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RHYL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(R. RHYDWEN, D.S.C., M.B., D.P.H.)

Together with the Annual Report of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

(E. L. LLOYD JONES, M.B.E., F.S.I.A., F.R.S.Inst.)

FOR THE YEAR

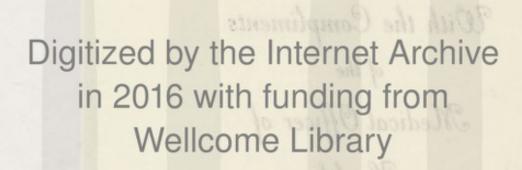
1955





With the Compliments of the Medical Officer of Health

Public Kealth Department, 2 Edward Henry Street, Rhyl.



RHYL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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FOR THE YEAR

1955

URBAN DISTRICT OF RHYL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1955.

Councillor J. S. McWALTER SHEPHERD (Chairman of the Council).

Cllr. Glyn Vaughan

Cllr. H. Meredith Jones.

(Chairman).

" J. Thornley.

, E. Williams.

" T. J. Hughes.

, C. E. Garnett.

" J. Colin Parry.

" T. N. Jones.

" W. S. Roose.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health: R. RHYDWEN, D.S.C., M.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector: E. L. LLOYD JONES, M.B.E., F.S.I.A., F.R.S.I.

> Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector: E. G. BLACK, M.S.I.A.

Additional Public Health Inspector: D. KAYE, M.S.I.A.

Chief Clerk and Meteorological Observer: W. A. FIELD, B.E.M., A.C.C.S.

Clerks:

R. UREN (to 30/11/55), P. MATTHEWS, F. IRONS (from 12/12/55).

Shorthand Typist:

Miss V. MANTLE (to 4/6/55). Miss P. SNAPE (from 6/6/55).

> Maintenance Supervisor: T. H. HEYES.

Engineer-in-Charge Pumping Station: F. DAVIES.

Disinfector: A. S. JONES.

Rodent Officer:
B. CHARLESWORTH.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1955.

Mr. Chairman, Miss Brookes, Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your consideration my Annual Report for 1955. The report follows the form laid down in Circular 17/55 Wales.

All Essential Services have been maintained and have functioned satisfactorily during the year.

Infectious Disease cases numbered 148 for the year. This total was largely composed of 38 cases of measles and 52 cases of whooping cough. Nine cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year. None of these resulted in any paralysis and it is quite a possibility that the majority of them were not true poliomyelitis. It is to be regretted that so much alarm and anxiety is engendered by poliomyelitis, the true fact is that tuberculosis, road traffic accidents, house accidents and other hazards take a much greater toll of human life yet engender far less fear.

Constant repetition wears away a stone, and that is my reason for once more referring to the plight of the aged and infirm. There are some facilities for the chronic sick and County Council Homes for the relatively fit aged, but the finding of accommodation for the aged person who requires some medical attention but not hospitalisation in its accepted sense, is a heartbreaking task. This problem is national and widely known in this country. The situation will not be solved by ignoring its existence.

1955 saw yet another visit to Rhyl by the Mass Radio-graphy Unit of the Welsh Regional Board, when two thousand five hundred and thirty nine people availed themselves of the facilities offered. No frank cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were detected, but nineteen people were found to require further observation for the same disease. Seventy-three other persons were found to have some abnormality of the chest. The great majority of these were already aware

of the condition. Children under the age of fifteen years are not included in this total as arrangements had been made to deal with school children at a later date. The response was considered to be satisfactory by the Authorities concerned.

HOUSING.

The approximate number of dwellings in the Urban District is 6,402. Building during the year was much the same as in the previous year, 56 Council houses and 106 private houses and bungalows having been completed during the year. 32 further Council houses were in course of erection at the end of the year.

Building costs, in common with all other expenses incurred during existence on this planet, have continued their upward spiral. The Council's rent readjustment policy has already dealt with the more extreme anomalies, but the whole situation is in a state of flux and will probably result in the Council having to take even more positive action in the years to come.

There is a waiting list of 571 applicants for houses, the majority of whom are living in rooms and have never had a house of their own.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Seven infants died in their first year of life, three of them, indeed, in the first week of life, of the remainder one was aged two months, one six months and one nine months.

Two of the deaths were due to gastro enteritis, three to congenital abnormalities, one to atalectasis, and one to bacterial meningitis. All but one of the deaths occurred in hospital.

Our infantile mortality rate is 25.4 deaths per 1,000 live births, our lowest infantile mortality rate ever. It compares favourably with the National rate of 24.9 deaths per 1,000 live births.

RHYL CUT.

Discussions have taken place with the Clwyd and Deeside Catchment Board re. the Rhyl Cut. No work on the cut was

carried out during 1955. Arrangements have been made for dealing with emergencies arriving from excessive rainfall.

WATER SUPPLY.

There is an efficient and abundant supply of bacteriological and chemically pure water.

Regular samples are taken, and the results are almost invariably Class I., Ministry of Health Standard.

The Water Engineer and his staff exercise extreme vigilance in ensuring that the water supply to the consumer is of the highest bacterial purity.

104 samples were taken during the year, all being satisfactory.

There is one private supply in the district, from a bore-hole 250 feet deep, but this water is only used for trade purposes.

MILK SUPPLY.

Two hundred samples of milk were taken by the Chief Public Health Inspector.

In all cases of unsatisfactory results, both the retailer and producer were contacted, and steps taken to find the cause.

Fifty samples of pasteurised milk and 42 samples of Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk were taken, all of which were satisfactory.

It is pleasing to note that results of samples, "in the main," are satisfactory, as 90 per cent. of the milk consumed in the district is produced outside the area.

ICE CREAM.

120 samples of ice cream were taken and submitted to the methylene blue test, and where unsatisfactory results were obtained, personal contact was made with the manufacturer

or retailer and advice given as to how the cleanliness of the product could be improved.

PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

The number of animals slaughtered diminished somewhat compared with last year, no doubt partly due to the novelty of being able to buy as much meat as one desires fading somewhat.

I make no apology for reiterating my appeal to all persons who handle food, either in its manufacture, sale or distribution, to pay particular attention to their personal cleanliness, as lack of care may lead to contamination of food, causing food poisoning, which in the case of a holiday resort might result in some extremely damaging publicity, both to the firm concerned and to the resort.

The amount of meat condemned was 8 tons, 14 cwts., 3 qtrs., 26 lbs., a decrease of 7 tons, 14 cwts., 3 qtrs., 6 lbs. on 1954.

"PLAS COED."

The Home, situated in its own grounds, accommodates elderly ladies.

There are no restrictions, and "Plas Coed' is a "home" in the true sense of the word, and has provided a long-felt need in the field of social service in the town.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There are very few cesspools in the district, and these are emptied at regular intervals by means of a gully emptier, the contents being disposed of into the main sewer. As far as is known, there are only two pail closets in the district, the remainder of the houses being connected to main drainage.

In the eastern portion of the district the sewage gravitates to a small pumping station, where it is pumped through a rising main to a trunk sewer. The remainder of the sewage gravitates to a main pumping station where, after passing through the 14ft, revolving screen, it is pumped into a high level storage reservoir of a holding capacity of 13 million gallons, and from this storage tank it gravitates out to sea,

where it is discharged approximately 1,000 yards from the high water mark into the sea half-hour on the ebb, after high water, for two hours, when the valve is closed until the next tide. This applies to undiluted sewage, but during heavy rainfalls the valve to the main outfall pipe has to be opened to discharge the storm water.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Number of children of school age who completed course of	
immunisation (5—15 years)	9
Number of children under school age who completed course of	
immunisation (0-4 years)	131
Boosting injections	152

The number of children under 16 years of age belonging to Rhyl District considered to be immunised at 31st December, 1955, were:—

Age Group 5-15: 2,043. Age Group 0-4: 509. Total: 2,552.

Percentage immunised (Child population, estimated Registrar General's figures):—

Age Group 5—15: Approx. 80%. Age Group 0—4: 38.5%. Percentage of population under 15 immunised: Between 60 and 65%.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

These baths are owned by the Local Authority and are open for the summer season.

They were visited from time to time and 27 samples of the water taken for bacteriological examination. Twenty-four were found to be satisfactory and three of moderate contamination.

CHILDREN'S PADDLING POOL.

Some concern was caused to me by the fact that some of the samples of the chlorinated water in this pool were not up to standard. The cause was found to be linked with the arrangements for distribution of chlorine in the pool, and it is hoped to remedy this defect for the 1956 season.

Thirty-two samples of water taken from this pool were taken for bacteriological examination.

CAMPING.

The number of licensed sites used for camping purposes during the year was eight. There were several organised camps, such at Boy Scouts, Church Lads' Brigade and Boys' Brigades.

The National Coal Board (Derbyshire-Miners) have a holiday camp in Rhyl, with 126 Chalets and Administrative Buildings, to take up to 450 (peak), including staff.

The number of Camping Sites in respect of which licences have been issued by the Local Authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936: Nil.

Eight licences were granted under the Rhyl Urban District Council Act, 1935, Section 141.

The estimated number of campers resident in the district at one time was between 2,750—3,000.

STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

The population of the district, as given in the census returns 1951, was 18,745. The Registrar General estimates the figure for last year as being 19,300.

BIRTH RATE.

During the year there were registered, after inward and outward transfers, 276 births (R.G.R.), viz., 165 males and 111 females. Out of this number, 12 males and 8 females were illegitimate. The rate on the estimated population (19,300) is 14.30 per 1,000. The birth rate for England and Wales for the period is 15.00.

DEATH RATE.

The total number of deaths credited to the District by the Registrar General was 314, viz., 166 males and 148 females, which gives a crude death rate of 16.27 per 1,000 of the population. For comparison with the national figure, Rhyl's death rate is 12.69 per 1,000. The national rate is 11.70 per 1,000.

Local returns showed that a total of 353 persons died in Rhyl during the year. Of these, 122 were non-residents and were transferred to their own districts, while 79 Rhyl residents who died outside the area were transferred into the Rhyl register, making a total of 310 deaths credited to Rhyl.

Of the 310 deaths credited to Rhyl, 120 were of persons between the ages of 70—80 years, 78 were of persons between the age 80—90 years, and 15 persons were over the age of 90 at death.

Summing up, it can be said that 68.7 per cent. of the deaths during the year were those of people aged 70 years and over.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

There was one death from Influenza and 11 deaths from Pneumonia. This gave death rates of 0.05 and 0.57 per 1,000 of the population respectively. There were no deaths due to Whooping Cough.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Amongst infants under one year there were 7 deaths (R.G.R.), or in the proportion of 25.36 per 1,000 registered births, as against 24.9 for England and Wales.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Nine deaths were attributed to Pulmonary Tuberculosis, equal to 0.47 per 1,000 of the estimated population (19,300), compared with a national rate of 0.13 per 1,000.

OTHER TUBERCULOSIS DISEASES.

Under this heading no deaths occurred.

OTHER RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

Under this heading three deaths occurred, equal to a rate of 0.15 per 1,000 of the estimated population (19,300). Also Bronchitis six, equal to a rate of 0.31 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

DEATH RATE FROM CANCER.

Fifty-nine deaths were ascribed to Cancer, the rate being 3.06 per 1,000 of the estimated population (19,300). The reason for this somewhat high figure (national rate, 2.06 per 1,000) is the fact that Rhyl has an older than average population.

Eight deaths were due to Cancer of the Lung or Bronchus, giving a rate of 0.41 per 1,000 population, compared with a national rate of 0.389 per 1,000 population.

VACCINATION RETURNS.

The following information has been supplied to me by the County Medical Officer of Health:—

	Primary	Re- vaccinat	ed
Number of children under one year vaccinated	84		
Number of children 1-4 vaccinated		3	
Number of children 5—14 vaccinated		2	
Number of persons 15 or over vaccinated	13	22	
Number of vaccinations of residents of Rhyl Urban District carried out during the period			
1st January—31st December, 1955		27	

Though the vaccination rate is still low, it has more or less doubled itself during the year, and it is to be hoped that this increase will turn out to be more than maintained for the next few years, for at present the majority of the population is unvaccinated.

In these days of rapid inter-Continental air travel, this situation may well result in epidemics of smallpox becoming common once again in Britain. I strongly advise all parents to have their children vaccinated against smallpox during infancy.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

This section of Public Health Administration is entirely under the control of the Flintshire County Council and their Health Visitors. A Welfare Centre has been established at the Old Emmanuel School, Vale Road, at which local ladies also give voluntary assistance.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

This Department is also under the control of the Regional Hospital Board, the nearest station for treatment being at St. Asaph General Hospital.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The number of cases of Infectious Diseases from the Urban District admitted into Hospital was 29.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area—Exclusive of Foreshore	1,700 acres
Area—Inclusive of Foreshore	2,579 acres
Population at Census, 1901	8,461
Population at Census, 1911	9,005
Population at Census, 1921	13,490
Population at Census, 1931	13,485
Population at Congre 1051	
Population at Census, 1951	18,745
Population, R.G. Estimate, 1955	19,300
Number of occupied dwellings at Census, 1951	5,222
Number of private households therein, 1951	5,675
Rateable Value ending March 31st, 1955	£199,755
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£809
Number of Rated Premises	7,290
	.,
Number of inhabited premises according to Rate	Books
ridinger of managed premises according to race	Doores.
Houses	5,964
Flats and Tenements	
Houses and Shops	
riouses and onops	195
	6.206
	6,296

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

(Registrar General's Returns).

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births:— Legitimate Illegitimate	256 20	153 12	103 8	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 14.30
Still Births	7	4	3	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 24.74
Deaths	314	166	148	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 16.27
		De	aths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Deaths from Puerperal Ca Puerperal Sepsis				

Death rate of Infants under one year of age:-	
All Infants, per 1,000 live births	25.36
Legitimate Infants, per 1,000 legitimate live births	27.34
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	_
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	_
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	_
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	59

CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

The only noteworthy causes of sickness outside the notifiable or epidemic diseases were: Bronchial Colds, Influenza and Catarrh.

SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS.

Home nursing and provision of midwifery services are now provided by the County Council. In addition, the services of approximately 24 part-time Home Helps are available in the Rhyl area on application to the County Medical Officer of Health.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

There is a local centre at the Old Emmanuel School, Vale Road, Rhyl, under the control of the Flintshire County Council, the County Medical Officer of Health and Inspector of Midwives.

HOSPITAL.

Hospital treatment is now provided free of charge under the National Health Service Act, 1946.

The Hospitals serving the Rhyl district are the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Prince Edward War Memorial Hospital, Maternity and General Hospital at St. Asaph, under the administration of the Clwyd and Deeside Hospital Management Committee.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Ambulance facilities are now provided by the County Council under the National Health Service Act, 1946.

LABORATORY WORK.

Arrangements have been made with the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Conway, for Pathological and Bacteriological examinations.

LIST OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES IN RHYL DISTRICT.

Smallpox, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria (including Membraneous Croup), Enteric Fever (Typhoid and Paratyphoid), Measles, Whooping Cough, Pneumonia, Cholera, Plague, Puerperal Fever, Puerperal Pyrexia, Cerebro Spinal Fever, Acute Poliomyelitis, Acute Polioencephalitis, Encephalitis Lethargica, Typhus Fever, Dysentry, Erysipelas, Ophthalmia Neontorum, Tuberculosis (Pulmonary and other forms), Malaria (cases contracted in this country), and other cases.

LIST OF ADOPTIVE ACTS, ETC., IN FORCE. ACTS.

Rhyl Improvements Act, 1852, 1872 and 1901. Rhyl Water Act, 1932. Rhyl Urban District Council Act, 1935.

BYELAWS.

Slaughter Houses, 1931.
Camping, 1935.
Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures, 1913.
Offensive Trades—Dealers in Rags and Bones, 1915.
Registries for Marine Stores, 1915.
Common Lodging Houses, 1877.
Nuisances, 1890.
Removal of Offensive Matters, 1896.
Sanitary Conveniences, 1897.
Food, 1951.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

It was not found necessary to take legal action against any person for contraventions of Section 141 of the Rhyl Urban District Council Act, 1935, relating to Camping.

SCHOOL AND MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

The five primary schools, two secondary schools and one grammar school within the district have received attention.

Epidemic Sickness, viz., Measles, Whooping Cough, Influenza Colds and Mumps, were prevalent at varying periods. All the schools are disinfected after closure and during the holiday periods. The Medical Inspection of the children attending the schools is carried out by the Staff of the County Health Department. There is a School Clinic at the Old Emmanuel School, Vale Road, which is open each Monday between 9 and 11.30 a.m., when a doctor is present.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

The staff consists of one Medical Officer of Health, D.S.C., M.B., D.P.H. (part-time); one Chief Public Health Inspector, M.B.E., C.S.I.B., C.M.I.L.U. (full-time); one Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, C.S.I.B., Cert.Meat.Insp.R.S.I.; one additional Public Health Inspector, C.S.I.B. (Contributions are made to the salaries of each of these Officers by Exchequer Grants); a Rodent Officer, a Chief Clerk, two General Clerks and a Shorthand Typist.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality belonging to the District during 1955:—

		New	Cases		Deaths					
Age			No					n-		
Periods			Respi			atory		atory		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Under 1 year	_	-	1	-		_	-	-		
1-5 years	2	_	_			_	-	-		
6—10 "		_	-	-	-	-		-		
11-15 "	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	-		
16—20 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
21—25 ,,	2	_	_	_	_			-		
26—35 "	2	_	-		1	-		_		
36-45 "	_	1	-	-	1	2		-		
46—55 "	2	_	-	-	2	_		-		
56-65 ,,		-	-	_	-	1	-	_		
65 and upwards	-	1	-	-	2	_	-	-		
Total	8	2	-		6	3	_	_		

Cases on the register in December, 1954, totalled 196, and in December, 1955, totalled 191—a decrease of 5 cases.

The total number of deaths from Tuberculosis was nine.

During the year, the local Chest Clinic removed from its previous offices at 27 Edward Henry Street to the Royal Alexandra Hospital, East Parade, Rhyl.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action was taken under the above Regulations.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925: SECTION 62.

No action was taken under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936: SECTION 172.

No action was taken under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948: SECTION 47.

"Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention."

One elderly lady in need of care and attention, and not receiving it from any source, was removed to hospital under this section during the year.

ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING.

There were no cases of Food Poisoning notified in 1955.

BYELAWS UNDER SECTION 15 OF FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938.

No formal action had to be taken under the Byelaws during the year.

TABLE I.-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Total Deaths	111 1111111111	-	1
†Cases admitted to Hospital	1-10 0	30	1
20 T9VO	III III-IIIIII	2	1
59—54	111 11111111111111111111111111111111111	16	1
32—42		4	2
S6—02	11- 1-1111111-0	∞	3
15—20	111 1-11111111	3	2
⊅ I—0I		9	4
6—S	1 2 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	4	6
3-4	111 2 1 1 1 1 1 2 2	35	9
z—ī		16	2
Under I year	111 111111111-011	7	2
Age	111 11111111111111111111111111111111111	2	1
At all ages	118 19 19 11 11 1825 24	143	30
Disease	Small Pox Diphtheria Scarlet Fever Enteric Fever or Typhoid (excluding Paratyphoid) Acute Poliomyelitis Puerperal Pyrexia Acute Encephalitis Frysipelas Paratyphoid Fevers Ophthalmia Neonatorum Meningococcal Infection Measles Whooping Cough Dysentry Food Poisoning	Totals	†Cases removed to hospital

†Including Suspects and Carriers.

TABLE II.-VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1955 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Name of District-RHYL URBAN.

-	302 303
	15.93 16.89 15.18 15.05 14.39 14.39 14.39

Area of District in acres (land and inland water): 1,700 (exclusive of foreshore); 2,579 (inclusive of foreshore). Total population at all ages: 18,745 (at Census, 1951). Estimated population: 19,300.

TABLE III.—REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S RETURNS.

Causes of Death	Males	Females
All Causes	166	148
1. Tuberculosis—Respiratory	6	3
2. Tuberculosis—Other		-
3. Syphilitic Disease		1
4. Diphtheria		
5. Whooping Cough 6. Meningococcal Infections		
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	_ :::	_
8. Measles		-
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases		-
10—14. Malignant Disease (Cancer)	28	31
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	-
16. Diabetes		2
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	14 40	19 15
18. Coronary Disease—Angina	4	7
20. Other Heart Disease	19	27
21. Other Circulatory Disease	5	
22. Influenza		4 1 5 3
23. Pneumonia	6	5
24. Bronchitis	3	3
25. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	3 3	2
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	_
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis 29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion		_
31 Congenital Malformations	2	1
32 Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	16	20
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	2 7 3	5
34. All Other Accidents	3	1
35. Suicide of War	3	
36. Homicide and Operations of War		
Special Causes (included in No. 32 above):		
Smallpox		
Polioencephalitis		
Deaths of [Total	6	1
Infants under { Legitimate	6	1
1 year Illegitimate		_
Deaths of [Total	3	-
Infants under Legitimate	3	-
4 weeks of age [Illegitimate		_
(Total	165	111
Live Births { Legitimate	153	103
Illegitimate	12	8
[Total	4	3 3
Still Births Legitimate	4	3
		_
Illegitimate		

TABLE IV.—CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING 1955.

Name of District: Rhyl Urban. Local Returns: Age Periods.

Causes of Death	All Ages	Under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15and under 25 years	25 years to 44 years	45 years to 64 years	65 years and over	Total Deaths, whether of Residents or Non-Resi- dents in Hospitals in the District.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	9	_		_	3	4	2	1
2. Tuberculosis, other 3. Syphilitic disease	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	
4. Diphtheria	_	-	-		_	-	_	_
5. Whooping Cough 6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	_	=		_	_	_	_	_
8. Measles	-	-		_	_	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases		_5			_			
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	10	-	-	_	_	1	9	4
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung	7				1	4	2	2
bronchus	7	_	_	_		2	2 5	2 3
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus,								
etc	1					-	1	1
neoplasms	35		_	_	3	11	21	23
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	-		_	-	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	2		_		_	_	2	1
system	- 33	19201	1 -0	TA.II	111	3	30	13
18. Coronary disease, angina 19. Hypertension with heart	59			-HETE	-	14	45	26
disease	9	-	_	-	_	1	8	1
20. Other heart diseases	30	-	-	1	-	4	25	4
21. Other circulatory diseases 22. Influenza	_	_	_			1	1	3
23. Pneumonia	8	1	-	1	_	_	6	7
24. Bronchitis 25. Other diseases of respiratory	5	-	-	-	-	2	3	_
system	1	_	_	_	_	_	1	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duo-	-							
denum	5		_	_	_	1	4	5
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	2	_	_	_	1	_	1	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostrate 30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abor-	2	-	-	_	-	-	2	4
tion	_			_	_	_	_	_
31. Congenital malformations, etc.	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	_
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	67		-	3	No.	6	58	34
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	-	_	_	1	1		
34. All other accidents 35. Suicide	5		1	1	_	1	2	8 5
36. Homicide and operations of	0			-	2	1	-	. 1
war	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_

TABLE V.—INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1955.

Nett deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

Name of District: RHYL URBAN.

4 weeks and under 6 months		6 months and under 12 month		Total Deaths under 1 year
 1		3	:::	7
 _ _ 1 _		$\frac{-2}{1}$		1 2 3 1
 1		3		7
 	1 1 1 1	1 — 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 3 1 2 2 1 2 1 1 1 3	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

ISOLATION HOSPITAL RETURNS.

Patients admitted to Hospital

		72.50									
1955	Scarlet Fever	Meningitis (Suspect)	Diphtheria	Do. Suspect	Measles	Dysentry	Do. Suspect	Poliomyelitis	Do. Suspect	Whooping	Total
January February	=	=	_	_	_	<u>-</u>	_	_	_	_	-
March	_	_	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
April	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3
May June	1					_			_	3	4
July	_	_	_	_	_	4	_	_	_	_	4
August	-	1	_	-		-	1	_	-	-	4 2 3 3
September .	-	-	-	-	_		-	2 2 5	1	-	3
October	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	_	
November . December .	2	_	_			1	_	2	_		6.2
December .	-										
Totals	5	1	-	1	-	6	1	9	1	5	29

During the last ten years the number of cases of Infectious Diseases admitted to Hospital, and the Mortality Rates are as follows:—

Year	Cases Admitted	Deaths	Mortality Rate per 1,000
1946	42	_	—
1947	30	2	66.6
1948		_	
1949		1	142.9
1950		1	40.0
1951	20	_	—
1952	20	_	
1953	24	1	41.7
1954		1	35.7
1955	29	_	—

Herewith I append the Reports and Statistics supplied to me by the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. E. L. Lloyd Jones, and the report of the action taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Finally, I desire to express to the members of the Council and the Officials, my sincere thanks for their encouragement and assistance during the year.

(Signed) R. RHYDWEN, D.S.C., M.B., D.P.H.,
August, 1956. Medical Officer of Health.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

For the Year ended 31st December, 1955.

Mr. Chairman, Miss Brookes, and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my twenty-third Annual Report for the year 1955.

Despite the fact that the Housing (Repairs and Rents) Act, 1954, came into operation in September, 1954, only three applications were received for grant, in each case by the owner/occupier. Several enquiries have been made for Improvement Grants for tenanted properties, which, if carried out, would have been a considerable sanitary improvement, but in each case the tenants refused to agree to pay the increased rent, therefore the applications were not proceeded with.

Two applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair, which were granted, and they were still in operation at the end of the year.

It would appear that the operation of the act of 1954 has been a failure, insofar as its application to increased rents and improvements. Great difficulty is still being experienced in getting work done to comply with Abatement Notices, due to the fact that the nett rent income is so small and will not cover works of essential repair, particularly in those cases where the property has passed on to the present owner as a result of a legacy without any finances.

The Council have continued to carry out their policy of providing homes for the people, 56 houses being erected. This is a reduction of 16 on the previous year. Private enterprise erected 106 houses. Due to increased building costs, the rents of Council houses have continued to increase, but, despite this fact, applications for the tenancies thereof do not seem to diminish. The Council have also continued to loan substantial sums of money to prospective purchasers of both old and new houses, under the Housing Act, 1949, and still continue their policy of offering and selling houses erected by them pre-1939 to the tenants. Up to the end of 1955, 34 were sold.

The total number of houses erected by the Council since 1946 is 871.

The town maintains its popularity as a seaside resort, and 1955 was an exceptional year because of the very fine dry summer. Despite the heavy strain on management and catering staff, there was no major outbreak of food-borne infection in the area.

I am pleased to report that the beach during the year has been kept clean, no reports of refuse being washed up from other areas having been received.

The eight camping grounds within the Urban District, for which permission is granted under the Rhyl Urban District Council Act, 1935, have been kept under close observation, and I must say that the management have endeavoured at all times to keep up a high standard of cleanliness. The collection of refuse on these camping sites does present a serious problem during the summer period.

The Marine Lake was again treated with a 20 per cent. miscible solution of D.D.T., and no complaints were received.

Due to the extensive development of the eastern area of the district, the disposal of sewage, and particularly storm water, has caused great concern, and it is hoped that in the near future a comprehensive scheme will be placed before the Council for their consideration, as the present system has been in operation since 1931.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of my Committee, to my colleagues, the Medical Officer of Health, fellow officials in all Departments of the Council, and to all members of the indoor and outdoor staffs, for their loyal support and co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Miss Brookes, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. L. LLOYD JONES, Chief Public Health Inspector.

TABLE I.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

Number of Complaints received	1727
Number of Drains and W.C.s Released and Cleansed by Depart-	1,2,
ment	1884
Number of Nuisances found (including under Factories Act)	209
Number of Nuisances Abated	206
Number of Preliminary Notices Served	112
Number of Statutory Notices Served	46
Number of Visits to Infectious Disease and Enquiries	23
Number of Visits re. Disinfection	18
Bakehouses, Factories and Workplaces	150
Dairies and Milkshops	130
Ice Cream Premises Slaughterhouses, Butchers Shops and Stalls	242 940
Fishmongers, Grocers, etc	430
Visits under Public Health Acts	512
Visits under Housing Acts	340
Visits to Verminous Premises	18
Miscellaneous Housing Visits (Housing Investigation, etc.)	410
Drainage Visits	110
Refuse Collection and Disposal	120
Rats and Mice	2080
Camping Grounds	130
Theatres, Public Houses, etc	85
Schools	11
Offensive Trades	3
Water Supply	30
Restaurants and Food Premises	450
Drain Tests	23
Number of Visits made to Council Houses	610
Swimming Pool	25
Pet Animals Act	40
Market and Other Stalls	30
Public Conveniences	3
Houses Let in Lodgings	19
Houses Let in Loughigs	17

TABLE II.—SANITARY DEFECTS.

Damp Living and Bed Rooms
Defective Chimney Pots, Flues and Stacks
Defective Roofs
Defective Floors, Living and Bed Rooms
Defective Gutters and Downspouting
Defective Plaster, Wall and Ceilings
Defective Skylights, Window Glazing and Frames, Casing and Doors
Cords to Windows and Fastenings
Defective Fire Grates
Remove Accumulation, Manure and Refuse
Defective Yard Surface
Defective Dust Bins

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936: SECTION 75. Defective, or want of, Dustbins (Supplied) Defective, or want of, Dustbins (Trade) 45 FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938. Absence of, or Unsuitable, Washing Facilities Sanitary Conveniences in Direct Communication with Food 17 FOOD BYELAWS. Absence of Hand Washing Notices Food Exposed to Contamination 6 DRAINAGE: WATER CLOSETS AND WATER SUPPLY. Defective Access Covers, Chambers and Brickwork Defective Water Supply to W.C.s 73

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

During the year one owner was proceeded against for the non-compliance of an abatement notice. The Magistrates made the necessary Abatement Order and the work was carried out immediately after the Court Order.

In six instances during the year, 24-hour Notices were served upon the Owners under Section 82 of the Rhyl Urban

District Council Act, 1935, to attend to defective drains and fittings, and in two cases the work was carried out by the Council, in default, the cost being charged up to the Owners.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 AND 1948.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937, Section 128(3).

Part I. of the Act.

1.—Inspections for purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors):—

	Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	
(i)	Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	31	 74 .	 _
(ii)	Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	117	 97 .	 6
(iii)	Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-work- ers Premises)	9	17	
	Total	157	 188	 6

2.- Cases in which defects were found:-

Z.—Cases in which defects wi	ere rour	Id				
Particulars	No. Found		No.	to	eferre H.M Ins'tor	Referred by H.M. Ins'tor.
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	1					_
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6)				***	_	 -
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):						
(a) Insufficient	_		_		-	 _
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	3		3		-	 1
(c) Not Separate for Sexes	-		-			 _
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relat-			2			
ing to Outwork)	4	***	-			
Total	7		7			1
Total	_		_			-

TABLE III.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Number of Ca	ases Removed to	Isolation H	lospital	 29
Number of Ro	ooms Disinfected,	Lamp and	Spray	 33
Number of Ro	ooms Disinfected,	Spray only		 25

Number of Houses Disinfected, Spray	10 6 12 26 2 40 243 35 25
Number of Rooms Disinfested (D.D.T.)	14 - 5 1
Loads of Domestic Refuse to Tip	1091#

254 Working Days. Total Loads: 4413-17.37 per working day.

FOODSTUFFS.

The appended details of foodstuffs voluntarily surrendered during the year would appear at first sight to be formidable, but the surrender enables the retailer to obtain credit for these goods as a result of a certificate which is issued, and I would say that the Department welcomes this system, despite the fact that, in some instances, it means the issuing of a number of certificates for individual items. It does encourage the retailer to call in the Public Health Inspector for expert advice if he is in any doubt that the food commodity which he offers to the public, is or may be unfit for human consumption.

During the year under review, one or two complaints were received of foreign matter in foodstuffs. The suppliers were seen and, after consideration, the Council decided not to institute proceedings as, in each instance, it was due to the failure of the human element, and it would appear that the foreign bodies concerned, had they been consumed, would have had no detrimental effect. In another instance, bread was affected with "pink mould" and the manufacturers were very concerned about the matter, as it appears that this is due to exceptionally warm weather, which was experienced during the summer of 1955.

Condemned Food.

Meat 314lbs. 8ozs., bacon trimmings 72lbs., bacon 46lbs., sausage 8lbs., poultry 13lbs. and 8 tins, potatoes 43 cwts., steak and kidney pie 1, beefsteak pie 1, tomato juice 4 tins, Golden Syrup 1 tin, jellies 20, jam 3 jars, Piccallili 2 jars, milk drinks 2 tins, coffee 3 tins, barley crystals 1 pkt., spaghetti 2 tins, dumplings 24, paste 2 jars, sliced beetroot 4 tins, essences 30 bottles, sauce powder 53 pkts., sponge mixture 158 pkts., salad cream 25 jars, mayonnaise 17 jars, marmalade 1 jar, Scotch Broth 2 tins, lemon cheese 15 jars, herrings 2 stone, desiccated coconut 14 pkts., cornish pasties 2, mustard 2 tins, Marmite 1 bottle, custard 1 pkt., coconut 1, cooked cockles 1 gallon, gravy 1 tin and 5 pkts., pudding mixture 2 pkts., butter 68 ½lb. pkts., cheese 57lbs. 10ozs., sauce 3 bottles, pickled onions 1 jar, meat 349 tins, veg. 752 tins, fruit 826 tins, soup 40 tins, fish 96 tins, cream 22 tins, milk 293 tins, ground rice 11 tins, meat and veg. 6 tins, cheese spread 65 boxes, cheese slices 125 boxes, creamed rice 7 pkts., cake 33lbs. 1½ozs.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

A copy of the Report for the period 1st January to 31st December, 1955, received from Mr. Elwyn Lewis, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., County Public Health Inspector, who is responsible to the County for samples taken in Rhyl and District as Inspector of Food and Drugs, is appended hereunder:—

Herewith are the particulars of the samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, in the Rhyl Urban District Council area during the year ended 31st December, 1955:—

	Number of Samples		Genuine	Not genuine or below standard		
Milk	50		47		3	
Dairy Products	5		5		-	
Sausages	14		14		_	
Ice Cream and Lollies	9		9			
Confectionery	6		6		-	
Alcoholic Drinks	7		7		-	
Cooking Fats and Fish						
Frying Oils	6		6		_	
Fish and Meat Products	6		6		_	
	6 5		5			
Patent Medicines	4 4		1.4			
Miscellaneous Groceries	14		14	***		
	122		119		3	
					-	

The three milk samples reported as not being genuine were taken at the collecting depot from farm consignments. Two contained added water, and the producer was fined a total of £11 7s. The third was low in solids and the producer was advised to contact the advisory service of the Ministry of Agriculture and Foods.

(Signed) ELWYN LEWIS,

County Public Health Inspector and Food and Drugs Inspector.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

The following table gives the number of dealers operating within the district:—

Resident Retailers	51
Resident Cowkeepers and Retailers/Wholesalers	5
Non-resident Cowkeepers and Retailers/Wholesalers	13
Non-resident Retailers	1
Non-resident Wholesalers	4

The approximate number of Cows kept by Resident Cowkeepers is about 50, so that over 90 per cent. of the milk consumed in Rhyl is produced outside the district boundary.

MILK SUPPLY.

The number of individual retailers of milk, viz., from door to door, is again reduced, and it is significant that, although 16 to 20 samples of milk are taken per month, all these samples are obtained from four retailers. There has been a considerable increase in the number of small shopkeepers who are registered for the sale of milk in sealed containers.

The problem of dirty milk bottles, referred to in my last report, does not seem to diminish, and although the management of the dairies concerned have provided up-to-date machinery for bottle washing, the human element again seems to fail, as a few bottles are still supplied to customers with foreign bodies therein. I feel it only fair to point out that what appears to be a dirty bottle on occasions is due to external abrasions of the bottle collecting foreign matter on the outside, which would appear to be inside the bottle.

It is still surprising to find the number of milk bottles that are placed in the dust bin for removal by the refuse collectors and not for the milk roundsman to collect on his rounds.

Regular sampling of milk is carried out. During the year, 200 samples of milk were taken—188 satisfactory and 12 unsatisfactory.

Fifty samples were Pasteurised milk, all being "satisfactory"; 42 samples of Tuberculin-tested (Pasteurised) milk, which were all "satisfactory"; 31 samples of Sterilised milk were "satisfactory"; and 65 Tuberculin-tested were "satisfactory." The twelve "unsatisfactory" samples were Tuberculin-tested.

It will be noted from the above results that all the "unsatisfactory" samples of milk were "raw" milks. I have drawn attention to this fact for a few years now, and I feel most strongly on the matter, as the consumer is paying a higher price for this milk, which he feels is the best, and yet, due to lack of care in either production, handling or bottling, it is not a satisfactory product. One wonders whether, if a series of samples are unsatisfactory, that power should be granted to enable that such sources of supply must be heattreated.

Eight samples of milk, viz. 4 T.T. and 4 T.T. (Jersey) were tested for T.B. or Brucella Infection; all were negative.

ICE CREAM.

The following table gives the number of manufacturers and retailers of ice cream registered within the district under the Rhyl Urban District Council Act, 1935 (Section 100):—

Manufacturers and Retailers	5
Retailers	139
Wholesale Distributors (Storage)	
	147

The amount of ice cream sold in the town is reflected by the number of retailers on the register. During the year, 120 samples were taken for bacteriological examination. Twenty-five samples were taken from manufacturers; 19 were Grade I., 4 were Grade II., and 2 were Grade III. Ninety-five samples were taken from retailers; 77 were Grade I., 13 Grade II., 4 Grade III., and 1 Grade IV.

It will be seen from the analysis of the results of samples taken that there was only one in Grade IV., which I feel reflects great credit on all those connected with the Ice Cream industry in the town, particularly as the weather, whilst conducive to high sales of the commodity, was not good for its keeping quality. I am pleased with the high standard, which I asked to be maintained in my last report and which has been fully justified.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are two Marine Stores registered under the Offensive Trade Clauses of the Public Health Act, 1936.

PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

Meat condemned: 8 tons, 14 cwts., 3 qtrs., 26 lbs.

There were 10 cases of Cysticercus Bovis detected during the year, which is an increase of 1 over 1954. The carcases were refrigerated for 21 days before release for human consumption.

It will be noted that the total tonnage of meat condemned has been nearly halved on the previous year's figures, and I think this is due to the quality of meat provided and, also, to the fact that the customer is very "choosy" as to the type of meat she will accept.

I am pleased to report that the negotiations with the Ministry of Food for the settlement of a claim for the use of the Council's slaughterhouse from 1939 to de-control has been settled satisfactorily.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART FOR THE YEAR 1955.

Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
14247	3938	_
14250	3941	_
39	32	-
588	107	-
4.4	3.5	_
-	7	-
_	120	-
-	3.2	-
-	-	-
-		-
_	_	_
	14247 14250 39 588	14247 3938 14250 3941 39 32 588 107 4.4 3.5 — 7 — 120

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

This work is an occupation which is carried out in all states of weather, and at times can be very irksome, and I would pay tribute to the staff for their loyalty and endeavours at all times to ensure a regular collection of the town's refuse. Due to the parking problem, collection of refuse in the summertime creates many "headaches." The shopkeeper or business premises require the refuse removed, the refuse collector wants to remove it, but due to the fact that cars are parked and, in the majority of instances, locked, as many as six visits in one day have to be made to enable the refuse to be removed. Being a car driver myself, I do appreciate that the lorry driver and men become short-tempered at times. I also feel that the general public should appreciate these difficulties.

The operation of Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, continues to prove a success, ratepayers as a whole have co-operated wholeheartedly; the number of bins issued under the scheme for the year ended 31st March, 1956, was 344. In addition, 117 bins were delivered to Council houses. Owing to rising costs, the annual charge has had to be increased to 5/- per annum. The extra collection of refuse, from Whitsuntide to the end of September, has been taken advantage of by tradespeople, hotels and boarding houses, and the cost of this collection is 9d. per bin for each extra collection, in addition to the statutory collection of one per week. The work of disposal of refuse is 100 per cent. controlled tipping on marsh land at the Rhyl Cob, this land having been acquired from the Crown by the Council, and continues to be satisfactory.

The whole of the work of collection of House Refuse is under the supervision of the Public Health Inspectors. One S. & D. Freighter, one Leyland Club, three Dennis "Paxit" Refuse Collecting Vehicles and one Morris Commercial Vehicle are used.

Outbreaks of fire on the tip have caused some concern, with the result that the Council have had to engage a watchman during the hours of daylight after the men have finished on the tip, and on Saturdays and Sundays. It is rather significant that no fires have occurred since the appointment of this watchman. There was a rather deep ditch at the rear of Rhydwen Drive which filled with water and was a danger to children of Council house tenants. During the mid-year this was drained and filled with refuse and the land has now been let for animal grazing.

In 1954 the gross cost of collection was £19,850, whilst the income was £6,274, giving a net figure of £13,576. This year, the gross cost was £20,019 and the income £7,839, giving a net cost of £12,180. (See page 35).

It will also be noted from the table showing the cost of refuse disposal (on page 35) that the net cost this year was £2,853 as against £4,233 last year. The latter large increase I explained why in my last report.

I would point out that the disposal figures include the disposal of street sweepings, refuse gathered off the beach, and gully emptyings, which are the responsibility of the Engineer and Surveyor, for which no charge is made by this Department.

SALVAGE.

The gross amount of salvage collected and disposed of during the year showed an increase of 81 tons on the figures for 1954 and was due, chiefly, to increases on Bottles and Jars, Baled Tins and, especially, Waste Paper, which exceeded the weight of 1954 by 76 tons.

The collection of waste paper was an all-time record, and whilst there are some difficulties at the mills I still urge the townspeople to keep this material particularly separate from other refuse and place easily accessible for the refuse collectors to move when they call.

Weight: 1st January to 31st December, 1955.

Waste Paper Iron Baled Tins Aluminium Copper	7 1 1	Rags and Bagging Bones and Fat Bottles and Jars (899.33 grs.) Miscellaneous		5	1
Brass Zinc and Pewter Lead	3 0 4 1		822	9	3

Income and Expenditure: 1st April, 1955-31st March, 1956.

Income £7,816. Expenditure £5,157. Excess of Income over Expenditure £2,659.

I append herewith table showing costs of Collection and Disposal:—

TABLE VI.-REFUSE.

Showing Cost of Refuse Collection and Disposal, Year 1955-56 (To 31st March, 1956).

	Collection and Salvage	ind Salvage	Dispose	Disposal (Tip)	To	Total
Particulars	Including loan charges	Excluding loan charges	Including loan charges	Including Excluding loan charges	Including loan charges	Excluding loan charges
Gross Expenditure	£ 20019 7839	£ 19396 7839	£ 3205 352	* £ 3205 352	£ 23224 8191	22601 8191
Net Cost	12180	11557	2853	2853	15033	14410
Unit Costs—Gross Expenditure per Ton Gross Income per Ton	42/1.93	40/10.0	6/8.97 8.89d.	6/8.97 8.89d.	48/10.90 17/2.93	47/6.97 17/2.93
Net Cost per Ton	25/7.89 £631.09 £1670.78 15.06d.	24/3.96 £598.81 £1585.32 14.29d.	6/0.08 £147.82 £391.36 3.53d.	6/0.08 £147.82 £391.36 3.53d.	31/7.97 £778.91 £2062.14 18.59d.	30/4.04 £746.63 £1976.68 17.82d.

*As there were no loan charges repayable during the year, the figures remain the same.

NOTE.—The Table is prepared by taking several weighings as an average for the year.

Refuse removed during the year (approximately) 9,500 tons Estimated Population (R.G.R., Mid-year 1955) ... 19,300 Number of Rated Premises ... 7,290 7,290 Total Rates in the £ ... 26/3 Product of a 1d. Rate ... 26/3 £809

(Signed) E. L. LLOYD JONES, M.B.E., Chief Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING.

The approximate number of Dwelling Houses for all classes is 6,507.

Houses erected during 1955:-

By the Council:

Permanent Houses erected	56 32
By Private Enterprise:	
Houses and Bungalows erected	106
By the County Council:	
Permanent Houses for Police	=
Adaptations and Conversions	1
There are really no unhealthy areas in the district.	

The staff engaged on Housing Inspections are the Public Health Inspectors, along with their other general duties.

The investigation of all applicants for Council houses is carried out by the Public Health Inspectors, and the actual letting of the houses after the allocation by the Council is carried out by this department.

Tenants are allowed one week to cleanse the house thoroughly before taking up occupation, and the premises are inspected after cleansing before the tenant is allowed to enter. This, in my opinion, is most important, as on subsequent visits, if the premises are not found to be clean, the tenant cannot use the argument that the house was dirty when he entered it.

The houses on the Council estates are visited and inspected during the year.

When existing houses become unoccupied, the premises are inspected, and if any signs of vermin are seen they are disinfested and thoroughly cleansed before a new tenant is allowed to take up occupation.

During the year a survey was made in accordance with the Housing (Repairs and Rents) Act, 1954, with the result that the provisional five-year programme, requested by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, was prepared and submitted to the Minister by the appointed day, showing that it was proposed to demolish 86 houses during the five years and re-house the families.

SEWERAGE.

All sewerage of the town gravitates to a main pumping station in Westbourne Avenue, where it is pumped into two sewerage storage reservoirs of a total capacity of 1½ million gallons. The contents of the reservoirs are discharged into the sea at a point approximately 1,000 yards from the sea wall, and the 30in. valve to the sea is opened half an hour after high water and closed 2 hours after high water, so that at all times of dry water flow the mouth of the sea outfall pipes is covered with a considerable depth of tidal water when it is discharged. During periods of heavy rainfall, the valve is opened for longer periods, but as Rhyl is a combined system, where the majority of rain and road surface water is diverted into the sewers, dilution is great.

The machinery at the pumping station consists of three gas engine driven pumps and three electric motor driven pumps, capable of discharging into the reservoirs 23,900 gallons per minute.

I append herewith a table showing the total gallons pumped, together with daily average:—

Total	Gallons Pump	ed	Daily Average
January	68,556,871		2,179,318
rebruary	58,505,205	***	2,089,257
March	71,656,589		2,311,502
April	48,910,253		1,630,341
May	56,386,183		1,818,909
June	65,169,529		2,172,317
July	55,485,776		1,789,863
August	64,619,842		2,084,511
September	47,678,631		1,589,287
October	46,688,737		1,506,088
November	35,187,685		1,172,856
December	47,252,629		1,492,020
Total	666,097,930		1,822,186

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

There are three premises, which are registered under the above Act, in the district.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

The Pet Animals Act, 1951, came into operation on the 1st April, 1952, and is designed to regulate the sale of pet animals. Four premises are registered under the above Act.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PEST ACT, 1949. RATS AND MICE.

Following the Government's lead in tackling this problem throughout the country, the Council have taken energetic measures in their area.

From 1st January to 31st December, 1955, 47 properties were treated for rats, 9 of which had to be re-treated, in some cases two or three times during the year.

One hundred and twenty-five properties, further to the above, were treated for mice, and 85 other properties were inspected.

The sewers were test-baited for the presence of rats, and two treatments were carried out in the areas where rat traces were found.

The Rhyl Cut was treated throughout its entire length in the Rhyl area, and two sections had to be re-treated.

Total number of visits made during the year for rats and/or mice: 1,862.

The latest method of rodent destruction, as laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, are in operation.

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

The Public Health Inspectors are responsible for the whole of the administration of the Shops Act, 1950, the Council having delegated powers from the Flintshire County Council,

with the exception of section 43 sub-section (2). The Council made the following Orders during the year:-

- 1-Sunday Trading Order, 1955, Section 51, exempting for 18 Sundays the Sunday Closing Provisions of the Act the sale of
 - (a) Any articles required for the purposes of bathing or fishing.

(b) Photographic Requisites.

(c) Toys, Souvenirs and Fancy Goods.
(d) Books, Stationery, Photographs, Reproductions and Postcards.
(e) Fried Fish and Chips.

- 2-Extension of Hours Order, 1955, for 18 weeks: Substituting for paragraph (b) of Section 2 of the Shops Act, 1950:
 - (a) At 10 o'clock in the evening on the late day.

(b) At 9.30 in the evening on any other day.

3-Rhyl (Suspension of Weekly Half-Holiday) Order, 1955, for 16 weeks.

Regular visits and inspections were made to see that the requirements of the Act were compiled with and in no instances was it found necessary to institute proceedings.

METEOROLOGY

For Statistical Tables see Pages 45-48.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Instruments used are by Negretti and Zambra, and are situate in Westbourne Avenue (opposite the Pumping Station). They include a Maximum, Minimum, Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometers in a Stevenson Screen, a Grass Minimum Thermometer, Rain Gauge and Measure, a Campbell-Stokes Sunshine Recorder and a Wind Vane. A Hyetograph, giving the rate and duration of rainfall, is situate outside the Pumping Station. The Barometer (Kew pattern) and Thermometer attached is also at the Pumping Station.

At the Meteorological Kiosk on the East Promenade a Self-recording Barograph, Maximum and Minimum Thermometer, Tide Table, previous day's Sun Card, Daily Weather Forecast from Negretti and Zambra Forecaster, Daily Weather Report of the Air Ministry and combined Weather Charts and Records are exhibited for public information. A Wind Vane is also on top of the Kiosk.

Observations are taken at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Greenwich Mean Time each day. Code Weather Telegrams are despatched every day throughout each year to the Meteorological Office at 6 p.m., and these are supplemented during the summer season by an additional telegram on weekdays at 9 a.m. Greenwich Mean Time for certain evening papers served (through the Meteorological Office) by the Press Association.

Weekly, Monthly and Annual Reports are prepared and are furnished to the local papers, and supplied to any enquiries —advertisement or private. Full reports monthly are forwarded to the Meteorological Office.

NOTES.

The Station is situate 31 feet above sea level. Latitude 53° 19'N. Longitude 3° 30'W. The Sunshine Recorder is 11 feet above the ground on which it is situated, and the Rain Gauge is one foot above the ground.

Humidity is calculated with Hygrometrical Tables, published by the Meteorological Office (Saturation = 100 per cent.).

The percentage of possible duration of sunshine is calculated by the Meteorological Office, with reference to the maximum duration theoretically possible in the latitude. The percentage of normal figures represent the mean daily duration for the year \times 100 \div the average for the year (the past 30 years ending 1950 being the figure taken = 4.10 hours for Rhyl). The average rainfall for the years 1881-1915 (35 years) is 25.81 inches, and is the figure used by the Meteorological Office.

A fall of one inch (25.4 millimetres) is equivalent to nearly 101 tons of water to the acre. One ton of water equals 224 gallons or nearly 36 cubic feet. An inch of rain implies 64,640 tons or 14,479,360 gallons of rain per square mile.

ANNUAL SUNSHINE AND RAINFALL, ETC., REPORT, AND STATISTICAL TABLES FOR YEAR 1955.

RAINFALL.

The rainfall for the year was well below the 35 years' average (25.81 inches), the total being 19.00 inches, as against 30.90 inches for the year 1954—which shows a decrease of 11.90 inches, and was less than the national average by 13.67 inches.

The average rainfall for England and Wales (35 years' average) is 32.67 inches, and we usually find Rhyl well below this figure.

The year's total of 19.00 inches was the lowest total since 1933 (18.10 inches).

During the year 1955, rain fell on 155 days, as against 202 in 1954.

The monthly average of rain works out at 1.58 inches, as against 2.58 inches for 1954, and a monthly average of 12.9 days' rain fell on, as against 16.8 days for 1954.

The highest recorded during the year (on one day) was on August 8th (early morning of the 9th), when, at 9 a.m. on the 9th, 0.59 inches was recorded.

The wettest month during the year strangely enough was June, with a total of 2.58 inches, and the driest was July, with a total of 0.33 inches (see Features).

FEATURES.

January: 0.42 inches of snow fell on the 15th (being the highest day's total for the month).

April: 0.87 inches—Lowest for April since 1943 (0.84 inches).

July: 0.33 inches (on two days)— Lowest for July since 1911 (also 0.33 inches, on 6 days), both being lowest for July on record (since 1881).

September: 0.96 inches—Lowest total for September since 1949 (0.76 inches).

November: 1.04 inches—Lowest total for November since 1945 (0.32 inches).

Note.—Every month except February was below the corresponding month of 1954.

SUNSHINE.

The total bright sunshine recorded by the Campbell-Stokes Recorder during 1955 was 1,754 hours 18 minutes, as compared with 1,336 hours 36 minutes during 1954.

The total for the year of 1,754 hours 18 minutes was the highest since 1949 (1,780 hours 18 minutes—which year was the highest for the previous 20 years since 1929—1,894 hours 24 minutes).

The instrument is verified annually by an official of the Meteorological Office. This year, in May, inspection was made.

The total record for 1955 is 417 hours 48 minutes more than that of 1954, which year was 251 hours 30 minute less than that of 1953.

It is interesting to note the sunshine for the past ten years, including 1955 (see Table II. on page 46).

These figures will show that the year 1955 was 213 hours 18 minutes above the average total number of hours for the past ten recorded years, and 272 hours 42 minutes higher than that of the average for 20 years.

During the past 20 years the records show that Rhyl has enjoyed, on an average, 304 days per annum with registered sunshine. This is a fine record, especially so when it is remembered that the district is free from fog and has the lowest rainfall of any health resort on the Western coast of Great Britain. This is due, it is officially stated, to its unique position at the mouth of the famed Vale of Clwyd and protected as it is on the West by the Snowdonian mountains.

The daily average of recorded sunshine works out at 4 hours 47 minutes as against 3 hours 37 minutes in 1954; 4 hours 20 minutes in 1953; 3 hours 58 minutes in 1952; 4 hours 8 minutes in 1951; 4 hours 3 minutes in 1950; 4 hours 53 minutes in 1949; 4 hours 22 minutes in 1948; 3 hours 53 minutes in 1947; and 4 hours 6 minutes in 1946.

Rhyl's daily average of recorded sunshine for 30 years (1921-50) is **4.10 hours,** as against the national average for England and Wales (40 years) of 3.94 hours.

It is interesting to note that the highest day's record of sunshine in Rhyl during the whole of the year 1955 occurred on 18th June, there being 15 hours 42 minutes, as against 13 hours 42 minutes in June, 1954.

FEATURES.

March, with a total of 169 hours 54 minutes, was the highest recorded for March since 1948 (7 years—184 hours 48 minutes).

July: 312 hours 36 minutes—Highest total for July, or any other month, on record, viz. since 1905.

August: 251 hours—Highest total for August since 1947 (8 years—270 hours 48 minutes).

September: 164 hours 6 minutes—Highest total for September since 1949 (166 hours 6 minutes).

TEMPERATURES.

February: Average Mean Temperature for month, 35.9°F., was the lowest for February since 1947 (30.6°F.).

March: Average Mean Temperature for month, 38.8°F., was the lowest for 30 years, lower than 30 years' average by 5.1°F.

August: 86°F. on 11th—Highest temperature for August since 1932 (also 86°F.).

The year 1955 was well below the average for rain and well above the average for sunshine. As for temperature, it was, except for January and February, every month above average. The year, as a whole, was well above standard in all aspects, and one to be remembered.

(Signed) W. A. FIELD, B.E.M., A.C.C.S., Meteorological Observer.

TABLE I.-METEOROLOGICAL TABLE FOR 1955.

1	rs.	Total Hou	73.1 169.9 164.6 211.4 153.2 312.6 251.0 164.1 111.8 61.4 38.5 146.2 146.2	111.4		
Sunshine	Shine	Days on wh Bright Suns was record	25.2 296 296 296 296 296 296 296	24.7		
Bright S	Daily Average. —Hours.		1.35 2.61 2.61 5.49 6.85 5.47 8.10 8.10 1.24 1.24 1.24	3.61		
Br		mi nuS tsoM noH—.ys:U	6.7 8.2 11.0 11.0 11.0 11.0 10.0 10.0 10.0 10	1		
Wind.		Prevailin Direction	HHANNER SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE S			
	n. or	Nights.	~ 5.3 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	9.5		
	.evs. Days. Nights. P. O.	44104041122418	5.4			
all.	yay.	Most in a lang.	0.25 0.23 0.23 0.23 0.25 0.25 0.25 0.25			
Rainfall		No. of da Rain Fel	17 18 18 19 16 16 17 18 16 18 16 18 16 18 17 17 17 18 18 18 19 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	16.8		
	Fall.	Mm.	43.0 52.3 37.8 37.8 22.1 50.5 65.1 88.5 33.9 48.9 25.0 57.9 38.9	63.3		
	Inches. Total Fall Min.		Inches.	Inches.	1.76 2.16 1.55 0.87 0.87 0.33 0.33 1.44 0.96 2.00 1.04 2.33 1.58	2.58
renheit.		Date.	18/20 27 27 13 13 10 10 5 5 16/27/31 17/18/30 -	1		
Fah		Lowest Minimin	33,344,53			
Air Temperature in Degrees Fahrenheit		Date.	25 25 19 31 88/7/8 8/9/10 	1		
re in	in.	Highes Maximu	58652888225688			
peratu	.8	FACE SERVICE S	38.8 35.9 35.9 38.8 38.8 38.8 36.9 50.0 50.0 50.0 50.0 7 45.7 44.5 7	49.3		
r Tem	1s of		34.1 33.1 33.1 33.1 33.2 35.2 44.9 55.6 55.6 7 40.7 39.2 13.3 14.9 14.9 14.9 14.0 14.0 14.0 14.0 14.0 14.0 14.0 14.0	44.3		
Ai	Means		43.5 40.6 40.6 40.6 40.6 40.6 40.6 40.6 40.6	54.3		
STATE OF THE PARTY	Month		January. February March May. June July. August September October. November Total for year Total for 1954	Monthly Average		

TABLE II .- 10-20 YEARS AVERAGES -- SUNSHINE, RAINFALL AND HUMIDITY.

Humid-	9.0 a.m. Per cent.	882282288	773	77	11
	Duration Percentage of Average	118823888	266	66	92
	Lowest in One Month.—Hours.	27.0 36.0 44.3 38.2 28.5 28.5 23.7 39.2 38.5 38.5	:		:
	Highest in One Month.—Hours.	249.2 270.8 275.0 287.5 248.8 233.4 196.2 231.8 217.2	:	:	:
SUNSHINE	Daily Average. —Hours.	3.91 3.91 4.05 4.05 3.98 4.14 3.98 4.34 3.61 4.78	:	4.22	4.05
ns	Sunshine Days.	296 313 322 313 322 313 305 305 305	3048	305	304
	Sunless Days.	87888888888	409	09	19
	Hours.	1500.5 1433.1 1571.4 1780.3 1480.3 1509.4 1455.8 1588.0 1336.5 1754.3	15409 6	1541.0	1481.6
	Month's Lowest Fall.—Inches.	0.96 0.38 0.57 0.57 0.53 0.53 0.53	:	:	:
,L.	Month's Greatest Fall.—Inches.	3.42 3.95 3.65 3.65 5.10 5.10 5.16 5.16	:	:	:
RAINFALL	Total Rain Days.	192 173 170 151 191 163 131 202 155	1722	172	174
R	Monthly Aver- age.—Inches.	2.44 2.12 2.00 1.77 2.14 2.50 1.87 1.70 2.58 1.58	:	2.07	
	Inches.	29.30 25.45 24.04 21.31 25.67 29.96 20.39 30.90 19.00	248.42	24.84	27.02
The second second	Year	1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952 1953 1954	Totals	Average 10 years	Average 20 years

TABLE III.-MEAN TEMPERATURES AND EXTREMES, 1946-1955 (10 YEARS).

1 1		~		10.00		0101		m+	3	
emp.	Т.	13	10	16 27 32	39	42	38	24.28	23	::
Lowest Daily Temp.	Date	26	2	8-8	6	3 12 13	388	\$888 \$::
Lowes	Year	1945	1954	1947 1952 1945	1949)	1951	1952	1947	1955	::
Temp.	T.	59	59	73.27	88	88	8	68	61	::
Highest Daily Temp.	Date	14	378	28/30	6	24	1	44	27	::
Highe	Year	1954	1950	1946 1948 1948)	1950	1948	1954	1949	1948)	1:
Average	Temp. 1921-50 (30 yrs.)	41.5	41.4	43.9 47.3 52.0	57.2	60.6	57.1	51.5 45.6	42.6	::
1955 Differ-	ence v.F.	6.0—	4.2	_7.2 +0.7 _2.3	9.0—	+0.6	+1.5	-0.6	+1.1	::
Mean	it.	39.7	40.1	46.0 47.9 52.8	57.4	60.4	57.5	51.5	43.2	50.4
Min.	[<u>T</u>	35.1	35.3	37.5 41.8 45.8	51.3	54.4	51.8	45.7	38.4	44.5
Max.	ír,	44.2	45.0	\$4.5 \$4.1 59.7	63.4	66.9	63.2	57.3	47.9	55.9
Month		January	February	March	June	July	September	October November	December	Yearly Average: 10 years

TABLE IV .-- 10 YEARS' MONTHLY SUNSHINE AND RAINFALL TOTALS.

	1954	2.01 1.02 1.02 1.02 2.04 2.33 2.33 2.34 2.35 2.35 2.35 2.35 2.35 2.35 2.35 2.35	5.09
	1953	0.53 1.94 1.34 1.34 1.37 2.75 2.75 1.07	5.42
	1952	2.67 0.83 0.86 1.08 1.95 1.42 3.13 3.30 3.30	3.41
es).	1951	2.46 2.94 2.94 1.23 3.32 1.42 0.96 3.23 3.23	+15
(Inches)	1950	3.53 3.53 3.53 3.53 3.53 3.53 3.53 3.53	0.14
RAINFALL	1949	2.23 0.91 1.37 1.88 1.61 0.76 2.69 2.69 2.66 3.73	4.50
RAIN	1948	4.49 1.15 1.04 1.28 3.30 1.39 1.39 3.50	1.77
	1947	2.69 3.95 2.35 2.35 2.35 2.35 2.35 1.79 1.79 1.27 1.27	0.36
	1946	3.33 9.096 9.096 3.33 9.255 3.33 9.098 3.33 9.098 3.33 9.098	3.49
	1945	2.19 1.31 1.35 1.35 1.18 1.18 2.12 2.12	6.15
	1954	35.5 55.8 116.7 217.2 1167.2 1127.8 163.3 72.1 64.0 35.2	0.49
	1953	36.0 60.6 152.4 196.4 198.6 175.3 132.4 130.7 60.9	0.24
	1952	58.5 87.2 116.2 148.0 186.0 176.8 176.8 106.0 124.3 58.9 39.2	0.13
	1951	51.7 83.7 92.2 178.7 189.1 187.8 136.4 107.2 131.9 62.4 54.9	0.03
rs).	1950	38.2 65.3 128.0 138.2 198.3 198.3 191.2 1112.2 1112.2 53.8 28.5	0.05
(Hours)	1949	54.4 117.4 147.7 158.8 230.9 230.9 230.9 208.5 168.1 94.1 56.6 38.2	0.78
SUNSHINE	1948	44.3 67.1 186.7 186.7 186.7 180.9 165.8 118.5 100.7 90.8 87.5 69.3	0.27
SUNS	1947	51.4 30.0 71.6 172.6 172.6 173.8 173.8 113.7 1115.3 72.7 34.6	0.19
	1946	63.8 62.6 148.7 167.9 184.7 127.9 81.8 81.8	Equal
	1945	41.6 91.9 119.7 197.9 170.0 126.3 101.9 39.3 43.2	0.07
	Month	Jan. Feb. March April May June July August Sept. Oct. Nov.	Avge for the Year

Sunshine: *This figure is the 30 years daily average = 4.10 hours.

Rainfall: This figure is 35 years yearly average = 25.81 inches.



