**5.4. Poor relief assessments, Bedwellty Poor Law Union, 1925-1926.**

Notes:

R.O. = Relieving Officer

D.M.O. = District Medical Officer

O.R. = Outdoor Relief

U.B. = Unemployment Benefit

N.H.I = National Health Insurance

[Almost every single case that appears in these papers is in some way connected with someone who is a mineworker – the cases noted below are very a small fraction of the total.]

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date of covering paper | District | M/F | Age | Age of spouse | No. children dependent | Occupation and when last worked | Case notes | Family weekly income | Rent | Amount of relief | Date & nature of application | Recommended by R.O.? | Advisory Committee’s decision |
| Person | Nature | Amount |
|  |  | £ | s. | d. |
| 7th April 1925  | No.2 [Ebbw Vale] | M | 53 | 50 | 2 | Surface, W[aunl]lwyd colliery, Feb. 1921, now sick  | Applicant now at Bristol Infirmary. Unemployed sick case, allowed rent[?] | Self | Club |  | 10 | 3 | 7/- | 26/- and coal | 14.4.25: 1 pair women’s boots 9/9& material for wife’s underclothes | Yes |  |
| Daughter | O.R. |  | 10 |
| M | 28 | 27 | 3 | Light serviceSurface, W[aunl]lwyd [colliery], Feb. 1921 | Applicant has left arm amputated. Signing at Lab[our] Exch[ange]. Not entitled U.B. | Self | Army pension | 1 | 6 |  | 12/8 | 24/6, incl. 5/-for extras | 8.4.25: 2 shirts & coat & vest for self& underclothes for wife | Yes |  |
| Apartments |  |  | 6 |
| M | 21 | n/a | n/a | Nil. A cripple | Spinal T.B. | Father | Wages | 2 | 18 |  | Free | 10/- | 7.4.25: 1 suit of clothing 35/-. Frequent changes of clothing required, owing to nature of complaint. | Yes |  |
| No.5 (Abertillery) | M | 30 | [not given] | n/a | Collier, Llanhilleth [colliery] | n/a | App[licant] |  | 1 | 3 |  |  |  | Application for assistance to pay train fare, for wife to attend Royal Gwent Hospital. States that he had to borrow the money (4/4) for train fare for both. | R[ecommended] |  |
| M | 22 | n/a | n/a | Permanent [i.e. permanent outdoor relief case] | Suffering from rickets | Nil |  |  |  |  | Free | 10/- | 1 pair boots @ 12/1 | R[ecommended] |  |
| M | 16 | n/a | n/a | Permanent [i.e permanent outdoor relief case] | Paralysis of arm & leg. Father in receipt of relief | Nil |  |  |  |  | Free | 10/- | 2 shirts | N[ot] R[ecommended] |  |
| 20th April 1925 | No.2 [Ebbw Vale] | M | 37 | 33 | 4 | Miner[,] No.5 [colliery?]. Sick | Applicant proceeding to Talygarn Sanatorium | Self | State I[nsurance?] |  | 6 |  | 5/- | 43/6 | 22.4.25: 1 suit 35/-, 1 pair boots 12/1, 1 shirt 5/11 | Yes[.] Please confirm |  |
| M | 52 | 43 | 6 | Haulier, No.2 Marine [colliery][.] Feb. 1921 | Child, 12 (T.B.) proceeding to Cefn Mably[?] Hospital 25.4.25 | Self | U.BPension | 1 | 1515 |  | 9/6 | Nil | 22.4.25: 1 boys suit 14/11, 1 pair mens boots 7/6, 2 suits pyjamas 13/10 | Yes[.] Please confirm |  |
| 1st May 1925 | No.1 [Blaina] | M | 25 | n/a | n/a | Boot Repairer (Cripple) |  | Father | Compensation | 1 | 7 |  | Nil | 7/- | 8.5.25: suit size 3 | Yes |  |
| No.2 [Ebbw Vale] | M | 27 [sic] | 27 | 3 | Light serviceW[aunl]lwyd [colliery] surface, Feb. 1921 | Applicant has left arm amputated, but signing on at Lab[our] Exch[ange](Previous application refused.) | Self | Army pension | 1 | 6 | 4 | 12/8 | 24/6, incl.medical relief 5/- | 4.5.25: material for wife underclothing | Yes |  |
| Apartments |  |  | 6 |
| M | 54 | 53 | n/a | Haulier[,] No.5 [colliery]. Idle. 2 yrs. Sick. |  | Self | Nil |  |  |  | 6/5 | 5/6 | 13.5.25: suit for self | Yes |  |
| Son | Wages | 2 | 6 |
| 18th May 1925 | [No.6] Blackwood | M | 68 | widower |  | Collier? 1917 | Applicant in a poor state of health suffering from debility. Daughter 25 years. Of very loose character & suffering from V.D.[,] at present acting ashousekeeper to parent. Has previously been offered Institutional Treatment. | Son, (21 years, single) works at Oakdale colliery and resides in lodgings elsewhere in Argoed (wages £2.9.0?) Son, (23 years, single) resides with father. Works at Markham colliery but works only 4-5 days a week due to ill health (@ 8/2 per day) | 4/- |  | Man applying for suit of clothes & 2 shirts stating he is unable to provide same on a/c of Income. | "This case referred to the Advisory Committee for decision by my Committee" | "R.O. instruct daughter to go to W[ork H[ouse]& then consider appl[ication] for O.R." |
| 4th June 1925 | No.2 [Ebbw Vale] | M | 39 | 35 | 4 | Haulier, [No.]1 Marine [colliery].Idle 2yrs following operation | Proceeding to Talygarn Sanatorium immediately. Urgent | Self | Club |  | 8 | 6 | 8/5 | 43/6 | 9.6.25: 1 suit 35/-, 1 shirt 5/11, 1 pair boots 12/1 | Yes |  |
| 1 Lodger |  |  | 4 |  |
| 19th April 1926 | No.2 [Ebbw Vale] | M | 28 | 28 | 4 | Light service, W[aunl]lwyd [colliery], Feb. 1921 | Applicant has left arm amputated. Not in receipt of unemployment [benefit], but is recovering[?] at Exchange | Self | Disability pension | 1 | 6 |  | 12/8 | 17/6 | 4.4.26: 3 p[ai]r Infants boots[,] value 12/9 | Yes | Gr[anted] |
| Apartments |  |  | 6 | 4 |
| 15th June 1926 | [No.1, Blaina] | M | 58 | [not given] |  | Collier. Idle since May 1925 | Wife [is] Inmate at Tredegar W[ork] H[ouse] Infirmary  | Self | U.E. Benefit [i.e. UN?] |  | 18 |  | 6/6 | n/a | 3.6.26: Suit for Self[,] Size 4 | Yes | Refused |
| Son |  |  | 3 |  |
| Son |  |  | 3 |  |
| No.5 (Abertillery) | M | 54 | [not given] | 5 | Permanent [i.e permanent outdoor relief case] | Suffering from 'Gastroptisis'[sic] | Self | N.H.I. |  | 7 | 6 | 8/4 | Nil | Application for Out Relief |  | O.R. 29/6 per wk |
| 4 daughters working at the laundry earning19/- wkly each |  | 3 | 16 | 0 |
| 2 sons at home unemployed |  | Nil |  |  |
| 15th June 1926 | No.2 [Ebbw Vale] | M | 31 | 35 | 6 | Checkweigher. Sick. Rheumatism since 1925 |  | Self | State [NHI?] |  | 7 | 6 | 3/6 | 42/- | 20.6.26: 1 suit for self (willing to repay) | Yes | Gr[anted,] repay 1/6 |
|  Pit fund |  | 1 | 6 |
| No.5 (Abertillery) | M | 71 | [not given] |  | Permanent [i.e permanent outdoor relief case]  | Applicant's wife at present inPatient at Blaina Hospital | App[licant] | OAP |  | 10 |  | 11/6 | 15/- | Suit [for] self [–] has to be measured  | R[ecommended] | Gr[anted,] Relieving officer to obtain locally |
| App[icant] | Fund |  | 1 | 4 |
| 28th June 1926 | [No.1, Blaina] | M | 40 | [not given] | 3 | Collier. Suffering with Fractured Spine |  | Self | Compensation | 1 | 15 |  | 7/1½ | 14/- | 30.6.26: Welsh Flannel for 2 Shirts for Self | Yes | Refused |
| Daughter | O.R. |  | 10 |  |
| M | 45 | [not given] | 3 | Timberman assistant | Suffering with Cardiac Debility | Self | N.H. Insurance |  | 8 | 6 | 9/3 | 46/6Also 2/6 Medical Extra for child suffering with Rheumatism | 2.7.26: Bedstead, suit for self[,] dress material for wife & girl | R.O. sufficient means | Refused |
| Abertillery | M | 65 | [not given] | 1 | Permanent [i.e permanent outdoor relief case] | App[licant] suffers from Debility & Bronchitis | Applicant | N.H.I. |  | 7 | 6 | 7/3 | 33/- | Suit [for] self [-] size 4 | N[ot] R[ecommended] | Refused  |
| M | 39 | [not given] | 2 | Lab[ourer] Tillery [colliery]Idle since 1921. | App[licant] suffers from Neurasthenia .Not entitled to N.H.I. Insufficient stamps | App[licant] | Disability Pension | 1 | 11 | 9 | 7/9 | Nil | Bedclothes | Lady Visitor | Referred back to Relieving Officer |
| Daughter | earns weekly |  | 2 | 6 |
| 28th July 1926 | No.2 [Ebbw Vale] | F | 55 | widow | 1 | Nil. Own sickness. Rheumatism | Applicant is unable to do her household duties, & having to pay a girl 2/6 per week | Self | Pension |  | 16 | 8 | 4/7½ | 4/- |  | Yes | Board |
| M | 41 | 40 | 7 | Colliery Haulier. Own Sickness T.B. |  | Self | State [NHI?] |  | 7 | 6 | 7/- | 38/6 & coal | Extra O.R. [for] 7 children | Yes | O.R. 42/6 per week |
| M | 47 | 33 | 7 | Miner[,] Waunllwyd[.] Own Sickness T.B. |  | Self | Clubs |  | 8 | 6 | 5/6 | 37/- & coal | Extra O.R. [for] 7 children | YEs | O.R. 41/- per week |
| M | 41 | 33 | 7 | Miner. Own Sickness |  | Self | State [NHI?] |  | 7 | 6 | 9/9 | 40/- & coal | Extra O.R. [for] 7 children | Yes | O.R. 44/- per week |
| M | 47 | n/a | n/a | Own Sickness, Neuritis |  | Self | Dis[ability] Pension |  | 12 | 0 | 3/- | 6/- | 16.7.26: 1 suit[,] 2 shirts[,] 2 pairs stockings | No. Not required | Refused |
| M | 61 | n/a | n/a | General Labourer. Cripple[,] not inform[?] |  | Self | Nil |  |  |  | 5/6 | 13/- | 16.7.26: 1 trousers | Yes | Gr[anted] |
| No.3 [Tredegar] | F | 29 |  | n/a | Nil. Suffering from T.B. spine |  | Nil |  |  |  |  | Nil | 10/- | 13.7.26: boots for self | Yes | Gr[anted] |
| M | 63 | [not given] | n/a | Nil. Suffering from Bronchitis |  | Self | N.H.I. |  | 7 | 6 | 6/- | 23/- | 14.7.26: app[lication] for 6 yds Double Width Dress Material for Dress for Wife | Yes | Refused  |
| M | 66 | n/a | n/a | Nil. Suffering Rheumatism |  | Nil |  |  |  |  | 5/6 | 15/6 | 14.7.26: app[lication] for 6 trousers | No - not due until Sept | Refused |
|  | M | 40 | [not given] | 6 | Nil. Suffering from Nystagmus |  | Self | Compensation | 1 | 15 | 0 | 8/- | 8/- | 12.7.26: app[lication] boots for boy[,] also ruling amount of relief | Rec that full rent be paid 8/- | O.R. 10/- per week[.] Boots refused |
| M | 35 | [not given] | 1 | Nil. Suffering from Heart Trouble |  | Self | N.H.I. |  | 7 | 6 | 4/- | 27/- | 14.7.26: app[lication] for boots for girl | Yes | Refused |
| M | 42 | [not given] | 3 | Nil. Suffering injured Arm & Leg |  | Self | Compensation | 1 | 10 | 0 | 7/- | ? | Referred to adv[isory committee] for ruling amount of relief | Rec. 10/- per week being scale with full rent | O.R. 6/6 per wk |
| M | 42 | [not given] | 7 | Nil. Suffering from Rheumatism |  | Self | N.H.I. |  | 7 | 6 | 14/4 | ? | 15.7.26: Referred for ruling amount of relief[;] also app[lication] 3 p[ai]rs Boots | Rec. 35/- & 7/- Rent[,] Total 42/- | O.R. 40/- per wk[,] Boots Refused |
| M | 46 | [not given] | 6 | Nil. Suffering from T.B. |  | Self | N.H.I. |  | 8 | 0 | 6/- | 35/- | 15.7.26: app[lication for] boots 3 children | Yes | O.R. 39/6 per wk[;] Gr[anted] Boots |
| M | 30 | [not given] | 3 | Nil. Suffering nystagmus |  | Self | Compensation | 1 | 10 |  | 6/6 | 9/6 | 13.7.26: app[lication for] 3 suits of clothes for boys age 8. 5 & 3 years | Rec one suit for boy only aged 8 years | O.R. 9/6 per wk[;] Gr[anted] Suit for boy aged 8 |
| M | 40 | [not given] | 4 | Nil suffering from Rheumatism |  | N.H.I. dispute at present |  |  |  | Nil | 35/- | 15.7.26: app[lication for] boots Wife & Girl age 10 [NB a lot of clothing given to him during past 12 months] | No | Refused |
| M | 40 | [not given] | 6 | Haulier[.] May 1925[.] Suffering from piles |  | Self | N.H.I. |  | 8 | 0 | 3/- | 35/- | 13.7.26: app[lication for] boots for boy | Yes | O.R. 38/- per wk[;] Boots refused |
| M | 34 | [not given] | 4 | Collier[.] Sept 1925[.] Suffering Rheumatism |  | Self | N.H.I. |  | 7 | 6 | Nil | 35/- | 14.7.26: app[lication for] boots Wife & Boy | Rec[ommend] Boots for Wife only | Refused |
| M | 26 | [not given] | 2 | Collier[.] Oct 1925[.] Injury to Leg |  | Self | Compensation | 1 | 10 | 0 | 6/- | 5/- | 15.7.26: app[lication for] boots for Girl | Yes | O.R. 2/- per wk[;] Boots Refused |
|  |  | M | 43 | [not given] | 4 | Haulier[.] Nov 1925[.] Suffers Rheumatism |  | Self | N.H.I. |  | 7 | 6 | 6/- | 35/- | 14.7.26: app[lication for] 2 Children | Yes | O.R. 38/- per wk[;] Boots refused |
| M | 48 | [not given] | 1 | Haulier[.] Jan 1926[.] Nystagmus |  | Self | Compensation | 1 | 4 | 5 | 10/4 | 9/- | 15.7.26: app[lication for] boots for self | Yes | O.R. 11/6 per wk[;] Boots refused |
| 28th July 1926 | No.5 [Abertillery] | F | 69 |  |  | Permanent [i.e permanent outdoor relief case] | Suffering from Rheumatism & Bronchitis | Nil |  |  |  |  | 4/2 | 14/6 | Applying for special nourishment |  | Med[ical] Ex[amination][;] 3/- for 2 wks |
| M | 40 | [not given] | 8 | Permanent [i.e permanent outdoor relief case] | Suffering from Gastro Phthisis | App[licant] | N.H.I |  | 15 |  | 9/- |  |  |  | O.R. 38/- |

Source: Gwent Archives, CSWBGB/C/30, Bedwellty Union Out Relief Advisory Committee Papers, 1925 and 1926.