

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[aul]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 service Surface, W[aul]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	R[ecommended]		

															to borrow the money (4/4) for train fare for both.		
		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[nurance?]		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.B Pension	1	15		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 service W[ainl]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.	Son, (21 years, single) works at Oakdale colliery and resides in lodgings elsewhere in Argoed (wages £2.9.0?)				4/-		Man applying for suit of clothes & 2 shirts stating he is unable to provide	"This case referred to the Advisory Committee for	"R.O. instruct daughter to go to W[ork H[ouse]	

							Daughter 25 years. Of very loose character & suffering from V.D.[,] at present acting as housekeeper to parent. <u>Has previously been offered Institutional Treatment.</u>	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)						same on a/c of Income.	decision by my Committee"	& 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	<u>Proceeding to Talygarn Sanatorium immediately. Urgent</u>	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[awn]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 earning 19/- 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[licant]	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	46/6 Also 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	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

						outdoor relief case]											
		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: application] 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: application 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: application 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: application 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/-				

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