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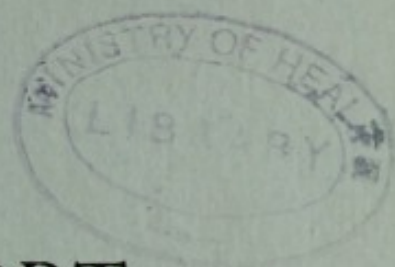
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The Urban District Council  
of Tredegar

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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH  
AND  
SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR  
1953

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**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OF THE**  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
Dr. E. T. H. DAVIES, M.D., M.S. (Lond.), F.R.C.S., (Eng).



# Tredegar Urban District Council

*Chairman (1953) : Councillor A. Tillings, J.P.*

*Chairman (1953) Public Health Committee : Councillor G. Tuffin.*

*Chairman (1953) Housing Committee : Councillor W. M. Clarke.*

## MEMBERS :

### *West Ward.*

Councillor W. Bowen  
Councillor J. Stockton  
Councillor A. Tillings, J.P.  
Councillor C. P. Walby

### *Central Ward.*

Councillor E. T. Morgan  
Councillor G. Gould  
Councillor E. Jones, J.P.  
Councillor G. Tuffin

### *Georgetown Ward.*

Councillor H. R. Davies  
Councillor A. L. Coombes  
Councillor J. B. McPherson  
Councillor (Mrs.) I. Powell

### *Sirhowy Ward.*

Councillor W. M. Clarke  
Councillor R. I. Davies  
Councillor T. James  
Councillor E. Meyrick

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## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

### **Medical Officer of Health :**

Edwin T. H. Davies, M.D., M.S. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.)

### **Senior Sanitary Inspector :**

O. Griffiths, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,  
*Certificated Sanitary Inspector, The Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board, 1937.*  
*Diploma of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene, 1938.*  
*Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, The Royal Sanitary Institute, 1939.*  
*Certificate of Food Hygiene, The Royal Sanitary Institute, 1939.*

### **Second Sanitary Inspector :**

K. O. Batten, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,  
*Certificated Sanitary Inspector, the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board, 1937.*  
*Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, The Royal Sanitary Institute, 1939.*

### **Additional Sanitary Inspector :**

D. J. Turner, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,  
*Certificated Sanitary Inspector, The Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board, 1952.*

**Clerical Officer :** Miss E. G. Wright.

**Cleansing Foreman :** Mr. C. Brace.



## MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Bedwellty House,

TREDEGAR Mon.

12th May, 1954

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

*Mrs. Powell and Gentlemen,*

It is with much pleasure that I submit to you my Annual Report for the Year 1953, which has been drawn up on the lines indicated in Circular 1/54 (Wales) issued by the Welsh Board of Health.

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area of the District :—

Parish of Tredegar	...	...	...	...	4,360 acres
Parish of Dukestown	...	...	...	...	3,788 acres
					<hr/>
					8,148 acres
					<hr/>
Rateable Value of the District	...	...	...	...	£75,388
Estimated Product of Id. Rate	...	...	...	...	£262
Amount per Pound of Rates Levied for the District					
(Year Ended 31/3/54)				...	£1 10s. 0d.
Number of Dwelling Houses	...	...	...	...	5,318

The population of the district reached its peak in the years 1924-25 when the figure given was 26,380. The depression during the years that followed brought a gradual exodus, especially of the younger people to more prosperous areas, resulting in a steady decline, leaving in 1939 an estimated population figure of 20,600. This drop continued somewhat during the war years, but an upward trend is again noted for the post war years and the Registrar General's estimate is 20,420.

The natural and social conditions of the area fully described in earlier reports altered little during the year.

Geographically situated at the Northern entrance or gateway of the head of the Sirhowy Valley and lying on either side of the river Howy almost at its source, the district has an altitude of between 800 feet above sea level at Bedwellty Pits Village on the Southern extremity to 1,350 feet at Trefil Quarries in the North.

Physically, the upper portion of the district lies above the outcrop of the South Wales Coalfield upon the Farewell Rock or Millstone Grit and Limestone Rocks which still continue to give employment to a considerable number of workmen at the Quarries, feeding the limestone for use at the Ebbw Vale Steelworks. The lower portion of the district have on either side of the valley mountainous ridges, formed of Sandstone overlying the coal measures.

In shape, the map of the district resembles the form of a "kite" being over seven miles in its length through which the river Howy traverses, the mountain moorland in the northern limits stretching to a width of about three miles, tapering along the valley to a few furlongs in width at the southern extremity.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

## BIRTH RATE.

				<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Live Births (Legitimate)	...	...	...	180	164	344
(Illegitimate)	...	...	...	2	4	6
				<hr/> 182	<hr/> 168	<hr/> 350

Producing a birth rate of 17.14 per 1,000 population as compared with 16.14 for 1952 ; 17.82 for 1951 ; 19.05 for 1950 ; 19.67 for 1948 and 21.35 for 1947.

Still Births (Legitimate)	...	...	...	5	5	10
(Illegitimate)	...	...	...	<hr/> —	<hr/> —	<hr/> —
				<hr/> 5	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 10

Which gives a rate of .48 per 1,000 population as against 0.83 for 1952 ; 0.49 for 1951 ; 0.88 for 1950 and 0.29 for 1949.

The still-birth rate per 1,000 total births (live and still) is as follows :

<b>1953</b>	...	...	...	...	<b>27.77</b>
1952	...	...	...	...	49.27
1951	...	...	...	...	26.88
1950	...	...	...	...	44.33
1949	...	...	...	...	15.26
1948	...	...	...	...	22.44
1939	...	...	...	...	57.69

## DEATH RATE.

After correction for inward and outward transfers as furnished by the Registrar General, the number of deaths during 1953 was :—

<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
148	97	245

Resulting in a death rate per 1,000 population of 11.99.

Comparable figures for earlier years were :—

1946	...	...	11.77 ;	1945	...	10.74 ;	1944	...	11.54
1930	...	...	10.37 ;	1914	...	17.90 ;	1901	...	19.33

## MATERNAL DEATH RATE.

There were no maternal deaths in the district during the year. The rate for 1953 per 1,000 (live and still) births is as follows :—

England and Wales	...	...	...	.76
Mon. Admins. County	...	...	...	1.09
TREDEGAR U.D.	...	...	...	Nil.



For the earlier ten years the number of maternal deaths for the district were :—

1952	... Nil	1947	... 1	1943	... Nil.
1951	... 1	1946	... Nil.		
1950	... 1	1945	... 1		
1949	... 1	1944	... 1		
1948	... Nil.				

The rate for England and Wales per million women aged 15-44 years is :

For abortion with sepsis	... .. 4
From other abortions	... .. 3

### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Deaths of infants under one year :—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total,</i>
Legitimate	... 8 ...	10 ...	18
Illegitimate	... Nil. ...	Nil. ...	Nil.

Giving a rate per 1,000 live births of 50.00.

A few comparative figures for past years are given below :—

1952	... 48.78 ;	1944	... 58.08 ;	1941	... 78.88
1947	... 47.28 ;	1942	... 62.03 ;	1924	... 73.4
1914	... 125.00 ;	1904	... 190.00		

The rate of legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births was 51.42.

The rate of illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births was nil.

Statistical Tables appertaining to your district are appended to the Report.

A comparison of the vital statistics of the district with those for England and Wales also for the County for 1952 are set out in the accompanying tabulation :—

	BIRTH RATE.		DEATH RATE.	
	<i>Live births per 1,000 population.</i>	<i>Still births per 1,000 population.</i>	<i>All ages per 1,000 population.</i>	<i>Under 1 yr. per 1,000 live births</i>
England and Wales ...	15.5	0.35	11.4	26.8
Monmouthshire ...	16.79	0.47	11.58	32.63
TREDEGAR U.D. ...	17.14	0.48	11.99	50.00



## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

### Notifications.

A Table of the case rates per 1,000 Home Population of corrected notifications received during the year 1953 for the district and also for England and Wales with corresponding figures for 1952 for comparison is set out below.

Maybe there were a number of "missed" or non-notified cases of the commoner infectious diseases, even so, allowing for a reasonable margin in this respect, the incidence of infectious diseases was fairly low. Reference to Table II will give further details of age groups.

	<i>Tredegar Urban Area.</i>		<i>England and Wales.</i>	
	<b>1953</b>	<b>1952</b>	<b>1953</b>	<b>1952</b>
Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	2.80	0.01	0.02
Meningococcal Infec. ...	—	0.04	0.03	0.03
Scarlet Fever ...	.14	0.19	1.39	1.53
Whooping Cough ...	.04	—	3.58	2.61
Diphtheria ...	—	—	0.01	0.01
Erysipelas ...	.04	—	0.14	0.14
Smallpox ...	—	—	0.00	0.00
Measles ...	6.31	0.34	12.36	8.86
Pneumonia ...	.09	—	0.84	0.72
Ac. Poliomyelitis (inc. Pol.-encephalitis)				
Paralytic ...	.04	0.09	0.07	0.06
Non-Paralytic ...	—	0.04	0.04	0.03

The average age at death for the year :—

Males 60.02 years (as against 60.65 for 1952).

Females 64.15 yrs. (as against 64.38 for 1952).

Males and Females 62.08 years (as against 62.51 for 1952).

## TUBERCULOSIS

The state of the Tuberculosis Register for the district at the commencement and at the close of 1953 was as follows :

	Males.		Females.		Total
	<i>Pul.</i>	<i>Non-Pul.</i>	<i>Pul.</i>	<i>Non-Pul.</i>	
1st Jan., 1953 ...	98	74	117	46	335
31st Dec., 1953 ...	99	74	122	48	343

Statistics showing the number of new cases and mortality during the year, arranged in age groups, are given in Table III at the end of the Report. For comparison, the figures for 1953 and several previous years are given below :

Year	New Cases.		Deaths.	
	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulm'ry</i>
<b>1953</b> ...	<b>23</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>
1952 ...	20	5	8	2
1951 ...	26	11	9	2
1950 ...	38	10	6	2
1949 ...	25	10	12	5
1948 ...	33	4	13	2

The total number of notifications of admission to (Form 1) and discharge from (Form 2) Institutions during the year were :—

	Males.		Females.	
	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulm'ry</i>
Admissions ...	10	5	19	1
Discharges ...	15	5	11	1

No action was taken during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) employed in the Milk Trade or Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to Hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis).

It was found necessary for the Council to arrange for the destruction of soiled bedding.

In conclusion, I again take the opportunity to express my appreciation of the continued and willing support of the Council and the loyal service rendered the Department by the Officers and all the members of the staff through the year.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

EDWIN T. H. DAVIES,  
M.D., M.S.(Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.).



TABLE I.  
CAUSES OF DEATH.  
(Registrar General's Return)

	1953		
	M.	F.	Totals
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..	9	2	11
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	0	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach ... ..	9	6	15
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..	5	1	6
Malignant Neoplasm, breast ... ..	0	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm uterus ... ..	0	1	1
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms ... ..	10	7	17
Diabetes ... ..	2	3	5
Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	18	13	31
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	15	6	21
Hypertension with heart disease... ..	5	5	10
Other heart disease ... ..	24	18	42
Other circulatory disease ... ..	5	2	7
Influenza ... ..	2	3	5
Pneumonia ... ..	9	4	13
Bronchitis ... ..	6	2	8
Other disease of respiratory system ... ..	10	0	10
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	1	0	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	1	0	1
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	4	0	4
Congenital malformations... ..	0	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	9	14	23
Motor Vehicle accidents ... ..	2	1	3
Other accidents ... ..	1	3	4
ALL CASUSES ... ..	148	97	245
Population ... ..	20,420		



TABLE II

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Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year 1953. (After correction and other than Tuberculosis).

DISEASE.	AGE GROUPS											Total at all ages	
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65		65 & over
Scarlet Fever	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Measles ...	4	23	—	33	—	57	4	—	—	—	—	—	121
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
TOTALS	5	24	—	35	—	5	—	—	2	1	—	—	128

TABLE III.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during  
1953 according to age groups.

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulm'y		Pulmary		Non-Pulm'y	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	1
15	4	7	—	1	—	—	—	—
25	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
35	3	—	—	1	1	2	—	—
45	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
55	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—
65	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Over 65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	13	10	—	3	10	2	—	2

TABLE IV

## INFANTILE MORTALITY — 1953.

Causes of Death	Under 1 wk.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 m'th	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total under 1 yr.
Premature Birth ... ..	5	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
Congenital malformation birth injury and infant diseases ... ..	5	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	1	7
Pneumonia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	4
Asphyxia ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Convulsions ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
TOTALS ... ..	11	—	—	—	Nil.	3	1	1	2	18



TABLE V.

Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Population — 1953 (Estimated Population 20,420).

	All Causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis	Influenza	Smallpox	Ac. Poliomyelitis (including Polio-encephalitis)	Pneumonia
England and Wales ...	11.4	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.20	0.16	0.00	0.01	0.55
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	12.2	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.24	0.15	0.00	0.01	0.59
160 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000-50,000 at Census, 1951) ...	11.3	—	0.00	0.00	0.19	0.17	0.00	0.01	0.52
London Administrative County	12.5	—	0.00	—	0.24	0.15	—	0.01	0.64
TREDEGAR URBAN DISTRICT	11.99	—	—	—	0.58	0.24	—	—	0.63

**REPORT**

**OF THE**

**SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR**  
(O. GRIFFITHS, M.R.San.I.)

## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Sanitary Inspector's Department,

Bedwellty House,

TREDEGAR, Mon.

12th May, 1954

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

*Mrs. Powell and Gentlemen,*

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report for the year 1953.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

#### Section I.

#### WATER.

The water area of the authority has been well supplied and every effort made to maintain a high standard of purity.

The total quantity of water filtered during the year was :—

At the Nantybawch Filtration Plant ... 399,673,000 galls.

At the Georgetown Filtration Plant ... 94,993,000 galls.

Of this amount :—

132,131,400 galls were supplied in bulk to the BEDWELTY U.D.C.

4,986,912 galls. were supplied in bulk to the RHYMNEY U.D.C.

Approximate number of dwelling houses and population supplied from public water mains :—

		Dwelling houses.		Population.
(a) Total in District	...	5,318	...	20,420
(b) Direct service to houses	...	5,406	...	20,292
(c) By means of Standpipes	...	13	...	52

### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER SUPPLIES.

	Satisfactory.		Unsatisfactory.		Total
	Raw	Treated	Raw	Treated	
TREDEGAR U.D.	6	54	28	12	100

All samples are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Newport.



## CLIMATOLOGICAL STATION.

Latitude	...	...	...	...	...	...	51° 46' North.
Longitude	...	...	...	...	...	...	3° 22' West.
Height above m.s.l.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1028 feet.
Grid Reference	...	...	...	...	...	...	31/141087
Air Ministry Ref. No. (M.O.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4007/5.

The Council embarked on this scientific work in January, 1949, and observations were commenced in January, 1950. The main difficulty was in siting the instruments satisfactorily, but in June, 1951, an ideal site was obtained in the swimming bath enclosure and the equipment was set up here towards the end of 1951. The station was inspected by a Meteorological Officer of the Air Ministry in the following month.

All the instruments are of standard design and carry certificates of correction by the National Physical Laboratory or the Meteorological Office. Observations of maximum and minimum temperature, wet and dry bulb temperature, humidity, vapour pressure, dew point, grass minimum temperature, rainfall, barometric pressure and sunshine are taken daily throughout the year at 09.00 hours, G.M.T.

All temperatures, except grass minimum, are taken from thermometers exposed in Stevensons Screens standing 4 feet above a grass plot, and are expressed in degrees F. Pressure readings are expressed in millibars and the readings are corrected for temperature, height above m.s.l. latitude and Index Error.

The station barometer is a Kew pattern and only reads correctly at a temperature of 285 deg. A. on 52 deg. N latitude at m.s.l. Any deviations from these conditions must be corrected. Rainfall is measured in inches and collected in a standard 5-inch raingauge.

Instruments in use at present consist of :—

Maximum Thermometer, solid stem	...	...	No. M.O.21590
Minimum Thermometer, solid stem	...	...	No. M.O.66104/49
Wet Bulb Thermometer, Glass sheathed	...	...	No. M.O.72135/42
Dry Bulb Thermometer, Glass sheathed	...	...	No. M.O.72634/45
Grass Minimum Thermometer, Glass sheathed	...	...	No. M.O.30378/49
Kew pattern Station Barometer	...	...	No. 3412/49
M.O. pattern Thermograph	...	...	No. M.O.1384/50
M.O. pattern Hygrograph	...	...	No. M.O.954/45
M.O. pattern Open Scale Barograph	...	...	No. M.O. 1461/44
B.R.O. pattern 5-inch Raingauge	...	...	No. M.O.4679/48
M.O. pattern-taper measure	...	...	No. M.O.9497/47
Campbell Stokes pattern Sunshine—Recorder	...	...	
	Bowl	...	No. M.O.367/50
	Sphere	...	No. M.O. 1570/50
Dynes Tilting Syphon Rain Gauge	...	...	No.
Thermometers and autographic instruments housed in two-Standard Stevenson Screens.			

Summaries of observations are published each month in the "Monthly Weather Report" and each year in the "General Table" of British Rainfall, both of the Air Ministry.



## CLIMATOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

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	Temperatures			Mean Temps.			Pressure			Rainfall		Days with Rain	Days with Snow	Nights with Ground Frost
	Max.	Min.	Min. Grass	Day	Night	M'th	Max.	Min.	Mean	Total	Wettest Day			
JAN. ..	49	20	10	41.16	32.41	36.78	1037.5	1000.8	1019.1	1.86	1.14	12	4	22
FEB. ...	56	20	7	42.	33.	37.3	1039.1	964.1	1001.6	2.88	.9	15	12	21
MAR. ...	66	22	13	51.4	32.4	41.9	1043.4	1000.4	1021.9	4.44	1.74	7	0	23
APR. ..	63	27	16	50.1	35.7	42.9	1024.9	991.1	1008.0	5.07	1.75	16	4	15
MAY ..	75	35	26	60.5	45.3	52.9	1031.4	997.7	1074.5	3.85	0.93	13	0	5
JUNE ..	78	39	32	63.3	48.4	55.8	1023.1	1004.6	1013.8	2.79	1.35	13	0	0
JULY ..	76	46	38	63.4	50.9	57.1	1022.5	996.1	1009.3	6.9	1.31	21	0	0
AUG. ...	80	38	32	65.4	50.6	58.	1031.	1036.7	1028.8	7.11	2.5	12	0	0
SEP. ..	74	39	31	60.9	48.4	54.6	1032.6	984.	1008.3	6.21	1.32	16	0	0
OCT. ..	63	31	22	54.	40.9	47.4	1034.5	995.7	1015.1	5.36	1.94	11	0	12
NOV. ...	54	30	28	49.3	40.8	45.	1032.7	984.8	1008.7	5.39	.87	17	0	7
DEC. ..	52	31	24	47.1	39.3	43.2	1032.4	1004.3	1018.3	1.81	6.23	15	0	12
Totals ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	53.59	—	168	20	117
Means ...	65.5	31.5	23.25	54.05	41.50	47.75	1032.1	995.8	1013.9	—	—	—	—	—



### Open Air Swimming Bath.

Situated in ideal surroundings and within the precincts of Bedwellty Park, the open-air swimming pool continued during its twentieth season to be a great attraction to the younger element for heathy exercise and recreation. Regular samples of water are taken to ensure a high standard of purity being maintained.

	1950	1951	1952	1953
Number of Bathers ...	35,615	18,751	33,018	27,401
Number of Spectators ...	3,705	3,344	4,525	4,966

### Drainage and Sewerage.

Practically the whole of the district is provided with subsidiary stone-ware sewers, which are linked up to the main sewers, laid along the river bed. The Western Valley's (Mon.) Sewerage Board (of which the Council is a constituent authority) have control of the trunk sewers.

The cleansing and repair of choked or defective drainage systems, both public and private is pressed immediately upon receipt of complaint or noted during inspection.

### Rivers and Streams.

The river Howy, with a small number of tributaries, traverses the length of the district. Every vigilance is exercised to prevent the dumping of refuse along its banks.

### Closet Accommodation.

The water carriage system is almost universal throughout the area. An estimate of the number of each type of closet is as follows :—

(1) Number of pail or privy closets (including several of the chemical type) to isolated farms, cottages and other premises where no sewer is available	...	...	47
(2) Number of closets with fixed receptacles	...	...	7
(3) Number of closets with moveable receptacles	...	...	5
(4) Number of closets with flushing apparatus	...	...	3750
(5) Number of closets (hand flushed)	...	...	2294

## Section 2.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

### Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Throughout the year this vital Sanitary and Public Health Service was regularly maintained, the frequency of which is shown in the accompanying table.

Once again I have to complain of the animals (ponies and sheep) that wander at will over the whole of the Urban Area, upsetting buckets as they forage for their own particular brand of food. This nuisance is rapidly becoming a major problem. There have been occasions when a refuse collecting beat has failed to be completed during the normal working hours due to the



time the men have been forced to spend in shovelling the spilled contents of the buckets into the lorry. On a number of occasions I have myself seen a street in the Georgetown area, with every bucket on its side and the contents spread widely over the footpath and roadway.

Roundups have been organised with the Police and the animals impounded but these will have to be a regular practice to bring about any lasting and obvious improvement.

During the year refuse has been deposited at the tipping site at Brompton, at the rear of Griffiths Gardens and at Brynbach Farm, off the Merthyr Road near Tafarnaubach. One labourer is detailed daily to each tip to ensure the even tipping of the refuse and for the reclamation of salvage. A modified form of Controlled Tipping is practiced and the efficacy of this is proved by the absence of complaints of unsightliness and unpleasant odours. All the tipping sites have been completely free of rodents.

#### DETAILS OF REFUSE COLLECTION.

The district is divided into five areas for refuse collection with a driver and two loaders allocated to each vehicle, a sixth vehicle being held in reserve.

Area.	Streets	Day per Week
GEORGETOWN	Fields Rd., Ashville, Villas, Hill View, Oakfield Rd., Lower and Upper James St., Walter St., Southend, Georgetown Schools, Gladstone Place, Poplar Place, Rhyd Villas and Troedrhiwgwair ... ..	5
	Kimberly Tce., Richmond Tce., York Tce., Elmwood, Victoria Tce., Alexander Tce., Edward Tce., Police Station, Prospect Place, Bowens Tce., Park Place, Glyn Tce., Woodfield Rd., Whitworth Tce., St. James Hospital, Rhyd Tce., and Arthur St. ...	6
	Bedwellty Pits, Heathfield and Pochin ... ..	3
	Red and White Depot ... ..	2
	<b>Total number of premises, Georgetown Area</b>	1170

CENTRAL	Duke St., Iron Row, Iron St., Bridge St., Vale Tce., Pochin Crescent, Brompton Place, Cottage Homes, Market St., Castle St., The Circle, Morgan St., Park Hill, Park Row, Harcourt Tce., Islwyn Tce. ...	6
	Morgan Street, Inkerman Tce., Parkville, Upper and Lower Salisbury St., Park View, Pencoed, Cefn Rhos, Cwm Rhos, Upper and Lower Coronation Street, Shop Row and Vale View ... ..	5
	Cefn Golau, Aberffrwyd, Tredegar Station ... ..	3
	<b>Total number of premises, Central Area</b> ...	1050

WEST AREA	Queen Sq., Red Lion Sq., Commercial St., Mount St., Picton St., High St., Earl St., Bournville, West Hill, Glandovey Tce., George St., Union St. ...	6
	Tanybank, Griffiths Gardens and Square, North Ave., Bevans Ave., Pembroke St., Brynbach St., Greenwood Ave., Isolation Hosp., The Crescent, Fairview Bung., Maple Ave., Laburnum Ave., Sycamore Ave. ... ..	5
	<b>Total number of Premises, West Area</b> ...	1150

SIRHOWY and DUKESTOWN	Alexandra Place, Railway View, Nursery Tce., Charles St., Arnold Place, Dukestown Rd., Butleigh Tce., Scwrfa, Dukestown, Twyn Star ... ..	6
	Tafarnaubach, Tynewydd, Lwynhelyg, Penybont Station Tce., Pantydwr, Bush Bach, Station Road, White Lion Cottages, Minyrafon, Rear Ashvale, Waundeg ... ..	5
	Trefil Quarries, Trefil Village ... ..	4
	Awelfa ... ..	3
	Coach Bach ... ..	2
	<b>Total number of Premises, Sirhowy and Dukestown area</b> ... ..	1060



BEAUFORT ROAD AREA	Beaufort Rd., Rhoslan, Brynbicca, Ladies Row, King St., Tredegar Tce., Howy Tce., Harford St., Mafeking Tce., part Kimberley Tce., Pretoria Tce., Ladysmith Tce., Buller Tce., Colenzo Tce., Roberts Tce., Greenfield Tce., Bethel Ave., Post Office, Workman's Hall, George St., Pond Tow, Temple St., Church Sq., Polar Pl., St. Georges Place ...	6
	Peacehaven, rear Morgan St., Vaughan's Yard, Carpenters Yard, Four Rows ... ..	5
	Gelli Cottages ... ..	4
	Upper and Lower Mount Pleasant, Penmark ...	2
	<b>Total Number of Premises, Beaufort Rd. Area</b>	1030

### Tonnage of Refuse Removed.

#### Test weighings of refuse removed and deposited.

Beat	Spring				Autumn			
	H'vy Day		Lt. Day		H'vy Day		Lt. Day	
	T.	C.	T.	C.	T.	C.	T.	C.
Georgetown ...	9	18	6	16	11	6	8	17
Central ...	10	5	6	9	9	5	11	0
West ...	9	18	8	4	10	7	8	5
Sirhowy and Dukestown ...	8	13	6	0	8	19	4	9
Beaufort Rd. ...	8	14	6	16	10	0	6	9
<b>Totals ...</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>0</b>

From these weighing it can be assumed that 41 tons 12 cwts. are collected daily. Calculating on a  $5\frac{1}{2}$  day week the yearly total amounts to 12,183 tons. Further statistics are as follows :—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.
Weight of refuse removed per vehicle :			
Light day ... ..	7	6	—
Heavy Day ... ..	9	14	—
Weight of refuse removed per 1,000 population per week ...	11	17	—
Weight of refuse removed per 1,000 population per day...	2	3	—
Weight of refuse removed per 1,000 properties per week ...	47	8	—
Weight of refuse removed per 1,000 properties per day ...	8	12	1



## Salvage.

Waste paper and container waste have been collected throughout the year even when prices fell as low as £2 10s. 0d. per ton. Towards the end of October the demand for this material showed signs of an increase and prices rose as a consequence. During November all types of paper waste were collected, mainly off the tipping sites and baled for despatch to the mills.

At the beginning of December a paper mill erected near Newport commenced production and it is thought that this mill will take all the waste paper that the neighbouring local authorities can collect.

	T.	c.	q.
Total weight of mixed waste paper baled and despatched ... ..	18	7	3
Total weight of container waste baled and despatched ... ..	7	19	0

### *Ferrous Scrap :*

The above realised the sum of ... £165 15s. 7d.

## Vehicles :

The fleet consists of the following vehicles :—

- 2 Austin, 10 cubic yard freighter.
- 1 Bedford, 10 cubic yard freighter.
- 2 Karrier Bantam, 8 cubic yard freighter.
- 1 Fordson 10 cubic yard freighter.
- 1 Fordson 10 h.p. 2 cubic yard freighter.

Six vehicles are in operation daily, one being held in reserve in case of breakdown and to enable the carrying out of overhauls. The 2 cubic yard Fordson was acquired during the year, to collect from those parts of the town that were inaccessible to the regular lorries. All vehicles were thoroughly scraped down, painted and overhauled during the summer and in this I must pay tribute to the garage staff and the chief mechanic, Mr. J. Norris. They cheerfully undertook the painting of these vehicles although the task added greatly to their commitments and there can be no doubt at all that this work had added many years to the life of each vehicle. A routine of washing the lorries each week was commenced later in the summer and this is now a weekly task of each driver.

## Sickness.

The high incidence of sickness continues to throw a heavy burden on the Department. The following table indicates the time lost per month with the associated causes. In a large number of cases it is quite impossible to make any sense out of the medical certificates submitted, the causes of absence being utterly illegible.

# SANITARY (PUBLIC CLEANSING) STAFF.

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Time lost in days due to sickness as specified.

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Neoplasms	23½	16½	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sciatica	23½	—	—	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5½	—	—	—
Hernia...	23½	—	—	—	—	16½	—	—	—	—	—	—
Osteo Chorditis	23½	16½	5½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza	24	38½	11	5½	—	—	—	—	—	11	11	16½
Gastritis (ulcer)	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	5½
Pas Planus	23½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lumbar Fibrositis	16½	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	11	—	11	16½	5½	11	27½	—	—	—	22	16½
Pleurisy	5½	—	5½	22	5½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asthma	—	—	23½	16½	11	—	—	11	—	—	—	—
Myocarditis	—	—	5½	16½	22	5½	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	4½	—	—
Lumbago	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	—	—	—	—	—
Haemorrhoids	—	—	—	—	—	—	5½	5½	—	—	—	—
Boils	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coryza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5½	5½
Peptic ylcer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—
Foot (sepsis)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leg (sepsis)	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastric Flu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5½	11	—	—	—
Gastric Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	5½	7	14½	5½	—	—	6½
Other Causes	16	—	4	15	11	3	—	—	—	10	—	—



## COST STATEMENT 1952—1953.

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Items	Particulars	Collection	Disposal	Totals
		£	£	£
1	<b>Gross Expenditure :</b>			
	(1) Labour ... ..	4237	283	4520
	(2) Transport ... ..	4257	—	4257
	(3) Plant Buildings Land ... ..	25	12	37
	(4) Other items ... ..	459	—	459
	Total gross expenditure ... ..	8978	295	9273
2	Gross Income ... ..	324	98	422
3	Net Cost ... ..	8654	197	8851
4	Capital expenditure met from revenue.			
		s.	d.	
	<b>Unit Costs.</b>			
5	Gross cost per ton—labour ... ..	7	0	
6	Gross cost per ton—transport ... ..	7	1	
7	Net cost (all expenditure) per ton ... ..	14	6	
8	Net cost per 1,000 population ... ..	£425		
9	Net cost per 1,000 premises ... ..	£1,573		

## Operational Statistics.

Area of district—statute acres	..	..	..	..	8,148
Population at 30th June, 1951	...	...	...	...	20,310
Total refuse collected (tons)	...	...	...	...	12,012
Weight per 1,000 population per day in cwts. (365 days)					32
Number of premises from which refuse is collected	...				5,960
Average haul in miles by vehicle to tip	...	...	...	...	2 miles.



## Street and Gully Cleansing.

Item.	Particulars.	Street Sweeping and watering	Gully Cleansing	Total
1	<b>Gross Expenditure :</b>	£	£	£
	(1) Labour ... ..	2,643	75	2,718
	(2) Transport ... ..	—	624	624
	(3) Plant, Equipment and Buildings ... ..	386	—	386
	(4) Other Items ... ..	—	—	—
	(5) Gross Expenditure ...	3,029	699	3,728
2	<b>Gross Income :</b> (Excluding reimbursements)		149	149
3	<b>Net Cost</b> ... ..	3,029	550	3,579
4	Capital Expenditure Unit from revenue ... ..	—	—	—
5	Gross expenditure on snow clearance not included previously ... ..	870	—	—
6	<b>Unit Costs</b> Net cost per street mile cleansed ... ..	s. d. 4 10	s. d.	
7	Net cost per 1,000 gullies cleansed ... ..	£ —	£ ... 61	
8	Net cost per 1,000 population	151	27	

**Street Cleansing.**

Apart from absence due to sickness, all nine sweeping beats have been manned throughout the year. Fourteen litter baskets have been secured to lamp standards in various parts of the town and have done much in maintaining the streets in a clean and neat condition.

The gully emptier has been in use in cleaning out all the street gullies in the district and was used on a few occasions as a street washer during period of prolonged dry, dusty weather.

All beats are now provided with a light alloy street orderly mounted on pneumatic balloon tyres. These are ideal for the purpose and are pleasing in appearance.

**Snow Clearance.**

During the early weeks of the year, snow fell in appreciable amounts and vehicles and labour were made available to the Surveyor for the purpose of snow clearance. Although this has, at times, been the cause of great inconvenience to us, we have always endeavoured to cooperate and by doing so kept the roads through Tredegar free for the easy passage of traffic.

## Operational Statistics.

Mileage of streets cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	47
Frequency of cleansing :—						
At least once daily	...	...	...	...	...	7%
Three to five times weekly	...	...	...	...	...	90%
Twice weekly	...	...	...	...	...	2%
Once weekly	...	...	...	...	...	1%
Less than once weekly	...	...	...	...	...	—
Total miles cleansed—mileage x no. of cleansings	...	...	...	...	...	240
No. of gully cleansings during the year	...	...	...	...	...	
No. of gullies x no. of cleansings	...	...	...	...	...	9,000

## Public Conveniences.

These are situated as follows :—

Male Conveniences :	Waterclosets.	Urinals.
The Crown, Nantylwch	Nil.	1
Beaufort Road, Sirhowy	Nil.	1
Church Street	1	1
Commercial Street	3	1
Park Row	2	1
Vale Terrace	Nil.	1
Bethel Avenue	Nil.	1
Morgan Street...	4	1
Female Conveniences :		
Morgan Street	3	
Castle Street	2	
Park Row	2	

## Roads and Highways.

Of the total of approximately 41 miles of roads in the district, 13.240 miles are classified as under :—

- (a) TRUNK ROAD A.465 :  
Merthyr—Abergavenny Road. From Weanpound to the boundary of Rhymney U.D. at Princetown ... 2.50 miles
- (b) CLASS I ROAD A.4048 :  
From Sirhowy Bridge to Pochin (Northern Boundary of Bedwellty U.D. ... 4.01 miles
- (c) CLASS II ROAD B.4256 :  
From Queen Victoria Street to the Rhymney U.D. boundary at Heath Cock ... 1.39 miles
- (d) CLASS III ROADS.  
From A.465 near Crown Inn, Nantylwch to Quarrymen's Arms, Trefil ... 1.85 miles.  
From A.465 near Railway Hotel to Station Road near Crown Inn, Nantylwch ... 1.21 miles.  
From A.4048 at Morgan Street via Shop Row to Ebbw Vale U.D. Boundary near Mountain Air Gate ... 1.11 miles.  
From B.4256 near Cefn Golau Cemetery to U.D. Boundary South of Mountain Ash Inn ... 1.13 miles.



**Section 3.****HOUSING.**

Housing is still the major problem facing the Council and although the desperate situation that existed in the immediate after-war years has been largely ameliorated there are all too many families in the district who are living in conditions that are, at best, deplorable. Some are living in property that is worn out and which is completely beyond any repair or renovation and others living in grossly overcrowded conditions, conditions which cause indescribable distress to the occupants.

I can do no more than compliment the Council for the set up they have adapted in allocating houses as they become available and the present method of investigating doubtful cases, immediately prior to the allocation of houses has everything to commend it. The Sanitary Officers who carry out the investigations for the Committee concerned are completely impartial and consequently the reports submitted are true and accurate.

During the year, properties were dealt with under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936. They were all in a completely worn out and dilapidated condition and quite unfit for further use as homes. From time to time opportunities occur which permits this Department to represent such dwellings as being unfit, and in each case the Council has accepted the recommendations of the Department and acted accordingly.

Since the Council implemented Section 4 of the Housing Act, 1949, a large number of applications for loans for the purchase of unfit property has been considered. There are two points of view on this. The one is that the advance of a loan for the purchase of substandard and unfit property mainly prolongs the existence of such premises in much the same state. On the other hand there are many instances of unfit property being completely stripped down by the new owner until little more than the roof and walls remain. A complete interior renovation with the addition of a bathroom results in the premises being brought up to the standard of the Housing Act.

The Act, as implemented by the Council has unquestionably enabled many people with limited capital to purchase their own homes and thus relieved the Authority of the task of providing houses for them at a very much greater cost.

All investigations prior to the allocation of Council houses are undertaken by this Department and the reports are carefully considered by the Housing Committee before the prospective tenants are selected. To me this appears to be the most satisfactory method of house allocation as the reports give an up to date picture of the circumstances of each applicant and they are prepared by experienced and impartial Officers.

Our relations with the Housing Manager, Mr. T. J. Jenkins, are of the happiest and I am grateful for the help which he so often gives to this Department.

**Report of Survey of Council Houses.**

During the year a survey of Council Houses was carried out. The number of houses visited was 955, this figure excludes Waundeg



Estate. The population was 4,382, giving a density per house of 4.83. The child population amounted to 1,019 giving a child density per house of 1.1. The age of 10 years was taken from the Housing Act, 1936, where a child over the age of 10 years counts as an adult or unit, and under the age of 10 years a child or half a unit. Boys exceed girls by 21.

Close observation was made of each house visited. Generally the houses were maintained in an excellent condition and there were numerous instances of tenants carrying out work at their own expense to improve the appearance and the amenities of their homes.

The general state of cleanliness was found to be of a very high order even in houses which were found grossly overcrowded. It is therefore not surprising that not one bath was found to contain coal, and no bedrooms were found to be in use as a chicken run. These accusations are all too frequently levelled against Council tenants by critics who are prejudiced and misinformed. It is therefore a pleasant task to be able to refute these slanders from evidence obtained by direct and intimate observations.

A summary of conditions found is as follows :—

Excellent to Very Good	...	...	...	899
Fairly Good	...	...	...	51
Bad	...	...	...	5

Of the very few houses found in a bad condition, the cause in my opinion was laziness rather than ignorance, and it is this that makes any improvement a very difficult matter for your Sanitary Staff. An ignorant person can be taught and helped, if the will to learn is there, but an appeal to a lazy person falls in unwilling ears. They have no desire to make an improvement and are quite happy and content to live and sleep in squalor. How best to deal with this tiny minority is a troublesome problem, but I have found that regular and repeated visits do bring about some slight change for the better.

### Housing.

1. (a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts ... 390
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 1,037
2. (a) Number of Dwelling Houses (included under sub-head 1) inspected under the Housing Consolidated Regulations ... 106
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 174
3. Number of Dwelling Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 4
4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation ... 89
- Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority of their officers ... 45
5. Number of inspections made under Sec. 4 of the Housing Act, 1949 64



### Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service by formal notices :—	
(a) By owners ... ..	Nil.
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... ..	Nil.
(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	59
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners ... ..	47
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil.
(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 ... ..	5
(2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	3
(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 ... ..	1
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ..	1
Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	14

### Housing Progress.

Total number of dwelling houses in the district ... ..	5318
Number of dwelling houses owned and controlled by the Local Authority :—	
Pre- War ... ..	487
Post- War ... ..	569
Total ... ..	1,056
Total number of applicants for Council houses at end of year ... ..	722

### Houses Erected During the Year.

	Temporary-Prefabricated.	Permanent.
By Local Authority ... ..	Nil.	74
By Private Enterprise ... ..	Nil.	2

### Houses in Course of Erection at End of Year.

	Temporary Prefabricated.	Permanent.
By Local Authority ... ..	Nil.	56
By Private Enterprise ... ..	Nil.	8



### Housing Repairs—Police Court Proceedings.

#### Public Health Act, 1936, Section 92.

Case No.	Nature of Nuisance.	Result.
1	General Defects	Order to abate nuisance within 29 days and Costs.
2	General Defects	Order to abate nuisance within 28 days and Costs
3	General Defects	Adjourned — work completed within 28 days. Costs
4	General Defects	Adjourned—work completed within 28 days— Costs
5	General Defects	Order to abate nuisance within 56 days and Costs
6	General Defects	Order to abate nuisance within 84 days and Costs.
7	General Defects	Complied with during adjournment—Costs.
8	General Defects	Order to abate nuisance within 56 days, Costs and Daily Penalty of Two Shillings and Sixpence per day.

#### Section 4.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The year 1953 saw further activities aimed at obtaining the provisions of adequate hot water supplies in all food establishments and I am pleased to report that almost all food premises have now a constant supply of hot water available on the premises. A few remaining premises are awaiting delivery of their orders. In such cases the suppliers are written to and asked to expedite delivery.

I must again stress the importance of clean food handling and the increased necessity of persons engaged in the food trade to realise their own personal obligations in preventing the contamination of foodstuffs. No amount of hygienic equipment can compensate for the lack of personal hygiene but it is obvious that a now "food hygiene conscious" public are dealing with those premises where greater attention is being paid to serving food in a clean manner.

There were two Police Court proceedings during the year under Section 13, for the non provision of hot water. In the one case a conviction was obtained and an order made for the provision of hot water within 28 days. In the other case, suitable means of hot water was provided and the case dismissed on pay-

ment of costs. It is regrettable that one is forced to resort to the Police Courts to enforce these things, but it is the only way to ensure compliance with the Act where food retailers flout the law and where persuasion, tact and courtesy are considered a weakness.

### Inspection of Food Premises.

Premises.	Number of Visits.
Butchers ... ..	49
Confectioners, Grocers and Greengrocers ... ..	305
Fishmongers and Poulterers ... ..	11
Fried Fish Shops ... ..	4
Icecream Premises ... ..	51
Markets and Stalls ... ..	79
Cafes ... ..	15
Slaughterhouses ... ..	321
Unsound Food ... ..	120
Licensed Premises ... ..	38
	<hr/> 993 <hr/>

Defects Remedied	Baker's and Food Prep'rs	Cafes	Ice- cream Premises	Grocers and G'gr'crs	Wet and F'd Fish shops	Butch'r s
Dirty Conditions	1	1	Nil.	3	1	Nil.
Defective structure and furnishings	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	1	Nil.	1
Cleansing & decoration	1	1	Nil.	2	2	Nil.
Washing facilities and hot water supply	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	17	2	4
Defective sanitary accommodation and drainage ... ..	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	1	Nil.
Sterilisation of equip- ment and utensils	Nil.	Nil.	3	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Insufficient food storage and fly proofing	Nil.	1	Nil.	1	Nil.	Nil.

Total Number of Defects Remedied, ... 43.



### Food Poisoning.

I am pleased to report that there were no further cases of Para-Typhoid notified during the year and it is hoped that the constant inspection of food premises and the continued advice on the importance of personal hygiene during these visits will have the desired effect of maintaining a high standard of food hygiene at all times.

There was however, during the latter end of the year, a slight outbreak of Sonne dysentery confined to the children's Home at Parkside. Upon the report of one suspected case, faecal specimens were taken from all children, contacts and kitchen staffs and out of a total of nineteen, four were found to be positive including the suspected case. These patients were immediately isolated and repeat specimens taken until they proved negative. It was eventually discovered that the suspected case had been admitted in a sick condition from another area and the Medical Officer and Sanitary Inspector were therefore notified.

It is pleasing to note the ready cooperation of the personnel in these cases, a factor which is so very essential if further spread is to be prevented.

### Meat Inspection.

The inspection of meat is carried out at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse, Salisbury Street. I am of the opinion that nothing can be done to improve this site and complaints will continue to rise especially during the heavy killing period. In a congested area of this nature with its narrow approach, congestion of traffic and the necessity to remove condemned meat, hides, bones and manure it is obvious that complaints must arise especially when people are residing in such close proximity to the slaughterhouse. I cannot anticipate what the future policy will be but I hope that if this authority ever undertakes the control of slaughtering its plans will be bold enough to include an entirely new site and abattoir.

The extensive alterations referred to in my report for 1952 did not materialise. Twin rails, an electric saw and two stunning pens were constructed. The pens in my opinion are dangerous and ill constructed and owing to this hazard are seldom used. The overtures made for increased offal hanging space and separate provision for tripes and fat achieved negative results owing to lack of finance.

Apparently the aim of the Ministry is to increase killing since the alterations were carried out for this express purpose, but although this is desirable, the fact remains that the killing and preparation of meat for human consumption should be carried out with a view to attaining and maintaining a high standard of hygiene in all respects and that quality of production should not be sacrificed to quantity.

The transport of meat was considerably improved during the year by the use of properly covered lorries. These are periodically inspected and I am pleased to report that the new Contractor is cooperating fully in this matter. I have however had cause for serious complaints regarding dirty offal bins. In view of the plentiful supply of hot water available daily I feel there is no justification for this condition and it is unfortunate that the staff available is so unreliable in this matter. I therefore adopted the procedure of withholding offal until the bins were thoroughly cleansed and making routine checks of butcher shops to ensure that delivery of all offal in clean containers was being



carried out. I appealed to the butchers to report any default to me and also to ensure that they did not retain any bins on their premises for illicit use.

As regard the primary duties, ante-mortem inspection of all animals is carried out as far as is practicable at the slaughterhouse and post-mortem inspection of all animals is ensured by constant attendance during the slaughtering period. The long hours involved and the frequent week-end duties at least compensates one with the knowledge that disease free meat is being served to the public.

### MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION.

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number Killed ...	1715	456	448	14840	1498
Number Inspected	1715	456	448	14840	1498
<i>All Diseases Except Tuberculosis :</i> Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	1	1	67	5
Carcasses of which part or organ was condemned ...	1001	185	9	833	47
Percentage of number affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	50.71	40.78	2.22	6.06	3.47
<i>Tuberculosis Only :</i> Whole carcasses condemned ...	2	3	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Carcasses of which part or organ was condemned ...	141	24	Nil.	Nil.	58
Percentage of number affected with Tuberculosis	8.33	5.92	Nil.	Nil.	3.87

Number of visits to Slaughterhouses ... 321.



## CONDEMNATION OF UNSOUND FOOD.

						Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
<b>TUBERCULOSIS :</b>									
Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	—	4
Meat	...	...	...	...	...	—	14	1	26
Offal	...	...	...	...	...	2	12	3	19
...									
Total						4	11	1	21
<b>NON-TUBERCULOSIS :</b>									
Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	...	...	1	15	3	4
Meat	...	...	...	...	...		11	—	—
Offal	...	...	...	...	...	8	19	—	19
Total						11	5	3	23
Total amount—Tuberculosis and Non-Tuberculosis						15	18	1	16
<b>OTHER FOODS :</b>									
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...			3	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
Beans	...	...	...	...	...			1	7
Brawn	...	...	...	...	...				20
Butter	...	...	...	...	...				12
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...			1	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
Dripping	...	...	...	...	...				24
Ham	...	...	...	...	...				26 $\frac{1}{2}$
Luncheon Meat	...	...	...	...	...				2
Luncheon Roll	...	...	...	...	...				9
Sausages	...	...	...	...	...			1	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Total							2	1	14

Tins : 2949 ; Jars : 44 ; Packets : 93 ; Pies : 3 ;  
Coconuts : 6 ; Savoury Ducks : 72.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### MILK SUPPLY.

The bulk of the milk is imported, all consisting of bottled milk from Pasteurised Plants at Merthyr, Cardiff and Trecynon.

There is one Pasteurised Plant at Tredegar of the Holder type.

This plant received periodic inspection and samples are taken regularly.

### Details of Milk Sampling.

Grade.		Satisfactory.		Unsatisfactory.		Total.
Pasteurised	...	43	...	7	...	50
T.T. Pasteurised	...	29	...	3	...	32
Totals	...	72	...	10	...	82

### Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Number of Licences issued :

Dealers Licence to retail Pasteurised Milk	...	10
Dealers Licence to retail T.T. Pasteurised Milk	...	11
Licensed Pasteurisation Plants	...	1
Number of Dairymen registered	...	17

### Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations 1947 to 1952.

#### Registration of Premises.

Manufacturers (Cold Mix)	...	5
Retailers	...	52

#### Ice-Cream Sampling.

Grade.	Number.	Percentage.
1	24	53.33
2	14	31.99
3	3	6.66
4	4	8.88

#### Lollipops Iced.

5 samples ... Grade 1.

Number of visits to Ice-Cream Premises ... 56.

The bulk of the ice-cream consumed in the area is prepacked and imported from the larger distributor manufacturers. One manufacturer of cold mix surrendered his registration during the year.

### Factories Act, 1937 Section 34 (1).

#### Provision of Suitable Means of Escape in Case of Fire.

A number of factories were inspected in company with Mr. Lamb of the County Fire Prevention Department and all inspected were found satisfactory.

Two "Certificates of Adequate Means of Escape in Case of Fire," were issued.

### INSPECTION OF SHOPS.

#### SHOPS ACT, 1950.

Number of visits ... 139.

Defects.	Remedied.
Inadequate washing facilities	10
Inadequate temperature	6



**INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.**

Number of Factories on Register ... 75.      No. of Inspections ... 58.

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Written Notices.</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
Factories ...	58	Nil.	Nil.

**Defects found in Factories.**

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</i>	<i>Number of Prosecutions Instituted.</i>
Nuisances under Public Health Act. (Defective Drain.	2	2	—	—
Total ...	2	2	—	—
Factories Act Sanitary Accommodation	1	1	—	—
Redecoration of walls and ... ceilings	1	1	—	—
Total ...	2	2	—	—

**Rodent Control.**

This vital and important work comprises the twice yearly treatment of the Council's sewer system, the treatment of domestic and business premises and periodical surveys to ascertain the presence of infestation.

The work performed by one Rodent Operator who is given the assistance of one labourer while the treatment of the sewer manholes is being carried out.

The ever ready co-operation of the Infestation Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is appreciated and the regular visits of Mr. F. C. Hall, the Division Inspector have been of great value to the Officers of the Department.

During the year use was made of "Warfarin," a new poison which is specifically poisonous to rats and mice. Our experience with this substance in Tredegar is that it is highly efficient in that

1. It appears to be highly attractive to rats ;
2. Its use obviates prebaiting ;
3. Its toxicity is high.

Zinc Phosphide and Arsenious Oxide were also used extensively during the year.

### Verminous Infestation.

A large number of complaints of verminous infestation was received during the year. These were dealt with promptly by treating the premises concerned with D.D.T. preparations and Gammexane.

The main infestation in a coal mining area of this nature is by cockroaches and although excellent results have been achieved by the use of the above products the danger of reinfestation is always present, the main reasons being the innocent carrying of cockroaches to the dwellings from the mines by the miners themselves, their presence in the coal and the old type of fire ranges which together with structural defects caused by subsidence afford excellent cover and breeding possibilities for these pests.

It is therefore necessary to prevent as far as possible opportunities for their concealment and breeding and it is in this respect that prevention is of more importance than cure by constant use of D.D.T. products.

The practice now is to use D.D.T with sound advice on proofing.

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agri- cultural	All other including business premises	Total
Total number of properties in Local Authority's Dist.	25	5,450	—	836	6,311
No. of properties inspected :					
(a) By notification	1	102	—	30	133
(b) Survey or otherwise ...	2	75	—	124	201
No. of properties infected by rats ... (Minor)	2	18	—	12	32
No. of properties seriously infested by mice ...	—	—	—	—	—
No. of infested properties treated	3	103	—	130	236
No. of Notices served : Sec. 4	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Treatment ...	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Structural works ... (Proofing)	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority ...	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Legal Proceedings	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.



Test baiting of the sewers was carried out in May and November with the following results :—

<i>Manholes baited.</i>	<i>Complete takes.</i>	<i>Part takes.</i>	<i>Number takes.</i>
1592	240	290	1062

Number of visits to premises :—

By Sanitary Inspector	...	...	...	...	126
By Rodent Operator	...	...	...	...	352
Total	...	...	...	...	478

#### Notices Served.

Preliminary Notices Served	...	...	...	80
Preliminary Notices Abated	...	...	...	66
Statutory Notices Served	...	...	...	59
Statutory Notices Abated	...	...	...	47

TABLE I.

#### Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

<i>Nature of Visits.</i>	<i>Visits.</i>
Accumulations	52
Animals	7
Bakehouses	9
Dangerous Buildings	5
Dirty Houses and Verminous Premises	58
Drainage	183
Factories	58
Fireguards Prevention	1
General Defects	657
Hotels and Licenced Premises	38
Housing Investigations (Council Houses)	150
Interviews	98
Means of Escape in case of fire	14
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	9
Mortuary	2
Offensive Smells	2
Public Conveniences	56
Rats and Mice	126
Refuse Collection	11
Refuse Disposal	304
Rag and Bone Dealers	1
Sanitary Accommodation	56
Shops Act, 1950	139
Stables and Piggeries	46
Street Cleansing	346
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	11
Water Supply	59
	<hr/> 2498 <hr/>

TABLE II.

## General House Defects.

Defects and Nuisances.						Remedied.
Defective Chimneys	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective roofs	...	...	...	...	...	19
Defective spouting	...	...	...	...	...	15
Dampness	...	...	...	...	...	19
Defective doors and furnishings			...	...	...	4
Defective ceiling plaster		...	...	...	...	10
Defective wall plaster	...	...	...	...	...	10
Defective firegrates and ovens	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective brickwork	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dilapidated window frames	...	...	...	...	...	7
Defective floors	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dirty dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective staircases	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective hotwater systems	...	...	...	...	...	1
						104

TABLE III.

### Drainage and Sanitary Accommodation.

Defects and Nuisances.	Remedied.
Obstructed drains and sewers ... ..	108
Defective or insufficient drainage ... ..	40
Defective water closet roofs ... ..	6
Defective water closet doors and furnishings ...	5
Defective flushing cisterns ... ..	1
Broken pans and oints ... ..	4
Dilapidated water closet compartments ... ..	4
New water closet compartments constructed ...	3
New sinks provided ... ..	2
	<hr/> 173 <hr/>

TABLE IV.

### General Nuisances.

<i>Defects and nuisances :</i>							<i>Remedied.</i>
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
							<hr/> 34



# FACTORIES.

<i>Classification of Trades</i>	<i>Mech. Power</i>	<i>Non-Mech. Power</i>	<i>Total</i>
Abrasives ... ..	1	—	1
Bakers ... ..	9	—	9
Blacksmiths ... ..	—	1	1
Boot & Shoe Repairers ...	14	1	15
Brickyards ... ..	1	—	1
Builders Contractors ...	5	3	8
Carpenters ... ..	1	—	1
Clothing Manufacturers ...	2	—	2
Council Repair Depot. ...	—	2	2
Coach Builders ... ..	1	—	1
Crown Corks ... ..	1	—	1
Dental Mechanics ... ..	2	—	2
Garages ... ..	11	1	12
Gas Works ... ..	1	—	1
Jewelry Manufacturers ...	—	1	1
Laundries ... ..	3	—	3
Monumental Masonry ...	—	1	1
Motor Spares ... ..	1	—	1
Pasteurisation Plants ...	1	—	1
Photographers ... ..	1	—	1
Potato Cleaning ... ..	1	—	1
Printers ... ..	1	1	2
Radio & Television Engr. ...	3	—	3
Steel Processing ... ..	1	—	1
Watch & Clock Repairers ...	—	1	1
Water Filtration Plants ...	2	—	2
Totals ... ..	63	12	75

### STAFF.

Again it is my pleasure to compliment all members of my staff on the year's work. My Deputy, Mr. K. O. Batten, undertook a complete overhaul of the Department's filing system with a consequent increase in office efficiency. His general experience, common sense and tireless energy makes him an invaluable officer and admirable colleague.

Mr. D. J. Turner, Additional Sanitary Inspector, proved himself to be a very useful Meat Inspector during the period of heavy killing at the Ministry of Food Abattoir and his all-round efficiency made him a great asset to the Department.

Miss E. Wright, Clerk, has worked well during the year, quietly and efficiently. After having completed three years in the Department she has now a complete knowledge of all branches of the work.

Mr. Crad Brace, Public Cleansing Foreman, can be best described as hard work personified. His willingness, tact and absolute reliability in all matters make him an indispensable officer.

To all members of the outside staff I am again grateful. This work is anything but pleasant but its importance can never be over estimated or exaggerated. They have worked well during all weathers and I am very fortunate in having such a fine team of men. There have been no labour disputes of any kind.

Lastly I am indebted for the help which I receive from other Departments (Clerks, Housing, Treasurers and Surveyors) so often during the year. The friendly relations that pervade Bedwellty House must be unique and there can be no question that it reflects itself in the whole Administration.

To the Council I render my thanks for the understanding and consideration each member has shown me during the year and for their support in all matters affecting the Department.

Yours obediently,

O. GRIFFITHS,  
*Senior Sanitary Inspector.*  
*Public Cleansing Officer.*





