging from 45 to 55 years; it may be noted that 17 out of the 22 deaths amongst female persons occurred at ages within the range of 20 and 45 years.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.—The number of cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis notified in the district was 16. Amongst the eleven wards the largest number was notified from Wards 9 and 10 with four cases in each ; no case was notified from Wards 3, 4, 5 and 7. The principal sites of infection amongst the notified cases were—cervical glands in four instances, meninges and joints in three cases each and the abdominal organs in two cases. No child under one year old was notified as suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis, but six children between one and five years of age were notified and five cases were between 5 and 15 years of age. The incidence amongst male persons was slightly higher than amongst females, 9 of the notified cases being males as compared with 7 females.

The number of deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis during the year was 10, of which 6 were due to meningeal infection whilst in three instances, the kidneys, abdominal organs and spine respectively were primarily affected and the remaining death was caused by miliary tuberculosis. No death from any of the non-pulmonary forms of tuberculosis occurred in Wards 3, 4, 6, 5, 7 and 8, whilst Ward 2, with four deaths, suffered the highest mortality amongst the remaining wards of the district. Amongst the various age groups it may be noted that five deaths occurred amongst persons between 15 and 25 years of age and three of these were due to tuberculosis of the meninges and two deaths also due to tubercular meningitis occurred in children between 5 and 15 years of age.

non-pulmonary tuberculosis. The number of cases of
 tuberculosis of the lungs in the district was 10.
 Amongst the cases the largest number was notified
 from Ward 10, 11 and 12, in 1911, the number
 notified from Ward 3, 4, 5 and 7. The principal sites of
 infection amongst the notified cases were the glands
 in the neck, testicles and joints in three cases each and
 the abdominal organs in two cases. No child under 15
 years old was notified as suffering from non-pulmonary
 tuberculosis, but six children between one and five years of
 age were notified and two cases were notified between 5 and 15 years
 of age. The number amongst male persons was slightly
 higher than amongst females, 8 of the notified cases being
 males as compared with 7 females.

The number of deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis
 during the year was 10, of which 4 were due to scrofulous
 infection whilst in three instances the kidneys, abdominal
 organs and in two respectively were primarily affected and the
 remaining deaths were caused by tubercular meningitis. No
 death from any of the non-pulmonary forms of tuberculosis
 occurred in Ward 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8 whilst Ward 10, 11 and 12
 notified the highest mortality amongst the remaining
 wards of the district. Amongst the various age groups it
 may be noted that five deaths amongst persons between
 between 15 and 25 years of age and three of these were due
 to tuberculous meningitis amongst children between 5 and 15
 years of age.

The number of deaths from tuberculosis of the lungs
 during the year was 10, of which 4 were due to scrofulous
 infection whilst in three instances the kidneys, abdominal
 organs and in two respectively were primarily affected and the
 remaining deaths were caused by tubercular meningitis. No
 death from any of the non-pulmonary forms of tuberculosis
 occurred in Ward 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8 whilst Ward 10, 11 and 12
 notified the highest mortality amongst the remaining
 wards of the district. Amongst the various age groups it
 may be noted that five deaths amongst persons between
 between 15 and 25 years of age and three of these were due
 to tuberculous meningitis amongst children between 5 and 15
 years of age.

TABLE I
 Year Statistics of White Voters during 1945 and previous
 years

Year	Total number of white voters in District		Total number of white voters in District in 1945		Total number of white voters in District in 1945	Total number of white voters in District in 1945	Total number of white voters in District in 1945	Total number of white voters in District in 1945
	1945	1944	1945	1944				
1945	128,400	128,400	128,400	128,400	128,400	128,400	128,400	128,400
1944	118,800	118,800	118,800	118,800	118,800	118,800	118,800	118,800
1943	112,000	112,000	112,000	112,000	112,000	112,000	112,000	112,000
1942	104,800	104,800	104,800	104,800	104,800	104,800	104,800	104,800
1941	97,600	97,600	97,600	97,600	97,600	97,600	97,600	97,600
1940	90,400	90,400	90,400	90,400	90,400	90,400	90,400	90,400
1939	83,200	83,200	83,200	83,200	83,200	83,200	83,200	83,200
1938	76,000	76,000	76,000	76,000	76,000	76,000	76,000	76,000
1937	68,800	68,800	68,800	68,800	68,800	68,800	68,800	68,800
1936	61,600	61,600	61,600	61,600	61,600	61,600	61,600	61,600
1935	54,400	54,400	54,400	54,400	54,400	54,400	54,400	54,400
1934	47,200	47,200	47,200	47,200	47,200	47,200	47,200	47,200
1933	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000

APPENDIX

The table is arranged to show the total number of white voters in the district and the total number of white voters in the district in 1945. The total number of white voters in the district in 1945 is 128,400. The total number of white voters in the district in 1944 is 118,800. The total number of white voters in the district in 1943 is 112,000. The total number of white voters in the district in 1942 is 104,800. The total number of white voters in the district in 1941 is 97,600. The total number of white voters in the district in 1940 is 90,400. The total number of white voters in the district in 1939 is 83,200. The total number of white voters in the district in 1938 is 76,000. The total number of white voters in the district in 1937 is 68,800. The total number of white voters in the district in 1936 is 61,600. The total number of white voters in the district in 1935 is 54,400. The total number of white voters in the district in 1934 is 47,200. The total number of white voters in the district in 1933 is 40,000.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1948 and previous years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.			Total Deaths registered in District.		Transferable Deaths.		Net Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Net.		Number.	Rate.	Of Non-Residents registered in the District.	Of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 yr. of age		At all ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1000 net Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1941	123,460	2,352	2,149	17.4	1,832	14.8	115	188	170	79	1,905	15.4
1942	116,600	2,309	2,106	18.1	1,471	12.6	117	189	134	64	1,543	13.2
1943	113,500	2,128	1,933	17.0	1,435	12.6	92	186	104	54	1,529	13.5
1944	118,230	2,243	2,034	17.2	1,402	11.9	91	171	104	51	1,482	12.5
1945	116,480	2,218	2,019	17.3	1,444	12.4	84	187	108	53	1,547	13.3
1946	113,120	2,543	2,220	19.6	1,408	12.4	94	178	95	43	1,492	13.1
1947	111,840	2,838	2,363	21.1	1,544	13.8	54	214	122	52	1,704	15.2
1948	112,800	2,602	2,077	18.4	1,211	10.7	45	242	83	40	1,408	12.5

NOTES.—This table is arranged to show the gross births and deaths in the district and the births and deaths properly belonging to it with the corresponding rates.

Rates in Columns 5, 7, and 13 are calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

The deaths included in Column 6 are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district. The deaths included in Column 12 are the number in Column 6, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 8 and the addition of the number in Column 9. Deaths in Column 10 are similarly corrected by the subtraction of deaths under one included in the number given in Column 8 and by the addition of the deaths under one included in the number given in Column 9.

"Transferable Deaths" are deaths of persons who, having a fixed or usual residence in England or Wales, die in a district other than that in which they resided.

Area of District in acres
(exclusive of area covered
by water) } 23,886.

TABLE III.—Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1948—(Continued on two next pages).

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Deaths in or belonging to the whole District at subjoined ages.											Deaths in or belonging to Wards (at all ages.)											Total Deaths whether of Residents of Non-Residents in Public Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Ward 1.	Ward 2.	Ward 3.	Ward 4.	Ward 5.	Ward 6.	Ward 7.	Ward 8.	Ward 9.	Ward 10.	Ward 11.	22		
																						2	
Cols. 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	158	
All Causes (Certified)	1402	83	11	9	15	33	115	392	744	135	164	93	118	99	146	116	155	104	116	156	158		
Uncertified	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	4	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	2	1	.....	1	.....	
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3. Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
4. Whooping Cough	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5. Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	60	1	1	1	2	9	26	19	2	7	4	4	8	2	9	1	4	5	12	4	.....	.....
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	10	.....	.....	1	2	5	2	.....	.....	1	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	.....	.....
8. Syphilitic Disease	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....
9. Influenza	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	3	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....
10. Measles	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
13. M. Cancer of buccal cavity and Oesophagus (males only)	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	5	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
13F. Cancer of Uterus	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	2	.....	.....	3	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....

TABLE III.—Continued.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
14. Cancer of Stomach & Duodenum	43							5	16	22	7	7	2	1	2	2	2	3	3	5	9	4
15. Cancer of Breast	19							3	9	7	2	2		2	1	2	4		1	2	3	3
16. Cancer of all other sites	116			1			2	9	43	60	10	10	7	12	15	12	4	12	13	9	12	17
17. Diabetes	13							1	6	6	1	1	4	1	1			3	1		1	3
18. Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	134		2					1	30	101	15	17	5	10	10	19	9	17	8	10	14	11
19. Heart Disease	390				1	1	3	16	101	268	21	43	27	39	21	42	38	53	26	32	48	21
20. Other diseases of the Circulatory System	33								7	26	2	2	2	1	3	1	6	7	5	3	1	9
21. Bronchitis	140		9	2			1	6	30	92	20	15	20	9	8	11	11	15	7	7	17	5
22. Pneumonia	30		3	1	1			2	12	11	3	5	1	1	2	3	4	2	4	1	4	2
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	61			1				4	40	16	5	5	3	6	4	4	5	6	10	7	6	5
24. Ulceration of the Stomach or Duodenum	10								4	6	1			2	1	1		2		1	2	1
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	5		4	1												1		2	1		1	
26. Appendicitis	6					3			1	1			1	1		2			1	1		3
27. Other Digestive Diseases	23		4		1			1	7	10	4	5		4		2	1	3	2	1	1	8
28. Nephritis	32						1	6	13	12	5	5	3	1	2	5	3	3	1		4	3
29. Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis																						
30. Other Maternal Causes	5						1	4							1	1	2			1		3
31. Premature Birth	27		27								3	2	1	2	3	1	1	7		3	4	12
32. Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease	26		25		1						1	1	1	1	1	4	4	3	3	3	4	10
33. Suicide	9							2	4	3		3		1			1	1	1	1	1	1
34. Road Traffic Accidents	3				1		2									2					1	1
35. Other violent causes	39		3	1	1	1	5	8	7	13	7	7	1	4	3	4	2	3	3	2	3	10
36. All other causes	142		5	2	1	6	3	15	30	80	20	22	8	11	17	15	13	10	8	10	8	18
Rhondda	1408	83	11	9	15	33	116	393	748	135	165	93	119	99	146	116	157	105	116	157	157	158

TABLE III.—Continued.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
sub-entries included in above figures.																					
7. Tuberculous Meningitis	5			1	2	2					3								1	1	4
General Tuberculosis	1					1					1									1	
16. Sarcoma	4			1		1														1	2
20. Arterio Sclerosis	23							2	21	1	3	2		3	1	4	6	3	3	1	5
22. Broncho Pneumonia	15	1						6	7	2	1	1		1	1	1	2	3	1	2	1
Lobar Pneumonia	12	1	1				2	4	4	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	1
23. Silicosis and Pneumoconiosis	46						1	35	10	4	3	3	4	3	2	5	3	7	7	5	1
27. Diarrhoea, etc. (over 2 years)	1							1		1											
32. Congenital Debility																					
Congenital Malformations	11	10									1	1		1	1	2	1	3	1		
Atelectasis	6	6								1	3			2	2	1	1		2	1	2
35. Colliery Accidents	16					2	7	6	1	2			2	2	2	1	1		2	1	3
Erysipelas																			1		4
Rheumatic Fever	11				2	2	4	2	1	3	1	1	2		4		1				2
Pernicious Anaemia	8							2	6	1	1	2				1			1	2	
Convulsions	3	2	1							1									2		1
Old Age	53								53	8	11	2	3	8	5	6	4	2	3	1	2

TABLE IV.—Continued.

Cols.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Acute Intussuscep- tion			1			1			1										1
Volvulus									1										1
Pyloric Hypertrophy Mal-rotation of gut Enlarged Thyroid Haemolytic Disease of New-born Jaundice		1				1													1
Congenital Laryng- geal Stenosis			1			1													1
Other congenital malformations		1				1	1		1		1								4
Overlying							1				1								1
Strangulation in cot Asphyxia from in- halation of vomit Cardiac Respiratory Failure								1				1							1
TOTAL		42	6	3	4	55	5	3	4	3	2	3	2	2		3	1	83	

TABLE V.
(TABLE S.D. 30 of the Registrar-General).

Causes of Death in Rhondda Urban District during 1948.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Males.	Females.
ALL CAUSES	834	590
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	36	24
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	4	6
8. Syphilitic Diseases	5	—
9. Influenza	5	3
10. Measles	—	1
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—	—
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis	—	1
13M. Cancer of buccal cavity and Oesophagus (Males only)	9	—
13F. Cancer of Uterus	—	11
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	37	8
15. Cancer of Breast	1	18
16. Cancer of all other sites	71	50
17. Diabetes	6	9
18. Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	70	63
19. Heart Disease	223	172
20. Other diseases of Circulatory System	22	18
21. Bronchitis	88	45
22. Pneumonia	19	9
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	66	2
24. Ulceration of the Stomach or Duodenum	9	2
25. Diarrhoea (under two years)	3	2
26. Appendicitis	4	3
27. Other Digestive Diseases	12	10
28. Nephritis	21	12
29. Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis	—	1
30. Other Maternal causes	—	4
31. Premature Births	20	5
32. Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury and Infantile disease	14	17
33. Suicide	4	5
34. Road Traffic Accidents	2	1
35. Other violent causes	25	17
36. All other causes	58	71
Deaths of Infants under 1 year—		
Total	52	31
Legitimate	50	30
Illegitimate	2	1
LIVE BIRTHS—		
Total	1,056	1,045
Legitimate	1,018	1,014
Illegitimate	38	31
STILL BIRTHS—		
Total	35	13
Legitimate	34	13
Illegitimate	1	—
Population		112,800

TABLE VI. Rhondda Urban District—Vital Statistics.

Year	Infantile Mortality	Still-birth Rate	Maternal Mortality (per 1,000 live births)		
			Puerperal Sepsis	Other Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	Total Maternal Mortality
1901	222	75.9	4.6	4.4	9.0
1902	179	67.5	4.7	3.4	8.1
1903	159	68.0	2.2	3.7	5.9
1904	190	61.9	1.9	4.3	6.2
1905	199	78.7	0.9	2.5	3.4
1906	173	67.9	1.7	4.4	6.1
1907	162	71.6	3.3	4.8	8.1
1908	184	64.9	2.0	3.3	5.3
1909	130	60.4	0.9	3.6	4.5
1910	137	57.0	1.2	4.4	5.6
1911	164	53.2	1.5	2.7	4.2
1912	127	51.2	1.0	3.4	4.4
1913	139	59.9	2.4	4.9	7.3
1914	137	62.1	1.3	3.0	4.3
1915	114	51.6	1.6	3.6	5.2
1916	105	51.3	1.8	2.7	4.5
1917	103	56.9	1.7	6.5	8.2
1918	103	46.7	0.9	3.7	4.6
1919	111	48.1	1.2	6.1	7.3
1920	104	44.8	1.5	4.2	5.7
1921	110	49.6	2.3	3.9	6.2
1922	81	55.6	1.4	4.1	5.5
1923	85	60.8	3.4	5.3	8.7
1924	80	54.1	1.2	4.0	5.2
1925	96	54.8	1.3	3.6	4.9
1926	69	58.5	0.6	4.7	5.3
1927	85	55.3	1.4	2.0	3.4
1928	77	62.1	2.4	5.5	7.9
1929	83	63.8	1.1	4.6	5.7
1930	82	60.5	2.2	2.9	5.1
1931	79	68.0	4.8	2.6	7.4
1932	69	67.2	2.6	4.9	7.5
1933	89	67.2	4.1	2.4	6.5
1934	63	58.1	4.0	6.8	10.8
1935	70	49.8	4.1	0.9	5.0
1936	57	57.3	3.9	2.4	6.3
1937	65	43.1	0.0	2.1	2.1
1938	67	44.0	1.1	2.2	3.3
1939	66	53.0	1.6	3.8	5.4
1940	60	50.6	1.0	4.1	5.1
1941	79	40.2	1.4	3.2	4.6
1942	64	39.2	0.5	2.8	3.3
1943	55	39.7	1.5	4.7	6.2
1944	51	38.3	1.5	2.4	3.9
1945	53	35.4	1.0	3.0	4.0
1946	43	29.3	0.0	1.8	1.8
1947	52	25.6	0.0	1.7	1.7
1948	40	23.0	0.0	2.4	2.4

Rhondda Urban District Council
COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION.

THE
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
District
School Medical Officer

TO THE
Rhondda
Committee for Education

For the year 1948.

Rhondda Urban District Council

Committee for Education.

- Councillor EVAN JOHN OAKLEY, J.P. (*Chairman*).
„ EDWARD JOHN WILLIAMS.
„ JOSEPH HENRY LEWIS.
„ IORWERTH RHYS THOMAS.
„ LLEWELLYN DAVIES.
„ GLYN LEWIS WALES, J.P.
„ JOHN GLYNDWR ELIAS.
„ THOMAS RICHARDS.
„ CLIFFORD LAWTHOM.
„ WILLIAM SAMUEL LANE, J.P.
„ SIDNEY MITCHELL, J.P.
„ MARK HARCOMBE, B.E.M.
„ OWEN JAMES BUCKLEY, J.P.
„ RONALD MATTHEWS.
„ LEWIS BOWEN ROTHERO.
„ Mrs. ANNIE MAY VAUGHAN.
„ Mrs. LILLIE ANNIE HUGHES, J.P.
„ IOAN WILLIAMS.
„ GEORGE EDWARD MASLIN.
„ THOMAS MORTON BROOKES.
„ DAVID PHILLIPS.
„ EVAN EDWARDS.

Co-opted Members :

- Mr. IVOR DAY.
„ T. DUGGAN.
„ T. M. EVANS.
„ J. D. LEWIS.
„ A. V. ALLDAY.

Nominated Members :

- County Alderman SIDNEY CADOGAN, J.P.
„ „ ALFRED EVANS, J.P.
„ „ RHYS EVANS, J.P.

Clerk to the Committee D. J. JONES, O.B.E., Solicitor.
District Education Officer W. MORRIS JONES, M.A., M.Sc.
Architect ELI TAYLOR, Surveyor.

District School Medical Officer :

D. J. THOMAS, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.),
 L.R.C.P. (Lond.), B.Sc. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Lond.).

Assistant School Medical Officers :

EILEEN JOYCE EVANS, M.B., B.Ch. (Wales).

*JOY ALINE MACGREGOR, M.B., B.Ch. (Wales).

For portion of the year :—

JOHN REACH, M.D. (Prague).

PHOEBE MEGAN JOAN GRIFFITHS, M.B., B.Ch.
 (Wales).

WINIFRED LI. ACRAMAN, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P.
 (Lond.).

EDGAR CLIFFORD POWELL, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P.
 (Lond.).

Specialist Officers (part time) :—

Ophthalmic Surgeon —

J. W. GLENTON MYLER, F.R.C.S. (Eng.), D.P.H. (Lond.).

Orthopaedic Surgeon—

NATHAN ROCYN JONES, M.D. (Cantab), F.R.C.S.(Edin.),

Assistant Dental Surgeons :—

MARGARET E. BYRNE, B.D.S. (Ireland).

ALUN RHYDDERCH OWEN, L.D.S. (R.C.S., England)
 (for portion of year).

Lay Administrative Officer :

T. J. REES.

Lady Supervisor of Welfare Centres and School Nurses :

(e.g.h.) *LILIAN MORGAN.

School Nurses :

			<i>District No.</i>
(g.)	*ELIZABETH HUGHES	.....	3
(g.)	*EDITH M. WATKINS	.....	2
(g.h.)	*ELIZABETH ISRAEL	.....	9
(e.)	*EDITH VIOLET GIBSON	.....	1
(e.g.h.)	*EDITH STEPHENS	.....	7
(g.h.)	*MYFANWY BUCKLEY	.....	4
(g.h.)	*SARAH HANNAH DAVIES	.....	11
(e.g.h.)	*GWYNETH M. GRIFFITHS	.....	10
(e.g.h.)	*EIRWEN BONNER	.....	—
(e.g.)	*ADA JACKSON	.....	8
(e.g.h.)	*GWENLLIAN WILLIAMS	.....	—
(e.g.h.)	*EVELYN B. HENSHAW	.....	5
(g.h.)	*BEATRICE M. LLOYD	.....	—
(e.g.h.)	*CATHERINE DAVIES	.....	---
(e.g.h.)	*JANE A. JONES	.....	---
(e.h.)	*ROSA E. JONES	.....	---

For portion of the year :—

(e.g.h.)	*MYRA E. PHILLIPS.	.....	—
(e.g.h.)	*MARGARET DANIEL.	.....	—
(e.g.h.i.)	*MARY BETTY OWEN.	.....	6
	*MARGARET ELEANOR DAVIES.	.....	—

Dental Attendants :

CONSTANCE T. HARRISON.

GWYNETH ATKINS.

HANNAH M. EDWARDS (part year).

OLWEN HUMPHREYS (part year).

Clerks :

A. M. EVANS.
A. G. EVANS.
ISLWYN JONES.

NOTES.

- (a.) Holds the Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate granted by the Royal Sanitary Institute.
- (b.) Holds the Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate granted by the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.
- (c.) Holds the Meat Inspectors' Certificate granted by the Royal Sanitary Institute.
- (d.) Holds the Certificate in Sanitary Science granted by the Royal Sanitary Institute.
- (e.) Holds the New Health Visitors' Certificate approved by the Ministry of Health.
- (f.) Holds the Health Visitors' Certificate granted by the Royal Sanitary Institute.
- (g.) Holds the Midwives' Certificate granted by the Central Midwives Board.
- (h.) Has Nursing experience.
- (i.) Holds Certificate in Obstetric Analgesia.
- (j.) Holds Certificate of Chartered Society of Physiotherapy in Massage and Medical Gymnastics.
- (k.) Holds Certificate of Chartered Society of Physiotherapy in Light and Electro-Therapy.
- (l.) Holds Certificate of Chartered Society of Physiotherapy in Medical Electricity and Medical Hydrology.
- (m.) Holds Certificate of Chartered Society of Physiotherapy in Medical Electricity.

Rhondda Urban District Council

COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION

To the Chairman and Members of the Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the School Health Service in the Rhondda Urban District during the year ended 31st December, 1948.

The records relating to medical inspections and the assessment of nutritional and physical condition of the school children during 1948 compared favourably with the corresponding records for previous years; the provision of mid-day dinners and milk in the schools has undoubtedly had a favourable influence in the continuation of the improvement of the general condition of the children.

It is also satisfactory to report that the incidence of infectious diseases was comparatively low during the year and no case of diphtheria occurred amongst the school population, of which over 90 per cent. have undergone the full course of injections for immunisation against this disease.

The year was eventful in the history of the school health service because on the 5th July, the National Health Service Act, 1946, came into operation and the arrangements, which previously existed and whereby the Education Authority was able to secure the treatment of school children, were modified to the extent that the treatment or investigation of defects could only be obtained on the request or intervention of the family medical attendants. The severance of direct contact with hospitals may cause a certain amount of diminution in the clinical interest taken by members of the school medical staff in the defects discovered amongst school children and may create an impression amongst parents that the medical staff are not sufficiently qualified to decide whether a child requires treatment in a hospital or not. The Education Authority was, however, allowed to continue with the treatment of minor ailments

at the clinics and to make use of the services of an ophthalmic surgeon to ascertain errors of refraction and prescribe glasses; the arrangements made for regular visits to the Carnegie Welfare Centre by an orthopaedic consultant also continued to operate.

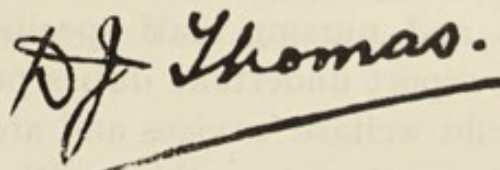
Another unfortunate sequel of the operation of the Act was the postponement of the resuscitation of the school dental service; this service had been seriously understaffed in the district for some years and the more favourable financial awards offered to dental practitioners in the Regulations made under the Act prevented the recruitment of dental surgeons into the school and other dental services provided by local authorities.

Though the clinical interest and scope of the work of the school health service has been curtailed in some directions, it will in future be possible to extend the work of the school health service in many important respects, such as to impress on parents the value of securing treatment of defects in the early stages and to urge them to take full advantage of the services provided for their children under the Act, to promote the welfare of all handicapped children so that their treatment and educational needs may be provided for, and to concentrate more effectively on all the preventive aspects of the school health service.

I have much pleasure in acknowledging the willing co-operation of all members of the staff of the school health service, of head-teachers and their staffs and of many others who are interested in the welfare of the children in the district.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "J. Thomas." The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

District School Medical Officer.

TYDFIL HOUSE,
PENTRE, RHONDDA.

Rhondda Urban District Council

GENERAL INFORMATION.

The total number of children on the registers of the schools controlled by the Rhondda District Education Committee at the end of 1948 amounted to 20,784, representing an increase of 515 children as compared with the corresponding number at the end of the previous year. The above-mentioned total number of children comprised 290 children in the Ynyscynon and Alaw Nursery Schools, 13,486 children in the primary schools and 7,008 pupils in the secondary (modern, grammar and technical) schools.

There was no alteration in the numbers of schools and departments during the course of the year.

1.—ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF.

The District School Medical Officer is also Medical Officer of Health for the Rhondda Urban District, and, as and from the 5th July, is also Divisional Medical Officer for the Rhondda Division in respect of the services relating to mothers and children, health visiting, etc., administered by the County Council under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946. It is therefore possible to exercise unified control over the public health and school health services in the district and the members of the medical, dental and nursing staff specified at the commencement of this report undertake duties pertaining to the maternity and child welfare services and are therefore enabled to take an active interest in the health of children from birth to the school-leaving age.

2.—CO-ORDINATION.

As indicated in the preceding paragraph, the allocation of the duties of the staff engaged in the maternity and child welfare services and the school health services enabled complete co-ordination of the supervision of children of all ages, up to school-leaving age, in the district.

(a) *Infant and Child Welfare.*—During the year, 2,229 children between one and five years of age attended the child welfare centres and the health visitors, who are also school nurses, made 16,106 visits to the homes of children in this age group.

(b) *Nursery Schools.*—The Ynyscynon and Alaw Nursery Schools, which provide accommodation for children between two and seven years of age, were visited at least once a month by members of the medical staff and at least once weekly by members of the nursing staff.

Nursery classes, which have been organised in the infants' departments of other schools in the district, were attended by 2,844 children under five years at the end of the year, and the school nursing staff also paid special attention to the children attending these classes.

(c) *Care of debilitated children under school age.*—The ascertainment and general care of debilitated and defective children under school age were undertaken at the child welfare clinics and by the school nurses during their visits to the homes, and, when necessary, parents were urged to obtain treatment from the family medical practitioners.

The numbers of children under five years of age and not attending school who received treatment under the various schemes administered by the Authority were as follow :—

Dental Treatment	.....	.....	.....	.....	84
Examined at Eye Clinics	.....	.....	.....	.....	18
Provided with Spectacles	.....	.....	.....	.....	9

Orthopaedic Treatment at Clinics	.....	.....	149
Orthopaedic in-patient treatment at Prince of Wales Hospital, Cardiff.....	.....	.....	3
Ultra-violet Light Treatment at Clinics	.....	.....	20

3.—HYGIENIC CONDITION OF SCHOOLS.

The hygienic condition of the schools in the district was maintained in a satisfactory state having regard to the difficulties arising from the scarcity of materials and labour which have persisted since the end of the war. Serious defects observed by the medical staff during their visits to the schools were brought to the notice of the responsible officer of the Authority.

4.—SCOPE OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Routine medical inspection was limited to the three groups specified in paragraph 49 (2) of the Handicapped Pupils and School Health Services Regulations, 1945, namely :—

- (1) First Group—comprising children who were examined as soon as possible after admission to a maintained school ;
- (2) Second Group—comprising children who were in their last year of attendance at a maintained Primary School ;
and
- (3) Third Group—comprising pupils in their last year of attendance in a maintained Secondary School.

In addition to the above, a large number of children, who were not due to be examined as members of the above groups, were examined at the request of parents or head-teachers and were designated as " Specials " and a small number of children were examined as " Tuberculosis Contacts " being members of families or households wherein cases of tuberculosis were known to occur.

In the course of routine visits a number of children, who had been found to be defective at previous visits, were re-examined.

5.—FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The number of children submitted to routine medical inspection during the year amounted to 5,357, comprising 2,513 children in the entrant group, 1,603 children in the second age group and 1,236 pupils in the third age group. In addition, 1,806 children were examined as "specials" and 7,598 children were re-examined, making a grand total of 14,761 examinations.

Amongst the 5,357 children examined in the three age groups it was found that 1,305, or 24.4 per cent. were found to be suffering from defects other than subnormal nutrition, uncleanliness or dental defects, the respective proportions in the entrant, second and third age groups being 21.2, 28.7 and 25.9 per cent.

(a) *Uncleanliness.* Amongst the children medically examined in the code groups 396, or 7.4 per cent., were found to have unclean heads and 236, or 4.4 per cent., had unclean bodies; the corresponding proportions recorded during the previous year were 8.5 and 1.7 per cent., respectively.

Cleanliness surveys were also undertaken by the school nurses and each department was surveyed at least once during each of the principal terms of the year. The nurses made 43,243 examinations of children during these surveys and pediculi or lice were found in the hair in 0.2 per cent. of the examinations, nits or ova in 6.2 per cent. and unclean bodies or clothing in 0.3 per cent.; the corresponding percentages recorded in the previous year were 0.2, 6.4 and 0.2 respectively. After each survey the nurses visited the homes of those children who were found to be unsatisfactory and gave advice on suitable methods for cleansing; a number

of children were also cleansed at the clinics. At the visits of re-inspection, later in the terms, it was found that there was a substantial reduction in the incidence of uncleanliness.

(b) *General Condition.* The assessment of the general condition of the children was largely based on their nutritional state, colour of the mucous membranes and state of alertness and each child examined during routine medical inspection was classified as being in a "good," "fair" or "poor" general condition according to the judgment of the examining medical officer. Of the 5,357 children in the three age groups thus assessed it was found that 65.3 per cent. were in a "good" general condition, 32 per cent. were regarded as being "fair" and 1.9 per cent. were in a "poor" condition.

The subjoined table amplifies Table II. B. in the appendix to the extent of indicating the general condition of boys and girls separately :—

Classification of the General Condition of Children inspected during the year 1948.

Age-Groups		Number of Children inspected	Good		Fair		Poor	
			No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.
Entrants	Boys	1,255	889	70.8	341	27.2	25	2.0
	Girls	1,258	871	69.2	364	28.9	23	1.8
	Total	2,513	1,760	70.0	705	28.1	48	1.9
Second Age-group	Boys	926	508	54.9	402	43.4	16	1.7
	Girls	682	414	60.7	244	35.8	24	3.5
	Total	1,608	932	57.8	646	39.6	40	2.6
Third Age-group	Boys	708	397	56.1	301	42.5	10	1.4
	Girls	528	404	76.5	121	22.9	3	0.6
	Total	1,236	801	66.3	422	32.7	13	1.0
Totals	Boys	2,889	1,794	62.1	1,044	36.1	51	1.8
	Girls	2,468	1,689	68.5	729	29.5	50	2.0
Grand Totals		5,357	3,483	65.3	1,773	32.8	101	1.9

TABLE of average Heights, Weights, and Chest Measurements of Children medically examined during 1948.

Age in Years.	Sex.	No. of children.		Heights. (English in inches Metric in Centi- meters).	Weights. (English in lbs. Metric in Kilo- grams)	Chest Measure- ments (Inches and Centimetres.
2 to 3	Boys	18	English Metric	35.18 89.36	31.59 14.33	21.08 53.56
	Girls	10	English Metric	34.80 88.40	30.56 13.86	
3 to 4	Boys	404	English Metric	38.12 96.85	35.58 16.14	21.41 54.39
	Girls	405	English Metric	37.82 96.07	34.21 15.52	
4 to 5	Boys	421	English Metric	40.07 101.62	38.53 17.38	21.65 54.99
	Girls	430	English Metric	39.70 100.85	37.32 16.93	
5 to 6	Boys	255	English Metric	42.63 108.27	42.53 19.28	22.30 56.65
	Girls	258	English Metric	42.19 107.17	40.19 18.23	
6 to 7	Boys	99	English Metric	45.06 114.45	46.21 20.96	22.49 57.14
	Girls	110	English Metric	44.41 112.81	45.52 20.65	
7 to 8	Boys	11	English Metric	46.83 118.95	51.74 23.47	23.78 60.60
	Girls	20	English Metric	45.64 115.93	51.23 23.24	

TABLE of average Heights, Weights, and Chest Measurements of Children medically examined during 1948—Continued.

Age in Years.	Sex.	No. of Children.		Heights. English in inches. Metric in Centi- metres).	Weights. (English in lbs. Metric in Kilo- grams).	Chest Measure- ments (Inches and Centimetres)
8 to 9	Girls	2	English	48.23	46.85	
			Metric	122.50	21.25	
9 to 10	Boys	12	English	50.79	60.58	24.41
			Metric	129.02	27.48	62.00
	Girls	13	English	50.48	58.42	
			Metric	128.22	26.50	
10 to 11	Boys	437	English	52.73	67.76	25.92
			Metric	133.93	30.73	65.84
	Girls	301	English	52.61	68.12	
			Metric	133.64	30.90	
11 to 12	Boys	372	English	54.05	71.27	26.38
			Metric	137.29	32.34	67.02
	Girls	366	English	54.18	72.35	
			Metric	137.62	32.82	
12 to 13	Boys	46	English	56.31	78.09	27.59
			Metric	143.02	35.42	70.08
	Girls	51	English	56.29	79.32	
			Metric	142.98	35.99	
13 to 14	Boys	25	English	58.62	86.37	29.45
			Metric	148.89	39.18	74.80
	Girls	14	English	56.89	88.65	
			Metric	144.89	40.11	
14 to 15	Boys	373	English	60.95	99.98	30.67
			Metric	154.81	45.35	77.90
	Girls	309	English	60.86	106.96	
			Metric	154.58	48.52	
15 to 16	Boys	52	English	61.41	106.15	31.40
			Metric	155.96	48.15	79.76
	Girls	63	English	61.02	104.10	
			Metric	154.98	47.22	
16 to 17	Girls	1	English	60.63	99.43	
			Metric	154.00	45.10	

(c) *Minor Ailments.* The number of children in the code and special groups found to be suffering from minor ailments such as skin diseases, external eye disease, sores, superficial injuries, burns, etc., amounted to 475. These children were referred for treatment at the minor ailment clinics or the parents were advised to seek treatment from the family medical attendants.

(d) *Tonsils and Adenoids.* Amongst the 5,357 children examined in the three age groups, 1216 or 22.7 per cent. were found to have enlarged tonsils and adenoids either alone or in combination ; of this number it was considered that 168, representing 3.1 per cent. of the total examined, required operative treatment whilst it was recommended that the remaining 1048 children should be kept under further observation. Amongst the 1806 children who were examined as "specials" 94 were considered to require operative treatment for enlarged tonsils and/or adenoids and 76 were referred for further observation.

(e) *Tuberculosis.* No child was diagnosed as suffering from or suspected to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis during the year under review. It was found, however, that one child, who was examined in one of the age groups, and two of the children, who were examined as "specials," were suffering from tubercular infection of the glands of the neck.

(f) *Skin Diseases.* The number of children examined in the code groups found to be suffering from skin diseases was 171, of whom 19 or 0.35 per cent. were diagnosed as suffering from scabies and 18 or 0.34 per cent. were suffering from impetigo ; the corresponding percentages ascertained in the previous year were 1.1 and 0.4 respectively.

During the year 9 children were found to be suffering from ringworm, the scalp being affected in five instances and the body in the remaining four cases,

(g) *External Eye Disease.* Blepharitis or inflammation of the eyelids was found in 26 or 0.5 per cent. of the children examined in the code groups; other conditions such as conjunctivitis, corneal opacities, etc., were found in 20 or 0.4 per cent. of the children similarly examined.

(h) *Defective Vision and Squint.* Defective vision amounting to six-twelfths or worse in one or both eyes was found in 354 or 6.6 per cent. of the children examined in the code groups and recommended for examination for refractive errors; in these groups a further 158 children were found to have defective vision and recommended for further observation. Amongst the children examined as "specials" 138 children were found to have defective vision to the above extent and recommended for examination for refractive errors and 17 were recommended for further observation.

Strabismus or squint of varying degrees was found amongst 82 children examined in the three age groups and 53 of these children were recommended for treatment and 29 for further observation. Amongst the children who were examined as "specials" 8 were found to be suffering from squint and referred for treatment and one recommended to be kept under observation.

(i) *Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.*—The number of children who were found to be suffering from otitis media or other disease of the ear was 53, of whom 28 were discovered in the code groups, giving an incidence rate of 0.52 per cent.

Defective hearing was discovered amongst 37 or 0.69 per cent. of the children examined in the three age groups.

(j) *Dental Defects.*—The school dental staff devoted 23 sessions to dental inspections in the schools and undertook the primary examinations of 677 children of 8 years and under and the re-examination of 1,233 children of 15 years or under; of this total of 1,910 children inspected in the schools 74.6 per cent. were referred for treatment.

6.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There was no undue prevalence of the notifiable infectious diseases amongst children of school age during the year under review with the exception of scarlet fever, of which 280 cases were notified amongst children between 5 and 15 years of age. This disease was most prevalent during the first quarter of the year, and Ward 2 was most severely affected; all the cases were comparatively mild in nature and no death occurred.

Six children of school age were notified as suffering from diphtheria but the diagnosis was not confirmed in any of these notified cases. At the end of the year it was estimated that 90.1 per cent. of children between 5 and 15 years of age attending the schools in the district had completed the course of immunisation against diphtheria.

No child was notified as suffering from cerebro-spinal fever during the year but one child of six years was notified as suffering from acute poliomyelitis; the illness in this instance was not severe and there was evidence of transient weakness of one lower limb.

In the records relating to the causes of death and ages at death of persons resident in the district it is noted that 15 children between 5 and 15 years of age died during the year; four of these deaths were due to tuberculosis, three were due to appendicitis and two were caused by rheumatic fever.

7.—FOLLOWING UP.

After the discovery of defects amongst children inspected in the schools letters were forwarded to the parents advising them to consult their family medical practitioners with the view to obtaining treatment or to take such action as was considered desirable. The school nurses also visited the homes to offer advice and, when necessary, to urge the parents to obtain treatment for the children and to give any assistance which was within their capabilities.

In the course of the year the school nurses attended at routine medical inspections during 330 school sessions and made 168 special visits to schools for other purposes, attended at clinics during 113 sessions and made 10,978 visits to children's homes.

8.—MEDICAL TREATMENT.

(a) *Minor Ailments.*—On the re-examination of 475 children who had previously been suffering from one or more "minor ailments" it was found that 147 or 30.9 per cent. had received treatment other than that provided at the Authority's clinics.

The treatment of these conditions was undertaken at the school clinics under the supervision of the medical staff and the appended statement gives a summary of the work done during the year.

<i>Condition treated.</i>	<i>No. of Attendances.</i>
Ringworm of body	42
Ringworm of scalp	124
Scabies	750
Impetigo	807
Other skin diseases	787
Eye defects	119
Ear defects	182
Other minor ailments	441
Uncleanliness—head	53
	3,305

The number of individual children treated at the clinic^s amounted to 886.

(b) *Tonsils and Adenoids.*—The Authority's arrangements for the operative treatment of children suffering from chronic tonsillitis and enlarged adenoids continued in force

until the 4th July, and the numbers of children operated upon at the three local hospitals during this period were as follow :—

	<i>No. of Children treated.</i>		
Treherbert Hospital	41
Pentwyn Hospital	67
Llwynypia Hospital	7
			—
			115
			—

The re-examinations carried out in the schools showed that 170 other children had received operative treatment under the supervision or on the recommendation of the family medical attendants during the year and 190 children had received other forms of treatment so that the total number of children who had received treatment during the year amounted to 305.

(c) *Tuberculosis*.—School children found to be suffering or suspected to be suffering from tuberculosis were referred to the family medical attendants who usually sought the assistance of the tuberculosis officers of the Welsh National Memorial Association in establishing the diagnosis and arranging for institutional treatment when necessary.

(d) *Skin Diseases*.—It was found on re-examination that 62 children had received treatment of skin affections at the hands of the family medical attendants in addition to those recorded as having been treated at the Authority's minor ailment clinics.

(e) *External Eye Diseases*.—The re-examination of 51 children previously recorded as suffering from external eye diseases showed that 34 had received appropriate treatment.

(f) *Vision*.—The number of children examined in respect of suspected errors of refraction by Dr. J. W. Glenton Myler, F.R.C.S., at the eye clinics amounted to 1339, and 1100 or 82.2 per cent. were provided with prescriptions for appropriate glasses. Amongst these latter group of children 197 were provided with glasses free of cost by the Education Committee prior to the 5th July and it was ascertained that 287 children subsequently obtained glasses under the National Health Service arrangements so that a total number of 484 children obtained glasses during the year as the result of examinations at the Authority's clinics.

In addition to the above, 3 children were provided with glasses consequent upon private arrangements made by the parents.

(g) *Ear Disease and Defective Hearing*.—Amongst 81 children who were re-examined on account of ear defects it was found that 36 or 44.4 per cent. had received appropriate treatment and the conditions were reported to be cured.

(h) *Dental Defects*.—During the year 1,910 children were examined or re-examined by the dental staff in the schools, of whom 74.6 per cent. were referred for treatment and a further group of 3,982 children were examined at the dental clinics or schools as "specials" and were all referred for treatment. All the children in the latter group received treatment at the dental clinics during the year whilst 728 children in the former group received appropriate treatment at the clinics, making a grand total of 4,710 children actually treated during the year. The details of the treatment given are contained in the following table and in Table V (Appendix) and it is noted that general anaesthetics were administered on 3,831 occasions for the purpose of extractions and that conservative work was reduced as compared with emergency work as indicated by the number of fillings and extractions.

Dental Inspection and Treatment, 1948.

Schools.	No. of Pupils.						No. of Teeth.			General Anaesthetic (Nitrous Oxide)
	Examined.		Referred for Treatment.		Presented for Treatment.		Extracted.	Filled.	Dressed.	
	Boys	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.				
Dunraven .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24	11	113	132	56	53
Treherbert	86	78	50	41	42	37	57	.....	449	22
Penyreglyn	248	241	202	205	32	28	130	2	16	48
Ynyswen.....	86	88	62	68	62	70	133	12	568	57
Pentre .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	53	26	1
Ton .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	81	79	254	316	467	127
Gelli	174	156	141	129	97	90	187	2	491	78
Bodringallt	169	171	113	135	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pontrhondda	112	124	94	105	20	19	42	.....	34	21
Ferndale	225	.....	116	.....	.....	84	26	95	10	22
Pentre Grammar	35	46	35	46	35	46	139	180	101	81
Tonypandy Grammar	9	48	9	48	9	48	43	7	26	28
Porth Grammar.....	13	43	13	43	13	43	54	15	14	23
Ferndale Grammar	52	83	52	83	52	83	60	349	65	38
Porth Intermediate	36	93	36	93	36	93	85	11	19	56
Rhondda Technical	21	.....	21	.....	21	.....	33	21	12	18
Other Schools	1569	1886	1569	1886	1569	1886	6356	951	937	3158
Totals	2835	3057	2513	2882	2093	2617	7714	2146	3291	3831

(i) *Crippling Defects and Orthopaedics.* During the year Mr. N. Rocyn Jones, F.R.C.S., the Authority's Orthopaedic Consultant, continued to conduct special clinics at the Carnegie Welfare Centre, Trealaw, at approximately monthly intervals and the following is a summary of the cases seen by him :—

(a) Primary Cases :—

Talipes (Club Foot)	2
Spinal Curvature	3
Paralysis	2
Genu Valgum or Varum	14
Torticollis	1
Pes Valgus	25
Pes Cavus	4
Perthe's Disease	1
Injuries or other defects	22

74

(b) Re-examinations

74

Total Examinations and re-examinations 148

In the course of the year nine children were admitted to the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Cardiff, for in-patient treatment, whilst 148 children received treatment at the clinic at the Carnegie Welfare Centre, Trealaw, as indicated below :—

Attendances for remedial exercises	495
Attendances for electrical treatment	395
Attendances for massage	172
Boots adjusted or repaired	100
Plasters applied	16
Plasters removed	19
Splints provided	5
Appliances provided	18
Appliances altered or repaired	15

(f) *Ultra-violet Light Treatment.*—The administration of ultra-violet light treatment at the clinics was restricted because no member of the nursing staff was suitably qualified to administer the treatment. The Superintendent-Physiotherapist at the Rheumatic Clinic at the Carnegie Welfare Centre, Trealaw, was, however, able to devote a small portion of her time to this work and treated 7 children who made 68 attendances for this purpose. In four instances the treatment was given on account of anaemia and debility whilst the other three cases suffered from psoriasis, the treatment being given on the recommendation of a skin specialist.

9.—OPEN-AIR EDUCATION.

No open-air school has been established in the district and one can only re-iterate the hope that, when the prospects of improvement in economic conditions appear, early consideration will be given to structural alterations in the schools in the district so that existing class-rooms may be converted into open-air class-rooms in most of the schools in the district.

10.—PHYSICAL TRAINING.

There was no change in the arrangements for organised physical training in the schools during the year under review. The development of this aspect of the educational service in the district is handicapped by the lack of suitable playgrounds and playing fields as well as by insufficient facilities for the changing of clothes and provision of shower-baths in the schools.

11.—PROVISION OF MEALS.

During the year the five central school kitchens situated at Treorchy, Ystrad, Penygraig, Porth, and Ferndale, each capable of an output of 2,000 meals a day, continued in full operation. One of the secondary grammar schools, one primary school and each of the nursery schools also had their own kitchens for the purpose of supplying meals to the children at their respective schools. The distribution of the central kitchens enabled meals to be provided at all the schools in the district but the total output of meals was not sufficient to provide for the needs of all the children who were desirous of participating in the school meals service or who should be offered school meals.

According to figures kindly supplied by Mr. W. Morris Jones, District Education Officer, the number of mid-day meals provided in the schools during the year amounted to 1,899,554, of which 1,132,482 were served on payment and the remainder were supplied free. The highest number of children who received meals free of cost in any one week was 3,847 and on payment 6,161.

In addition to the provision of mid-day dinners a supply of pasteurised milk was available free of cost to the children in all schools in the district. The total number of milk meals consumed during the year amounted to 3,316,971 and the largest number of children receiving milk in any one week was 17,351.

The following table gives a summary of the mid-day meals or dinners and milk meals provided in the schools in the district since 1938 ; the expenditure and labour entailed in the provision of meals and milk in the schools during recent years have undoubtedly had a favourable influence in maintaining and improving the nutritional and general condition of the school children.

Year.	Dinners or Mid-day Meals.	Milk Meals.
1938	66,752	2,087,602
1939	29,307	1,502,417
1940	19,808	1,553,508
1941	20,204	1,674,032
1942	78,534	1,082,365
1943	554,160	1,518,645
1944	1,782,571	4,372,656
1945	2,072,844	3,693,090
1946	1,937,703	3,598,594
1947	1,819,136	3,022,768
1948	1,899,554	3,316,971

12.—SCHOOL BATHS.

No school in the district has been provided with a swimming bath but during the summer months organised parties from many of the primary and most of the secondary schools made extensive use of the open-air baths situated at Treherbert, Ystrad, Porth and Ferndale. These baths are supervised by superintendents who are experienced swimmers and hold life-saving certificates, whilst the water is purified by constant filtration and chlorination. As the result of instruction given to the children comprising these parties, 439 children were successful in obtaining the learner's certificate, 141 gained the proficiency certificate and 72 children were granted the advanced certificate of proficiency in swimming.

13, 14, 15, 16.—CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS, TEACHERS ATTENDANCE OFFICERS AND VOLUNTARY BODIES.

The parents or guardians of children were informed of the visits of the medical staff to the schools and invited to be present; many parents took advantage of these invitations and there was evidence of increasing interest on the part of parents in the welfare of their children and promptness in securing medical advice in regard to the treatment of defects found at medical inspections.

The co-operation of the head-teachers and their staffs continued to be readily available and information was frequently received concerning children who required urgent attention; the attendance officers likewise were in frequent contact with the Department in respect of children who needed special supervision.

The local resident inspector of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, as in previous years, deserved much credit for his willing co-operation and perseverance in securing the treatment and improved parental care of school children in instances where parents were neglectful or appeared to be indifferent to the welfare of their children.

17.—HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

The number of children regarded as belonging to the various categories of handicapped pupils, as indicated in Table III (Appendix), amounted to 1,098, representing 53 per 1,000 of the school population. The number of children classified as "delicate" is unduly high but it may be noted that a large proportion of such children who are in the older age groups have suffered from defects during the greater portion of their school careers, and would undoubtedly benefit by appropriate treatment and by education, at least for a temporary period, in an open-air school.

18.—NURSERY SCHOOLS.

The Ynyscynon and Alaw Nursery Schools situated at Trealaw provide accommodation for children between two and seven years of age and at the end of the year there were 290 children on the registers.

Members of the nursing staff visited these schools regularly each week and medical staff paid monthly visits. Every child was medically examined as soon as possible after admission and subjected to routine medical examination at least once a year.

19.—CONTINUATION SCHOOLS.

A large number of evening classes were organised in the schools during the two autumn and spring terms but the activities of the school health service did not embrace the supervision of the health of the pupils who attended these classes.

20.—JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT.

During the year eight children of school age were medically examined in order to ascertain their physical condition prior to employment in entertainments in accordance with the provisions of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1933, and the appropriate medical certificate was issued in each instance. No application for the employment of a school child in any other capacity was received during the year.

21.—SPECIAL ENQUIRIES.

No special enquiry relating to matters concerned with the school health service was undertaken during the year under review.

22.—MISCELLANEOUS WORK.

The following summary gives information concerning miscellaneous work which was carried out by the school medical staff during the year and which consisted of the examination of and reports upon:—

1. *Examinations at Clinics.*

- (a) 96 children owing to persistent non-attendance at school.
- (b) 14 children at the request and for the guidance of the magistrates at the local Police Courts.
- (c) 643 children referred by teachers or attendance officers.
- (d) 227 children ear-marked by the medical inspectors themselves for more detailed and thorough examinations.
- (e) 493 children drawn from the above categories and referred for further examinations or re-examinations.
- (f) 8 children for certification under the Employment of Children in Entertainment Rules.
- (g) 13 boarded-out children—primary examinations ;
and
- (h) 59 boarded-out children—re-examinations.

2. *Examinations at Schools.*

- (a) 1,078 children regarding their fitness for admission to various establishments, such as holiday camps

TABLE I

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Number of Inspections in the Prescribed Groups	Total
2,313	
1,608	
1,730	
4,651	

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections	Number of Re-inspections	Total
2,308	1,738	4,046

APPENDIX

2.—CHILDREN FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT

Number of individual children found to require medical inspection to secure treatment excluding Defects of Nutrition, Wrist-Ankle, and Dental Diseases.

NOTE—No individual child is counted more than once in any column of this table. In counting a child's deficiencies, those deficiencies which are listed in Column 2 are counted only once in Column 2 and not again in Column 1. Similarly, a child suffering from two or more other than dental defects is counted only once in Column 1 and once in Column 2.

Group	For dental defects only (see Table II, A)		Total
	(1)	(2)	
Boys	11	252	263
Girls	204	279	483
Total	215	531	746

TABLE I.

Return of Medical Inspections.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups.

Entrants	2,513
Second Age Group	1,608
Third Age Group	1,236
Total	5,357

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	1,806
Number of Re-Inspections	7,598
Total	9,404

C.—CHILDREN FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Number of *individual children* found at *Routine* Medical Inspection to require Treatment (excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness, and Dental Diseases).

NOTE—No individual child is counted more than once in any column of this Table; for example, a child suffering from defective vision and from adenoids appears once in Column 2, once in Column 3 and *once only* in Column 4. Similarly a child suffering from two defects other than defective vision appears once only in Column 3 and once in Column 4.

Group.	For defective vision (excluding squint).	For all other conditions recorded in Table II A.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants	11	528	534
Second Age Group	204	279	461
Third Age Group	139	194	310
TOTAL	354	1,001	1,305

TABLE II.

A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection.

Defect or Disease.	Routine Inspections		Special Inspections,		
	No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.		
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment.	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
Skin	(1) Ringworm—Scalp	4	1	—	—
	(2) „ Body	4	—	1	—
	(3) Scabies	19	—	7	—
	(4) Impetigo	18	—	3	—
	(5) Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous)	71	54	9	2
	TOTAL Heads 1 to 5)	116	55	20	2
Eye	(6) Blepharitis.....	26	15	5	2
	(7) Conjunctivitis	2	—	—	—
	(8) Keratitis	2	—	—	—
	(9) Corneal Opacities.....	—	—	—	—
	(10) Other Conditions (excluding Defective Vision and Squint)	16	12	12	1
	TOTAL (Heads 6 to 10)	46	27	17	3
Ear	(11) Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	354	158	138	17
	(12) Squint	53	29	8	1
	(13) Defective Hearing	24	4	9	—
Ear	(14) Otitis Media	13	6	13	—
	(15) Other Ear Diseases	6	3	9	3
Nose and Throat	(16) Chronic Tonsillitis only	95	701	65	48
	(17) Adenoids only	9	15	4	1
	(18) Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids	64	332	25	27
	(19) Other Conditions	5	7	4	1
(20) Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous)	84	1137	48	103	
(21) Defective Speech	22	27	37	4	

Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection—Continued.

Defect or Disease.		Routine Inspections.		Special Inspections.	
		No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
		Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment.	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
Heart and Circulation.	Heart Disease :—				
	(22) Organic	16	141	10	24
	(23) Functional	2	147	1	7
	(24) Anaemia	110	27	22	1
Lungs	(25) Bronchitis	126	52	4	4
	(26) Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases	15	35	4	7
	Pulmonary :—				
	(27) Definite	—	—	—	—
	(28) Suspected	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary :—				
	(29) Glands	—	1	2	3
	(30) Bones and Joints	—	—	—	—
	(31) Skin	—	—	—	—
	(32) Other Forms	2	—	—	—
TOTAL (Heads 29 to 32)		2	1	2	3
Nervous System	(33) Epilepsy	1	—	3	2
	(34) Chorea	—	—	—	—
	(35) Mental Deficiency	—	—	—	—
	(36) Other Conditions	10	10	7	11
Orthopaedic	(37) Posture	117	21	22	8
	(38) Flat Foot	84	93	5	2
	(39) Other Forms	80	85	18	9
Developmental	(40) Rickets	56	56	6	—
	(41) Hernia	5	8	—	2
	(42) Other	20	105	6	14
Psychological	(43) Development	6	13	6	8
	(44) Stability	—	5	—	7
(45) Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases)		37	78	9	18
Total number of Defects		1,578	3,378	522	317

TABLE II.

B.—Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups.

Age-Groups.	Number of Children Inspected.	A		B		C	
		Good		Fair		Poor	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	2513	1760	70.0	705	28.0	48	1.9
Second Age-group	1608	922	57.3	646	40.2	40	2.5
Third Age-group	1236	801	64.8	422	34.1	13	1.1
Other Routine Inspections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	5357	3483	65.0	1773	33.1	101	1.9

TABLE III.—Return of all Handicapped Children in the Area.

	At Certified Schools for the		At Certified Schools for the		At other Certified Special Schools.	At Public Primary and Secondary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
	Blind.	Partially Sighted.	Deaf.	Partially Deaf.					
Blind	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	3
Partially Sighted	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Deaf .....	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Partially Deaf .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	46	.....	.....	46
Delicate .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	687	.....	.....	687
Diabetic .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	2
Educationally Sub-Normal .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	86	.....	.....	88
Epileptic .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	17	.....	.....	19
Maladjusted .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8	.....	.....	8
Physically Handicapped .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	90	.....	.....	90
Children with Speech Defects .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	134	.....	.....	134
Children suffering from Multiple Disabilities .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	11	.....	.....	12
TOTALS ...	5	—	6	—	5	1081	—	1	1096

TABLE IV.—TREATMENT.

Disease or Defect.	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness)			
Skin :—			
Ringworm-Scalp—			
(i.) X-Ray Treatment	—	—	—
(ii.) Other Treatment	9	—	9
Ringworm-Body ...	40	—	40
Scabies ...	212	1	213
Impetigo ...	249	4	253
Other Skin Disease ...	186	57	243
Minor Eye Defects :— (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.) ...			
	36	34	70
Minor Ear Defects ...			
	51	36	87
Miscellaneous. (e.g. Minor injuries, bruises, sores, chil-blains, etc.) ...			
	72	15	87
Total ...	855	147	1002
Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint.			
Errors of Refraction (including Squint) ...	1339	3	1342
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes	36	3	39
Total	1375	6	1381
No. of Children for whom spectacles were :—			
(a) Prescribed ...	1100	3	1103
(b) Obtained ...	484	3	487

TABLE IV.
Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

	Number of Defects.				Total.
	Tonsils only.	Adenoids only.	Tonsils and Adenoids.	Other Defects.	
Received Operative Treatment :—					
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital	—	—	115	—	115
By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	115	—	115
Received other Forms of Treatment					190
Total Number treated... ..					305

TABLE IV.
Group IV.—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

	Number of children treated :—	
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.
Residential treatment with education.....	—	—
Residential treatment without education	—	1
Non-residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic	110	147
Total number of children treated		258

TABLE V.

Dental Inspection and Treatment.

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist—

	Years.	Primary Exam- inations.	Re- Exam- inations.	Totals	
(a) Routine Age Groups	Under 5—	285	29	314	
	5.....	147	53	200	
	6.....	142	80	222	
	7.....	103	130	233	
	8.....	—	190	190	
	9.....	—	210	210	
	10.....	—	225	225	
	11.....	—	124	124	
	12.....	—	64	64	
	13.....	—	61	61	
	14.....	—	47	47	
	15.....	—	19	19	
			677	1232	1909
	(b) Specials (Primary, 1275, Re-examinations, 2707)				3982
	(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials)				5892
(2) Number found to require treatment				5395	
(3) Number actually treated				4710	
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment				7928	
(5) Half-days devoted to :—					
Inspection				23	
Treatment				482	
				505	
(6) Fillings :—					
Permanent Teeth				2032	
Temporary Teeth				114	
				2146	
(7) Extractions :—					
Permanent Teeth				1395	
Temporary Teeth				6309	
				7704	
(8) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions				3831	
(9) Other operations :—					
Permanent Teeth				1094	
Temporary Teeth				2194	
				3291	

TABLE VI.**Group VI.—Uncleanliness and verminous conditions.**

(i.) Average number of visits per School made during the year by the School Nurses	...	...	3
(ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	...	...	46,202
(iii.) Number of individual children found unclean	...		1,137
(iv.) Number of individual children cleansed under Section 54 (4) and (5) of the Education Act, 1944	...		—
(v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—			
(a) Under the Education Act, 1944	..		—
(b) Under School Attendance Bye-laws	..		—

Statement of the number of children notified during the year ended 31st December, 1948, by the Local Education Authority to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority.

DIAGNOSIS.	Boys.	Girls.
1). Children incapable of receiving education at School :—	1	1
(2). Children requiring supervision after leaving School :—	—	—
Total number of children notified - —	1	1





Rhondda Urban District Council

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

District
School Medical Officer

For the year 1948.

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