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#### **Contributors**

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# PRESTATYN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

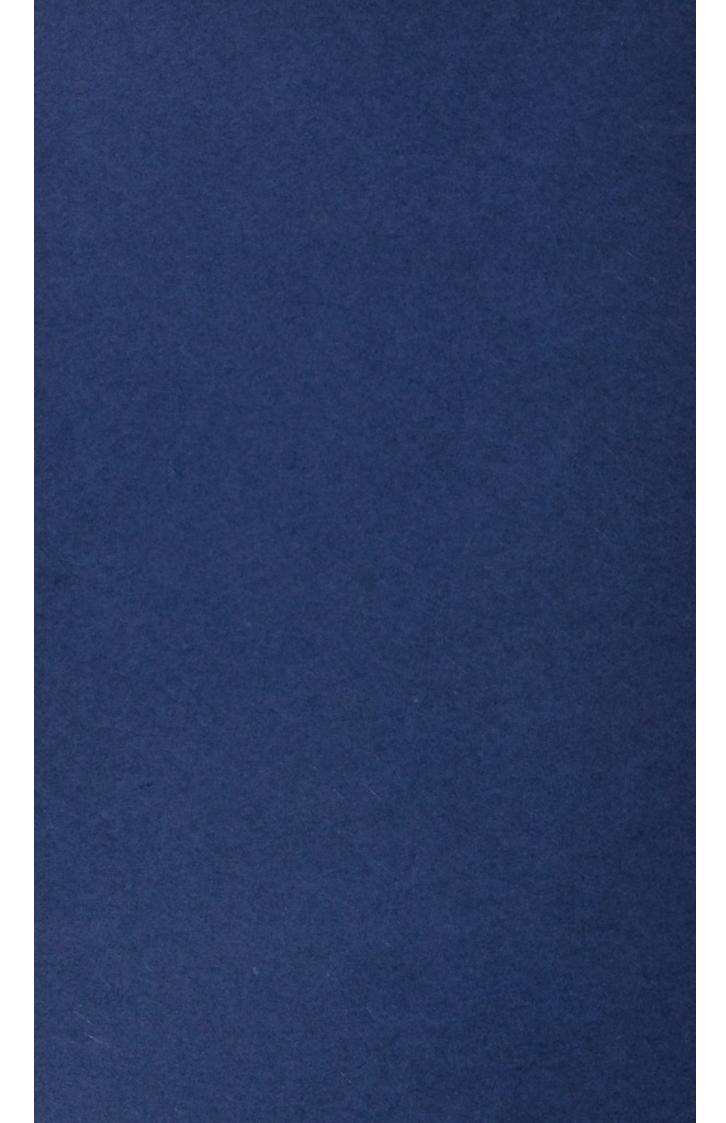
Dr. D. P. W. ROBERTS
L.R.C.P., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H. M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S.,

AN

## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. J. M. EDWARDS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

FOR THE YEAR



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## CYNGOR DOSBARTH DINESIG PRESTATYN



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## SWYDDOG IECHYD

Dr. D. P. W. ROBERTS

M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,, D.R.C.O.G., D.P:H:

## AROLYGYDD IECHYD

Mr. J. M. EDWARDS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

AM

### **HEALTH COMMITTEE 1966**

Chairman: Coun. A. T. PRICE

Coun. J. ELLIS EVANS, J.P. Coun. E. J. NEWBY

N. STEWART

J. M. HUGHES

T. W. VAUGHAN

H. A. CRABTREE, J.P.

O. D. OWEN

.. G. H. BARKER

F. ALLITT

Chairman of the Council: Coun. J. C. LEDSHAM, J.P.

#### STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

#### Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. D. P. W. ROBERTS M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector: Meat and Food Inspector: J. M. EDWARDS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Pulic Health Inspector: L. JONES (1/12/66)

Clerk:

Mrs. B. PARRY

#### Meteorological Officer:

E. J. MILES, M.I.Mun.E.

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

Telephones: Offices: Prestatyn 2484 (4 lines) P.H. (Private): Prestatyn 4508

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## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1966

I have pleasure in presenting my sixth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health of Prestatyn for the year 1966.

The population of the district once again rose by 400 to 12,850 but, in my opinion, this figure, given by the Registrar-General, is an under-estimate.

There were 175 births, which gave a local crude birth rate of 13.6 per thousand population and when adjusted for the higher proportion of old people in the local population compared with the national average, the adjusted birth rate was 19.7, which compares well with the national average of 17.7. There were 13 illegitimate births during the year, which gave an illegitimacy rate of 74 per thousand, which is in line with the national average. There were six still-births during the year, which gave a local still-birth rate of 33 per thousand live and still-births, which compared unfavourably with the national average of 15.4 per thousand live and still-births. Perusal of the causes of death in the six cases shows that, in a large measure, the deaths were not preventable and were due to severe congenital malformations or prematurity. It is regrettable that one mother died during pregnancy. This, fortunately, is a rare event today due to the general improvement in the Ante-Natal and Post-Natal care of women. It cannot be too strongly emphasized that it is important for pregnant women to attend regularly for ante-natal care during pregnancy so that any abnormalities that might develop can be treated at an early stage. The vast majority of babies in Prestatyn are born in hospital or in a local nursing home and the proportion of babies born at home continues to decline each year. The district is fortunate in being able to offer hospital delivery to all expectant mothers whose social conditions are such that delivery at home is inadvisable.

There were two deaths of infants under one year, giving an infant mortality rate of 11.3 per thousand live births, which compares well with the national rate of 19. There were 232 deaths during the year, and the crude death rate was 18 per thousand population and when adjusted, as previously explained, the standardised death rate was 10.1, which compares with the national average of 11.7.

There were 97 cases of measles, 3 cases of scarlet fever, 24 cases of dysentery and 5 cases of food poisoning notified during the year. The dysentery was mainy of the mild type (Sonne), mainly confined to children and young people, occurring sporadically in the town; and sometimes connected with other cases of dysentery. All investi-

gations carried out failed to reveal the source of infection but past experience has shown that the disease is usually spread through toilets and hand-towels not being adequately clean rather than the ingestion of infected food or aerial spread.

There was a large outbreak of suspected food poisoning in one of the schools. The source of the infection could well have been contamminated meat. Certain action was taken to improve the arrangements for the distribution, storage, and cooking of meat and I am pleased to say there has been no reoccurence subsequently. It is important that all personnel responsible for the transport. preparation and cooking of foods, especially meat and meat products, ensure that the tood is not contaminated; and is stored in a refrigerator, prior to cooking, at a suitable temperature (below 36°F). Meat should always be cooked well and the portions should be cut up so that all parts are cooked adequately and it is imperative that it is served and eaten as quickly as possible and never, after cooling, reheated again. It is regrettable that some catering establishments still follow the dangerous practice of cooking meat one day and reheating it the following day. Lectures were given during the year to the staff of holiday camps to ensure the highest standard of hygiene.

There was only one case of Tuberculosis notified but nevertheless it cannot be said that the battle against the disease has been won and constant vigilence is required to ensure that each new case that occus is followed up and all contacts are examined.

At the time of writing this report, information has come to me from the Medical Director of the Mass Radiography Service at Cardiff that the mobile units which visit various towns in North Wales at periodic intervals are to be withdrawn at the end of 1967 largely on the grounds of economy. The Mass Radiography service will confine its services to special surveys of groups of the population at special risk. It is regrettable that this decision has been arrived at and there will be no opportunity at all of the public to obtain an X ray of the chest without having to approach their own doctor. The X ray departments of local hospitals are already overloaded with work and it is doubtful if they can take the place of the Mass Radiography Service.

210 dwellings were constructed during the year, all of which were provided by private enterprise. The Council has purchased the railway cottages in Caradoc Road and, at the time of writing this report, have rehoused all the occupants and hope to redevelop the land and provide accommodation for Aged Persons.

The Health Department received a number of complaints during the year of the sewers surcharging, mainly in Meliden, Ffordd Penrhwylfa and The Mall areas and a scheme has been prepared by the Local Authority to improve the drainage in these areas together with improvements in the Sewage Works and a new Sewage Outfall. This is a costly scheme and a local enquiry will shortly be held by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. I hope that this scheme will be commenced at the earliest opportunity as I am particularly worried about the surcharging of sewers, which can be a great nuisance to the affected areas of the town.

In December, Mr. Leslie Jones joined the staff as an Additional Public Health Inspector and a start has now been made on inspections of premises under the Offices, shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 and Houses in Multiple Occupation.

The tenting site on the main Prestatyn/Chester road has given a great deal of concern to the Health Department, especially on account of unsatisfactory sanitary arrangements but I believe plans are in hand to have this remedied.

There is still an urgent need to attend to three of the public conveniences in the town, namely Hillside, Barkby Avenue and Coronation Gardens. These are rather old and, in my opinion, should preferably be rebuilt.

I should like to pay tribute to the outstanding efforts of the voluntary organisations of the district, particularly to the Women's Voluntary Service who are providing an excellent "Meals on Wheels" service.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support and active interest in the Department, the Council Officials and in particular Mr. Edwards.

I am, Your Obedient Servant,

D. P. W. ROBERTS,
Medical Officer of Health

#### GENERAL STATISTICS

Land area (exclusive of foreshore)	1,640 acres
Land area (inclusive of foreshore)	3,219 acres
Population at mid-year 1966 (Registrar General's estimate)	12,850
ropulation change compared with previous year (increase)	
Total number or properties (end of 1966)	6,116
Rateable value of the Urban District at end of 1966	£555,546
Product of a penny rate	£2,116
General rate in £1	12/3d

#### SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE URBAN DISTRICT

The town has become renowned as a locality for retirement, with a favourable climate and almost fog-free atmosphere.

The district has recently become popular with holidaymakers, both day trippers and residential, and miles of excellent sand and a safe-bathing beach contribute to the amenities of the town. The population of the Urban District is growing rapidly and within a decade, granted the present rate of expansion, it is possible for the population to exceed 18,000. There are no industries in the town, apart from catering for holidaymakers, but fortunately employment is available for manual and clerical workers in Deeside industrial plants which are within daily travelling distance.

#### VITAL STATISTICS

#### Live Births:

Live Births—Male 92, Female 83 Legitimate live births—Male 83, Female 79 Illegitimate live births—Male 9, Female 4 Illegitimate local rate per 1,000 live births National illegitimate rate per 1,000 live births Crude birth rate per 1,000 live births Birth rate comparability factor Birth rate standardised National birth rate per 1,000 population	175 162 13 74 — 13.6 1.45 19.7 17.7
Still Births:	
Still births (total) Legitimate still births (total) Illegitimate still births (total) Local still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births National still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	6 6 - 33 15.4
Infant Mortality Rates:	
Infant deaths under one year of age (total)  Legitimate infant deaths under one year of age (total)  Illegitimate infant deaths under one year of age (total)  Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births  National infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births  Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births  Illegimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	2 2 11.3 19 17

Infant deaths under 4 weeks of age (Neo-natal) Legitimate infant deaths under 4 weeks of age Illegitimate infant deaths under 4 weeks of age Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births National neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births Total peri-natal deaths (still births and deaths under one week combined Peri-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births National peri-natal mortality rate Deaths in first week of life (early neo-natal period) Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	1 1 - 5.7 12.9 7 38 26.3 1 5.6
Maternal mortality, including abortion:	
Number of deaths	1 5.6
DEATHS	
Deaths—Male 125, Female 107 Crude death rate per 1,000 population Comparability factor Death rate standardised per 1,000 population National death rate for England and Wales	232 18 0.56 10.1 11.7

#### POPULATION CHANGES IN THE URBAN DISTRICT

The following table shows the change in population due to migration:-

Year	Mid-year population: Registrar General's estimated figure	Population change during year	THE REAL PROPERTY.	Change in population due to births and deaths only during year	Change in population due to migration
(1) 1901	(2) 1,261 2,036 4,085 4,511 10,030 8,809 8,553 8,670 9,210 9,050 9,210 9,380 9,550 9,720 10,020 10,670 11,170 11,490 12,070 12,450 12,850	(3)		(4)	(5) 

A minus sign in Column 4 indicates an excess of deaths over births.

#### DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES

							Na	% tiona	1 1	% Presta	tyn
Tuberculosis	irato	ry sy	stem				1 1 1	0.5 4.7 4.8 9.6 6.4 5.4 6.7 1.8		0.4 2.5 15 21 20 6 1.4 1.1	4
Cancer death	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Lung Stomach Breast Uterus Leukaemia Other Sites	2 1 1 1 1 1 13	9 6 6 2 ————————————————————————————————	6 3 2 2 2 2 15	5 4 4 1 1 24	8 4 1 1 1 15	3 2 3 4 1 13	10 3 3 1 2 17	4 6 4 2 2 20	7 2 2 1 17	4 9 4 1 	6 7 3 4 2 25
Total all sites	18	39	30	39	29	26	36	38	29	40	47

Coronary Heart Disease: During the past twenty years there has been a considerable rise in the incidence of this disease, and although improved methods of certification of death may have accounted for some of the rise, it is generally considered that there has been a real rise in the incidence of this disease.

The following chart shows the annual deaths from this disease in the urban district over the past 10 years:-

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Deaths	28	29	36	37	55	52	51	48	52	60	49

#### CEREBRAL VASCULAR DISEASE

As the proportion of people over 65 increases in the community so the incidence of cerebral vascular disorders ("strokes") increases. The rehabilitation of affected patients is often a long process and places great strain on the relatives and medical and nursing attendants.

It is increasingly recognised that early physiotherapy treatment is often the key to success. Skilled treatment can often prevent deformities, re-educate patterns of movement, and re-train skills.

Maintenance of range of movement during the early stages must be carried out passively, or stiffness will make functional activities more difficult, and the patient can do some of these movements himself, but the responsibility for this rests with the physiotherapist to show the patient how they may most easily be done.

Because of the acute shortage of physiotherapists, those patients treated at home, are often cared for by the district nurse who, through pressure of work, often finds she is unable to give the necessary time during the vital first few days after a stroke.

#### INFANT MORTALITY

There were 3 deaths of infants under 1 year of age as recorded in local returns and details are as follows: -

Age at death	10000	
9 hours	_	Prematurity. Premature rupture of membrane.
2 days	10 10-0	Pulmonary Atelectesis.
5 months	-	Acute Gastro Enteritis.

	National infant mortality rate.	25.5 27.6 26.8 27.6 27.6 27.6 27.7 27.7 27.7 27.7 27.7	
	Local infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births.	25.0 33.0 66.0 53.4 44.0 31.9 9.3 9.3 16.1 7.0 51.28 6.0 23.3 20.8 12.9	-
YEAKS	Infant deaths under	44444 44446-444	-
KECENI YE	National death rate per 1,000 population	13.9   12.0   12	-
	Adjusted local rate per 1,000 population.	10.3 10.3 10.3 10.3 10.3 10.3 10.3 10.3	
DISTRICT	Crude death rate noitsluqoq 000,1 raq	14.2 10.7 10.7 10.7 10.7 10.7 10.7 10.7 10.7	Street, or other Desirements
INE	Local deaths: R.G.'s returns.	30 135 173 173 173 173 174 175 176 176 176 176 176 176 176 177 176 176	9
SIALISITES OF	National birth rate per 1,000 population.	23.8 15.8 14.2 15.3 15.3 15.0 15.7 16.1 16.5 18.0 18.0 18.0	-
	Local adjusted rate.	14.5 13.5 13.5 13.3 13.3 13.3 13.3 13.3 13	-
ING VIIAL	Local crude birth rate per 1,000 population.	12.5 10.1 10.1 10.4 10.9 11.0 11.0 11.0 11.0 11.0 11.0 11.0	
SHOWING	Number of local births: R.G.'s returns.	200 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	-
IABLE	Registrar General's mid-year estimate of population.	2,036 4,085 4,085 4,511 10,030 8,809 8,853 8,670 9,210 9,210 9,210 9,380 9,720 10,020 11,490 112,450 12,850	-
		1921 1921 1931 1952 1953 1954 1955 1960 1960 1961 1963 1963 1963 1965	-

CAUSES OF DEATH: REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN

1:	ovo bns 27	-1-	- 1 .	7   -	-	7-	-22			20	6
	<b>-</b> \$9	11	11	2-1	1 2	11	-49-		11-	- 6 5	7
	—çç	11	11	1-	-1	-	12-	11	11-	-   "	0
	—St	11	11	11	11	11	7-1	11	1.1	1-	- 1
RS	<b>−</b> ςε	11	11	11	11	11	11-	11	11.	- 1	11
YEARS	—sz	11	11	11	11	11	111	11	11	11	11
E IN	-51	11	11	11	11	11	111	pk	11	11	11
AGE	—ç	11	11	11	11	11	111	11	1.1	11	11
	1 Jest	11	11	11	11	11	111	11	11	11	11
	4 weeks	11	11	11	11	11	111	11	11	11	11
	Under 4 weeks	11	11	11	11	11	111	11	11	11	11
	Total Ages	-1	-1	25	10-	1 8	15 10		1-	30	33
10	Sex	Σ¤	NI	NH	ZIL	ZIL	FZH	NH	ΣH	NH	ZH
	_			ж ч	Bronchus		atic Neoplasms			s System	
	CAUSE OF DEATH	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	Syphlitic Disease	10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	16. Diabetes	17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	18. Coronary Disease, Angina

19.	. Hypertension with Heat Disease	×μ	m m	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	m m
20.	Other Heart Disease	ZH	0 2	11		11	11	11	11	11	11		24	10
21.	Other Circulatory Disease	Z	300	11	1	111	11	11	11	11	11	.		4-
22.	Influenza	Z	46-			111	111	11	111	111	111	111	-	- 77 -
23.	Pneumonia	4×P	- 60 -		111	111	11	11			111	111	-	- 7-
24.	Bronchitis	4×	14			111					111	7	6	10
25.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	Z	6	LII	111	111	111	111	11	11	-11	11	11	6
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	ZP	3		-	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	-
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	ZI	-	111	111	111	111	111	111	1   1	111	- 1	111	
29. 30. 31.	Hyperplasia of Prostrate	N M M		111	111	111	111	111	111	1-1	11-	111	111	-11
32.	Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	Z	9 ==	11-	111	11	111	111	111	111	17-	-	22	24
34.	All Other Accidents	Z	. 7 "	-	111			111	11	11	-11	11		
35.	Suicide	ZH	12		11	11	11	11		111	7	11	111	11
	TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	125		-		1	1	1	-	4	18	41	09
		F	107	1	81	1	1	1	1	2	9	4	38	56

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The table shown below indicates the incidence of notiliable infectious diseases that occurred during 1966

Cases admitted to hospital	11111111111111111
CO 19VO	11111214111111110
†9—\$†	111111111111111111111111111111111111111
<b>⊅</b> ⊅─\$I	
p1-01	11116111-11111114
6—5	E
<b>≯</b> —€	111-8111-1111
7—1	111181118111118
Under I year	1111-11-11-1111 0
At all ages	8   12 2   24   1   1   1   1   1   1   1   1   1
Disease	Scarlet Fever Diphtheria Erysipelas Whooping Cough Measles Pneumonia Meningococcal Infection Food Poisoning Dysentery Poliomyelitis Puerperal Pyrexia Paratyphoid Polio Encephalitis Encephalitis Cophthalmia Neonatorum Enteric Fever Pemphigus Total

There were 97 cases of measles, 1 case of whooping cough and 3 cases of scarlet fever reported to the Department during the year. The large number of cases of measles were an above average annual figure and there were few complications arising from the disease. A vaccine is now available to protect infants against measles. It is intended, at present, to use the vaccine in carefully selected cases.

There were 5 cases of food poisoning notified during the year and 24 cases of dysentery were notified. All cases were isolated and cleared up on treatment.

Constant improvements are being made in kitchen equipment, but it is paramount to impress upon all those who work in food premises that they must practice the highest possible standards of hygiene to ensure that food is subject to the least possible contamination.

It is quite impossible for the staff of the Health Department to constantly inspect food premises and supervise all those working in shops and cafes and it is largely up to the general public to boycott all those food premises whose general level of hygiene is not up to the present day standards.

TABLE SHOWING TREND OF INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS NOTIFIABLE DISEASES IN THE URBAN DISTRICT OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS

1956 1957 1958 1959 1960 1961	Scarlet Fever         3         2         6         19         3         5         2           Diphtheria         3         2         6         19         3         5         1         2         2         1         2
1962 1963	2   2   111   41   41   41   41   42   42
1964	v   558 4   8       4 -
1965	2   -022 -   -0   -0   -0   -0   -0   -0
1966	6     -22   24       -1

\* Suspected

#### TUBERCULOSIS 1966

	100	New	Cases		Deaths				
Age Periods	Non- Respiratory Respiratory				Respiratory Respirato				
Terrous	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Under 1 year	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	_	
1-5	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	
6-10	-	14000	-	_	_				
11-15	-	_	-	-	1-1-	-	_	-	
16—20	-				-	-	-	-	
21—25	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	
26—35	-	-			-			-	
36-45	-	_	-	-	14.		-	-	
46—55	-	122	_	-	1	_	1	-	
56-65		1	-	1			_	_	
66 and upwards	-	-	-		1	_	DE PO	-	
TOTAL	1	1	-	1	1	_	100000		

As will have been seen in the previous table, there were two new cases of tuberculosis notified in 1966. Close co-operation is maintained between the district, county and hospital authorities, as all have responsibilities in the treatment and after care of tuberculosis sufferers. Details of the new cases are given in the table.

There were no re-admissions to hospital for treatment of tuberculosis of patients identified as suffering from T.B. in previous years.

Most county district health authorities maintain a tuberculosis register of all persons who are suffering or recently have suffered from the disease, and the local list was revised in conjunction with the Chest Clinic at Royal Alexandra Hospital and the County Council records and the position at the end of 1966 was as follows:

Pulmonary Cases	Males: 29	Females: 21
Non-Pulmonary Cases	Males: 2	Females: 2

Bovine tuberculosis has been eliminated due to the introduction of tuberculin testing of cattle and the slaughter of positive reactors.

#### CHEST X-RAY FACILITIES

The Welsh Regional Hospital Board has a mobile X-ray unit based at Wrexham, which visits all parts of North Wales, and regularly every third Tuesday is located at Rhyl Town Hall all day. The unit is available to all members of the public except young children, and details are given below of the 1966 results:—

TABLE 1

Report of Mass Radiography Service, Flintshire, 1966.

Circuit Location	Total No.	No. of attendances	Average attendance
Holywell	935	14	66
Mold	1,061	16	60
Rhyl	2,352	16	146
Shotton	826	15	55

TABLE II

Analysis showing Type of Examinee

Type of Examinee	Location	Flintshire
General Population Volunteers		4,425
General Practitioners Referrals		186
Special Survey — Non Industrial		96
Special Survey — Industrial		1,942
Scholars		404
Contacts		121
	Bulkery	-
		7,174

## TABLE III Analysis of total number of cases found to be abnormal.

Abnormality	Flintshire
Confirmed Pulmonary Tuberculosis	
"New" Cases	4
"Old" Cases	1
Healed Primary Tuberculosis	21
Healed Post Primary Tuberculosis	53
Abnormality of the Boney Thorax and soft tissues	24
Malignant Neoplasm	9
Non-Malignant Neoplasm	2
Lymphadenopathies excluding Sarcoidosis	1
Sarcoides	1 3 2
Congenital Cardiac Abnormalities	
Acquired Cardiac Abnormalities	50
Pneumoconiosis - without P.M.F	4
Pneumoconiosis - with P.M.F	-
Pulmonary Fibrosis - non tuberculous	
(to include Asthma and Bronchitis)	14
Emphysema	9
Bronchiectasis	9
Bacterial or virus infection	3
Pleural thickening or calcification	31
Abnormalities of the Diaphraghm and Oesophagus	17
Malformation of the Lungs	2
Spontaneous Pneumothorax	_
Miscellaneous	
Further Observations required	-
Failed to attend Chest Clinic	13
	273
Negative after investigation at Chest Clinic	51
Diagnosis not yet received	1
	225
	325
Total number of people X-rayed	7,174
I am indebted to Dr. Jarman for these statistics.	

#### CHEST CLINIC

The treatment of cases of tuberculosis is the responsibility of the Consultant Chest Physician, Dr. Morrison, at Royal Alexandra Hospital, Rhyl.

# PROVISION OF SERVICES UNDER THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT, 1946

The following services are the responsibility of the Flintshire County Council, and I am indebted to the County Medical Officer, Dr. G. W. Roberts, for allowing me to give full details of the following services available locally:-

# SECTION 22—CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

There is one Clinic in Prestatyn which is situated in Kings Avenue, and Infant Welfare Clinics are held every Friday between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. A Medical Officer attends every first and third Friday.

#### ANTE NATAL CLINICS

The Ante Natal Clinic was formerly held at Kings Avenue, Prestatyn, on alternative Fridays, but during 1966 the service was withdrawn.

#### CERVICAL SMEARS

Cervical smears are available, by appointment, at Mercier House, Russell Road, Rhyl.

#### FAMILY PLANNING

Family Planning facilities are available at the Clinic at Fforddlas, Rhyl. A lady doctor is in attendance.

#### WELFARE FOODS

Distribution of Welfare Foods (National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil, Vitamin Tablets and Orange Juice) is carried out by the Women's Voluntary Service, Local Branch, on behalf of the County Council.

#### DENTAL CARE OF EXPECTANT MOTHERS

This is arranged at the County Council Clinics in the area and is carried out by the Dental Officers employed by the County Council. Treatment is arranged free during the ante-natal and post-natal periods up to one year after the birth of the child. It is regrettable that more mothers do not take advantage of these facilities.

#### SECTION 23—MIDWIFERY SERVICES

There are three midwives who are also trained district nurses employed in the area, who carry out ante-natal and post-natal care for mothers during this time and after discharge from hospital after childbirth.

#### SECTION 24—HEALTH VISITORS

There are two health visitors employed locally and they are responsible for giving advice to families of all ages with special reference to the young and the very old. Their duties have increased of late due to the ever expanding demands of the old people of Prestatyn, and their work is complementary to that of the General Practitioner, who is often so hard pressed throughout his daily routine and is quite unable to give the necessary advice on health matters that should be given by him to his patients. There is a growing tendency to assign health visitors to groups of practitioners so as to assist them in their daily duties, especially on health education and the prevention of illness, and this is being considered for certain parts of the County.

#### SECTION 25—HOME NURSING

As mentioned in the previous paragraph, the duties of the midwife are shared with those of the district nurse in the area, and the district nursing aspect of the work is increasing in relation to the midwifery side which is diminishing because of the increasing proportion of Hospital confinements in the area. As mention will be made in a later part of the Report of the increasing number of people in Prestatyn, there will be further heavy demands which will probably necessitate increasing the staff. Home helps are engaged in the town mainly on a part-time basis, and this service is a most valuable and important recent development of local authority services.

#### MEASLES

A vaccine is now available for protection of children against measles but no mass vaccination campaign is planned at present.

#### SECTION 27—AMBULANCES

The ambulance service is radio-controlled and administered from the headquarters at Mold. A local station is situated at Rhyl.

## SECTION 28—PREVENTION OF ILLNESS AND AFTER CARE LOAN OF EQUIPMENT

The County Council loan equipment to handicapped persons to assist rehabilitation. Arrangements are in force whereby persons may also hire medical equipment from the local British Red Cross Organisation at a very small fee, and enquiries are directed to Red Cross Headquarters at Victoria Avenue between 3 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. This is a most valuable service provided by this wonderful voluntary organisation and they are to be highly commended on their efforts.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Treatment, which is free and confidential, is available at the following clinics:-

H.M. Stanley Hospital, St. Asaph.

Male and Females-5.30 to 7 p.m. (Tuesdays)

Chester Royal Infirmary.

Males—Wednesday, 5—7 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.—1 p.m. Females—Monday, 5—7 p.m. Thursday, 5—7 p.m.

SCHOOL HEALTH

Medical examinations of school children were carried out by me as Assistant County Medical Officer in the district during the year, and I am pleased to say that the standard of health of the school children locally is very high indeed. There is a constant influx of new children and overcrowding is a serious problem in one school.

PROTECTION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS (B.C.G. VACCINATION)
All thirteen-year-old pupils are offered protection against Tuberculosis, which has proved to be most valuable in reducing the incidence of the disease.

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBNORMALITY

This is an expanding field of medical care, and the after-care of patients discharged from Mental Hospitals is the responsibility of the County Council Mental Welfare Officers.

Children who are of school age, who are mentally retarded and not suitable for education in ordinary schools are admitted to the Training Centre at Rhuddlan for sub-normal children.

NURSING HOMES

The following Nursing Home in the town is registered under the Public Health Act, 1936, with the County Council, and inspected periodically: Hawarden House, Victoria Road, Prestatyn.

WELFARE SERVICES

Homes are provided by the County Council for the admission of aged and handicapped persons who are unable to look after themselves adequately in their own homes. Two such homes are situated in Prestatyn, i.e., Park House and Carr Holm.

SECTION 47-NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

This section conveys powers to District Councils to remove persons who are "aged, infirm, or suffering from grave chronic diseases and are living in insanitary conditions and are unable to look after themselves and are not receiving adequate care and attention from others."

During the year frequent instances of people requiring care and assistance were brought to the notice of the health department and the majority of cases were admitted to homes or hospital and it is pleasing to record that legal action was not necessary in any case.

#### METEOROLOGY

Full details of climatic conditions during the year in Prestatyn are given at the end of Mr. Edwards' Report, but Prestatyn is fortunate in having a very equable dry climate and free from fog. It is particularly suitable for persons who are suffering from respiratory diseases.

#### SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES

There is no licensed slaughter house in Prestatyn.

#### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

There are 30 properties in the district not connected to the main drainage system.

The surface water system is in the main separate from the foul water system but in certain areas is unsatisfactory, and considerable flooding occurs during heavy thunderstorms.

The present sewer outfall to the sea is unsatisfactory and the Council have received reports from the Consulting Engineers which, at the time of writing this report, the Ministry are considering.

#### PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

During the year samples were taken regularly from the Swimming Pools and were generally satisfactory. During the height of the season, however, algae formation occurred which rendered the water unfit for bathing and it was subsequently necessary to drain the pool and take certain action.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

The local Public Health Laboratory is situate at Conway, and Dr. Kingsley Smith, the Director, and his Deputy, Dr. Griffiths, carry out the bacteriological examinations of specimens sent from the Urban District. They have been most co-operative and my gratitude is extended to them for their advice and help throughout the year.

#### WATER SUPPLY

During the year 22 samples of water were taken and 6 were found to be unsatisfactory bacteriologically. These matters were referred to the West Denbighshire and West Flintshire Water Board and have since been corrected.

I list below a Report on a sample of water submitted during the year for chemical analysis: —

nalysis:	
Appearance	Clear and Colourless
Odom	Nil
Reaction, pH	7.0
	parts per million
Total solids	2.7.2
Nitrogen as free and saline ammonia	0.01
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	0.01
Nitrogen as nitrites	Nil
Nitrogen as nitrates	5.0
Chlorides, as C1	30
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4	0.1
hours at 27°C.	
Total nardness	275
Temporary hardness	112
remanent nardness	163
Alkalinity	112
Free Chlorine	Nil
Potassium, as K	2.8
Anionic synthetic detergents	Nil
Manganese, as Mn	less than 0.025
Cyanides and Thiocynates	Nil
Poisonous metals	Nil
Iron, as Fe	0.09
Free from Carbon dioxide	30

#### Opinion:

The organic condition of this water is satisfactory."

There are no bore holes in the district, but three dwellings are still served by wells due to difficulties in arranging a satisfactory main water supply.

Number of dwellings served	by	public 1	main di	rect to	house	e	 5,273
Number of dwellings served	by	means o	of stand	pipes			 2
Number of dwellings served							3
New mains were laid in							 210

#### MILK SUPPLY

The sampling of milk for submission for bacteriological and chemical analysis is now the responsibility of the County Council, and details are given in Mr. Lewis' Report (County Public Health Inspector) of the number of samples of milk taken and the results thereof.

I am pleased to say it was not necessary to issue any pasteurisation orders on milk unfit for consumption but, nevertheless, it is necessary to take regular samples to ensure a clean milk supply. There is a need to streamline the present administration of Food & Drugs Acts. This is a national problem and not a local one and I must take this opportunity of thanking the County Health Department officials for their co-operation in this matter.

#### CARAVAN SITES

The Caravan Sites in the Urban District are gradually being brought up to standard under the Caravan Act, 1960. Further

details of these appear in Mr. Edwards' Report.

It is regrettable that there is little control over tents in the district, and it is a regular and common feature during the Summer week-ends for large numbers of tents to be situated in certain fields with insufficient sanitation. Furthermore, it has a serious effect on the amenities of the area and one difficulty is that the sites used at present have been used for camping for many years, but increasing numbers of campers are using them each year.

I consider that some action will be necessary to control this nuisance but, on the other hand, since Prestatyn is a holiday resort, other arrangements must be made to meet the need for camping. Furthermore, I suggest that a Municipal Site be acquired for both camping and caravaning, where adequate sanitary facilities and density of tents and caravans can be laid down. Some improvements

have been effected in two of the local tenting sites.

#### SMOKE CONTROL

There has been increasing emphasis on control of atmospheric pollution during the past few years. It is becoming very evident that there is a strong link between lung cancer and chronic bronchitis and pollution of the atmosphere, whether it be from cigarette smoke, petrol fumes or combustion of coal. Prestatyn, fortunately, enjoys a fairly clean atmosphere, due to its location, but I urge householders to burn smokeless fuels or convert to gas, oil or electricity to reduce atmospheric pollution.

#### HOUSING

During 1966 the extent of new property constructed is shown below: —

The	number	of	private	new	houses	built	in	the	town	was	40
Ine	number	of	private	new	bunga	lows	bui	ilt in	the.	town was	170
The	number	of (	Council	prope	erty buil	t in t	he t	town	was	town was	170

There has been a great expansion in the private speculative building in the town during the past few years and it appears that the present trend is likely to be continued. Reference has been made to the implications of this previously in the special survey.

### HOUSING WAITING LISTS AT END OF 1965

The number of people waiting for Council houses is  The number of people waiting for old peoples bungalows is  The number of Council houses is  The number of old people's bungalows.	107 163
The number of old people's bungalows is  The number of old people's flats is	455
propies many is	32

Since 1948 the Council have built 295 houses, bungalows and flats and the table shown below indicates the yearly totals of property constructed in the town:—

Year	New Council property		New Private property	Total
1966	The last on the last of the la		210	 210
1965	16		257	 273
1964	MATERIA		239	 239
1963	12	***	176	 188
1962	8		251	 259
1961	4		272	 276
1960			247	 247
1959	4		182	 186
1958	22		68	 90
1957	10		79	 89
1956	14		90	 104
1955	-		76	 76
1954	11		77	 88
1953	19		62	 81
1952	42		10	 52
1951	2		7	 9
1950	40		3	 43
1949	31		10	 41
1948	60		-	 60

## TABLE SHOWING HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN THE TOWN OVER THE PAST YEARS

Year	Population	Tele Contract	No. of properties	1000	No. of persons per property	N. S.	Rateable value	Product of 1d.
1911 1921 1931 1941 1951 1962 1963 1964 1965	2,036 *4,085 4,511 ‡10,030 8,809 10,670 11,170 11,490 12,070 12,450 12,850		532 770 1,579 2,750 3,536 5,034 5,285 5,395 5,633 5,906 6,116		3.8 5.3 2.9 3.6 2.5 2.0 2.0 2.0 2.0 2.0 2.1		£22,625 £43,310 £74,731 £82,188 £166,284 £176,590 †£480,219 £500,583 £529,280 £555,546	£81 £163 £299 £325 £668 £706 £1,896 £1,970 £2,065 £2,116

<sup>\*</sup>Uncorrected figure. Corrected—2,946, which gives a figure of 3.8 persons per house.

The above table shows the improvement in overcrowding that has taken place in the town especially in the past thirty years.

#### SLUM CLEARANCE

There is very little property in Prestatyn which falls within the category requiring demolition, that is, properties which cannot be reconstructed at reasonable cost.

#### SUPERANNUATION

Thirteen medical examinations were carried out in 1966 on Urban District staff, either for fitness to commence employment or because of absence from work through ill health.

#### COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no such establishments in the district.

## INSPECTIONS UNDER FACTORIES ACT, 1937 TO 1959

The prescribed particulars of inspections carried out during the year are provided in the annexe to this report.

<sup>†</sup> This abnormally high figure was due to war-time reception of evacuees. †The increase in rateable value is due to re-assessment.

## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1966



#### GENERAL SUMMARY OF VISITS, ETC.

#### GENERAL SANITATION

Water Supply	39
Drainage	54
Stables, Piggeries, etc.	2
Fried Fish Shops	1
Camps, etc	75
Factories and Workshops	1
Bakehouses	12
Public Conveniences	11
Schools	15
Watercourses	16
Special Visits re. Housing	167
Visits under National Assistance Act, Sec. 47 and 60	12
Premises re. Insect Pests	112
Miscellaneous Visits and Re-inspections	29
Complaints received and investigated	17
Number of nuisances abated	19
Number of Preliminary notices served for nuisances	1
Formal notices for nuisances	97
Rats and Mice	100
INFECTIOUS DISEASE	
INTECTIONS DISEASE	
Number of cases occurring	53
Enquiries	383
Number removed to Hospital	-
Disinfection	32
FOOD AND DRUGS ACT	
	1
Butchers' Shops	1
Fishmongers	25
Grocers	1
Ice Cream Premises	55
Food Preparing Premises	4
Dairies and Milk Shops	32
Miscellaneous	32
CANADA DE PECCE ETC	
SANITARY DEFECTS, ETC.	
	19
Defective Roofs	18
Defective Floors	10
Defective Eaves and Downspouts	14
Defective Doors	1.

Defective Windows	34
Defective Wall and Ceiling Plaster	29
Defective Grates	2
Defective Chimneys	7
Dampness	17
Defective Sinks and Washbasins	4
Defective Gullies and Wastepipes	C
Defective Pavings	15
Defective Drains	24
Number of Stopped Drains	550
Defective Inspection Chambers	330
Defective Septic Tanks	1
Defective Water Closets	
Defective W.C. Cisterns and Fittings	6
Insufficient W.C. Accommodation	3
Insufficient W.C. Accommodation	3
Insufficient Water Supply	1
Accumulation of Refuse	11
Dilapidated Dustbin	4
Dirty Houses, Outhouses and Yards	6
Insect Pests	43
Rats and Mice	214
Annuals Kept III IIISaniiary Conditions	20
Choked and Hisanitary Differes	2
Miscellaneous	5
	2
	3
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS	
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS	
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS Farms and Dairies	_
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS Farms and Dairies	8
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS Farms and Dairies Camps and Caravans Cafes	_
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS Farms and Dairies Camps and Caravans Cafes Offices	8
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS Farms and Dairies Camps and Caravans Cafes Offices Shops	
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS Farms and Dairies Camps and Caravans Cafes Offices Shops Food Shops	- 8 1
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS Farms and Dairies Camps and Caravans Cafes Offices Shops Food Shops Schools	- 8 1 
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS Farms and Dairies Camps and Caravans Cafes Offices Shops Food Shops Schools Bakeries	- 8 1 1
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS Farms and Dairies Camps and Caravans Cafes Offices Shops Food Shops Schools Bakeries Hotels	- 8 1 
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS Farms and Dairies Camps and Caravans Cafes Offices Shops Food Shops Schools Bakeries Hotels Garages, etc.	- 8 1 1
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS  Farms and Dairies Camps and Caravans Cafes Offices Shops Food Shops Schools Bakeries Hotels Garages, etc. Fried Fish Shops	- 8 1 1
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS  Farms and Dairies Camps and Caravans Cafes Offices Shops Food Shops Schools Bakeries Hotels Garages, etc. Fried Fish Shops	-8 1  1 2 1
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS  Farms and Dairies Camps and Caravans Cafes Offices Shops Food Shops Schools Bakeries Hotels Garages, etc. Fried Fish Shops Miscellaneous	- 8 1 1
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS  Farms and Dairies Camps and Caravans Cafes Offices Shops Food Shops Schools Bakeries Hotels Garages, etc. Fried Fish Shops Miscellaneous	-8 1  1 2 1
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS  Farms and Dairies Camps and Caravans Cafes Offices Shops Food Shops Schools Bakeries Hotels Garages, etc. Fried Fish Shops Miscellaneous  REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL	-8 1  1 2 1
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS  Farms and Dairies Camps and Caravans Cafes Offices Shops Food Shops Schools Bakeries Hotels Garages, etc. Fried Fish Shops Miscellaneous  REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL  Number of visits re Collection and Salvana	-8 1 -1 2 1 -3
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS  Farms and Dairies Camps and Caravans Cafes Offices Shops Food Shops Schools Bakeries Hotels Garages, etc. Fried Fish Shops Miscellaneous  REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL  Number of visits re Collection and Salvana	-8 1  1 2 1  3
NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS  Farms and Dairies Camps and Caravans Cafes Offices Shops Food Shops Schools Bakeries Hotels Garages, etc. Fried Fish Shops Miscellaneous  REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL	-8 1 -1 2 1 -3

This service is carried out with two eighteen cubic yard rearloading vehicles and one ten cubic yard side-loading vehicle, which is now over eleven years old and is due for replacement.

Again this year the time lost due to absenteeism and sickness has been high — a total of 554 days as compared with 476 for last year. The supplying of replacement labour is practically impossible since suitable labour is not available at the local labour exchange, and since medical certificates received in respect of sickness give no indication as to the particular illness of the individual, it is practically impossible to ascertain for what length of time any man may be away from work sick.

The number of properties in the area has increased by 210 and the collection of refuse now entails the emptying of rather more than 6,000 dustbins each week. However, in spite of the continual growth of the town, the refuse collection service is functioning satisfactorily and this is certainly due to the introduction of the Bonus Incentive Scheme and the fact that the regular collection of refuse has resolved in a reduction of the number of dustbins used in certain premises.

During the holiday season, refuse from the Central Beach, Ffrith Beach and Caravan Sites is collected with a 10 cubic vard side-loading vehicle and additional men are employed for this purpose. This vehicle is now 11 years old and is in a condition when it should be replaced with a larger capacity vehicle.

When considering the purchase of new vehicles in the future, consideration will have to be given to the fact that refuse is becoming greater in volume and less in density. This is largely due to the increased use of non-solid fuels for heating and cooking purposes, and to the increase in the use of cartons for the packing of goods generally. In view of this, it will be necessary to introduce compression type refuse vehicles otherwise the number of daily runs to the refuse tip will increase, resulting in increased costs. Furthermore, the introduction of this type of vehicle will eventually call for a reappraisal of the salvage collection system since it will probably not be economical to use trailers on any new vehicles which may be purchased. At the end of the year, the Council agreed to purchase a 35 cubic yard Dennis Paxit for delivery in 1967 and it is anticipated that this will prove a most useful vehicle in dealing with the type of refuse mentioned above.

The work of controlling the disposal of refuse is carried out by one man working on the tip face, assisted by a Wetherill Loader Shovel which is available on a part-time basis. This system is not altogether satisfactory in view of the fact that up to 15 loads of refuse of varying kinds are handled daily. At present, and with the continued expansion of the town, this figure will undoubtedly increase. In these circumstances, consideration should be given to the provision of a machine which would operate full-time on the tip.

Again this year, a series of fires have broken out on the refuse tip, all due to unauthorised persons entering on the land after working hours and being careless in the use of cigarettes and matches. Garden refuse continues to be a major problem and great care has to be exercised to prevent fires arising from spontaneous combustion. The refuse collectors are instructed not to remove this type of refuse, but its total elimination is proving to be almost impossible. Garden refuse can only be satisfactorily handled if it is brought into the tip separate from general household refuse.

An area of approximately 12 acres has now been tipped upon and the ground level here is now some six feet above natural ground level. Consideration could now be given to putting approximately four acres to some use—such as playing fields, which are greatly lacking in this area.

Number of loads of refuse collected	2,283
Number of loads of refuse disposed of	2,472
Area of district, in acres	3,655
Population	12,850
	6,116

#### SALVAGE

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	S.	d.
Mixed Paper	66	8	3	15	580	16	5
Fibreboard	56	10	2	6	579	9	7
Rags	1	14	2	0	17	5	6
Cast Iron	2	8	2	0	13	4	6
	127	2	1	21	£1,190	16	0
Salvage 1965	155	11	2	27	£1,419	17	5

The income from salvage sold during the year showed a decrease of £229.1.5d., on the figure for 1965.

The cost of labour and materials is increasing annually and, as a result the income has decreased again this year. This is partly due to the fact that, with the re-organisation of the refuse collection system, greater emphasis is placed on the task of removing household refuse to the detriment of salvage collection. However, since it is the duty of the Authority to concentrate on the removal of refuse rather than on the collection of salvage, it will be necessary to consider whether or not the collection and sale of salvageable material should be continued in 1967.

#### WATER SAMPLING

	Bacterio- logical		Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
Main Town Supply	20		14	 6
Culvert-Nant Mill Pool	2		2	 -
Private Supply, Wells, etc	-		-	 -
Streams	-		-	 -
Swimming Pool (Lido)	9		6	 3
Swimming Pool (Camp)	3	***	3	 _
Total Samples Taken	34		25	 9

Bacteriological samples are taken from properties at random througout the Council's area, and with the exception of six unsatisfactory samples from the Council's mains, all others proved to be satisfactory.

Reports on the unsatisfactory samples were passed on to the West Denbighshire and West Flintshire Water Board who are now the statutory water undertakers and who resolved the problem, and further samples taken proved to be satisfactory.

The results of a chemical analysis of the town's water supply are given in the Medical Officer of Health's Report.

#### SWIMMING POOLS

The Swimming Pool at the Holiday Camp continued to be operated in a satisfactory manner throughout the holiday season.

The Swimming Pool at the Royal Lido, which contains sea water, was heated for the first time this year, the temperature being raised to 70°F. Although, in general, these pools continued to be operated in a satisfactory manner, it was found that the temperature to which the water was heated resulted in the rapid formation of a growth of algae to such an extent that it was necessary to close and empty the pool. This was then thoroughly cleansed and refilled. Slight modification in the form of control of the chlorinating plant has eliminated any further growth of algae. Samples taken from both pools generally show that the quality of water is equal to that obtained from the mains.

#### FOOD AND DRUG PREMISES

(1) Number of Food Premise	es in the area, by type of premises:
Grocers 3	Candy Floss Kiosks 3
Greengrocers 1	13 Ice Cream Klosks o
Confectioners 1	[3] Cinemas and Theatres 1
Bakeries 1	2 Schools /
Restaurants and Snack Bars 2	7
Butchers 1	
Fishmongers and Game Dealers	
	- D - 1 Clubs 9
Fried Fish Shops 1	T TT

Total: 181

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

(2) Food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955:—

Grocers 19	Kiosks 6
Restaurants and Snack Bars 15	Fried Fish Shops 5
Sweet Shops 7	Butchers 1
Greengrocers 2	

(3) Two hundred and seventy-six visits of inspection have been paid to Food Premises in general, and 102 to those premises which are registered under the above-mentioned Act and Regulations.

#### (4) Fried Fish Shops :-

Number of Fried Fish Shops in District ... ... ... ... 5

These shops are well conducted.

I am pleased to report that the food traders are continuing their efforts to provide a clean service and to improve their premises. Also it is pleasing to note that it was not necessary to take any formal action under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 during the year.

#### MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION

All the town's meat supply is slaughtered and inspected at the Rhyl Municipal Abattoir and from time to time is further inspected when exposed for sale in the local shops.

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

#### Solids

	lbs.	ozs.
Fruit	91	141
Vegetables	26	81
Meat	787	01
Fish	16	121
Miscellaneous	28	0
	950	31

It will be seen that there was a reduction of 25% in the amount of foodstuffs found to be unfit as compared with 1966. This would seem to be due to the fact that the traders are becoming aware of the necessity to store their goods properly and to effect as quick a turnover as possible. The co-operation between the traders and this department continues to be very good and it is hoped that this will continue in the future.

The traders continue to co-operate in drawing my attention to any nuisance or doubtful food stuffs which may come into their possession.

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963 TABLE A

### REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
0	41	21 38
0	130	30
U		0
3	15	. 4
0	1	0
	O v O registered during	Number of pre presistered during 0 2 0 41 136 9

### TABLE B

Number of Visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises ... 110

### TABLE C ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons	Employed
Number of Visits of all kinds by Inspectors to R	egistered Premises	192
Offices		113
Retail Shops		437
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses		113
Catering Establishments open to the public		112
Canteens		8
Fuel Storage Depots	*** ***	5
То	tal	867
Total Ma	les	339
Total Fema	les	528

Eight premises were registered under the Act during the year and the necessary information in each case was passed on to the local Fire Authority for their attention.

Mr. Leslie Jones was appointed to this Authority as Additional Public Health Inspector in December and was able to make a start on the inspection of premises as required by the Act. It is anticipated that all such properties will have been visited by the middle of 1967 and steps taken to implement the provisions of the Act.

Particulars of the samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 in the Prestatyn Urban District Council area during the year ended 1966 by the County Public Health Inspector, Mr. E. Lewis.

Description of Article	No. of Samples taken
Milk	9
Dairy Produce	2
Ice Cream	4
Sausages	7
Fish and Meat Products	3
Alcoholic Drinks	3
Miscellaneous Groceries	14
Vegetables and Fruit	/
	49

All samples were found to be satisfactory. No evidence of fungicides, colouring matter or pesticides were found in the samples of fruit or vegetables.

No evidence of Pencillin, Brucella Abortus, or Bovine Tuberculosis were found in the samples of farm bottled milk submitted for examination.

Samples were also taken under the Pharmacy and Poisons Act and Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs Act, and these were satisfactory.

### 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:-

Clubs	10
Clubs Public Halls, Cafe, etc.	0
Cinemas	1

I am pleased to report that during the year, the occupiers of these premises have continued to maintain high standards of hygiene and all buildings now comply with all requirements of Food Hygiene Regulations and of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act

# FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Inspec- tions		Number of Written Notices		Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 to be enforced by Local Authorities  (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)	35	21				111
Total	36	. 21	****			-
2.—Cases in which defects were found :— Particulars	Number o	Number of cases in which defects were found Referred	efects v	were found Referred to H.M. Inspector	Num	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of Cleanliness Overcrowding Unreasonable temperature Inadequate ventilation Ineffective drainage of floors Sanitary conveniences:—  (a) insufficient (b) unsuitable or defective (c) not separate for sexes Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)  Total			11111 11111		11111 11111	

### PART VIII OF THE ACT: OUTWORK (Section 110 and 111)

Outworkers in August List required by Sec. 110 (1) (c) (2). Wearing Apparel-making, etc. ... 4

# RODENT INFESTATION PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The duties of Rodent Officer are carried out by the General Assistant for the Public Health Department and during the year he has carried out a total of 420 visits to various premises.

Certain of the Council's property such as the Sewerage Disposal Works, Refuse Tip and the Beach areas are inspected and

treated as a matter of routine.

The majority of infestations of private households are still caused by the indiscriminate feeding of birds and unconsumed breadcrumbs, etc., being left on the ground. Generally speaking, the residents are very co-operative in discontinuing this practice when the risks of infestation are pointed out to them.

No difficulties are experienced in obtaining the co-operation both of the occupiers of private and business premises in reporting the

presence of rats or mice.

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

### Treatment carried out

	Rats	Mice
Private Dwellings	120	. 7
Council Dwellings	16	1
Business Premises	34	. 4
Council Property other than Dwellings	15	
Farms		. —

420 visits were made in connection with the above treatments.

### CAMPS

### CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

The licensed sites within the area are as follows:-

### Caravan Sites and Number of Caravans

Bastion Road Camp			600
Tall-y-Don Camp			66
Frestatyn Holiday Camp			135
Plas Deva Caravan Camp			45
White House Camp		***	20
Plas Morfa Caravan Site	**		9
Midnant Farm Caravan Site			20
ren-y-Firith Caravan Camp			50
Morfa Du Caravan Camp	***		25
Ironmongers' Shop, Ffordd Talargoch, Meliden			1
Y Nyth, Plas Newydd Drive, Prestatyn	***		1
"Brookdale," Cefn-y-Gwrych, Meliden			1
celli y Chriyell, Melitiel			1

The Caravan sites generally are well conducted, the owners are co-operating fully with this department in all matters.

The district continues to be very popular with campers who are inclined to pitch their tents in all parts of the district without reference to the owners of the land in question and considerable difficulty is experienced in controlling such indiscriminate camping and in maintaining any real standard of hygiene.

There are two camping grounds, used by the owners of tents, which enjoy "long-user rights" under the Town and Country Planning Acts, and these are filled to capacity during late July and early August. In practice, the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, do not provide adequate control of this temporary camping and it is possible that the limit of 42 consecutive days permitted under the Act may be rather too wide. It would appear that if properly laid-out sites were provided, preferably by the local authority and properly maintained, these would go a long way towards improving an ever-increasing demand on the part of the campers for reasonable holiday accommodation. The practice of taking holidays in caravans and tents is one which has grown tremendously since the end of the war and which has created a problem which must be met either by private individuals or local authorities.

Organised camps occupied by units of Boy Scouts and Boys' Brigade are set up each year, but since these are properly organised and well conducted they cause very little trouble to the department.

### THE WARREN

This area is now in operation as a Caravan Site although certain works such as the final surfacing of the roads still remain to be completed.

The problem of the shops in this area, which are substandard, remains to be dealt with and it is anticipated that some progress will be made during the forthcoming year.

### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are eight public conveninces in the town situated at the rear of the Palladium Cinema, Coronation Gardens, Central Beach, near the Grand Hotel, Pendre Gardens, Hillside Gardens, Meliden and The Ffrith Beach.

The misuse and wanton damage in these premises still continues as was reported last year, and although every effort has been made to apprehend offenders, these have been unsuccessful. With the exception of those toilets at the Ffrith Beach, it is an impractical proposition to provide permanent attendants owing to the fact that each unit is too small and, as a result, it is not possible always to maintain these facilities in a way that is to be desired.

Owing to the rapid growth of the town, the necessary facilities are proving to be inadequate and it is felt that, in addition to replacing the existing buildings in the Hillside Gardens, and near the Grand Hotel, provision should be made for further conveniences to be erected in the Victoria Road West and Ffordd Pen-

rhwylfa districts.

### MORTUARY

This building has not been used for seven years since all casualties are removed to hospital in Rhyl and the mortuary postmortem examination facilities at the hospital are used. In view of the meagre facilities, the poor condition of the building and its unsatisfactory location, it is unlikely that any further use will be made of it as a mortuary, and consideration could be given to discontinuing its use for this purpose.

HOUSING

The number of applications received for Council houses both for general need and for the Aged Persons continues to increase at a faster rate than vacancies are occurring. The great problem is that of the aged persons since time has shown that properties suitable for occupation by them become available only at the rate of one a year.

During the year, the council built 16 flats for aged persons. (1) Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :-(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ... 23 (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... (2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human (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 ... ... (2) Remedy of defects during the year with Service of formal Notices: Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... (3) Action under Statutory Powers during the year :-(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1957: (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 :-(b) By Local Authority in defect of owners ... ... ... ... (C) Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957: (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition (1a) Number of houses for which Undertakings were accepted (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of (D) Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957: (1) Number of dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders (2) Number of dweilings in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwellings having been rendered fit ... (4) Housing Act, 1936 (Overcrowding):-(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the 22 (2) Number of families dwelling therein ... ... ... ... 25 88 (3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... ... ... ... (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the 11 (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the 8 (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... ... 30 (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 ... ... (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ... ... ... ... ... ... ...

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 being 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	 	 	 	 	-
Certificates	of	disrepair	cancelled	 	 	 	 	-

Apart from a small demand for Certficates of Disrepair during the first year of the operation of this Act there has been no further advantage taken of its provisions. It would appear that as a means of improving rented property in Prestatyn, this Act has failed to have the desired effect although this may, to some extent, be due to the fact that in very many cases every opportunity is taken to sell rented property and an increasing number of houses are becoming owner occupied.

# CLIMATOLOGY OF PRESTATYN

Tamperafure	rafure	Sunshine		Rainfall	-
Lowest	Highest	Longest	Total	Maximum	Total
Monn	570 (79th)	60 hrs. (31st)	38.3 hrs.	0.34" (2nd)	1.06"
January 219 (19th & 20th)	580 (5th)	7.0 hrs. (27th)	46.4 hrs.	0.45" (7th)	2.45"
February 290 (14th)	56º (5th)	9.6 hrs. (18th)	97.1 hrs.	00.35" (1st)	1.07"
March 295 (15th)	68° (30th)	12.7 hrs. (30th)	103.2 hrs.	1.14" (15th)	3.48"
May 40° (13th, 28th &		14.6 hrs (29th)	211.2 hrs.	00.31" (6th)	1.59
29th)		12.8 hrs (1st)	134.6 hrs.	0.86' (11th)	3.01"
June 480 (19th)	700 (73rd)		160.6 hrs.	0.74" (10th)	3.04"
July459 (19th)	710 (11th)	12.4 hrs. (15th)	147.9 hrs.	0.85" (12th)	2.16"
August410 (25th)	690 (9th & 10th)	9.3 hrs. (8th)	128.6 hrs.	0.46" (14th)	1.65"
September3/2 (20th)		7.8 hrs. (11th &	89.4 hrs.	0.48" (3rd)	3,42"
(1111)		28th)		0.41" (15th)	2.67"
November35° (7th)	540 (12, 13 14th) 570 (17th & 28th)			0.96" (9th)	4.11"
December 54° (31d & 4ttt)				Total rainfall for	year 29.71"

Sunshine figures are not available for the months of November and December owing to the fact that the recorder frame was damaged and the sphere had become unsuitable for accurate readings.

With the continued increase in the growth of the town, it is becoming more difficult to carry out all the duties relating to the Department, especially those entailing routine inspections of factories and shops. Whilst every effort is made to apportion the time spent on indoor and outdoor duties, I find that the increasing amount of time which has to be given to office administration is tending to reduce the time spent on such routine matters as those mentioned above. However, the appointment of Mr. Leslie Jones, additional Public Health Inspector in December, will enable some progress to be made in carrying out the inspection of shops, offices and premises in multiple occupation.

In conclusion, may I express my appreciation of the help and kindness shown me by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, Dr. D. P. W. Roberts, the Clerk of the Council, and the indoor and outdoor staff.

J. M. EDWARDS,

Public Health Inspector

