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Contributors

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**PRESTATYN
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. D. P. W. ROBERTS

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

AND

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

DAVID T. OWEN, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

FOR THE YEAR

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**CYNGOR DOSBARTH DINESIG
PRESTATYN**



Adroddiad Blynyddol

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AROLYGYDD IECHYD

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AM

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Public Health Department
Medical Officer,
Health Staff, County,
PRESTATYN

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PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE 1970-71

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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. (August)

Senior Public Health Inspector: Meat and Food Inspector:

D. T. OWEN, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Appointed December)

Additional Public Health Inspector: L. JONES

(Resigned November)

Clerk:

Mrs. H. GRIFFITH

General Foreman:

G. FAIRCLIFFE

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Municipal Offices,
Nant Hall Road,
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M.O.H. (Private): Rhyl 3887

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1970

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1970.

The population of the town increased by 650 although deaths (268) exceeded births (168) by 100. The standardised birth rate was 18.3 per 1,000 population compared with the national figure of 16, and only 2 infant deaths occurred under the age of one year, giving a local infant mortality rate of 12 per 1,000 births compared with the national average of 18. One still-birth was notified and the standardised death rate was 9.9 per 1,000 population compared with the national rate of 11.7.

One hundred and fifty-three cases of measles were notified during the year—easily a record for the town. I regret to say that measles will not be eliminated from the community for some years to come unless many more children are immunized against the disease. Protection consists of one comparatively painless injection with very few adverse effects and can be given by the general practitioner or by the staff of the local infant welfare clinic.

The main drainage scheme proceeded during the year although construction work had a disruptive effect on part of the town's road system. I should like to see the completion of the whole of the surface water scheme before re-organisation of Local Government comes about. The ratepayers will, no doubt, bitterly complain about the rise in rate burden, but the future citizens of Prestatyn will reap the harvest in improved amenities and further expansion of the town.

Construction commenced on Pontins new "Holiday Village" and the speed of its erection was a marvel to see. A heated swimming pool is included and it is hoped that it will be available to the people of Prestatyn at certain times of the year.

The pace of house building in the private sector again declined in 1970, due largely to economic reasons and sewerage problems.

Construction of Council bungalows at Yr Olchfa commenced at the end of 1970 and a Warden's house is being provided under the County Council scheme. Twenty-two Council houses of the three-bedroomed type were under construction at Meliden at the end of 1970. The Health Department is responsible for Council house maintenance and, over the past ten years the number of

Council dwellings has nearly doubled and has thrown a severe strain on the resources of the Department with a great deal of the Inspector's time occupied in investigation of complaints by tenants regarding property disrepairs.

There has been a big increase in the requests from the public to cleanse house drains. Investigation of these complaints reveals, in many instances, carelessness in allowing rags, stones, toys, etc., to block the drain.

The Health Department suffered a grievous loss during the year in the passing away, in August, of Mr. J. M. Edwards, the Senior Health Inspector, who had given excellent service to the town since 1954. Mr. L. Jones, the Additional Health Inspector, left in December, and Mr. D. T. Owen, of Abergele, has now taken up the duties of Senior Health Inspector; and Mr. P. Williams, of Ellesmere Port Borough Council, has joined the Staff as his Assistant.

The growth of the town has thrown heavy responsibilities on the local Council and, in some directions, perhaps the service of the Department has been stretched beyond reasonable limit, and consideration must be given to further increase in the Staff employed if the alternative of a reduced public service is to be avoided.

I would like to make one special plea to the public—please do not expect blocked **house** drains to be cleared during weekends unless there are very special risks involved.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their support and active interest in the Department and my Council colleagues.

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 1970 (Registrar General's estimate) ...	14,080
Population change compared with previous year (increase) ...	650
Total number of properties (end of 1970)	6,301
Rateable value of the Urban District at the end of 1970	£613,069
Product of a penny rate	£2,442
General rate in £	16/0d.

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 96, Female 72	168
Legitimate Live Births—Male 87, Female 67	154
Illegitimate Live Births—Male 9, Female 5	14
Local Illegitimacy rate per 1,000 live births	80
National Illegitimate rate per 1,000 live births	80
Crude birth rate per 1,000 live births	11.9
Birth rate comparability factor	1.54
Birth rate standardised	18.3
National birth rate per 1,000 population	16

Still Births:

Still births (total)	1
Legitimate still births (total)	—
Illegitimate still births (total)	1
Local still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	6
National still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	13

Infant Mortality Rates:

Infant deaths under one year of age (total)	2
Legitimate infant deaths under one year of age (total)	2
Illegitimate infant deaths under one year of age (total)	—
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	12
National infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	18
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	13
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)	2
Peri-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	12
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	11
Maternal mortality, including abortion:	
Number of deaths	—
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	—

DEATHS

Deaths—Male 124, Female 144	268
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	19.0
Comparability factor	0.52
Death rate standardised per 1,000 population	9.9
National death rate for England and Wales	11.7

POPULATION CHANGES IN THE URBAN DISTRICT

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

Year	Mid-year population: Registrar General's estimated figure	Population change during year	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
1970	14,080	+650	—100	+750

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

DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES

Cancer deaths	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Lung	6	5	8	3	10	4	7	2	6	8	11	20	9
Stomach	3	4	4	2	3	6	2	9	7	6	6	6	9
Breast	2	4	1	3	3	4	2	4	3	6	2	5	4
Uterus	2	1	1	4	1	2	1	1	4	1	1	1	3
Leukaemia... ..	2	1	—	1	2	2	—	—	2	3	3	2	2
Other Sites												24	30
Total all sites...	30	39	29	26	36	38	29	40	47	36	39	58	57

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	1970
Deaths	37	37	55	42	51	48	52	60	49	67	70	64	69

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 a few 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 were two infant deaths recorded under one year of age, details of which are given below: —

Age at death	Cause of death
Male—1 month	Broncho-pneumonia.
Male—1 day	Cardiac collapse and prematurity.

One Still-birth was recorded by the Registrar General.

Sex	Age	Cause of death
Male—40 weeks		1(a) Asphyxia; 1(b) Breech.

TABLE SHOWING VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT IN RECENT YEARS

Year	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
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
1970	14,080	168	11.9	18.3	16.0	268	19.0	9.9	11.7	2	12	18.0

CAUSES OF DEATH : REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN

AGE IN YEARS

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	AGE IN YEARS										Total											
		All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64		65-74	75 and over									
B19(1) Malignant Neoplasm - Buccal cavity, etc. ...	M	2																					
B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach ...	F	5												1									
B19(6) Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus ...	M	4																					
B19(6) Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus ...	F	9																					
B19(7) Malignant Neoplasm - Breast ...	M	4																					
B19(8) Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus ...	F	3																					
B19(10) Leukaemia ...	M	2																					
B19(10) Leukaemia ...	F	5																					
B19(11) Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc. ...	M	12																					
B19(11) Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc. ...	F	1																					
B46(5) Other diseases of Nervous System, etc. ...	M	1																					
B46(5) Other diseases of Nervous System, etc. ...	F	1																					
B26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease ...	M	2																					
B26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease ...	F	2																					
B28 Ischaemic Heart Disease ...	M	43																					
B28 Ischaemic Heart Disease ...	F	26																					
B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm Oesophagus ...	M	2																					
B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm Oesophagus ...	F	1																					
B19(4) Malignant Neoplasm - Intestine ...	M	3																					
B19(4) Malignant Neoplasm - Intestine ...	F	5																					
B19(9) Malignant Neoplasm - Prostate ...	M	1																					
B19(9) Malignant Neoplasm - Prostate ...	F	1																					

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The table shown below indicates the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases that occurred during 1970.

Disease	Under 1 year							At all ages	Over 65					Cases admitted to hospital
	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-44	45-64	Over 65							
Scarlet Fever	—	2	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	17	59	73	—	—	—	153	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	3	27	—	*50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	2	1	1	—	2	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tetanus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid and Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

*Suspected food poisoning

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

One hundred and fifty three cases of measles were notified during 1970 and it is regrettable that so few children over the age of 3 years have been protected against the disease.

Fifty cases of food poisoning were notified and, although tests from some of the people affected proved negative, I am satisfied that most of the people notified were, in fact, suffering from food poisoning.

Lectures were given to Holiday Camp catering staff and kitchens and food premises were inspected by the Staff of the Department.

Food poisoning will be a feature of life for years to come whilst human carelessness, lack of proper cooking and storage of food and equipment exist.

Six cases of dysentery were notified and 3 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

Most cases of tuberculosis are notified through the notification register of all persons who are suffering or recently recovered from the disease.

	1969	1970	1971	1972
Pulmonary Cases	1	1	1	1
Non-Pulmonary Cases	1	1	1	1
Total	2	2	2	2

Division of Tuberculosis has been notified of 2 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in 1970 and the daughter of patient notified in 1969.

	1969	1970	1971	1972
Total	2	2	2	2

CHEST X-RAY FACILITIES

The Mass X-Ray Unit was opened in 1967.

	1969	1970	1971	1972
Tuberculosis	100	120	150	180
Non-Tuberculosis	50	60	70	80
Total	150	180	220	260

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

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Scarlet Fever	3	5	2	6	5	12	3	2	4	5	3
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	2	1	2	—	2	1	—	1	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	3	1	—	9	12	9	1	21	—	1	2
Measles	137	106	111	41	88	52	97	77	114	5	153
Pneumonia	—	—	1	1	4	2	2	3	2	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	1	6	—	*500	8	—	5	3	5	3	50
Dysentery	11	—	2	2	—	5	24	9	1	—	6
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis Respiratory ...	1	6	—	6	4	3	1	1	1	—	3
Tuberculosis Non-respiratory	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	3	—	—	—

* Suspected

TUBERCULOSIS 1970

Report of Dr. Morrison of work at Rhyl Chest Clinic for 1970.

No. of New Cases and Contacts attending Clinic during the year ...	428
No. of New Cases from Prestatyn attending Rhyl Clinic	4
No. of transfers in	—

Three new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified. 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: 5	Females: 4
Non-Pulmonary Cases	Males: 2	Females: 1

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.

WELSH REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD — MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

By courtesy of the Medical Director, Dr. Jarman.

Details of Mass Radiographic Survey carried out at Prestatyn amongst the General Population in December, 1970.

TABLE A — ANALYSIS IN AGE GROUPS

	Under 15		15-24		25-34		35-44		45-59		60 & Over		Totals	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Total Number examined	2	—	15	28	27	67	41	57	41	102	61	87	187	341
No. found to be abnormal (a & b)	4		—		—		—		—		—		—	
	or 0.76%		—		—		—		—		—		—	
Classification of abnormal cases:—														
(a) Requiring further observation	—													
(b) *Other abnormalities of the chest	4		—		—		—		—		—		—	
	or 0.76%		—		—		—		—		—		—	

*Details of other abnormalities of the chest analysed in Table B

TABLE B

Analysis of Other Abnormalities of the Chest not requiring further observation during the Mass Radiographic Survey carried out at Prestatyn amongst the General Population in December, 1970.

No.	Classification of Abnormality	Male	Female	Total
A. TUBERCULOSIS ABNORMALITIES				
0 & 1	Tuberculosis (known case under Chest Clinic supervision prior to Mass Radiography examination)	—	—	—
2	Healed Primary Tuberculosis	—	—	—
3	Healed Post-Primary Tuberculosis... ..	2	—	2
B. NON-TUBERCULOUS ABNORMALITIES				
1	Abnormality of the bony thorax and soft tissues	—	—	—
2	Malignant Neoplasm	—	—	—
3	Non-Malignant Neoplasm	—	—	—
4	Lymphadenopathies, excluding sarcoidosis	—	—	—
5	Sarcoids (including enlarged hilar glands)	—	—	—
6	Congenital cardiac abnormalities and abnormalities of the vascular system	1	1	2
7	Acquired cardiac abnormalities & abnormalities of the vascular system	—	—	—
8	Pneumoconiosis: without P.M.F.			
	Stage 1	—	—	—
	Stage 2	—	—	—
	Stage 3	—	—	—
9	Pneumoconiosis: with P.M.F.	—	—	—
10	Pulmonary fibrosis - non-tuberculous (to include asthma, bronchitis)	—	—	—
11	Emphysema	—	—	—
12	Bronchiectasis	—	—	—
13	Bacterial virus and other infection of the lungs	—	—	—
14	Pleural thickening or calcification	—	—	—
15	Abnormalities of the diaphragm and oesophagus	—	—	—
16	Malformation of the lungs (to include lobar malformation and honeycomb lung)	—	—	—
17	Spontaneous pneumothorax	—	—	—
	Miscellaneous	—	—	—
TOTALS		3	1	4

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 smear tests can be arranged for women by appointment at Mercier House, Russell Road, Rhyl; also at the Central Surgery, Prestatyn, on alternate Thursday afternoons at 2.30 p.m. A lady doctor is in attendance.

FAMILY PLANNING

Family Planning facilities are available at the Clinic at Ffordd-las, Rhyl; also at the Clinic, Kings Avenue, Prestatyn, every Thursday morning. In each instance 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 based in the town 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.

SECTION 26—IMMUNISATION

DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH, TETANUS & POLIOMYELITIS

Immunization, which consists of a course of 3 injections and 3 oral doses of polio vaccine, is given to babies between the fourth and tenth month of life.

A booster dose is given at school entry.

SMALLPOX

Vaccination against smallpox is usually carried out just after the first birthday, which can be given by family doctors or by staff at the local infant welfare clinic.

TUBERCULOSIS

All 13 year old children are eligible for immunization against the disease subject to parental consent. Protection is given by an injection of live attenuated tubercule bacilli (B.C.G.).

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 Prestatyn.

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.

A new school was opened in Meliden in 1969 and construction of another new primary school is to commence in 1970, together with extensions to Penmorfa School.

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, Llys Nant, was opened 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. Owen's 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 20 properties in the district, mainly in the Hillside and Meliden area, not connected to the main drainage system.

Construction work continued during the year on the surface water and foul drainage system and the new sea outfall for the discharge of sewage. The scheme, which it is hoped will be completed by the end of 1971, has had a very disruptive effect on the traffic flow in the town but, nevertheless, I am sure the town will reap the benefits in years to come — especially in the general improvement in the amenities of the district.

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 68 Water Samples were taken with results as follows: —

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Mains Water	52	Nil
Smimming Pool	14	Nil
Raw Water	2	2

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	7.2
Colour (Hazen Units)	less than 5 parts per million
Total solids	372
Nitrogen as free and saline ammonia	0.00
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	0.00
Nitrogen as nitrites	Nil
Nitrogen as nitrates	4.5
Chlorides, as Cl	29
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C.	1.4
Total hardness	259
Temporary hardness	196
Permanent hardness	63
Alkalinity	196
Total residual chlorine	Nil
Free available chlorine	Nil
Potassium, as K	2.0
Anionic synthetic detergents	—
Manganese, as Mn	—
Cyanides and Thiocynates	—
Poisonous metals	Nil
Free carbon dioxide	26

Opinion:

The chemical condition of the water is satisfactory.

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. Owen's 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 nationally on the 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 1970 the extent of new property constructed is shown below: —

The number of private new dwellings built in the town was	138
The number of Council properties built in the town was	Nil

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.

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
1970	—	138	138
1969	33	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
1970	14,080 ...	5,894 ...	2.4 ...	£613,069 ...	£2,442

*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 1970 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.

FOOD HYGIENE

The refrigerator has now become accepted as a standard part of the equipment of a kitchen, and listed below is a table showing how long various foods should be kept either in a refrigerator or a cool larder, before the quality and safety of the food is affected.

Food	Refrigerator 38°—42°F.	Cool Larder 45°—55°F.
Meat—		
Raw (Sausage Meat)	2—3 days	1—2 days
Cooked—Meat Pies, Cooked Sausages, Prepared Meals	2 days	1 day
Milk	3—4 days	2 days
Cream	3—4 days	1 day
Milk Puddings	2 days	1 day
Fish (Raw)	2—3 days	1 day
Baby Food (opened)	1 days	use immediately
Eggs (shell)	12 days	about 4 days
Stock, Soup, Gravy	2 days	use as soon as possible

Frozen foods can be kept in a frozen food compartment for up to one week if the temperature is at about 21°F., and up to 1 month if at 12°F., and up to 3 months if at 0°F. The temperature of the frozen food compartment should be checked with a thermometer, but most modern refrigerators have an asterisk on the door of the compartment. One asterisk indicates that food can be kept for up to one week, two asterisks implies safe storage for one month; and three asterisks indicate storage for 3 months.

De-frosting and Cooking of Chickens

- 1 Deep-frozen chickens should be thawed for about 8 hours on an average, at room temperature.
- 2 Average weight chickens should be roasted at 400°F. for 2 hours before the temperature of the oven is reduced.
- 3 Spit cooking of chickens requires 30 minutes' cooking per lb., which means about 2½ hours is needed for the average chicken at 400°F.
- 4 All birds must be cooled as rapidly as possible after cooking, preferably within 3 hours, to a temperature of about 40°F. and placed in a refrigerator.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1970

New food hygiene regulations were introduced in 1970 and the principle requirements of these regulations are as follows: —

- “1 The cleanliness of premises used for the purposes of food business and of the equipment used shall be of the highest order.
- 2 Any person handling open food must wear clean and washable over-clothing.
- 3 A person who engages in the handling of food shall
 - (a) keep as clean as may be reasonably practical all parts of his person and his clothing which are liable to come into contact with the food ;
 - (b) keep all open cuts or abrasions covered with a suitable waterproof dressing;
 - (c) refrain from spitting;
 - (d) refrain from the use of tobacco whilst working in food premises.
- 4 All food to be protected from risk of contamination and should not be placed on any forecourt or yard lower than 18in. from the ground unless adequately protected from risk of contamination.
- 5 If a person engaged in food handling becomes aware that he is suffering from or is a carrier of enteric, salmonella, bacillary dysentery or staphylococcal infections, he must directly, or through his employer, inform the local medical officer of health.
- 6 Persons engaged in the handling of food must not use wrapping material, including printed material, not specially designed for the purpose, or container, which is not clean or which is liable to contaminate the food, other than uncooked vegetables or unplucked game or poultry.
- 7 All food premises must have sufficient wash hand basins for the use of all persons engaged in the handling of food and each wash hand basin must have a supply of hot and cold water. where no open food is handled, of cold water; and every wash hand basin must have an adequate supply of soap and clean towels. There shall also be provided facilities for the washing of equipment used in the preparation of food.

- 8 All food rooms must have sufficient lighting and ventilation and no food room shall be used as a sleeping place. All food rooms shall be kept in a clean and good state of repair.
- 9 All food consisting of meat, fish gravy or imitation cream or prepared from or containing food consisting of these substances, or any egg or milk brought into a food premises, on or from which is carried on a catering business shall, if not already at a temperature of 145°F. (62.7°C.), or above on the one hand, or below 50°F. (10°C.) on the other hand, be brought to one or other of these temperatures without any avoidable delay after arrival."

—(Extract from Regulations).

PRE-COOKED FROZEN FOODS

The Department of Health & Social Security have recently issued a very useful guide on pre-cooked frozen foods. Listed below is an extract from the booklet.

- 1 Pre-cooked frozen foods are cooked foods that have been frozen rapidly by plate or blast freeze and are stored at minus 18°C. (0°F.) or below.
- 2 The following principles must be adhered to:—
 - (a) Food that has been issued for consumption and has thawed, either partially or completely, must not be allowed back to the freezers or to the deep freeze stores.
 - (b) Final heating must immediately follow removal from frozen or refrigerated food store.
 - (c) The food must be eaten as soon as possible after the final heating.
- 3 Pre-cooked frozen food should be stored at 0°F, and the shelf life is approximately 8 weeks.
- 4 Great care is required in the final heating to ensure that the food is not overheated, which can impair the nutritive value and palatability. Food that has been heated and subsequently allowed to cool should not be re-heated.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1970

Madam Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for the year 1970.

It is with regret that I refer to the passing of Mr. John M. Edwards, whose untimely death occurred in August, after serving this Authority for 16 years. I also refer to the resignation of Mr. Leslie Jones who had been the Additional Public Health Inspector for 4 years.

During the year the residential population of the District passed the 14,000 mark. Work continued throughout the year on the new main drainage scheme and new sewage outfall. At the end of the year the Yr Olchfa elderly persons' bungalows were nearing completion and the houses at Maes Hendre Meliden, were in an advanced stage of construction. In October, work commenced on the construction of a holiday village on land to the west of Barkby Avenue. When completed, this development will accommodate 4,250 visitors in self-contained chalets and will possess an indoor heated swimming pool.

I am, Madam Chairman, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. T. OWEN

Senior Public Health Inspector

GENERAL SUMMARY OF VISITS, ETC.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Domestic Premises inspected	318
Camps	114
Farms	5
Public Conveniences	106
Schools	14
Watercourses	24
Water Supply	54
Visits re. Housing Applications	30
Council Houses	569
Factories	—
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	41
Civic Amenities Act	58
Food Premises	245
Miscellaneous visits and re-visits	241
National Assistance Act	1
Refuse Collection and Disposal	114
Rodent and other pests	359

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Number of cases occurring	8
Visits and enquiries	39
Number removed to Hospital	—
Disinfection	1

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

Supermarkets and Grocers	62
Butchers	39
Fishmongers and Shellfish Bars	7
Catering Premises	44
Licensed Premises	26
Ice Cream Premises	12
Miscellaneous	55

SANITARY DEFECTS

No. of Blocked Drains	597
No. of Defective Drains	40
No. of Accumulation of Refuse	52

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Collection

In October, a national industrial dispute led to a complete stoppage of the refuse collection and disposal service lasting three complete weeks. Paper sacks were made available to the public to aid the storage of refuse and every encouragement was given to the public to take their refuse to the Council's Tip. Owing to the build-up of refuse, it took a further three weeks before the service was back to normal.

Despite the inducement of the bonus scheme, the turnover of labour on the two main gangs was 60%. Time lost due to sickness, holidays and strike rose to 593 working days which was 14% of the maximum possible working days—an average of 37 working days per man. Of the 593 days, 211 were lost due to sickness, 13 due to absenteeism, 99 due to holidays, and 280 days due to the National Strike.

It had been proposed to introduce a Paper Sack System throughout the district in October but negotiations with the Union on a revised bonus scheme and labour reductions failed to reach agreement and the introduction of the scheme had to be deferred.

Disposal

The Council dispose of all refuse on a controlled tipping site on low lying land to the west of the town centre, off Fforddisa. Control of the Tip is carried out by one man who uses a Crawler Loader Shovel. The policy is to raise this area of marsh land by six feet and it is hoped that some of the area where consolidation is completed, will be put to some use—such as playing fields; though, if encouraging children to the area, it must be remembered that a refuse tip can be dangerous and adequate precautions will be necessary to prevent children wandering from any playing fields on to the current tipping area.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT

During the year, seventeen cases of abandoned vehicles were investigated. In some cases the owners were traced and required to move the vehicle but, on other occasions, the Council, through the duty placed upon it by this Act, had to remove the abandoned vehicle.

LITTER ACT, 1958

It is regrettable that I have to report indiscriminate dumping of refuse still continues despite the weekly refuse collection service and the provision of free tipping facilities at the Refuse Tip at all hours of the day, including weekends.

The practice of dumping garden refuse on any vacant plot of land is very prevalent and can give rise to fly and rodent infestations.

WATER SAMPLING

	Bacterio- logical	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
Main Town Supply	52	52	—
Culvert—Nant Mill Pool ...	2	2	—
Private Supply, Wells, etc....	—	—	—
Streams	—	—	—
Swimming Pool (Lido)	5	5	—
Swimming Pool (Camp)	6	6	—
Paddling Pool (Camp)	3	1	2
Total Samples Taken	68	66	2

Bacteriological samples are taken from properties at random throughout the Council's area and of the 52 taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratories at Conway, all were found to be Class I., Excellent.

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. The increased automation of the chlorination plant at the Royal Lido introduced for the 1969 season has continued to prove helpful in the control of the bacteriological standard of the water.

The owners of the paddling pool from which the unsatisfactory samples were taken, were recommended to carry out major modifications of the purification plant and, pending completion of such works, the water is to be changed frequently and dosages of bactericide increased.

FOOD AND DRUG PREMISES

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

Supermarkets and Self-service	8	Sweet Shops	18
Grocers	18	Candy Floss Kiosks	1
Greengrocers	16	Ice Cream Kiosks	4
Confectioners	7	Cinemas	1
Bakeries	6	Schools	6
Restaurants and Snack Bars ...	15	Homes	7
Butchers	11	Hospitals	1
Fishmongers and Game Dealers	2	Boarding Houses	5
Fried Fish Shops	5	Registered Clubs	8
		Licensed Houses	9
		Total: 148.	

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

Grocers and Self-service	19	Kiosks	6
Restaurants and Snack Bars	16	Fried Fish Shops	5
Sweet Shops	7	Butchers	1
Greengrocers	2		

During the year there was one new Ice Cream registration.

- (3) Two hundred and forty-five visits were made to food premises and twenty infringements of the Food Hygiene Regulations were found.

(4) **Fried Fish Shops :—**

Number of Fried Fish Shops in District 5

These shops were all 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.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTED

All the town's meat supply is slaughtered at premises outside the District but, from time to time, random inspections of the meat are made when exposed for sale in local shops.

Other foods, canned goods, etc., are inspected at times when food shops are visited and when special requests are received.

The following quantity of food was, on inspection, found to be unsound and was condemned. In each case the food was voluntarily surrendered and certificates of unfitness were issued.

	Tons	Cwts.	Lbs.
Fruit and Vegetables	3	12	88
Meat	1	13	31
Fish	—	8	94
Miscellaneous	—	13	60
Canned Milk and Liquids... ..	—	11	101
Total	7	0	38

This is almost a 75% increase on 1969's figure and compares with half a ton in 1967. Much of the food is in the form of tinned goods and the increase is accounted for by the presence in the town of a large food distribution warehouse.

All traders in the town are encouraged to consult this Department should they be in any doubt regarding the soundness of any food on their premises.

During 1970, four complaints of unsound food were received. Three involved mould, items affected being a meat pie, carton of yogurt and a chicken. The fourth complaint concerned foreign matter in a loaf of bread. The retailer of the mouldy meat pie was prosecuted and fined £15.

FOOD AND DRUG SAMPLING

Particulars of the samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, in the Prestatyn Urban District Council area during the year ended December 31st, 1970, by the County Public Health Inspector, Mr. E. Lewis, is as follows:—

Description of Article	Nos. taken	Genuine
Milk	8	8
Dairy Produce	3	3
Ice Cream	4	4
Sausages and Meat Products	13	13
Alcoholic Drinks	3	3
Miscellaneous Groceries	20	20
Vegetables and Fruit	4	4
	55	55

All samples were found to be satisfactory. No evidence of prohibited colouring matter, pesticides or fungicides were found in any foodstuffs.

No evidence of penicillin, brucella abortus or bovine tuberculosis were found in any farm bottled milk.

A sample of the milk consigned for a wholesale dairy for pasteurisation from one farm which was situated near a camping ground was found to be positive to brucellosis. There was no evidence that the producer retailed any of the raw milk and he was advised to contact his veterinary adviser.

All articles examined under the Pharmacy and Poisons Acts, Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs Act, were found to be 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	—	48	11
Retail Shops	—	139	27
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	—	9	2
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens	—	12	1
Fuel Storage Depots	—	1	—
Total	Nil	209	41

TABLE B

Number of Visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises ... 41

TABLE C

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED
PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	205
Retail Shops	420
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	100
Catering Establishments open to the public	80
Canteens	8
Fuel Storage Depots	5
Total	818
Total Males	324
Total Females	494

No accidents were reported during the year.

It is a requirement of this legislation that all accidents occurring on registered premises, whether fatal or where the employee is disabled for more than three days from his usual work, must be notified to the Local Authority.

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

SHOPS ACT, 1950

This Act controls the hours of opening of shops which varies according to the items sold.

At holiday resorts facilities are available for Councils to make Orders relating to Sunday trading and the weekly half holiday.

In April, the Council made an Order allowing retail shops in the North-west, North-east and Meliden Wards to be open for the serving of customers for the sale of items specified in Column 1 below between the hours stated in Column 2:—

Column 1	Column 2
(a) Any article required for the purpose of bathing or fishing	Between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.
(b) Photographic requisites	Between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.
(c) Toys, Souvenirs and Fancy Goods ...	Between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.
(d) Books, Stationery, Photographs, Reproductions and Postcards	Between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.
(e) Any article of food except fried fish and chips	Between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.
(f) Fried Fish and Chips	Between 11 a.m. and 11 p.m.

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	—	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	46	—	—	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found:—

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

PART VIII OF THE ACT: OUTWORK (Sections 133 and 134)

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

RODENT AND PEST CONTROL

The Council do not employ a full-time Pest Officer and rodent control is carried out by the General Foreman of the Public Health Department.

Following receipt of reports of rats, mice or other pests, the matter is investigated by the General Foreman and, where necessary, bait is laid or treatment carried out.

In October, during the manual workers strike, numerous complaints of rats were received and it was necessary to engage the services of a private firm to treat the town's sewers, Council Yard, Ketuse Tip and the sewerage disposal works at Meliden.

Five notices were served on property owners under the provisions of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Number of Premises treated

	Rats		Mice
Private Houses	172	...	11
Council Houses	13	...	2
Business Premises	63	...	24
Other Sites	2	...	2
Agricultural Premises	16	...	—

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

From time to time following heavy rain, sewers have continued to surcharge in various parts of the town.

Construction work has continued throughout the year on the main drainage scheme which, when completed, will provide new surface and foul sewers to many parts of the town. Work on the new sewerage sea outfall came to a halt during the Autumn but, the Council have been assured by the Contractors, that work will re-commence as soon as weather conditions permit.

In the interest of Public Health, the Council offer a free drain clearing service. Demands on this service have risen by 20% in the past year with more than 600 requests for blockages to be released.

The work is carried out by the General Foreman who is finding that this section of his duties is now occupying much of his time.

He has no transport except for a bicycle on which he has to carry a heavy set of drain rods. When a drain blockage occurs at a bungalow on one of the expanding estates to the west of the town, which is all too frequent, it necessitates a bicycle trip of four miles. To reach Meliden and the upper parts of Prestatyn, the General Foreman has to walk, pushing his bicycle and rods.

In the past occasional requests for the service have been received at weekends, but the situation is now that on every Bank Holiday and most weekends there are demands on the service.

Whilst some of the blockages are beyond the control of the householder, many are directly due to misuse of the drains. Obstructions are frequently found to be caused by sanitary towels, toys, solid matters such as wood and stones, newspapers, excessive grease and particularly disposable nappies. Drains are not designed for these items. One wonders if it was not so easy to obtain a free service from the Council, whether greater care would not be taken resulting in a reduction in the number of blockages.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

The licensed sites within the area are as follows :—

Caravan Sites and Number of Caravans Permitted	
Bastion Road Camp	602
Presthaven Sands	280
Prestatyn Holiday Camp	195
Tan-y-Don Camp	68
Pen-y-Ffrith Caravan Camp	50
Plas Deva Caravan Camp	55
Morfa Du Caravan Camp	25
White House Camp	22
Midnant Farm Caravan Site	20
Plas Morfa Caravan Site	11
Newlyn, Victoria Road West	3
Ironmonger's Shop, Meliden	1
" Y Nyth ", Plas Newydd Drive	1
" Brookdale ", Cefn-y-Gwrych	1
	1,364
	3

Camping Site

Being a holiday resort tenting and touring caravan owners are attracted to the resort but, on arrival find that there are virtually no facilities for them, though some of the caravan camps reserve a few sites for touring caravans.

A camping site to the east of the town centre which enjoys a "long-user rights" under the Town and Country Planning Acts is filled to capacity during late July and August. The inadequacy of existing powers under the Public Health Act, 1936, to control tented camping continues. Camping sites generally in the country are

far below the standards of camping sites on the Continent.

The Government must give priority to the introduction of legislation to control camping sites similar to the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

During the year four transportable public conveniences were brought into use, two were to replace existing conveniences near the Grand Hotel and the Hillside Gardens, the third has been sited in the car park at the rear of the Municipal Offices, and the fourth on the western side of the Ffrith.

There are now ten public conveniences in the town situated at the 'Bus Station, Coronation Gardens, Pendre Gardens, Hillside Gardens, Meliden, Barkby Beach (Grand Hotel), Central Beach, two at the Ffrith Beach, and at the rear of the Municipal Offices.

The nuisance, vandalism and actual theft in these premises continues as much as ever. More sophisticated facilities such as hot water and hand drying equipment would be desirable but, without having attendants on duty it is doubtful if the equipment would be allowed to last for any length of time. Owing to the smallness of the units it is not practical to have permanent attendants.

HOUSING

Prestatyn continues to grow with further housing and bungalow building by private enterprise, particularly at Nant Parc, Upper Woodlands Park and estates off Ffordd Penrhwyfya, Victoria Road and Victoria Road West.

During the year a total of 138 dwellings were completed compared with 157 in 1969.

Council Housing

With regard to Council housing estates, the Yr Olchfa, Meliden, elderly persons' estate, consisting of 18 bungalows and a Warden's house, is nearing completion. Whilst at Maes Hendre, Meliden, work on 22 houses should be completed during Spring, 1971.

An interesting feature of these two developments is that the dwellings are built by industrialised methods, the buildings arriving on site in precast sections.

At the 31st December, 1970, the number of Council dwellings was as follows:—

Number of Council Houses	448
Number of Council Flats	28
Number of Bungalows (Warden controlled)	14
Number of Flats (Warden controlled)	48
Total	<hr/> 538 <hr/>

Housing Applicants

Housing Registers for both the General Needs and for Elderly Persons' are being prepared and will contain the following number of applicants:—

General Needs List	140
Elderly Persons' List	153
Tenants wishing to transfer to Elderly Persons' Bungalows	27

Care must be taken when assessing these figures as not all applicants are in genuine need of Council housing accommodation. Particularly with elderly persons who place their names on the register as a form of security but, when offered accommodation, decline to accept.

Housing Act, 19⁵⁷70

Fortunately the District has no areas of slum property and Clearance Areas and programmes are not required. However, from time to time, it becomes necessary to deal with individual properties which are unfit and cannot be made fit at reasonable expense.

During 1970, one Closing Order was made in respect of a basement flat and one Demolition Order in respect of a cottage.

Housing Act, 1969—Improvement Grants

The Council received six applications during the year and approved the making of grants in five of the cases.

No Qualification Certificates were issued.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

Two complaints of noise nuisances were received and investigated. In one of the cases involving bread delivery vehicles at a wholesale premises being loaded in the early hours of the morning, the Council instituted legal proceedings.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

No Dealers are currently registered with this Council.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

No licences were issued.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

No premises are licensed under the provisions of this Act.

CLIMATOLOGY OF PRESTATYN 1970

Month	Temperature			Sunshine		Rainfall	
	Lowest	Highest	Longest	Total	Maximum	Total	
January ...	23° F (7th, 8th)	55° F (20th)	5.7 hrs. (7th)	39.3 hrs.	0.45 ins (15th)	2.59 ins.	
February ...	28° (15th)	55° F (21st)	6.6 hrs. (16th)	72.2 hrs.	0.33 ins. (16, 22)	2.76 ins.	
March ...	27° F (9th)	55° F (17th)	—	—	0.68 ins. (3rd)	3.49 ins.	
April ...	31° F (1st)	59° F (17th)	—	—	0.40 ins. (5th)	2.45 ins.	
May ...	44° F (13th)	70° F (4th 31st)	—	165.7 hrs.	0.16 ins (8th)	0.76 ins.	
June ...	46° F (19th)	82° F (10th, 14th)	14.4 hrs. (4th)	248.8 hrs.	0.22 ins. (30th)	1.21 in.	
July ...	48° F (22nd)	71° F (5th, 8th)	10.7 hrs. (7th)	144.9 hrs.	0.39 is. (27th)	1.85 ins.	
August ...	50° F (12th, 28th)	79° F (3rd, 4th)	11.6 hrs. (11th)	152.2 hrs.	0.78 ins. (20th).	3.15 ins.	
September...	42° F (15th)	76° F (25th)	9.6 hrs. (10th)	133.5 hrs.	0.49 ins. (9th)	1.66 ins.	
October ...	39° F (17th)	67° F (14th)	9.0 hrs. (9th)	105.8 hrs.	0.74 is. (27th)	2.90 ins.	
November...	30° F (24th, 27th)	63° F (24th)	6.7 hrs. (21st)	43.4 hrs.	0.67 ins. (17th)	5.03 ins.	
December...	37° F (8th, 9th)	56° F (18th)	5.5 hrs. (7, 20)	43.3 hrs.	0.24 ns. (5th)	0.88 ins.	
TOTAL				—		28.72 hrs.	

Flowing Applications

Flowing Application No.	Flowing Application Description	Flowing Application Date	Flowing Application Status	Flowing Application Remarks
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10

Flowing Act, 1970

Flowing Act No.	Flowing Act Description	Flowing Act Date	Flowing Act Status	Flowing Act Remarks
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10

Flowing Act, 1971

Flowing Act No.	Flowing Act Description	Flowing Act Date	Flowing Act Status	Flowing Act Remarks
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10

Flowing Act, 1972

Flowing Act No.	Flowing Act Description	Flowing Act Date	Flowing Act Status	Flowing Act Remarks
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10

Flowing Act, 1973

Flowing Act No.	Flowing Act Description	Flowing Act Date	Flowing Act Status	Flowing Act Remarks
1
2
3
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9
10

COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE, JALPAIGURI



