

## XI.

Extract from a Report on the incidence of Influenza on certain classes of Workers in the Southern Section of the Swansea Valley,

By

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The inquiry dealt chiefly with workers in the large copper and spelter works situated on either bank of the River Tawe. The incidence of influenza on the 15-65 year group of the population of the village of Pentrechwyth is given for purposes of comparison.

The whole valley where the works are situated is practically grassless, and a large area of country on the leeward side of the works on the eastern bank of the river is devoid of vegetation. The village of Pentrechwyth is situated on the eastern bank and in the barren area. Some of the spelter workers live in this village.

Accurate classification is difficult, but roughly the workers may [be divided into:—

- (a) Those engaged part or full time in the buildings where the fumes are actually generated.  
 (b) Those not working in fumes, *i.e.*, yard men, &c.

Sulphur dioxide is apparently the chief gaseous impurity found in the atmosphere. The inquiry relates only to the autumn and winter epidemics, as Swansea was practically unaffected by the summer wave of 1918.

*Number of Workers of each Class.*

Class A.—Workers in fumes full time	-	-	-	-	634
„ B.— „ „ part time	-	-	-	-	323
„ C.— „ not working in fumes	-	-	-	-	883
Total	-	-	-	-	<u>1,840</u>

*Number of Cases according to Class.*

Epidemic.	Class A.	Class B.	Classes B.&C.	Class C.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Autumn (1918) -	124 = 20·0	43 = 13·9	167 = 17·9	89 = 10·2
Feb.—March (1919)	75 = 12·0	39 = 12·6	114 = 12·2	65 = 7·4
Total - -	199 = 32·0	82 = 26·5	281 = 30·1	153 = 17·6

*Incidence of Influenza on other classes of the Population  
(Village of Pentrechwyth).*

Number of houses	207
Population (excluding spelter and copper workers):—	
Total	827
Age group 15-65 years	466

Epidemic.	Number of cases.	
	Total of all Ages.	At Ages 15-65
Autumn (1918)	84 = 10·3 Per cent.	64 = 13·4 Per cent.
February-March (1919)	70 = 9·0	53 = 11·3
Total	154 = 19·3	117 = 24·0

*Summary of Percentage Case Incidence.*

Workers not in fumes	17·6 per cent
„ part time in fumes	26·5 „
„ in fumes	32·0 „
Other classes of population—	
Total	19·3
Age group 15-65 years	24·0 „