

[Report 1948] / Medical Officer of Health, Prestatyn U.D.C.

Contributors

Prestatyn (Wales). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1948

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/dvhxhnm6>

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>

NEW BOARD OF HEALTH

RECEIVED

14 OCT 1949

PRESTATYN
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

DR. J. TUDOR GRIFFITHS, J.P.

TOGETHER WITH THE

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector

Mr. I. WYNN JONES, M.S.I.A.

Cert. Meat and other Foods.

FOR THE YEAR 1948.



HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1948

Coun. C. Lloyd Ellis (Chairman)

Coun. Mrs. Eleanor Evans J.P. Coun. K. W. Pettegree

„ E. T. Williams A.C.P. „ E. O. Jones

„ W. H. Shepherd „ T. M. Dowell

„ J. R. Gilbert, C.C. „ J. Ellis Evans

„ O. D. Owen „ A. Nuttall

Chairman of the Council : Coun. Norman Stewart, J.P.

Staff of the Public Health Department—

Medical Officer of Health :

DR. J. TUDOR GRIFFITHS, J.P.

Sanitary Inspector : Meat & Food Officer :

I. WYNN JONES, M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat & Food Insp.

General Assistant :

J. E. PARRY.

Clerk :

R. B. JONES.

Meteorological Officer :

THOMAS GRANT, M.I.MUN.E.

Engineer & Surveyor.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1948

To the Chairman and Members
of the Prestatyn Urban District Council.

Councillor Mrs. Evans and Gentlemen,

I beg to present for your consideration, my report for 1948. It follows as far as possible the requirements and regulations of the Ministry of Health.

As you are aware this is my last report as your part-time Medical Officer of Health, as my duties after February 28th, 1949, will be taken over by a full time Officer. I can only say that during my 34 years of office my associations with the Council have been of the happiest, as I have always experienced the Council's fullest support and co-operation in the discharge of all my duties.

Reviewing the past year, I am glad to again be able to inform you that the health of the area has been very satisfactory, infectious diseases have been relatively rare.

In considering the vital statistics it is necessary at all times to bear in mind the fact that Prestatyn attracts as residents elderly people. A great many of the younger generation leave for industrial and other areas, consequently the birth and death rates suffer accordingly. On the other hand we do preserve life better than most areas.

It is gratifying to note the almost complete abolition of diphtheria, a great many parents still jeopardise the lives of their children rather than seek immunisation and its undisputed benefits.

During the year no new houses were built by private enterprise, as compared with eight built in 1947 and sixty-five in 1946. Six licences for private houses were granted during the year, and construction commenced.

Good progress has been made in the erection of the permanent type of houses on the Bryn Rhosyn Estate. The Council have every reason to be proud of this development, and I hope in the future that strict supervision will be kept over the way tenants maintain the property.

It is very gratifying to me that before relinquishing my duties, steps have been taken by the Dee and Clwyd Catchment Board to improve the flow of the Prestatyn Gutter.

I hope the problem of securing a new site for refuse disposal will be solved in the near future to the satisfaction of all concerned.

As you will note further in my report the essential services have been carefully supervised. No complaints as to the keeping quality, purity, and distribution of the milk supply have been received, and I cannot but congratulate retailers and wholesalers for their continued intelligent effort in this direction. I hope free choice of retailer will soon be an accomplished fact, as the housewife is generally a good judge of the supply she gets, and hope that customers will make every effort to return the milk bottles in a clean condition to the retailers.

There are far too many garden refuse dumps left to rot and decay, thereby attracting flies and vermin. I regret

to note that many dog owners allow their dogs to foul the footpaths, a little thought on their part would obviate this nuisance.

Appended are the reports of the Sanitary Inspector also your Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act, and the Climatology readings as taken by Mr. Grant.

I cannot close this report without expressing my sincere thanks to my friend Mr. J. Lloyd Hughes for the valuable help so willingly given to me at all times over many years.

I have also to express my gratitude for the help given to me by Mr. I. Wynn Jones, our Sanitary Inspector.

May the Council's efforts for the future welfare and well-being of the area be rewarded with every possible success.

J. TUDOR GRIFFITHS.

Housing

Good progress has been made in the erection of permanent type houses at Bryn Rhosyn. Sixty were completed and occupied by the end of the year, making a total of 132 houses completed and occupied. An additional allocation of fifty houses has been made bringing the total approved for erection to 182. Twenty-two houses were in course of erection at the end of the year, all the houses have been erected on a healthy, open and sunny locality, having a good appearance, with open suitably sited spaces. With the 126 houses built before the war, the total completed houses owned by the Council is now 258.

New Houses Privately Built

No new houses were built by private enterprise

during the year. Six licences for private houses were granted and construction commenced.

Water Supply

The Urban area derives its supply by a piped line from an underground spring known as Ffynnon Asaph. It is a hard water, and up to the present adequate in quantity, possesses no Plumbo-solvent action. Before distribution for household purposes it is treated by Alum coagulation, chlorination by the Chloramine system, and filtration through a battery of filters. Owing to the rapidly increasing population during the summer months and the increased consumption per head of the population, the future adequacy of the supply calls for investigation. In this connection a report has been prepared by consultants. The whole plant is under strict daily observation, is tested for clarity, pH value, chloride content, and records kept. Samples of water are submitted in special containers for Bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory, Conway.

The number submitted during the year was :—

(a) Raw Water.	...	...	3
(b) Filtered Water	...	...	1
(c) Filtered and Chlorinated Water			72.

A small part of the district is supplied from the Holywell R.D.C supply. Five samples of this water were taken for bacteriological examination—and were all satisfactory.

The result of a sample sent for Chemical Analysis is also appended.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Sample of Water Received 11/8/48, Marked Nissen Hut,
Hillside Camp, Holywell R.D. Main Supply direct.

In parts per 100,000 of Water :—

Total Solid matter in solution	...	17.	
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...	0.025	
Nitrites	...	Nil.	
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	1.26	
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hours at 80 deg. F.	...	0.04	
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	Nil.	
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	0.004	
Lead, Copper, Zinc	...	Nil.	Trace of Iron
Microscopical Examination of the Sediment	...	Good deal of iron rust	
Temporary Hardness in degrees Clark	...	1.	
Permanent Hardness in degrees Clark	...	3.	
pH. Value	...	6.9	

The Sediment is due to iron rust, in other respects the sample is satisfactory.

(Signed) HAROLD LOWE, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.,
Public Analyst.

Some trouble was experienced in the early part of the year with the Chlorination Plant, but the defect was remedied in July, consequently some unsatisfactory reports were received in the early part of the year, but all reports since July have been Class I, Highly Satisfactory.

New mains were laid in Nant-yr-Ogof and Ffordd Bryniau, Meliden, and a defective steel main was replaced with a cast iron one in Queensway, Prestatyn. Practically all houses in the area are supplied from the mains.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Samples of water received on 19th July, 1949,
marked From Prestatyn U.D.C. Mains.

In Parts per 100,000 of Water.			
Total solid matter in solution	...	...	30.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...	...	0.03
Nitrites	...	...	Nil.
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	2.1
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 Hours at 80 deg. F.	...	...	0.013
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	Nil.
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	0.001
Lead, Copper, Zinc	...	...	Nil.
Microscopical Examination of the sediment	...	...	Nil.
Temporary hardness in degrees Clark			15.0
Permanent Hardness in degrees Clark			1.0
pH Value	...	...	7.8
Residual Free Chlorine	...	...	0.1 per million.
Colour	...	...	Less than 5 Hazen Units

The Chemical analysis is very satisfactory.

The Residual free Chlorine is not excessive.

The water is a 'Hard' one, but not excessively so.

(Signed) HAROLD LOWE, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.,

Public Analyst.

Sewerage

The sewerage scheme for the area, excluding Meliden, consists of a gravity scheme on the higher levels to which sewage is raised by Ejectors from the low lying areas, and the whole of the sewage is discharged untreated into the sea. The system has worked satisfactorily during the year. There is also a pumping station serving Y Ffrith which has operated satisfactorily.

Meliden sewerage is also partly on the gravity system and partly pumped. The sewage is purified at a disposal works and discharged into a watercourse. The system has been satisfactory.

The surface water sewerage system is separate from the foul water system and is satisfactory except during abnormal rainfall, when a small amount of flooding occurs, largely due to the unsatisfactory state of land drainage south of the main railway line. None of this flooding occurred during the year.

No major alterations or additions have been carried out during the year; necessary repairs and alterations, due to wear and tear have received attention.

The electrically driven pumping plant erected at Y Ffrith has been effective.

I am glad to note that the provision of a Public Convenience somewhere in the upper part of the town, also the provision of one for Meliden is receiving consideration.

Prestatyn Gutter

This watercourse, which traverses the area from west to east has not functioned satisfactorily for a number of years and has been the cause after heavy rainfall, especially during the winter months, of serious flooding in the Highbury Avenue area, causing great inconvenience to the residents in the locality. It is satisfactory to note that the Dee and Clwyd Catchment Board have now carried out works of clearing and altering the outlet and delodging the course of the gutter for its full length, north of the main railway line. The results appear to be highly satisfactory and although since the work has been carried out there has been no adequate test due to the scanty rainfall, it is anticipated that conditions in this area will be satis-

factory in the future. Conditions south of the main railway line have not yet been greatly improved and it is understood this is due to the watercourse passing under the railway line. Efforts are being continued by the Catchment Board to improve matters south of the railway and it is hoped that their efforts will be successful.

Food Supplies

A close watch has been kept over the premises of retailers, especially those of Butchers, Bakeries and Dairies. For number of inspections, see Sanitary Inspector's report. All meat sold in the area is killed and inspected at the Public Abattoir, Rhyl.

I consider the greatest care should be exercised in the handling of meat during delivery to the various shops so as to avoid all possible risk of contamination by flies, dust, etc.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The collection of refuse can now be regarded as satisfactory.

A heavy strain is placed on the service during the summer months due to the influx of visitors, the occupation of camps and the difficulty of obtaining suitable seasonal labour.

I have received no complaints about the Ffordd Isa Refuse Tip during the year, and am pleased to report that the fires have been extinguished and that the tip is now properly controlled.

Swimming Pools

There are three privately owned pools. Samples

of water are taken regularly during the season and are mainly satisfactory.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

These remain unchanged.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations of discharges, throat swabs, etc., are done at the Ministry of Health Laboratory, Conway. During 1948 they numbered 119. Samples of water were despatched for bacteriological examination. Venereal swabs and blood requiring examination for venereal diseases are sent by the patients' doctors to the laboratory of the Chester Royal Infirmary.

Ambulance Service

Infectious cases are removed to the Isolation Hospital by Ambulance specially reserved for this purpose. All other cases of illness or accident requiring transport are removed by either the local ambulance or by a privately owned ambulance, also the Rhyl Division of the St. John's Association have now acquired an ambulance which is giving excellent and willing service by day and night.

Nursing in the Home

The local Nursing Association retains a District Nurse.

I cannot speak too highly of the valuable and efficient work done by Nurse Wynne Jones during the past year, her services are much appreciated by doctors and patients.

Total number of visits paid were 1396. Midwifery 19, General 99.

The County Council took over the Nursing Service on July 5th and details of visits, etc., for the second half of the year will appear in the County Medical Officer's report.

Home Help

There is no home help in the area.

Clinics

Ante-Natal and Child Welfare Clinics are under the control of the County Medical Officer of Health. Infant Welfare Centre held at the Presbyterian Church Hall every Friday 1-30 to 4-30 p.m. A Medical Officer attends every first and third Friday.

Orthopaedic Clinic at the Old Emmanuel School, Rhyl every first and third Friday mornings 10-30 to 12-30 Orthopaedic Nurse attends every session. Surgeon attends every two months.

Ante-Natal Clinic at Presbyterian Church Hall, first and third Friday, 9-30 a.m.

The Tuberculosis Clinic, in charge of the Medical Officers of the King Edward VII. Memorial, is held at 27 Edward Henry Street, Rhyl, every Friday at 10 a.m.

Free Hospital, Sanatorium, Clinical and

Domiciliary treatment is available to all persons suffering from tuberculosis by arrangements made with the King Edward VII Welsh National Memorial Association through the County Council.

Propaganda

Advantage was taken of an offer of space at a National Savings Exhibition to bring to the notice of the public: The benefits, etc., of Diphtheria Immunisation, Cleanliness in Food Handling, and the continued need to Salvage Waste Paper.

Venereal Disease

Treated at the Chester Royal Infirmary, Out Patients Department. All forms of venereal disease are examined and treated under conditions of strict secrecy. Cost of travelling to the Infirmary is paid by the County Council, if patients cannot afford to do so. The tracing of contacts and the follow up of defaulters is undertaken by the County Medical Officer's Department.

Hospitals

There are none in the Urban Area.

Infectious cases are treated at the St. Asaph Isolation Hospital.

Notification of Births, Maternity & Child Welfare

Entirely under the control of the Flintshire County Council and their health visitors.

Maternity Facilities

There are two private Maternity Homes in the area, and one, Chatsworth House, under the control of the Flintshire County Council.

There are four registered midwives practising in the area.

Nutrition

The Council do not provide free food for meals.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

No cases have been reported during the year.

Scabies

Cases of Scabies, I am glad to say have almost disappeared. Any which do occur are notified and treated.

Tuberculosis

For number of new cases, etc. see Table II.

No action required to be taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1926 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade) or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis)

The aftercare of persons suffering from Tuberculosis is dealt with by a special Committee, who meet quarterly to consider the needs, financial or otherwise of each individual case.

All patients are visited in their homes by specially appointed nurses under direction of the County Medical Officer and Tuberculosis Physician.

All dwellings are disinfected as and when required. A register is kept of all cases in the area.

Zymotic Diseases

The number notified during the year was 169 (see

Table I). Of these, 4 received treatment at the St. Asaph Isolation Hospital. Care is taken to see that all necessary disinfection of premises and clothing is carried out. I hope a disinfectant will be provided as soon as possible, as it is an urgent necessity and would save the expense and inconvenience of having to take bedding and articles of clothing outside the area.

Diphtheria Immunization

The above service was inaugurated in June, 1940. A series of sessions have been carried out during the year.

I wish to thank the Medical Practitioners for their helpful and efficient co-operation.

During the year 46 children were treated. Since 1940, 1661 children have been immunised.

Diphtheria antitoxin (APT and TAF) is always available to Medical Practitioners on application at the Public Health Department, Council Offices.

With the coming into force of the National Health Service Act 1946 on July 5th it was decided to discontinue the sessions and arrangements made for the children to be immunised at the Doctors Surgeries or at the Welfare Clinic.

Public Places of Entertainment

As required by Ministry of Health Circular 120/1920, all places of entertainment requiring Singing Music and Dancing licences have been inspected for fire fighting apparatus, exits, general cleanliness, conveniences, etc., and except for minor defects, found to be satisfactory.

Rag and Flock Act

No action necessary.

Smoke Abatement

There has been no cause for complaint during the year. The local Steam Laundry is the only industry in the area, but by co-operation with the owners the smoke nuisance is reduced to a minimum.

Schools

Are under the control of the County Council Authority. The Heads of Schools are immediately notified of any cases of infectious diseases occurring amongst the scholars or in their homes.

Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses within the district.

GENERAL STATISTICS & SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Social Conditions

The district is purely urban, and as a seaside resort its chief interest is the catering for and entertainment of visitors. There is a large amount of residential property which would have greatly increased but for building restrictions during the war. The population largely consists of retired people.

Two Limestone Quarries are operating in the area. Unemployment is practically nil.

Area (in acres)	3,655
Population (Census 1921)	4,083
" " 1931	4,511
Estimated population Mid 1948... ..	8,760

Estimated number of inhabited houses	1921	...	770
"	"	"	(1931 ... 1,579
"	"	"	1933 ... 1,590
Rateable value	...	...	£79,373
Sum represented by a 1d. rate	...	...	£314

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth Rate

The number of births registered was 119.

	M	F	Total
Births	66	44	119
	4	5	

giving a rate per 1,000 population of 13.59, compared with the rate for England & Wales which is 17.9.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age were 5, or in proportion 42. per 1000 of the registered births.

For England and Wales the figure was 34. Deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis 0.

Still Births

Total 3. Males 3, Females 0, all legitimate, giving a rate per 1000 civilian population of 0.34, as compared with 0.42 for England and Wales

Death Rate

The total number of deaths of residents belonging to the area was 125. The number of deaths of residents and non-residents registered by the local Registrar was 104. To this there has to be added 30 deaths of residents who died outside the area and 9 deaths subtracted, being those of non-residents who died within the area, giving a

corrected number of 125, which on the civilian population of 8760 gives a death rate per thousand population of 14.27. For England and Wales the rate is 10.8.

The outstanding feature is that 30 deaths were those of people over 70 and under 80 years of age, 31 over 80 and under 90, and 3 over 90.

Heart diseases accounted for 46, Intracranial vascular diseases for 23, Cancer for 38, all essentially diseases of elderly people. Puerperal causes, nil, measles nil. Deaths from all causes of tuberculosis, 10

For causes of death see Table iii.

Cemetery

There have been 61 interments in Coed Bell Cemetery during 1948 as compared with 48 in 1947.

Protestants—57

Catholics—4

Common Grave—0

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. TUDOR GRIFFITHS,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1948.

DISEASE.	At all Ages	Under 1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65	Cases admitted to Hospital
Scarlet Fever ...	4	...	...	1	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Diphtheria (Obs.)	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1
Erysipelas ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	45	2	4	4	5	16	12	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	110	3	15	15	13	10	50	3	1	...	...	...	...	...
Lobar Pneumonia	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	1	1	1
Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	169	5	19	21	20	26	63	4	2	1	4	3	1	4

TABLE II.

TUBERCULOSIS—New Cases and Mortality during 1948.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
1...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
5...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
10...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
15...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
20...	...	...	...	..	1	...	...	...
25...	...	5	...	...	1	1	...	...
35...	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	1
45...	2	2	...	...	1	...	...	...
55...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 & upw'd _s	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
	5	12	2	2	5	3	1	1

TABLE III.—Causes of Deaths
during the year 1948

	Males	Females	Total
Cerebro and Spinal Fever ...	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever ...	0	0	0
Whooping Cough ...	0	0	0
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary) ...	5	3	8
Tuberculosis (other) ...	1	1	2
Syphilis ...	0	0	0
Influenza ...	0	0	0
Cancer :			
Mouth, etc. ...	5	6	11
Stomach, etc. ...	0	0	0
Breast ...	0		0
Other Sites ...	17	10	27
Diabetes ...	1	1	2
Intra.-cran: Vasc: Lesions ...	6	17	23
Heart diseases ...	24	22	46
Other Circulatory Diseases ...	0	0	0
Bronchitis ...	1	2	3
Pneumonia ...	2	2	4
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	0	0	0
Ulcer of Stomach ...	0	0	0
Diarrhœa (under 2 years) ...	0	0	0
Appendicitis ...	0	0	0
Other Digestive Diseases ...	0	0	0
Nephritis ...	4	0	4
Premature Birth ...	2	0	2
Congenital Malformation, etc. ...	0	1	1
Suicide ...	0	0	0
Other violent causes ...	3	2	5
Other causes ...	3	3	8
TOTAL ...	68	66	134

TABLE IV.—**Infant Mortality,**

During the Year 1948

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

Cause of Death	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 Year
All Causes { Certified { Uncertified									
{ Small Pox									
{ Chicken Pox									
{ Measles									
{ Scarlet Fever									
{ Whooping Cough									
{ Diphtheria and Croup									
{ Erysipelas									
{ Tuberculosis Meningitis						1			1
{ Abdominal Tuberculosis									
{ Other Tuberculous Diseases									
{ Meningitis not Tuberculosis									
{ Convulsions									
{ Laryngitis									
{ Bronchitis					1				1
{ Pneumonia (all forms)									
{ Diarrhoea									
{ Enteritis									
{ Gastritis									
{ Syphilis									
{ Rickets									
{ Suffocation, overlying									
{ Injury at Birth									
{ Atelectasis									
{ Congenital Malformations									
{ Ophthalmia Neonatorum									
{ Premature Birth	2								2
{ Atrophy, Debility, and Marsumus							1		1
{ Other causes									
Total	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	5

Total Births in the Year:—119. Males, 70; Females, 49.

Legitimate Males 66,

Legitimate Females 44.

Illegitimate Males 4,

Illegitimate Females 5.

ADULTERATION, ETC.

Food and Drugs Act

Your Inspector under this Act has reported as follows:—

I beg to furnish you with the following particulars of Samples purchased under the above Act in your district during the six months ended 30th June, 1948.

Description of Article	Number of Samples	Number Genuine	Number not Genuine
Glen Cetti Pearls	1	1	
Pom	1	1	
New Milk	11	8	3
Total	<u>13</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>3</u>

With regard to the three samples which proved to be "Not Genuine", I have to inform you that the attention of the Vendors was drawn to their obligations as retailers of milk.

Yours faithfully,

P. GRIFFITHS,

Superintendent.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT—continued.

In previous years and for the first half of this year the Police were responsible for sampling under the Food & Drugs Act, but on the appointment of a County Sanitary Inspector, the duties were transferred, and his report is as follows:—

Herewith are particulars of the samples of Food and Drugs taken within the Prestatyn Urban District during the period July 1st, 1948 to December, 1948.

Description of Article	Number Purchased	Genuine	Not Genuine	Administrative Action
Milk ...	20	17	3	Warning letter sent to Vendors
Ice Cream ...	1	1		
Beef Sausages ...	4	3	1	Fined £5/5/-, £4/4/- Costs
Cambridge Sausage	1	1		
Polony ...	1	1		
Cooking Fat ...	2	2		
Minced Meat ...	1	1		
Rum ...	1	1		
Vinegar ...	1	1		
Boracic Powder ...	1	1		
Magnesia ...	1	1		
Total	34	30	4	

Two of the "not genuine" milks were low in fat content and the third was low in solids not fat.

The beef sausages were 20 per cent deficient in meat.

Yours faithfully,

ELWYN LEWIS,

County Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1948

General Summary of Visits, Etc.

General Sanitation

Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	92
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	390
Stables, Piggeries, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	29
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	16
Camps, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	158
Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	30
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	32
Public Conveniences...	...	...	...	...	...	99
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	178
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	5
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	25
Miscellaneous Visits...	...	...	...	...	...	164
Complaints received and investigated	...	...	...	...	...	312
Number of Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	650
Number of Preliminary notices served for nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	674
Formal notices for nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	0

Infectious Disease

Number of cases occurring	...	...	...	...	...	169
Enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	6
Number removed to Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	4
Disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	83

Meat & Food Inspection

Butchers Shops	...	...	...	...	...	31
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	33
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	42
Ice Cream Premises...	...	...	...	...	...	79
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	...	73

Sanitary Defects etc.

Number of stopped drains	...	...	...	...	...	303
Number of defective drains	...	...	...	...	...	10
Choked or insanitary ditches	...	...	...	...	...	5

Number of defective septic tanks	...	...	...	4
Defective W.C. cisterns and fittings	...	...	...	11
Defective E.C. and W.C.	...	...	...	13
Dirty condition of houses, outhouses and yards	...	...	...	8
Animals etc., kept under insanitary conditions	...	...	...	5
Want of Lime Washing	...	...	...	9
Defective inspection chambers	...	...	...	4
Defective sink and waste pipes	...	...	...	13
Burst Water Pipes	...	...	...	31
Defective Roofs	...	...	...	15
Defective Floors	...	...	...	20
Defective Pavings	...	...	...	12
Defective eaves and downspouts...	...	...	...	18
Defective doors	...	...	...	9
Defective sinks and washbasins	...	...	...	5
Insufficient W.C. accommodation	...	...	...	7
Accumulation of Refuse	...	...	...	12
Dilapidated dust bins	...	...	...	86
Defective wall and ceiling plaster	...	...	...	41
Dampness	...	...	...	14
Defective Grates	...	...	...	8
Bed bugs, beetles, etc., infestation	...	...	...	36
Defective Chimneys	...	...	...	6
Insufficient water supply	...	...	...	1
Rat infestations	...	...	...	81
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	51

Nuisances from premises other than dwellings

Halls	...	...	...	...	...	10
Farms & Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	15
Camps & Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	36
Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	13
Offices	...	...	...	...	...	14
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	37
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	16
Bakeries	...	...	...	...	...	5
Hotels	...	...	...	...	...	10
Warehouses	...	...	...	...	...	0
Garages	...	...	...	...	...	10
Laundry	...	...	...	...	...	5
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	5
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	21

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Number of visits re Collection and Salvage	...	...	...	180
Number of visits re Disposal	...	...	...	160

The refuse is disposed of by Controlled Tipping and is collected by two Karrier Bantam Lorries drawing

trailers for salvage collection.

Considerable time and labour has been expended to ensure a clean and tidy tip. The rat population is almost non-existent, but small infestations at harvest time, etc., are dealt with as they arise.

The department endeavours to collect refuse once a week from private houses and more frequently from business premises as necessary, this is not always possible, especially during the summer months when the same staff has to cope with a greatly increased amount of refuse and salvage.

Householders can help to keep the service regular by disposing of garden refuse themselves, by keeping waste paper separate for salvage, and by not expecting too much of the men during "Spring clean time."

It is hoped that when the lorries are renewed larger ones will be purchased, thus cutting down the number of journeys to the disposal point and effecting a saving in travelling time.

The engagement of suitable seasonal labour for the summer months is almost an impossibility.

1801 loads weighing 2149 tons were collected and disposed of, also, 26 nightsoil pails are serviced each week.

No charge is made for disposal of refuse by private persons at the refuse tip.

Total tonnage refuse collected	...	...	...	2149
Total tonnage refuse disposed of	...	..	...	2350
Area in acres	...	...	...	3655
Population	...	...	...	8760
Number of premises...	...	...	...	3432
Rateable value	...	...	...	£79373
Product of 1d. in £	...	...	...	£314
General Rate in £	...	...	...	...16s. 3d.

Salvage

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs	£	s.	d.
Mixed Paper ...	84	7	3	12	539	6	7
White ...	2	2	3	4	18	6	5½
Books and Mags. ...	3	1	2	16	22	1	5
Jars and Bottles ...	9	17	3	0	86	3	10
Bones ...	1	8	0	0	8	1	0
Rags ...	5	1	2	10	82	4	11
Mixed Metals ...		6	1	10	3	18	11
Iron ...	3	6	2	0	4	19	9
String ...		6	1	22	1	5	10
	109	18	3	18	£766	8	8½
Salvage Income 1947 ...					£571	6	6

I cannot emphasize too strongly the continued necessity for salvaging waste paper. The amount salvaged shows a marked decrease after the end of the war, whilst the need is just as great. The biggest drop in collection is from private houses.

Water Sampling

	Bacteriological		Chemical	
Town Main supply	23	....	2
Holywell R.D.C.	5	...	1
Private Supply Wells, etc.	1	...	0
Prestatyn Gutter	2	...	0
Swimming Pools	8	...	0
Total samples taken...	...	39	...	3

In general the Bacteriological reports on the main supplies have been Grade 1. Very satisfactory.

The reports of the Chemical examinations are also satisfactory.

The samples from Prestatyn Gutter were a check on possible fouling by septic tank effluents, the samples were satisfactory for stream water.

Regular samples are taken from the three Swimming Pools during the season and the results are generally satisfactory.

Milk Supplies

Number of samples taken 154

Number of Samples taken of each grade

Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	7
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	70
Accredited	...	...	...	...	...	18
Ungraded	...	...	...	...	...	59

Results of Examinations

<i>Resazurin Test</i>	...	...	...	...	...	116
Category A	...	...	...	...	...	23
Category B	...	...	...	...	...	8
Category C	...	...	...	...	...

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Tuberculin Tested	54	16
Accredited	12	6
Pasteurised	7	0
Number of farms producing milk within the district	...	9
Tuberculin tested	...	3
Accredited	...	1
Ordinary	...	5
Number of farms outside the district supplying milk into the district.	...	8
Tuberculin tested	...	5
Accredited	...	1
Ordinary	...	2

Milk Licenses

To bottle and use designation: Tuberculin tested	...	1
Supplementary licenses to use designation:		
Tuberculin tested (Certified)	...	1
Tuberculin tested	...	2
Pasteurised	...	3
Visits to Cowsheds and Farms	...	33
Visits to Dairies and Milk shops	...	77

Biological Testing.

No Samples were taken for Biological Testing.

Fried Fish Shops

Number of Fried Fish shops in District 5
 These shops are well conducted and are inspected periodically.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Section 14

Premises registered for the manufacture and sale of Ice Cream 4
 Premises for sale only 23
 Premises for manufacture of sausages, cooked meat etc. 16

Ice Cream

With the coming into operation of the (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947, on May 1st, 1947 and the Ministry circular 69/47 (Wales) suggesting the use of Methylene Blue for the Bacteriological testing of Ice Cream, sampling of this commodity has been intensified and 27 samples were taken during the season

I would like to record the ready and keen co-operation I have received from the Ice Cream traders in our efforts to reach and maintain the standard of Ice Cream in the Top Grades of this test

Meat & other Food Inspection

All the town's Meat supply is slaughtered and inspected at the Rhyl Municipal Abattoir.

Other foods, canned goods etc., are inspected as necessary and the following is a list of unsound food condemned in shops.

Fish ....	....	....	....	....	380lbs.
Meat ....	....	....	....	....	23lbs.
Milk and Milk Products	....	....	....	....	187lbs.
Soups....	....	....	....	....	156lbs.
Vegetables, Fruit	....	....	....	....	887lbs.
Miscellaneous ...	...	....	....	....	83lbs.

Bakehouses and other food premises are inspected periodically and any nuisances are quickly remedied, on the occupiers notice being drawn to them

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	50	59		
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities				
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)				
TOTAL	50	59	Nil	Nil

2—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	9	9		
Overcrowding				
Unreasonable temperature				
Inadequate ventilation				
Ineffective drainage of floors...				
Sanitary Conveniences				
(a) insufficient				
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	15	15		
(c) not separate for sexes ...				
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)				
TOTAL	26	26	Nil	Nil

Rodent Infestation

The duties of the Rodent Officer are carried out by the General Assistant in the Health Department.

The sewers are testbaited twice a year and their population is very small.

Small infestations, chiefly back yard poultry keepers, are dealt with as they arise.

The refuse tip is treated regularly and there is no "resident" rat population.

Camps

There are three licensed camping sites and one Caravan Club site within the district, each is serviced by water closets connected to the main sewer. They are very well conducted and the owners co-operate to the full with this department in keeping the sites clean and tidy.

Several fields are let off for camping during the season, and are exempt from licensing under Sub-Section 2 of Sec 269 Public Health Act 1936.

These are inspected during the season and generally are maintained in good condition.

Talacre Warren

There are 78 hutments within the district, 19 of which are permanently occupied, the remainder are occupied during the summer months only.

This district is not sewered and nightsoil is disposed of by chemical closets. There is no nuisance in this respect.

The water supply is part of the Holywell R.D.C. supply and during the peak periods of the summer months the supply is not always adequate.

Public Conveniences

The town is served by six Public Conveniences (Male and Female) and they are maintained by this Dept.

I regret having to report that while every effort is made to keep them clean, they are often sadly misused by the public and much wanton damage is done, such as ripping off locks, pipes and even doors from their fastenings.

Watercourses

With the lowering of the level of the Prestatyn Gutter, and consequent improvement in the drainage of the low lying land, much work has been done on the watercourses. The surface level of the watercourse near Jubilee Terrace has been lowered 2 feet with an improvement in the water level on the South side of the Railway.

A great deal of time and labour has also been expended in the cleaning up of the Maes-y-ffynnon ditch popularly known as "Stinky ditch" at the rear of Lower High Street.

This ditch takes the surface water from more than half of Upper Prestatyn and owing to wrong drainage connections also receives much foul sewerage.

About a dozen sources of pollution have been traced and turned into the foul sewer.

There is still slight pollution coming into the ditch and the work of tracing this is proceeding.

HOUSING

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—

- | | |
|---|---------|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 303 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | ... 319 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head | |
| (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 | ... 15 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | ... 22 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | ... 0 |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | ... 288 |

2 Remedy of defects during the year without Service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	... 251
---	---------

3 Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936 :

- | | |
|---|-------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | ... — |
|---|-------|

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—

- | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| (a) By owners | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | | | | | — |

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

- | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| (a) By owners | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | | | | | — |

(C) Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders nil

(D) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing orders were made nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit nil

4. Housing Act, 1936 (*Overcrowding*)

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 8

(2) Number of families dwelling therein ... 12

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... 72

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 8

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 5

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... 25

- (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding nil
- (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ... nil

Houses owned by the Local Authority

The following is a list of properties owned by the local Council.

Caradoc Terrace	...	15 houses
Dawson Park	...	66 „
Bryn Melyd Road	...	22 „
Isfryn Road	...	22 „
Gas Works House	...	1 „
Bryn Rhosyn	...	132 „

In conclusion of my report, may I express my appreciation for the help and many kindnesses shown by the Chairman and members of the Health Committee Dr. J. Tudor Griffiths, Medical Officer of Health, Mr J. Lloyd Hughes, Clerk to the Council, the indoor and outdoor staff.

I. WYNN JONES,

Sanitary Inspector.

CLIMATOLOGY OF PRESTATYN

Temperature

Average Maximum Temperature	...	...	68.09 Fahr.
„ Minimum	...	...	35.08 Fahr.
Summer Months	...	...	60.5 Fahr.
Winter Months	...	...	51.5 Fahr.
Number of days with over 65 deg.	...	...	69 days
Number of days below freezing point	...	...	20 days

Sunshine

Total for the year	...	...	...	14642.
Highest Monthly Total	...	...	...	May
Lowest Monthly Total	...	...	...	December

Rainfall

Total for the year	...	...	...	23.45"
Below normal	...	...	...	4.95"
Wettest Month	...	...	...	January
Driest Month	...	...	...	March

Visibility

Fog occurred on 13 days.

Wind

There were no gales of over 48 m.p.h.



