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URBAN DISTRICT OF RHYMNEY

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WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH,  
RECEIVED  
23 JUN 1958

A.

ANNUAL  
REPORT

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OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1957.



# URBAN DISTRICT OF RHYMNEY

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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## ANNUAL REPORT

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OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1957.

**RHYMNEY**  
**URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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Chairman (1957) . . . Councillor D. A. Moseley, J.P.  
Vice-Chairman (1957) . . . Councillor David Thomas  
Clerk and Accountant to the Council  
R. K. Lacey Esq., A.I.M.T.A., D.P.A.

**Members :**

Upper Ward :	Middle Ward :
Councillor P. E. Jones	Councillor Norman Gilbert
Councillor R. I. Doyle	Councillor D. Thomas
Councillor E. J. Davies	Councillor K. Wilkins
Councillor Mrs. A. Harris	

Lower Ward :	Abertysswg Ward :
Councillor D. A. Moseley, J.P.	Councillor Roger Williams
Councillor W. H. Barter	Councillor J. Brewer
Councillor T. E. Thomas	Councillor W. Perry

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority  
and Particulars of Duties (as requested in Circular 1/54 Wales).

Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. M. J. DONELAN, M.B., B.CH., D.PH.

Public Health Inspector etc. - Whole Time :

G. R. DAVIES, M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

Certified Public Health Inspector, and Certified Inspector of Meat  
and other Foods, The Royal Society of Health.

Public Health Inspector ; Inspector of Meat and other Foods ;  
Public Cleansing Officer ; Shop Acts Inspector ; Rodent Officer ;  
Petroleum Officer.

**To the Chairman and Members of the  
Rhymney Urban District Council.**

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Mr. Chairman and Members,

We beg to submit the Annual Report on the vital statistics and Sanitary conditions of your district for the year 1957. This has been prepared as indicated in Circular 1/1958 (Wales), dated 13th January, 1958.

**Statistics and Social Conditions in the Area.**

The District is situated at the top of the Rhymney Valley, in the north west corner of Monmouthshire, a small portion of the upper end being in the southern extremity of the County of Breconshire. On the west it is separated from Glamorgan and the Urban District of Gellygaer by the River Rhymney; on the east by the Tysswg Brook and the Urban District of Tredegar; on the north by Breconshire, and on the south by the Urban District of Bedwelty. It covers an area of 2,648 acres. For all administrative purposes, the whole area is included in the County of Monmouthshire.

Coalmining is the chief industry, and many of the workmen are employed in the collieries situated outside the Urban area. Pit-head baths for the workmen employed at McLaren Colliery, Abertwsswg, were opened during 1957.

Over the years the Council have from time to time expressed their concern over the need for alternative light employment for men who have had to give up colliery work through industrial disease or injury.

**Clothing Factory.** As is usual in this type of factory, it is female labour that is chiefly employed. Prior to 1948 there was no factory employment (except a little at Rhymney Brewery) available for females in the area.

**Rhymney Engineering Works.** Although the only means of road transport to and from this factory is through our district, it is actually situated in the Urban District of Gellygaer.

Population at Census, 1921 .....	11,690
Population at Census, 1931 .....	10,506
Population at Census, 1951 .....	9,134

Estimated Resident Population supplied Yearly by the Registrar General over the last 22 years.

1936	...	...	9,900	1947	..	...	8,694
1937	...	...	9,576	1948	...	...	9,058
1938	...	...	9,437	1949	..	...	9,137
1939	...	...	9,260	1950	...	...	9,070
1940	...	...	9,625	1951	...	...	9,049
1941	..	...	9,814	1952	..	...	9,006
1942	...	...	9,233	1953	..	...	8,980
1943	...	...	9,101	1954	..	...	8,920
1944	..	...	8,881	1955	..	...	8,856
1945	..	...	8,762	1956	..	...	8,790
1946	...	...	8,773	1957	...	...	8,790

The statistics for 1957 are based upon the estimated resident population of 8,790 as supplied by the Registrar General.

Rateable Value (as at 31st March, 1957) ...	£43,782
Penny Rate Product (Year Ended 31st March, 1957) .....	£161/19/10
Area of District in Acres .....	2,648

**Live Births.**

	Total Males		Females	
Legitimate	142	68	74	Birth-rate per 1,000 of
Illegitimate	3	1	2	the population .....
				16.49

Out of the total of 145 births, 78 of the births took place in hospitals or outside the area.

**Still Births.**

	Total Male		Female	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	Rate per 1,000 total live
Legitimate	5	3	2	and still-births .....
				33.3

The Still-Birth Rate for England and Wales per 1,000 total live and still-births is 22.4.

The Still-Birth rate per 1,000 of the population is 0.56 and for Monmouthshire 0.51.

**Deaths.**

Death Rate per 1,000 of the Population .....	11.8	Total Male	104	Females	69	35
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Number of women dying in the consequence of childbirth: Nil.

The Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births is Nil; for the County 0.70, and for England and Wales 0.47.

It is very satisfactory to note that there were no deaths in respect of pregnancy, childbirth or abortion, and that births exceeded deaths by 41.

### Deaths under 1 year of age.

	Sex	Age	Cause of Death
(1)	Male	Two Days	Prematurity
(2)	Female	Fifteen Hours	Prematurity
(3)	Male	Four Months	Convulsions
(4)	Male	Six Months	Convulsions
(5)	Male	Nine Hours	Asphyxia Neonatorum
(6)	Female	Six Months	Hydrocephalus

Death Rate for Infants under one year of age per 1,000 live-births is 41.4.

There were 6 deaths under one year of age. (All legitimate births).

### Statistics for England and Wales, etc., 1956.

	Death Rate (all causes)	Live Birth Rate per 1,000 total Population	Total Deaths under 1 year (Rate per 1,000 Live Births)
England and Wales ...	11.5	16.1	23.0
Monmouthshire ...	11.96	17.07	30.98
Rhymney ...	11.8	16.49	41.4

The death rate at all ages is 0.3 more than for England and Wales, and 0.16 less than the County Rate. Death rate under 1 year of age is 18.4 more than the rate for England and Wales, and 1.42 more than the County Rate. The birth rate is 0.39 more than that for England and Wales, and 0.58 under that of the County.

For the year 1956, the Death Rate (all ages) was 10.8; the Birth Rate 15.69, and the Infant Death Rate 28.9.



**Table of Births and Deaths for the past 21 years  
and comparison with the Rates for England and Wales**

Year	GENERAL DEATH RATE		INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE		BIRTH RATE	
	Rhymney	England & Wales	Rhymney	England & Wales	Rhymney	England & Wales
1937	13.5	12.4	110.3	58.0	15.2	14.9
1938	13.3	11.6	27.9	53.0	18.96	15.1
1939	14.02	12.1	27.02	50.0	15.3	15.0
1940	13.7	14.3	51.7	55.0	17.5	14.6
1941	12.9	12.9	43.2	59.0	15.18	14.2
1942	14.18	11.6	91.8	49.0	20.04	15.8
1943	11.09	12.1	80.16	49.0	21.53	16.5
1944	12.9	11.6	78.83	46.0	21.5	17.6
1945	11.9	11.4	76.9	46.0	16.3	16.1
1946	13.5	11.5	78.3	43.0	18.9	19.1
1947	11.3	12.0	44.2	41.0	20.8	20.5
1948	12.6	10.8	64.8	34.0	20.4	17.9
1949	14.3	11.7	50.0	32.0	17.5	16.7
1950	12.5	11.6	66.6	29.8	19.8	15.8
1951	14.6	12.5	73.5	29.6	15.02	15.5
1952	11.8	11.3	8.06	27.6	13.7	15.3
1953	11.58	11.4	27.7	26.8	16.03	15.5
1954	11.65	11.3	38.2	25.4	14.6	15.2
1955	12.76	11.7	50.0	24.9	13.5	15.0
1956	10.8	11.7	28.9	23.8	15.69	15.7
1957	11.8	11.5	41.4	23.0	16.49	16.1

Deaths from Measles (all ages) .....	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) .....	0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .....	12
Deaths from Heart Diseases .....	44
Particulars of unusual or excessive mortality during the year .....	None

**HOSPITALS.** The National Health Service, Act 1946, lays on the Minister of Health the duty of providing hospital and specialist services.

The Minister discharges this duty principally through Regional Hospital Boards, acting as his agents. For the control and management (i.e. for the whole business of day to day administration) of groups of hospitals. Hospital Management Committees in turn act as agents of the Regional Board.

The Rhymney and Sirhowy Valleys Hospital Management Committee is responsible for the control and management of hospitals, chest clinics, etc., in the area.

## Admission of Patients to Hospital.

**GENERAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL CONDITIONS.** The Family doctor (1) arranges admission of the acute emergency direct with the hospital, and (2) refers the non-urgent case to be seen as an out-patient. If considered necessary, hospitals outside the group can also be used by arrangement, as in the NEW SERVICE, there are no territorial boundaries.

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES.** Arrangements for admission are made through the Local Authority Health Department as considered necessary.

**MATERNITY.** Cases are admitted by direct arrangements between the Ante-Natal Clinic Doctor and the County Infirmary.

**TUBERCULOSIS.** Reference by the family doctor of patients to the Chest Specialists in attendance at the Chest Clinics for opinion, investigation, or treatment, continues as in the past. Admissions to Sanatoria or Hospital are arranged through the Tuberculosis Division of the Welsh Regional Board on direct recommendation of the Chest Physician.

The Monmouthshire County Council Scheme for the prevention of tuberculosis is working very well. All contacts are X-rayed and cases followed-up by the Medical Officer of Health working in close conjunction with the Chest Physician.

**SPECIALIST SERVICE ON THE HOME.** The family doctor seeks a specialist for domicilliary service only if the patient is too ill to attend the hospital.

**AMBULANCE SERVICE.** In this area, the Mon. County Council are statutorily responsible for the provision of an adequate service of ambulances and transport for all National Health purposes, including the transport of patients to and from hospital, and inter-hospital transfers.

**CONVALESCENT TREATMENT.** For the purposes of the National Health Service Act, Convalescence can be divided into two classes. Firstly, there is convalescence which is a continuation and an integral part of hospital treatment, i.e., medical and nursing care is essential; this type of convalescence is the responsibility of the Hospital Management Committee.

Secondly, there is convalescence where medical and nursing care is **not** required and where the patient only needs a rest holiday in suitable surroundings; the Hospital Management Committee is not empowered to provide this type of convalescence, but it is provided by the Local Health Authority (Mon. C.C. for this area) under Section 28 of the National Health Act.

**SPA TREATMENT.** This form of treatment will be provided on prescription by the patient's doctor, supplemented by specialist recommendation. The procedure requires the hospital matron to arrange for out-patient specialist examination on production by the patient of a medical certificate suggesting Spa treatment. Admission is then arranged (via the Hospital Management Committee) by the Regional Hospital Board to Spa Centres, which at the moment are outside the Welsh Region.

**SUPPLIES OF DIPHTHERIA ANTI-TOXIN.** Hospitals for infectious diseases hold stocks of diphtheria anti-toxin and are prepared to supply it to doctors on demand, for emergency use. As these hospitals are not readily accessible, small stocks are also held (for this area) at the Redwood Memorial Hospital.

**SUPPLY OF VACCINES, SERA, ETC.** Stocks of vaccine, lymph and diphtheria prophylactic are being held at laboratories of the Public Health Laboratory Service for issue free of charge to the Medical Officer of Health, or to practitioners taking part in Local Health Authorities' arrangements under Section 26 of the National Health Service Act.

Certain other materials of this kind, not readily obtainable at present from trade sources, will also be available through the Public Health Laboratory Service, e.g. measles serum, typhus vaccine, rabies vaccine, botulinum antitoxin, anti-anthrax serum and anti-snake venom.

**CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION.** The Central Administration Offices of the Hospital Management Committee are based at Caerphilly District Miners' Hospital, St. Martin's Road, Caerphilly.

### **Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.**

**WATER SUPPLY.** The conditions remain the same as at the end of last year, the supply is ample and of good quality. The Rhymney Urban District Council is a contributory authority to the Rhymney Valley Water Board, with representation thereon. Forty-six houses at Princetown and Rhymney Bridge are supplied by the Tredegar Urban District Council.

Source A. Gathering ground at Blaen Rhymney; this empties into (1) Old Reservoir, 12,000,000 gallons, (2) New Reservoir, 44,000,000 gallons; the property of the Rhymney Valley Water Board.

Source B. From the Upper Neuadd Reservoir the property of the Taff Fechan Supply Board. Capacity, 350,000,000 gallons.

Springs (2 outlying farmhouses, and 11 isolated cottages). On the whole, these have been fairly successful throughout the year.

## Reports on Water Samples, etc.

	Number un- satisfactory	Number un- satisfactory
1. (a) Bacteriological examination of raw water .....	19	31
(b) Bacteriological examination of treated water .....	47	1
(c) Chemical Analyses .....	None	None
2 (a) Plumbo Solvent Action .....	None	
(b) Details of contamination by lead, precautions taken, and number and results of analyses .....	No Plumbo solvency	
3 (a) Number of houses supplied from public water mains:		
(i) Direct to houses .....	2706	
(ii) By means of stand-pipes .....	20	
(b) Approximate population supplied from public water mains:		
(i) Direct to houses .....	8698	
(ii) By means of stand-pipes .....	70	
4. Action in respect of any form of contamination .....	Increased Chlorination	
Adequate chlorination is maintained at all times.		

**DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.** With the exception of minor improvement and clearing of blockages, the sewers have, on the whole, worked satisfactorily throughout the year. The Rhymney Urban District Council is a contributory authority to the Rhymney Valley Sewerage Board, with representatives thereon.

**CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.** With the exception of outlying houses and isolated farmhouses, the whole district is served by the water carriage system. A scheme was prepared during 1939 for the laying of a sewer at Princetown and Rhymney Bridge (50 houses) and for the conversion of the privies and pail closets to water-closets, but owing to the outbreak of war, an enquiry arranged by the Ministry had to be abandoned.

**PUBLIC LAVATORIES, ETC.** There is one centrally situated convenience for the use of persons of both sexes. The only other provision throughout the district for the public are obsolete urinals.

The Council are anxious to replace obsolete urinals in the near future, but their efforts are meeting with no public response, as weekly the destruction and vandalism of the centrally situated convenience continues. It will take some little time before our public are educated to respect their own properties.

**COLLECTION OF HOUSE REFUSE AND STREET CLEANSING.** This service is carried out by direct labour, and under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector. The District Council are also responsible for the cleansing of Trunk, Class 1 and Class 2 Roads, and for the surface water gullies on these roads. Disposal of refuse takes place upon open tips, and collections are made from all premises three times a week. Receptacles for refuse, in many instances, are unsatisfactory. This work is made more onerous by the menace of sheep and horses tipping over receptacles and this must add to the cost of the service. The Council have discussed the advisability of pounding these animals, but no finality has been reached on the matter. This is one of our urgent problems at the moment.

**FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, SHOPS AND OFFICES.** Sanitary conveniences have been provided in all cases where necessary. Attention is also given to Section 10 (1) (b) (Temperature).

#### **Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 — Rats and Mice.**

The method used, and which have proved to be most successful, are those advocated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, who make a grant to the Council of 50 per cent of the cost of a large part of the work. The whole sewerage system of the district was treated twice during the year. Treatments were also carried out at dwelling-houses, business premises, refuse tips and river banks, etc.

The work is carried out under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector who is helped by a Rodent Operator, and for sewer treatments three temporary men are engaged every six months.

Co-operation and advice given by Mr. R. Davies, Divisional Rodent Officer, and also by the Divisional Rodent Inspector, is appreciated.

#### **Housing.**

Housing remains the chief problem of the Council, and owing to the "Financial Position" (increase in loan charges, etc), it was decided towards the end of 1957 to postpone the housing programme until such time as loans could be obtained on more favourable terms. During August 1955, it was agreed that between 260 and 270 houses should be provisionally scheduled for demolition and "Clearance Orders" etc., made at such times as new houses would come available for displaced families.

Minor repair work was carried out during 1957 to many houses, but this can only be termed "First Aid" repairs, and in most instances only carried out when pressure is brought upon the owners to do so.

There are many sub-standard dwellings in the area that could have many years of useful life if improvement work was carried out on them, but there is very little hope of OWNERS taking advantage of "Improvement Grants" to do this work for their tenants. Applications for grants have been made in respect of owner-occupied houses only.

Conditions attached to the receiving of a GRANT are briefly as follows:—

1. After improvement, the house must have a useful life of at least 15 years, and should also conform to the following twelve points:— (a) General repair; (b) Light and Ventilation; (c) Water supply; (d) Hot water supply; (e) W.C. accommodation; (f) Bathroom; (g) sink, and waste water disposal; (h) Drainage; (i) Artificial light; (j) Heating facilities; (k) Storage, preparation and cooking of food; (l) Fuel storage.

2. The property after improvement must either be occupied by the applicant or a member of the family, or be let at a rental fixed by the Local Authority. GRANTS are not given for the repair of houses, but are made to modernise a sub-standard house, i.e. "A house without modern amenities".

#### **Post War New Housing.**

1947	...	50 Aluminium Bungalows tenanted.
1948	...	52 Steel Houses tenanted.
1949	...	30 Traditional Type Houses tenanted.
1950	...	45 Traditional Type Houses tenanted.
1951	...	5 Traditional Type Houses tenanted.
1952	...	Nil.
1953	...	30 Traditional Type Houses tenanted.
1954	...	10 Traditional Type Houses tenanted.
1954	...	66 Wates Type Houses tenanted.
1955	...	58 Wates Type Houses tenanted.
1955	...	2 Traditional Type Houses tenanted.
1956	...	Nil.
1957	...	74 Wates Type Houses tenanted.

**Total (Post War) new dwellings erected and occupied is 422.**

Before the outbreak of war (1939) the Council owned 90 houses. Total number of houses owned by the Council at end of 1957 is 512. (Cemetery House and 110 High Street, not included).

The next lot of new houses will probably be on what is known as No. 2 Ty Coch Site.

**ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.** Two private and one Council house were found to be infested, and the whole premises treated.

The methods adopted are :

- (1) Use of Disinfestators and spraying with insecticide.
- (2) Removal of skirting boards, etc., and using blow-lamp. The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority.

Insecticides are also given (free) to tenants.

The undermentioned insecticides and fumigants are used :

Zaldecide, Cimex, Cooper's Bed Bug Spray, Killercide etc.

Thirty houses infested with either ants, crickets, beetles or wood beetles were also treated.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA.

(70 Intimation Notices for Repairs were served and Statutory Notices in respect of 23 houses).

### Nuisances Detected or Repairs Required

	Total
1. Defective and Choked W.C. Drains .....	11
2. Provide or Rebuild W.C. or Privy Accomodation ...	1
3. To open and repair slop drains .....	4
4. To drain, flush, cleanse or repair urinals .....	2
5. To provide or repair cisterns in W.C.s .....	1
6. To pave and repair back-yard or forecourt .....	2
7. Throwing of house refuse, etc. Circular letters distributed	
8. To cleanse cesspools .....	0
9. To cleanse dwelling-houses and bedding .....	1
10. To provide and repair rainwater troughing and downspouts .....	11
11. To repair drain vent or soil pipes .....	0
12. To limewash pig or chicken cot (or remove) .....	2
13. To prevent overcrowding .....	0
14. To prevent pollution of streams, rivers, or ponds .....	1
15. To repair defective house roofs causing dampness ...	22
16. To provide sinks in houses .....	0
17. To provide or repair coal buildings .....	2
18. To cleanse water courses .....	1
19. To repair W.C. walls, roofs, doors and floors .....	12
20. To provide new W.C. pans .....	5
21. To provide new ovens .....	1
22. To repair privies or provide new pails .....	1
23. To provide or repair pantries .....	1
24. To repair fireplaces .....	2
25. To repair or take down dangerous chimmney staks and rebuild .....	4
26. To plaster walls .....	8
27. To rebuild boundary or retaining walls .....	3
28. To repair house floors .....	8
29. To repair broken ceilings .....	9
30. To provide slop drains .....	0
31. Defective conditions of main walls .....	11
32. Defective conditions of house doors or windows .....	16
33. Other nuisances .....	12

No new houses were erected during the year by private enterprise.



## Rent Act 1957

Number of Applications for Certificates of Repair .....	10
Number of Disrepair Certificates issued .....	8
Number of Undertakings received from Owners .....	2
Number of Undertakings accepted by Council .....	2
Number of Disrepair Certificates cancelled .....	0

## Housing Acts, 1936 and 1957

Number of Demolition Orders served during 1957 .....	7
Number of Closing Orders served during 1957 .....	4
Prosecutions instituted during the year .....	Nil

## Inspection and Supervision of Foods.

### MILK.

There are 15 retail distributors of milk in the area, and they receive their supplies of pasteurised, T.T. pasteurised and sterilised milk in sealed bottles for delivery to consumers. Empty bottles are returned to the wholesale suppliers' factories for washing and sterilization, etc. This method does away with the operation of bottle washing, storing, filling and sealing in numerous small buildings, where satisfactory hygiene would be difficult to attain, and in some cases, impossible. During the year 72 samples were submitted for examination to the Public Health Laboratory, and all were satisfactory.

MEAT CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR ..... Nil

NUMBER OF ANIMALS KILLED by farmers, cottagers, etc., during the year: Pigs 1. Tuberculosis or any other disease was not detected.

Since the Ministry's control of slaughtering came to an end in July 1954, the meat consumed in this area is mostly received from Brynmawr Slaughterhouse. There is no licensed Slaughterhouse in the district.

PUBLIC HEALTH MEAT REGULATIONS, 1924. These Regulations have been carried out in a satisfactory manner on the whole.

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) REGULATIONS, 1947, AND SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955. There are seventeen retailers in the area, and six of these are retail-producers. One of them is also a wholesaler.

37 samples were submitted for examination during the year, and 25 were graded 1; 7 were graded 2; 2 were graded 3; and 3 were graded 4.

FISH FRYING AND CHIP POTATO SHOPS, ETC. Visits were made and attention given to all appliances used in connection with this trade, respecting cleanliness, etc.

BAKEHOUSES. Limewashing and general cleanliness receives attention.

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED. 24 tins fruit; 42 tins meat; 14 tins vegetables; 2 tins soup; 1 tin fish; 9 boxes cheese spread.

#### Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

(a) Total number of outbreaks .....	Nil
(b) Number of cases .....	Nil
(c) Number of deaths .....	Nil
(d) Organisms or other agents responsible, with number of outbreaks attributable to each .....	Nil
(e) Foods involved, with number of outbreaks associated with each food .....	Nil

#### Bye-laws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

These came into operation on 26th April, 1954.

#### The Public Health (Infectious Disease) Regulations 1953.

To control Food Poisoning the Council have given the Medical Officer of Health power authorising immediate issuing of NOTICES in an emergency, to prevent sufferers or "carriers" of infectious diseases working in food trades.

#### Number and Type of Food Premises in Area.

Butchers 9; Cafes and Confectioners 5; Grocers 30; Greengrocers and Fishmongers 3; Greengrocers 3; Confectioners, Table waters etc 8; Bakehouses 4; Parlour Type Shops 14; Fried Fish and Chips 6; Canteens 7; Ice-cream 17 (including Shops listed above).

Number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 :—

(a) Manufacture and/or sale of ice-cream .....	17
(b) The preparation or manufacture of sausages or Potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food .....	12
(c) Dairies (Bottled milk only) .....	7
(d) Efforts are made to visit all premises at least once each month.	

There are no clean food guilds in the area.

(f) Condemned food is disposed of by burial at refuse disposal tips.	
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## Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955-56.

These regulations are being carried out in a satisfactory manner on the whole. Notices under the regulations were served as found necessary, and work of inspection is continuing to be carried out. All butcher shop, cafes and fishmongers have refrigerators. The importance of personal cleanliness, and the cleanliness of the premises and utensils has been impressed upon food-handlers, and leaflets on the matter have been issued.

### Prevalence and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

1957—84 Cases (Pulmonary Tuberculosis 10; Other Tuberculosis 1; Scarlet Fever 23; Whooping Cough 22; Measles 25; Influenzal Pneumonia 1; Sonne Dysentery 1; Meningococcal Meningitis 1).

1956—132 Cases (Pulmonary Tuberculosis 13; Other Tuberculosis 2; Measles 94; Whooping Cough 21; Food Poisoning 1; Sonne Dysentery 1).

1955—167 Cases (Pulmonary Tuberculosis 6; Other Tuberculosis 4; Measles 146; Acute Poliomyelitis 1; Erysipelas 1; Whooping Cough 9).

### TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH WARD

Upper Ward	.....	44 Cases
Middle Ward	.....	20 Cases
Lower Ward	.....	7 Cases
Abertwsswg Ward	.....	13 Cases

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Small Pox .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever .....	23	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
Enteric Fever (inc. Paratyphoid)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
Acute Pneumonia (Primary or Influenzal) .....	1	1	1
Meningococcal Meningitis .....	1	1	Nil
Cerebro Spinal Fever .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
Dysentery (Sonne) .....	1	1	Nil
Whooping Cough .....	22	Nil	Nil
Measles .....	25	Nil	Nil
Food Poisoning .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other diseases notifiable locally (specify diseases) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES. The absence of Puerperal Pyrexia speaks very highly for the Monmouthshire County Council domiciliary Midwifery Services and for the hospital services provided by the Regional Hospital Board. Scarlet Fever was of the mildest type, and no new cases were admitted to hospital.

The number of measles cases notified with no hospital admission and no report of deaths strikes one forcibly, it does prove the efficiency of modern therapeutic drugs.

### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases						
Notified	Treated At Home	In Hos- pital	Vision Un- impaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—

Small pox—No Case.

Erysipelas—No Case.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Deaths from Tuberculosis of the respiratory system 1; death rate per 1,000 living, 0.11; deaths from other forms of Tubercular Diseases 0; death rate per 1,000 living, 0; death rate from all forms of Tuberculosis, 0.11; Last year the death rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was Nil; from other Tubercular Diseases Nil; and from all forms of Tuberculosis, Nil.

New cases of Mortality during 1957.

The following table shows the age and sex distribution of the notified cases and of the deaths :—

Age Periods	NEW CASES—11				DEATHS—1			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	10	1	1	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
	4 M	6 F	0 M	1 F	0 M	1 F	0 M	0 F
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
45	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

There was one death from Respiratory Tuberculosis, but no deaths from the non-pulmonary type.

Patients from the district are admitted to the following Institutions :

1. Glan Ely Hospital, near Cardiff.
2. North Wales Sanatorium, Denbigh.
3. Cefn Mabley Hospital, near Cardiff.
4. Mardy Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil.
5. Gellygaer Hospital.
6. South Wales Sanatorium, Talgarth.
7. Energlyn Hospital, Caerphilly.
8. Annexe, Chepstow.

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 172.

Section 172. This Section which enforces the compulsory removal of a patient suffering from Tuberculosis and in an infections state to a hospital when there is no proper accommodation at the house, was not made use of.

Tuberculosis 11 new cases (10 pulmonary and 1 other forms) were notified during the year 1957.

As stated earlier in this report, the family doctor sends patients to Chest Specialists in attendance at the Chest Clinics, for opinion, investigation or treatment. When considered necessary, the Chest Physician also recommends admission to Sanatoria or Hospital. For details of Monmouthshire County Council arrangements, etc., please see County Medical Officer's Annual Report.

During May 1950 and July 1952 the Mass Radiography Service visited Rhymney and was available to the general population.

Diphtheria. The need of immunisation was advertised by the Monmouthshire County Council.

No case was notified during the year, and no deaths.

Enteric Fever. No. case notified, and no deaths.

Poliomyelitis. No case notified. No Deaths. The scheme in this area for the vaccination of school children against poliomyelitis is administered by the Monmouthshire County Council. It is very satisfying that very few children (where parent's consent has been given) are now awaiting treatment.

Para-typhoid. No cases notified and no deaths.

Pneumonia (acute-influenzal and acute primary). One case notified, and one death took place at hospital. There were also three deaths from Bronco-Pneumonia.

Encephalitis Lethargia. No case notified, and no deaths.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. No case notified, and no deaths.

Sonne Dysentery. One case notified, and no deaths.

Influenza. 2 deaths.

Bronchitis. 5 deaths.

In conclusion, we again wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for the interest shown and support given in Public Health, etc., matters, and to express our appreciation to the Council Staff for their co-operation throughout the year.

We remain, Mr. Chairman and Members,

Yours faithfully,

M. J. DONELAN,  
Medical Officer of Health.

G. R. DAVIES,  
Public Health Inspector.





PROLE & SON, EBBW VALE