

[Report 1940] / Medical Officer of Health, Llandrindod Wells U.D.C.

Contributors

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LLANDRINDOD WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



To the Chairman and Members.

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration the report on the sanitary conditions and Vital Statistics of the Urban District for the year 1940.

I regret the delay in submitting my report, but the pressure of work has made it impossible to complete the report at an earlier date.

This report is prepared in accordance with the instructions contained in Circular 1 (Wales), issued by the Ministry of Health, and presents briefly the scope of the activities of the Health Department.

Yours faithfully,

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Medical Officer of Health.

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WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

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Yours faithfully,

Medical Officer of Health

LLANDRINDOD WELLS URBAN DISTRICT.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1940.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE AREA.

Area of District in Acres	...	...	1509.
Registrar-General's estimate of (a) Resident Population. Mid.1939	...	...	3621
No. of inhabited houses (end 1939) according to Rate Books	...	...	773
Rateable Value - 31st. December, 1940	..	..	£24,291.
Product of Penny Rate	-ditto-		£94.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Urban District, the centre of which is the town of Llandrindod Wells, with a built up area of approximately 900 acres, is situated in the centre of the County of Radnor and is the largest township in the County, well served by road and rail transport.

There are no manufacturing industries in the District, the Town being mainly a Health and Holiday resort with a resident population of retired business and professional people. Owing to the state of emergency throughout the Country, the Town has become the centre of various activities connected with the War Effort and to it have come a large number of people for safety, so that there was very little available accommodation for people wishing to spend a holiday or take advantage of the treatment at the Spa during the Summer Season of 1940.

Unemployment during the year gradually decreased until at the end of the year there was a definite shortage of suitable persons of the labouring and domestic classes.

TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT DURING 1940.

		Total.	Male.	Female.
Live Births	(Legitimate	53	26	27
	(Illegitimate	1	0	1
Still Births		Nil	Nil	Nil

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population:-

Live Births	-	14.9	Birth Rate 1938	13.4
Still Births	-	0.0	Still Births 1938	0.0.

<u>DEATHS.</u>		Total.	Male.	Female.
No. of Deaths	...	54	20	34

The Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population is 14.9 which is the same as for the year 1938.

Death from Puerperal Sepsis	...	Nil.
Deaths from other Puerperal Causes		Nil.

Death rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births 74
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 74
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births Nil

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 6
" " Measles (") Nil
" " Whooping Cough " Nil
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) Nil

Particulars of any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which requires comment Nil.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE IN AREA.

1. Public Officers.

Medical Officer of Health (Part-time). J.E. Jenkins, M.B.,
Ch.B.
Sanitary Inspector (Part-time). R.J. Morris, P.A.S.I.,
M.R.S.I., Cert. S.I.

2. Laboratory Facilities. --The examination and analyses of water, milk, and foodstuffs are carried out by the Public Analyst of the County, H.J. Evans of Liverpool.

(b) Ambulance Facilities. -- The provision of Ambulance services have been much improved during the year by the gift of a motor ambulance to the Local St. John's Ambulance Brigade. This Ambulance by arrangements is being housed and maintained by the Council, the Council having power to use it for the transference of infectious disease cases and for other purposes.

(c) and (d) The services mentioned in 2(c) and (d) are dealt with by the Radnorshire County Council.

(e) There is no change in the Hospital arrangements to that reported on in the full report of 1932. The voluntary Hospital at Llandrindod Wells, which is assisted by the County Council and voluntary subscription has been fully occupied during the year.

The Council's Isolation Hospital has not been used to any extent.

3. Maternity and Child Welfare. The Maternity and Child Welfare are administered by the Radnorshire County Council.

4. The Supervising Authority under the Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927, is the Radnorshire County Council.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY - Referring to the Report for 1938 it has been necessary to disconnect one of the supplies mentioned therein which was from a collection of surface water springs, this action being necessary on the receipt of the Ministry of Health Instructions to chlorinate all water supplies. The Council decided that it was not wise to have a series of chlorination units spread out throughout the District.

The Town is now supplied with water taken from the River Ithon at a point upstream of the Town and is purified by the

use of Alumina Ferric, Mechanical Filters and the injection of Sulphate of Ammonia and a solution of "Chlorox" (10% solution of Chlorine) the injection of the latter two chemicals being varied according to the state of the River water.

The water is tested twice each day to check the Chlorination and available free chlorine is maintained at 0.2 to 0.3 parts per million.

The mechanical filteres were cleaned and repaired twice during the year when strainer lids were renewed and concrete bases repaired.

A scheme for the improvement of the Works based on the report of Dr. Beale in 1937 was drawn up and submitted to the Council but it has not been possible to carry out the work.

The bacteriological reports on the water show that a pure and wholesome supply was maintained throughout the year.

A Tabulation of the Analyst's Reports are attached.

The volume of water passed into the supply was much greater during 1940 to that of previous years but it is estimated that the average consumption is down to 30 gallons per head per day compared with 45 gallons in 1938.

No works of importance were carried out to the supply during the year.

TABULATION OF BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR 1940,
Carried out by H.J. EVANS, Public Analyst, Liverpool.

Date of Sample.	No of Organisms.	Coli present in cos.	Remarks.
	48 hours @ 37°C.	100,50,25,20,10,5,1.	
1940.	48 hours @ 37°C.		
17th. Jan	1 at 22°C.	Nil	Satisfactory.
19th. April	2	Nil	ditto.
14th June	2	Nil	ditto.
20th. July	5	Nil	ditto.
21st. August	1	Nil	ditto.
30th. October	4	Nil	ditto.
17th. November	1	Nil	ditto.
29th. November	1	Nil	ditto.

TABULATION OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

Samples taken	21st. August	17th. November, 1940.	Parts per 100,000.
Free Ammonia	...	...	0.0120. 0.004.
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	0.0080. 0.003.
Chlorine	}	}	1.50 2.1
As Salt			
Pern. Hardness	...	...	7.40) 4.0
Temp. Hardness	...	...	2.90)
Nitrates	...	...	0.07 0.06
Nitrites	...	...	Nil Nil
Oxygen consumed at 37°C.	15 minutes		0.018 Nil
	4 hours		0.073 0.012
Total Solids	...	...	11.50. 10.5

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No works of improvement to the drainage or sewerage disposal works were carried out during the year.

A great deal of trouble was experienced in the blockage of house drains and sewers, due to the very large number of people in

the Town and the practice of people living in Apartments putting various household wastes down the water closets.

Sewerage Disposal. The large volume of sewage passing to the two disposal works has taxed the purification capacity of both and on occasions when the River Ithon, into which the effluents pass, is below average flow, a certain amount of discoloration took place but no report of the death of fish was received.

Rivers and Streams. No serious pollution of any of the local rivers or streams was reported during the year.

Public Cleansing. This service was greatly increased and the volume of collection exceeded that possible to be dealt with in the three retort incinerators, making it necessary to deposit one load each day on the refuse tip.

The collection of waste materials for re-utilisation was a great success and the Council received the congratulations of the Minister of Salvage on its efforts and high returns.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR OF THE URBAN DISTRICT OF LLANDRINDOD WELLS FOR 1940.

<u>NUISANCES.</u>		<u>LODGING HOUSES.</u>	
No. of visits re nuisances	35	No. registered	Nil.
Visits re works in progress	15	<u>OFFENSIVE TRADES.</u>	
Notices issued:		No. Registered	Nil
(a) Informal	22	<u>WATER SUPPLY.</u>	
(b) Statutory	Nil	Wells sunk	Nil
Notices complied with	22	No. of samples taken	8
Outstanding	Nil	No. found polluted	Nil
Legal Proceedings	Nil	No. of wells repaired	Nil
<u>HOUSING.</u>		No. closed	1
Inspections as per Sec.D.	40	Houses connected to supply	Nil
<u>FOOD PREPARING PLACES</u>		New houses connected	Nil
No. of inspections	26	New connections to houses	3
<u>SLAUGHTER HOUSES ETC.</u>		<u>INFECTIOUS DISEASES.</u>	
No. registered or licensed	1	No. of inquiries	20
No. of inspections & visits	104	No. taken to Hospital	11
No. of voluntary surrenders		No. of houses disinfected	36
of unsound foods.	23	Bedding and clothing	22
No. of seizures of unsound food	Nil	No. of houses disinfected	
<u>COWSHEDS.</u>		re fleas, lice, etc	1
No. registered	6	<u>HOUSE DRAINAGE.</u>	
No. of inspections	18	No. laid or relaid	Nil
<u>STABLES AND PIGGERIES.</u>		No. cleansed, trapped or	
No. of inspections	6	ventilated	20
<u>DAIRIES.</u>		Spouting, waste-pipes,	
No. registered	5	sinks etc. rectified	Nil
No. of inspections	15	No. of cesspools cleansed	Nil
<u>MILKSHOPS.</u>		No. repaired	Nil
No. registered	3	<u>WATER CLOSETS.</u>	
No. of inspections	Nil	No. provided	Nil
<u>BALCHHOUSES.</u>		No. improved or repaired	Nil
No. registered	5	<u>PRIVIES, ASHPITS.</u>	
No. of inspections	15	No. of new	Nil
<u>WORKSHOPS AND FACTORIES.</u>		No. repaired	Nil
No. registered	46	No. converted to W.C's	Nil
No. of inspections	24	No. to pail closets	Nil
<u>SCAVENGING.</u>		No. to earth closets	Nil
No. of privies, ashpits etc.		<u>TOTAL NO. OF INSPECTIONS</u> 365	
emptied.	Nil	<u>AND VISITS MADE</u> _____	
No. of accumulations of			
refuse removed-approx	3,000		

SHOPS. No inspections have been made under the provisions of the Shop Act, 1934 and the Public Health Act.

CAMPING SITES. No action has been taken with regard to camping sites.

SMOKE ABATEMENT - No action taken.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS. There is one privately owned swimming pool which has been taken over by the Military Authorities.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. No action has been necessary.

SECTION D. HOUSING.

The Housing conditions of the Town are being maintained in a satisfactory condition although the accommodation is overstrained and there are certain cases of overcrowding due to the influx of people from target Towns.

SECTION E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

Residential Retailers	3
Cowkeepers and Retailers	5
Wholesalers	1
Non-Resident Retailers	1
Non-Resident Retailers and Cowkeepers	18

Many of the Purveyors sell both loose and bottled milk.

Two Purveyors hold licences for tuberculosis free herds.

Visits to Cowsheds during the year	...	18.
Visits to Cowsheds in Colwyn Rural District		3.
Visits to Cowsheds in Rhayader " "		1.
Visits to Dairies during year		18
Samples of milk taken for bacteriological analysis	...	3 satisfactory.
Tests for cleanliness by sedimentation test		40
Number of notifications of milk being dirty		Nil
Action taken under Milk and Dairies Act 1922 & 1926		Nil

The Administration of the Milk and Dairies Order 1926 and Milk (Special Resignations) Orders 1936 and 1938 is carried out by the Radnorshire County Council.

(b) Meat and Foods. Action taken with regard to meat and other foods, included inspection of meat, slaughterhouses, shops and vehicles.

Under the Ministry of Food slaughtering scheme there is one slaughter house in use.

No. of carcasses inspected - 210 beasts, 30 calves, 2000 sheep and 100 pigs.

As far as possible the whole of the meat slaughtered and offered for retail sale is examined by anti and post mortem inspection or by inspection of meat in shops.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding		Sheep &		
	Cows	Cows, Calves.	Lambs.	Pigs.	
Number killed.					
No. inspected	190	20	30	2000	100

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows, Calves,	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs.
All diseases except tuberculosis, whole carcasses condemned	1		1	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	8	2	0	28
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease (not T.B.)	5%	10%	Nil	1½%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u> , Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	1	Nil	Nil
Percentage of number inspected with Tuberculosis	1½%	5%	Nil	Nil

The chief diseases for which organs were condemned were flukes, necrosis and other parasitic diseases.

Food Preparing Places.

Number of Inspections	...	26
Food surrendered and destroyed		
Tinned Foods	...	8
Frozen Meat	...	80 lbs.
Bacon	...	7 lbs.
Poultry	...	16 lbs.

Adulterations. The administration of the Acts dealing with the adulteration of food is carried out by the Officers of the Radnorshire County Council.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Eleven cases of notifiable infectious disease were taken to hospital.

Fifty-four cases of notifiable infectious disease occurred.

Action as reported upon by the Medical Officer of the Radnorshire County Council was taken to provide artificial immunization.

The Council's Isolation Hospital was open for a period of 23 weeks in the year, when 8 cases of measles were isolated.

Three cases were also sent to the Monkmoor Isolation Hospital during the year. One a suspected case of diphtheria, one a bad case of scarlet fever, and the third a case of Cerebral Spinal Meningitis, from which the patient died.

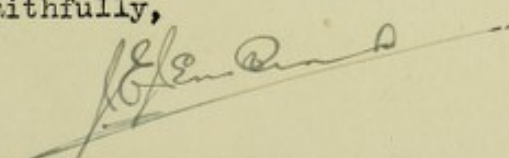
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1940.

DISEASE	Total Cases Notified.		Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
	Age Periods 1-2, 3-4, 5-10, 15-20.			
Small Pox	Nil		Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever	3		One	Nil
Diphtheria	One		One	Nil
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	Nil		Nil	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	Nil		Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	Two		Nil	Two
Other Diseases generally notifiable	48		9	1
Other diseases notifiable locally	Nil		Nil	Nil

TUBERCULOSIS. NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1940.

Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non Resp-iratory.		Respiratory.		Non Res-iratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-	-	-	-	-	0	1	-	-
25-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-	-	-	1	0	-	-	-	-
55-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & upwards.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	-	1	0	0	1	-	-

Yours faithfully,


 Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT ON DISBURSEMENTS FOR 1902

Item	Amount	Balance	Total
Salaries	100.00	50.00	150.00
Travel	20.00	10.00	30.00
Printing	15.00	5.00	20.00
Postage	10.00	5.00	15.00
Telephone	5.00	2.50	7.50
Office Supplies	3.00	1.50	4.50
Repairs	2.00	1.00	3.00
Interest	1.00	0.50	1.50
Other Disbursements	1.00	0.50	1.50
Total	158.00	79.00	237.00

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS FOR 1902

Source	Amount	Balance	Total
General Fund	100.00	50.00	150.00
Special Assessments	20.00	10.00	30.00
Grants	15.00	5.00	20.00
Interest	10.00	5.00	15.00
Other Receipts	5.00	2.50	7.50
Total	150.00	79.00	229.00

The following is a statement of the receipts and disbursements for the year 1902. The total receipts for the year are \$229.00, and the total disbursements are \$237.00. The balance on hand at the end of the year is \$79.00.