

[Report 1945] / Medical Officer of Health, Holywell R.D.C.

Contributors

Holywell (Wales). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1945

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/xxahwkxs>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

ANNUAL REPORT.

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FOR THE

RURAL DISTRICT OF HOLYWELL.

FOR THE YEAR

1945.

1850
1851
1852
1853
1854
1855
1856
1857
1858
1859
1860
1861
1862
1863
1864
1865
1866
1867
1868
1869
1870
1871
1872
1873
1874
1875
1876
1877
1878
1879
1880
1881
1882
1883
1884
1885
1886
1887
1888
1889
1890
1891
1892
1893
1894
1895
1896
1897
1898
1899
1900

1901
1902
1903
1904
1905
1906
1907
1908
1909
1910
1911
1912
1913
1914
1915
1916
1917
1918
1919
1920
1921
1922
1923
1924
1925
1926
1927
1928
1929
1930
1931
1932
1933
1934
1935
1936
1937
1938
1939
1940
1941
1942
1943
1944
1945
1946
1947
1948
1949
1950
1951
1952
1953
1954
1955
1956
1957
1958
1959
1960
1961
1962
1963
1964
1965
1966
1967
1968
1969
1970
1971
1972
1973
1974
1975
1976
1977
1978
1979
1980
1981
1982
1983
1984
1985
1986
1987
1988
1989
1990
1991
1992
1993
1994
1995
1996
1997
1998
1999
2000

HOLYWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT.

To:
The Chairman and Members of the Holywell Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I present my Annual report for the year ending December 31st, 1945.

Social conditions including chief industries.

Agriculture is the chief occupation of the area which comprises half the County of Flint, lead and coal mining, stone and lime quarrying provide employment.

In adjoining areas large silk and iron works provide employment for numbers of the population of this area.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Area in acres | 58,550. |
| Population (estimated middle of 1945) | 20,550. |
| Number of inhabited houses | 7,055. |
| Rateable value | £81,191. |
| Sum representing 1d rate | £322. |

VITAL STATISTICS.

| <u>LIVE BIRTHS.</u> | Total. | M. | F. | |
|------------------------------|--------|------|------|------------------------------|
| | 313. | 156. | 157. | Birth rate per 1,000 |
| Legitimate. | 291. | 142. | 149. | (estimated population) 15.23 |
| Illegitimate. | 22. | 14. | 8. | |
| <u>STILL BIRTHS.</u> | 16. | | | |
| Legitimate. | 15. | 7. | 8. | Rate per 1,000 (live and |
| Illegitimate. | 1. | | 1. | still) births 16.0 |
| <u>DEATHS.</u> | 254. | 130. | 124. | Death rate per 1,000 |
| | | | | (estimated) population 12.36 |
| Deaths from Puerperal sepsis | | Nil. | | |
| " " other " causes | | Nil. | | |

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

| | Total. | M. | F. |
|--------------------------------|--------|-----|----|
| Legitimate. | 16. | 15. | 1. |
| Illegitimate. | 1. | | 1. |
| | 17. | 15. | 2. |
| All infants per 1,000 births | 54. | | |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 | | | |
| legitimate live births. | 55. | | |
| Illegitimate infants per 1,000 | | | |
| illegitimate live births. | 45. | | |
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) | 1.75. | | |
| " " Measles | Nil. | | |
| " " Whooping Cough (all ages) | Nil. | | |
| " " Diarrhoea (under 2 years) | 3.1. | | |

DEATHS.

| | M. | F. |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Diphtheria. | 1. | |
| Tuberculosis of the respiratory system. | 8. | 5. |
| Syphilitic diseases. | 1. | |
| Influenza. | 1. | 1. |
| Cancer of the Buccal cavity and Oesophagus (M) | 2. | |
| Cancer of the Uterus (Female) | | 2. |
| Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum. | 8. | 5. |
| Cancer of the breast. | | 3. |
| Cancer of all other sites. | 10. | 6. |
| Diabetes. | 1. | |
| Intracranial Vascular Lesions. | 14. | 12. |
| Heart Disease. | 23. | 47. |
| Other diseases of the circulatory system. | 2. | 3. |
| Bronchitis. | 13. | 3. |
| Pneumonia. | 6. | 5. |
| Other respiratory diseases. | 3. | 1. |
| Ulcer of stomach or duodenum. | 2. | |
| Diarrhoea (under 2 years). | 1. | |
| Other digestive diseases. | 1. | 3. |
| Nephritis. | 2. | 2. |
| Premature Birth. | 4. | |
| Congenital Malformation, birth injury. | 5. | 1. |
| Suicide. | 1. | 1. |
| Road traffic accidents. | 2. | 2. |
| Other violent causes. | 3. | 1. |
| All other causes. | 16. | 21. |
| | <u>130.</u> | <u>124.</u> |

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

- (a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (part time).
I. Philippine Nellis, L.R.C.P. & S.I., D.P.H.
- (b) SANITARY INSPECTORS (whole time).
D.O. Meredith Jones, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
F.G. Perry, C.R.S.I., J.D. Miles, C.R.S.I.
- (c) R.G. Murdoch A.M.I.C.E., M. Inst. & City E.A.M.T.P.I. A.M.I.
Struct E.

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Carried out by Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service, Conway.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

There is no ambulance.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME.

Voluntary organisations provide existing facilities.

(d) TREATMENT CENTRES & CLINICS.

Administered by Flintshire County Council.

(e) HOSPITAL.

There is no hospital in the area:-

For Infectious diseases there is a Joint Hospital Board to which all the constituent districts subscribe.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLIES.

(1) The water supply of the Council's area of supply and its several parts has in general been satisfactory in quantity.

The shallow well feeding the service reservoir at Nerquis failed during the drier months of the year and it became necessary to utilize water from the Birkenhead main.

In a similar way during the summer months the supply to Mostyn Reservoir diminished and the demand was satisfied by Birkenhead water.

The Gwespyr and Upper Gronant Sections of the Garth supply was affected by breakdowns of the hydraulic rams. Low pressure was experienced at the Lower Gronant end of the coastal main due largely to the high consumption along this main in the summer months.

Owing to the deterioration of the supply pipe from Caerwys Reservoir it became necessary to maintain supplies to Caerwys by using Birkenhead water.

On certain lengths of small diameter mains the pipes are encrusted and the quantity available to consumers has been small. These lengths are now being renewed as part of the Council's programme for the year 1946-47.

The water supply of the area and its several parts has in general been satisfactory in quality. This matter is referred to again in (ii) and (iv).

(ii) Bacteriological examinations of seven samples of raw water have been made, six of which were satisfactory and one unsatisfactory, the latter being at Mostyn.

Similar examinations were made of three samples of treated water all of which were satisfactory.

Chemical analyses of four samples of raw water have been made, the result in each case being satisfactory. Two of the above analyses for Mostyn show the water here is "Hard."

(iii) The supplies are not liable to have plumbo-colvent action.

(iv) Some contamination has occurred in the supplies from the Mostyn Reservoir and the water has been dosed with chloros.

(v) (a) Direct to houses.

No. of houses.

3,660.

Population. (estimated)

10,980.

(b) Standpipe Supply.

No. of Houses,

2,465.

Population. (estimated)

7,395.

The above figures include premises supplied by the three statutory companies operating within the Rural District.

Milk Supply. Cowsheds and Dairies.

The majority of cowsheds and dairies in the district were inspected during the year.

Improvements have been made to a number of cowsheds during the year particularly in relation to lighting, ventilation and drainage.

Public Cleansing.

Refuse disposal for the whole area is undertaken by the Council. The work is undertaken by means of contracts and for this purpose the Council's area is divided up into 15 separate districts.

Shortage of labour has added to the difficulties of maintaining an efficient cleansing service.

It was found necessary to employ one contractor for several districts. The Contractor for the Brynford No. 15 area undertook the refuse collection for Caerwys and Rhydymwyn.

Rivers and Streams.

No complaints of any pollution of rivers and streams were received.

Shops Inspection.

All shops in the area were regularly inspected and the statutory provisions relating thereto enforced.

Camping Sites.

All licensed camping sites were visited regularly. In some cases it was found necessary to draw the owners attention to unsatisfactory supervision. No difficulty was experienced in having the improvements put into effect.

Smoke Abatement.

No complaints were received during the year.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No case of bug infestation was found during the year.

Schools.

All schools in the area are periodically visited. The water supply and the sanitary arrangements are the chief subjects of the department's attention.

Section D.

A considerable amount of time of the department was spent in housing inspection.

It was found very difficult to have repair works carried out owing to the extreme shortage of labour. The shortage of materials has also had an adverse effect upon the situation.

Section E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Inspection of cowsheds and dairies are regularly undertaken during the course of the year a number of cowsheds were improved and brought up to a reasonable standard of repair.

Section E.

MEAT INSPECTION.

| Cattle Excluding Cows. | Cows. | Sheep & Lambs. | Pigs. | Calves. |
|--|-------|-------------------|-------|---------|
| Number inspected. 455 | 235 | 8,168 | 46 | 1,113 |
| All animals except Tuberculosis Whole 4 carcasses condemned. | 5 | 12 | 1 | 6 |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ 107 was condemned. | | 145 | | |
| Tuberculosis only. Whole carcasses 7 condemned. | 8 | | | 2 |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ 53 was condemned, | 22 | | | |

SECTION F.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

| Under Age Periods. | 1. | 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. | 10. | 15. | 20. | 35. | 45. | 65. | Total. | Cases sent to hospital. | Deaths. | Rate. |
|-----------------------|----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|-------------------------|---------|-----------------------|
| Scarlet Fever. | 1. | 2. | 1. | 4. | 7. | 26. | 10. | 2. | 2. | 1. | | | 54. | 10. | | 2.62. |
| Diphtheria. | | | 1. | | | 8. | 8. | 1. | 2. | 1. | | | 21. | 20. | 1. | 1.02. |
| Cerebro Spinal Fever. | | | 1. | | | | | | | | | | 1. | 1. | | 0.04. |
| Puerperal Typhemia. | | | | | | | | | 3. | 1. | | | 4. | 1. | | 12.1 per 1,000 births |
| Dysentery. | | | | | | | 1. | | 2. | 1. | | | 5. | 1. | | 0.24 |
| Erysipelas. | | | | | | | | 1. | 1. | | | | 5. | 1. | | 0.24 |
| Pneumonia. | 5. | 2. | 1. | 1. | 9. | 5. | 4. | 1. | 2. | 3. | 1. | 3. | 43. | 6. | 11. | 2.09 |
| Measles. | 4. | 6. | 10. | 10. | 1. | 52. | | | 1. | | 13. | 10. | 97. | | | 4.72 |
| Whooping Cough. | | 1. | 1. | 1. | | 2. | 1. | | | | | | 7. | | | 3.40 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | 237. | 40. | 12. | |

The incidence of Scarlet Fever remains similar to the preceding year, on the whole there is good evidence of the importation of infection from outside. A severe epidemic of Scarlet Fever in an Institution was of this nature, where children returning from their homes spread an epidemic of 22 cases.

The drop in cases of diphtheria has been maintained - one death occurred where immunisation was not adopted.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

| Cases Notified. | Treatment at home. | In Hospital. | Vision Impaired. | Vision Unimpaired. | Total Blindness. |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 2 | 2 | - | - | - | - |

Rate 6.39 per 1,000 total live births.

IMMUNISATION.

1-5 yrs. 5-15 yrs. Total.

| | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|
| Estimated child population in the area Jan. 1st to Dec. 31st. | 1,358 | 3,201 | 4,559 |
| 1245. | | | |

| | | | |
|--|-----|----|-----|
| Number of children immunised between Jan, 1945 & Dec, 31st 1945. | 103 | 37 | 140 |
|--|-----|----|-----|

TUBERCULOSIS.

| New Cases. | | | | Deaths. | | | | | |
|------------|---|--------------|----|------------------|----|--------------|----|------------------|----|
| Ages. | | Respiratory. | | Non-Respiratory. | | Respiratory. | | Non-Respiratory. | |
| | | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 0 | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | |
| 15 | 6 | | 6 | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 25 | 2 | | 8 | | 1 | 3 | 1 | | |
| 35 | 1 | | 4 | | | 3 | 1 | | |
| 45 | 2 | | | | 2 | 2 | | | |
| 55 | 2 | | | | | | | | |
| 65 | | | | | | | | | |
| Upwards | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | |
| | | 16 | 18 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 5 | | |

Rate 1.94
Death Rate, 0.63

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

This is administered by the County Council.

(signed) I. PHILLIPPINE NELIS,
Medical Officer of Health.

HOLYWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The Manse,
Mold.

28th August, 1946.

