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BOROUGH OF DENBIGH



Annual Health Report

1967

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BOROUGH OF DENBIGH ANNUAL

HEALTH REPORT

1967

Yours faithfully,

M. JONES ROBERTS

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

Mr. Mayor, Alderman and Councillors,

The Public Health Inspector and I have pleasure in presenting our report on the health of the Borough during the year 1967.

We wish to thank you, Mr. Mayor, the Chairmen of the various Committees, and members of the Council for the assistance we have received during the year. We also thank the officials and members of the staff for their ever ready assistance.

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 - May, 1967: Alderman Ivor Lloyd Watkins.
May - December, 1967: Alderman J. D. Williams.

Chairman of the Public Health Committee:

January - May, 1967: Councillor G. D. Roberts.
May - December, 1967: Councillor Mrs. Targett.

Chairman of the Housing Committee:

January - December, 1967: Councillor E. Cunnah.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE BOROUGH

Area of the Borough	9,072 acres
Registrar General's estimated mid-year Home Population:	8,460
Rateable Value	£235,791
Sum represented by a penny rate	£890

The estimated population of the Borough during the year was 8,460 compared with 8,420 during 1966, an increase of 40.

Deaths

Comparability Factor	0.53
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	<i>England and Wales 1967</i>	<i>1966</i>	<i>1967</i>
Crude death rate (per 1,000 population) ...	11.2	19.24	19.6
Corrected death rate (per 1,000 population)		10.58	10.4
Still-birth rate (per 1,000 total births) ...	14.8	30.1	8.4
Maternal mortality rate	0.2	Nil	Nil
Infant mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	18.3	15.5	16.9
Neo-natal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) first 4 weeks	12.5	7.7	16.9
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week of age)	10.8	Nil	16.9
Peri-natal mortality rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week of age per 1,000 total births)	25.4	30.1	25.2

The following table shows the number of deaths which occurred during the year.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total all Ages	Under 4 weeks	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant, Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ..	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—
	F	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ..	M	6	—	—	—	1	1	—	3	—
	F	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	10
Coronary Disease, Angina	M	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	7
	F	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	9
Hypertension with Heart Disease	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Other Heart Disease	M	5	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	1
	F	19	—	—	—	1	—	1	6	11
Other Circulatory Disease	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	M	13	—	—	—	—	1	1	6	5
	F	12	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	9

CAUSE OF DEATH	Total all Sex Ages		Under 4 weeks	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over
Bronchitis	M	6	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	2
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ..	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	M	12	2	—	—	—	1	3	2	4
	F	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5
Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All Other Accidents	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
<hr/>										
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	78	2	1	1	1	5	11	27	30
	F	88	—	—	—	2	4	7	23	52

There were 166 deaths during the year compared with 162 the previous year, giving a death rate of 10.4 compared with 10.58 in 1966, and 11.2 for England and Wales. Of these 132 occurred in persons aged 65 years and over.

Respiratory tuberculosis was the cause of one death. This was not notified before death as it was thought to have been a case of lung cancer.

One death was due to syphilitic disease.

Cancer caused 21 deaths compared with 27 in 1966, 5 of these were due to cancer of the lungs compared with 1 the previous year.

There were 21 deaths due to vascular lesions of the nervous system.

Coronary disease and angina caused 29 deaths and 5 were due to hypertension and heart disease. Other heart diseases caused 24 deaths and there were 2 deaths from other circulatory diseases.

There were 25 deaths due to pneumonia and 8 due to bronchitis.

Nephritis and nephrosis accounted for 1 death and there were 19 deaths from other defined and ill-defined diseases.

Motor vehicle accidents caused one death; 6 deaths were due to all other accidents which were mostly falls to the floor in hospital, causing fractured femur.

Still-Births

The Still-Birth Rate (per 1,000 total births) was 8.4 compared with 30.1 the previous year and 14.8 for England and Wales. The actual number of still-births was 1 compared with 4 in 1966. The still-birth was an emergency delivery in hospital, due to faetal distress. Investigation showed that this was unavoidable.

Infant Deaths

The Infant Mortality Rate was 16.9 compared with 15.5 in 1966 and 18.3 for England and Wales.

The actual number of deaths was 2 compared with 2 the previous year. One occurred in a baby aged 5 days and was due to pulmonary collapse, and the other baby died aged 2 days, due to prematurity (born at the 36th week of pregnancy). Both cases were unavoidable.

Maternal Mortality

There were no maternal deaths, giving a Maternal Mortality Rate of Nil compared to Nil in 1966 and 0.2 for England and Wales.

Births

Comparability Factor	1.14
Actual number of births registered in the area ...	127
Number of births relating to residents	119

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	49	60	109
Illegitimate	5	4	9
Still-Birth	—	1	1

	<i>England and Wales</i>		
	<i>1967</i>	<i>1966</i>	<i>1967</i>
Crude birth rate (per 1,000 population)	17.2	15.32	13.9
Corrected birth rate (per 1,000 population) ...		17.46	15.8

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1967 arranged in the various age groups. The number of cases notified in 1966 is given in the first column for comparison.

<i>NOTIFIABLE DISEASES</i>	<i>Total 1966</i>	<i>Total 1967</i>	<i>Under 1 year</i>	<i>1-5 years</i>	<i>6-15 years</i>	<i>16-25 years</i>	<i>26-45 years</i>	<i>46-65 years</i>	<i>age unknown</i>
Measels	28	231	4	162	73	1	—	—	1
Dysentery	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	2	11	—	9	1	1	—	—	—
Erysipelas	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Meningitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary T.B.	3	7	—	1	—	—	2	4	—
TOTALS	40	261	4	172	75	2	2	5	1

The total number of cases notified was 261 compared to 40 in 1966.

Measles accounted for 241 cases compared with 28 in 1966.

There were no cases of dysentery compared with 1 the previous year.

There were 11 cases of whooping cough compared with 2 the previous year. The cases appear to have been isolated in that 2 occurred in school children during the quarter ending March; 2 occurred in pre-school children during the quarter ending June; 4 occurred in the quarter ending September of which 2 were pre-school, 1 school and one aged 16½, and 3 occurred in the quarter ending December of which 1 was in a pre-school and 2 in school children. Each one of these 11 cases occurred in different family units.

There was 1 case of erysipelas compared with 4 in 1966, and no cases of scarlet fever compared with 1 the previous year.

One case of paratyphoid was notified in August. The patient had been in France and was unwell on her return home. The patient had been nursed at home for a short period before being diagnosed as a case of paratyphoid and admitted to hospital. Strict hygienic precautions were adhered to in the home and no further cases occurred.

Food Poisoning

There were no cases of food poisoning notified.

Infective Hepatitis

Cases of infective hepatitis were reported amongst school children. These were investigated. The origin of this was not revealed. Cases were prevalent over a period of a month.

Anthrax

One case of Anthrax in a bullock was notified but was found not to be affected following examination by a Ministry Veterinary Inspector.

Tuberculosis

Seven cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified with 3 in 1966. Two of these were residents at the North Wales Hospital and the other 5 were Borough residents. Difficulty was experienced in some cases in persuading family contacts to attend the chest clinic or mass x-ray service for examination to exclude the

possibility that other members of the family were also suffering from tuberculosis. Contacts at work were also asked to attend the mass radiography unit for examination. It is only by strict follow up of all contacts that it is possible to trace the source of the infection. One often finds that it is forgotten that tuberculosis is an infectious disease.

One case of non-pulmonary-tuberculosis was removed from the register as she had been cured. Seven pulmonary cases were removed, 5 having died and 2 transferred to another area.

The following table shows the number of cases on the Borough register at the beginning and at the end of 1967.

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number on Register on 1st January, 1967 ...	36	17	1	3	57
Number on Register on 31st December, 1967 ...	33	20	1	2	56

PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

The following shows the number protected by prophylactic measures:

	<i>Primary</i>	<i>Booster</i>
Diphtheria	126	219
Whooping Cough	122	79
Tetanus	125	218

Poliomyelitis

	<i>Primary</i>	<i>Booster</i>
Salk Vaccine	31	4
Sabin Vaccine	95	84

Smallpox

Primary	62
Re-Vaccination	14

Tuberculosis

Only 14 children were tested this year due to the fact that the schools became comprehensive and there was difficulty in organising the visit. However, it is hoped to visit the High School in the new year to test the age group concerned and vaccinate them where necessary. A class of children in one of the junior schools were tested as they were contacts to a case of tuberculosis, but all were clear of infection.

Mass Radiography Unit

The following figures show the number of persons from Ruthin and Denbigh who attended at the Unit for x-ray examination during the year:

	<i>Denbigh</i>	<i>Ruthin</i>
Number examined	324	344
Number of visits	14	13
Average attendance per visit	23	28

The type of examinee was as follows:

General Population Volunteers	269	321
General Practitioner Referrals	—	1
Contacts	9	13
Scholars Mantoux Positive	—	8
Factory Groups, Non-Industrial	46	1

Care of the Aged

Several cases were brought to our notice as requiring care and attention. These were followed up and with the assistance of Health Visitors, District Nurses, Home Helps, and the Welfare Officers, there was no cause to take action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

REFUSE COLLECTION

A number of improvements were made to the Council's scheme for the collection of refuse during 1967, in an attempt to reduce the rising cost of this service.

The scheme for substituting paper sacks for dust bins was completed by the end of March. Domestic premises throughout the district are now provided with paper sack containers for holding refuse.

This scheme has been generally welcomed and accepted by rate-payers. Less than thirty people refused to co-operate with the Council and most of these were later persuaded to accept paper sacks. Staff engaged on refuse collection also find their work is less arduous. Although the task of collection has been simplified, the full economy which was hoped for was not found possible because the paper sack container can not be brought into use in the business premises of the Borough.

The Council resolved to sell additional paper sacks to members of the public. These are available at the Council Offices, price 6d.,

and can be used for the disposal of garden refuse or any additional refuse which it is desired to dispose of at the usual time of refuse collection from premises.

Of the 2,400 domestic premises serviced, very few require more than one sack per week to contain their refuse and these are mainly large family units of six or more persons per household.

Shops, industrial premises, schools and hotels present a particular problem because of the nature of the refuse removed. It is mainly of such bulk and quantity as to render even a dustbin of little use.

It was found that the larger of the 400 business premises used six or more dustbins and even the smaller offices and shops required two dustbins. These were serviced twice a week and the number of bins thus serviced was estimated at 2,000—equivalent almost to the number of domestic collections made. Trade refuse has been collected free of charge in the Borough ever since collections were first undertaken. It was therefore apparent that a large proportion of the cost of refuse collection service has been incurred in the collection of trade refuse.

After very careful consideration the Council resolved to introduce a special scheme for trade refuse collection. From 5th June trade refuse collection has been limited to a free collection once a week, this collection is limited to (a) 3 dustbins of refuse placed in regulation $3\frac{1}{4}$ cub. ft. dustbins and brought to a position at the premises convenient for collection, and (b) Cardboard cartons properly flattened and folded and placed on a convenient place for collection.

Trade refuse is accepted at the tip free of charge during normal working hours and additional collections are arranged from trade premises providing the cost of collection is paid to the Council.

Details of the scheme were sent to all business premises and every opportunity was taken to explain the scheme to traders including an address and discussion at a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce. The scheme has been working smoothly since June.

The report of the Working Party on Refuse Collection was considered by the Council in June, following which, steps have been taken to ensure that so far as is possible the main recommendations of the report are complied with. Dustless loading is achieved by the use of the paper sack system. Refuse is classified and dealt with according to the premises of origin. The provision of residential refuse receptacles is now the responsibility of the Council. Domestic refuse is collected once a week and arrangements can be made for adequate collection from food shops and catering premises. Rear loading compression refuse collection vehicles are used.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

It is estimated that at least 280 tons of refuse is disposed of at Meifod tip each month. This refuse requires approximately 1,250 cubic yards of space. The whole of the refuse from within the Borough is disposed of at this tip which is three miles distance from the town centre. Meifod Tip is an old limestone quarry which has been used as a controlled tip since 1928. A full time attendant is employed to regulate the tip and he is provided with a tractor fitted with hydraulic blade and bucket.

The capacity remaining for tipping purposes is now limited to approximately 84,000 cub. yards and the maximum life of the tip is thus about five years. A survey of the area for possible alternative tipping sites produced no alternative site acceptable to the County Planning Department for the disposal of untreated refuse which would serve as a tip for more than a few months. Cae Fron, a large area could subject to the construction of a suitable culvert be used for the disposal of pulverised refuse. This site, however, immediately adjoins residential property in the town and it is difficult to envisage its use as a tip even for treated refuse.

The possibility of joint action with one or more of the adjoining rural authorities to provide a suitable tip was considered with the officers of those authorities. The conclusion reached was that any joint tip, if one could be found, would be so situated as to require long haulage distances from population centres, and that this would lead to much increased costs in refuse disposal.

The Council has consequently considered the question of pulverisation of the organic content of the refuse with the object of reducing the volume to be disposed of and of producing a product from crude refuse which can be disposed of without nuisance, easily transportable to small sites in various parts of the area.

Several types of machine have been examined and the Health Committee has decided that a Femascreen 6 F.S. 8-15 would be suitable for the Council's requirements. A tender for this machine is at present being considered by the Council.

SALVAGE

Waste paper is collected and sold to Messrs. Thames Board Mills Ltd., with whom the Council have a contract.

The quantity of paper salvaged has fallen recently. Householders no longer keep newspapers and cardboard separately although a request to this effect is printed on every paper sack container. Due to the position at the mills it has not been possible to give publicity to the Council's salvage scheme.

Paper and cardboard are sorted and baled at a depot in town. The salvage of paper thus enables the Council not only to keep some of this troublesome material out of the tip, but also avoids haulage of bulky matter the three miles to the tip. It is therefore advantageous to the Council to continue to collect paper separately.

DETAILS OF SALVAGE SOLD

Period ending 31st March, 1967

<i>Fibreboard</i>	<i>Mixed Paper</i>	<i>Paper</i>	<i>Total</i>
Weight: 70 tons. 7 cwts.	Weight: 25 tons. 9 cwts.	Weight: 11 tons. 10 cwts.	Weight: 107 tons. 7 cwts.
Value: £721/6/10d.	Value: £222/13/10d.	Value: £103/14/6d.	Value: £1,047/15/2d.

COST OF REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Twelve months ending 31st March, 1967

1966-1967	£11,974 10 7
Less income from salvage, etc.	£1,129 3 6

Nett cost of collection and disposal	£10,845 7 1
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Population	8,460
Area	9,072 acres
Persons per acre	0.9
No. of vehicles	2
No. of men employed	9
Average haul to tip	3 miles
Nett cost of service	£10,845 7 1
Cost per 1,000 population	£1,282
Estimated tons per annum	3,400
Estimated cost per ton	£3 2 0

RECORD OF NET ANNUAL COST

1960 - 1961	£4,922 8 8
1961 - 1962	£4,612 9 3
1962 - 1963	£5,520 16 6
1963 - 1964	£6,245 1 2
1964 - 1965	£7,603 19 3
1965 - 1966	£8,585 19 2
1966 - 1967	£10,845 7 1

COMPARISON OF COSTS ETC., 1960-1961 and 1966-1967

	1961			1967		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Loan Charges	Nil			639	18	10
Expenses of Tip	44	15	0	236	18	0
Vehicles—fuel & repairs	588	1	3	881	2	4
Licences & Insurance	213	14	0	317	14	5
Wages, N.H.I. & Superannuation	4165	6	10	7072	17	2
Salvage Costs	1033	12	0	1315	3	8
Protective Clothing	36	12	6	36	8	9
Apportionment of Salaries	75	0	0	200	0	0
Tractor Maintenance	Nil			108	4	10
Paper Sacks	Nil			1166	2	7
	6157	1	7	11974	10	7
Less recoveries	1234	12	11	1129	3	6
	£4922	8	8	£10845	7	1
No. men employed	9 full time 1 part time			9 full time		
Estimated tons of refuse removed to tip, per week	48 tons			65 tons		

HOUSING AND SLUM CLEARANCE

The construction of the 36 two bedroom flats at Bodhyfryd, twenty four of which had been completed and let by the end of the year enabled some progress to be made in the slum clearance programme.

Fourteen properties in Rosemary Lane, Factory Place and Lloyds Terrace were included in a Clearance Area which the Council resolved to deal with by the purchase and demolition of the buildings.

Unfit houses in Clearance area	14
Unfit houses subject to Closing Orders	7
Unfit houses demolished	1
Persons displaced	19
Families displaced	7
Unfit houses made fit after formal or informal action	18
No. of inspections made by Public Health Inspector in connection with slum clearance and housing repair	89

Tenants for Council Houses are selected by the Housing Committee which is guided in the selection by a points scheme.

All applicants are visited by the Public Health Inspector and the housing needs and circumstances of each applicant are investigated before points are awarded.

Inspections made at Council Houses	135
Inspections made re Housing applications	152

A large number of three bedroomed Council houses are under occupied and when vacant houses are re-let considerable effort is made to ensure the best use of the dwellings by persuading families to move into houses most suitable for their needs. There is a general reluctance by small families and single persons in large houses to move into smaller accommodation.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Applications for Standard and Discretionary improvement grants are dealt with by the Public Health Inspector. Due to the pressure of other work it is regretted that no progress has been made in effecting the survey to determine Improvement areas under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1964.

Particulars of Improvement Grants

No. of visits to premises made in connection with Improvement Grants	89
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STANDARD GRANTS

Number of applications received during the year:—

(a) Owner occupied	9	Approved	9
(b) Tenanted	4	Approved	4
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	13	Total	13
	<hr/>		<hr/>

Number of Standard Grants paid 11

Amount paid in Standard Grants	£1,690 16 6
Average grant per house	£153 14 3

Amenities provided

(1) Fixed baths	9
(2) Wash Hand basins	9
(3) Hot Water Supplies	9
(4) W.C.'s inside dwellings	11
(5) Food Stores	9

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

No. of Applications received	12
No. of Applications approved	12
No. of Dwellings improved	7
(a) Owner occupied	6
(b) Tenanted	1

Amount paid in Discretionary Grants ...	£2,404	2	6
Average grant per house	£343	7	11

THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

TABLE A
REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

<i>Class of premises</i>	<i>Number of premises newly registered during the year</i>	<i>Total number of registered premises at the end of year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year</i>
Offices	—	28	4
Retail Shops	3	71	9
Wholesale shops, warehouses ...	—	2	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	—	10	4
Fuel storage depots	—	3	1
	3	114	19

TABLE B

Number of visits of all kinds (including general inspections) to Registered premises 83

TABLE C

**ANALYSIS BY WORKPLACE OF PERSONS EMPLOYED
IN REGISTERED PREMISES AT END OF YEAR**

<i>Class of Workplace</i>	<i>Number of persons employed</i>
Offices	146
Retail Shops	313
Wholesale Departments, warehouses	9
Catering establishments open to the public	36
Canteens	5
Fuel storage depots	8
Total	517
Total Males	229
Total Females	288

TABLE D**EXEMPTIONS**

Parts I, II, III, IV — Nil

TABLE E**PROSECUTIONS — Nil****FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955**

The number of food premises in the Borough are as follows:—

Butchers Shops and sausage manufacture ..	7
Food Shops	50
Bakehouses	4
Public Houses	12
Hotels (with restaurant) ..	5
Licensed Clubs	5
School Canteens ..	6
Factory Canteens	4
Food Manufacturing ..	3
Slaughterhouses	4
Cafes	8

The larger food shops and cafes were visited at least once during the year. All food premises in the area were found to comply with Regulations 16 and 19 of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1960 when last inspected.

No. of inspections made at Food Premises 45

There are no poultry processing plants within the district.
The following unsound food was surrendered:—

Cooked meat and meat products, including canned meat ..	127 lbs.
Fish	13 stones
Fruit and Vegetables	54 lbs.
Other Foods	27 lbs.
Meat at Slaughterhouses	not recorded

SALE OF ICE CREAM

No. of premises registered for sale of pre-packed
ice cream 34

No of samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year.

FOOD SAMPLING

This is carried out by the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures for Denbigh County Council, which is the Food and Drugs Authority. The Chief Inspector reports that the following samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination.

Article	No. taken	Not-Genuine, or	
		Genuine	Sub-standard
Milk	11	10	1
Butter	1	1	0
Sausages	1	1	0
Pork	1	1	0
Fish Paste	1	1	0
Ice-Cream	2	2	0
Ice Lollies	1	1	0
Beer	1	1	0
Embrocation	1	1	0
Eye Drops	1	1	0
Proprietary Tablets	1	1	0
TOTALS	22	21	1

Of the 11 samples of milk submitted to the Analyst for analysis only one gave cause for complaint. This was a sample of farm-bottled milk which was slightly below the standard for fat. The producer concerned has been advised and cautioned as to the requirements of the law. A further sample from the same source has since been found to be genuine. In addition to the usual tests for quality, all the milk samples submitted were examined for the presence of antibiotics with a negative result in each case. All other samples were certified by the Public Analyst to be genuine and free from all prohibited preservatives and and colouring matter.

Brucellosis

Routine biological milk sampling in the area is carried out by the County Public Health Officer. One sample of milk sold by retail and produced in the Borough was reported by the Public Health Laboratory to be infected with *Brucella Abortus*. Section 20, Milk & Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, was applied to prevent the sale of infected milk. With the full co-operation of the producer concerned, the milk from the infected cow was withdrawn from sale and no case amongst the population was brought to our notice.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS

Four private slaughterhouses are licensed in the area. Three are situated in the town area, the fourth is three miles distant at Henllan.

The following table shows the annual number of animals slaughtered since the slaughterhouses were re-opened in 1954.

<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
1963	1,481	276	2,170	12,842
1964	1,645	114	1,905	10,418
1965	1,880	214	2,774	10,394
1966	2,025	159	3,384	13,451
1967	2,742	107	5,484	24,707

The trend shows a steady increase in the numbers slaughtered, and it will be noted that the 1967 figure is almost double the number killed in 1964, the first year of operation of the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963. It has been evident since 1963 that the task of inspecting these animals has seriously interfered with the work of the Health Department, and it is regretted that during 1967, routine work on food hygiene, factories, offices, shops and housing has had to be neglected. It is also regretted that in these circumstances the detailed inspection instructions in schedules I and II of the Meat Inspection Regulations can not be adhered to.

Animals are slaughtered daily including Saturdays and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. In the months of November and December during the Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak, slaughtering frequently continued into the early hours of the morning.

The assistance of Mr. R. W. Pritchard, Veterinary Surgeon, to relieve the Public Health Inspector on alternate weekends and holiday periods is very much appreciated.

STATISTICS RELATING TO ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED DURING 1967

	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Sheep</i>
<i>No killed</i>	2,742	107	5,484	24,707
<i>No. inspected</i>	2,742	107	5,484	24,707
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and cysticerci</i>				
Whole carcasses condemned	21	24	68	387
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	not recorded	—	—
<i>Tuberculosis</i>				
Whole carcasses condemned	—	nil	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	—	—	95	—
<i>Cysticerci</i>				
Carcasses submitted to refrigeration	7	—	—	—

TABLE SHOWING ANIMALS KILLED AT EACH SLAUGHTERHOUSE

	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Sheep</i>
Messrs. Bodidris	2,059	107	3,863	13,549
120 Vale Street	429	—	1,621	8,724
92 Vale Street	144	—	—	1,317
Barkers Well	110	—	—	1,117

The following charges are made by the Council for meat inspected.

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

1,417 visits were made to slaughterhouses for purposes of inspection.

WATER SUPPLIES

Public Water Supplies in the Borough are provided by the West Denbighshire and West Flintshire Joint Water Board.

Schemes are in progress or proposed, to improve the supply of water to the high level districts of the town and to some of the rural properties outside the built up areas.

Public supplies provide water to all houses in the town, the Green and Henllan village. These supplies have during the year 1967 been satisfactory in both quality and quantity. The number of complaints from houses on the Castle Hill of inadequate water pressure has been reduced.

No. of dwelling houses connected to public mains supply

(a) Direct	2,284
(b) By means of Stand pipes	None

Bacteriological examination of above public water supplies

No. of samples — 17 satisfactory; 2 not satisfactory.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

Denbigh:

P.H. Value 7.45 — Lead parts per million — less than 0.1

Henllan:

P.H. Value 6.95 — Lead parts per million — less than 0.1

Properties in those parts of the Borough which lie outside the built up areas are served by various private piped supplies and a few houses draw water from shallow wells and boreholes. Almost all these properties have a piped supply of water inside the house. Two houses which have no water supply have been closed by agreement with the owners.

Private supplies:—

North Wales Counties Hospital

(a) Provides water to the Hospital and properties connected with the hospital. The water is filtered and chlorinated before use at these premises and is a satisfactory supply.

(b) Raw water from the water main, before treatment, is supplied to farms and cottages along its route. This water is drawn directly from Llyn Bran, it is not filtered and not chlorinated and samples frequently show contamination.

No. of dwellings supplied with treated water 33

No. of dwellings supplied with untreated water 22

County Council Small Holdings

This supply provides a piped water supply to farms and houses owned by the Denbigh County Council. The source is land springs feeding a shallow pond which the water is pumped untreated, directly to the properties concerned.

This supply is inadequate and frequently contaminated. It is hoped that a proposed extension of the public water mains will replace this water in the near future.

No. of dwellings supplied 9

Lleweni Farm Estate Supply

Dwellings and Farms on a large estate are provided with an adequate supply of piped water from a deep borehole. The quality of the water is good. It is drawn from the same underground source as the town bore hole.

No. of dwellings supplied 12

Plas Newydd Estate Supply

Dwellings and farms on this Estate have a piped supply from a shallow well source. This supply can not be considered adequate or satisfactory.

No. of dwellings supplied 6

Fox Hall Estate Supply

Dwellings and Farm supplied from a stream. Pumped by water-ram to storage tank and piped to dwellings. Contaminated.

No. of dwellings supplied 4

Bryn Mulan Supply

This water from the reservoir which many years ago previously supplied the town, is piped untreated to a number of farms and houses. The water is inadequate and heavily contaminated.

The Water Board has completed the laying of a new water main to serve all the properties which have relied on the above supply, but up to the end of December 1967 only four farms have connected to the new supply.

No. of dwellings supplied 17

Glyn Well

A shallow well provides water for dwellings in the Glyn area. This well will no longer be required when properties are connected to the new main.

No. of dwellings supplied 5

Ystrad Isaf

Water is piped from a shallow spring source to dwellings. Inadequate and contaminated. This supply is replaced by the new main.

No. of dwellings supplied 4

In addition to the above supplies a number of houses draw water from shallow wells. The water is pumped to storage tanks and piped to the dwellings. Sterasil water filters have been recommended in all cases of doubtful water supply and a number are in use.

No. of dwellings depending on individual well supplies	6
The number of dwellings not connected to a Public Water Supply	118
Number of these dwellings having untreated water	85
No. of samples sent for bacteriological examination (private supplies). (satisfactory)	3
No. of visits to premises made in connection with water supplies	14

It is regretted that during 1967 greater attention could not be given to examination of the untreated water supplies listed above.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Borough is served by three sewerage systems and disposal works. Mr. R. G. Hughes, the Borough Surveyor comments as follows:

(i) SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL WORKS AT EGLWYSWEN

Statistics for year ending 31st December, 1967

Total quantity of crude sewerage treated	179,945,000 gallons
Average quantity treated per 24 hours	493,000 gallons
No. of samples of final effluent forwarded to Public Analyst	1
No. of samples of final effluent of satisfactory standard	1

The annual rainfall at the Works was recorded as 33.43 inches

Work upon the extension of the Sewage Disposal Plant was commenced in May, 1967 and together with extensions to the sewerage system in Rhyl Road the period for the completion of the contract is expected to be 18 months.

(ii) SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL WORKS AT HENLLAN

Statistics for year ending 31st December, 1967

No. of samples of final effluent forwarded to the Public Analyst	1
No. of samples of final effluent of satisfactory standard	1

The works have operated satisfactorily during the course of the year.

The proposals to carry out limited extensions to the works did not materialise during the year but it is hoped to implement such proposals during the coming year.

(iii) SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL WORKS AT THE GREEN

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

The proposal to abandon the works and to build a pumping station to pump all sewage flows (up to 6 d.w.f.) to the head of the Rhyl Road Sewerage system, the sewers being laid at the present time, was the subject of an Engineer's Report prepared by Messrs. W. H. Radford & Son, Consultant Engineers, Nottingham in August, 1967.

The scheme is now being considered by the Welsh Office of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

RODENT CONTROL

The progress made during 1967 following the appointment of a part-time rodent operative last year was unfortunately interrupted when in October the Operative received injuries in a road accident which brought rodent treatments and inspections to a halt for the remainder of the year.

In spite of constant attention and warfarin baiting, the Council Refuse Tip at Henllan was found to be heavily infested with rats during the year. Treatments were made using zinc phosphide and later using arsenic, very heavy kills were obtained. Over two hundred dead rats were found following the first treatment with zinc phosphide and three months later a similar number was found following a treatment using arsenic.

It has not been found possible to treat the sewers in Denbigh or Henllan because labour has not been available for the task. Sewers and drain manholes however have been baited in areas where a number of houses were found to require treatment.

	<i>Non-Agricultural</i>	<i>Agricultural</i>
1. No. of properties	2,770	85
2. (a) Total number inspected following notification	84	0
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	73	0
(ii) Mice	11	0
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected by routine procedure	213	5
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	24	4
(ii) Mice	0	0
Number of Rodent treatments carried out at domestic premises		118
Number of treatments carried out at premises (including Agricultural premises)		18

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Investigation of Water Supplies	14
Examination of new and existing drains	112
Investigation of Nuisances	65
Supervision of refuse collection and disposal	476
Infectious diseases and disinfection	7
Disinfestation of premises	3
Inspections in connection with improvement grants	89
Investigation of Housing Applications	152
Inspections — slum clearance	43
Inspections — Housing repairs	46
Inspections — Council Houses	135
Slaughterhouses — visits for meat inspection	1417
Inspections — food premises	45
Inspections — factories	12
Inspections — Shops Acts	3
Inspections — Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act ...	35
Inspections — Caravan Sites	2
Inspections — petroleum stores	4
Smoke observations — Clean Air Act	1
Abandoned Vehicles — visits re removal	26
Visits — National Assistance Act	3
Investigation — complaints—noise abatement	0
Investigation — rodent infestation	19
Visits — Civil Amenities Act	2

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

PART 1 OF THE ACT

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

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Inspec- tions</i> (3)	<i>Number of Written Notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i> (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	3	4	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	32	3	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	10	5	Nil	Nil
Total	45	12	Nil	Nil

2—Cases in which DEFECTS were found: NONE. (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more “cases”)

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found		Referred To H.M. By H.M.		Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Inspector	Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...					
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Unseasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defec- tive					
(c) Not separate for sexes					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out- work)					
TOTAL					

— NONE —

PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE IN THE AREA

Laboratory Service

The Public Health Laboratory at Conway carries out bacteriological examinations of water, food, etc., to detect any contamination. Milk is also examined bacteriologically and biologically for the presence of tubercle bacilli and brucella abortus.

Examination of throat swabs, blood, faeces, etc., are carried out to detect the presence of bacteria and viruses at Conway Public Health Laboratory and at Rhyl hospital.

Ambulance Service

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

	<i>Denbigh/ Ruthin</i>	<i>Llanrwst</i>	<i>Llangernyw</i>	<i>Cerrig</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Number of cases conveyed by ambulance	11,030	736	1,372	74	13,212
Total Miles travelled	108,168	11,683	20,595	961	141,407
Number of ambulances per station	5	1	1	1	8
Whether manned by voluntary or full-time personnel ...	Full-time	1 full part vol.	Full-time	Vol.	

Sitting case Cars:—

<i>Number of journeys</i>	<i>Number of cases</i>	<i>Total mileage</i>
1,522	7,588	70,807

Mental Health Service

The service is under the supervision of the County Medical Officer of Health. The Mental Welfare Officer for the area is Mr. Michael Watson, who may be contacted at the Clinic, Mount Street, Ruthin. Telephone Number, Ruthin 2361.

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.

Patients from the Borough also attend Orthopaedic Clinics held weekly at Rhyl Hospital.

Venereal Diseases Clinics

These Clinics are held at H.M. Stanley Hospital, St. Asaph, on Tuesdays between 4.30 and 6.30 p.m., and at the War Memorial Hospital, Wrexham, on Mondays between 5 and 7 p.m. (males), and Wednesdays between 5 and 7 p.m. (females).

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 this clinic during the year was as follows:—

Number on Register	154
Number of sessions held	88
Number of appointments made	545
Number of attendances	467

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

Family Planning Clinics

Clinics are held as follows:—

At Nant-y-Glyn Clinic, Colwyn Bay, on Mondays, 2.30-3.30 p.m., and Thursdays 7-8 p.m.

At The Clinic, Fforddlas, Rhyl, on Wednesdays from 7-9 p.m.

At The Clinic, Prestatyn, on Thursdays from 10-11 a.m.

At The Clinic, King Street, Mold, on Wednesdays from 7-8 p.m.

At The Infant Welfare Centre, Borough Grove, Flint, on Thursdays from 7-8 p.m.

At 1 Grosvenor Rd., Wrexham, on Thursdays, 2-4.30 p.m., and 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 6.15 to 7.30 p.m.

Cervical Cytology Clinics

Clinics are held as follows:—

At 1 Grosvenor Road, Wrexham, on Thursdays from 5.30 to 8 p.m. (by appointment only).

At Nant-y-Glyn Clinic, Colwyn Bay, on Fridays from 5 to 8 p.m. (by appointment only), and also by General Practitioners.

Chest Clinics

Patients from the Borough attend the Chest Clinic held every Wednesday morning at the Denbigh Infirmary and at the weekly clinics held at the Chest Clinic, Grosvenor Road, Wrexham, and at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Rhyl.

School Ophthalmic Clinics

Clinics for school children are held at the Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh, by appointment, and children 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, Wednesdays and Fridays by appointment.

At Gatefield Clinic, King's Mills Road, Wrexham, Thursdays and Fridays, by appointment.

At Mercier House Clinic (Russell Road, Rhyl, on Mondays by appointment.

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>Year of Birth</i>	<i>First Attendances</i>
1967	102
1966	90
1965/1962	126
Total attendances: Under 1 year	1402
1-5 years	930

Welfare Foods are available during the clinic session.

Dental Clinics

Since the introduction of the Mobile Dental Unit in March, 1967, it has been possible to expand the School Dental Service to those areas where, until this time, it has not been possible to offer a regular service.

Mr. Reid, the Dental Officer, has treated children from the Borough and surrounding Rural District at Denbigh, but up to now, he has been fully employed in reducing the back-log of work which had accumulated.

It is hoped that a new dental department will be available at the Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh, sometime in the future.

School Health Attendant

The School Health Attendant visited the schools in the area for the purpose of routine testing of children's vision and hearing. Children who were found to have defective hearing and/or vision were followed up and referred to a Consultant for further examination where necessary. The colour vision of all 7 year old boys is also tested.

The number of children tested during the year was as follows:—

	<i>Vision Sweeps</i>	<i>Audiometric Sweeps</i>
Number of children tested	1,660	1,924
Number satisfactory	1,596	1,879
Number of defects	64	45
Number for investigation		
Number referred to Medical Officer		33
Number referred to School Nurse ..	14	
Number referred to Eye Clinic	39	
Number for observation	11	12

Speech Therapy Clinic

The Speech Therapist visits Denbigh each week and treatment is offered to school children and those approaching school age. It is fortunate in Denbigh that the Speech Therapist is Welsh Speaking.

The children are referred by doctors, school nurses and head teachers and have a variety of speech problems varying from complete lack of speech and language development to mis-articulation of a single sound and stammerers. A number of children attend each week for treatment, but others may attend at intervals for advice. In some cases, particularly with younger children, direct treatment may be unnecessary, and advice re management is given to the parents. Close liaison is maintained with other departments in the School Health Service and the Speech Therapist visits schools in the area to discuss problems with the staff whose co-operation is greatly appreciated. The speech therapy clinic is always well attended, and parents appear to be most grateful for the advice and treatment offered.

NURSING SERVICES

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

Health Visitors

The Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh, Tel. No. Denbigh 2789 — Miss O. M. Hobson, Miss J. B. Angwin, Miss S. C. Evans (part-time since 1.12.67)

Tuberculosis Visitor

Miss E. Leach Jones, Bryn Glas, 36 Links Acre, Rhuddlan, Near Rhyl (Tel. No.: Rhuddlan 626).

District Nurse

Sister E. A. Price, 73 Vale Street, Denbigh (Tel. No.: Denbigh 2212).

Relief District Nurses

Sister M. Williams, Min-y-Coed, Rhewl (Tel. No. Ruthin 2754).

Sister M. Jones, Annedd Wen, Nantglyn (Part-time) (Tel. No. Nantglyn 225).

Nurse B. Jones, 29 The Green, Trefnant (Tel. No. Denbigh 2310).

Domestic Help Service

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

Chronic Sick and T.B.	7
Over 65 years of age	78

RAINFALL CHART

We would like to thank Mr. Frost, Secretary, North Wales Hospital, for the following report.

Diameter of funnel of gauge: 4 ins.; height to top of gauge above ground: 1 ft.; height of ground above sea level: 316 ft.

Date	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1.	0.08	—	0.01	0.16	0.04	—	—	—	0.05	0.92	0.24	—
2.	—	—	—	0.09	—	—	—	—	0.48	0.13	0.81	—
3.	—	—	—	—	0.24	0.03	0.09	0.03	0.21	0.28	0.06	—
4.	—	—	—	—	0.11	—	—	0.04	0.38	0.04	0.20	—
5.	0.04	—	—	—	0.09	—	—	—	0.43	0.08	0.34	0.30
6.	0.26	0.10	—	—	0.21	0.09	—	—	0.08	0.13	0.37	0.45
7.	0.04	0.02	0.06	0.10	0.03	—	—	—	—	0.02	0.02	s0.63
8.	—	—	0.14	0.40	0.15	—	—	—	—	0.04	0.06	s0.21
9.	—	0.02	0.32	—	—	—	—	0.71	—	0.33	0.04	—
10.	0.01	—	0.11	—	0.07	—	—	—	—	—	0.04	0.02
11.	—	—	0.05	—	0.01	—	—	0.58	0.74	0.02	—	0.07
12.	—	—	0.01	—	0.33	—	—	0.34	—	0.14	—	—
13.	—	—	—	—	0.05	—	0.70	0.08	—	0.04	—	—
14.	—	0.01	—	—	0.61	—	—	—	—	0.39	0.06	—
15.	—	0.02	—	—	0.12	—	0.02	0.02	—	0.43	0.22	0.14
16.	—	0.61	—	—	0.03	—	—	0.04	—	1.12	—	—
17.	—	0.03	0.11	—	0.03	—	0.07	0.10	0.09	0.20	—	0.05
18.	0.09	0.16	—	—	0.11	—	0.04	0.14	0.04	0.11	—	0.22
19.	0.05	0.20	—	0.01	0.13	0.16	0.12	—	0.05	0.02	—	—
20.	0.14	0.34	—	0.38	0.23	—	—	—	0.42	0.02	—	0.08
21.	0.06	—	—	0.07	0.25	0.03	0.12	—	0.02	—	—	—
22.	0.19	1.18	—	0.04	0.24	0.08	—	—	0.03	0.08	—	0.53
23.	0.08	—	—	—	0.17	—	—	—	0.02	0.05	—	0.24
24.	0.08	0.19	—	0.25	0.01	0.38	—	—	0.13	—	0.26	0.58
25.	0.07	0.20	0.20	—	—	0.06	—	—	0.31	0.08	0.45	0.01
26.	0.10	0.05	0.13	0.02	—	0.07	—	—	0.37	0.01	0.09	0.01
27.	0.02	1.21	0.25	—	0.23	—	0.21	—	0.01	0.60	0.09	0.06
28.	0.08	—	0.13	—	0.18	0.01	—	—	0.08	1.43	0.12	0.07
29.	0.02	x	0.09	—	0.25	—	—	—	0.34	0.23	0.07	—
30.	0.01	x	0.08	—	0.19	—	0.15	0.14	—	0.26	0.02	0.60
31.	0.07	x	—	x	—	x	0.04	0.30	x	0.37	x	0.25
TOTAL	1.49	4.34	1.69	1.52	4.10	0.91	1.56	2.52	4.28	7.57	3.56	4.52
Days with												
.01 or more	19	15	14	10	26	9	10	12	20	28	19	19
.04 or more	15	10	12	8	21	6	9	10	16	23	17	15

Years Total ... 38.07

Total No. of days with .01 or more ... 201

Total No. of days with .04 or more ... 162

s = Snow

