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Contributors

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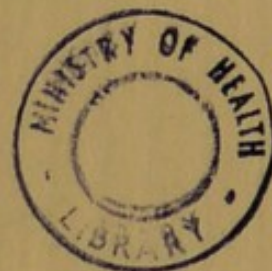
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PRESTATYN
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



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 Public Health Inspector

Mr. J. M. EDWARDS, M.R.S.H.

Cert Meat and other Foods.

FOR THE YEAR 1958



HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1958
PRESTATYN
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



Staff of the Public Health Department—
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On Milk and other Foods

FOR THE YEAR 1928

HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1958

Chairman : Coun. O. H. Williams.

The Committee consists of all Members of the Council.

Chairman of the Council : Coun. W. R. Williams, 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.

Public Health Inspector : Meat & Food Insp. :

J. M. EDWARDS, M.R.S.H., Cert. Meat & Food Insp.

Clerk :

MISS P. LAKEY.

General Assistant :

J. E. PARRY.

Meteorological Officer :

T. GRANT.

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Nant Hall Road,
PRESTATYN.

Telephones :

Office - - Prestatyn 401.
M.O.H. (Private) St. Asaph 2133.
P.H.I. (Private) Prestatyn 498.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1958

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

I beg to submit for your consideration my Annual Report for the year 1958. It appears in the form laid down in Circular 22/58 Wales.

231 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year. The bulk of this figure was comprised of 197 cases of measles.

Diphtheria Immunisation remained at 93 primary immunisations and 70 reinforcing injections—basically the same level as in 1957.

151 persons were vaccinated against Smallpox for the first time during the year, and 58 persons were revaccinated.

A large number of children were vaccinated against poliomyelitis, and in 1958 no cases of poliomyelitis occurred in the district. It is too early to make a decision as to whether this is a sequel to the introduction of the vaccine for the same happy state has occurred during previous years when there was no vaccination available.

5 cases of food poisoning were notified during the year. One outbreak of two cases was due to *Salmonella typhi* murium. In the other 3 isolated cases, no organism was identified. This is a satisfactory state of affairs and indicates a good standard of hygiene in the town.

It is up to the public to co-operate with the shopkeepers in every way they can in order to maintain this happy state of affairs. One obvious way of assisting is by not taking dogs into food shops, for all normal dogs sniff at food stuffs within their reach and occasionally forget their good manners in other ways. In conclusion I would point out that the standard of hygiene in any community is an index of the intelligence and good sense of that community. Or in basic English, you get the standard you deserve and demand.

Statistics

Our crude birth rate of 14.98 births per 1,000 of the population is the highest for the last 10 years and, corrected to account for our high proportion of elderly persons, is 18.4 births per 1,000 of the population.

Our uncorrected death rate is 17.49 deaths per 1,000 of the population, last year being 16.46 deaths per 1,000 of the population.

Corrected for comparison with the rate for England and Wales, our birth rate of 18.4 births per 1,000 of the population, compares very favourably with the National Rate of 16.4 births per 1,000 of the population, and our death rate of 11.56 is reasonable compared with the National Rate of 11.7 deaths per 1,000 of the population.

Once again our Infant Mortality is low, only one infant having died during the year, giving Prestatyn an Infant Mortality Rate of 7 deaths per 1,000 live births compared with the National Infant Mortality rate of 22 deaths per 1,000 live births.

Elderly People and Elderly Sick People.

This problem of the elderly has diminished to some extent and I have not been required to take any action for the removal of elderly persons to a place where they could be taken care of, during the year. The services of the equivalent of three full time home helps are available

in the district and their work in caring for the elderly is greatly appreciated.

Housing

The 14-2 bedroom bungalows and eight flats at Pendyffryn Estate were completed in October, 1958.

At the end of the year a scheme was in preparation for the construction of 8 flats in South Avenue, Bryn Rhosyn.

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

Caradoc Terrace	15	7 x 3 bedrooms,	8 x 2 bedrooms
Dawson Park	72	60 x 3 bedrooms,	12 x 2 bedrooms
Bryn Melyd Road	22	18 x 3 bedrooms,	4 x 2 bedrooms
Isfryn Road	22	22 x 2 bedrooms.	
Bryn Rhosyn	174	174 x 3 bedrooms.	
Maes Hendre	122	4 x 4 bedrooms,	106 x 3 bedrooms and 12 x 2 bedrooms
Pendyffryn			
Gardens	22	22 x 2 bedrooms.	

Total 449

324 of these houses have been built since the war.

68 new houses were completed by private enterprise during the year and 45 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 and the majority of applicants living under very bad conditions have now been housed.

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 Public Health 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 Public Health Inspector and Staff of the Public Health Department for their keenness and energy in tackling the problems which arose during the year. To the Clerk and my colleagues on the Council staff I express my gratitude for their helpful co-operation.

I remain,

Mrs. Evans and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

R. RHYDWEN.

Water Supply

The Water Supply has been maintained at a high standard of purity.

All samples of treated water submitted for bacteriological examination were reported on as being satisfactory, with the exception of three samples, which were not quite up to the standard for treated water. The cause was due to exceptionally heavy rain contaminating the Spring to such extent that control of the chlorination of the water was difficult.

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

Bacteriological examination—

(a)	Raw Water.	...	...	0
(b)	Filtered Water	...	...	0
(c)	Filtered and Chlorinated Water			51

New mains were laid in Oakhill Lane, Fforddisa, and Stephen Road, west of Methven Drive, and the 2in. C.I. main in Princes Avenue was renewed with a 4in. dia. Spun Iron Main.

Practically all houses in the area are supplied from the mains,

Number of dwelling houses served by public mains direct to house...	...	...	...	...	3453
Estimated population of above dwelling houses	...				9300
Number of dwelling houses served by public mains by means of stand pipes	...	...	...	...	80
Estimated population of above dwelling houses	...				240
Five houses occupied by thirteen persons are supplied by wells, springs, etc.					

Sewerage

The sewerage scheme for the area, excluding Meliden, consists of a gravity system on the higher levels to which sewage is raised by Ejectors from the low lying area. The whole of the sewage so collected is discharged untreated into the sea. The system works satisfactorily during normal periods, but, with the increased building in the area, has given evidence of being overloaded in some parts.

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

The surface water system is in the main separate from the foul water system and cannot now be described as satisfactory. Considerable flooding occurs during any rainfall of consequence, and while no system can cope with every eventuality, our system seems to be less capable to cope each year. Works for improvement were proposed three years ago, and at the end of 1958 new foul and surface water sewers had been laid in a small area between Meliden Road and Fern Avenue and preparation for the other schemes was in progress.

Food Supplies

Careful supervision has been maintained over the premises of retailers, especially those of Butchers, Bakeries and Dairies. For number of inspections and details of shops, etc., see Public Health 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

Five cases of food poisoning were notified to me during the year. Two associated cases were found to be due to *Salmonella typhimurium*. In the other three cases no cause was discovered.

National Assistance Act, 1948

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

Refuse Collection and Disposal

During the course of the year, the Council decided to use three vehicles for refuse collection throughout the year instead of only in the Summer.

This action has somewhat alleviated the difficulties of maintaining a weekly collection, though the annual increase in the number of houses in the district will result in the situation recurring sometime in the future if no further action is taken.

Swimming Pools

There are two swimming pools in the district, one being privately owned and one having been acquired by the Council. Samples of water taken were satisfactory in the main and the Council plans to make major improvements in the treatment of the water at their pool during the coming year.

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 1958 they numbered 71.

In addition 127 samples of water and 32 samples of milk were reported upon by the laboratory.

Ambulance Service

This service is now provided by the County Council through its Ambulance and Sitting Car Service. The Service has its Headquarters at Holywell, the 'phone number being Holywell 3373.

Home Nursing

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

There is the equivalent of three full time Home Helps 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 Clinic, Ffordd Las, Rhyl every second and fourth Tuesday mornings 10-30 to 12-30, Orthopaedic Nurse attends every session. Surgeon attends every two months.

Ante-natal Clinics are conducted by the Obstetrician and are held at the School and M. & C.W. Clinic, Kings Avenue on the first and second Friday in each month, at 9.30 a.m.

The Tuberculosis Clinic, in charge of the Medical Officers of the Welsh Regional Board has now removed to the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Rhyl and is held there every Friday morning 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.

TIMES OF CLINICS

Wrexham & East Denbighshire War Memorial Hospital

Mondays—Males, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Wednesdays—Males, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Fridays—Females, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Chester Royal Infirmary

Mondays—Females, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Wednesdays—Males, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Thursdays—Females, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturdays—Males, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

H.M. Stanley Hospital, St. Asaph

Tuesdays—Males and Females, 5.30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Hospitals

There are none in the Urban Area

Infectious cases are treated at the Colwyn Bay Isolation Hospital.

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, which meets 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 231 (two hundred and thirty-one). Of these three received treatment at an Isolation Hospital. 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 year 1958, 93 children received their primary immunisation, 70 of these were under 1 year of age, 22 between 1 and 5 years of age, and the remaining 1 was between the age of 5 and 15 years. In addition 80 children received a boosting dose.

Since 1940, 2648 children have been immunised against diphtheria.

Immunisation is carried out either by the family doctor, or at the Welfare Clinic, Kings Avenue on the fourth Wednesday in each month, from 2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

Vaccination

122 children under 1 year, 6 children aged 1 year, 5 children between the ages of 2 and 4 years, and 8 children aged 5 to 14 years were successfully given a primary vaccination during the year. 10 people aged 15 years and over were similarly treated.

58 people were revaccinated. 13 were aged between 5 and 15 years, and 45 were 15 years of age or more.

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

It has not been necessary to take any action as a result of smoke nuisances. This is largely due to the ready co-operation of the owners of fuel burning plant in the area.

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.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	3,655
Population (Census 1910)	...	...	...	...	4,083
" " 1931	...	...	...	...	4,511
Estimated population Mid 1958	...	...	...	...	9,550
Estimated number of inhabited houses 1921	...	...	...	...	770
" " " " 1931	...	...	...	...	1,579
" " " " 1958	...	...	...	...	3,520
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	£152,837
Sum represented by a 1d. rate	...	...	...	...	£585
General Rate in £1	...	...	...	...	20/7

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth Rate

The number of births registered was 143.

Births	{ Legitimate Illegitimate	M	F	} Total
		65 3	70 5	

This gives us a birth rate per 1,000 population of 14.98 births as compared with the rate for England & Wales of 16.4 births per 1,000 population. Corrected for strict comparison our rate would be 18.33 births per per 1,000 of the population.

LIVE BIRTHS	...	....	...	...	...	143
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	...			...	...	14.98
STILL BIRTHS	....	....	...	...	....	3
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births :						
					20.5 still births per 1,000 total births	
National Still Birth Rate	...		...	...	...	21.6
Total Live and Still Births	...		...	...	....	146
Infant Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live births					7:00 deaths per 1000	
“ “ “ “ “					legitimate live births	7.4 deaths
					per 1000 legitimate births	
“ “ “ “ “					Illgitimate live births	nil
National Infant Mortality Rate					22.5 deaths per 1000 live births	
Neo Natal Death Rate per 1000 total births ;						
					7.00 deaths per 1000 total births	
Illegitimate births per cent of total live births				...		5.59%
Maternal Deaths	...	...	...	...		nil

Death Rate

The total number of deaths of residents credited to the area was 167. The number of deaths of residents and non-residents registered by the local Registrar was 92. To this total there has to be added 87 deaths of residents who died outside the area and from this total of 179 deaths have to be subtracted the 12 deaths of non-residents who died in the Prestatyn Urban District, which leaves us with our final figure of 167 deaths of residents.

These 167 deaths in ratio to our population of 9550 gives the district a crude death rate of 17.49 per 1,000 of the population. Corrected for comparative purposes our rate is 11.56 deaths per 1,000 of the population which

compares favourably with the national rate of 11.7 per 1,000 deaths of the population.

An outstanding feature is that 48 of the deaths were those of persons between 70 and 80 years of age, 52 those of persons between 80 and 90 years of age, and 16 those of persons over 90 years of age.

Heart diseases accounted for 57 deaths, Intracranial vascular lesions for 31 deaths, and cancer for 28 deaths. These diseases are in the main, those of the elderly

Tuberculosis accounted for no deaths.

For a complete list of causes of death see Table iii.

Cemetery

There have been 58 interments in Coed Bell Cemetery during 1958 as compared with 58 in 1957.

Protestants—51

Catholics—7

Common Grave—0

I am,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) R. RHYDWEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1958.

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 ...	...	...	2	2	2	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria (Obs.) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	1	4	7	7	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	197	8	31	53	96	7	2	...	...	2
Pneumonia ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Meningococcal Infection ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food Poisoning ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	1	...
Dysentery ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Polioomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paratyphoid ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	231	9	37	62	106	7	7	...	3	3

TABLE II.

TUBERCULOSIS—New Cases and Mortality during 1958.

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

CASES ON REGISTER

	Males				Females				Total
	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	
Dec. 31st, 1957	... 72	... 5	... 56	... 6	... 56	... 6	...	...	159
Dec. 31st, 1958	... 73	... 4	... 55	... 6	... 55	... 6	...	...	138

TABLE III.—Causes of Deaths
during the year 1958.

	Males	Females	Total
1 Tuberculosis Respiratory ...	0	0	0
2 " Other	0	0	0
3 Syphilitic Diseases ...	0	0	0
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 ...	1	0	1
10 Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	3	0	3
11 " " Lung	0	0	0
Bronchus	6	0	6
12 " " Breast ...	0	2	2
13 " " Uterus ...	0	2	2
14 Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ...	3	12	15
15 Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ...	0	2	2
16 Diabetes ...	0	0	0
17 Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System ...	9	22	31
18 Coronary Disease, Angina ...	17	19	36
19 Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	1	3	4
20 Other Heart Diseases ...	7	10	17
21 Other Circulatory Diseases ...	4	3	7
22 Influenza ...	0	1	1
23 Pneumonia ...	3	1	4
24 Bronchitis ...	3	3	6
25 Other Diseases of the Respiratory System ...	0	2	2
26 Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	1	1	2
27 Gastritis, Enteritis, and Diarrhoea ...	0	1	1
28 Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	1	1	2
29 Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	1	0	1
30 Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ...	0	0	0
31 Congenital Malformations ...	1	0	1
32 Other Defined and Illdefined Diseases ...	5	5	10
33 Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	1	0	1
34 All other Accidents ...	3	5	8
35 Suicide ...	1	0	1
36 Homicide and War Operations	1	0	1
All Causes ...	72	95	167

ADULTERATION, ETC.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Your Inspector under this Act has reported as follows:—

Herewith are the particulars of the samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act 1955, in the Prestatyn Urban District Council area, during the year ending December 31st, 1958:—

Description of Article				Number of Samples taken
Milk	...	...	...	10
Dairy Produce	...	...	...	4
Sausages	...	...	...	7
Fish and Meat Products	...	...	...	1
Confectionery	...	...	...	2
Alcoholic Drinks	...	...	...	3
Cooking Fats	...	...	...	3
Patent Medicines	...	...	...	5
Miscellaneous Groceries	...	...	...	14
Vegetables and Fruit	...	...	...	4
Total				53

All samples taken were found to be satisfactory.

(Signed) E. LEWIS.

County Public Health Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1958

General Summary of Visits, Etc.

General Sanitation

Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	87
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	465
Stables, Piggeries, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	3
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	—
Camps, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	84
Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	46
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	—
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	150
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	174
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	12
Watercourses	...	...	...	...	...	10
Special Visits re Housing	...	...	...	...	...	20
Visits under Nat. Ast. Act, Sec. 47 and 60	...	...	...	...	...	—
Premises re insect pests	...	...	...	...	...	63
Miscellaneous Visits and Reinspections	...	...	...	...	...	275
Complaints received and investigated	...	...	...	...	...	599
Number of Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	371
Number of Preliminary notices served for nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	14
Formal notices for nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	—

Infectious Disease

Number of cases occurring	...	...	...	...	95
Enquiries	...	...	...	...	19
Number removed to Hospital	...	...	...	...	3
Disinfection	...	...	...	...	23

Food & Drugs Act

Butchers Shops	...	...	...	...	7
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	2
Grocers	...	...	...	...	50
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	46
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	91

Sanitary Defects etc.

Defective Roofs	...	...	...	...	7
Defective Floors	...	...	...	...	22

Defective eaves and downspouts ...	...	...	...	...	16
Defective doors ...	...	...	...	...	8
Defective windows ...	...	...	...	...	20
Defective wall and ceiling plaster	...	...	...	...	17
Defective Grates ...	...	...	...	...	7
Defective Chimneys ...	...	...	...	...	6
Dampness ...	...	...	...	...	26
Defective sinks and washbasins ...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective gullies and wastepipes	...	...	...	...	5
Defective Pavings ...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective drains ...	...	...	...	...	23
Number of stopped drains	...	...	...	...	314
Defective inspection chambers ...	...	...	...	...	7
Defective septic tanks ...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective Water Closets	...	...	...	...	2
Defective W.C. cisterns and fittings	...	...	...	...	4
Insufficient W.C. accommodation ...	...	...	...	...	6
Insufficient Water Supply	...	...	...	...	2
Accumulation of refuse ...	...	...	...	...	5
Dilapidated dustbins ...	...	...	...	...	89
Dirty houses, outhouses and yards	...	...	...	...	7
Insect pests ...	...	...	...	...	63
Rat & Mice ...	...	...	...	...	118
Animals kept in insanitary conditions	...	...	...	...	1
Choked and insanitary ditches ...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	...	9

Nuisances from premises other than dwellings

Farms & Dairies ...	...	...	...	...	2
Camps & Caravans	...	...	...	...	1
Cafes ...	...	...	...	...	3
Offices ...	...	...	...	...	—
Shops ...	...	...	...	...	2
Food Shops	...	...	...	...	8
Schools ...	...	...	...	...	3
Bakeries ...	...	...	...	...	—
Hotels ...	...	...	...	...	—
Garages, Etc. ...	...	...	...	...	—
Fried Fish Shops ...	...	...	...	...	—
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	8

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Number of visits re Collection and Salvage...	...	123
Number of visits re Disposal	...	102

The task of maintaining a weekly collection of refuse throughout the area was made easier by continuing the use of the 7 cubic yard Refuse Vehicle after the holiday season had ended.

However, the rapid rate of building within our boundaries means that the refuse collection service must be under continuous review in order to keep pace with the growth of the population.

Sick leave taken by the refuse staff (12 men) during the year totalled 123 days as compared with 313 days last year. This is a considerable improvement, and it is hoped that, with changes in the staff, the figure will continue to decline,

Work on the controlled tip is proceeding satisfactorily and an area of approximately four acres has been covered to a depth of six feet.

2975 loads were collected and disposed of, also, 26 night-soil pails are serviced each week.

A word of appreciation must go to the refuse collectors for their cheerfulness in carrying out their duties in all kinds of weather.

No charge is made for disposal of refuse at the Refuse Tip by private persons residing within the Urban Area.

No. of loads of refuse collected	...	...	...	2975
No. of loads of refuse disposed of	...	..	...	3025
Area of district, in acres	...	...	...	3655
Population	...	...	...	9550
No. of Premises	...	...	...	4,333

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							
Sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
T.T. Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32

Results of Examinations

	Satisfactory			Unsatisfactory		
Tuberculin Tested	...	8	...	...	0	...
Pasteurised	...	12	...	...	0	...
Sterilised	...	0	...	...	0	...
T.T. Pasteurised	...	12	...	...	0	...
Number of farms producing milk within the district	...	...	...	...	...	8
Tuberculin tested	...	...	...	...	...	8
Ungraded	...	...	...	...	...	0

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	...	9
	Pasteurised	...	16
	Sterilized	...	16
Supplementary Licenses—	Tuberculin tested	...	1
	Pasteurised	...	2
	Sterilized	...	2
Milk Distributors on Register.....	...	...	20
Visits to Dairies and Milk shops	...	...	41

Fried Fish Shops

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

Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Section 14

(1) Number of Food Premises in the area, by type of premises :—

Grocers....	....	36	Sweet Shops	....	16
Greengrocers	....	12	Licensed Houses	....	8
Confectioners	....	11	Registered Clubs	....	9
Bakeries	....	14	Boarding Houses	....	5
Restaurants & Snack Bars		20	Hospitals	....	1
Butchers	....	11	Homes	....	5
Fishmongers and Game Dealers	....	4	Schools	....	6
Fried Fish Shops	....	5	Cinemas & Theatres		3
			Ice Cream Kiosks	....	5
			Candy Floss Kiosks		2
TOTAL		....	173		

This figure represents approximately one-third of the total business premises in the area.

(II) Food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955.

Grocers ...	... 18	Kiosks ...	... 5
Restaurants and Snack Bars	11	Fried Fish Shops	... 5
Sweet Shops	... 7	Butchers	... 1
Greengrocers	... 2		

Dairies registered under Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949-54 2
 Number of shops retailing milk in closed containers 19

(III) 187 visits of inspection have been paid to Food premises in general, and 110 to those premises which are registered under the above mentioned Act and Regulations.

I am pleased to report that continued progress has been made in bringing food premises up to the standard required by the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Traders generally are fully aware of their responsibilities and are making every effort to provide a clean service in improved premises.

It would appear that there is a growing tendency on the part of the public to demand such improved conditions, and I feel sure that this attitude will be of immense value in obtaining the desired clean handling 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.

SOLIDS			LIQUIDS	
		lbs. ozs.		
Fruit	...	2072 12 $\frac{3}{4}$	Miscellaneous	35 $\frac{1}{2}$ fl. ozs.
Vegetables,	...	32 6	Milk	39 pints
Fish	....	12 1		
Meat	....	299 13		
Miscellaneous	...	53 9 $\frac{1}{4}$		
Soup	....	16 14 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Milk Products	...	1 0		
		2488 8 $\frac{1}{2}$		

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 in Prestatyn Urban District Area

Prestatyn Urban District Act 1909.
 Prestatyn Water Act 1909.
 Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act 1890.
 Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act 1890 (Whole Act)
 Public Libraries Acts 1892 and 1893.
 Private Street Works Act 1892
 Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act 1907
 (Except Parts V, VII and IX).
 Public Health (Buildings in Streets) Act 1888.
 New Streets Act 1951.
 S.D.A. Small Dwellings Aquisition Act 1899-1923.
 Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958,
 Public Health Act 1925.

Byelaws

Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions in Handling Food 1950.
 Building Byelaws 1939.
 (Plus addition for Grates to burn smokeless fuel).
 Tents, Vans, Sheds, and Similar Structures used for human habitation 1931.
 Nuisances 1899.
 Slaughterhouses 1899.
 Water Bye-laws (made under Section 17, Water Act 1945).

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspection	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2			
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities	42	46	3	
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)				
TOTAL	44	46	3	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 ...	3	3		
Overcrowding ...				
Unreasonable temperature ...				
Inadequate ventilation ...	1			
Ineffective drainage of floors...	1			
Sanitary Conveniences				
(a) insufficient ...	2	1		
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	1	1		
(c) not separate for sexes ...				
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...				
TOTAL	8	5	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. 51 manholes were baited at various points on the sewerage system. There were 4 "part-bait takes" which indicates that the rat population of the sewers at that time was practically nil.

Small infestations, chiefly in private dwellings are dealt with as they arise, but those inhabitants who keep poultry or are bird lovers could assist in keeping down the number of infestations by taking care that no unconsumed food is allowed to remain on or near the ground.

Residents are extremely co-operative in reporting the presence of rats or mice, 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.

The Refuse Tip and Sewage Works are treated regularly, and there is no "resident" rat population, but numbers sometimes increase at harvest time.

The use of "Wafarin" has proved to be very effective and it has been possible to clear up all infestations, both major and minor, with safety as far as other animals are concerned.

TREATMENT CARRIED OUT:—

Private Dwellings	...	...	...	59
Council Dwellings	...	...	...	—
Business Premises	...	...	...	25

Council Property other than Dwellings	...	15
Farms	...	0
Total Visits	...	233

Camps

There are eight licensed camping sites in the district.

Bastion Road Camp	30 acres	375 plots
Pen-y-Ffrith Camp	$2\frac{1}{2}$ acres	60 plots
Glan-y-Morfa Camp	$3\frac{1}{4}$ acres	25 plots
Plas Morfa Camp	$\frac{1}{2}$ acre	9 plots
Morfa Du Camp	2 acres	25 plots
Prestatyn Holiday Camp	7 acres	110 plots
White House Camp	$\frac{1}{4}$ acre	9 plots
Tan-y-Don Camp	3 acres	60 plots

Tan-y-Don is a Caravan Club Site.

The sites are very well conducted and the owners 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, they are maintained in good condition.

Talacre Warren

There are 77 hutments within the district, 23 of which are permanently occupied. The remainder are occupied during the summer months only.

The area is not sewered, nightsoil is disposed of by chemical closets and sullage water is drained to soakaways. Owing to the fact that much of this land is very low-lying, it is frequently flooded in winter, causing excessive dampness in many of the dwellings.

The water supply is provided by the Holywell Rural District Council and is not always sufficient to meet the very great demand made upon it during the summer months, when the population is very much increased by holiday makers.

Household refuse is collected once weekly by this Department, but difficulties are arising due to the indiscriminate dumping of refuse in the area by residents living elsewhere.

The standard of housing in this area is very low, the majority being suitable for inclusion in the Council's rehousing programme. It is possible that this area may revert to its original use for camping in the not too distant future, but if this scheme does not reach fruition, the Council will be obliged to take action.

Public Conveniences

There are eight public conveniences in the town, and are situated at the Parking Ground, near the Palladium Cinema, Coronation Gardens, two at the Central Beach, near the Golf House Hotel, at the Hillside Gardens, at Meliden, and on the Ffrith Beach.

It is with regret that I have to state once again, that although every effort is made to keep the conveniences clean they are often sadly misused and much wanton damage is done.

It is hoped that with the development of the Central Beach area, serious consideration will be given to the erection of new conveniences in this locality in place of the existing, which are inadequate.

Those conveniences at Barkby Avenue and the Hillside are also substandard and could well be the subjects of future improvements.

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	...	...	...	8
Public Halls, Cafe, etc.	...	...	...	6
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 9 occasions and 3 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) 64
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 92
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 7
- (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 ... 35

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 29

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 2
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) By owners 2
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

(C) Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 4
- (1a) Number of houses for which Undertakings were accepted 0
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 3

(D) Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.

- (1) Number of dwellings in respect of which Closing orders were made 3
- (2) Number of dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling having been rendered fit 3

4. Housing Act, 1936 (*Overcrowding*)

- (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 36
- (2) Number of families dwelling therein 45

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	169
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	... ..	9
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	... ..	9
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	36
(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

The foregoing figures may give the impression that there is but a small overcrowding problem. It must, however, be remembered that these figures refer to "legal over-crowding" in which the standard is very low compared with the normal standards in this area.

The legal standard recognises living rooms as sleeping rooms, so that an ordinary 5 roomed house (2 living rooms and 3 bedrooms) could house 10 adults without been legally overcrowded.

In considering the cases of applicants for houses the Council recognises a "bedroom standard" for overcrowding and this has helped to relieve many cases of near legal overcrowding.

Rent Act, 1957

Certificates of disrepair issued	... ..	9
Certificates of disrepair cancelled	... ..	3

In conclusion of my report, may I express my appreciation for the help and kindness shown by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, Dr. R. Rhydwen, Medical Officer of Health, Mr. J. Patterson, Clerk to the Council, the indoor and outdoor staff.

J. M. EDWARDS,

Public Health Inspector.

CLIMATOLOGY OF PRESTATYN

Temperature

Highest Temperature ...	76 °	on 19th July and 5th September
Lowest Temperature ...	...	21° on 10th March
Number of days below freezing point ...	...	15 days

Sunshine

Total for the year ...	...	...	1201.6 hours
Highest Monthly Total ...	...	...	(June) 161.4 hours
Lowest Monthly Total ..	...	...	(December) 23.4 hours

Rainfall

Total for the year ...	...	...	36.16 inches
Above normal ...	...	...	9.01 inches
Wettest Month ...	...	...	(February) 5.68 inches
Driest Month ...	...	...	...(April) 0.66 inches

Visibility

Fog occurred on 15 days.

Hill Fog on 1 day.

Wind

Gales of over 48 m p.h. ...	...		2
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