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# Flintshire County Council.



# REPORT

BY THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER

ON THE

## HEALTH

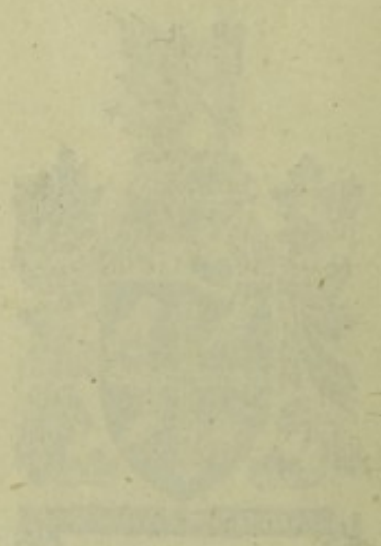
OF

## FLINTSHIRE

DURING THE YEAR

# 1945.

Flintshire County Council



REPORT

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

ON THE

HEALTH

FLINTSHIRE

FOR THE YEAR

1945

## COUNTY OF FLINT.

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The Chairman and Members  
of the County Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report on the health of the people of Flintshire in relation to the calendar year ended 31st December, 1945.

The death of one of my Assistants, Dr. W. H. Parkinson, is recorded with sincerest regret.

Although retired, Dr. Parkinson had voluntarily returned to the Public Health Service and prior to the onset of the illness which terminated in his untimely death in March, 1946, gave himself wholeheartedly to the work allotted to him, namely, the supervision of the health of the school children of the north-west portion of our County. The service he rendered in this important sphere of activity was of a very high order and his loss to the Schools and Clinics of that area, as well as to the County in general, was very keenly felt.

The vacancy thus caused was filled by the appointment of Dr. Edna Pearse, M.B., Ch.B., P.H. Certif.

I again wish to record my high appreciation of the assistance received from you as a Council, from your Administrative Officers, and from my Staff.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. E. ROBERTS,

County Medical Officer.

County Health Offices,

Mold, October, 1946.

## ADMINISTRATION.

### A.—DEPARTMENTAL STAFF.

**County Medical Officer of Health :** Aneurin Evan Roberts, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Liverp.).

**Assistant Medical Officers :** A. E. Gwladys Rowlands, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.; V. K. Drennan, M.B., Ch.B. (Liverp.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.) (Resigned 12/11/45); T. Wynne Brindle, M.B., Ch.B.; W. H. Parkinson, M.D., D.P.H. (Died 6/3/46); Betty J. McConnell, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch. (Temporary); Edna Pearse, M.B., Ch.B., P.H.Cert. (Liverp.), (Began 11/2/46).

**School Dental Surgeons :** Peter Lunt, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.); Miss N. G. Woodward, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Edin.), (Resigned 22/3/46); W. B. Glynn Jones, L.D.S. (Began 22/1/45); Leslie E. Hanson, L.D.S., (Began 1/5/46); Betty E. Williams, B.Ch.D., L.D.S., (Began 1/5/46). One Dental Attendant assists each Dental Surgeon.

**Supervisor of Midwives :** Mrs. Frances M. Williams, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert., R.San.Inst.Cert.

**Matron-Supt. of Mental Deficiency Institution :**

Miss A. E. Fletcher, S.R.N., C.R.M.P.A., F.B.C.N.

**Matron of Maternity Home :** Miss Elizabeth Waring, S.C.M.

**District Health Visitors acting jointly as Health Visitors and School Nurses :**

Buckley—Miss L. M. Eyes, T.N., S.C.M., Maelor—Mrs. M. P. Thomas, S.R.N., S.C.M., Trnd. Fev. & Tb. H.V. &

Caergwrle—Mrs. Janet Thomas, S.R.N., S.N. Cert.

S.C.M., H.V.Cert., R.F.N., Tb. Cert. Mold—Mrs. M. Ll. Taylor, S.R.N.

Caerwys—Mrs. M. Edwards, S.R.N. Northop—Miss A. Molloy, S.R.N.,

Con. Quay—Mrs. Hampson, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

C.M.B., H.V.Cert., Tb. Cert., Ep. Prestatyn—Miss M. E. Roberts, S.R.N., Diploma. S.C.M.

Flint—Mrs. M. M. Nield, S.R.N., Rhyl—Mrs. A. M. Bailey, S.R.N., S.C.M., Tb. Cert., H.V.Cert. S.C.M., H.V.Cert. (with temporary

Hawarden—Miss E. Jones, S.C.M., Assistant Nurse Sheppard, since H.V. and San. Cert. 9/11/42).

Holywell—Miss L. Reynolds, S.R.N., S. C. M.

**Infant Life Protection Visitors :** The above-named Health Visitors and School Nurses, and the Supervisor of Midwives.

**County Tuberculosis Visitors :** Miss D. V. Gray, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert., M.S.R., and Miss Gwenneth Jones, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

**County Domiciliary Midwives :** (Queensferry) Mrs. E. Barker; (Flint) Mrs. D. E. Williams; (Buckley) Mrs. A. M. Saunders; (Connah's Quay) Nurse J. E. Bennett; (Saltney) Mrs. M. E. Gibson; (Relief) Mrs. F. J. Coux (Resigned 28/2/46); Miss Ivy Leece (Began 18/5/46).

**Chief Clerk :** William Davies, A.R.I.P.H.H. (Also Chief Clerk School Medical Department).

**Senior Clerks :** William Ithel Roberts (County Health); Arthur Whitley (School Medical).

**B.—HEADQUARTERS.**

County Health Offices, County Buildings, Mold.

Telephone: 106 Mold.

**C.—ASSOCIATED OFFICERS.**

**Clerk to the County Council:** Mr. W. Hugh Jones, County Offices, Mold (since 7/3/45).

**County Surveyor and Architect:** Mr. R. G. Whitley, A.M.I.C.E., L.R.I.B.A., &c., County Buildings, Mold. Deputy: Mr. W. Griffiths, L.R.I.B.A.

**Supervising Officer under the Food and Drugs Act, &c.:**

Mr. A. E. Lindsay (Chief Constable), Police Headquarters, Mold.

**County Treasurer:** Mr. R. J. Jones, County Finance Offices, Mold

**Public Assistance Officer:** Mr. Isaac Hughes, Public Assistance Offices, Holywell.

**Agricultural Organiser:** Mr. W. E. Lloyd, M.Sc., County Education Offices, Mold.

**Physical Training Organisers:** Mr. Bertram W. Clarke; Miss Sarah Storey-Jones.

**School Meals Organiser:** Mrs. M. Hugh Edwards.

**D.—PART-TIME OFFICERS.**

(Directly Employed).

**Obstetric Consultant (Honorary) to the Catherine Gladstone Maternity Home:** Mr. J. Gardiner Wigley.

**Puerperal Fever and Obstetric, &c., Specialist (Fee-paid):** Mr. J. Gardiner Wigley.

**Ophthalmic Consultants (Fee-paid):** Mr. E. F. Wilson, Chester, and Mr. Shuttleworth, Colwyn Bay.

**Public Assistance (Institutional) Medical Officers (Salaried):** (Holywell) Dr. A. O. Jones; (St. Asaph) Dr. A. H. Holmes.

**Public Vaccinators (Fee-paid), also Public Assistance Medical Officers:**

Drs. Herford, Buckley; Wm. A. Hennessey, Marford; J. G. Ll. Jones, Hawarden; R. R. Dalling, Caergwrle; I. P. Nelis, Mold; L. M. E. Milne, Flint; Jones and Morris, Holywell; J. Brown, Ffynnongroew; H. S. Bell, Prestatyn; E. O. Lakey, Rhyl; A. H. Holmes, St. Asaph; W. M. Casper, Overton; R. B. McColl, Hanmer.

# Health Officers for the various Sanitary Districts.

District.	Medical Officer.*	Senior Sanitary Inspector.†
Buckley Urban	Dr. D. Fraser, Post Office House, Brunswick Road, Buckley	Mr. F. Bannister Jones, Council Chambers, Buckley
Connah's Quay Urban	Dr. H. H. Montgomery, Dee View, Church Street, Connah's Quay	Mr. Henry Jones, Council Offices, Connah's Quay.
Flint Municipal Borough	Dr. W. A. F. Twemlow, Ivy Bank, Flint	Mr. W. J. Avery, Council Offices, Flint.
Holywell Urban	Dr. C. E. Morris, Bodowen, Holywell	Mr. J. Topham, U. D. C. Offices, Holywell.
Mold Urban	Dr. I. Philippine Nelis, The Manse, Mold	Mr. E. T. Williams, U. D. C. Offices, Mold.
Prestatyn Urban	Dr. J. Tudor Griffiths, Leaton, Prestatyn	Mr. L. Howard Williams, Council Offices, Prestatyn.
Rhyl Urban	Dr. E. Hughes Jones, Council Offices, Rhyl.	Mr. E. L. Ll. Jones, Council Offices, Rhyl.
Hawarden Rural	Dr. J. Llewellyn-Jones, Hafod, Station Road, Hawarden	Mr. M. Emlyn Thomas, Council Offices, Hawarden (No 1 District); Mr. Watkin Williams, Hawarden Road, Abernorddu (No. 2 District).
Holywell Rural	Dr. I. P. Nelis, The Manse, Mold	Mr. D. O. M. Jones, R. D. C. Offices, Holywell.
Overton Rural	Dr. W. M. Casper, Overton Hall, Ellesmere	Mr. R. L. Higgins, Willow Street, Overton.
St. Asaph Rural	Dr. A. H. Holmes, Angorfa, St. Asaph	Mr. R. P. Barlow, Council Offices, St. Asaph.

\* Part time.

† Full time.

## Section A.

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE COUNTY.

#### 1. AREA.

The area of the County—comprising the land and the inland water while disregarding tidal water and foreshore—is 255.7 square miles, or 163,707 statutory acres, that of its separate geographical divisions being respectively : Main Division, 133,308 acres ; the Maelor Hundred, 29,749 acres ; the Civil Parish of Marford and Hosely, 650 acres.

#### 2. POPULATION.

The population of the County, estimated as at mid-year, 1945, was 125,670. Those of the various Sanitary Districts are shown in Table 1.

#### 3. FINANCIAL.

The product of a penny rate, computed in respect of the year 1946/47, is £3,023. The rateable value of the County as at the 31st March, 1946, was £763,379.

#### 4. SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

There is no important change to record under this head.

#### 5. BIRTHS.

During the year under review, 2315 births wereregistered as pertaining to the County, that total being made up as follows :—

Description.	Live.	Still.	Total.
Legitimate	2029	72	2101
Illegitimate	205	9	214
Totals	2234	81	2315

These figures represent a Live Birth Rate of 17.78 per thousand population, which is above the rate for England and Wales as a whole (16.1 per thousand population). From the year 1911 up to 1932 there was a steady decline in the Live Birth Rate for the County with the exception of the year 1920, when there was a sharp rise in the rate. This decline closely corresponded to a similar decline in the rate for England and Wales as a whole. Since 1932, however, the rate for the County has shown an upward trend which is more marked than that for England and Wales. Graphs have been prepared showing this downward and upward trend, and also demonstrating how close the Live Birth Rate was to the Death Rate, but unfortunately it has not been possible for these to be printed and included in the present report.

During the 30 years from 1911 to 1941 the proportion of Illegitimate Births to Total Births had varied between the lower figure of 35.5 per thousand total births, and a highest figure 58 per thousand total births (this highest figure being reached in 1920) the average proportion being approximately 45 per thousand. Since 1941, however, the proportion has risen steeply and in 1942 was 57.5 per thousand, in 1944 was 76 per thousand and 1945 was over 92 per thousand. These figures are given not so much to call attention to the high proportion of illegitimate births during the war years, but to give some indication that the problem of the Unmarried Mother and the Illegitimate Child is one that is always with us, and is one that needs serious consideration. It is greatly to be regretted that when the Womens Voluntary Services generously offered to initiate a Hostel for Unmarried Mothers which would provide accommodation for cases from all North Wales, the various authorities could not agree on the matter, and the project fell through.

Registration of Still Births was not compulsory, prior to the passing of the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1926. Reliable figures only became available in 1928 and from that year to 1936 there was a definite upward trend in the Still Birth Rate. Since 1936 however, there has been a sharp downward movement, and in 1944 was recorded the lowest County Rate of 26.4 per thousand total births. In 1945 however, the rate was higher and amounted to 36.5. This is a sharp rise, but it is the third lowest figure, the second lowest being in 1942, when the rate was 31.2 per thousand total births.

The causes of still birth are many, but are often obscure. It cannot be denied that many are preventable, and discreet enquiries are made into all still births in an endeavour to ascertain the cause. Analysis of 63 enquiries made in 1945, show the causes of still births as follows:—

Congenital Malformations	...	...	15	=	23.8%
Difficulty in delivery (Abnormal presentation, etc.).	...	...	13	=	20.6%
Ante-partum haemorrhage	...	...	5	=	7.9%
Pre-natal Shock or Injury	...	...	5	=	7.9%
Toxaemia of Pregnancy	...	...	4	=	6.3%
Poor Health of Mother	...	...	3	=	4.8%
Cause not known	...	...	18	=	28.6%
			63		100.0

The number of cases in which no cause could be ascribed for the still birth is high and the figures call for further improvement in the ante-natal care of the expectant mother, and for further research into the causes of still birth. It will be noted that in only three cases was the cause actually ascribed to the poor health of the mother, although a note of "poor health of mother during pregnancy" was made in 13 cases.

## 6. DEATHS.

During the year under review, a total of 1,537 were ascribed to the County, representing a death rate of 12.23 per 1,000 population, which is higher than the rate for England and Wales, namely 11.4.

Table 2 sets out the various causes of death.

It will be observed that, as in previous years, Heart Disease is responsible for the largest number of deaths—418 or 27 per cent of the total deaths.

Next follow in order of incidence Cancer with 243 deaths or 16 per cent of the total, Intracranial Vascular Lesions with 177 deaths or 11.5 per cent of the total, while Tuberculosis (all forms) was responsible for 70 deaths, or 4.6 per cent of total. The following table shows the ages at which death occurred:—

Cause	No of Deaths.	Percentage of Total.	Ages.			
			Under 15	15-45	45-65	65+
Heart Disease ... ..	418	27%	2	17	94	305
Cancer ... ..	243	16%	0	17	86	140
Int. Vasc. Les. ... ..	177	11.5%	1	4	32	140
T. B. (all forms) ... ..	70	4.6%	7	39	21	3

INFECTIOUS DISEASE—There were no deaths from Cerebro-spinal Fever, Scarlet Fever, Measles, or Poliomyelitis. There was 1 death from Whooping Cough, and 5 deaths from Diphtheria. Of the Diphtheria deaths 1 occurred in a child below 1 year of age, 3 in children between the ages of 5-15 years and 1 in a person between the ages of 45 and 65.

INFANT DEATHS—106 deaths occurred in Infants under one year of age, giving an Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) of 47.45, which is greater than that for England and Wales, namely 46. The principle causes of infantile deaths were:—

Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries, etc. ... ..	32
Premature Births ... ..	25
Pneumonia ... ..	24
Diarrhoea ... ..	8

During the last 36 years the Infant Mortality Rate has been reduced by more than 50 per cent—in 1911 it stood at 108, in 1945 it is 47.45. This is a considerable achievement but it still leaves room for further considerable improvement. The table given above shows that 25 or approximately one-fourth of the deaths of infants under one year of age, were ascribed to prematurity. This points not only to the need for much research into the causes and prevention of premature births but also to the need of adequate facilities for the care of premature infants.

In 1944, the Minister of Health regarding the question of the care of the premature infant with some concern, in view of its important bearing on the problem of neo-natal mortality (deaths of infants under one month old) submitted certain recommendations to all Welfare Authorities for consideration. These recommendations included (1) more accurate information as to premature births, (2) special provisions by the Welfare Authority, where mother and child are kept at home (3) special provision in hospital in certain cases.

With regard to (1) the weight of all infants at birth is recorded on the "Notification of Birth" Card, and all infants weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. or less are regarded as premature. Special observation is kept and reports made by midwives and health visitors during the first four weeks of life.

Under (2) the recommendations include (a) separate bedroom for mother and child (b) provision of adequate and suitable equipment on loan from the Authority (c) a supply of expressed breast milk (d) the services of a paediatrician (d) the services of a home help.

Under (3) the recommendations include specially heated wards or cubicles with specially trained staff, and again the services of a paediatrician.

The services of a "Paediatrician" are of considerable importance. Such a person, being skilled in "Child Health" and its many problems, should of necessity be of consultant status. He could act not only as a consultant for cases of premature birth, but would also be available for consultation at Maternity Homes, Child Welfare Centres, School Clinics and Fever Hospitals, and should have charge of beds in the Children's Department at Hospitals. He would then serve as a connecting link between the curative and the preventive aspects of the work of the Welfare and School Medical Services, and his close association with the medical officers of the Authority should provide them with the opportunity for clinical study which is at present lacking. He should also be available for domiciliary consultations. He should also be in close touch with the Department of Child Health at a University Centre. The question of the appointment of a paediatrician of consultant status is one that needs serious consideration in order to bring about the necessary reduction in the neo-natal mortality rate and the infant mortality rate. It is now generally considered advisable that such appointments should be "full-time" and that the paediatrician should not engage in private practice, although he would be available for domiciliary consultation as envisaged in the National Health Service. It would not be possible for a County of the size of Flintshire to make such an appointment "on its own," but there is no reason why such an appointment should not be made in conjunction with neighbouring authorities.

The following analysis of the "following up" of 80 infants, who were under 5½ lbs. in weight at birth, and therefore regarded as prematurely born, shows the number who survived the first four weeks of life, and the number that failed to do so.

Where born	Description	Total births	In 24 hrs.	Died				Survived after 4th week
	Weight at Birth (lbs.)			1st week	2nd week	3rd week	4th week	
Hospital or Maternity Home	(Under 3	4	4	—	—	—	—	—
	( 3-4	6	—	—	1	—	—	5
	( 4-5	12	3	—	—	—	—	9
	( 5-6	17	—	—	—	—	—	17
At home	(Under 3	7	5	2	—	—	—	—
	( 3-4	4	1	2	—	—	—	1
	( 4-5	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
	( 5-6	23	—	—	—	—	—	23
Totals ...		80	13	4	1	—	—	62

In addition to the above, 28 cases were followed up in which the period of gestation was stated to be between 36 and 38 weeks, but in which the weight of the infant at birth was more than 5½ lbs. One of these infants died within the first 24 hours after birth, but the remainder survived the first 4 weeks.

**MATERNAL MORTALITY**—Only two deaths were ascribed to causes connected with childbirth, giving a maternal mortality rate of 0.86 per 1,000 total births (live and still). No deaths were ascribed to puerperal or post-abortive sepsis.

## 7. OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES.

As I have said in previous reports, many Flintshire men are engaged in occupations regarded as having a prejudicial effect on health. The incidence of sickness and invalidity resultant thereon, however, is very low, and there is every reason to believe that the officers of our local authorities and of our quarries and other centres of employment are very careful and conscientious in their observance of all the necessary precautions,

Table 1.

## AREA AND POPULATION.

District.		Area in Statute Acres (Land & Inland Water)	Population.	
			By Census.	Estimated Mid-year
			1931	1945
Urban—				
Buckley	... ..	2646	7167	6837
Connah's Quay	... ..	4214	5982	6369
Flint (M.B.)	... ..	6243	11516	11650
Holywell	... ..	2532	5599	7397
Mold	... ..	1164	5280	5514
Prestatyn	... ..	3219	5781	7873
Rhyl	... ..	1700	13489	17990
Rural—				
Hawarden	... ..	31576	26563	29700
Holywell	... ..	58515	20211	20550
Overton	... ..	29749	4761	4536
St. Asaph	... ..	22149	6500	7254
Total Urban	... ..	21718	54814	63630
Total Rural	... ..	141989	58035	62040
Whole County	... ..	163707	112849	125670

Table 2.  
DEATHS—GENERAL.  
Summary of Causes.

Cause of Death	1945		
	Males	Females	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	1	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever ... ..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	1	—	1
Diphtheria ... ..	3	2	5
Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	31	30	61
Tuberculosis—other forms ... ..	5	4	9
Syphilitic diseases ... ..	2	2	4
Influenza ... ..	3	7	10
Measles ... ..	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis and Polio-enceph. (acute)	—	—	—
Encephalitis—acute Inf. ... ..	2	—	2
Cancer—Malignant Disease ... ..	115	128	243
Diabetes ... ..	5	9	14
Intra-cranial vascular lesions ... ..	76	101	177
Heart Disease ... ..	194	224	418
Other Diseases of the circulatory system	14	27	41
Bronchitis ... ..	52	27	79
Pneumonia ... ..	30	28	58
Other respiratory diseases ... ..	9	5	14
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ... ..	9	3	12
Diarrhoea (under two years) ... ..	8	—	8
Appendicitis ... ..	3	2	5
Other Digestive diseases ... ..	15	19	34
Nephritis ... ..	24	22	46
Puerperal and Post-abortive sepsis ...	—	—	—
Other maternal causes ... ..	—	2	2
Premature birth ... ..	13	12	25
Cong. Malf'n, Birth Injuries, &c. ...	23	13	36
Suicide ... ..	4	7	11
Road traffic accidents ... ..	6	9	15
Other violent causes ... ..	14	12	26
All other causes ... ..	78	102	180
Totals ... ..	739	798	1537

## Section B.

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### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

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#### 1. OFFICERS.

The names of the Officers engaged in the various branches of the public health service in Flintshire are given in the early pages of this Report.

#### 2. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Continued use was made during the year of all those facilities which have been previously described. In particular the services rendered by the Public Health Laboratory, Conway, in connection with the bacteriological examination of water samples, etc., have been invaluable, and are greatly appreciated by all the Local Sanitary Authorities.

The establishment of a Pathological Laboratory at one of the hospitals in the western portion of the County would prove of the highest value both to patients and to general medical practitioners, and I am pleased to be able to report that this matter is receiving consideration and that Professor Davie, of the Liverpool University, has already visited the hospitals in Rhyl with a view to establishing such a laboratory.

#### 3. AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The private motor ambulances which serve the County are stationed at Ffynnongroew, Flint, Holywell, Mold, Prestatyn, Rhyl, Sealand and Shotton.

The County Council, by arrangement with the Chester City Council, has a motor ambulance available for accident cases occurring within a radius of 15 miles of Chester. This is the only ambulance facility provided by the County Council.

For Civil Defence purposes there were 18 full-time Ambulances in the County in operation during the year but these have since been disposed of.

#### 4. DOMICILIARY NURSING.

The various District Nursing Associations provide services for the general nursing of the sick in their homes, and many of these also provide midwifery services in their areas. Practically all these Associations are affiliated to the Flintshire County Nursing Association.

In addition six midwives are employed by the County Council in a whole-time capacity as "District Midwives."

In my last Report I referred to the difficulties of some of the District Nursing Associations in implementing the provisions of the Rushcliffe Report and some re-organisation of Districts has already taken place.

I must stress the necessity for the provision of adequate transport facilities for all Nurses employed in domiciliary nursing, particularly in the rural areas. The present cost of motor cars is prohibitive for many Associations, to say nothing of the extreme difficulty in obtaining delivery of new cars. Reconditioned cars, formerly used by the Services, were said to be available for purchase by domiciliary nurses but applications for permits to purchase these have been refused by the Ministry of Transport on the grounds that the demand has exceeded the supply.

## 5. CENTRES AND CLINICS.

(Arranged alphabetically).

ANTE-NATAL—The following is a list of the Ante-Natal Centres which operated in the area during the year under review :—

Bagillt—Tabernacle C. M. Chapel Schoolrooms. First and third Thursdays of each month. 1-30 to 2-30 p.m.

Buckley—Welsh C. M. Chapel, Mold Road. First and third Mondays. 1-30 to 2-30 p.m.

Caergwrlle—Wesleyan Methodist Chapel Schoolrooms. First and third Tuesdays. 10-30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Flint—The Clinic, Borough Grove. First and third Thursdays. 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Holywell—County School Grounds. Second and fourth Thursdays. 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Mold—The Clinic, King Street. First and third Mondays. 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Prestatyn—Presbyterian Church Hall. First and third Fridays. 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Prestatyn—Chatsworth House. First and third Thursdays. 2 to 4 p.m. (Originally for "evacuee" patients).

Rhyl—The Clinic, Old Emmanuel School, Vale Road. Second and Fourth Wednesdays. 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Saltney—The Clinic, Cinder Lane. First and third Mondays. 2 to 4-30 p.m.

Shotton—The Clinic, Central School. Every Tuesday. 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.

DENTAL—Three portable dental clinics, each in the charge of a fully qualified Dental Surgeon, operated throughout the year in the interests of the children attending the primary, secondary and grammar schools, and I am pleased to be able to report that a fourth is now in operation following the appointment of an additional Dental Surgeon.

Four female Dental Attendants also assist in the work—one with each Dentist.

In order to satisfy the requirements of the Education Act, 1944, a further increase in the staff of the Dental Service may be necessary later on.

I am very pleased to be able to record that the Education Committee have lately approved the purchase of two more Gas/Oxygen Outfits for use in the Dental Clinics.

**INFANT WELFARE**—The following is a list of the Infant Welfare Centres which, conducted by officers of the County Council with the efficient and generous assistance of local voluntary workers, operate in Flintshire in the interests of children of pre-school age :—

- Bagillt—Tabernacle C. M. Chapel Schoolrooms. Every Thursday. 2-30 to 4-30 p.m. Medical Officer first and third Thursdays of each month.
- Broughton—The Institute. Every Wednesday. 2 to 4-30 p.m. Medical Officer first and third Wednesdays of each month.
- Buckley—Welsh C. M. Chapel, Mold Road. Every Monday. 2-30 to 4-30 p.m. Medical Officer first and third Mondays.
- Caergwrle—Wesleyan Methodist Chapel Schoolrooms. Every Tuesday. 2-30 to 4-30 p.m. Medical Officer first and third Tuesdays.
- Flint—The Clinic, Borough Grove. Every Monday. 1-30 to 4-30 p.m. Medical Officer second and fourth Mondays.
- Holywell—County School Grounds. Every Thursday. 1-30 to 4-30 p.m. Medical Officer second and fourth Thursdays.
- Mold—The Clinic, King Street. Every Wednesday. 1-30 to 4-30 p.m. Medical Officer first and third Wednesdays.
- Mostyn—Robert Davies' Memorial Hall. Fridays. 1-30 to 4-30 p.m. Medical Officer second and fourth Fridays.
- Prestatyn—Presbyterian Church Hall. Every Friday. 1-30 to 4-30 p.m. Medical Officer first and third Fridays.
- Rhyl—Old Emmanuel School, Vale Road. Every Wednesday. 1-30 to 4-30 p.m. Medical Officer second and fourth Wednesdays.
- Saltney—The Clinic. Every Friday. 2 to 4-30 p.m. Medical Officer attends second and fourth Fridays.
- Shotton—The Clinic, Central School. Every Tuesday. 1-30 to 4-30 p.m. Medical Officer at every opening.

**MINOR AILMENTS**—Established by the County Council's Education Committee for the treatment of minor ailments in school children, eight Clinics operated in Flintshire throughout the year under review as follows :

- Buckley—Welsh C. M. Chapel, Mold Road. Every Tuesday. 2 to 4-30 p.m.
- Caergwrle—Wesleyan Chapel Schoolrooms. Every Tuesday. 1-30 to 2-30 p.m. Medical Officer attends first and third Tuesdays of month.
- Flint—The Clinic, Borough Grove. Every Tuesday. 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.
- Holywell—County School Grounds. Every Friday. 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.
- Mold—The Clinic, King Street. Every Wednesday. 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.
- Rhyl—Old Emmanuel School, Vale Road. Every Monday. 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.
- Saltney—The Clinic. Every Friday. 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.
- Shotton—The Clinic, Central School. Every Monday and Thursday. 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.

**NOSE AND THROAT**—The treatment of children of school and pre-school age suffering from chronic tonsillitis and/or adenoids is carried out at the Hospitals of Chester (Royal Infirmary), Ellesmere, Flint, Holywell, Mold, Rhyl (both the Royal Alexandra and the Prince Edward Memorial), and Wrexham (Wrexham and East Denbighshire) under arrangements made by the Authority with the respective Boards of Management. Such treatment was formerly at the maximum cost of £1 only, or at reduced cost, or wholly free, to the parents (according to their capacity to pay) the Education Committee paying the Hospital charges in full; but since the 1st April, 1946, under the provisions of the Education Act of 1944, the treatment has been free of cost to the parent, the Education Committee sustaining the whole of the financial responsibility.

**ORTHOPAEDIC**—The following are the three Clinics at which the treatment of crippling conditions was available to Flintshire children of both school and pre-school age throughout the year reviewed:—

Holywell—Out-patient Department, Cottage Hospital. Second and fourth Friday mornings of each calendar month. Orthopaedic Nurse attends every opening. Surgeon attends every four months.

Rhyl—Clinic Rooms, Old Emmanuel School. Second and fourth Friday afternoons. Orthopaedic Nurse every opening. Surgeon attends every four months.

Shotton—Central School. First and Third Friday mornings. Orthopaedic Nurse at every opening and Surgeon every two months.

**POST-NATAL**.—To all women who desire them, consultations with the Authority's Medical Officer are available at the Ante-Natal and the Infant Welfare Centres already described.

**TUBERCULOSIS**—The following Clinics—conducted by Medical Officers of the King Edward VII Welsh National Memorial Association—operated throughout the year under report:—

Holywell—Cottage Hospital. Every Tuesday. 10-30 a.m.

Penyffordd—Meadowslea Hospital. Monday and Thursday afternoons (by appointment only).

Queensferry—Oaklands, near The Cross. Every Wednesday. 10 a.m.

Rhyl—27, Edward Henry Street. Every Friday. 10 a.m.

The Queensferry Clinic above referred to serves for the time being the areas of Queensferry, Shotton, Connah's Quay, Sandycroft, Sealand, Hawarden, Buckley and Mold.

**VISUAL DEFECTS**—Defects of vision in school children are dealt with by an Assistant School Medical Officer who possesses an eye-testing outfit usable in any suitable room in a school or clinic. Spectacles are now prescribed under this scheme and supplied (through local opticians) free of cost to the parents.

Cases needing the attention of an Eye Specialist are referred to the authorities of the Chester Royal Infirmary, with whom the Education Committee have an arrangement providing for the refractive treatment of such children, the Committee sustaining the cost at the rate of 10/6 per case so referred and treated.

Children suffering from squint are also treated (at the Infirmary's Orthoptic Department) under this Scheme.

**VENEREAL DISEASE**—A Department of the Royal Infirmary, Chester, is an approved Treatment Centre—within the meaning of Article III of the Public Health (Venereal Diseases) Regulations, 1916—where treatment is available to Flintshire patients under an agreement made between the Infirmary's Board of Management and the Flintshire County Council. Opening four times weekly the Centre's arrangements are as follows :—

Male Patients—Every Wednesday. 5 to 7 p.m., and every Saturday. 12 noon to 2 p.m.

Female Patients—Every Monday. 5 to 7 p.m., and every Thursday. 5 to 7 p.m.

The number of persons who availed themselves of these treatment facilities during 1945 is given in Section F of this Report.

Flintshire patients may also be treated at the Wrexham and East Denbighshire War Memorial Hospital, Wrexham, which opens for males on Mondays, 5 to 7 p.m., and for females on Fridays, 5 to 7 p.m.

## 6. HOSPITALS.

(Arranged alphabetically).

**GENERAL**—Available to local patients, the general (voluntary) hospitals situated in the County are the Cottage Hospitals of Flint, Holywell and Mold, the Prince Edward War Memorial Hospital, Rhyl, and the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Rhyl.

The Public Assistance Hospital at St. Asaph admits maternity, acute and chronic medical, and acute surgical cases. The Public Assistance Hospital at Holywell admits chiefly cases of the chronic medical type.

Of the hospitals situated outside the County those most frequently used by Flintshire residents are the Royal Infirmary, Chester, the Denbighshire Infirmary, Denbigh, the Ellesmere Cottage Hospital, the various large hospitals of Liverpool, the Whitchurch Cottage Hospital, the Wrexham War Memorial Hospital, and the Wrexham Emergency Hospital.

It has long been apparent that the hospital accommodation provided in the County has been inadequate to meet the needs of the population and this is stressed in the Report on the regional survey made by Sir Ernest Rock Carling and Dr. McIntosh on behalf of the Minister of Health. The Report recommends the provision of a 500 bedded hospital in the Rhyl-St. Asaph area, which would provide for the needs of the population in not

only the western portion of the County of Flint but also the neighbouring portion of the County of Denbigh, covering approximately 100,000 persons.

Under the National Health Service Bill of the Coalition Government it would have been the duty of the County of Flint, or the Counties of Flint and Denbigh jointly, to give due consideration to that recommendation. Under the National Health Service Bill of the present Government, however, the planning and administration of all hospital and consultant services are to be transferred to the Regional Hospitals Boards which will be appointed by the Minister of Health.

These Regional Hospitals Boards will have a vast amount of work before them and when formulating their plans for the new Hospital services will in all probability consult the Local Health Authorities (County and County Borough Councils). In order to be fully prepared, it is suggested that the Council should consider the question of setting up a Joint Hospitals Committee, consisting of members of the Public Health Committee, the Public Assistance Committee and representatives of the voluntary hospitals, in order to investigate fully the hospital need of the County.

**ISOLATION**—Three Isolation Hospitals served the needs of the County during the year under review—those at Hawarden, St. Asaph and Towyn. The premises at Towyn, however, are no longer used as a hospital, patients from the area of the Rhyl Urban District Council, to whom it belongs, being now sent to St. Asaph.

**MENTAL**—The County is served by the North Wales Mental Hospital, Denbigh, in respect of the treatment of lunatic and certain other mentally defective persons, including voluntary patients.

Mental Deficiency Institutions are dealt with in Sections B(7) and K of this Report.

**ORTHOPAEDIC**—Flintshire cripples are treated at the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Gobowen, Shropshire, in accordance with the arrangements described in previous Reports.

**PUBLIC ASSISTANCE**—Situated within the County, and owned by the County Council, there are two Public Assistance Hospitals—one at Holywell and one at St. Asaph.

Also utilised under arrangement, but situated outside the County, are the two Public Assistance Hospitals of Ellesmere and Whitchurch.

**SMALLPOX**—The Smallpox Hospital at Rhydtalog is available for the admission of both Flintshire and Denbighshire patients, the Councils of both Counties constituting a Joint Authority.

**TUBERCULOSIS**—The examination, supervision and treatment of persons suffering, or suspected to be suffering, from this disease, is carried out on behalf of the County Council, by the Welsh National Memorial Association, whose several modern and well-equipped Hospitals are available to Flintshire patients.

The only tuberculosis Hospital actually within the County is that known as "Meadowslea" and situated at Penyffordd, half-way between Mold and Chester.

## 7. INSTITUTIONS.

(Arranged alphabetically).

**BLINDNESS**—The "Llys Onnen" Home for the Blind, situated at Abergele, Denbighshire, is a residential and holiday home for blind persons who are under the supervision of the North Wales Society for the Blind. Opened during the later months of 1942, it can accommodate one blind person permanently from Flintshire, and others, temporarily, for short holiday periods.

The education of blind children at special schools is, of course, arranged by the Education Committee.

**CONVALESCENCE**—The convalescent homes in the County are all situated at Rhyl. Voluntarily established and controlled, they comprise:—The Royal Alexandra Convalescent Home, The William and John Jones Convalescent Home, The Men's Convalescent Institution (Bedford Street), The South Yorkshire Miners' Home (Colet House, East Parade), The Stoke-on-Trent Children's Convalescence and Holiday Home (Chester Street) and the Women's Convalescent Home (Church Street).

The Royal Alexandra Convalescent Home, Rhyl, which was only available to a very limited extent for convalescents during the war years, has now been able to extend its facilities so as to reach almost normal capacity.

The following Rhyl Convalescent Homes have resumed normal activities: The South Yorkshire Miners' Home (Colet House, East Parade), The Stoke-on-Trent Children's Convalescence and Holiday Home (Chester Street), and the Women's Convalescent Home (Church Street).

**MATERNITY**—Accommodation is provided for normal maternity cases at the Catherine Gladstone Maternity Home, Mancot, and at Chatsworth House, Prestatyn, for normal and abnormal cases at the St. Asaph Public Assistance Hospital, and for other abnormal cases (after consultation with Mr. Wigley, the Consulting Obstetrician) at the Chester City Hospital.

The necessity for the retention by the Authority of Chatsworth House as a Maternity Home has become increasingly obvious. It is extremely well situated and would provide the nucleus of the much needed fully equipped maternity hospital, which could provide all maternity facilities for the western portion of the County.

In addition, maternity beds are provided at fourteen private Nursing Homes in the County.

**MENTAL DEFICIENCY**—Three Institutions serve the County as certified Mental Deficiency Institutions—those at Broughton (temporarily removed to Fronfraith, Rhyl), St. Asaph, and Holywell. The Board of Control's approval of these has been received.

The Institution situated at Coed Du, Rhydymwyn, Flintshire, belongs to Denbighshire.

**NURSING**—Registered under the Nursing Homes Registration Act there are 14 private Nursing Homes in the County, all of which are periodically visited and supervised by the Council's Supervisor of Midwives.

Of the beds provided at these Homes, 44 are for maternity and 14 for general nursing cases.

**PUBLIC ASSISTANCE**—The Public Assistance Institutions which serve the needs of Flintshire are those previously mentioned under this heading as Hospitals.

## 8. HEALTH SERVICES—NON-INSTITUTIONAL.

(Arranged alphabetically).

**ANTE-NATAL**—The welfare of Expectant Mothers who do not attend the Authority's Ante-Natal Centres is supervised in Flintshire by the private medical practitioners, the several practising midwives, county and private, and by the County Council's Health Visitors.

**BIRTH NOTIFICATION**—As will be gathered from Table 12 of this Report, the requirements of the Notification of Births Act are conscientiously observed in Flintshire.

**BLINDNESS**—Non-Institutional provisions made by the Council in favour of the blind persons of Flintshire include—(1) medical examination by a Specialist; (2) direct medical advice and treatment; (3) financial aid; (4) material aid in kind, i.e., clothing, boots, etc.; (5) home teaching; (6) visitation by expert supervisors.

**CHILD LIFE PROTECTION**—The Council's Health Visitors are also Child Life Protection Visitors within the meaning of Section 209 of the Public Health Act of 1936, and all the foster children who are statutorily registered as such are duly visited and supervised.

**CONVALESCENCE**—A section of the work of the Flintshire Ailing Children Trust (Organiser: Miss Gwendolen Davies-Cooke), is devoted to the interests of children aged under 5 years, and in recognition of this the County Council make a small grant annually towards the Trust Funds. Owing to abnormal conditions, however, only a very limited number of children can now be admitted to the Convalescent Home (at Rhyl).

**HOME HELPS AND DOMESTIC HELPS**—In order to meet the domestic needs of women who are unable to make satisfactory arrangements of their own at the time of their confinement, some Welfare Authorities have included the provision of Home Helps as part of their Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme.

Similar schemes have been suggested for providing assistance at home for the care of young children and also of the aged.

Repeated efforts made during the year through the Employment Exchanges and voluntary organisations to find persons willing to undertake such work were unsuccessful.

**HOME NURSING**—Home Nursing is carried out in this County only by the District Nurses belonging to the various Nursing Associations and by Nurses practising independently.

**INFANT WELFARE**—Twelve trained and experienced Nurses serve the County as Health Visitors, their duties including the regular and systematic visitation of children aged under five years. These Nurses are notified of all births occurring in their areas and they visit the infants as soon as possible after the Midwife has ceased to attend. Repeat visits are then made as and when required until the children reach the age of five years.

An additional Nurse assisted temporarily at Rhyl throughout the year.

**LABORATORY WORK**—Reference to Section B (2) of this Report will indicate that the County is very well served by the facilities provided (at Conway) by the Medical Research Council.

**MATERNITY (GENERAL)**—Available to the women of Flintshire the following services—all elsewhere mentioned in this Report—have been provided by the Authority:—ante-natal supervision, hospital treatment, maternity home accommodation, medical aid (to midwives), obstetric consultations (specialistic), post-natal supervision and puerperal fever consultations (specialistic).

To this list may of course be added the treatment of tuberculosis and venereal disease, free of cost to patients desiring it.

**MATERNAL MORTALITY**—The previously described assistance rendered to the Ministry of Health Maternal Mortality Committee was continued throughout the year.

**MENTAL DEFICIENCY**—The welfare of mentally defective persons not in institutions is supervised, under the direction of the Authority's Mental Deficiency Committee, by members of the County Council. These visit the defectives at their homes and report to the Committee quarterly and at other times as may be necessary.

**MIDWIFERY**—The County possesses an efficient midwifery service consisting of privately practising Midwives, Midwives belonging to District Nursing Associations, Institutional Midwives and County Domiciliary Midwives.

Particulars of these are given in Section H of this Report.

Medical aid is, of course, available to all Midwives under Section 14 of the Midwives Act, 1918.

**MILK**—Pasteurised or other approved milk was supplied to school children in the County at  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per one-third pint—free of charge to those whose parents were unable to pay this amount. Since the 6th August, 1946, however, such milk has been supplied by the Education Committee free of charge to all children attending schools maintained by the Authority.

The quality of this milk is supervised by the School Medical Officer, who frequently takes samples for bacteriological examination.

The general milk supply is supervised in the County by the Local Sanitary Authorities, whose officers periodically visit and report upon the milk shops, dairies, etc., and the work of eliminating tuberculosis from the milk produced in the County is carried out by the resident Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

**OBSTETRIC DIFFICULTIES**—As mentioned in the early pages of this Report, the services of Mr. J. Gardiner Wigley, of Chester, are available to Flintshire patients requiring expert treatment under this head.

**ORTHOPAEDICS**—Provision exists for the orthopaedic treatment of infants aged under five years who are suffering from crippling defects. Similar arrangements, conducted by the Education Committee, exist on behalf of children of school age, and persons aged over sixteen years are likewise provided for by the voluntary body known as the Flintshire Orthopaedic Voluntary Organisation.

**OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM**—Every case notified is referred to the Authority's Supervisor of Midwives who immediately visits to ensure that efficient treatment is made available to the infant. When medical treatment is domiciliary unavailable or inadequate, the child concerned is admitted to the Royal Infirmary Chester—usually under voluntary arrangements but at the expense of the County Council if the parents cannot privately afford the Infirmary's fees.

The issue to the Midwives of a prophylactic drug for use in preventing the onset of this disease is still continued.

**OUTBOARDED CHILDREN**—Arrangements have now been made for the special supervision (by the Council's School Nurses) of all the Flintshire children who have been outboarded with foster parents by the Education Committee. The Nurses pay domiciliary visits and report periodically on each child to the School Medical Officer.

**PUBLIC ASSISTANCE**—For the purpose of administering this form of relief the County is divided into four Districts (Hawarden, Holywell, Overton and St. Asaph) each under its "Guardians Committee" and having its own medical staff. Of these medical officers, none is, at present, engaged in such work in a whole-time capacity.

**PUERPERAL PYREXIA**—The provision made by the Authority on behalf of women suffering from puerperal pyrexia include the following:—Hospital Accommodation (at St. Asaph Isolation Hospital), Specialistic Aid (the services of a Consultant), Home Nursing (by experienced Nurse) if considered necessary, and Bacteriological Examinations (services of Pathologist).

**SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL CHILDREN**—The supervision of the health of the children attending the Schools of our County—a duty which devolves upon the County Council as the Local Education Authority—forms the subject of special reports submitted as required to the Authority's Education Committee.

**TUBERCULOSIS**—The "After-care" Scheme instituted by the Authority in 1941 continued to function throughout the year under review. Designed to expedite the recovery of persons suffering from tuberculosis by assisting them financially and/or in kind, thereby eliminating their domestic anxieties in a substantial degree, it very soon showed its value as a health measure, and is now an important branch of the Council's health services.

Under this scheme maintenance allowances, discretionary allowances and special allowances are available to persons who are suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, and who have given up remunerative employment in order to undergo treatment. Such allowances continue, under periodical review, so long as the Tuberculosis Physician certifies that there is a prospect of the patient being restored to working capacity. All expenditure under this scheme is fully reimbursed to the Authority by the Ministry of Health.

A second Tuberculosis Visitor began duty on the 1st July, 1945.

**VENEREAL DISEASES**—Mention has already been made of the hospital and clinical facilities provided for the treatment of these diseases. Arrangements exist, however, for the payment of the expenses incurred by patients in travelling to and from the Treatment Centre. These are paid in the first instance directly to the patient by the Hospital authorities, and the amounts are refunded quarterly by the County Council. It is perhaps unnecessary to add that this provision exists only on behalf of patients who cannot afford the payments themselves.

## Section C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

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The supervision of closet accommodation, provision for refuse collection and disposal, cesspool cleaning, the sanitary inspection of their respective areas, the inspection and supervision of shops, offices and camping sites, the abatement of nuisances, including any arising from smoke, the supervision of swimming baths and pools, disinfection and disinfestation—all these are included in the duties which devolve primarily upon Local Sanitary Authorities and upon which the respective District Medical Officers of Health are required to report annually and, when necessary, specifically.

Concerning drainage and sewerage, rivers and streams, school sanitary conditions, water supplies, etc., there is nothing of special interest to report in respect of the year under review.

## Section D.—HOUSING.

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HOUSING—The various Acts and Regulations pertaining to this subject are administered by the Local Sanitary Authorities, whose duties also include the inspection and supervision of the housing conditions of their respective areas.

## Section E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

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ADULTERATION—The arrangements made to ensure that food-stuffs sold to the public for human consumption are unadulterated, are outlined in the various appropriate paragraphs of this Section.

ANALYSIS OF FOODSTUFFS—The specimens of food and drugs taken by the various Inspectors for analysis are sent to the County Analyst, whose reports are submitted to the Council's Public Health Committee.

FOOD AND DRUGS—The provisions of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, which is administered by the County Council (the executive work being carried out by duly appointed officers of the County Police acting under the direction of the Chief Constable) have been outlined in previous reports.

341 samples were formally taken during the year under review, and of these, 64 were found to be below standard. Appropriate action was taken by the Chief Constable against the offenders.

The "below standard" articles were:—Milk 54; Steamed Pudding Mixture 3; Dried Peas 2; Self-raising Flour 1; Lentils 1; Semolina Pudding Powder 1; Pearl Barley 1; Split Peas 1.

**MEAT AND OTHER FOODS**—The supervision of the general food supply, involving at least the registration, inspection, etc., of bakehouses, slaughter-houses, shops, stalls, vehicles and all the other places where food is prepared, commercially handled or exposed for sale, is a duty which devolves upon the Local Sanitary Authorities.

**MILK (ARTIFICIAL CREAM)**—No sample was taken for analysis during the year under report.

**MILK (CONDENSED)**—No sample was analysed during the year under report.

**MILK (DRIED)**—No sample of this was taken during the period under report.

**MILK (HOUSEHOLD)**—No sample taken.

**MILK (FRESH)**—The parts of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, administrable by the Local Sanitary Authorities were duly observed by the various Authorities and their requirements carried out.

Also carried out were the requirements of Part IV, which, formerly devolving upon the County Council, now form part of the duties of the Ministry of Agriculture's Divisional Inspector.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Order of 1936, certificates issuable by the Clerk of the County Council were held by Flintshire producers at the close of 1945, as follows:—For the sale of milk with the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" 42; For the sale of milk designated "Accredited" 649.

The corresponding figures on the 30th September, 1946, were respectively, 61 and 633.

Reports of the tubercular milk sent to neighbouring areas by Flintshire farmers were received during the year from the Authorities of such areas as follows:—Birkenhead 0, Liverpool 0, Wallasey 8. These were, of course, all investigated and satisfactorily dealt with.

One report only of unsatisfactory non-tubercular milk was received from outside the County.

**NUTRITION**—Except by the means ordinarily employed in the Maternity and Child Welfare Services in connection with the dissemination of information relating to food values and nutrition generally, the Authority took no action during the year in regard to this subject.

**PRESERVATIVES**—The arrangements made to ensure that the foods consumed by the public are free from dangerous preservatives are outlined in a preceding paragraph. Regulations bearing on the subject are issued by the Ministry of Health from time to time.

**SHELLFISH (MOLLUSCAN)**—The duty of reporting upon shellfish beds or layings, is one which devolves upon the Medical Officer of Health of the Sanitary Districts in which such beds or layings are situated.

## Section F.

## INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

## A.—ADMINISTRATIVE.

**DISINFECTION**—The disinfection of premises, clothing, bedding, etc., after infectious disease is a duty which devolves upon the Local Sanitary Authorities, the work being generally carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors.

**INCIDENCES**—The diseases which were notified in Flintshire during the year under review, are shown numerically in Table 5 of this Report. No case was notified of any notifiable disease which is not named in such table.

**LABORATORY WORK**—The laboratory facilities available at Conway were extensively used, during the year, by medical officers of the County Council and the Local Sanitary Authorities, and also by many general medical practitioners. This laboratory also rendered invaluable assistance in connection with the supplying of material for diphtheria immunisation work and in other ways.

**SERA, SPECIAL TESTS, ETC.**—The availability to the public of sera such as diphtheria anti-toxin or anti-meningococcus serum is a matter which primarily concerns the Local Sanitary Authorities.

## B.—DISEASES.

**CANCER**—There were during the year under report 3 more deaths from this disease in Flintshire than during the preceding year, the respective figures being (1942) 208, (1943) 223, (1944) 240, (1945) 243.

**CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER**—17 cases of this disease were notified during the year, but no death occurred.

It is interesting to note that in 1940 and 1941 the cases notified numbered 111 and 85 respectively.

**DIPHTHERIA**—108 cases were notified, and 10 deaths were registered, in the course of the year. During 1944 the respective figures were 316 and 10.

The work of immunising the juvenile population goes on systematically. At the end of the year under report, according to figures supplied by our District Health Visitors, 7,517 children aged under five years had been immunised, and during the first half of the current year (1946) an additional 987 have been similarly protected, as well as 1,199 of the 5 to 14 age-group.

**OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM**—Statistics relative to this disease appear in the Section of this Report which relates to Infant Welfare.

**PUERPERAL PYREXIA**—Additional particulars concerning this condition will be found in the Section headed "Welfare of Mothers."

**SMALLPOX**—1,039 successful primary vaccinations of children aged under 14 years were effected during the year ended the 31st December, 1945.

**VENEREAL DISEASES**—The number of Flintshire patients newly dealt with at the Treatment Centre (Chester) during the year under report, excluding those known to have been treated elsewhere, was 137, the figure being made up as follows:—Syphilis, 26; Gonorrhoea, 31; Soft Chancre, 0; Non-venereal or Undiagnosed Conditions, 80.

These patients made 1,139 attendances during the period reviewed, and 797 pathological examinations were carried out at the Treatment Centre's Laboratory.

In addition to the foregoing, 18 Flintshire patients (6 Syphilis, 12 Gonorrhoea), received treatment at a Wrexham Treatment Centre, where they made 160 attendances.

**TUBERCULOSIS**—Numerical particulars of the deaths registered during the year as due to this disease are reported in Tables 3 and 4 of this Report.

The number of formal primary notifications received under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930, was 174, made up as follows:—Pulmonary 136 (Males 68, Females 68); Non-pulmonary 38 (Males 21, Females 17).

Other than by formal notification, 23 cases came to the Authority's notice during the year, the number being made up as follows:—Pulmonary 17 (Males 4, Females 13); Non-pulmonary 6 (Males 4, Females 2).

No special action was taken during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

The beneficent work of the King Edward VII Welsh National Memorial Association was of course continued throughout the year.

During the year under report, 216 applicants received assistance in cash and/or in kind under the County Council's After-care Scheme, as compared with 161 in 1944.

Table 3.

## DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS IN THE SEVERAL DISTRICTS.

District.	Pulmonary.				Non-Pulmonary.				All Forms.				Grand Total.	
	M*		F†		M*		F†		M*		F†			
Urban—														
Buckley	...	3	...	1	...	—	...	—	...	3	...	1	...	4
Connah's Quay	...	3	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	4	...	3	...	7
Flint (M.B.)	...	1	...	2	...	—	...	—	...	1	...	2	...	3
Holywell	...	4	...	4	...	—	...	—	...	4	...	4	...	8
Mold	...	1	...	4	...	—	...	—	...	1	...	4	...	5
Prestatyn	...	2	...	—	...	1	...	—	...	3	...	—	...	3
Rhyl	...	2	...	5	...	1	...	3	...	3	...	8	...	11
Rural—														
Hawarden	...	6	...	7	...	1	...	—	...	7	...	7	...	14
Holywell	...	8	...	5	...	—	...	—	...	8	...	5	...	13
Overton	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—
St. Asaph	...	1	...	—	...	1	...	—	...	2	...	—	...	2
Urban District	...	16	...	18	...	3	...	4	...	19	...	22	...	41
Rural Districts	...	15	...	12	...	2	...	—	...	17	...	12	...	29
Whole County	...	31	...	30	...	5	...	4	...	36	...	34	...	70

\* Males.

† Females.

Table 4.

## ANALYSIS OF DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Group.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		All Forms.		Grand Total.
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	2	2	2	2	4	6
5—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
15—	13	22	2	2	15	24	39
45—	16	5	—	—	16	5	21
65—	2	1	—	—	2	1	3
Totals	31	30	5	4	36	34	70

Table 5.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Cases notified during the year.

Notifiable Disease	Urban Districts.							Rural Districts.				Administrative County
	Buckley	Connah's Quay	Flint M. B.	Holywell	Mold	Prestatyn	Rhyl	Hawarden	Holywell	Overton	St. Asaph	
Cerebro-spinal												
Fever ...	1	1	—	—	—	9	3	1	1	—	1	17
Chicken Pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	6	35	21	—	8	8	6	19	—	5	108
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	—	5	—	1	11
Encephalitis ...												
Leth. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Enteric Fever												
(Typhoid) ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Erysipelas ...	3	—	3	1	—	2	8	4	5	—	3	29
Malaria												
(Recurrence) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Measles ...	263	22	137	11	69	238	289	314	98	56	254	1751
Ophthalmia ...												
Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Paratyphoids ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Pemphigus												
Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis												
(Acute) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	8
Polioencephalitis												
(Acute) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia												
(Acute) ...	13	10	37	20	3	7	13	25	43	—	10	181
Puerperal												
Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	4	—	—	6
Rubella ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	6	8	7	8	20	6	37	44	54	3	24	217
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (see Special Tables)												
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	7	3	2	27	63	12	7	12	23	156

## Section G.

## PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

Particulars of the Institutions concerned with, and the personnel engaged in, the administration of public assistance have been given in early pages of this Report.

I now present statistics relative to this Service in its association with Maternity and Child Welfare :—

Table 6.

## PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INSTITUTIONS.

(Maternity Service).

Description.	Holywell.	St. Asaph.
1. No. of Maternity Beds on last day of year ...	—	27
2. Beds (included above) reserved for expectant mothers in need of hospital treatment ...	—	3
3. Maternity cases admitted during the year ...	—	171
4. Women (included in No. 3 above) treated during the year in the beds referred to under No. 2 (above) ... ..	—	23
5. Average duration (in days) of treatment of expectant mothers in the beds shown against No. 2 (above) ... ..	—	24
6. Average duration of stay of cases included against No. 3 (above) ... Days ... ..	—	14
7. Cases delivered by Midwives ... ..	—	151
8. Cases delivered by Doctors ... ..	—	15
9. Cases in which medical assistance was sought by a Midwife in emergency ... ..	—	—*
10. Cases admitted after delivery ... ..	—	5
11. Cases notified as Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	1
12. Cases of Pemphigus Neonatorum ... ..	—	—
13. Infants not entirely breast-fed ... ..	—	18
14. Infants wholly breast-fed ... ..	—	143
15. Cases notified as Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—
16. No. of Maternal Deaths ... ..	—	—
17. No. of Stillbirths ... ..	—	11
18. No. of Infant Deaths ... ..	—	5

\* Medical Officer notified of every case when in labour.

## Section H.

### WELFARE OF MOTHERS.

ANTE-NATAL SERVICES—The activities of the Ante-natal Centres mentioned in this Report are indicated, in respect of the year under review, in the following Table :—

Table 7.

#### ANTE-NATAL ATTENDANCES OF WOMEN AT CENTRES.

Centre	Year 1945.					
	Number of Sessions.	Patients dealt with			Aggregate Attend- ances.	
		Old* Cases.	New Cases.	Total Cases.		
Bagillt	21	5	25	30	65	
Buckley	21	9	37	46	184	
Caergwrle	23	6	15	21	48	
Flint	20	14	77	91	312	
Holywell	21	25	85	110	326	
Mold	21	25	132	157	410	
Prestatyn	22	16	80	96	300	
Rhyl	22	34	112	146	514	
Saltney	21	3	46	49	136	
Shotton	48	49	249	298	977	
Totals	—	186	858	1044	3272	

\* Patients whose names were on the books at the beginning of the year.

Midwives are strongly encouraged in this County in connection with the work of supervising expectant mothers and it can truthfully be said that the great majority of those who book their Midwives reasonably early are visited and re-visited by the Midwives concerned.

During the year under review the Midwives of Flintshire—in their capacity as Midwives, not as Maternity Nurses—paid 4,494 ante-natal visits to patients. As Maternity Nurses they paid an additional 4,389 visits.

The Authority's Health Visitors also render useful service in connection with the supervision of expectant mothers. They paid 809 visits during the twelve months under report.

POST-NATAL SERVICES—It is highly gratifying to find that so many women attend the Centres after their confinement, as such consultations enable the Medical Officer to ascertain whether the patient is suffering from any disability consequent upon parturition, and, if so, to advise her appropriately regarding treatment.

Table 8.

## POST-NATAL ATTENDANCES OF WOMEN AT CENTRES.

Centre	Year 1945.										
	Number.			Patients dealt with				Aggregate			
				of	Old*	New	Total				
				Sessions.	Cases.	Cases.	Cases.	Attend-			
								ances.			
Bagillt	...	...	21	...	—	...	3	...	3	...	6
Buckley	...	...	21	...	2	...	7	...	9	...	14
Caergwrle	...	...	23	...	1	...	7	...	8	...	15
Flint	...	...	21	...	2	...	9	...	11	...	15
Holywell	...	...	22	...	4	...	12	...	16	...	28
Mold	...	...	21	...	4	...	8	...	12	...	15
Prestatyn	...	...	22	...	3	...	7	...	10	...	15
Rhyl	...	...	22	...	2	...	5	...	7	...	10
Saltney	...	...	21	...	—	...	3	...	3	...	5
Shotton	...	...	48	...	8	...	28	...	36	...	75
Totals	...	...	242		26		89		115		198

\* Patients whose names were on the books at the beginning of the year.

**MATERNITY INSTITUTIONS**—The oldest established of these is of course the Catherine Gladstone Maternity Home, Mancot, particulars of which have been given in past Reports. At this Institution no fewer than 303 patients were admitted during the year under review.

To the St. Asaph Public Assistance Hospital 171 patients were admitted.

Women admitted to the Chatsworth House Maternity Home, Prestatyn, during the year numbered 223.

At the 14 private institutions registered under Section 187 of the 1936 Public Health Act, 44 beds were provided for the accommodation of maternity cases and 14 for others. 217 visits were paid to these Nursing Homes by the Authority's Supervisor of Midwives during the year under report.

**MIDWIFERY**—From a Table which follows it will be gathered that 79 Flintshire Midwives were in practice in the County at the end of the year, 23 of these being in the direct employ, institutionally or otherwise, of the County Council.

The supervision is maintained on behalf of the Council by the County Medical Officer, the visitation and executive work being carried out by a full-time Supervisor who, in the course of the year under report, paid 382 inspectional, 531 special visits (vide Table 10).

The number of cases attended by the Midwives acting as Midwives during the year was 1,431, and the number attended by them as Maternity Nurses was 673.

The various notifications received from the Midwives during the year totalled 825, of which 502 announced their having "called in medical aid."

Midwives were temporarily suspended from practice (to prevent the spread of infection) on 9 occasions.

Table 9.

## MIDWIVES IN PRACTICE.

At end of year 1945.

Classification	Trained and Cer- tified.	Certifi- cated only	Uncer- tified.	Total.
Employed by County Council—				
At Mancot Maternity Home ...	3	3	—	6
At St. Asaph P. A. Institution ...	5	—	—	5
At Prestatyn Maternity Home ...	4	2	—	6
As Domiciliary Midwives ...	2	4	—	6
Employed by Voluntary Associations—				
Flintshire Nursing Association ...	9	19	—	28
Other (Local) Nursing Assoc'ns ...	—	1	—	1
Independent—				
In private Nursing Homes ...	5	5	—	10
In general practice ...	5	12	—	17
Total in practice at end of year ...	33	46	—	79

Table 10.  
SUPERVISION OF MIDWIVES.

Classification.	Number of Inspections		
	Routine.	Special.	Total.
Employed by the County Council—			
At the Mancot Maternity Home ...	—	5	5
At the Prestatyn Maternity Home ...	—	4	4
At the St. Asaph P. A. Institution ...	—	1	1
As Domiciliary Midwives ...	29	129	158
Employed by Voluntary Organisations—			
Royal Alexandra Hospital ...	—	3	3
Flintshire Nursing Association ...	116	258	374
Independently employed—			
In Private Nursing Homes ...	168	49	217
In General Practice ...	69	78	147
As Unregistered Women ...	—	4	4
Total Inspections ...	382	531	913*

\* The midwife was inspected while actually at work in 461 of these cases.

The special visits referred to in the foregoing Table were paid mainly for the reasons specified below :—

Table 11.  
SPECIAL VISITS TO MIDWIVES.

Reason for Special Visitation.	No. of Visits.
Maternal Death Investigation ...	2
Infant Death Investigation ...	22
Stillbirth Investigation ...	38
Puerperal Pyrexia Supervision ...	88
Ophthalmia Neonatorum Supervision ...	91
Other Emergencies ...	264
Non-emergency Special Visits ...	26
Total Special Visits ...	531*

\* The Midwife was inspected while actually at work in 132 of these cases. Interviews with the County Medical Officer concerning midwives and midwifery numbered 107 ; visits to prematurely born infants, 294.

**OBSTETRIC DIFFICULTIES**—The Authority's Consultant was called in during the year in respect of 15 cases of obstetric difficulty, and I take this opportunity of recording his prompt response and skilled service in the case of every patient attended.

The number of cases of Puerperal Pyrexia brought to the Authority's notice was 19, all of whom recovered.

**MATERNAL MORTALITY**—2 women died during the year from causes associated with pregnancy or parturition. Of these deaths, none was caused by puerperal sepsis.

**STILLBIRTHS**—Statistical particulars of the still-births which occurred during the period reviewed are given in an early Section of this Report.

## Section I.

### WELFARE OF INFANTS.

**BIRTH NOTIFICATION**—Under the provisions of the Notification of Births Act, 2,186 births were notified to the Authority during the year, the figure being made up as follows:—

Table 12.

#### BIRTH NOTIFICATION.

Births notified during the year.

By whom notified.	Number.		
	Live.	Still.	Total.
Midwives (including Maternity Nurses) ...	1284	49	1333
Medical Practitioners (including Medical Officers) 194		4	198
Parents (or Relatives) ... ..	—	—	—
Maternity Homes (County) ... ..	636	19	655
Totals ... ..	2114	72	2186

**CENTRES**—The activities of the Authority's Infant Welfare Centres—now numbering eleven—are given in Table 13.

Table 13.

## INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Summary of Attendances, etc.

Description	Bagillt	Broughton	Buckley	Caergwrle	Flint	Holywell	Mold	Mostyn	Prestatyn	Rhyl	Saltney	Shotton	Total
Number of Sessions held, i.e., number of times Centre opened during the year .. ..	47	47	47	47	48	48	48	22	49	48	48	48	547
Children who attended the Centre during the year for the first time and who, on the date of their first attendance, were—													
Aged under 1 year ..	38	95	189	189	127	125	196	47	151	272	124	569	2122
Aged 1 to 5 years ..	5	70	102	64	15	12	15	28	16	44	85	172	628
Total .. ..	43	165	291	253	142	137	211	75	167	316	209	741	2750
Children who attended the Centre during the year and who, at the end of the year, were—													
Aged under 1 year ..	32	53	120	94	97	102	141	37	220	194	64	315	1469
Aged 1 to 5 years ..	39	111	182	159	260	117	207	82	59	370	139	426	2151
Total .. ..	71	164	302	253	357	219	348	119	279	564	203	741	3620
Attendances made at the Centre during the year by children—													
Aged under 1 year ..	290	1303	1550	2113	1851	1260	2430	440	3224	4275	1474	4953	25163
Aged 1 to 5 years ..	163	674	250	346	484	280	739	282	882	573	596	626	5895
Total .. ..	453	1977	1800	2459	2335	1540	3169	722	4106	4848	2070	5579	31058

**CHILD LIFE PROTECTION**—At the end of the year under review, 18 persons were registered as having the care of children within the meaning of Section 206 of the Public Health Act of 1936, the number of children concerned being (at the end of the year) 30. Six deaths were notified during the year.

As accredited Child Life Protection Visitors the Authority's Health Visitors paid 625 visits to the said children.

**ADOPTION OF CHILDREN**—Notices (6) were received during the year under Section 7 (3) of the Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939, in respect of 15 children.

**HOME VISITATION**—The work of the Authority's Nurses acting in their capacity as Health Visitors is detailed in Table 15 of this Report. From this Table it will be gathered that the Nurses paid an aggregate of 21,353 visits to children under five years of age.

**MILK (SUPPLY OF)**—No issue of milk was found necessary to supplement the provisions made during the year under the National Cheap Milk Scheme.

Table 14.

#### THE WORK OF THE COUNTY HEALTH VISITORS.

*NOTE*—(1) *Except in relation to adult persons, the words "First Visits" throughout this Table mean first visits literally, the infants referred to never having been visited in this County at any time before.* (2) *The work of the County Supervisor of Midwives is excluded herefrom.*

#### GENERAL VISITS AND RE-VISITS TO INFANTS.

	A.	B.	C.
Aged under 1 mth.—First Visits (A) ; Re-Vis. (B) ; Total (C)	2085	394	2479
Aged 1 to 12 months do. do. do. ...	113	6458	6571
Aged 1 to 5 years do. do. do. ...	62	12241	12303
Total aged under 5 do. do. do. ...	2260	19093	21353

#### CONDITIONS FOUND ON FIRST VISITS.

Feeding—Breast only (A) ; Breast and other (B) ;

Other foods only (C) ... 1224 295 543

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES—CASES VISITED, ETC.

*(Note—This Section relates to infants aged under 5 only).*

Epid. Diarrhoea—First Visit (A) ; Re-vis. (B) ; Total (C)	27	13	40
Pemphigus Neo. do. do. do. ...	1	—	1
Other Infec. Diseases do. do. do. ...	248	203	451

Table 14 (continued).

				A.	B.	C.
OTHER ROUTINE VISITS.						
Expectant Mothers—First Visits (A) ; Re-vis. (B) ; Total.(C)				411	398	809
Deaths (Under 1 mth.)	do.	do.	do. ...	14	7	21
do. (Aged 1—12 mths.)	do.	do.	do. ...	21	—	21
do. (Aged 1—5 years)	do.	do.	do. ...	2	—	2
SPECIAL ENQUIRIES, INVESTIGATIONS, ETC.						
Doctors' Fees—First Visits (A) ; Re-vis. (B) ; Total (C) ...				294	65	359
Maternity Home Cases	do.	do.	do. ...	67	71	138
Mental Defectives	do.	do.	do. ...	3	2	5
Orthopaedic Cases	do.	do.	do. ...	3	6	9
Infant Life Protection	do.	do.	do. ...	138	451	589
Convalescence	do.	do.	do. ...	8	15	23
WELFARE CENTRES.						
Ante-Natal—Attendances by Nurse		...	...	—	—	197
Infant Welfare	do.	...	...	—	—	578
Orthopaedic	do.	...	...	—	—	156

MORTALITY—Figures relative to the year's deaths of infants aged under one year are given in an early Section of this Report.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM—18 cases of "Discharging Eyes" were brought to the Authority's notice during the year under review, and it is gratifying to be able to report complete recovery in every case. Two only of the cases were diagnosed as Ophthalmia Neonatorum. The issue of prophylactic drug to Midwives was continued throughout the year.

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT—The number of children who attended the Orthopaedic Clinic during the year was 431. Of these, 135 were under five years of age, and 296 over five but under sixteen years. The attendances of such children totalled 890.

Of these cases the names of 152 were removed from the books during the year under review.

## Section J.—BLIND PERSONS.

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The number of Flintshire persons who, on the 31st December, 1945, were registered in the Authority's books as blind, and were being visited by the Home Visitors of the Chester and the North Wales Blind Welfare Societies, was 220.

## Section K.—MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

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**BROUGHTON INSTITUTION**—The end of the year found the inmates of this Institution still accommodated at Fronfraith, Russell Road, Rhyl, which premises have been only approved by the Board of Control as a Certified Mental Deficiency Institution for the reception of twenty-two defectives, comprising not more than five males and not more than seventeen females.

A report received from the Board of Control following an Inspector's recent visit to this Institution reads as follows:—

"14th June, 1945—This small institution is very pleasantly and conveniently situated in the town of Rhyl. It is within a few minutes walk of the sea and there is enough space and freedom within its own gates for exercise and play. Also there is much more to interest the patients here than at Broughton. Concerts are given. Patients attend shows on the front and play on the sands. There is a very useful playroom adjacent to the main buildings and with easy access to the lawn. It is furnished with a piano and necessary conveniences and is in daily use for such training as can be given the patients under the present day conditions. The shortage of staff is still acute and Matron and her helpers are to be commended on managing so well during the war years.

The general health of the patients has been good except for three cases of mumps there has been no illness since last visit. Eight patients have faulty habits. Their foul laundry is dealt with competently on the premises. The main laundry goes out.

Three of the working patients asked for interviews. Two wanted to work on licence but are considered unsuitable. The third wants to go home. Her case has already been investigated I understand. These three as well as four others receive 5s. per week pocket money.

The patients were neatly and suitably dressed. A good dinner was served during my visit. The house was in good order throughout.

There were 32 patients in residence five of whom are epileptics, three of the four boys are under 16 years, one is over that age, the youngest girl is 7 years of age, another is 13 years—(Signed) A. J. CROZIER, Inspector of the Board of Control."

**HOLYWELL INSTITUTION**—This Institution, which is approved under Section 37 of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, for the reception and accommodation of mentally defective persons, was visited by an Inspector of the Board of Control on the 12th June, 1945, and reported upon as follows :—

“Patients in Residence (Females only) 11.

Certificates—In order.

Seclusion or Mechanical Restraint—None.

Day Rooms, Dormitories, Fire Exits, Clothing, Bathing—Satisfactory.

Remarks—There is little change to record about the patients residing under the Lunacy and Mental Deficiency Acts, in this Institution. They continue to receive good care and attention.”

**ST. ASAPH INSTITUTION**—This Institution—also approved—was visited by an Inspector of the Board of Control on the 12th June, 1945, and reported upon as follows :—

“Patients in Residence—Males 8; Females 3. Day Rooms, Dormitories, Fire Exits—Satisfactory. Clothing, Bathing—Satisfactory. Occupation, Exercise, Recreations—Satisfactory. Remarks—The patients, with one exception, are employed about the house and grounds. They have an allowance of tobacco or sweets. Pocket money is given. The patients are receiving very good care and impressed me as being happy and contented.

I was sorry to learn that Mr. and Mrs. Morris are retiring soon.”

**GENERAL**—By courtesy of the Clerk of the County Council, I am able to give below an extract from a return submitted by him to the Board of Control giving particulars of Flintshire mental defectives as on 1st January, 1946 :—

Table 15.

**MENTAL DEFICIENCY.**

Defectives “Subject to be dealt with” by the County Council.

Description.	Aged under 16 years.			Aged over 16 years.			Total Persons.			
	M.	F.		M.	F.					
Under “ Order ” :—										
In Institutions	...	6	...	2	...	19	...	41	...	68
On Licence from Institutions	...	—	...	—	...	2	...	5	...	7
Under Guardianship	...	—	...	—	...	7	...	1	...	8
In “ Places of Safety ”	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—

The number of defectives "under statutory supervision" at the end of the year was 110, comprising 64 males and 46 females. Of these, 3, at the end of the year, were awaiting removal to an Institution.

There was at the end of the year no known "subject to be dealt with" defective in the County respecting whom action had not been taken under any of the above headings.

Cases notified to the Council by the Local Education Authority during the year numbered 3 (males), and of these, 1 was placed under statutory supervision, 1 was sent (by Order) to an Institution, and the third was, at the end of the year, awaiting Institutional accommodation.

The question of providing accommodation for mental defectives has presented many difficulties, and much of the present available accommodation cannot be described as entirely suitable for this purpose.

It is hoped that this question will receive careful consideration in post-war development schemes.