

COWBRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

To the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee of
the Borough of Cowbridge.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report
on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Borough of Cowbridge
for the year ended 31st. December 1927.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

General Statistics.

Area (in acres).....	84
Population(Census 1921).....	1159
" (estimated 1927).....	1150
Number of inhabited houses(1921).....	263
Number occupied by one family(1921)..	248
Rateable value.....	£4388. 12. 2.
Sum represented by a penny rate.....	£ 18. 5. 8.

Extracts from vital statistics of the year.

	Legitimate	Total.	Males	Female	Birth Rate.
Births.	14	14	8	6	15.04
	1	1		1	
Deaths.		16	8	8	13.9

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth. } From Sepsis.....Nil
} From other causes.....Nil

Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

Legitimate....	Nil.	Illegitimate...	Nil.	<u>Rate per 1000 births.</u>
				Nil.

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

Referring to the above statistics it will be observed
there were 15 Births during the year, of which 8 were males
and 7 were females.

The number of deaths from all causes were 16.

The age at which death took place ranging from 13 months to
81 years. The majority being between 70 and 80 years of age.

The causes of death in most cases were, Influenza 2; Tuberculosis 3
Cerebral Haemorrhage 1; Heart Disease 5; Suicide 1; other defined
Diseases 4.

A. HOSPITALS.

(1) Fever. There is a fever Hospital at Bridgend, situate some seven miles from Cowbridge, to the upkeep of which the Borough makes an annual grant.

(2) Small Pox. This Hospital is also situate at Bridgend, the Local Authority contributing to its maintenance.

B. (1) Tuberculosis. The Welsh National Memorial Association provide treatment for sufferers from this disease. There is a Clinic at Bridgend at which suspected cases are examined by the Tuberculosis Physician, who, if necessary, recommends the Patient for admission to a Sanatorium or Hospital under the jurisdiction of the Association.

(2) Maternity. There is not a Maternity Home in the Borough. When necessary, arrangements are made for Expectant Mothers to be admitted to the Cardiff Hospital, about 12 miles from the Borough.

(3) Children. We also rely on the Cardiff Hospital for treatment of necessitous Children diseases.

There are no Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children, in the Area.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

For infectious cases we have a claim on the Ambulance attached to the Fever Hospital at Bridgend.

For non-infectious cases, as there is no Public Ambulance available in the area, we are compelled to hire either a private car, or the St. John's Ambulance from Cardiff, for these cases.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

There are no Clinic or Treatment Centres in the Borough.

Tuberculosis Clinic at Bridgend, also the Venereal Clinic at Pontypridd.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

The Borough being extremely small does not necessitate whole time Officers. Those in the employ of the Local Authority are:- the Medical Officer; the Sanitary Inspector, who also acts as Food Inspector; the Health Visitor, who is also the District Nurse. These three Officers are part time, to whose salary the Local Authority and the Ministry of Health contribute.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) General. This is carried out by the District Nurse under the supervision of the Medical Attendant on the case.

(b). Infectious Diseases. Where necessary Infectious cases are removed to the Infection Hospital at Bridgend; but those located in their homes are looked after privately.

MIDWIVES. There are three midwives practising in the Borough. Two of these are private, and the other is the District Nurse.

HEALTH VISITOR. The number of visits paid by the Health Visitor during the year were:-

To Expectant Mothers (a) First Visits...7.	(b) Total Visits..28.
To Infants under one year.....(a) " " 10.	((b) " ")..60.
Total visits to Expectant Mothers, and Children up to 5 years of age.....	268.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water. The Borough now has an up to date Water Supply, which has been supplied by the Mid-Glamorgan Water Board. Analysis of the Water show that it is perfectly fit both for drinking and domestic purposes.

Up to the end of the year most of the Houses have been connected with the supply, and in the near future it is to be hoped that all Houses will be connected up, and thus do away with the Pumps.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. As regards Drainage and Sewerage, the Borough is still in the same condition as it has been for several years past. With the exception of some Houses, which have drains leading into the River Thaw, the lavatories are emptied into cess-pools at the rear of the Houses, and they are kept in a sanitary condition by the inhabitants of these particular premises.

I have advocated an up to date Drainage and Sewerage Scheme. This has been discussed at various Meetings of the Sanitary Authority, and the conclusion always arrived at is that it would be too costly and the Borough could not stand the expense.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. There are two Public Urinals in the Borough, which are kept in satisfactory sanitary condition. There are no Public Closets.

SCAVENGING. House refuse is collected twice weekly, and is deposited in a disused quarry some distance from the town. This arrangement meets with the requirements of the Borough.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. This is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector and myself.

Inspector's Report on the Sanitary
condition of Cowbridge. Year 1927.

CESS-POOLS. Some of the Houses in the Borough have no gardens, at these the Bucket System is in vogue.

The gardens of several houses are limited in area and the cess-pool contents cannot be deposited there.

The urgent need is that some ground should be obtained where the cess-pool contents could be discharged and disinfected.

HOUSING. In two or three cases there is over-crowding, the Cubic Feet of 500 per person not being possible.

of smoke as it is situate in an agricultural area.

LODGING HOUSE. There is only one Lodging House in the Borough. This is kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES. There is one Public Slaughter House situate at the rear of the Blue Bell Inn. This is kept in satisfactory sanitary condition. There is also a private Slaughter House situate in a field adjoining the Gas Works. This is quite modern and satisfactory as regards both water supply and sanitary condition.

SCHOOLS. There are two Schools situated in the Borough. The Grammar School in Church Street, and the Council School situated at Broadway. These Schools have water supplied by the Mid-Glamorgan Water Board. The Sanitary condition of both are quite satisfactory.

HOUSING.

Number of New Houses erected during the Year:-

- (a) Total.....Nil
- (b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:
 - (1) By the Local Authority.....Nil
 - (2) By other bodies or persons....Nil

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year:

- (1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts.)..... 4
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925..... Nil
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.....Nil
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation..... Nil

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of formal Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers..... Nil

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:-

A. Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925:

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

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

(a) By owner..... 1

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners..... Nil

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close... 1

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

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

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

(a) By Owners..... Nil

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners..... Nil

C.-Proceedings under section 11, 14, and 15 of Housing Act, 1925

(1) Number of representations made with a view to making of Closing Orders..... 1

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made..... 1

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit..... Nil

(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made..... Nil

(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders..... Nil

(a). MILK SUPPLY. There are two resident vendors in the area. In each case the premises are kept in quite satisfactory sanitary condition.

There are no cows kept in the Borough.

(b) MEAT. There are four purveyors of Meat in the area. Inspection is regularly made by the Sanitary Inspector who invariably finds their premises kept in a clean and good sanitary condition.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1927.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>No. of Cases notified.</u>		<u>Cases admitted to Hospital.</u>		<u>Total Deaths.</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Small Pox	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	1	-	1	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	-	-
Chicken Pox	4	1	-	-	-	-

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

During the year in question there were no cases of this disease notified.

TUBERCULOSIS.

<u>Age periods.</u>	<u>New Cases.</u>				<u>Deaths.</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non Pulmonary.</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1								
5								
10								
15	1							
20								
25								
35								
45								
55								
65 and upwards.								
<u>Totals.</u>	1	0.	0	0.	0	0.	0	0.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. J. EVANS,
M. O. H.