[Report 1955] / Medical Officer of Health, Llangollen U.D.C.

Contributors

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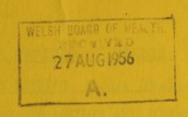
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LLANGOLLEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR 1955.

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

T. KENRICK HUGHES, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

SANITARY INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

ERNEST FENTON, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN - MR. R. T. EVANS.

.

The Committee consists of all Members of the Council.

I have the honour to present my fifth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the Llangollen Urban District for the Year ended the 31st December 1955 together with the information supplied by the Sanitary Inspector for the same period.

We suffered the loss of our Sanitary Inspector,
Mr. Fenton who terminated his appointment on the 12th November
1955. We were indebted to the Wrexham Rural District Council
for helping us out for the rest of the year in meat inspection
and other matters in need of urgent attention.

The dry summer put a considerable strain on our water supply in July and August which was augmented by pumping from the River Dee.

When the Llantysilio Scheme comes into operation our plant will need extending to cope with the increased demands on the supply.

The great influx of people to Llangollen during International Eisteddfod Week also tends to make the demand exceed the supply at this time.

I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their co-operation during the year.

Finally I would express my gratitude to the Clerk and his Staff for the help I receive at all times and for their assistance in preparing this Report.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Sum represented by the product of a Penny Rate for the Year ended 31st March 1955 £75/18/6d.

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POPULATION .

The estimated population of the Town in 1955 is given by the Registrar General as 3,140 as compared to 3,160 in 1954, so that we find the gradual fall in the population, which has continued over the last four years, has not yet been brought to a stop.

The falling birth rate and lack of building in the Town

prevent any hope of recovery for the time being.

2. VITAL STATISTICS.

- - - - - (Comparability factor 1.03) LIVE BIRTHS

		Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate.		17	13	30
TITEGICINA CE.				
	Total.	17.	14.	31.

Birth Rate per 1,000 population - Crude - 9.87 Adjusted 10.16

During the Year there were 31 live births as compared to 35 in 1954.

In the previous years 1953 to 1950 there were 45, 48, 54 and 64 births respectively, so that the number of live births in 1955 was less than half the total for 1950.

That such an alarming decrease in the number of births should occur in 5 years is a serious matter for this town's future It is time that the cause should be found, and some attempt made to reverse this trend. The lack of housing together with the high cost of living may have had much to do with it. married couples must find great difficulty in getting housing

accommodation in Llangollen under present conditions. The Birth Rate for the year was 10.16 as compared to 11.40

in 1954.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales was 15 so that our Birth Rate is now far below that of the country as a whole, whereas prior to 1952 our Birth Rate was higher than that for England and Wales.

STILL BIRTHS.

Legitimate Illegitimate		Males.	Females.	Total.
	Total.	2.	alia_ I	2.

Still birth rate per 1,000 population Crude .. 63 Adjusted .64

There were 2 still births notified during the year, both males.

This compares to 1 during 1954.
Loss of potential infant life from this cause can only be prevented by greater ante natal supervision. Some expectant mothers neglect to take this precaution.

POPULATION.

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the Registrat General or 3,140 as compared to 3,160 in 1864, as
that we find the gradual fall in the population, which has
continued over the last four years, has not yet been brought to

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2. VITAL STATISTICS.

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1966 was loss then half the total for 1960.

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in 1950.

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STILL BIRLIES.

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dies they ad gained defilies notified dering the year, toth

This compares to I during 1954.

Loss of potential infant life from this cause can only

be prevented by greater ante natal supervision. Some expectan

mothers neglect to take this precaution.

Females. Total. Males. 21. 16. 37.

Death Rate per 1,000 population --- Crude 11.78 Adjusted 9.42. Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks old NIL. NIL. Deaths of Infants under 1 year

The causes of the 37 deaths can be summarised as follows :-

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Syphilitic disease	1.	-	1.
Malignant neoplasm - Stomach	1	-	1
Lungs &c.	1	-	1
uterus.	-	1	1
Other malignant lymphatic neoplasms	2	2	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	4 2	4	8
Coronary disease - angina.	2	2	4
Hypertension with heart disease	2	_	2
Other heart diseases	3	5	8
Other circulatory diseases	1	2	3
Other diseases respiratory system	1	-	1
Describérés	1	laten a	7
Bronchitis.	- 1	-	7
Other defined and ill defined disease	as I	-	1
All other accidents.	1	-	7
Totals.	21.	16.	37.
		Bearing .	

The total number of deaths was 37 as compared with 53 in 1954, and shows a very satisfactory decrease, Of these 21 were males and 16 females. The death rate was 9.42 as compared to 13.41 in 1954.

The death rate for England and Wales was 11.7

The chief causes of death were :-1. Diseases of Heart and circulation with 22

2. Cancer with 7.

Only one male died on cancer of lungs, so that the ill effects of the vicious habit of smoking are not having much detrimental effect on the people of Llangollen among whom I am sure there are plenty of heavy cigarette smokers.

INFANT DEATHS.

There were no infant deaths during 1955. Thus we have completed 3 years without a single infant having died. I think that this must be something of a record for any town to boast of. In view of our small number of births it is highly desirable that they should all be successfully reared.

The infantile death rate of England and Wales was 24.9 which is the lowest on record for this country.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

No cases of infectious disease were notified throughout the year. This seems almost too good to be true and may be due the fact that in some cases parents neglect to call in a Doctor This seems almost too good to be true and may be due to while in others the Doctor fails to notify the disease. All cases of notifiable infectious disease should be notified to the District Medical Officer of Health immediately. It is then the responsibility of the Medical Officer of Health to see that precautions are taken to prevent the spread of infection.

Malena Fermine, Total.

Death Rate per 1,000 population --- Crude 11.78
Adjusted 8.42
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks old MIL.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year 1

The owners of the 37 deaths one be summerised as follows :-

TOWNS OF THE PROPERTY.		Expirititic disease Malignant neoplasm - Stomach Utaring Ac. Utaring Utaring. Vescular lesions of nervous system Coronary disease - angine. Expertension with heart disease Other circulatory diseases Other diseases respiratory system
		Other defined and ill defined dis
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in 1854, and shows a very satisfactory dormones.

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Of these Si were naise and 16 females. The death rate was 24.8 and 18 females.

The death rote for England and Wales was 11.7

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1. Diseases of Heart and ofreulation with the

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AMEANT DEATES.

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DESCRIPTIONS DISTANCE.

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MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

The Mass Radiography Service visited the Town in May.

These visits are organised by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board in conjunction with the County Council. The total number X-rayed was 867, No definite cases of Tuberculosis were discovered.

Analysis in Age Groups.

	Grand		der 5		- 24								60 ove		TALS F.
D-+-1	-	_M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F	_ M	. F	M	F.		
Total number examined.	867	83.	71.	99.	186.	69.	78.	48.	56	.60	67	26	24.	385.	482.
Number found															-
to be abnormal	30	1	1	1	1	5	2	1	3	5	5	6	2	16.	14.
Classification of abnormal															
cases: (a) Pulmonary _Tuberculosis															
(b) Requiring further observation	5							1	2			2		3	2
(c) Other abnormalities of the chest	25	1	1	1.	1	2	2	-	1	5	5	4	2	13	12

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION .

The County Council provide the facilities for carrying out these services.

Children can be treated at the Clinic or by their Family Doctor.

The Campaign to increase the numbers of children whose parents will consent to them being immunised and vaccinated is being pursued with vigour but the results are not yet good enough.

The numbers treated during the year are shown in the Table : VACCINATION.

	0 - 1.	l yr.	2 - 4.	5 - 14.	15 4
Primary vaccination	10	-	-	-	3
Re-Vaccination	-	-	1-900	1	3

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Diphthe	ria Alor	ne.	Combined Diphther		Booster Doses			
0 - 1.	1 - 4.	5 - 14.	0 - 1.	11 - 4.	5 - 14.	0-4	5-14.	
-	1	8	23	4	-	18.	59.	

HEALTH SERVICES.

There have been no changes in the general provision for Health Services since 1948, and the Clinics available are :-

The County Council Child Welfare Clinic at Llangollen.
 The Ante-Natal Clinic at Llangollen taken by the County Obstretician.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

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The total number of the service was SGT, No definite cases of Tuberculosis were discovered.

Analysis in Age Groups.

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DOMESTATION AND VACCEDATION.

The County Council provide the facilities for carrying out

Children can be treated at the Clinic or by their Family

Doctor.

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0-4 6-34				

HEALTH BERVICKS.

There have been no changes in the general provision for

1. The County Council Child Welfare Clinic at Liamont in the County

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The larger hospitals available in the immediate neighbourhood are :-

1. The Wrexham War Memorial Hospital. 2. The Wrexham Emergency Mospital.

3. The Wrexham Fever Hospital.

4. The Wrexham Tuberculosis Dispensary.

5. The Park Hall Orthopaedic Hospital Oswestry.

The Ambulance Service is by arrangement with the Cefn Mawr St. John's Ambulance Brigade and since July 1948 the Ambulance Service is the responsibility of the Denbighshire County Council.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

Sanitary Inspections.

The following is a statement of the number and nature of inspections made during the Year under the various Acts, Orders and Byel

٦	aws, within the Area :-		
-		-	62.
		-	120.
			2.
	Dangerous structures	-	
	Nuisances - First visit	-	41.
	- Second visit		65.
	Water Supply - Works.		72.
	Defective services	and	
			48.
	wastages		4.
	Disinfestation and disinfections	-	
	Drains sewers cesspools and privie	S	45.
	Food premises.	-	52.
		-	80.
	Milk and Dairies.	_	12.
		-	52.
	Factories.		6.
	Amusement houses	-	
	Schools	-	4.
	Scavenging and disposal	**	65.
	New buildings and alterations	-	69.
	Markets	_	42.
		_	40.
	Miscellaneous		200
	THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF T		007
	Total		881.

Summary of Notices served.		
	Informal	Remedied.
Dwellinghouses - structural defects	10	10
Nuisances	15	15
Water supplies	25	25
Drainage	16	16

WATER SUPPLY.

The normal source of supply is from an upland surface stream with an auxiliary supply pumped from the River Dec.

The water is first treated in sedimentation tanks, then through gravity filters and finally by chlorination.

The year has been abnormally dry and early in July it became necessary to draw on the auxiliary supply from the River.

By late summer the natural supply from the Vivod had practically dried up and it was necessary to pump continuously to maintain supplies.

To aggravate the already serious water shortage at this time there was also a leak in the storage reservoir which could not be repaired whilst the drought continued. Eventually it became necessary to hire an additional pump in order to pump back the wastage into the reservoir.

D

Plans for extending the water works to cope with ever increasing demands have not progressed during the year due to the fact that the parmanent chart recorder which was to have been delivered early in the year did not in fact arrive until October

and at the end of the year had not been installed.

During the year five bacteriological samples were taken of chlorinated water, the reports of 3 proved to be highly satisfactory but the other two were unsatisfactory. unsatisfactory reports were of samples taken towards the end of the year - after investigation it was thought that the stream was becoming contaminated from an overflowing septic tank on farm land adjacent to the Vivod stream.

At the end of the year negotiations were taking place between the Council and the owner of the land to have the tank cleaned out and the drainage system put in efficient working order

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Negrations are still proceedings for the acquisition of land for the Sewage Disposal Works.

It is hoped that all negotiations will be completed and amended plans prepared during the Year 1956.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse is collected weekly from the majority of properties in the district, the remainder which are in the more rural parts of the area have a monthly collection.

The tip at Wenffrwd continues to be used for controlled disposal of refuse and treatments are given periodically for the

eradication of rats and insect pests.

In August a fire broke out on the tip and before it was brought under control damage was done to the railway embankment which runs alongside the tip. The Council were involved in considerable expense due to this fire which at the end of the year was not entirely out.

HOUSING.

No Council houses were erected during the year as the Ministry have withheld consent for building until a Sewage Treatment Works has been provided in the Town. This lack of building is having a marked effect on both the population and birth rate of Llangollen. Under the Housing Rent and Repairs Act 1954 this Council was required to submit in suitable form before August 1955 their proposals for dealing with houses within their district which appear to be unfit for human habitation and any other houses that ought to be included in a "clearance area". As one of the requirements of this procedure is the rehousing of those persons living in such houses, nothing can be done until the Council is allowed to build houses again. the Council is allowed to build houses again.

A survey was made of the houses in the district and the

estimated number of houses suitable for action under Sections 11 or 25 of the Housing Act 1936 is 101. Of this number 19 are

now vacant.

RODENT CONTROL.

Inspections of various premises in the Town during the Year have not revealed any serious infestations although a number of minor infestations have been dealt with successfully by the Council's own staff. Poisoned bait has been laid in the sewers on two occasions and this of course helps considerably to reduce the rodent population.

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MOVEABLE DWELLINGS:

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Four licences remain in force for caravans to be stationed

on land in the district.

Inspections are made from time to time to ascertain that the conditions imposed by the Council are adhered to.

FOOD INSPECTIONS.

Premises where food is prepared and sold have been visited as often as time permits and also a number of catering establishments have been visited to ascertain that the provisions of the Clean Food Byelaws are complied with.

A list of foods surrendered voluntarily by traders is

given below :-

Shoulder of Ham 8 lb.
Tinned fruit 78 lbs.
Tinned Meat 25 lbs.
Evaporated milk 19 tins.
Tinned tomatoes 35 lbs.
Tinned vegetables 11 lbs.
Tinned fish 3 lbs.

SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES.

One private slaughterhouse is licensed in the district and slaughtering is carried on there on two or three days weekly. All carcases and offal are inspected with the full co-operation of the occupier. The cleanliness of the premises and slaughtering methods have been maintained at a high standard.

The quality of the carcase slaughtered has been good and the low incidence of disease found can be appreciated from the

following table :-

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.		Shoep end Lambs.	Pigs
Number killed.	41.	6.	30.	542.	147.
Number inspected	41.	6.	30.	542.	147.
Whole carcase					
condemned.	-	-	-	~	=.
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	1	-	1	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dise other than T.B.	-	16,66	ě	.18%	.68%
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcase condemned.		-	_	-	-
Carcases of which some part was condemned.	4	-	-	12	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis. Cysticercosis.	9.75%	-	=	2.21%	.68%

ICE CREAM.

All Ice cream sold is manufactured outside the district.
Twenty premises are registered under Section 14 of the
Food and Drugs Act for sale only.

-: 7 :-

: CONTAINED BUILDINGS

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FOOD MISSENTICES.

Prentees where food is proposed and sold have been visit as often as time permits and also a number of caselial ments have been visited to escentain that the provisions of the Clear Food Evelous are complied with.

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Tinned tomate 18 1bs.
Tinned tomate 18 1bs.
Type Tinned tomate 18 15 1bs.
Tinned tomates 25 1bs.
Tinned vegotables 11 1bs.

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FOOD PREPARING PREMISES

Six premises are registered for the purpose of preparation of food in accordance with Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

One dairy from which milk is distributed is licensed in the district and three supplementary licences have been issued for the distribution of designated milks.

MARKETS.

Throughout the Year weekly auction sales have been held.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1946.

1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.							
-	Number on Register.	Number	Aritten	Occupiers			
Premises.	on Register.	Inspections.	Notices	prosecuted			
(1) Factories in which							
Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6	3.	6.	Nil	Nil			
are to be enforced by							
the Local Authority.							
(ii) Factories not							
included in (i) in	23.	46.	Nil	Nil			
which Section 7 is							
enforced by the Local							
Authority.							
(iii) Other premises	-	-	-				
TOTAL.	26	52	Nil	Nil			

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

NIL.

Yours obediently,

T. K. HUGHES

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

AUGUST 1956.

POOD PREPARENCE PRIMITES

To emograp out to look are registered for the purpose of the Food and Drogue Act.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

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MARKETS.

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PACTORIES ACTS 1667 ANA 1946.

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