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Contributors

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19 NOV 1953

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PRESTATYN
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. R. Rhydwen, D.S.C., M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

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 1952



HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1952

Coun. J. R. Gilbert (Chairman)

Coun. Mrs. Eleanor Evans J.P. Coun. R. T. Jones

„ C. F. Lloyd-Ellis „ E. O. Jones

„ K. W. Pettigree „ J. O. Jones,

„ Mrs B. J. Shepherd „ O. H. Williams

Coun. Owen Jones

Chairman of the Council : Coun. F. A. Lloyd, J.P.

Staff of the Public Health Department—

Medical Officer of Health :

DR. R. RHYDWEN, D.S.C., M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector : Meat & Food Insp. :

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

General Assistant :

J. E. PARRY.

Clerk/Student :

R. D. JONES.

Meteorological Officer :

T. GRANT.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1952

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

I beg to submit my report for the year 1952 for your consideration.

The general health of the district has been good ; Infectious disease cases were less numerous, there being 53 cases in 1952, as compared with 174 cases in 1951. This was due to a decrease in cases of measles and whooping cough.

No case of diphtheria occurred in the district during the year.

It is also gratifying to report that no cases of Food Poisoning occurred during 1952.

I know that all of the food handlers in the town are aware of the need for scrupulous cleanliness and attention to personal hygiene amongst food handlers and I appeal to them not to relax their care now that we have for two years achieved our objective.

I would again stress the need for scrupulous cleanliness and attendance to personal hygiene amongst all food handlers. A serious outbreak of food poisoning could do untold harm to a holiday resort.

For the second time Prestatyn had a visit from the Mass Radiography unit of the Welsh Regional Board and 784 of the townspeople availed themselves of the facilities offered. This figure, 784 represents 9.17% of the population and is disappointing when one considers that 11% of the population attended in 1951.

I would point out here that a clean bill in 1952 does not exclude the possibility of chest trouble for ever after. Indeed it is advisable to have annual checks and I hope, with some grounds for believing that it may come to pass, that the visit of the Mass Radiography unit will become an annual event.

Statistics

As was to be expected owing to the high percentage of elderly people living in the town, our death rate was higher than the average, and our birth rate lower than the average for the country.

The Infant Mortality rate was 31.9 per 1,000 live births, as compared with 44.0 per 1,000 live births in 1951. The rate is still above that for England and Wales as a whole, which is 27.6 per 1,000 living births.

Of the three infant deaths, one was due to prematurity and two to congenital malformation.

Elderly People and Elderly Sick People.

Difficulty is experienced in finding hospital accommodation for the elderly chronic sick. This is a nation-wide problem, due mainly to the shortage of nursing staff, and I regret to state that I see no immediate prospect for improvement.

The opening of more Homes for Aged Persons by the Flintshire County Council will alleviate the position in regard to the accommodation of aged and infirm persons.

Housing

During the year the second development of housing consisting of 52 houses at Maes Hendre, Meliden progressed and at the end of the year 42 houses were

completed, the remaining 10 houses being near completion. A third development of 20 houses at Meliden was started at the end of the year.

The total number of completed houses owned by the Council at the end of the year was as follows:—

Caradoc Terrace, Prestatyn	...	15
Dawson Park	„	72
Bryn Rhosyn	„	174
Ffordd Bryn Melyd and Isfryn		
Road, Meliden	...	44
Maes Hendre, Meliden	...	68
		—
		373
		—

248 of these houses have been built since the war.

10 new houses were completed by private enterprise during the year and 31 houses were in course of construction at the end of the year.

The list of applicants for housing still remains heavy, but the position has now eased considerably and the majority of applicants living under very bad conditions have now been housed.

I am proud to report that the Council has now cleared the hutments at the Hillside Camp.

o o o

All our essential services have been carefully supervised as you will note from the report, and the standard of milk and ice cream production has been most satisfactory.

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

My Report would not be complete without an expression of thanks to the Health Committee for their keen interest, activity and co-operation and to the Sanitary Inspector and Staff of the Public Health Department for their keenness and unflagging energy in tackling the problems which arose during the year. To the Clerk and all my colleagues on the Council staff I express my gratitude for their helpful co-operation.

I remain,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

R. RHYDWEN.

Water Supply

The Water Supply has been maintained at a high standard of purity. Only one report on chlorinated and filtered water was unsatisfactory and this was due to faulty technique in sampling.

The number of samples submitted by the Water Dept. during the year was :

(a)	Raw Water.	...	....	0
(b)	Filtered Water	...	...	0
(c)	Filtered and Chlorinated Water			50

New mains were laid connecting Meliden Road with Bishopswood Road across St. Melyd Golf Course, also at Weavers Lane, Dyserth, Ffordd Ffynnon, Dyserth, Oakhill Drive, Prestatyn, Alexandra Drive, Prestatyn and Maes Hendre, Meliden. Practically all houses in the area are supplied from the mains.

Number of dwelling houses served by public mains direct to house...	...	...	...	...	2945
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	------

Estimated population of above dwelling houses	...	8398
---	-----	------

Number of dwelling houses served by public mains by means of stand pipes	...	...	...	83
--	-----	-----	-----	----

Estimated population of above dwelling houses	...	280
---	-----	-----

Six houses occupied by twenty-four persons are supplied by wells, springs, etc.

CERTIFICATES OF ANALYSIS

SAMPLES OF WATER—

- (1) Prestatyn Holiday Camp, Tap in kitchen—26/5/52.
- (2) Gronant Warren, Tap on Main Supply—26/5/52.

	P.H.C.	Warren
In Parts per million of Water.		
Total solid matter in solution	360.0	540.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates	0.06	1.5
Nitrites	Nil.	Nil.
Chlorine in Chlorides	28.0	36.0
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 Hours at 80 deg. F.	0.08	0.08
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil.	0.02
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.02	0.01
Lead, Copper, Zinc	Nil.	Zinc .02
Microscopical Examination of the sediment	Nil.	Nil.
Temporary hardness	200.0	310.0
Permanent Hardness	55.0	40.0
pH Value	7.2	7.2

The above Chemical analyses are very satisfactory.

The water can be classed as hard.

The trace of zinc in the Warren sample is regarded as harmless.

(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 is 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.

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

Food Supplies

Careful supervision has been maintained 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.

The need for the greatest care in the preparation and handling of cooked meats, pies and pastries cannot be too strongly stressed in view of unfortunate experiences in past years. Inspection of premises has revealed a high standard of cleanliness in most premises

and the department's advice has been readily accepted when tendered.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks

Nil.

National Assistance Act, 1948

No formal action was taken under Section 47 of this Act during the year.

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, and the occupation of camps.

The need for additional land for refuse disposal which had been known for some years is now an urgent necessity. It is to be hoped that the negotiations now in progress will result in the acquisition of the necessary land.

Swimming Pools

There are two privately owned public 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 1951 they numbered 27. 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 hospital by Ambulance which is afterwards disinfected and all cases of illness or accident are removed by the County Ambulance Service, the County having acquired the duty of the provision of an Ambulance Service since July, 1948. The County Council also supervises the Sitting Case Car Service.

Home Nursing

This is now a County Council Service, the Queen's Nurses being under the direction of the County Health Services.

There is one Home Help available in this district. Further particulars can be obtained from the County Health Office, Mold.

Clinics

Ante-Natal and Child Welfare Clinics are under the control of the County Medical Officer of Health. Infant Welfare Centre held at the Prestatyn School Clinic, Kings Avenue, 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 second and fourth Tuesday mornings 10-30 to 12-30, Orthopaedic Nurse attends every session. Surgeon attends every two months.

Ante-Natal Clinic at Prestatyn School Clinic, Kings Avenue, first and third Friday, 1-30 p.m.

The Tuberculosis Clinic, in charge of the Medical Officers of the Welsh Regional Board 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 Welsh Regional Board.

Venereal Disease

Treated at the Chester Royal Infirmary and St. Asaph General Hospital Out Patients Departments. All forms of venereal disease are examined and treated under conditions of strict secrecy. Cost of travelling to the Infirmary is paid, 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. The Clinic at St. Asaph General Hospital is held on Tuesdays, from 5.15 p.m. to 7.15 p.m.

Hospitals

There are none in the Urban Area

Infectious cases are treated at the Hawarden or Colwyn Bay Isolation Hospitals.

Notification of Births, Maternity & Child Welfare

This service is 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 Clwyd and Deeside Hospital Board,

There are four registered midwives practising in the area.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

No cases have been reported during the year.

Scabies

No cases have been notified during the year.

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 53 (see Table I). Of these 4 received treatment at Isolation Hospitals. Care is taken to see that all necessary disinfection of premises and clothing is carried out.

Immunisation

The above service was inaugurated in June, 1940. During the current year 65 children were treated, 48 of whom were under 5 years of age, and 17 between 5 and 14. In addition 123 children received reinforcing doses.

Since 1940, 2045 children have been immunised.

Immunisation can be done by the Child's own doctor, or at The Welfare Clinic, Victoria Avenue every fourth Wednesday in each month, 2 to 3.30 p.m.

Vaccination

28 children under the age of 5, 1 child between the ages of 5 and 14 years, and 7 persons over the age of 15 years received their primary vaccination during the year, 4 children and 18 adults were revaccinated during the year.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Material Act 1951

Premises on Register—Nil.

No action necessary.

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.

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 1910)	...	...	...	...	4,083
" " 1931	...	...	...	...	4,511
Estimated population Mid 1952	...	...	...	...	8,553
Estimated number of inhabited houses 1921	...	...	...	...	770
" " " " 1931	...	...	...	...	1,579
" " " " 1933	...	...	...	...	1,590
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	£83,095
Sum represented by a 1d. rate	...	...	...	...	£346

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth Rate

The number of births registered was 94.

		M	F	Total
Births	{ Legitimate	45	42	94
	{ Illegitimate	5	2	

giving a rate per 1,000 population of 10.99, compared with the rate for England & Wales which is 15.3.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age were 3, giving a rate of 31.9 per 1,000 of the registered live births.

For England and Wales the figure was 27.6.

Still Births

Total 1. Males 0, Females 1, giving a rate per 1000 civilian population of 0.11, as compared with 0.35 for England and Wales

Death Rate

The total number of deaths of residents belonging to the area was 170. The number of deaths of residents and non-residents registered by the local Registrar was 100. To this there has to be added 77 deaths of residents who died outside the area and 7 deaths subtracted, being those of non-residents who died within the area, giving a corrected number of 170, which on the civilian population of 8553 gives a crude death rate per 1,000 population of 19.9. Our rate corrected for comparative purposes is 12.90. For England & Wales the rate is 11.3.

The outstanding feature is that 54 deaths were those of people over 70 and under 80 years of age, 46 over 80 and under 90 and 7 over 90.

Heart diseases accounted for 64, Intracranial vascular diseases for 30. Cancer for 36, all essentially diseases of elderly people. Puerperal causes, nil, Measles nil. Deaths from all forms of tuberculosis, 1.

For causes of death see Table iii.

STATISTICS APERTAINING TO INFANCY, 1952

Total Births in the Year:—94.	Males, 50 ; Females, 44
Legitimate Males 45.	Legitimate Females 42.
Illegitimate Males 5.	Illegitimate Females 2.

Three infant deaths occurred, the causes being as follows:

One aged 10 hours died of Atalectasis and prematurity.

Two aged 2 and 3 months respectively died of Congenital Malformations.

Cemetery

There have been 70 interments in Coed Bell Cemetery during 1952 as compared with 67 in 1951.

Protestants—63

Catholics—7

Common Grave—0

I am,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) R. RHYDWEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1952.

DISEASE.	At all Ages	Under 1 year	1—2	3—4	5—9	10—14	15—44	45—64	Over 65	Cases admitted to Hospital
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria (Obs.) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	2	1	3	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	2	12	9	12	2	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	2
Lobar Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningococcal Infection ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food Poisoning ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polioomyelitis ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	3
Total ...	53	2	15	10	15	3	3	4	1	7

TABLE II.

TUBERCULOSIS—New Cases and Mortality during 1952.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...
1...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
5...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
15...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20...	1	...	...	..	...	...	...	...
25...	..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
35...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
55...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 & upw'd	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
	4	2	...	1	1	...	...	...

CASES ON REGISTER

	Males				Females				Total
	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	
Dec. 31st, 1951	... 58	... 6	...	...	34	... 2	...	...	100
Dec. 31st, 1952	... 59	... 5	...	...	35	... 3	...	...	102

TABLE III.—Causes of Deaths
during the year 1952

	Males	Females	Total
1 Tuberculosis Respiratory ...	1	0	1
2 " Other	0	0	0
3 Syphilitic Diseases ...	1	0	1
4 Diphtheria ...	0	0	0
5 Whooping Cough ...	0	0	0
6 Meningococcal Infection ...	0	0	0
7 Acute Poliomyelitis ...	0	0	0
8 Measles ...	0	0	0
9 Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ...	0	0	0
10 Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	4	5	9
11 " " Lung	5	1	6
12 " " Bronchus	0	3	3
13 " " Breast ...	0	2	2
14 " " Uterus ...	0	2	2
14 Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ...	5	9	14
15 Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ...	0	2	2
16 Diabetes ...	0	0	0
17 Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System ...	11	19	30
18 Coronary Disease, Angina ...	17	8	25
19 Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	1	1	2
20 Other Heart Diseases ...	13	18	31
21 Other Circulatory Diseases ...	1	5	6
22 Influenza ...	0	1	1
23 Pneumonia ...	1	2	3
24 Bronchitis ...	1	4	5
25 Other Diseases of the Respiratory System ...	0	0	0
26 Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	1	0	1
27 Gastritis, Enteritis, and Diarrhoea ...	0	1	1
28 Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	0	0	0
29 Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	1	0	1
30 Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ...	0	0	0
31 Congenital Malformations ...	0	4	4
32 Other Defined and Illdefined Diseases ...	6	3	9
33 Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	1	1	2
34 All other Accidents ...	7	3	10
35 Suicide ...	1	0	1
36 Homicide and War Operations	0	0	0
All Causes ...	78	92	170

ADULTERATION, ETC.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

Your Inspector under this Act has reported as follows:—

Herewith are the particulars of the samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act 1938, in the Prestatyn Urban District Council area, during the year ending December 31st, 1952:—

Description of Article	Number of Samples taken	Genuine	Not Genuine or below standard
Milk	16	16	
Dairy Produce	3	3	
Ice Cream	6	4	2
Confectionery	3	3	
Soft Drinks	2	2	
Cooking Fats and Oils'....	4	4	
Miscellaneous Groceries	11	11	
Condiments	2	2	
Patent Medicines	4	3	1
Total	51	48	3

The two ice cream samples were slightly below standard for sugar content, and the patent medicine was not properly labelled. The attention of the manufacturers was drawn to the deficiency in all cases.

(Signed) E. LEWIS.

County Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1952

General Summary of Visits, Etc.

General Sanitation

Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	68
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	509
Stables, Piggeries, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	32
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	41
Camps, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	215
Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	61
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	92
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	143
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	377
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	5
Watercourses	...	...	...	...	...	94
Special Visits re Housing	...	...	...	...	...	188
Visits under Section 47, Nat. Ast. Act	...	...	...	...	...	3
Premises re insect pests	...	...	...	...	...	81
Miscellaneous Visits and Reinspections	...	...	...	...	...	293
Complaints received and investigated	...	...	...	...	...	263
Number of Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	736
Number of Preliminary notices served for nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	290
Formal notices for nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	1

Infectious Disease

Number of cases occurring	...	...	...	...	...	53
Enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	19
Number removed to Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	7
Disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	56
Mass Radiography	...	...	...	...	...	25

Meat & Food Inspection

Butchers Shops	...	...	...	...	...	63
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	39
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	77
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	143
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	...	104

Sanitary Defects etc.

Number of stopped drains	...	...	...	...	...	342
Number of defective drains	...	...	...	...	...	8
Choked or insanitary ditches	...	...	...	...	...	4

Number of defective septic tanks	...	...	...	5
Defective W.C. cisterns and fittings	...	...	...	10
Defective E.C. and W.C.	...	...	...	4
Dirty condition of houses, outhouses and yards	...	...	...	10
Animals etc, kept under insanitary conditions	...	...	...	5
Want of Lime Washing	...	...	...	7
Defective inspection chambers	...	...	...	3
Defective sink and wastepipes	...	...	...	4
Defective Roofs	...	...	...	3
Defective Floors	...	...	...	7
Defective Pavings	...	...	...	4
Defective eaves and downspouts...	...	...	...	4
Defective doors	...	...	...	5
Defective windows	...	...	...	7
Defective sinks and washbasins	...	...	...	2
Insufficient W.C. accommodation	...	...	...	—
Accumulation of Refuse	...	...	...	17
Dilapidated dust bins	...	...	...	15
Defective wall and ceiling plaster	...	...	...	5
Dampness	...	...	...	3
Defective Grates	...	...	...	1
Infestations by insect pests	...	...	...	47
Defective Chimneys	...	...	...	1
Rat & Mice infestations	...	...	...	166
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	27

Nuisances from premises other than dwellings

Halls	...	...	...	...	...	3
Farms & Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	30
Camps & Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	40
Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	21
Offices	...	...	...	...	...	7
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	44
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	15
Bakeries	...	...	...	...	...	17
Hotels	...	...	...	...	...	16
Warehouses	...	...	...	...	...	9
Garages	...	...	...	...	...	7
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	9
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	25

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Number of visits re Collection and Salvage...	...	176
Number of visits re Disposal	..	174

The refuse is disposed of by Controlled Tipping on a site off Fforddisa. Collection is by one Karrier C.K.3 (10 cu. yd.) and one Karrier Bantam (7 cu. yd.). Each lorry draws a trailer for salvage collection. The Bantam is due for replacement by a 10 cu. yd. vehicle.

The maintenance of a weekly collection with existing lorries and staff is becoming increasingly difficult owing to the number of new houses being built in the area, and also to the strain put on the service during the summer season by the occupation of the camps and the influx of visitors into the town.

Consideration will have to be given in the near future to splitting the town into three collection districts instead of two as at present.

Householders can help to keep the service regular by disposing of garden refuse themselves, and by keeping waste paper and rags out of the bin for salvage.

Disposal of refuse on the Fforddisa site presents a greater problem each year. The Council have made application for the confirmation of a Compulsory Purchase Order on land adjoining the present tip site.

A word of praise and thanks must go to the refuse collectors for their loyalty and cheerfulness in carrying out—often under difficulties—a very dull and dirty job in all weather.

Sick leave taken by the refuse staff (12 men) during the year totalled 99 days as compared with 83 days last year.

1775 loads weighing 3255 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	...	...	...	3255
Total tonnage refuse disposed of	...	..	...	4348
Area of district, in acres	...	...	...	3655
Population	...	...	...	8533
Number of premises...	...	...	...	3588
Rateable value	...	...	...	£83095
Product of 1d. in £	...	...	...	£346
General Rate in £	...	...	...	...21s. 6d.

Salvage

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs	£	s.	d.
Mixed Paper	138	10	0	3	1319	16	11
White Paper	5	18	2	12	88	19	9
Mags. and Books	8	2	1	10	111	2	3
Rags	6	4	1	20	117	16	1
Mixed Metal		4	3	15	2	18	7
Jars (100 dozen)					2	1	8
	159	0	1	4	£1642	15	3
Salvage 1951	156	14	0	24	£2171	10	3

The continued need for collecting waste paper cannot be too strongly stressed. The revenue from waste paper, rags and metals can make a substantial contribution to the rate fund. May I therefore again appeal to housewives to keep paper, cardboard and rags separate from refuse.

The electrically powered baler has been in operation since June and has proved very successful and economical.

Another aspect of salvaged paper is that the sale of paper to the Board Mills has now become a standard method of disposal and has resulted in considerable improvement in refuse tips. The handling of such a large amount of waste paper in any other way would give rise to a cost which is reasonably comparable to the cost of separating the baling and would have no income to offset against it.

Water Sampling

	Bacteriological		Chemical	
Town Main supply....		33	....	1
Holywell R.D.C. supply	...	9	...	1
Private Supply, Wells, etc.	...	0	...	0
Streams	...	4	...	0
Swimming Pools	...	26	...	0
Total samples taken...	...	72	...	2

The Bacteriological reports on the main supplies have been Class 1. Highly satisfactory.

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

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

Milk Supplies

Number of Samples taken of each grade

Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	10
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	..	...	...	51
Accredited	...	...	...	...	...	17
Ungraded	...	...	...	...	...	36
Total	...	....	...	...	...	114

Results of Examinations

	Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
Tuberculin Tested	...	49	...	2
Accredited	...	17	...	0
Pasteurised	...	10	...	0
Ungraded	...	36	...	0
Number of farms producing milk within the district	...		...	9
Tuberculin tested	...	...	...	7
Ungraded	...	...	...	2

The milk producers and retailers are to be congratulated on these results. The samples are taken monthly, so the results show a continued attention to clean milk production methods throughout the year.

Milk Licenses

Dealers Licenses—	Tuberculin tested	....	4
	Pasteurised	....	6
	Sterilized	...	12
Supplementary Licenses—	Tuberculin tested	...	4
	Pasteurised	....	4
	Sterilized	...	4
Milk Distributors on Register.....	...	...	11
Visits to Dairies and Milk shops	....	....	152

Biological Testing

Six Samples of milk were submitted for Biological examination for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli during June. The results proved to be negative in each case.

Fried Fish Shops

Number of Fried Fish shops in District	....	....	6
These shops are well conducted.			

Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Section 14

Premises registered for the manufacture and sale of Ice Cream	4
Premises for sale only	35
Premises for manufacture of sausages, cocked meat etc.	14

Ice Cream

Forty-one samples of this commodity were taken during the season and the results are as follows :—

Grade I	...	32
Grade II	...	10
Grade III	...	6
Grade IV	...	3

Those in Grade I and II can be regarded as satisfactory.

These results are satisfactory and they go to show the keen interest taken by the manufacturers and vendors to serve the public with a clean and wholesome article of food.

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.

Fats ...	...	...	...	...	23lbs.
Fish ....	....	....	....	....	19lbs.
Meat ....	....	....	....	....	599lbs.
Milk and Milk Products	....	....	....	....	49lbs.
Soups....	....	....	....	....	4lbs.
Vegetables, Fruit	....	....	....	....	735lbs,
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	6lbs.

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

No. of Visits to Food Premises	...	...	...	559
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Byelaws under Section 15 of Food & Drugs Act 1938

No formal action was taken under the Byelaws during the year :

Private & Adoptive Acts, in force

Prestatyn Urban District Act 1909.

Prestatyn Water Act 1901.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act 1890.

Public Health Acts (Ammendment) Act 1890 (Whole Act)

Public Libraries Acts 1892 and 1893.

Private Street Works Act 1892

Public Health Act 1925 (Whole Act)

Public Health Acts (Ammendment) Act 1907
(Except Parts V, VII and IX).

Byelaws

Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions in Handling Food 1950.

Building Byelaws 1939.

Tents, Vans, Sheds, and Similar Structures used for human habitation 1931.

Nuisances 1899.

Slaughterhouses 1899.

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspection- tions	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	61		
(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	4	61	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 ...	12	12		
Overcrowding ...				
Unreasonable temperature ...				
Inadequate ventilation ...				
Ineffective drainage of floors...				
Sanitary Conveniences	17	17		
(a) insufficient ...				
(b) unsuitable or defective ...				
(c) not separate for sexes ...	17	17		
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...				
TOTAL	29	29	Nil	Nil

Rodent Infestation

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

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

The sewers were testbaited during the year. 57 manholes were baited at intersections in the sewerage system. There were no "bait takes" which indicates that the rat population of the sewers at that time was practically nil.

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

The refuse tip and sewage works are treated regularly and there is no "resident" rat population, but we usually have an invasion at harvest time.

The residents of Prestatyn are extremely good at carrying out the Ministry exhortation of "Report that Rat", and the Department endeavours to take prompt action on receipt of such reports.

The disinfestation service is free to householders and a small charge is made for work done on business premises.

Particular attention is paid to agricultural land, especially at harvest time when nests, etc. are disturbed.

"Wafarin" as a poison has proved to be very effective and it has been possible to clean up some very stubborn infestations,

Camps

There are five licensed camping sites in the district.

Bastion Road Camp	30 acres	354 plots
Pen-y-Ffrith Camp	2½ acres	50 plots

White House Camp	$\frac{1}{4}$ acre	4 plots
Tan-y-Don Camp	3 acres	60 plots
Prestatyn Holiday Camp	7 acres	110 plots

Tan-y-Don is a Caravan Club Site.

It is anticipated that the Ablution Blocks on the Prestatyn Holiday Camp Site will be built next year and that the site will be opened for the 1954 season.

Each Camp has sufficient sanitary and ablution blocks connected to the main sewer. Wate supply is from the town main and refuse is collected weekly. Waste food is collected from each site by a pig keeper.

The sites are very well conducted and the owners (three of whom are resident on the sites) co-operate fully with this Department in keeping the sites clean and tidy. Bastion Road Camp has a Camping Association with a form of "self government" of the site.

The district is very popular with organisations such as Boy Scouts, Boys Brigade, etc., and individual Campers. During the month of August several fields are occupied by these camps. Inspections are made and I find that, almost without exception, the are maintained in good condition.

Talacre Warren

There are 78 hutments within the district, 25% of which are permanently occupied. The remainder are occupied during the summer months only.

This district is not sewered, nightsoil is disposed of by chemical closets and sullage water to soakaway pits. Owing to the sandy nature of the sub-soil 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.

The disposal of refuse on this site leaves much to be desired. The present method is by accumulation on communal bin sites. Notices to provide one dustbin per plot have been served and refuse collection from each bungalow will commence at the beginning of the 1953 season. The communal bin sites will then be abolished.

Public Conveniences

The town has seven public conveniences and these are maintained by this Department. They are situated at the Parking Ground, near the Palladium Cinema, Coronation Gardens, two at the Central Beach, Ffrith Beach, near the Golf House, and at the Hillside Gardens.

Construction of the new convenience at Meliden is due to start early next year and it is to be hoped that a site will soon be found in or near Pendre Square.

I regret having to reiterate that while every effort is made to keep these conveniences clean they are often sadly misused by the public, and much wanton damage is done. Short of having a caretaker in attendance all day, one hundred per cent cleanliness cannot be maintained. Unfortunately each unit is so small that this is obviously impracticable.

Watercourses

Maesyffynnon and "Jubilee" ditches have been maintained in a clear condition and no serious flooding of adjoining land occurred during the year. The "fall" in the Maesyffynnon ditch is so slight that silting occurs near the railway, and in the culvert beneath the railway. By constant supervision and co-operation with the Railway Authority we have been able to keep the ditch clear of obstruction.

A quantity of sewage is still finding its way into Maesyffynnon via the surface water sewer. Arrangements are being made for the re-sewering of the offending block of buildings.

Licensed Premises

All premises requiring a Magistrates licence were inspected during the year, and a report was presented to the Licensing Justices at the Brewster Sessions,

The premises inspected are as follows:—

Licensed Houses	...	...	...	7
Licensed Clubs	...	...	...	7
Public Halls, Cafe, etc	...	...	...	8
Cinemas...	...	...	...	2

I am pleased to say that I did not have to report adversely on any of these premises.

Mortuary

The mortuary was in use on 24 occasions and 22 postmortem examinations were carried out there.

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) | 73 |
| (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose | 94 |

(2)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(3)	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 ...	61
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	56
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	0
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	0
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(B)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	1
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	1
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(C)	Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
(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	0

(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	0
4.	Housing Act, 1936 (<i>Overcrowding</i>)					
(a)	(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	2
	(2) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	4
	(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	20
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	3
(c)	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	4
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	26
(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 Council.

Caradoc Terrace	...	15 houses
Dawson Park	...	72 „
Bryn Melyd Road	...	22 „
Isfryn Road	...	22 „
Bryn Rhosyn	...	174 „
Maes Hendre	...	66 „

371

In conclusion may I express my appreciation for the help and many kindnesses shown by the Chairman and members of the Health Committee Dr. R. Rhydwen, 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

Highest Temperature ... 80° on 16th & 17th May and 6th July
Lowest Temperature 23° on 2nd December
Number of days below freezing point ... 9 days

Sunshine

Total for the year 1295.5 hours
Highest Monthly Total ... (June) 174.3 hours
Lowest Monthly Total .. (December) 38.1 hours

Rainfall

Total for the year 22.86 inches
Below normal ... 6.14 inches
Wettest Month ... (October) 3.48 inches
Driest Month ... (July) 0.80 inches

Visibility

Fog occurred on 1 day.

Wind

Gales of over 48 m.p.h. ... — ... 2

