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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.,

AND

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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

FOR THE YEAR

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1967

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Additional Public Health Inspector: L. JONES

Clerk:

Mrs. B. PARRY (retd. June)

Mrs. H. GRIFFITH (September)

Meteorological Officer:

E. J. MILES, C.Eng., A.M.I.Mun.E., A.M.Inst.H.E.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1967

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year ending 1967.

The population of the District rose during the year by 350, although there was an excess of deaths over births of 37. There were 189 births which gave a local crude birth rate of 14.3 per 1,000 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 21.1, which compares well with the national average of 17.2. There were 13 illegitimate births during the year which gave an illegitimacy rate of 68 per 1,000 births, which is slightly above the national average of 84. There were four still-births during the year, showing a local still-birth rate of 21 per 1,000 live and still-births, which is an improvement on the rates of 1966 (33), but is still above the national average of 15.

During the year a mother died in childbirth. There were three deaths of infants under one year giving an infant mortality rate of 16 per 1,000 live births, which is slightly below the national average of 18.3. Local records kept by the Health Department show that two of the deaths were due to regurgitation and subsequent inhalation of stomach content. 226 deaths were registered in the District during the year, giving a crude death rate of 17.1 per 1,000 population and, when adjusted for the high proportion of old people in the local population, the standardised rate was 9.1 per 1,000 population, which was below the national average of 11.2.

There were 77 cases of measles notified in the year, 9 cases of dysentery, 21 cases of Whooping cough, 3 cases of food poisoning, 3 cases of pneumonia and 2 cases of scarlet fever. The dysentery was mainly of a mild type and affected, to a large extent, children in a residential school, and the outbreak resolved itself after the usual precautions had been taken. The food poisoning outbreaks were largely sporadic and investigations as to the cause of the illnesses were negative. A large party of holidaymakers were affected with suspected food poisoning as they were about to leave a local Holiday Camp and information was received by the Health Department after they had left the resort. The outbreak occurred on the last day of the Camp's season and, although investigations carried out in Prestatyn were negative, I am satisfied that the symptoms were caused by food poisoning.

One case of pulmonary tuberculosis and three cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were registered during the year. There was one death due to pulmonary tuberculosis and two others in which pulmonary tuberculosis was a contributing factor.

The Mass Radiography Unit has now ceased to call in the area on a routine basis and visits to Presttyn will probably be on a six-monthly basis, as far as one can foresee at present. The fight against tuberculosis is not over yet or likely to be for some considerable time and there is still the problem of patients not taking medication for treatment of tuberculosis when required to by the physician and this often leads to the development of resistant strains of T.B. germs which, in consequence, can be spread through the population and, in so doing, keeping the disease endemic in the community.

Housing development continues both in the private and public sectors during the year and 171 dwellings were built by local builders and construction has started on 34 flats on the Caradoc Road site to provide accommodation for Aged Persons and single People.

The condition of the main drainage system in the town continued to deteriorate throughout the year and some progress was made in formulating schemes for providing a new drainage system including provision of a new sea outfall. The Government have vetoed the proposal to pump the foul sewage from Prestatyn to the new works under construction near Point of Ayr Colliery for the western end of the Holywell Rural District where conventional methods of sewage disposal would be in operation. The alternative scheme accepted by the Government and originally proposed by the consultants appointed by the Prestatyn Urban District Council involves the discharge of up to six times the dry weather flow into a sea outfall which will discharge it below low water mark. It remains to be seen how much sewage will come back on to Prestatyn's and neighbouring beaches, although preliminary but incomplete flow tests have been carried out which have proved satisfactory.

It is hoped that construction will start in 1969 on the main drainage scheme and, if there is any delay, it can have very serious consequences in the town as there are still a large number of housing developments already approved and, if completed, will certainly aggravate the existing surcharging of sewers.

The public toilets at Hillside, Barkby Avenue and Coronation Gardens, as I have stated in previous reports, are still in a very unsatisfactory state and should be improved or closed.

I should like to pay tribute to the outstanding efforts of the Voluntary Organisations in the District, particularly the Women's Royal 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 1967 (Registrar General's estimate) ...	13,200
Population change compared with previous year (increase) ...	350
Total number of properties (end of 1967)	6,287
Rateable value of the Urban District at end of 1967	£580,042
Product of a penny rate	£2,194
General rate in £ Domestic	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 99, Female 90	189
Legitimate Live Births—Male 94, Female 82	176
Illegitimate live births—Male 5, Female 8	13
Illegitimate local rate per 1,000 live births	68
National illegitimate rate per 1,000 live births	84
Crude birth rate per 1,000 live births	14.3
Birth rate comparability factor	1.48
Birth rate standardised	21.1
National birth rate per 1,000 population	17.2

Still Births :

Still births (total)	4
Legitimate still births (total)	4
Illegitimate still births (total)	—
Local still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	21
National still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	14.8

Infant Mortality Rates :

Infant deaths under one year of age (total)	3
Legitimate infant deaths under one year of age (total)	3
Illegitimate infant deaths under one year of age (total)	—
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	16
National infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	18.3
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	15
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—

Infant deaths under 4 weeks of age (Neo-natal)	1
Legitimate infant deaths under 4 weeks of age	1
Illegitimate infant deaths under 4 weeks of age	—
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	5.5
National neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	12.5
Total peri-natal deaths (still births and deaths under one week combined)	5
Peri-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	26
National peri-natal mortality rate	25.4
Deaths in first week of live (early neo-natal period)	1
Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	5.6
National early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	10.8

Maternal mortality, including abortion :

Number of deaths	—
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	—

DEATHS

Deaths—Male 114, Female 112	226
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	17.1
Comparability factor	0.53
Death rate standardised per 1,000 population	9.1
National death rate for England and Wales	11.2

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	Change in population due to births and deaths only during year	Change in population due to migration
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1901	1,261	—	—	—
1911	2,036	—	—	—
1921	4,085	—	—	—
1931	4,511	—	—	—
1941	10,030	—	—	—
1951	8,809	—	—	—
1952	8,553	—256	—76	—180
1953	8,670	+117	—19	+136
1954	9,210	+540	—36	+576
1955	9,050	—160	—49	—111
1956	9,210	+160	—43	+203
1957	9,380	+170	—31	+201
1958	9,550	+170	—24	+194
1959	9,720	+170	—64	+234
1960	10,020	+300	—49	+349
1961	10,670	+650	—4	+654
1962	11,170	+500	—60	+560
1963	11,490	+320	—50	+370
1964	12,070	+580	+9	+573
1965	12,450	+380	—41	+421
1966	12,850	+400	—57	+457
1967	13,200	+350	—37	+387

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

DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES

	%	%
	National	Prestatyn
Tuberculosis	0.4	0.4
Cancer of Lung	4.8	3.2
All other forms of Cancer	14.6	11
Coronary Disease	20.2	27
All other diseases of Circulatory system	16.8	23
Bronchitis	5.3	5
All other diseases of Respiratory system	6.7	1.4
Diseases of digestive system	1.9	1.9
Motor Traffic accidents	1.3	1.3

Cancer death	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Lung	9	6	5	8	3	10	4	7	4	6	8
Stomach	6	3	4	4	2	3	6	2	9	7	6
Breast	6	2	4	1	3	3	4	2	4	3	6
Uterus	2	2	1	1	4	1	2	1	1	4	1
Leukaemia	—	2	1	—	1	2	2	—	—	2	3
Other Sites	16	15	24	15	13	17	20	17	22	25	12
Total all sites	39	30	39	29	26	36	38	29	40	47	36

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 :

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Deaths	29	36	37	55	52	51	48	52	60	49	67

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 infants' deaths recorded under 1 year of age by the Registrar General. In the local office details of 2 only are available, which are as follows:—

Age at death	Cause of Death
2 months (male)	Inhalation of stomach contents
11 months (female)	Aspiration of resurgitated stomach contents

TABLE SHOWING VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT IN RECENT YEARS

	Registrar General's mid-year estimate of population.	Number of local births: R.G.'s returns.	Local crude birth rate per 1,000 population.	Local adjusted rate.	National birth rate per 1,000 population.	Local deaths: R.G.'s returns.	Crude death rate per 1,000 population.	Adjusted local rate per 1,000 population.	National death rate per 1,000 population	Infant deaths under 1 year of age.	Local infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births.	National infant mortality rate.
1911	2,036	25	12.5	—	23.8	30	14.2	—	13.9	2	25.0	—
1921	4,085	30	10.1	—	—	32	10.8	—	—	1	33.0	—
1931	4,511	60	14.0	—	15.8	46	10.76	—	12.3	4	66.0	—
1941	10,030	132	13.2	—	14.2	135	13.5	—	12.9	7	53.4	66.0
1951	8,809	91	10.4	—	15.5	173	19.8	12.9	12.5	4	44.0	29.6
1952	8,553	94	10.9	—	15.3	170	19.9	12.9	11.3	3	31.9	27.6
1953	8,670	108	12.4	14.5	15.5	127	14.6	9.5	11.4	1	9.3	26.8
1954	9,210	98	11.0	13.6	15.2	134	15.1	9.5	11.3	—	—	25.5
1955	9,050	99	10.9	13.5	15.0	148	16.4	10.3	11.7	4	40.2	24.9
1956	9,210	104	11.3	14.0	15.7	147	15.9	10.9	11.7	2	19.2	23.8
1957	9,380	124	13.0	16.2	16.1	155	16.5	11.2	11.5	2	16.1	23.0
1958	9,550	143	15.0	18.4	16.4	167	17.5	11.6	11.7	1	7.0	22.5
1959	9,720	127	12.03	13.35	16.5	181	18.6	14.1	11.6	6	51.28	22.0
1960	10,020	134	13.4	14.84	17.1	183	18.3	13.9	11.5	1	6.0	21.7
1961	10,750	172	16.4	17.06	17.4	176	16.3	13.4	12.0	4	23.3	21.4
1962	11,170	144	12.9	13.3	18.0	204	18.3	15.3	11.9	3	20.8	21.6
1963	11,490	155	13.4	17.4	18.2	205	17.8	11.3	12.2	2	12.9	20.9
1964	12,070	201	16.4	23.8	18.4	192	15.8	9	11.3	6	30	20
1965	12,450	191	15.3	22.1	18.0	232	18.6	10.2	11.5	5	26	19
1966	12,850	175	13.6	19.7	17.7	232	18.0	10.1	11.7	2	11.3	19
1967	13,200	189	14.3	21.1	17.2	226	17.1	9.1	11.2	3	16	18.3

CAUSES OF DEATH : REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	AGE IN YEARS														Total	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75 and over																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
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1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The table shown below indicates the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases that occurred during 1967

Disease	At all ages	Under 1 year	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-44	Over 65	45-64	Cases admitted to hospital
Scarlet Fever	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	21	1	3	10	6	1	—	—	—	—
Measles	77	14	16	28	29	—	1	2	—	—
Pneumonia	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Food Poisoning	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
Dysentery	9	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pemphigus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	116	15	19	39	38	4	3	8	—	—

There were 77 cases of measles, 21 cases of whooping cough, 9 cases of dysentery and 3 cases of pneumonia notified during the year.

The cases of dysentery all cleared up after treatment and were mainly confined to a residential school. A large number of suspected food poisoning cases occurred in a local Holiday Camp, although as stated in the preamble to this report, it was difficult to be certain of the exact number because they had already left the Camp when information was received by the Health Department that they might be suffering from food poisoning. Lectures are given to the Staff at the local Holiday Camp during the season on food hygiene and constant improvements are being carried out in the catering equipment.

As will have been seen in the previous table, there were four new cases of tuberculosis notified in 1967. 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 1967 was as follows:-

Pulmonary Cases	132	Males: 11	Females: 10
Non-Pulmonary Cases	12	Males: 3	Females: 3

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

The Welsh Rural Hygiene Unit is a mobile X-ray unit based at Wrexham and visits all parts of North Wales and regularly every three months visits Rhyl Town Hall all day. The only persons exempt from the public except young children, and details are given below of the 1967 results:-

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

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Scarlet Fever	2	6	19	3	5	2	6	5	12	3	2
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	34	1	—	2	1	2	—	2	1	—	1
Whooping Cough	53	19	8	3	1	—	9	12	9	1	21
Measles	53	197	20	137	106	111	41	88	52	97	77
Pneumonia	5	1	3	—	—	1	1	4	2	2	3
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	3	5	1	1	6	—	*500	8	—	5	3
Dysentery	—	2	—	11	—	2	2	—	5	24	9
Polio myelitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis Respiratory ...	12	1	6	1	6	—	6	4	3	1	1
Tuberculosis Non-respiratory	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	3

* Suspected

TUBERCULOSIS 1967

LOCAL RETURNS

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6—10 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11—15 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16—20 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21—25 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26—35 ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
36—45 ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
46—55 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
56—65 ...	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
66 and upwards...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	1	—	1	2	1	—	—	—

As will have been seen in the previous table, there were four new cases of tuberculosis notified in 1967. 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 1967 was as follows: -

Pulmonary Cases ...	Males: 15	Females: 10
Non-Pulmonary Cases ...	Males: 2	Females: 3

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 1967 results: —

WELSH HOSPITAL BOARD

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

TABLE I

Details of examinations carried out by Unit "G" during the period 1st January - 31st December, 1967:

Circuit Location FLINTSHIRE	Number Examined	Number of visits	Av. attendance per visit
Holywell	1,028	15	69
Mold	1,096	16	69
Rhyl	2,192	15	146
Shotton	786	16	49
Special Surveys	1,793	—	—

TABLE II

Analysis showing Type of Examinee:

Type of Examinee	FLINTSHIRE
General Poulation Volunteers	4,541
General Practitioners Referrals	140
Scholars	354
Students	28
Contacts	27
Mental Hospital Staff	45
Factory Groups - Industrial	1,603
Factory Groups - Non Industrial	50
Special Groups	—
Mental Patients	107
	6,895

TABLE III

Details of total number of cases referred to Chest Clinic or diagnosed as abnormal by the Mass Radiography Unit:

Analysis of total number of cases found to be abnormal:

	Referred for further investigation to Chest Clinics	Other Pulmonary Abnormalities diagnosed on Unit	Total
FLINTSHIRE			
Holywell	5	14	19
Mold	6	13	19
Rhyl	105	110	215
Shotton	4	7	11
Special Surveys	9	19	28

TABLE IV

Analysis of total number of cases found to be abnormal.

Abnormality	Flintshire
Confirmed Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1
"New" Cases	—
"Old" Cases	—
Requiring further observation at Chest Clinic	23
Healed Primary Tuberculosis	54
Healed Post Primary Tuberculosis	32
Abnormalities of the Bony Thorax and soft tissues	8
Malignant Neoplasm	2
Non-Malignant Neoplasm	1
Lymphadenopathies excluding Sarcoidosis	2
Sarcoids	2
Congenital Cardiac Abnormalities	48
Acquired Cardiac Abnormalities	4
Pneumoconiosis - without P.M.F.	1
Pneumoconiosis - with P.M.F.	14
Pulmonary Fibrosis - non tuberculous.	9
(to include Asthma and Bronchitis)	6
Emphysema	4
Bronchiectasis	31
Bacterial or virus infection	7
Pleural thickening or calcification	1
Abnormalities of the Diaphragm and Oesophagus	6
Spontaneous Pneumothrax	6
Diagnosis not yet received from Chest Physician	6
Failed to attend Chest Clinic	259
Negative after investigation at Chest Clinic	33
	292

* Old cases refer to examinees who are notified cases of pulmonary tuberculosis known to the Chest Clinic prior to Mass Radiography Examination

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 Ffordd-las, 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 and mass immunisation of susceptible children is about to commence.

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 note that legal action was only necessary in one 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.

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 43 samples of water were taken and 8 were found to be unsatisfactory bacteriologically. 4 samples were as a result of faulty domestic plumbing which was subsequently corrected and further sampling proved that the water taken from the premises was bacteriologically excellent. One unsatisfactory was taken from a children's paddling pool resulting in the owners adding additional chlorine and 4 cases were referred to the West Denbighshire and West Flintshire Water Board.

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

*Analysis :

Odour	Clear and Colourless
Appearance	Nil
Reaction, pH	7.2
	parts per million
Total solids	361
Nitrogen as free and saline ammonia	0.01
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	0.01
Nitrogen as nitrites	—
Nitrogen as nitrates	4.6
Chlorides, as Cl	30
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C.	0.1
Total hardness	264
Temporary hardness	112
Permanent hardness	163
Alkalinity	112
Free Chlorine	Nil
Potassium, as K	2.2
Anionic synthetic detergents	Nil
Manganese, as Mn	—
Cyanides and Thiocynates	Nil
Poisonous metals	Nil
Iron, as Fe	0.05
Free Carbon dioxide	22

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 main direct to house	5,444
Number of dwellings served by means of stand pipes	2
Number of dwellings served by means of wells	3
New mains were laid in	171

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.

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 caravanning, 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 1967 the extent of new property constructed is shown below: —

The number of private new houses built in the town was	58
The number of private new bungalows built in the town was ...	113
The number of Council property built in the town was	—

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 1967

The number of people waiting for Council houses is	273
The number of people waiting for old people's bungalows is	144
The number of Council houses is	129 446
The number of old people's bungalows is	14
The number of old people's flats is	32 43

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
1967	...	171	171
1966	—	210	210
1965	16	257	273
1964	—	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	No. of properties	No. of persons per property	Rateable value	Product of 1d. rate
1911	2,036 ...	532 ...	3.8 ...	— ...	—
1921	*4,085 ...	770 ...	5.3 ...	£22,625 ...	£81
1931	4,511 ...	1,579 ...	2.9 ...	£43,310 ...	£163
1941	†10,030 ...	2,750 ...	3.6 ...	£74,731 ...	£299
1951	8,809 ...	3,536 ...	2.5 ...	£82,188 ...	£325
1961	10,670 ...	5,034 ...	2.0 ...	£166,284 ...	£668
1962	11,170 ...	5,285 ...	2.0 ...	£176,590 ...	£706
1963	11,490 ...	5,395 ...	2.0 ...	†£480,219 ...	£1,896
1964	12,070 ...	5,633 ...	2.0 ...	£500,583 ...	£1,970
1965	12,450 ...	5,906 ...	2.0 ...	£529,280 ...	£2,065
1966	12,850 ...	6,116 ...	2.1 ...	£555,546 ...	£2,116
1967	13,200 ...	6,287 ...	2.1 ...	£580,042 ...	£2,194

*Uncorrected figure. Corrected—2,946, which gives a figure of 3.8 persons per house.

† This abnormally high figure was due to war-time reception of evacuees.

† The increase in rateable value is due to re-assessment.

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

Ten medical examinations were carried out in 1967 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.

EMPLOYMENT REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1967

As in previous years, I again stress that the figures cover an area which includes Rhyl, Prestatyn, St. Asaph and Kinnel Bay.

(1) UNEMPLOYMENT

Number of Persons Registered as Unemployed (excluding Registered Disabled Persons requiring Employment under sheltered conditions) for the year 1967.

Date	Men	Women	Total
9th January	608	183	791 (648)
13th February	603	180	783 (618)
13th March	579	178	757 (569)
10th April	575	145	720 (517)
8th May	508	111	619 (468)
12th June	446	53	499 (292)
10th July	387	32	419 (265)
14th August	401	32	433 (290)
11th September	443	57	500 (388)
16th October	587	134	721 (605)
13th November	611	169	780 (743)
11th December	637	164	801 (760)

The comparable figures for 1966 are given in brackets after each monthly total.

There was a definite upward trend in unemployment in 1967 which reflected the climate nationally.

(2) DISABLED PERSONS

Number of Unemployed Registered Disabled Persons (excluding those suitable for employment under sheltered conditions only).

Date	Men	Women	Total
9th January	68	5	73 (66)
13th February	65	4	69 (66)
13th March	65	5	70 (63)
10th April	66	7	73 (64)
8th May	48	4	52 (54)
12th June	38	2	40 (32)
10th July	32	1	33 (32)
14th August	39	3	42 (37)
11th September	42	3	45 (35)
16th October	54	4	58 (58)
13th November	54	6	60 (59)
11th December	54	9	63 (66)

Comparable figures for 1966 are given in brackets after the monthly totals.

Number of Unemployed Registered Disabled Persons suitable for employment under sheltered conditions only.

Date	Men	Women	Total
January	6	—	6
February	7	—	7
March	7	—	7
April	—	—	—
May	19	—	19
June	16	—	16
July 1	17	—	17
August	14	—	14
September	14	—	14
October	15	—	15
November	19	1	20
December	19	—	19

Number Registered as Disabled Persons in the Area

Date	Men	Women	Total
April 1967	516	93	609
April 1966	452	90	542
April 1965	473	79	552

A breakdown of the foregoing figures for 1967 shows the causes of the disablements: —

	April 1967	
	Men	Women
19-14-18 Pensioners	40	—
Other H.M. Forces Cases	128	1
Disabled from birth or early childhood ...	65	35
Industrial accident or disease	70	10

The main causes of the disabilities were: —

	Men	Women
Injuries and diseases of lower limbs	80	9
Injuries and diseases of upper limbs	62	4
Spinal troubles	51	9
Heart Complaints	54	5
Chest complaints	67	15

A high proportion of disabled persons are in the higher age group and many have moved into this area for health reasons.

Many disabled persons moving into the area have skills for which there is no local demand. Despite all these factors it will be seen that the numbers of unemployed disabled persons in 1967 did not rise in 1967 in greater proportion than the total unemployed.

(3) EMPLOYMENT

Although the area is traditionally a seaside holiday resort there are a number of factories in the area who maintain a good labour force and the gradual shift from seasonal to permanent employment continues.

Despite the economic climate in 1967 which resulted in a tightening of employment opportunities, the Employment Exchange numbers placed in employment in 1967 were 809 men and 478 women, a total of 1,287.

Date	Men	Women	Total
April 1967	809	478	1,287
April 1966	750	450	1,200
April 1965	700	400	1,100
April 1964	650	350	1,000
April 1963	600	300	900
April 1962	550	250	800
April 1961	500	200	700
April 1960	450	150	600
April 1959	400	100	500
April 1958	350	50	400
April 1957	300	0	300

A breakdown of the foregoing figures for 1967 shows the causes of the disabilities:—

Men	Women
10-14-18 Pensioners	40
Other H.M. Forces Cases	128
Disabled from birth or early childhood	52
Industrial accident or disease	10
Other causes	70

Men	Women
Injuries and diseases of lower limbs	80
Injuries and diseases of upper limbs	62
Spondylitis	21
Heart Complaints	24
Other complaints	67

A high proportion of disabled persons are in the higher age group and many have moved into this area for health reasons. Many disabled persons moving into the area have skills for which there is no local demand. Despite all these factors it will be seen that the numbers of unemployed disabled persons in 1967 did not rise in 1967 in greater proportion than the total unemployed.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1967



GENERAL SUMMARY OF VISITS, ETC.

GENERAL SANITATION

Water Supply	75
Drainage	59
Stables, Piggeries, etc.	2
Camps, etc.	50
Factories and Workshops ...	41
Public Conveniences	43
Schools	7
Watercourses	17
Special Visits re. Housing	227
Visits under National Assistance Act, Sec. 47 and 60	15
Premises re. Insect Pests	5
Miscellaneous Visits and Re-inspections	154
Complaints received and investigated	43
Number of nuisances abated	16
Number of Preliminary notices served for nuisances	57
Formal notices for nuisances	11
Rats and Mice	173

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Number of cases occurring	121
Enquiries	274
Number removed to Hospital	1
Disinfection	18

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

Butchers' Shops	18
Fishmongers	21
Grocers	58
Ice Cream Premises	7
Food Preparing Premises	37
Dairies and Milk Shops	3
Miscellaneous	57

SANITARY DEFECTS, ETC.

Defective Roofs	13
Defective Floors	8
Defective Eaves and Downspouts	22
Defective Doors	8

Defective Windows	2
Defective Wall and Ceiling Plaster	36
Defective Grates	4
Defective Chimneys	6
Dampness	24
Defective Sinks and Washbasins	—
Defective Gullies and Wastepipes	4
Defective Pavings	4
Defective Drains	14
Number of Stopped Drains	444
Defective Inspection Chambers	—
Defective Septic Tanks	—
Defective Water Closets	1
Defective W.C. Cisterns and Fittings	2
Insufficient W.C. Accommodation	1
Insufficient Water Supply	3
Accumulation of Refuse	30
Dilapidated Dustbin	2
Dirty Houses, Outhouses and Yards	2
Insect Pests	29
Rats and Mice	79
Animals kept in Insanitary Conditions	1
Choked and Insanitary Ditches	—
Miscellaneous	4

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Number of visits re. Collection and Salvage	385
Number of visits re. Disposal	69

During the year, a 10 cubic yard side loading collecting vehicle which was over 12 years old was replaced by a Dennis "Paxit" 35 cubic yard rear loader. This vehicle is of the compression type which is so necessary at the present time due to the trend of refuse generally toward increased bulk and decreased weight. The carrying capacity of this vehicle as compared with a non-compression type still in use is such that the average number of journeys to the Refuse Tip per day has been reduced from five to three, with a resulting saving of time.

Time lost due to absenteeism and sickness fell from 554 days in 1966 to 420 this year, which averages 28 working days per man employed in this service.

The number of properties in the area has increased by 171 but, fortunately, the success of the Council's Bonus Scheme enables this increase to be absorbed in the weekly collection of over 6,000 dustbins. Replacement labour is still rather difficult to obtain due to the nature of the work and the financial inducements made by Industry.

During the 1967 holiday season, it was possible to use an 18 cubic yard capacity vehicle for the collection of refuse from the Beaches and Caravan sites in place of the 11 cubic yard vehicle used hitherto, with the result that greater efficiency was obtained.

The work of controlling the disposal of refuse has been greatly facilitated by the purchase of a Bristol Taurus Loader Shovel which has eliminated the need to call on the Loader Shovel used by the Engineer and Surveyor's Department. This, in turn, has reduced labour costs but, since the new machine is in more regular use, a greater measure of control has been obtained. These factors, together with visits which are paid to the Refuse Tip at weekends by the Loader driver, have helped to reduce vandalism and it is pleasing to note that there were no fires on this land during the year.

Garden refuse continues to pose a problem as far as collection is concerned and, although any persons wishing to take such refuse to the Tip themselves are encouraged to do so, it would seem that some consideration must soon be given to the provision of a Local Authority service for this purpose.

An area of approximately 14 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 eight acres to some use—such as playing fields, which are greatly lacking in this area.

Number of loads of refuse collected	1,948
Number of loads of refuse disposed of	2,173
Area of district, in acres	3,655
Population	13,200
Number of Premises	6,287

SALVAGE

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Fibreboard	16	3	3	12	164	0	3
Mixed Paper	13	16	2	12	117	3	7
Rags		9	0	0	4	1	0
	30	9	1	24	£285	4	10
Salvage 1966	127	2	1	21	£1,190	1	0

The economics of the collection and sale of salvage was considered by the Council previous to the making of the Annual Estimates and, it is decided that the financial losses on this scheme outweighed any benefits that might be obtained by excluding such items from the Tip. Therefore, this scheme was discontinued on the 31st March, 1967.

WATER SAMPLING

	Bacterio- logical	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
Main Town Supply	33	26	7
Culvert—Nant Mill Pool ...	2	2	—
Private Supply, Wells, etc....	—	—	—
Streams	2	1	1
Swimming Pool (Lido)	4	4	—
Swimming Pool (Camp)	2	2	—
Total Samples Taken	43	35	8

Bacteriological samples are taken from properties at random throughout the Council's area and, as will be seen from the above Table, of the 33 taken from the mains supply, 7 were unsatisfactory. The various causes of the unsatisfactory samples, which were taken from three premises were shown to be (1) Faulty mixer taps, (2) Anti-splash services which had become badly fouled and (3) Defective old lead service pipes,

These defects were remedied, and subsequent samples proved to be satisfactory.

The unsatisfactory sample taken from the stream was probably the result of being taken after heavy rain. This supply is not used for human consumption.

Reports of all samples taken from mains supply are passed to the West Denbighshire and West Flintshire Water Board for information and any necessary action.

The result of a Chemical Analysis of the town's water supply are given in the Medical Officer's Report.

SWIMMING POOLS

Both swimming pools continued to be operated in a satisfactory manner throughout the holiday season.

There has been no further trouble in the Royal Lido Pool from the growth of algae such as was experienced in 1966. Plans are in hand to introduce a further measure of automation into the chlorinating plant and to obtain improved control over the ph value. It is hoped that these modifications will be in operation for the 1969 season.

FOOD AND DRUG PREMISES

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

Grocers	36	Candy Floss Kiosks	3
Greengrocers	13	Ice Cream Kiosks	6
Confectioners	13	Cinemas and Theatres	1
Bakeries	12	Schools	7
Restaurants and Snack Bars ...	23	Homes	7
Butchers	10	Hospitals	1
Fishmongers and Game Dealers	4	Boarding Houses	5
Fried Fish Shops	5	Registered Clubs	9
Sweet Shops	17	Licensed Houses	9
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 one visits of inspection have been paid to Food Premises in general, and 84 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 and warehouses:

Solids

	lbs.	ozs.
Fruit	172	4
Vegetables	143	3
Meat	558	5
Fish	159	14
Miscellaneous	23	10
Canned Milk	1	8
	1,058	12

It will be seen that there was an increase of 10% in the amount of foodstuffs found to be unfit as compared with 1966. This increase is due mainly to the present trend of larger demand for frozen foods which must be held at low temperature by refrigeration. Refrigerator breakdown or loss of power means, therefore, that quite large stocks of food have to be written off as unfit.

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.

Particulars of the samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 in the Prestatyn Urban District Council area during the year ended 1977 by the County Public Health Inspector, Mr. E. Lewis.

Description of Article	No. of Samples taken
Milk	10
Dairy Produce	2
Ice Cream	4
Sausages	5
Fish and Meat Products	3
Alcoholic Drinks	4
Miscellaneous Groceries	12
Vegetables and Fruit	7
	—
	47
	—

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.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

TABLE A
REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	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
Offices	6	47	47
Retail Shops	4	133	133
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	0	9	9
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens	1	11	11
Fuel Storage Depots	0	1	1

TABLE B

Number of Visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises ... 243

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 Registered Premises ...	243
Offices ...	203
Retail Shops ...	421
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses ...	115
Catering Establishments open to the public ...	78
Canteens ...	8
Fuel Storage Depots ...	5
Total ...	830
Total Males ...	341
Total Females ...	480

Of the 308 premises in the Urban District which were used for commercial or industrial purposes, 201 such premises fell to be dealt with under the provisions of the Act in view of the employment of persons therein and all of these premises have been registered. 187 premises were, or as the result of informal action, have been brought up to the standard required by the Act. Of the remaining 14, the future of 10 were considered doubtful and the remaining 4 will be brought up to standard in the near future.

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 ...	10
Clubs ...	8
Public Halls, Cafe, etc. ...	5
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	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	6	12	4	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities ...	38	60	21	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	44	72	25	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found :—

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Number of cases in which defects were found Referred to H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of Cleanliness ...	12	12	4	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ...	4	4	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	1	1	—	—
Sanitary conveniences :—				
(a) insufficient ...	1	1	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	5	1	3	—
(c) not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	23	19	37	—

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 221 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 bread-crumbs, 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	94	2
Council Dwellings	11	—
Business Premises	12	—
Council Property other than Dwellings	14	—
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
Tan-y-Don Camp	66
Prestatyn Holiday Camp	135
Plas Deva Caravan Camp	45
White House Camp	20
Plas Morfa Caravan Site	9
Midnant Farm Caravan Site	20
Pen-y-Ffrith 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

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 conveniences 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 Penrhwyfya districts.

MORTUARY

This building has not been used for eight 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.

(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)	79
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	121
(2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	4
(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	53

(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	6
--	---

(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	7
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	7
(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 ... 24

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

(a) By owners ... 3

(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 Orders were made ... 2

(1a) Number of houses for which Undertakings were accepted --

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

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

(1) Number of dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... 2

(2) Number of dwellings 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 year ... 35

(2) Number of families dwelling therein ... 40

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... 137

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... 11

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... 10

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... 38

(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.

CLIMATOLOGY OF PRESTATYN

Month	Temperature		Sunshine		Rainfall	
	Lowest	Highest	Longest	Total	Maximum	Total
January ...	22° F (8th)	57° F (27th)	—	—	0.1 ins. (6th)	0.75 ins.
February ..	28° F (13th)	59° F (2nd)	7.2 hrs. (26th)	75.0 hrs.	0.62 ins. (16th)	2.29 ins.
March ...	35° F (27th)	63° F (21st)	9.9 hrs. (31st)	164.7 hrs.	0.42 ins. (8th)	1.46 ins.
April ...	30° F (1st)	60° F (19th)	10.9 hrs. (29th)	95.5 hrs.	0.43 ins. (1st)	1.45 ins.
May ...	35° F (3rd)	65° F (28th)	14.7 hrs. (29th)	154.6 hrs.	0.73 ins. (14th)	3.42 ins.
June ...	42° F (2nd)	69° F (12th & 17th)	15.0 hrs. (12th)	243.0 hrs.	0.35 ins. (24th)	0.80 ins.
July ...	47° F (1st & 22nd)	80° F (12th)	13.5 hrs. (10th)	172.0 hrs.	0.57 ins. (13th)	1.40 ins.
August ...	46° F (21st)	76° F (22nd)	13.6 hrs. (20th)	141.6 hrs.	0.57 ins. (30th)	3.02 ins.
September...	44° F (14th)	70° F (26th)	10.7 hrs. (8th & 14th)	137.3 hrs.	0.82 ins. (11th)	4.01 ins.
October ...	42° F (18th & 28th)	64° F (6th, 7th & 8th)	7.8 hrs. (12th)	83.0 hrs.	0.94 ins (1st)	5.58 ins.
November...	24° F (24th)	59° F (10th)	7.2 hrs. (18th)	64.4 hrs.	0.46 ins. (2nd)	2.61 ins.
December...	25° F (20th)	56° F (22nd)	5.9 hrs. (4th)	41.4 hrs.	0.35 ins. (24th)	2.34 ins.

No record of the sunshine for the month of January is available since the Recorder was out of order.





Clwyd Press, Rhyl