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BOROUGH OF DENBIGH

ANNUAL
HEALTH REPORT
1963

Annual Health Report

1963



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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Annual

Health Report

1903



PRINTED BY THE STATE

BOROUGH OF DENBIGH

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

1963

Yours faithfully,

M. JONES ROBERTS,

Medical Officer of Health.

THE MAYOR OF THE BOROUGH AND THE CHAIRMEN OF
THE VARIOUS COMMITTEES DURING THE YEAR WERE
AS FOLLOWS:

Medical Officer of Health:

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

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

Mr. Aldrich and I have pleasure in presenting our combined report on the Health of the Borough during the year 1963.

We wish to draw the Council's attention to the difficulties experienced in properly administering the duties laid upon us by statute with respect to the very wide field which our work covers,

These are commented upon in the various sections of the report and we view with concern the detrimental effect the Meat Inspection Regulations must have upon other aspects of the work in future. The Council has been informed that the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, will become operative in 1964 and will impose a great deal more work upon the department.

Yours faithfully,

M. JONES ROBERTS,

Medical Officer of Health.

THE MAYOR OF THE BOROUGH AND THE CHAIRMEN OF THE VARIOUS COMMITTEES DURING THE YEAR WERE AS FOLLOWS:

Mayor of the Borough:

January to May, 1963—Ald. Emrys Roberts.

June to December, 1963—Ald. T. J. Davies.

Chairmen of the Public Health Committee:

January to May, 1963—Clr. R. Gwynn Hughes.

June to December, 1963—Clr. E. Cunah.

Chairman of the Housing Committee:

January to December, 1963—Clr. J. D. Williams.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE BOROUGH

Area of the Borough	9,072 acres.
Registrar General's estimated population (mid 1963) ...	8,130
Rateable Value (1.4.63)	£203,839
Sum represented by a penny rate	£800

The estimated population of the Borough during the year was 8,130 compared with 8,130 during 1962.

Deaths

Comparability Factor 0.45

	<i>England and Wales, 1963</i>	<i>1962</i>	<i>1963</i>
Crude death rate (per 1,000 population) ...	12.2	18.80	19.06
Corrected death rate (per 1,000 population)	—	9.77	8.57
Still-birth rate (per 1,000 population)	—	0.24	0.37
Still-birth rate (per 1,000 live and still-births)	17.3	17.54	22.90
Maternal mortality rate	0.28	NIL	NIL
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	20.9	26.78	NIL
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 legitimate live births)	—	27.52	NIL
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 illegitimate live births)	—	NIL	NIL
Neo-natal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) First 4 weeks	14.2	17.85	NIL
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	—	17.85	NIL
Peri-natal mortality rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still-births)	—	35.08	22.90

The following table shows the number of deaths which occurred during the year. The number of deaths which occurred in 1962 is shown in the first column for comparison.

	1962	1963	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	M F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	M F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic ...	15	M F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	M F	7	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	25	M F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Coronary disease, angina	31	M F	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	7
Hypertension with heart disease...	6	M F	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	7	12
Other heart disease	18	M F	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	6
Other circulatory disease	3	M F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	9
Pneumonia	20	M F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3
Bronchitis	6	M F	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	M F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea...	1	M F	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	4
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	M F	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	8
Other defined & ill-defined diseases	15	M F	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
All other accidents	2	M F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Motor vehicles accidents	1	M F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum...	1	M F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	M F	7	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	3	2
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	153	M F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
			58	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	4	7	17	28
			97	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	1	4	29	59

The deaths occurred in the following age groups:

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Under 4 weeks	—	—	—
4 weeks and under 1 year	—	—	—
1-4 years	—	—	—
5-14 years	1	1	—
15-24 years	1	—	1
25-34 years	2	—	2
35-44 years	2	1	1
45-54 years	5	4	1
55-64 years	11	7	4
65-74 years	46	17	29
75 years and over	87	28	59
TOTALS	155	58	97

There were 155 deaths during the year compared with 153 the previous year, giving a death rate of 8.57 compared with 9.77 in 1962. Of these, 133 occurred in persons aged 65 years and over.

Of the 155 deaths, 67 (29 males and 38 females) occurred at the North Wales Hospital.

Cancer deaths totalled 18 compared with 20 in 1962.

Vascular lesions of the nervous system totalled 28 compared with 25 the previous year. One occurred in a person in the 45-55 age group and the remainder were in persons over 65 years of age. Coronary disease and angina caused 35 deaths compared with 31 the previous year. One of these occurred in the 35-45 age group, 4 in the 55-65 age group and the remainder in persons over 65 years of age.

Hypertension with heart disease occurred in 4 persons compared with six last year. All were in females aged 65 and over. Other heart diseases caused 27 deaths compared with 18 in 1962, one occurring in a person aged between 45 and 55 years and the remainder in persons aged 65 years and over. Three deaths were due to other circulatory diseases and occurred in females over the age of 75 years.

Pneumonia accounted for 18 deaths, mostly in the older age group, compared with 20 in 1962 and bronchitis accounted for 4 deaths compared with 6 the previous year.

The accidental death occurred in a hospital patient aged 81 years and followed a pathological fracture of the femur.

Still-Birth Rate

The Still-Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still-births) was 22.90 compared with 17.54 the previous year and compared with 17.3 for England and Wales. The actual number of still-births was 3 compared with 2 in 1962.

Infant Deaths

The Infant Mortality Rate was NIL compared with 26.78 in 1962 and 20.9 for England and Wales. The actual number of infant deaths was NIL compared with 3 the previous year.

Maternal Mortality

There were no maternal deaths during the year, giving a Maternal Mortality Rate of NIL, the same as in 1962, and compared with 0.28 for England and Wales.

Births

Comparability Factor 1.14

Actual number of births registered 156
(74 males and 82 females)

Number of births relating to residents 128
(69 males and 59 females).

Expectant mothers from the surrounding districts come to the Denbigh Infirmary for their confinement and some are admitted to St. Asaph Maternity Hospital Unit. This is the reason that more births are registered in the area than relate to residents.

The births were classified as follows:

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	64	58	122
Illegitimate	5	1	6
TOTAL	69	59	128

	<i>England and Wales, 1963</i>	<i>1962</i>	<i>1963</i>
Crude birth rate (per 1,000 population) ...	18.2	13.77	15.74
Corrected birth rate (per 1,000 population)	—	17.06	17.94
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	—	2.67	4.86

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1963 arranged in the various age groups. The number of cases notified in 1962 is given in the first column for comparison.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	1962 TOTAL	1963 TOTAL	AT AGES						
			Under 1 year	1-5 years	6-15 years	16-25 years	26-45 years	46-65 years	65 years and over
Scarlet Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	33	21	1	13	7	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	4	—	3	1	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	6	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Non-Pulmonary Tuber- culosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	40	28	2	16	8	—	1	1	—

The total number of cases of infectious diseases (including tuberculosis) notified during the year was 28 compared with 41 cases in 1962. The decrease in the number of cases notified is due to the fact that 33 cases of measles were notified in 1962 compared with 21 cases in 1963.

Four cases of whooping cough were notified during the year compared with Nil the previous year. It is known that two of the children suffering from the disease were not immunised against it and it is doubtful if the other two were immunised.

No cases of scarlet fever were notified compared with 1 case in 1962.

One case of dysentery was notified compared with Nil the previous year. This case was in a baby aged 3 months who was admitted to hospital. The case was followed up but the source of infection was not found and no further cases were notified.

Two cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified compared with 6 cases in 1962. No cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, the same as in the previous year.

One case of tuberculosis was admitted to hospital during the year and one case was discharged.

Twenty-two cases of tuberculosis were removed from the register during the year, 2 patients having left the area, 15 recovered and 5 died. The cause of death in these five was not tuberculosis but some other cause.

The following table shows the number of cases of tuberculosis on the register at the beginning and at the end of 1963.

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	
Number on register on 1st January, 1963	62	39	3	7	111
Number on register on 31st December, 1963 ...	*53	*31	2	5	91

* These figures include 40 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis (35 males and 5 females) at the North Wales Hospital.

PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Vaccination and immunisation against various diseases were continued during the year as follows:

Against Poliomyelitis

Sabin (oral) vaccine was used throughout the County. The number of children and adults who were given protection against this disease during the year was as follows:

Under 1 year	81
1-4 years	43
5-14 years	3
15-25 years	7
26-40 years	22
Total	156

Number given the 3rd injection	—
Number of children given the 4th injection	—
Number given 1 dose of oral vaccine after 2 Salk injections	30
Number given 1 dose of oral vaccine after 3 doses of Salk vaccine	160
Number given 1 oral after 2 injections and 1 oral ...	116

Against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

Babies up to the age of 2 years are given the triple antigen. A Booster dose against these three diseases is given when the child is aged between 18 months and 2 years with booster doses against diphtheria and tetanus given when the child enters school, i.e. at the age of 5 years and again at 10 years of age.

The number of children immunised during the year was as follows:

Against diphtheria:

Under 5 years	127
Over 5 years	2
Booster doses	119

Against tetanus:

Under 5 years	127
Over 5 years	2
Booster doses	118

Against whooping cough:

Under 5 years	124
Over 5 years	2
Booster doses	82

Against Smallpox

Babies are vaccinated against smallpox at the age of 1-2 years and the number of vaccinations given during the year was as follows:

Number given primary vaccinations:

Under 5 years	26
5-14 years	—
14 years and over	—
Number of re-vaccinations	9

Tuberculosis

During the year, the Denbigh Grammar and the Secondary Modern School (Caledfryn) were visited for the purpose of testing children aged 13 years and over and, where necessary, giving B.C.G. vaccination. The number of children tested, etc. at these schools was as follows—these figures include children from Aled and Ruthin Rural Districts who attend these schools.

	<i>Grammar School</i>	<i>Caledfryn School</i>
Number of children tested	53	75
Number of children found to be positive ...	7	7
Number of children found to be negative . .	46	68
Number of children given B.C.G. vaccination	46	68

Children who were found to be positive were referred for X-ray examination or to the Chest Clinic to make sure that they were free from tuberculosis. Contacts were followed up by skin testing and X-rays.

Mass Radiography Unit

The following figures show the number of persons who attended at the Unit for X-ray examination during the year and include persons from Ruthin and Aled Rural Districts.

Number examined	357
Number of visits	12
Average attendance per visit ...	29

The type of examinee was as follows:

General population volunteers ...	350
General practitioner referrals	1
Scholars	6

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

Care of the Aged

No cases of persons in need of care and attention were brought to my notice during the year. Periodic visits are paid by the Health Visitors and District Nurses to the aged in the Borough and all assistance is given, e.g. by arranging for a Home Help to attend for certain periods daily to help with the housework, preparation of meals, shopping, etc.

There is a flourishing Darby and Joan Club in the Borough and a Meals and Wheels Service is provided by the W.V.S. for the sick and aged. This service is greatly appreciated and the visits are looked forward to as a social event.

Weather

A Weather Station is situated at the North Wales Hospital and I am grateful to S. L. Frost, Esq., the Hospital Secretary, for the following report:

RAINFALL AT THE NORTH WALES HOSPITAL GARDENS, DENBIGH — Year ended 31/12/63.

Rain Guage: Diameter of Funnel 4 ins.; Height about ground 1 ft.,
above sea level 316 feet.

Date	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1.	—	.10	—	.02	—	—	—	—	.05	.16	.01	.01
2.	.10	—	—	—	.02	—	.09	—	.11	.01	—	—
3.	.30	.02	—	—	—	—	.10	.16	.04	.17	.02	—
4.	.21	.01	.005	.16	.05	—	.09	.09	—	.02	.30	—
5.	.04	—	.10	—	.07	—	.10	—	.34	.02	.25	—
6.	—	.10	.05	—	.01	.01	.02	—	.14	.24	—	—
7.	—	.06	.01	—	.02	—	—	.03	.18	.02	.10	—
8.	—	—	.18	—	.01	—	—	.02	.13	.01	.02	—
9.	—	—	.18	.10	.08	—	.04	.10	—	—	.24	—
10.	—	—	—	.12	.05	—	.02	.19	—	—	.13	—
11.	—	—	—	.09	—	—	—	.07	—	—	.08	—
12.	—	—	—	.02	.03	.30	.15	.01	—	—	.01	—
13.	.01	—	.15	.08	.02	.04	.01	—	—	.01	.05	—
14.	—	.01	.11	.06	—	—	.09	—	—	.03	.41	—
15.	—	—	.08	.03	—	.17	.06	.01	—	.07	.08	—
16.	—	—	.03	.02	.01	—	—	.11	—	—	—	—
17.	.01	—	.06	.28	—	.15	.10	.04	.32	—	.19	.03
18.	—	—	—	—	—	.03	—	.09	—	—	.10	.01
19.	—	—	.14	—	.05	.12	.02	—	—	.01	.15	—
20.	.02	.01	.005	.09	.14	—	—	.06	—	—	.03	—
21.	—	—	—	.08	.07	.16	.01	.01	—	.15	.07	—
22.	—	—	—	—	—	.02	—	—	—	.03	.01	.02
23.	—	—	—	.26	.08	.05	.005	.05	.04	—	.14	—
24.	—	—	.29	.04	—	.13	.01	—	.21	.01	.11	—
25.	—	—	.04	—	—	.25	.01	.04	.38	.03	.32	.14
26.	—	—	.02	.02	—	—	—	.06	—	—	.02	—
27.	—	—	.21	.01	—	.14	—	.01	—	—	—	—
28.	.005	—	.18	—	—	.64	—	—	—	—	.32	—
29.	.42	x	.75	—	—	.52	—	—	—	—	—	.02
30.	.01	x	—	.10	.10	.42	—	.03	—	.02	.04	.01
31.	.05	x	.01	x	—	x	—	.10	x	.56	x	.06
TOTAL ...	1.17	.31	2.59	1.58	.81	3.15	.92	1.28	1.94	1.57	3.20	.30

Year's Total ... 18.82

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS AND MEAT INSPECTION

The Borough has four privately owned slaughterhouses. Three are in the town and one is situated at Henllan approximately three miles from the others.

Meat killed in the Borough is distributed over a large part of North Wales and is also marketed in Liverpool and Birkenhead.

The number of animals slaughtered for human consumption since 2nd July, 1954, when after a lapse of fifteen years slaughterhouses were re-opened in Denbigh is as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Sheep</i>
1954 (July onwards) ...	359	124	826	4,199
1955	808	449	1,701	6,493
1956	869	425	1,784	8,122
1957	1,490	324	2,083	13,490
1958	1,738	349	3,008	13,798
1959	1,257	149	2,257	11,593
1960	929	91	1,842	22,341
1961	1,353	228	1,844	24,794
1962	1,313	336	2,035	19,728

STATISTICS RELATING TO ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED DURING 1963

		<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Sheep</i>
No. 1.	No. killed	1,481	276	2,170	12,842
No. 2.	No. inspected	1,432	264	1,198	12,417
No. 3.	All diseases except conditions noted below (whole carcasses)	16	12	8	170
No. 4.	Carcasses of which a part or organ was condemned ...		not recorded		
No. 5.	% number affected as above	1%	4.5%	0.8%	1.4%
No. 6.	Tuberculosis of whole carcass	nil	nil	nil	nil
No. 7.	Tuberculosis of parts of carcass	—	—	47	—
No. 8.	% Primary T.B.	nil	nil	3.9%	—
No. 9.	Cysticerci	1	—	—	—

No horses are slaughtered within the Borough.

The following table shows the hours of regular slaughtering notified to the Council in accordance with the Regulations.

HOURS OF REGULAR SLAUGHTERING

	<i>Henllan</i>	<i>120 Vale Street</i>	<i>92 Vale Street</i>	<i>Barkers Lane</i>
Sunday	8 a.m.-1.00 p.m.	8 a.m.-3 p.m.	—	9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Monday	8 a.m.-5.30 p.m.	11 a.m.-7 p.m.	8 a.m.-3 p.m.	4 p.m.-7 p.m.
Tuesday	8 a.m.-5.30 p.m.	10 a.m.-7 p.m.	1 p.m.-7 p.m.	
Wednesday	8 a.m.-5.30 p.m.	8 a.m.-7 p.m.	1 p.m.-4 p.m.	
Thursday	8 a.m.-5.30 p.m.			
Friday	8 a.m.-5.30 p.m.		6 p.m.-8 p.m.	6 p.m.-7 p.m.
Saturday				

At all other times 24 hours notice of slaughter is given.

In practice it has been found that slaughtering tends to start later than the times stated and that on Sundays slaughtering continues until late afternoon.

When the total number of animals killed is compared with the hours, on which slaughtering takes place it can be seen that the rate of kill per hour is low. This adds considerably to the hours which have to be spent visiting the premises to inspect the carcasses.

TABLE SHOWING ANIMALS KILLED AT EACH SLAUGHTERHOUSE

	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Sheep</i>
Henllan	863	273	209	6,410
120 Vale Street ...	373	3	1,800	3,366
92 Vale Street ...	133	—	160	1,816
Barkers Lane	112	—	1	1,250

The number of visits made to the slaughterhouses by the Public Health Inspector for the control of the premises and the inspection of meat during the year is as follows:

Visits to 30th September	465
Visits 1st October—31st December	370
TOTAL	835

The Meat Inspection Regulations which came into operation on the 1st October presented a number of problems to the Council. It has been pointed out from time to time before these regulations were introduced that the inspection of meat at the slaughterhouses had to be carried out by the Public Health Inspector in such a manner that other duties were not overlooked or forgotten. No relief could be obtained to cover the inspection of meat during the absence of the inspector. It has for some years been a matter of concern that under these conditions much important work such as the inspection of food premises, factories, shops and dwelling houses has not been properly carried out on a regular basis.

On the introduction of the Meat Inspection Regulations a comprehensive report was submitted to the Council by the Public Health Inspector on the content of the regulations and the problem involved. It was pointed out that the inspection and marking of carcasses in accordance with the regulations would occupy almost the whole of the inspectors normal working hours and also would involve very many extra hours of duty regularly each week in the evenings and on Sundays. It was stated that the precedence demanded for meat

inspection would make it impossible to attend to other work except for the most urgent matters which daily require attention.

The Council were recommended to make adequate provision for the carrying out of meat inspection and all other duties by appointing an additional Public Health Inspector.

Following a number of meetings to discuss this report, and also a meeting with the owners of the slaughterhouses, at which hours of slaughtering and the charges to be made for meat inspected were considered, the Council resolved to appoint a pupil as a General Assistant in the Public Health Department, and to engage a local Veterinary Surgeon to assist with overtime work when necessary.

In the three months from the 1st day of October, all animals slaughtered in the Borough have been inspected and marked. It is not possible to observe the provisions of the Regulations in detail or to be present at the time of slaughter, but so far as possible all carcasses are inspected on the day of slaughter and as soon as possible after slaughter. To do this each day a number of visits are made to slaughterhouses while slaughtering is carried on. In between these visits the Inspector endeavours to attend to his work at the Office and any other matters which demand attention.

The Council resolved to make the following charges for meat inspected:

Cattle	2/6d. per head.
Calves	9d. per head.
Pigs	9d. per head.
Sheep	6d. per head.

If the present trend of slaughtering continues it is estimated that the revenue from the charges will be approximately £700 per annum.

HOUSING—GENERAL AND SLUM CLEARANCE

During the year the Council reviewed the Slum Clearance programme in detail. The original Slum Clearance scheme formulated in 1955 was for a total of seventy eight houses as follows:

Houses in existing clearance areas	28
Houses subject to Closing or Demolition Order	15
New Demolition or Closing Orders required ...	35
TOTAL	78 dwellings.

Since that programme the Council has:

Demolished	46 dwellings.
Closed	41 dwellings.
TOTAL	87 dwellings.

Although the estimate has been exceeded the final figures is deceptively low because 21 houses are vacant and awaiting demolition in various parts of the town and are not included in the final returns of property demolished.

In 1963 the slum clearance progress was as follows:

Unfit Houses Demolished	Nil
Unfit Houses Closed	6
Persons displaced	23
Families displaced	6

In addition fifteen houses were made fit for human habitation after informal action taken by the Public Health Inspector.

It is estimated that forty-one houses are at present unfit for habitation when judged by existing standards of fitness, but any revision of these standards will considerably increase the number of houses to be dealt with. Apart from deterioration which has taken place in properties since 1955 the removal of the slum dwellings which then existed now tends to draw attention to other houses which at that time seemed to have a useful life ahead of them. These dwellings are generally too small to be modernised successfully, but are often owner occupied and kept in a good state of repair.

The Council are anxious to continue the building of new houses to meet the needs of the Borough, but difficulty in obtaining suitable sites has delayed progress in this respect. A scheme for the erection of a block of flatlets has however reached the stage where it is hoped that building work will start early in the new year.

The housing points scheme for the letting of the Council's houses has continued in use during 1963 and has proved successful. At the close of the year there were ninety applicants on the lists for houses and bungalows and a further eighty on the waiting list who had applied within the twelve months and had not completed the twelve months waiting period before being included on the points list.

The houses of all applicants within the Borough are visited by the Public Health Inspector and also when necessary for medical reasons, by the Medical Officer of Health. A full investigation of the housing needs and circumstances of each applicant is made before points are awarded.

Over 50 Council tenants have applied for housing transfers for various reasons. The Council endeavour to make satisfactory provision for overcrowded families etc. when letting houses, by arranging transfers to the best advantage of the families concerned.

Two hundred and seventy five visits were made by the Public Health Inspector to premises in the Borough under the provisions of the Housing Acts with respect to Housing enquiries, slum clearance and housing repairs.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Steady progress in the improvement of older houses continued during 1963.

The Council approved seventeen applications for grant aid, nine of which were for Standard Grants.

The eight Discretionary Grant applications were for work which required extensions to dwellings or the conversion of dwellings into more than one housing unit. Grant aid of £2,933 18s. 0d. was approved for works involving a total expenditure of £8,351 14s. 5d.

Little progress was made in the scheme to improve blocks of houses, as it has not been possible for the Public Health Inspector to carry out the necessary surveys.

During the year the Public Health Inspector made ninety six visits and inspections in connection with improvement grants. The continued progress in the modernisation of old houses is satisfactory to record and it is hoped that it will be possible to continue this work in future even though the time available for this aspect of the work has been reduced.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

Food Premises

The number of food premises in the area comprises the following business etc.

Shops	69
Bakehouses	6
Public Houses	17
Cafes	9
School Canteens	6
Factory Canteens	3
Sausage Manufacturers	10
Registered Dairies	1
Slaughterhouses	4
	<hr/>
	125

A good start was made early in the year on a systematic inspection of all the food premises in the area and by October at least fifty premises had been inspected by the Public Health Inspector.

The Council authorised the printing and distribution of new notices requesting the public to refrain from smoking and taking dogs into food shops in both the English and Welsh languages.

Premises inspected were generally found to be satisfactory but, when necessary, contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations were drawn to the attention of the persons concerned and matters were promptly remedied. This co-operation on the part of food handlers gives considerable satisfaction and is to be commended.

The introduction of the meat inspection regulations unfortunately interrupted this work and it was not found possible to continue the programme after the 1st October.

The following food was found to be unfit for human consumption and was destroyed after surrender to the Public Health Inspector.

Tinned fruit	97½ lbs.	Tinned chopped ham ...	3 lbs.
Tinned tomatoes	15 lbs.	Tinned corned beef	11 lbs.
Tinned milk	8 pts.	Tinned sardines	7 lbs.
Tinned peas	18½ lbs.	Tinned pilchards	3 lbs.
Tinned carrots	1 lb.	Tinned shrimps	3 oz.
Tinned soup	12½ lbs.	Tinned prawns	10 oz.
Tinned fruit juices	6 lbs.	Tinned creamed rice ...	2 lbs.
Tinned marmalade	2 lbs.	Pie Filling	4½ lbs.

SALE OF ICE CREAM

Number of premises registered for the sale of pre-packed ice-cream	31
Number of premises registered for the manufacture of ice-cream	1

All premises registered for the sale and manufacture of ice-cream were visited.

Number of ice-cream samples sent for Bacteriological Examination	18
Number of samples grade 1	10
Number of samples grade 2	5
Number of samples grade 3	3

Samples of ice-cream taken at the premises registered for manufacture were all satisfactory. The grade three samples were followed by further visits to the shops concerned to check the age of stocks held and storage conditions.

FOOD SAMPLING

This is carried out under the Food and Drugs Act by the County Council's Chief Inspector. We would thank Mr. Thomas H. Evans for permission to include the following report:

<i>Article</i>	<i>No. Taken</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Not Genuine, or Sub-standard</i>
MILK	11	9	2
Butter	2	2	--
Tinned Luncheon Meat ...	1	1	--
Sausages	2	2	--
Tinned Mixed Veg.	1	1	--
Ice Cream	1	1	--
Beer	2	2	--
Wine (Port Type)	1	1	--
Liquid Paraffin	1	1	--
Sol. of Hyd. Peroxide	1	1	--
TOTALS	23	21	2

Of the eleven samples of milk submitted to the Public Analyst two of them were certified to be deficient in fat. Both the farms where this milk was produced were visited and "Appeal to Cow" samples taken, the results of which showed that the cows were giving milk which at that time was not up to the standard for fat. Several samples taken from these sources at a later date when tested by the inspectors proved to be up to the standard.

WATER SUPPLIES

The following samples of water were sent for bacteriological examination during the year:

	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Not Satisfactory</i>
Denbigh Water Co.	11	8	3
Henllan Village Supply	7	5	2
Henllan Village (Raw Water) ...	1	—	1
North Wales Counties Mental Hospital Supply	2	2	--
County Council Small Holdings Supply	2	1	1
Private Supplies and Wells ...	11	8	3

Three hundred and twenty five visits were made by the Public Health Inspector in connection with water supplies generally.

The town of Denbigh is supplied by the Denbigh Water Co. The water is satisfactory in quality. It is pumped from a deep bore hole and is hard. It is chlorinated but not filtered at the pumping station before delivery to the mains.

Complaints have been received by the Council during the year of an inadequate supply of water to certain parts of the town situated in the higher areas. The Water Company report that due to an increased demand for water for domestic and industrial purposes difficulty is being experienced in pumping sufficient water to the storage tanks from the bore hole to meet the needs of the town. The Council has asked the Denbigh Water Company to take all necessary steps to ensure that an adequate supply of water is maintained in the town, and has provided the Water Company with certain financial guarantees to enable necessary temporary works to be carried out as soon as possible.

One sample of the Denbigh Town Supply was sent to the Public Analyst for chemical examination.

In the opinion of the Public Analyst the water is satisfactory and the concentration of fluorine is negligible.

The Henllan Water undertaking is operated by the Borough Council. Samples prove the water to be unsatisfactory at the source which is a small valley gathering ground surrounded by farm land and several farms.

The supply is inadequate in dry seasons but is now supplemented by a bulk supply from the Aled R.D.C. main which is filtered and chlorinated and delivered into the storage tank via a 1" pipe. Approximately 10,000 gallons per day are received from the Aled R.D.C. main.

Water from the reservoir is filtered and chlorinated before passing into the storage tank for delivery to the village.

Work has started by the Contractors on the laying of new mains in the village. On completion of this work it is hoped to draw all the water for Henllan from the Aled R.D.C. main supply.

The above undertakings provide water to the built up areas of the district. The agricultural areas of the Borough are served by a number of other supplies and many properties near to the boundary draw a piped supply from the mains of adjoining Local Authorities.

Approximately twenty-two houses and farms are provided with a piped supply from the North Wales Mental Hospital. This water is drawn from the supply main before it has been filtered and chlorinated. Bacteriological examination shows the water to be consistently satisfactory but it must be remembered that a supply of this nature can always deteriorate, particularly as the source is a small lake on the moors, a popular area for tourists. Seventeen outlying properties receive a treated supply from this main.

A further ten houses and farms are provided with a piped supply from the County Council Small Holdings source which comprises land springs in cultivated land. The water is not filtered or chlorinated and therefore must be regarded with suspicion. Samples show a variation in quality and in dry spells the supply is inadequate.

The remainder of the Borough, approximately sixty properties, depend upon private supplies and wells.

Samples from these supplies are periodically sent for bacteriological examination, but it is impossible to find time to do this work on a systematic and regular basis.

The Council are concerned to secure an improvement in the water supply position in the rural areas of the Borough and have engaged consultants to prepare schemes for providing a piped mains supply to a large proportion of the above properties.

SWIMMING BATH

The Council owned swimming pool at Brondyffryn is provided with efficient continuous filtration and chlorination plant. Good use is made of this delightful open-air pool by school children and residents of the Borough. A large number of visitors also used the pool last season.

Bacteriological examination of the water from the pool was as follows:

Satisfactory	12
Unsatisfactory	4

The four unsatisfactory samples were accounted for by a failure of the pumping equipment. The pool was closed until the matter was remedied.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE

Early in the year the Council considered the future of the Common Lodging House. After discussion with the owner and the County Council Welfare Department it was decided not to renew the registration of the premises, which closed in April.

Subsequently, the Council purchased the site and the buildings have been demolished.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse and salvage are collected weekly from all domestic premises other than some outlying farms and cottages which receive a fortnightly service or calls on request.

It is estimated that 3,200 tons of refuse per annum is collected from over 2,400 premises. All the refuse is disposed of at the controlled tip at Meifod, Henllan.

Business and industrial premises require considerable attention. The larger shops and offices are serviced twice per week and other premises such as schools, factories and hospitals require more frequent arrangements. Refuse is removed from one large factory and from the North Wales Hospital daily.

The demands made upon the collection service are increasing and the bulkier nature of the refuse collected also makes it increasingly difficult to maintain an efficient service with the present labour force and vehicles.

A large number of dustbins in the town are defective and various kinds of containers are frequently used instead of a proper dustbin. Letters are sent to premises in default, but it is found difficult to follow these up to ensure that the necessary bins are provided.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEME

The Borough District is served by three sewerage systems and sewage treatment and disposal works and a brief comment is given below by Mr. R. G. Hughes, the Borough Surveyor.

(i) SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL WORKS AT EGLWYSWEN

Statistics for year ending 31st December, 1963

Total quantity of crude sewage treated ...	158,990,000 gallons.
Average quantity treated per 24 hours ...	435,590 gallons.
No. of samples of final effluent forwarded to Public Analyst	2
No. of samples of final effluent taken by the Dee & Clwyd River Board	5
No. of samples of final effluent of satisfactory standard	6

One sample taken in February was outside the Royal Commission Standard due to a long spell of adverse weather conditions which, it is thought, greatly reduced the bacterial activity.

The proposal to modify and extend the works to ensure a high standard of purity for the final effluent and to serve additional building land was carried a stage further by the appointment of Consultant Engineers. The preliminary report upon their proposals is expected in the early part of 1964.

(ii) SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL WORKS AT HENLLAN

Statistics for year ending 31st December, 1963

No. of samples of final effluent forwarded to Public Analyst	1
No. of samples of final effluent taken by the Dee & Clwyd River Board	2
No. of samples of final effluent of satisfactory standard	2

One sample taken in early March was outside the Royal Commission Standard and this could also have been due to the long spell of adverse weather conditions affecting the bacterial activity.

(iii) SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL WORKS AT THE GREEN

The small sewage treatment plant operating on the principle of settlement and surface irrigation has functioned satisfactorily during the year.

In anticipation of possible future housing development in the area the Council have requested a report upon the adequacy of the plant and the possible need for modification.

FACTORIES

Pressure of other work again prevented a routine inspection of the factories in the Borough. Inspections were made when required and the details are provided in the following table.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

Part I of the Act

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of Inspect- tions</i>	<i>Number of Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	6	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	41	16	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	8	8	—	—
TOTAL	56	30	1	—

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted</i>
	<i>To H.M. Found</i>		<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>		<i>Inspector</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Inspector</i>	<i>Inspector</i>	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	1	—	—	1	—
(a) Insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective					
(c) not separate for sexes					
Other offence against the Act not including offences relating to Outwork)					
TOTAL	1	—	—	1	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT — Outworks

(Sections 110 and 111)

NIL REPORT

PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE IN THE AREA

Laboratory Service

The Public Health Laboratory is at Conway and samples of water, milk and ice cream are sent there for bacteriological examination. Other types of bacteriological examinations are also carried out to aid in the diagnosis of illness, e.g. food poisoning, scarlet fever, meningitis, etc.

Ambulance Service

This service is controlled by the County Medical Officer of Health at Wrexham, but Denbigh, Llanrwst and Llangerniew ambulances are under the jurisdiction of the Ambulance Sub-Station at Colwyn Bay.

The following is given for the information of the Council and the numbers refer to cases conveyed by the various ambulances and the mileage during the year.

	Denbigh	Ruthin	Llanrwst	Llangerniew	Cerrig -y- Drudion	Totals
Number of cases conveyed ...	6161	4141	77	1932	56	12367
Total Mileage ...	51875	46971	2245	26154	3095	130340
Number of ambulance per station	2	3	1	2	1	9
Whether manned by voluntary or part-time personnel	2	2	1	1	1	5
	Full-time and Voluntary	Full-time and Voluntary	Voluntary	Full-time and Voluntary	Voluntary	Full-time and Voluntary

SITTING CASE CARS — TAXIS

No. of Journeys
1893

No. of Cases
5677

Total Mileage
84728

Mental Health Service

This service is under the supervision of the County Medical Officer of Health.

Orthopaedic Clinics

This clinic is held at the Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh, on the first and third Wednesday morning in each month. Surgeons from the Gobowen Orthopaedic Hospital attend on the third Wednesday in each month.

Some patients from the Borough attend Orthopaedic Clinics held weekly at Rhyl Hospital.

Venereal Diseases Clinics

These clinics are held at hospitals in Llandudno, Wrexham, Chester, Bangor and St. Asaph.

School Ophthalmic Clinics

Clinics are held at the Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh, by appointment.

Some children from the Borough attend Ophthalmic Clinics held at Denbigh and St. Asaph Hospitals.

Child Guidance Clinics

Clinics are held as follows:

At Bod Difyr, Cefn Road, Colwyn Bay, on Wednesdays and Fridays.

At Gatefield Clinic, Kings Mills Road, Wrexham, on Thursdays and by appointment on Fridays.

Chest Clinic

This clinic is held at the Infirmary, Denbigh, on Wednesday mornings by appointment.

Family Planning Clinics

Clinics are held as follows:

At Nant-y-Glyn, Colwyn Bay, on Mondays, between 2.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m.

At No. 1 Grosvenor Road, Wrexham, on Thursdays, between 2 and 4.30 p.m.

Infant Welfare Clinics

This clinic is held every Wednesday afternoon between 1.30 and 3.30 p.m. at the Clinic, Middle Lane, and is well attended as can be seen from the following attendance figures.

<i>Under 1 year 1st visits</i>	<i>1-5 years</i>		<i>Total Visits</i>	
	<i>1-2 years</i>	<i>2-5 years</i>	<i>Under 1 year</i>	<i>1-5 years</i>
118	88	93	1236	831

The above figures include babies from Aled and Ruthin Rural Districts.

Welfare foods are available during the clinic sessions and on Friday afternoons between 1.30 p.m. and 4 p.m. Foods are also obtainable from Miss Roberts of Bwthyn, Henllan.

Chiropody Clinic

This clinic is held at the Clinic, Middle Lane, by appointment. Patients are referred to this Clinic by General Practitioners, Health Visitors and District Nurses. A charge of 2/6d. per treatment is made. The number of persons who attended at this Clinic during the year was as follows:

Number of cases on register	125
Number of first visits	16
Number of re-visits	78
Number of appointments made	113
Number of appointments kept	94
Number given free treatment	—

The above figures include patients from Aled and Ruthin Rural Districts who also attend this Clinic.

Dental Clinics

No Clinics were held for the examination and treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and toddlers during the year.

School children received treatment when necessary through the School Dental Service.

Nursing Services

The following are the names and addresses of the nursing staff serving the district:

Health Visits:

Miss S. C. Evans	}	The Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh.	Tel. No.: 289.
Miss O. M. Hobson			
Miss D. Phillips			

Tuberculosis Health Visitor

Miss M. Thomas, 21 Severn Road, Colwyn Bay.

District Nurses

Sister M. Jones, Annedd Wen, Nantglyn, Denbigh. Tel. No.: Nantglyn 225.

Sister M. Williams, Min-y-Coed, Rhewl, Ruthin. Tel. No.: Ruthin 254.

Sister A. Davies, The Nook, Trefnant, Denbigh. Tel. No.: Trefnant 217.

Sister A. Price, 73 Vale Street, Denbigh. Tel. No.: Denbigh 212.

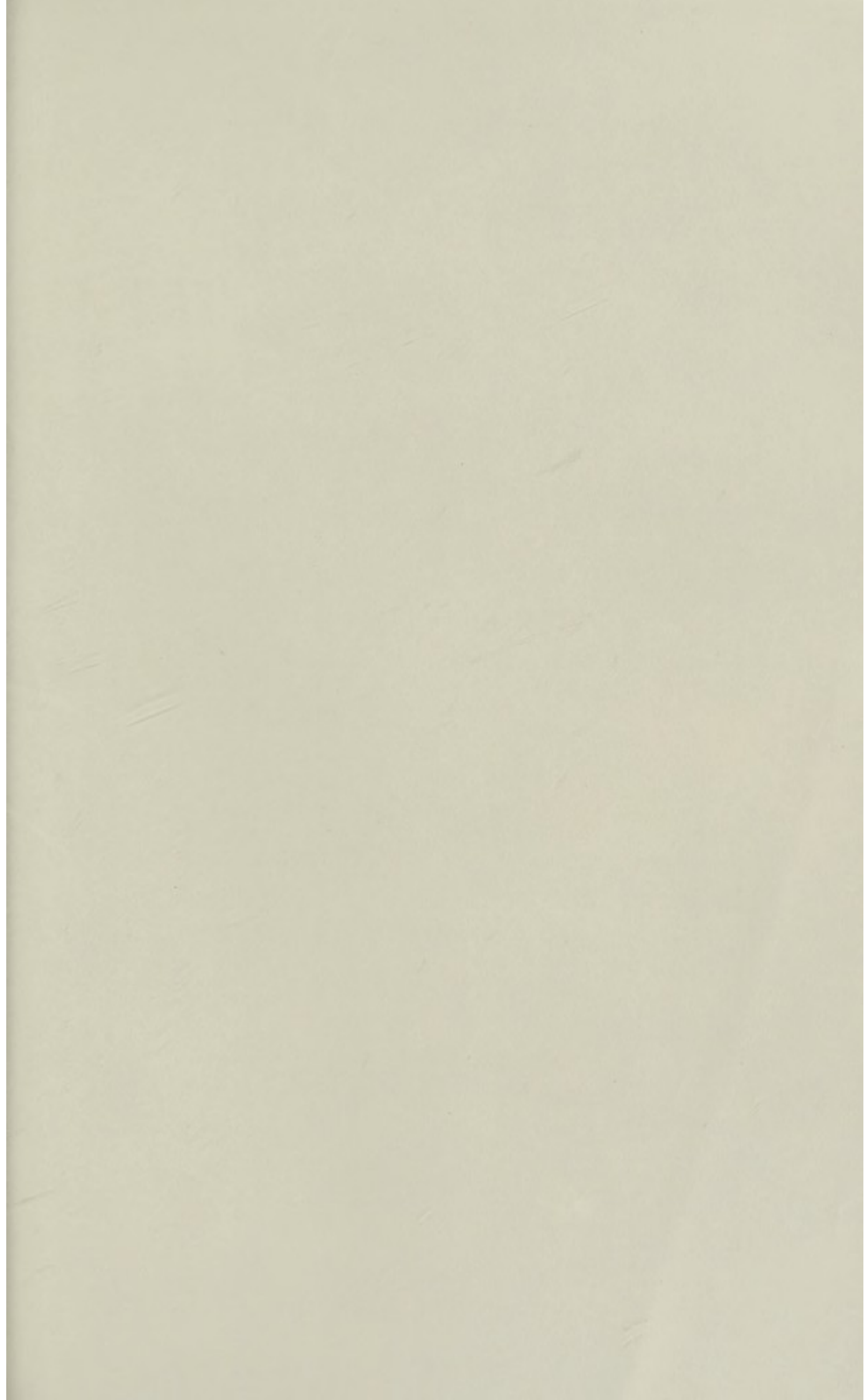
School Health Attendants

The School Health Attendant visited schools in the area to test the hearing and vision of the children. A portable audiometer and vision screening apparatus was used and any children found to have defective hearing and/or vision were followed up and referred to a Consultant for further examination when necessary.

Domestic Help Service

The number of cases where domestic help was provided was as follows:

Chronic Sick and Aged	81
Others	6



Health Visitors

Miss S. C. Evans	The Clinic,	
Miss O. M. Hughes	Marble Lane,	
Miss D. Phillips	Denbigh	Tel. No.: 389

Tuberculosis Health Visitor

Miss M. Thomas, 21 Nelson Road, Colwyn Bay.

District Nurses

Sister M. Jones, Aenodd Wen, Nantglyn, Denbigh. Tel. No.: Nantglyn 225.

Sister M. Williams, Min-y-Coed, Rhewl, Ruthin. Tel. No.: Ruthin 254.

Sister A. Davies, The Nook, Trefnant, Denbigh. Tel. No.: Trefnant 217.

Sister A. Price, 73 Vale Street, Denbigh. Tel. No.: Denbigh 212.

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Domestic Help Service

The number of cases where domestic help was provided was as follows:

Chronic Sick and Aged	81
Others	4