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BOROUGH OF DENBIGH.

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

DAVID LLOYD, J.P., M.B., CH.M.,

AND THE

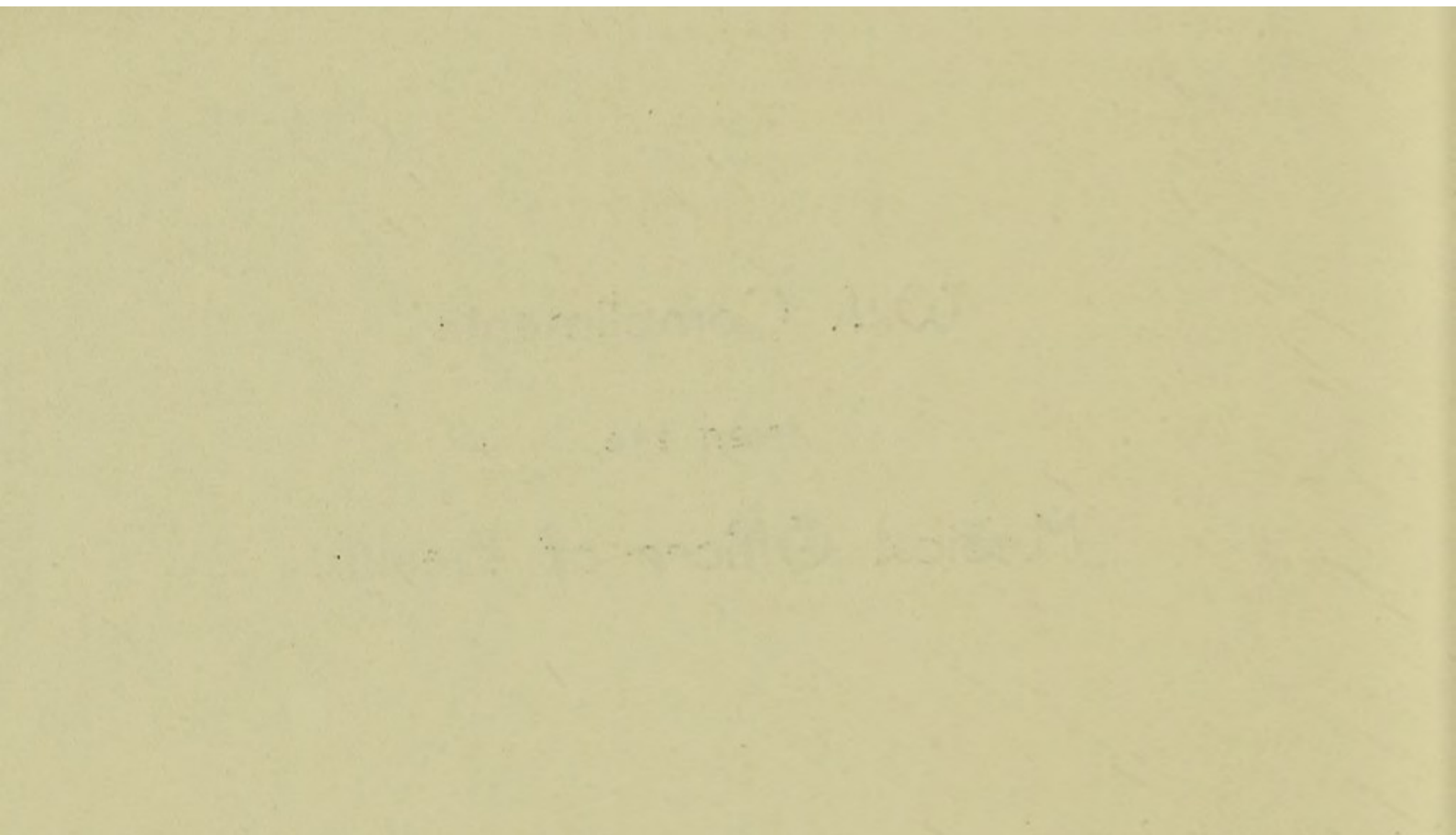
Sanitary Inspector,

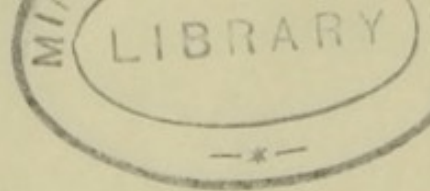
M. EVAN MORRIS, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., A.I.S.E.,

For the year ending 31st December, 1925.

Free Press Office, Denbigh.

With Compliments
from the
Medical Officer of Health.





TO THE
MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE
BOROUGH OF DENBIGH.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you my Annual Report on the Health of the Borough, including the Sanitary Administration, together with the Vital Statistics for the year ending December 31st, 1925.

In the construction of the Report I have followed as far as possible the directions contained in the Memorandum of the Ministry of Health (Circular 648. Wales).

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of the Borough (Land and Water)	9072 Acres
Population Census, 1921	6783
Population—Registrar General's Estimate, 1925	6802
Rateable value of Borough	£37726 7s. 0d.
Sum represented by a penny Rate	£110 0s. 0d.
Number of inhabited houses, Census, 1921	1399

The bulk of the inhabitants live in the town of Denbigh, which is situated on the crest and steep slopes of a hill-side, and overlooking the beautiful and fertile Vale of Clwyd.

The Geological formation is Limestone rock with a substratum of new red Sandstone.

The town of Denbigh is very old, its Charter of Incorporation dating back to 1531 A.D.

It has not undergone any marked changes for several years.

The occupation of the inhabitants is that of a Market town serving a wide agricultural area.

The chief Industries are Agriculture and Limestone Quarries.

The Railway Company and the North Wales Mental Hospital employ a large number of people.

THE VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTH RATE.

The total number of Births (Registered and Transferable) for the year was 114. Of this number 59 were males and 55 females.

The Illegitimate Births numbered 5, viz. : 4 males and 1 female.

BIRTH RATE calculated upon Registrar

General's estimated population 6802 ... 16.9 per 1000.

Calculated population excluding Asylum patients ... 19.0 per 1000.

DEATHS.

The nett total number of Deaths (registered and corrected by transfer) for the year was 82.

The number of Deaths of non-residents in the Mental Hospital and Infirmary was 74.

DEATH RATE calculated upon the Registrar

General's estimated population ... 12.0 per 1000.

Population excluding Asylum patients ... 13.6 per 1000.

The Birth rate is 2.5, and the Death rate 1.5 less than last year.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of Deaths under one year of age was 10, being four less than last year. This gives an Infantile Mortality rate of 87.7 per 1000 Births registered. The average for England and Wales being 75.0 per 1000.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

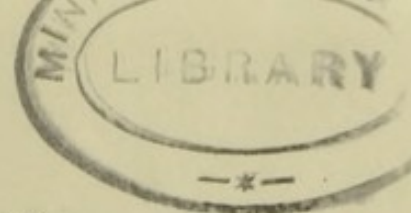
Table III furnishes particulars of the causes and ages at death.

CANCER.

Cancer accounts for seven deaths, the rate being 1.1 per 1000 of the population.

HEART DISEASE.

19 Deaths were certified from Heart Disease. All these deaths were in persons over 45 years of age. The death rate from this cause is 3.1 per 1000 population.



PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

5 Deaths were caused by this disease, and the rate is 0.8 per 1000.

OTHER TUBERCULOUS DISEASES.

2 Deaths occurred under this heading, making a death rate of 0.3 per 1000.

RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

8 Deaths occurred, 2 from Bronchitis, 5 from Pneumonia, and 1 from other causes.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Table II gives the number of Zymotic Diseases during the year, the total cases reported being 51.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Denbigh.*

PARA-TYPHOID.

*SPECIAL REPORT by Dr. David Lloyd, M.B., Ch.M., Medical
Officer of Health, and Dr. T. Roberts, M.B., Ch.M.,
D.P.H., County Medical Officer of Health.*

Notification of the first case was received on June 3rd. Further notifications were received as follows: 2 cases on the 10th, 15th and 17th of June, and one notification on the 27th. An interval of 14 days then elapsed without further new cases. On July 12th, however, two new cases were notified, to be followed on the 21st by 1 case, 23rd 2 cases, 25th 1 case, 27th 2 cases, 30th 1 case, and in August 4 cases on the 1st, 1 case on the 5th, 6th and 9th respectively, after which date no further notifications were received. This makes a total of 24 cases within a period of 10 weeks. The age and sex incidence of the cases were as follows:—

	0-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	15-20 yrs.	20-30 yrs.	30-45 yrs.	Total.
Male ...	—	2	3	1	—	1	7
Female ...	1	2	1	8	2	3	17

It will be noted that the incidence of the disease was considerably higher among females and in all instances higher in the early age groups. 18 of the cases notified being in persons under the age of 20.

The social position, environment and circumstances varied considerably.

The first case notified occurred on a farm within the Borough but well outside the town itself. The patient was in service in the town as Shop Assistant, but slept at home and brought with her daily her food, being only supplied with hot water. The sanitary conditions at the farm were not of the best and the purity of the water supply consumed open to suspicion. These, however, were not regarded as having any casual connection with the illness.

Each of the cases were thoroughly investigated. Outbreaks of para-typhoid are almost invariably conveyed by food—direct infection being unusual. From the outset, therefore, efforts were made to discover the food implicated. It should be stated that the diagnosis of para typhoid infection on clinical grounds alone are un-conclusive, and from the history of the cases in this outbreak many of the usual symptoms and signs were absent, but the common feature of the continued fever, accompanied by a comparatively slow pulse, with in some cases an enlargement of the spleen and rose-coloured spots, pointed to an infection by organisms of the typhoid group. This consideration doubtless prompted the general practitioners to summon bacteriological aid. This was done in all the cases, and thereby the diagnosis of para-typhoid was clearly established.

The intermittency of the notifications, the widely differing social conditions and habits of the cases, rendered it a matter of considerable difficulty to suggest some common origin for the outbreak. Minute enquiries and careful notes were made respecting the diet consumed by the patients. There appeared to be no single article of food consumed common to all or of an unusual nature. The general water supply of the Borough as a possible explanation could for obvious reasons be disregarded. At one time the enquiry appeared to suggest a particular source of milk supply as a possible source. An outbreak due to milk should, however, have produced a greater number of cases among its consumers, notwithstanding the well-known high personal resistance of many individuals to para-typhoid infection. Nevertheless, it was considered expedient to probe further and take Bacteriological tests. This was done and proved negative.

All the ascertained facts were carefully considered.

Coinciding in point of time with the outbreak there raged in the adjoining rural areas a devastating outbreak among fowls, dramatically sudden in onset, spreading from farm to farm like a prairie fire, and attended with an alarming mortality. This received the attention of agricultural authorities, was investigated and pro-

nounced to be fowl typhoid. Though it was not clear how the two separate outbreaks could be connected it was deemed advisable to pursue the enquiry in this direction. A tour of the farms was made, and the only evidence forthcoming was the unusually heavy incidence, wide distribution, rapid spread, and high mortality of the fowls—but no cases of para-typhoid or other human infection.

Reviewing afresh all the facts, it seemed abundantly clear that the probable source of infection was some article of food within the Borough.

Two features of the outbreak, attention to which has already been drawn, impressed us as peculiar, namely the much heavier incidence among females and the younger age groups. This suggested to our minds the possibility of sweets or confectionery as the source. Further enquiries were made and carefully analysed. Though the evidence was not without missing links in the chain. Suspicion fell upon catering establishments. These were visited and blood tests taken of persons handling the food. Positive results were obtained in persons who had not been consciously ill during the outbreak. Such cases may have been abortive cases occurring during the outbreak, as is not uncommon. One of the positive cases, however, a female, gave an history of an obscure illness some time ante-cedent to the first case, and it was concluded from this and other evidence that possibly she was the medium whereby food became infected. As a precautionary measure she was instructed to discontinue her work, and returned to her home in the country. No further cases were reported. That this female acted as a carrier was not conclusively proved, inasmuch as the organism was not isolated in her excretions. This negative result, however, nevertheless does not render invalid our inference that she was the responsible origin. We would wish here to point out that the catering establishment wherein this young female served enjoys extensive and well merited patronage, is excellently conducted, and nothing was discovered to which exception would be taken. The proprietor gave us every possible help and assistance in our enquiries. Thus ended an outbreak which gave rise to considerable anxiety, and, fortunately, only one death. The difficulties of tracing with certainty the source of such outbreaks are very considerable—which will be better appreciated by a reference to a similar outbreak occurring in an Institution which was jointly specially investigated by an eminent Physician and Bacteriologist. The source of the outbreak referred was never traced.

There are some lessons to be learnt which we wish to emphasise. A Sanitary Authority which fails to provide means for isolating cases of infectious diseases is betraying its trust as custodians of the public health. For many years attention has been drawn to the lack of hospital accommodation in the Borough,—but

without effect. Many of the cases were in most unsatisfactory surroundings—and had the disease been Typhoid, and not paratyphoid, the consequence would have been serious. Denbigh Borough can not afford to gamble with chance,—and we trust that the measures which we understand are now being taken to provide isolation hospital accommodation will be pressed forward with all possible speed. We cannot conclude this report without expressing our appreciation of the excellence of the service rendered by your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Morris.

(Signed)

DAVID LLOYD, M.O.H.

T. ROBERTS, C.M.O.H.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Hospitals.

- (1). TUBERCULOSIS.—Sanatoria are provided under the King Edward VII. Memorial Association. The Tuberculosis Physician visits the town monthly, and directs the patients future treatment.

After the death of a patient every care is taken to have the premises disinfected. In many cases the bedding is destroyed and replaced by the Corporation.

- (2). MATERNITY.—The Poor Law Guardians have provided accommodation for poor married, and unmarried mothers, at the Union Home, St. Asaph.
- (3). CHILD WELFARE.—The County Council have provided a Clinic, a room at the Denbighshire Infirmary being used for the purpose.
- (4). FEVER.—The Council have joined with four other Councils to form a Joint Hospital Board. This Board has taken over a small Isolation Hospital which belonged to the St. Asaph R.D.C. This building is far too small, and the Board have been considering plans for a New Hospital. It is to be hoped the necessary accommodation will be provided as soon as possible. In the case of an Epidemic we are unprepared, and at a loss to find suitable accommodation for the patients.
- (5). SMALLPOX.—There is no Hospital provided by the County.
- (6). VENEREAL DISEASES.—This department is under the control of the Denbigh County Council. Patients are treated at Chester.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

- (1). For Infectious Cases provided by the Joint Hospital Board.
- (2). For Non-infectious and Accident Cases by the Denbighshire Infirmary.

NURSING.

The General Nursing of the town is done by a Q.V.J.I. District Nurse, and there is a good supply of Midwives who are inspected by the M.O.H.

The County Council provide a Health Visitor for the area.

The Public Health Staff consists only of:—

The Medical Officer of Health (part time): David Lloyd, M.B., Ch.M.

Sanitary Inspector: M. E. Morris, M.S.I.A., Cert. R.S.I.

The Sanitary Inspector is also Market Inspector and Toll Collector, Inspector under the Shops Closing Acts, etc.

Contributions are made to the Salaries of both Officers from Exchequer grants.

GENERAL ADOPTIVE ACTS IN THE DISTRICT.

The Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890. Part 2, 3, and 5.

The Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890.

The Baths and Wash-houses Acts.

The Public Health Acts (Amendment Act, 1907. Parts 2, 3, 4 (except 67), 5, 8, and sections 92 and 93 of part 10.

Ditto part 6 Recreation Grounds.

BYE-LAWS.

New Streets and Buildings.

Nuisances, Slaughter Houses.

Common Lodging Houses.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Water supply for the Town and the Hamlets of the Green and Brookhouse is derived from an Artesian Well sunk to a depth of 384 feet, just outside the Borough boundary at Llwyn. This provides an abundant and constant supply of pure water, which, however, is somewhat *hard*. The water is pumped to a reservoir situated in the Castle district, and thence by gravitation to householders.

The Village of Henllan, situated about two miles from the town, has a separate supply of its own, which, however, has been reported on as unsatisfactory owing to the unsuitable surroundings of the reservoir. The water becomes cloudy after heavy rain. The filter beds have been improved recently, and this has effected an improvement.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

These are all free from pollution, with the exception of some farm yard contamination, and manured lands.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Drainage and Sewerage system of the Town is giving every satisfaction. The majority of the houses are connected with the Sewer by well-laid drains. The Sewage is disposed of by means of broad Land irrigation on two farms, which are leased by the Council. No complaints have been received in connection with the scheme.

The Village of Henllan has no Sewage disposal. The Council have had the matter under consideration. Several householders are desirous of converting their Privies into Water Closets. Fortunately no Fevers have broken out in Henllan, the inhabitants make every effort to keep their premises as sanitary as possible.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

The Medical Inspection of the children attending the Elementary Schools is carried out by the County Council.

Particulars appertaining to Housing Acts and to the Factory and Workshops Acts are appended with this Report.

I also append the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Through the courtesy of Mr. J. Clarke Jones, the County Chief Inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, I append a List of Samples taken for analysis within the Borough.

In conclusion I desire to thank the Members of the Council for their invariable courtesy, also Dr. Roberts, the County Medical Officer of Health, for his ready and willing assistance at all times.

Your Obedient Servant,

DAVID LLOYD,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole Districts during 1925 and previous Years.

DENBIGH URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of age.		All Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1921	6783	118	127	18.8	159	26.3	96	8	10	70.8	71	10.4
1922	6822	112	116	19.3	194	28.4	101	14	5	41.1	107	17.8
1923	6795	109	109	18.7	166	24.30	87	12	12	100.0	91	15.6
1924	6774	128	128	21.5	154	22.10	67	4	14	109.3	91	15.1
1925	6802	114	114	19.0	156	22.9	74	11	10	87.7	82	13.6

Area of District in
acres (land and
inland water) ...9072

Estimated Population 1925 6802
Estimated Population excluding Asylum patients 6000

TABLE II.

Notifiable Diseases.				Premises effected.	N Wales Counties Mental Hospital	At all ages	Cases Notified in Whole District.								Total Deaths.
							At ages — years.								
							Under 2 years.	2 to 5 years.	5 to 15 years.	15 to 25 years.	25 to 45 years.	45 to 65 ye rs.	65 and over.	Admitted to Hospital.	
Scarlet Fever	...	...	7		7			4	3				2	
Diphtheria	...	...	6	5	11	1		2	6	1	1		1	
Enteric Fever	...		19		25		3	10	8	4			1	2	
Erysipelas	...	..	2		2							2		
Pneumonia	...	...	5		5	1	1		1	1	1	1		5
Eucephalitis Letha gia...		...	1		1				1						
Tota's	...	..	40	5	51	2	4	16	19	6	2	3	4	7

		Total Cases notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	N.W Counties Asylum.	Total Deaths.
Pulmonary	{ M.	8	3	5	2
	{ F.	8	7		2
Non-Pulmonary	{ M.				
	{ F.	1			1
		17	10	5	5

TABLE III.

Causes of and Ages at Death during the year 1925.

Causes of Deaths.	Nett deaths at the subjoined ages of Residents whether occurring within or without the District.								Total deaths in Institutions in the District	
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.		65 and upwards.
Enteric Fever ...	2						2			
Measles ...										
Diphtheria ...										
Influenza ...	1						1			1
Whooping Cough ...	2	2								
Tuberculosis of the Res- piratory System ...	5					1	3	1		3
Other Tuberculous Diseases	2		2							1
Cancer ...	7							3	4	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage ...	7							2	5	5
Heart Disease ...	19							11	8	8
Arterio-sclerosis ...	4							1	3	2
Bronchitis ...	2							1	1	4
Pneumonia ...	5	2					1	1	1	6
Other Respiratory Diseases	1								1	
Diarrhœa ...	2	1	1							
Appendicitis ...										2
Cirrhosis ...	1							1		
Chronic nephritis ...	3			1			1	1		6
Congenital Debility ...	1	1								3
Suicide ...	1							1		
Other deaths from violence	3					1	1	1		2
Other defined diseases ...	14			1		1		2	6	30
	82	10	3	2		3	9	26	29	74

TABLE IV.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING 1926.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under one year of age.

Causes of Death.		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total deaths under one year.
Whooping Cough	...								1	1	2
Convulsions					1			1
Gastro-Enteritis	...				1	1				1	2
Rickets	...				1	1					1
Other defined causes	...		2			2				2	4
			2		2	4	4	1	1	4	10

BIRTHS REGISTERED DURING 1925.

Boys	...	...	59
Girls	...	...	55
			114

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

Boys	...	...	4
Girls	...	...	1
			5

Grand Total Registered ... 114

Birth Rate calculated, excluding Asylum Patients ... 19.00
 Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)... 87.70

TABLE X.—Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1925.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1925, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1924. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns).

	Birth-rate per 1,000 Total Population.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.										RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.		
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years).		Total Deaths under One Year.	Causes of Death certified by Registered Medical Practitioners.	Inquest Cases.	Uncertified Causes of Death.
England and Wales ..	18.3	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.13	0.03	0.15	0.07	0.32	0.47	8.4	75	92.1	6.9	1.0	
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ..	18.8	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.17	0.03	0.18	0.09	0.30	0.43	10.8	79	92.1	7.3	0.6	
157 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000-50,000) ..	18.3	11.2	0.01	0.00	0.15	0.02	0.14	0.06	0.31	0.38	7.6	74	93.0	5.9	1.1	
London ..	18.0	11.7	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.19	0.11	0.23	0.46	10.6	67	91.0	8.9	0.0	

TABLE V.

Causes of Death in Denbigh M.B., 1925.

Causes of Death.				M.	F.
ALL CAUSES.				43	39
1.	Enteric fever	...	...		1
2.	Whooping cough	...	...	1	1
3.	Influenza	...	...	1	
4.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	3	2
5.	Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	2	
6.	Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	3	4
7.	Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	...	...	2	5
8.	Heart disease	...	...	8	11
9.	Arterio-sclerosis	...	...	3	1
10.	Bronchitis	...	...	1	1
11.	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	3	2
12.	Other respiratory diseases	...	...		1
13.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	1	
14.	Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	...	...	2	
15.	Cirrhosis of liver	...	...		1
16.	Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	2	1
17.	Other accidents & diseases of pregnancy & parturition	...	...		1
18.	Congenital debility & malformation, premature birth	...	...	1	
19.	Suicide	...	...	1	
20.	Other deaths from violence	...	...		3
21.	Other defined diseases	...	...	9	4
Deaths of Infants under 1 year					
				Total	...
				...	5
				Illegitimate	...
				...	1
TOTAL BIRTHS				...	59
				...	55
Legitimate				...	55
Illegitimate				...	4
Population				...	6802

					Number of.		
					Inspection	Written Notices	Prosecutions.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries	...				} 48	...	...
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	..						
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	...				...	...	...
Total	...	...	...	...	48	...	...

	Number of Defects			Referred to H. M. Inspector.
	Found.	Remedied.		
NUISANCES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :				
Want of Cleanliness	4	4		
Want of Ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors				
Other nuisances...				
No abstract etc.	1	1		1
Total	5	5		1

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.	Number.
Bakehouses	18
Tailors	5
Dressmakers and Milliners	9
Wheeler* and Joiners	7
Blacksmiths	4
Plumbers and Tinworkers ..	4
Cabinet-makers	2
Printers	3
Weavers	1
Bootrepairers	4
Motor Engineers	4
Basket Making... ..	1
Total number of Workshops on Register ...	62

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

*Samples of Food taken for analysis in the Borough of
Denbigh during the year 1925.*

Article.	Number taken.	Result of Analysis.	Remarks.
Milk ...	31	27 genuine. 2 deficient in cream, 1 containing extraneous water 1 containing sediment (partly dung).	Further samples taken direct from the cows and Vendors cautioned
Lard ...	2	Genuine.	
Butter ...	4	Genuine.	
Cream ...	1	Genuine.	
Jam ...	1	Genuine.	
Bacon ...	1	Genuine.	Containing boric acid.
Spirits ...	1	Genuine.	
Flour ..	1	Genuine.	
	42		

J. Clarke Jones.

16, Woodland Road, E.,
Colwyn Bay.

HOUSING ACTS, 1909-1925.

I. THE GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS in the Area are still unsatisfactory. The Town Council have made efforts to improve the conditions by erecting twelve houses under the Housing Acts of 1919, seven under the Act of 1923, and twenty-four under the Act of 1924.

The Houses erected under the 1923 and 1924 Acts are let at 7/- and 7/6 per week respectively. This amount includes all rates.

When the twenty-four houses were almost completed the Council received the sanction of the Ministry of Health for the erection of a further twenty-two, and have commenced building.

The greatest demand in the district is for houses to meet the Lower wage earners.

The Borough of Denbigh being very old, and no appreciable number of new houses having been erected for some years. The existing Workmen's Dwellings, which were of poor construction and lacking in essential Sanitary requirements, have become dilapidated and unfit. With the economic conditions prevailing in the country, and the comparatively low wages paid in agricultural districts, it is very difficult to provide houses at a rent low enough to meet the agricultural and general labourer.

Owing to this difficulty many of the dilapidated houses have to be patched up until more favourable times. Fortunately there are no unhealthy areas.

II. There was no serious case of overcrowding reported during the year. The chief cause of overcrowding is: Houses not large enough to meet the size of the family; some of these houses have only one sleeping room.

III. GENERAL STANDARD OF HOUSING.—Many of the houses fall short of the Standard given in the Housing Manual, Vol. I. The chief defects found are:—Small and badly ventilated rooms, insufficient lighting, general dilapidation.

The principle cause of the unfitness is the age of the property and neglect to repair owing to the very small rents which are received.

There is no doubt that, in many cases, the careless and dirty tenant is responsible for the condition of the house.

The problem of the dirty tenant remains unsolved. Prosecutions and fines will only make the poor poorer. Perhaps the key to the problem is in *Domestic Education* on practical lines.

General action as regards unfit houses is taken under the Public Health Acts. Informal notices and interviews with owners have proved successful.

There are no back-to-back houses in the Borough.

Seven houses which had remained closed for some years were demolished. Incidentally, the material from these houses was utilised for roadmaking to pave the way to the new Workmen's Dwellings.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

Total	...	...	...	...	28
With State Assistance under the Housing Acts, 1919—1923 :—					
(a) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	24
(b) By other Bodies or Persons...		...	...	...	4

I. Unfit dwelling-houses.

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	60
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	...	...	...	39
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	2
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive) of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.				19

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. ...	11
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3. Action under Statutory Powers.

A.—Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	...
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit :—	
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	...
(c) by owners ...	...
(3) Number dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ...	...

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	...
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—	
(a) by owners ...	...
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	...

C.—Proceedings under section 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., 1909.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders ...	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	...
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ...	...
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	7
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	7

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Work done and Nuisances Abated.	Number of Statutory Notices.	Number of Informal Notices.	Nuisance abated with or without Notice.
DRAINAGE.			
Premises re-drained ...		2	2
Drains cleared or repaired ...		11	11
Drains tested, etc. ...		4	4
Offensive ditches cleaned ...		2	2
Sinks repaired or trapped ...		6	6
Septic Tanks provided ...		2	2
CLOSETS AND ASHPITS.			
Defective Water Closets repaired		20	20
Conversion of Privies to W.C s.	
Privies abolished ...		2	2
Additional W.C's. provided ..		1	2
Ashbins provided		3	3
Ashpits abolished... ..		1	1
OTHER DEFECTS.			
Accumulations removed ...		4	4
Defective gutters and spouts repaired ..		5	5
Back yards repaired ...		3	3
Premises provided with water		4	4
Pigs kept as a nuisance ...		1	1
Waste of water reported ..		2	2
		73	74
Total Inspections ..			1129
Complaints received ...			5
Nuisances discovered ...			86
Nuisances abated... ..			74
Nuisances unabated but under consideration ...			12

Premises controlled by Byelaw, or Regulations.	Number on Register.	Inspections made.	Registered 1925.	Licences granted or Renewed.	Notices served informal.	Nuisances abated with or without notice.
Dairies and Cowsheds ...	18	40	1	...	4	4
Bakehouses and Workshops	62	48	...	...	5	8
Slaughter-houses ...	10	223	...	1	4	6
Offensive Trades ...	2	16	...	1	2	2
Common Lodging Houses...	2	8	...	...	1	1
	94	335	1	2	16	21

SLAUGHTERHOUSES, MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION.

There are ten Registered or Licensed Slaughterhouses in the Borough. One Registered Slaughterhouse has not been used as such for over two years.

Denbigh is the Cattle Market Town for a large area. The County Veterinary Inspector is in regular attendance for the purposes of the Diseases of Animals Acts. Generally speaking, very few specimens of diseased meat are to be found during inspections of Slaughterhouses.

With so many Slaughterhouses it is impossible to inspect every animal at the time of slaughter. Most of the Butchers slaughter at the same time.

The Meat Regulations are very well kept in regard to shops, stalls, stores and vehicles. All the Shops have windows.

Number of Private Slaughterhouses.

	In 1920.	In Jan., 1925.	In Dec., 1925.
Registered ...	7	6	6
Licensed ...	4	4	4

The following unsound food was condemned and destroyed :

Beasts—Livers	..	3	abscess.
		18	flukes.
„ Lungs	...	2	cysts.
		1	abscess.
Sheep	...	1	dropsical.
Fish	...	32lb.	putrefaction.
Kippers	...	24lb.	putrefaction.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

Several visits have been made to Dairies and Cowsheds. Every endeavour is made to secure compliance with Orders and Regulations in force.

The Authority under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts is the County Council.

FRIED FISH SHOPS.—There are two of these. They are periodically inspected, and are kept in a satisfactory condition.

TALLOW MELTER AND TANNER.—There is one factory which comes under this heading. The premises are kept in a satisfactory condition.

LODGING HOUSES.—There are two small Common Lodging Houses. They are fairly well kept.

SCHOOLS.—There are four Elementary Schools, and one County School for Boys, also Howell's Boarding School for Girls within the Borough. They are periodically inspected.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—

Approximate number of Water Closets ..	1,375	} Majority of these are in the Rural District.
Privy Middens	100	
Pail Privies	106	

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Number of Cases reported by M.O.H. and enquiries made ...	51
„ „ Cases removed to Hospital... ..	2
„ „ Rooms Disinfected with Formalin Lamps and Mackenzie Sprayer	70
„ „ Elementary Schools Disinfected	5
„ „ Houses Disinfected after death from Tuberculosis ...	4

The Borough does not possess a Steam Disinfector. All clothing is soaked in a germicidal solution before they are boiled. The bedding of a consumptive patient is burnt and replaced by the Council in necessitous cases.

REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

House Refuse is collected weekly in the Town, and fortnightly in the Village of Henllan and the Hamlets of the Green and Brookhouse.

Refuse from Fish Shops and Cafés is removed twice weekly.

Nearly all the Ashpits in the Town have been abolished, those remaining being in the Rural parts of the Borough.

The receptacles provided for house refuse are not all satisfactory.

House Refuse is collected by a 30cwt. Vulcan Lorry and deposited in a tip about a mile outside the Town.

The method of disposal is that recommended by the Ministry of Health.

An inquiry was held by J. C. Dawes, Esq., O.B.E., of the Ministry of Health, into an application of the Council for sanction to provide a Refuse Destructor. The Council, however, after further consideration, decided to adopt the method above referred to, viz., all the refuse, including paper, is tipped in layers and covered over with soil and road sweepings. Up to the present it has given every satisfaction.

The bulk of the tins and metal are baled and sold.

The approximate cost of removal of House Refuse is 10/- per house per annum, or about 2/3 per head.

Number of Motor Loads to tip	...	884
„ „ Ashpits emptied	..	6
„ „ Privies and Pail Closets	...	160

(Signed) **M. E. MORRIS,**
Sanitary Inspector.

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