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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

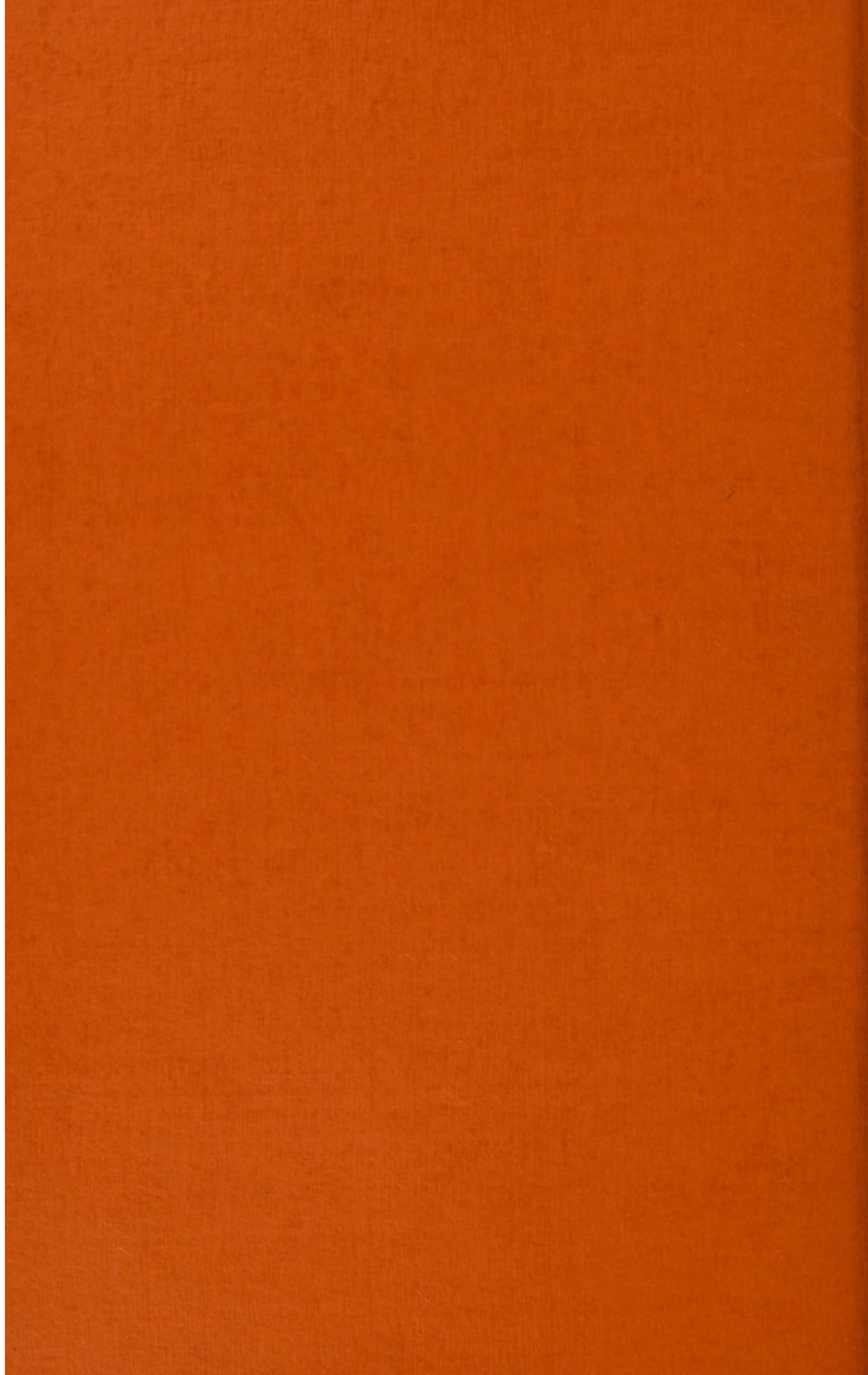
**SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

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

FOR THE YEAR

**1969**





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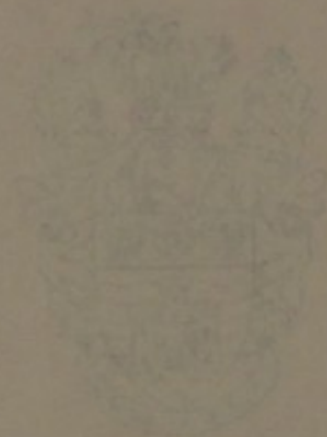
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FRANCIS & CO. LTD., 11, CROWN STREET, LONDON, E.C. 4.

AND

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

MR. J. M. EDWARDS, 11, CROWN STREET, LONDON, E.C. 4.

FOR THE YEAR

1900

**CYNGOR DOSBARTH DINESIG  
PRESTATYN**



**Adroddiad Blynyddol**

**SWYDDOG IECHYD**

**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.**

**AROLYGYDD IECHYD**

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

AM

1969



CYNGOR DOSBARTH DINESIC  
PRESTATYN



# Adroddiad Blynyddol

SWYDDOG IECHYD

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

AROLYGYDD IECHYD

Mr. A. M. EDWARDS, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.L.

MA

1988

# PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1969

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Chairman: Councillor E. J. NEWBY, J.P.

Coun. R. J. REYNARD „ E. A. ROYLE „ R. C. C. JARRETT, C.B.E., B.E.M., C.C., J.P. „ A. G. ANDERSON „ IVY ANDERSON	Coun. ANNE F. MacLEOD „ OWEN JONES „ T. W. VAUGHAN „ P. W. TAYLOR „ A. R. YOUNG
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Chairman of the Council: Councillor R. J. REYNARD.

## 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.

### Senior Public Health Inspector: Meat and Food Inspector:

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

### Additional Public Health Inspector: L. JONES, M.A.P.H.I.

### Clerk:

Mrs. H. GRIFFITH

### 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 1969

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1969.

The population of the town increased by 240 during the year to 13,670 although there was an excess of deaths (248) over births (169) of 79. The birth rate, when adjusted for the higher proportion of old people in the population, was 18.4 per 1,000 population compared with the national average of 16.3. There were five still-births during the year, giving a local still-birth rate of 29 per 1,000 population, compared with the national average of 13. Too much significance should not be attached to this figure, as it can vary considerably from year to year. In some years the still-birth rate in Prestatyn has been below the national average and the addition of one or two deaths does make a considerable difference to the local rate. In 1969 there was one infant death under the age of one year, giving a local infant mortality rate of 6 per 1,000 live births compared with the national average of 18. There were 15 illegitimate births, giving a local illegitimacy rate of 88 compared with the national average of 84 per 1,000 live births.

The standardised death rate, i.e., adjusted for the higher proportion of old people in the local population was 9.6 per 1,000 population, compared with the national average of 11.9. Of the 248 deaths, 58 were due to cancer, the commonest site being cancer of the lung which accounted for 20 deaths. Coronary disease again took a heavy toll, accounting for 64 deaths, and strokes accounted for another 45 deaths. Examination of the Registrar General's Returns which are reproduced in this Report, show that there were only three deaths under the age of 45 years, and only seven deaths in the age group 45-54 inclusive, but beyond that the mortality rate rises dramatically due to deaths occurring from heart disease and cancer. Any major breakthrough in the prevention and treatment of diseases of the circulatory system, which of course includes coronary disease, would probably increase the expectation of life of the average man by up to five years, and restriction in the consumption of cigarettes would add a further three years expectation of life. Furthermore, it can be said that the restriction of smoking would also add to the quality of life, apart from the increase in expectation of life, as there is a definite correlation between cigarette smoking and chronic bronchitis, emphysema, cancer of the lung, coronary heart disease and interference with the circulation of blood to the limbs.



It should also be stressed that it is important for people to take more regular exercise. This is far better than sudden spurts of activity at the end of the week, having spent most of the week in the office and having travelled to work in a car or bus.

In 1969 there were five cases of measles, three cases of food poisoning, 5 cases of scarlet fever and one case of whooping cough notified. On the whole the year was a quiet one from the infectious diseases point of view, except that during December there was a national and local epidemic of influenza which continued into 1970. This was reflected in the very much higher death rate during the winter compared with previous winters.

Talks were given during the year by the Health Department staff to catering workers, especially those engaged in catering for the holiday trade. There is still considerable scope for improvement in hygienic practices in cafes and holiday camps in this country. Whilst catering equipment has improved considerably of late, the attitude of staffs on the whole has not changed whilst I have been working in the public health field. It is the same slap-happy attitude very often, and the public should complain more when they receive adulterated food. They should certainly boycott all shops and cafes where they have had poor quality food or service.

The Caradoc Road flats were completed during the year, after considerable delays, and have now been let. Progress is being made on the provision of old peoples' dwellings at Yr Olchfa, and houses for general needs at Meliden, and it is hoped that these dwellings will be ready for letting in 1971.

The main drainage scheme was commenced during the year and this involved the provision of new sewers for both foul and surface water. The scheme also includes the provision of new holding tanks at the sewage works and a new outfall for the discharge of foul water into the sea. This outfall will extend to well below the low water mark, discharging sewage at certain states of the tide which will most favourably permit the dispersal of the sewage out to sea rather than return it on to the beach. There will also be a separate arrangement to discharge surface water. I am hopeful that the sewage will be dispersed out to sea so that the amenities of the resort will not be affected, especially in view of the considerable amount of money that is being spent on the extension of the promenade eastwards from the Lido to beyond the Grand Hotel, which will open up a large area of beach to holidaymakers, and where in the past sewage has been found in gullies half way down the beach to east of the Grand Hotel.



All these schemes cost a great deal of money and the public must be prepared to pay for it in the interests of keeping the environment free of pollution as much as possible. We are constantly polluting our environment with sewage, waste gases, rubbish, etc., and I would like to ask householders, in the winter, not to bank up coal fires overnight and to burn smokeless fuel wherever possible, although at present this is in very short supply and very expensive. North Sea gas is virtually sulphur free and its use will probably significantly reduce the amount of sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere.

I would like to pay tribute to the outstanding efforts of the voluntary organisations in the district, especially the Women's Royal Voluntary Service, for providing an excellent "Meals on Wheels" service.

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

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 1969 (Registrar General's estimate) ...	<del>13,430</del> 13,670
Population change compared with previous year (increase) ...	240
Total number of properties (end of 1969) ... ..	6,142
Rateable value of the Urban District at the end of 1969 ....	£610,826
Product of a penny rate ... ..	£2,370
General rate in £ ... ..	13/6d.

## 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 69, Female 100 ....	169
Legitimate Live Births—Male 66, Female 88 ....	154
Illegitimate Live Births—Male 3, Female 12 ....	15
Local Illegitimacy rate per 1,000 live births ....	88
National Illegitimacy rate per 1,000 live births ....	84
Crude birth rate per 1,000 live births ....	12.4
Birth rate comparability factor ....	1.48
Birth rate standardised ....	18.4
National birth rate per 1,000 population ....	16.3

## Still Births:

Still births (total) ....	5
Legitimate still births (total) ....	4
Illegitimate still births (total) ....	1
Local still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births ....	29
National still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births ....	13

## Infant Mortality Rates:

Infant deaths under one year of age (total) ....	1
Legitimate infant deaths under one year of age (total) ....	1
Illegitimate infant deaths under one year of age (total) ....	—
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births ....	6
National infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births ....	6
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births ....	6
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 ... ..	6
National neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ... ..	12
Total peri-natal deaths (still births and deaths under one week combined) ... ..	6
Peri-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births ... ..	34
National peri-natal mortality rate ... ..	23
Deaths in first week of life (early neo-natal period) ... ..	1
Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ... ..	6
National early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ... ..	10

**Maternal mortality, including abortion:**

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

**DEATHS**

Deaths—Male 129, Female 119 ... ..	248
Crude death rate per 1,000 population ... ..	18.1
Comparability factor ... ..	0.53
Death rate standardised per 1,000 population ... ..	9.6
National death rate for England and Wales ... ..	11.9

**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
1968 ... ..	13,430	+230	—87	+367
1969 ... ..	13,670	+240	—79	+319

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



## DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES

	National	Prestatyn
Tuberculosis ... ..	0.4	—
Cancer of Lung ... ..	4.8	8
All other forms of Cancer ... ..	14.6	15
Coronary Disease ... ..	20.2	26
All other diseases of Circulatory system (including strokes) ... ..	16.8	23
Bronchitis ... ..	5.3	4
All other diseases of Respiratory system ... ..	6.7	1
Diseases of digestive system ... ..	1.9	1
Motor Traffic accidents ... ..	1.3	1

Cancer death	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Lung ... ..	6	5	8	3	10	4	7	4	6	8	11	20
Stomach ... ..	3	4	4	2	3	6	2	9	7	6	6	6
Breast ... ..	2	4	1	3	3	4	2	4	3	6	2	5
Uterus ... ..	2	1	1	4	1	2	1	1	4	1	1	1
Leukaemia ... ..	2	1	—	1	2	2	—	—	2	3	3	2
Other Sites ... ..												
Total all sites... ..	30	39	29	26	36	38	29	40	47	36	39	58

**Coronary Heart Disease:** There has been a significant rise in the deaths due to coronary heart disease in this country, and it has been established that there are certain factors linked with the incidence of this disease, and these factors are as follows: -

1. High Blood Pressure.
2. Obesity.
3. Smoking Cigarettes - the more cigarettes smoked - the greater risk of developing this disease.
4. High Blood Cholesterol.
5. Physical Inactivity.
6. Development of mental stress and less important factors which include heredity and race.

It is hoped that within a few years, it will become feasible for the screening of sections of the population at the greatest risk of developing the disease, that is men between the ages of 30 - 45 and women between the ages of 40 - 55 and giving advice to those who show the greatest risk of developing this disease.

There are certain factors which reduce the odds of developing the disease, these being to reduce smoking, taking more exercise, reducing the intake of sugar and starchy food, and if obese, of making a serious attempt to reduce weight.

The following chart shows the annual deaths from this disease in the Urban District over the past 11 years.

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Deaths ... ..	37	37	55	42	51	48	52	60	49	67	70	64



## SCREENING PROCEDURES

During the past few years there have been projects for screening the general population in certain selected centres in the country, to ascertain whether mass screening procedure would be at all feasible and practical in the detection of disease and its treatment and possible prevention.

The diseases that come to mind in this context are namely: —

Cancer of the Cervix (the neck of the womb).

Diabetes.

High Blood Pressure.

Defects of Vision.

Hearing Defects.

Anaemia.

Urinary Infections in Young People.

Coronary Heart Disease.

More work needs to be done in the future before any large scale screening procedure can be set in motion, in particular, information on the levels of normality for the population.

It may be 10 years before mass screening procedure will be introduced and, pending this, the only screening that is being undertaken, on a mass scale at present, is the detection of blood disease in new born babies, due to errors of metabolism, which if not treated cause mental defects, and which now can be successfully treated.

## INFANT MORTALITY

There was one infant death recorded under one year of age, details of which are given below: —

Age at death	Cause of death
A few days old (Male) ... ..	Respiratory distress due to prematurity. Contributory cause—perforation of the bowel.

Five Still-births were recorded by the Registrar General, but details of four are available from local records: —

Sex	Age	Cause of death
Female—36 weeks ... ..		Accidental haemorrhage due to eclampsia.
Female—40 weeks ... ..		Unknown.
Female—40 weeks ... ..		Asphyxia due to prolapse of the cord.
Female—(?) 36—40 weeks ...		Complete lack of ante-natal care.



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	—	12.5	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	11.5	2	19.2	23.8
1957	9,380	124	13.0	16.2	16.1	155	16.5	11.2	11.7	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
1968	13,430	178	13.3	19.7	16.9	265	19.7	10.4	11.8	3	16	18.0
1969	13,670	169	12.4	18.4	18.4	248	18.1	9.6	11.9	1	6	9.0

# 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—14	15—24	25—34	35—44	45—54	55—64	65—74	75 and over
B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach ... ..	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—
B19(6) Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus ... ..	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	11	3
B19(7) Malignant Neoplasm - Breast ... ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B19(8) Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus ... ..	F	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1
B19(10) Leukaemia ... ..	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
B19(11) Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc. ... ..	M	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4
B46(4) Other diseases of Nervous System, etc. ... ..	F	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	3
B26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease ... ..	M	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
B28 Ischaemic Heart Disease ... ..	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm Oesophagus ... ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
B19(4) Malignant Neoplasm - Intestine ... ..	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	9	10	11
B19(9) Malignant Neoplasm - Prostate ... ..	M	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	8	19
B21 Diabetes Mellitus ... ..	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B22 Avitaminoses, etc. ... ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—





# INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The table shown below indicates the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases that occurred during 1969.

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 ... ..	5	—	—	—	2	2	1	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	5	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tetanus ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid and Typhoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total ... ..	15	2	2	—	3	3	4	1	—	—

Brucellosis is not a notifiable disease and under the new public health regulations pneumonia, puerperal pyrexia and erysipelas have been deleted, and acute encephalitis, amoebic dysentery, tetanus, anthrax, leprosy, leptospirosis, malaria, yellow fever and smallpox added.



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were five cases of measles, three cases of food poisoning, five cases of scarlet fever and one case of whooping cough notified in 1969. On the whole, the year was quiet from the infectious disease aspect, except that during December there was a local and national epidemic of influenza.

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

	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Scarlet Fever ... ..	19	3	5	2	6	5	12	3	2	4	5
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	—	2	1	2	—	2	1	—	1	1	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	8	3	1	—	9	12	9	1	21	—	1
Measles ... ..	20	137	106	111	41	88	52	97	77	114	5
Pneumonia ... ..	3	—	—	1	1	4	2	2	3	2	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	1	1	6	—	*500	8	—	5	3	5	3
Dysentery ... ..	—	11	—	2	2	—	5	24	9	1	—
Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis Respiratory ...	6	1	6	—	6	4	3	1	1	1	—
Tuberculosis Non-respiratory	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	3	—	—

\* Suspected



## TUBERCULOSIS 1969

Report of Dr. Morrison of work at Rhyl Chest Clinic for 1969.

### LOCAL RETURNS

No. of New Cases and Contacts attending Clinic during the year ...	393
No. of New Cases from Prestatyn attending Rhyl Clinic ... ..	Nil
No. of transfers in ....	1

No new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified, but one case transferred in from another town and held under surveillance. 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.

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.

Pulmonary Cases ... ..	Males: 4 ... ..	Females: 3
Non-Pulmonary Cases ... ..	Males: 2 ... ..	Females: Nil

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 Mass X-Ray Unit ceased to call routinely at Rhyl at the end of 1967.

## **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.

#### **CERVICAL SMEARS**

(FOR DETECTION OF CANCER OF NECK OF WOMB)

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~~ ~~Practitioner.~~ District Nurses have now been assigned to practitioners in the town to assist them in their work and, as far as I am aware, the system is working satisfactorily.

### 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. 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

Vaccinations are carried out routinely on all one year old babies whose parents have granted consent. This is also available for older children up to the age of seven years who have not had the disease. Procedure involves one injection and there are few adverse reactions.

### GERMAN MEASLES

Vaccination is now available for girls between 11 and 14 years and for women of child bearing age who have not had the disease. If a woman is pregnant and suffers from German Measles in the first three months of pregnancy, there is a 30% chance of serious congenital defects occurring in the baby. Vaccination can be given by the patient's General Practitioner, but the woman should avoid becoming pregnant for two months after the injection.

### 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 problem in all schools. A new school has been built at Meliden and was opened in 1969.

### PROTECTION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS (B.C.G. VACCINATION)

All susceptible 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

There are no Nursing Homes in the town registered under the Public Health Act, 1936, with the County Council.

### 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 Holme; and a new home is under construction on Marine Road which will be open in 1970.

### 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 not necessary.



## 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.

Construction work has now commenced on the main drainage scheme involving the provision of new foul and surface water sewers in many parts of the town, and new sewage tanks at the outfall works. When the scheme is completed, this should relieve altogether the nuisance arising in various parts of the town as a result of the surcharging of the sewers. Also included in the programme is the provision of a new sea outfall for foul water and this outfall will extend over one mile from the high water mark and will discharge sewage at certain states of the tide into a deep channel through a diffuser after screening and maceration, so as to ensure the sewage is dispersed by the best possible means and it is to be hoped, that sewage will not be returned to the beach.

## 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 situated 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 a total of 67 Water Samples were taken with results as follows:—

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Mains Water ... ..	54	Nil
Swimming Pool ... ..	8	1
Raw Water ... ..	4	Nil



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

**\*Analysis :**

Appearance .....	Clear and Colourless
Odour .....	Nil
Reaction. pH .....	7.4
Colour (Hazen Units) .....	Nil
Total solids .....	less than 5
Nitrogen as free and saline ammonia .....	parts per million
Nitrogen as nitrites .....	388
Nitrogen as nitrates .....	0.00
Chlorides, as Cl .....	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C. ....	3.2
Total hardness .....	21
Temporary hardness .....	1.7
Permanent hardness .....	281
Alkalinity .....	210
Total residual chlorine .....	71
Free available chlorine .....	210
Potassium, as K .....	Nil
Anionic synthetic detergents .....	Nil
Manganese, as Mn .....	2.0
Cyanides and Thiocynates .....	—
Poisonous metals .....	20 Nil
Free carbon dioxide .....	20

**Opinion:**

The chemical 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 ... 5,960

Number of dwellings served by means of stand pipes ... 1  
(This being a cottage at rear of 100 Victoria Road, Prestatyn).

Number of dwellings served by means of wells ... 3

New mains laid in ... 200

**MILK SUPPLY**

The sampling of milk for submission for bacteriological and chemical analysis is 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 AND CAMPING 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.

I have visited the camping sites at the eastern end of the town for many years and there has been an improvement in the general sanitary standards. This has been mainly due to the provision of extra chemical toilets, but these toilets are always troublesome to keep clean, quickly get filled up and are generally unpleasant to use compared with water closets. I should like to see permanent new toilets provided at these camping sites.

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 sub-standard facilities. 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. There are no satisfactory legal standards for control of Camping Sites and I hope the Government can give a lead to Local Authorities to impose similar standards to those for Caravan 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 1969 the extent of new property constructed is shown below:—

The number of private new dwellings built in the town was ... ..	157
The number of Council properties built in the town was ... ..	33

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.

### HOUSING WAITING LISTS AT END OF 1969

The number of people waiting for Council houses is ... ..	84
The number of people waiting for old people's bungalows is ... ..	203
The number of Council houses is ... ..	479
The number of old people's flats is ... ..	36
The number of old people's bungalows is ... ..	22
The number of other flats is ... ..	18



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
1969 ... ..	35	157	190
1968 ... ..	—	164	164
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
1968 ... ..	13,430 ...	6,604 ...	2.1 ...	£598,142 ...	£2,310
1969 ... ..	13,670 ...	6,794 ...	2.0 ...	£610,826 ...	£2,370

\*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

Twelve medical examinations were carried out in 1969 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.



## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EMPLOYMENT OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1969

The unemployment figures and the numbers of unemployed disabled persons for the Rhyl Employment Exchange area which includes Prestatyn, St. Asaph and Kinnel Bay are listed below:—

### (1) UNEMPLOYMENT

**Number of Persons Registered as Unemployed (excluding Registered Disabled Persons requiring Employment under sheltered conditions) for the year 1969.**

Date	Men	Women	Total
13th January	718	155	873 (858)
10th February	722	153	875 (855)
10th March	748	160	908 (776)
14th April	653	123	776 (723)
12th May	593	89	682 (612)
9th June	482	40	522 (450)
14th July	497	35	532 (397)
11th August	531	22	553 (423)
8th September	555	68	623 (502)
October	673	160	883 (756)

The comparable figures for 1968 are given in brackets after each monthly total.

### (2) DISABLED PERSONS

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

Date	Men	Women	Total
13th January	78	11	89 (69)
10th February	83	11	94 (84)
10th March	82	12	94 (81)
April			(83)
12th May	74	6	80 (64)
June			(47)
14th July	56	—	56 (49)
11th August	64	1	65 (56)
8th September	71	4	75 (55)
13th October	84	5	89 (72)
10th November	96	6	102 (81)
8th December	91	9	100 (85)

Comparable figures for 1968 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
13th January	17	1	18 (17)
10th February	15	1	16 (21)
10th March	14	1	15 (18)
April			(19)
12th May	17	—	17 (13)
June			(13)
14th July	13	—	13 (12)
11th August	14	—	14 (11)
8th September	18	—	18 (11)
13th October	17	1	18 (16)
10th November	16	3	19 (16)
8th December	17	1	18 (18)

The numbers unemployed were higher for 1969. This followed the national trend but, in addition, the effect of selective employment tax on a resort area is fairly substantial, causing employers in Hotel, Catering, Amusements and the construction industries to prune their winter staff to a minimum.

The number of registering disabled unemployed also went up in the year, but not to such an extent as to suggest that they were more affected than able-bodied workers. This supports the theory that given the right kind of job, disabled persons are as efficient and productive workers as the able-bodied.

The number of Disabled Persons (both unemployed and employed) Registered in the area were as follows: —

Date	Men	Women	Total
April 1969	579	90	669
April 1968	561	84	645
April 1967	516	93	609

A breakdown of the foregoing figures for 1969 shows the causes of disablement: —

	Men	Women
1914-18 Pensioners ... ..	38	—
Other H.M. Forces Cases ... ..	134	1
Disabled from birth or early childhood ...	75	34
Industrial accident or disease ... ..	80	9
Other accident or disease ... ..	252	45

The main types of disabilities were: —

	Men	Women
Injuries and diseases of lower limbs ... ..	84	9
Injuries and diseases of upper limbs ... ..	60	3
Spinal troubles ... ..	68	9
Heart Complaints ... ..	61	8
Chest Complaints ... ..	84	15

A high proportion of the disabled persons are in the higher age groups. It is normal to expect an area which is desirable for health and pre-retirement purposes to have a higher proportion of disabled persons. Many move into the area with skills for which there is no local demand and at an age when it is difficult to fit them in to an employer's organisation. This is supported by the high number of heart and chest complaint cases registered.

### (3) EMPLOYMENT

The establishment of a sheltered workshop in the Rhyl area has been included in the financial estimates of the Local Authorities for 1970.

Despite the economic climate and a tightening up of employment opportunities plus the continuing effect of the Selective Employment Tax, the Employment Exchange placed 916 men, 530 women, a total of 1,466 in the year 1969.

G. G. MORGAN,

Area Manager.

30th June, 1970.



# PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

## FOR 1969



### GENERAL SUMMARY OF VISITS, ETC.

#### GENERAL SANITATION

Water Supply	84
Drainage	553
Stables, Piggeries, etc.	1
Camps, etc.	39
Factories and Workshops	14
Public Conveniences	20
Schools	11
Watercourses	6
Special Visits re. Housing	31
Visits under National Assistance Act, Sec. 47 and 60	15
Premises re. Insect Pests	66
Rats and Mice	317
Miscellaneous Visits and Re-inspections	185
Complaints received and investigated	964
Number of nuisances abated	909
Number of Preliminary notices served for nuisances	72
Formal notices for nuisances	4

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Number of cases occurring	7
Enquiries	34
Number removed to Hospital	—
Disinfection	4

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

Butchers' Shops	15
Fishmongers	3
Grocers	22
Ice Cream Premises	16
Food Preparing Premises	5
Dairies and Milk Shops	1
Miscellaneous	20

#### SANITARY DEFECTS, ETC., INCLUDING COUNCIL PROPERTY

Defective Roofs	58
Defective Floors	21
Defective Eaves and Downspouts	44
Defective Doors	51



Defective Windows .....	71
Defective Wall and Ceiling Plaster .....	54
Defective Grates .....	61
Defective Chimneys .....	36
Dampness .....	56
Defective Sinks and Washbasins .....	33
Defective Gullies and Wastepipes .....	6
Defective Pavings .....	10
Defective Drains .....	18
Number of Stopped Drains .....	506
Defective Inspection Chambers .....	3
Defective Septic Tanks .....	1
Defective Water Closets .....	18
Defective W.C. Cisterns and Fittings .....	158
Insufficient W.C. Accommodation .....	—
Insufficient Water Supply .....	—
Accumulation of Refuse .....	7
Dilapidated Dustbins .....	12
Dirty Houses, Outhouses and Yards .....	1
Insect Pests .....	66
Rats and Mice .....	317
Animals kept in Insanitary Conditions .....	—
Choked and Insanitary Ditches .....	—
Miscellaneous .....	3

### REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Number of visits re Collection .....	14
Number of visits re Disposal .....	15

The success of the Council's Bonus Scheme still continues and, although a further 190 properties of various types were built during the year, this increase was absorbed in order that the weekly collection of refuse could be maintained.

Time lost due to sickness and absenteeism rose from 268 working days in 1968 to 449 during this year - an average of 32 working days per man employed in this service.

It has been found that a number of the younger men leave the service during the year and, although the bonus scheme has been in existence for 5 years, the turnover of labour often reaches 50%. This would seem to indicate that some further inducement must be forthcoming to make the work more attractive and so reduce the magnetism of work in industry on Deeside which usually offers a bigger pay-package and is more congenial. Therefore, it is felt that some further consideration should be given to the introduction of the Paper Sack System of collection which, apart from any Public Health considerations, would make the men's task cleaner and lighter.



Control of the Refuse Tip is still carried out by one man who uses a Bristol "Taurus" Loader Shovel. However, as the ash content of household refuse is diminishing year by year and the volume is increasing, the problem of consolidating the Tip assumes greater importance. Fortunately, the delivery of earth from various Building and Civil Engineering projects in the town is of some assistance.

There have been no outbreaks of fire on the Tip 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 20 acres have 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 ... ..	2,364
Number of loads of refuse disposed of ... ..	2,708
Area of district, in acres ... ..	3,655
Population ... ..	13,760
Number of Premises ... ..	6,625

### **CIVIC AMENITIES ACT**

Work done under the provisions of this Act resulted in 10 motor vehicles removed to a breaker's yard, and 5 sites tidied up.

### **LITTER ACT, 1958**

Indiscriminate dumping of rubbish still continues in the area, even though provision has been made for rubbish to be deposited in a compound at the Refuse Tip at all hours of the day.

Litter has been cleared from several spots and notices erected prohibiting this practice. However, it has been found that a notice board lasts about two days before being destroyed, while dumping takes place immediately a deposit is cleared away.

In many instances, the general public is averse to giving information which could lead to prosecution under the Act. This is to be regretted since public co-operation is vital if the town is to be improved from the point of cleanliness.



### WATER SAMPLING

	Bacterio- logical	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
Main Town Supply ... ..	54	54	—
Culvert—Nant Mill Pool ...	4	4	1
Private Supply, Wells, etc....	—	—	—
Streams ... ..	—	—	—
Swimming Pool (Lido) ... ..	4	4	—
Swimming Pool (Camp) ... ..	5	4	1
Total Samples Taken ... ..	67	66	1

Bacteriological samples are taken from properties at random throughout the Council's area and, as will be seen from the above Table, of the 54 taken from the mains supply all were satisfactory.

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 continue to be operated in a satisfactory manner. Further automation has now been installed in the Royal Lido Pool to control the ph value and this is proving to be most helpful in the overall control of the bacteriological standard of the water.

The unsatisfactory sample of the Holiday Camp Paddling Pool was due to a fault in the chlorination plant which was remedied without delay.

### 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 ...	25	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 ... ..	0

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) One hundred and seventy-four visits of inspection have been paid to Food Premises in general, and 95 to those premises which are registered under the above-mentioned Acts 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<sup>1</sup>

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:

<b>Solids</b>	<b>Tons</b>	<b>Cwts.</b>	<b>Lbs.</b>	<b>Ozs.</b>
Fruit and Vegetables ... ..	2	5	74	2
Meat ... ..	1	11	9	0
Fish ... ..	—	6	15	14
Miscellaneous ... ..	—	1	22	2
	4	4	9	2
Ice Cream ... ..				2,259 fl. ozs.
Canned Milk ... ..				2,290 fl. ozs.

Again this year, there was a large increase in the amount of food-stuffs found to be unfit for human consumption as compared with 1967.

This increase is due mainly to two factors: —

- (1) the presence in the town of a large food distribution warehouse and,
- (2) a series of breakdowns in refrigerated cabinets and show cases



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 ~~1978~~<sup>1969</sup> by the County Public Health Inspector, Mr. E. Lewis.

Description of Article	No. of Samples taken
Milk ... ..	7
Dairy Produce ... ..	4
Ice Cream ... ..	4
Sausages ... ..	8
Fish and Meat Products ... ..	4
Alcoholic Drinks ... ..	3
Miscellaneous Groceries ... ..	16
Vegetables and Fruit ... ..	6
	<hr/> 52 <hr/>

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
Offices ... ..	2	49	24
Retail Shops ... ..	6	143	91
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses ... ..	—	9	7
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens	—	12	12
Fuel Storage Depots ... ..	—	1	—



TABLE B

Number of Visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises ... 133

TABLE C

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED  
PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed
Offices ... ..	207
Retail Shops ... ..	430
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses ... ..	100
Catering Establishments open to the public ... ..	80
Canteens ... ..	8
Fuel Storage Depots ... ..	5
Total ...	830
Total Males ...	327
Total Females ...	503

Routine inspections of various premises were carried out either as purpose-made visits or whenever visits were being made primarily in connection with matters outside the scope of the Act. In general the provisions of the Act are being complied with in a satisfactory manner and it has only been necessary to draw attention to minor infringements. These have been remedied without the necessity for formal action to be taken.

No accidents were reported during the year.

#### 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 .....	2	...	...	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities ..	44	34	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .....	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>46</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

## **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 .....	8	8	...	—
Overcrowding .....	—	—	...	—
Unreasonable temperature .....	—	—	...	—
Inadequate ventilation .....	1	1	...	—
Ineffective drainage of floors .....	—	—	...	—
Sanitary conveniences :—				
(a) insufficient .....	—	—	...	—
(b) unsuitable or defective .....	1	1	...	—
(c) not separate for sexes .....	—	—	...	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) .....	—	—	...	—
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>—</b>



# **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. ... .. 7

## **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 752 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 disinfection service is free to householders and a small charge is made for work done on business premises.

Treatment carried out			
	Rats		Mice
Private Dwellings ... ..	275	...	26
Council Dwellings ... ..	14	...	7
Business Premises ... ..	26	...	5
Council Property other than Dwellings ... ..	2	...	—
Farms ... ..	—	...	—

## **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 ... ..	22
Plas Morfa Caravan Site ... ..	11
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
	<hr/>
	974
	<hr/>



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.

### **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, and in the vicinity of High Street.



## 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. The provision of additional accommodation at Caradoc Road has slightly eased the situation, but extra bungalows are urgently required, especially in Meliden.

## (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) ... ..	18
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose ... ..	40
(2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	5
(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 ... ..	20

## (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 ...	20
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## (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 ... ..	3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners ... ..	3
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	—

## (B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners ... ..	—
(b) By Local Authority in 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 ... ..	1
(1a) Number of houses for which Undertakings were accepted ... ..	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	1



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

- (1) Number of dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... .. —
- (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 ... .. 34
- (2) Number of families dwelling therein ... .. 40
- (3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... .. 141
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... .. 2
- (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... .. 6
- (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... .. 28
- (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 ...	26°F (6th)	57°F (20th)	—	—	00.40 ins (20th)	02.29 ins.
February ..	12°F (16th)	47°F (23rd)	—	—	00.55 ins. (10th)	02.43 ins.
March ...	22°F (7th)	55°F (31st)	—	—	00.87 ins. (12th)	02.00 ins.
April ...	29°F (6th)	70°F (8th)	—	—	00.32 ins. (21st)	01.58 ins.
May ...	35°F (1st, 2nd)	70°F (12th)	12.3 hrs. (1st)	151.3 hrs.	00.79 ins. (24th)	05.32 ins.
June ...	39°F (6th)	76°F (12th)	14.9 hrs. (10th)	254.1 hrs.	00.53 ins. (17th)	01.65 ins.
July ...	46°F (14th)	84°F (15th)	13.8 hrs. (31st)	203.1 hrs.	00.47 ins. (28th)	01.12 ins.
August ...	52°F (29th, 31st)	82°F (8th)	12.6 hrs. (7th)	114.8 hrs.	00.61 ins. (4th)	02.17 ins.
September...	42°F (30th)	70°F (9th)	9.8 hrs. (19th)	89.7 hrs.	00.57 ins. (10th)	00.92 ins.
October ...	43°F (18th)	70°F (9th)	9.3 hrs. (17th)	112.9 hrs.	00.23 ins. (19th)	00.55 ins.
November...	34°F (30th)	64°F (2nd)	7.0 hrs. (5th)	67.0 hrs.	01.89 ins. (3rd)	07.34 ins.
December...	25°F (28th)	55°F (21st)	4.3 hrs. (26th)	26.8 hrs.	00.43 ins. (21st)	02.40 ins.





