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RHYL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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

Together with the Annual Report of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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

FOR THE YEAR

1961

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE



REPORT

THE

REPORT

OF

THE


REPORT

1901



*With the Compliments
of the
Chief Public Health
Inspector.*

*Public Health Department,
2 Edward Henry Street,
Rhyl.*



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URBAN DISTRICT OF RHYL

Health Department Offices:

2 EDWARD HENRY STREET, RHYL. Tel. No.: Rhyl 1450.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1961.

Councillor W. J. DOWNING, J.P.
(Chairman of the Council).

Cllr. GLYN VAUGHAN	Cllr. D. E. MORRIS.
(Chairman).	„ FRANCIS T. JONES.
„ W. ELWYN CONWAY.	„ H. M. JONES
„ J. C. ESPLEY.	„ H. R. PARRY.
„ C. E. GARNETT.	„ EMLYN WILLIAMS.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:

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

Chief Public Health Inspector:

E. L. LLOYD JONES, M.B.E., F.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

E. G. BLACK, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

D. KAYE, M.A.P.H.I.

Chief Clerk and Meteorological Observer:

W. A. FIELD, B.E.M., A.C.C.S.

Clerks:

S. R. SYMS, S. R. JONES.

Shorthand Typist:

Miss P. SNAPE.

Maintenance Supervisor:

T. H. HEYES.

Engineer-in-Charge Pumping Station:

F. DAVIES.

Disinfecter:

A. S. JONES.

Rodent Officer:

W. H. THOMAS.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
For the Year 1961.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my first Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for the year 1961.

The Registrar General's mid-year estimate of population was 21,120, which was based upon the Census carried out in April, 1961, when the provisional figure was 21,825. The increase in population over the previous year is 1,180. In my opinion these estimates are only very approximate, especially when carried out a number of years after an actual Census estimation.

There was an excess of Births (396) over Deaths (349) of 47, and the crude birth-rate per thousand of the population was 18.75 (17.95 in 1959), compared with the national average of 17.4. The adjusted birth-rate is $18.75 \times 1.02 = 19.125$, and this, as will be seen taking into consideration the higher proportion of older people in the population, is significantly higher than the national average. This is very pleasing to record, as it is the general rule that seaside resorts have a lower adjusted birth-rate than the national average. During the year there were 10 deaths of infants under one year and the infant mortality rate was 25.25 per thousand live births. This compares with the national infant mortality rate of 23.1. There were six still-births during the year and the still-birth rate per thousand total births was 15, compared with the national average of 18.4. Once again there were no maternal deaths in pregnancy or child-birth during the year. There were 21 illegitimate births in 1961, which gives a rate of 53 per thousand live births, compared with the national average of 59. This is a considerable fall on the previous year, and I am unable to explain the reason for this decline in incidence. The crude death rate for the district is 16.22 which, when adjusted for the higher proportion of old people in the population, gives a total death rate of 14.7, which compares with the national average of 12 per thousand of the population. This adjusted

higher figure is probably due to old people retiring to the town for health reasons, who are already in a poor state of health on taking up residence in the town, and it is impossible to evaluate the real cause for this higher incidence, except if one were to calculate death rates for persons who have resided in Rhyl all their lives or for significantly long periods. Rhyl has an atmosphere which is comparatively free from atmospheric pollution, equable, with a low humidity and high sunshine levels, and the rainfall during the past five years has averaged 26 inches, compared with the national average of 32 inches approximately.

It has now been shown, conclusively, that atmospheric pollution, whether it be from cigarette smoking, motor vehicle fumes, industrial or domestic sources, has a serious effect on health, and over 26 million working days were lost last year on account of chronic bronchitis alone, which is to a large extent caused, and certainly aggravated, by atmospheric pollution. The Council, in co-operation with two other district Councils, have embarked upon a pilot study of the atmosphere, and it is hoped that this will be part of a national scheme, and the information obtained will be of value, both to the Council and to the nation in providing information on the normal levels of atmospheric pollution in seaside resorts.

During the year, legislation was introduced by Parliament to control houses let-in-lodgings and it is hoped that this legislation will prove useful to local authorities in meeting the standards of accommodation in these dwellings. There are a certain number of properties in the town which were formerly boarding-houses, and which are now let either wholly as permanent flats or as seasonal holiday flats. The standard of accommodation varies from extremely bad to reasonably good, and it is hoped that the conditions in the worst units of accommodation will be improved as a result of this legislation. The Act, as such, does not define any distinction between holiday and permanent flats, and I see no reason why the present legislation should not apply to both types of accommodation. As has been stressed previously in these annual reports, the risk from fire in these flats is serious, but little or nothing has been done to remedy the situation.

My main criticism of the recent legislation, which affects houses let-in-lodgings, is that once again there are too many generalisations and escape clauses, leaving the authorities to test the Act in the courts of law. I am not clear as to why the

Government requires a three year interval from the time of the Act coming into operation and the period before which a register can be compiled of houses let-in-lodgings.

During the year eight flats were provided by the Council and the waiting list for general cases fell from 251 to 232, and the number of old people waiting for suitable accommodation on the authority's list is now 98. The needs of the community for re-housing general cases have been largely met, and the turnover on the existing Council houses is sufficient to provide for the re-housing of the most urgent cases from the local population. There is need for urgent provision of housing accommodation for old people in the town, especially for those old persons who, because of their age and infirmity, are living in insanitary accommodation and are unable, from financial reasons, to acquire suitable accommodation. There is difficulty in obtaining sites in the Urban District, but nevertheless one site is available, and it is hoped that an early start will be made in the provision of accommodation for old people, and at the time of writing this report consideration is being given to assistance being provided by the County Council in the form of grants where welfare facilities are provided.

At the time of writing this report, the Royal College of Physicians' report on lung cancer and smoking has been published, and the recommendations that there is a strong link between smoking and the causes of lung cancer were made. The Government have been almost silent on the matter and, apart from certain minor actions on the part of Independent Television Companies in restricting cigarette advertising to certain periods in the evening, there has been little done to bring the dangers of smoking to the public. Certain posters are available, but there is no signs whatsoever on the part of the Government to launch a campaign. This may be due either to lack of ideas or unwillingness to disturb the very rich revenue that accrues from tobacco sales, which amounts to the annual cost of the National Health Service and other social services.

I am of the opinion that lecturing to school children and groups of adults is not a worthwhile venture, but a more subtle approach would be the omission of smoking in television programmes, including plays, discussions, etc., which would have a much more beneficial effect.

I have pleasure in including the report of the Employment Officer of the Rhyl area, and the main feature of his report

is the difficulty of employing persons over the age of 50 years, especially those who are disabled. The employment position is gradually improving locally, and further light industries are being provided in the Rhyl area. The town suffers from the vicissitudes of seaside resorts, in that there is over-full employment in the summer and fairly severe under-employment in the winter, and with the growth of the town—it is becoming more residential—and as light industry develops, then the employment position is likely to become more balanced.

During the year there were 17 new cases of Tuberculosis, and it is regrettable that this disease is still so prevalent in the community, considering the high standard of living that is enjoyed by the inhabitants of not only Rhyl but of the whole country. The reservoir of infection is probably amongst the old people, and, during the year, 1,835 people were X-rayed in the town, the details of which appear later in the report. When a case of Tuberculosis occurs, all the family contacts are followed up, but invariably it is difficult to establish where the infection was contracted.

Towards the end of 1961, oral polio. vaccination against poliomyelitis was introduced and a fair response was obtained from the public, but it is pleasing to report that there were no cases of Poliomyelitis in Rhyl during the year.

Influenza vaccine was given to priority groups of adults with a moderately successful result.

At the time of writing this report, the main sewerage scheme has been commenced and it is hoped that progress will be rapid.

During the year various local organisations in the town met to form a Committee for the care of the aged and lonely, and arrangements were made for periodic meetings to be convened whereby each organisation that participated in the scheme visited a certain number of lonely old people and reported on any help that was provided and any difficulties that were encountered. This is an excellent scheme and once again I am pleased to say that the voluntary services in the town have a very forward outlook and are certainly showing the way, and I congratulate them on their work and hope that their venture will be successful. Consideration is being given also to further schemes for helping the welfare of old people,

and I sincerely hope that the local authorities, both District and County Councils, will give them every support in the matter.

At this stage I would like to pay particular tribute to the W.V.S. and their excellent service in the provision of the Meals-on-Wheels Service, which has now been extended to two days per week.

I should like to add that the work of the Department continued smoothly during the year, and that constant vigilance and inspection was required on food premises, and posters and advice were sent out to all catering establishments in the town. I should like to see all food premises registered and licences issued by the Local Authority, so that a more adequate system of control could be established. The standards of hygiene during the peak holiday period fall below the acceptable standard, but Rhyl is probably no worse than the majority of the seaside resorts. This is usually due to the human element as the equipment is usually satisfactory. Difficulties are encountered by the employers in obtaining suitable staff for catering, and the problems are manifold and difficult to solve.

As Assistant County Medical Officer, I carried out school medical inspections in the Rhyl area and was pleased with the general health of the school children and the babies attending the clinics.

I carried out a diabetes survey during the year, the results of which appear later in my report.

The public lavatories in the town are being equipped with wash-basins and a cold water supply, which will be available without charge to the public. This, I believe, to be absolutely essential in seaside resorts in the interest of public health, and I hope the public will respond and respect these facilities and not wantonly destroy them. Within hours of the wash-basins being installed the basin stoppers had disappeared.

There is need in an expanding popular seaside resort such as Rhyl to have an improved swimming bath and, above all, a heated supply of water. There are no bathing facilities for the local children outside the summer months, and I am firmly of

the view that improved arrangements are required for Rhyl and district, both for the benefit of the local population and the visitors.

I should like to express my thanks to the Council Officials, Mr. Lloyd Jones and the staff of the Health Department who have given me invaluable support during the year; Dr. G. W. Roberts, County Medical Officer of Health, who has been most helpful; and to the Chairman and members of the Committee.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

D. P. W. ROBERTS,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Land area exclusive of foreshore	1,700 acres
Land area inclusive of foreshore	2,579 acres
Population at Mid-year 1961 (Registrar General's estimate)	21,120
Population change compared with previous year (increase of)	1,180
Number of inhabited properties (end of 1961)	7,232
Number of empty properties (end of 1961)	154
Rateable value of the Urban District at end of 1961	£385,048
Product of a penny rate	£1,550
General rate in £1	23s. 10d.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE URBAN DISTRICT.

The town, which was originally a small fishing village, is situated at the mouth of the river Clwyd and has become renowned as a seaside resort, with a particularly favourable climate being dry, a high sunshine record and invigorating sea breezes. The town is also blessed by miles of sand and an unparalleled view of the North Wales coast, Clwydian range of hills, and the mountains of Snowdonia. In recent times, the town has become increasingly residential and many people from Merseyside and the Midlands have taken up residence in retirement. Since the last war, small industries, mainly of a light nature, have been established in the town, and the local employment situation now presents a much more balanced

picture than in pre-war days, when the locality was entirely dependent on the seasonal trade. Opportunities for employment of young people also exist in Deeside industrial undertakings, which are within daily travelling distance.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births: Male 202, Female 194	396
Legitimate live births: Male 190, Female 185	375
Illegitimate live births: Male 12, Female 9	21
Illegitimate local rate per 1,000 live births	53
National illegitimate rate per 1,000 live births	59
Crude birth rate per 1,000 live births	18.75
Birth rate comparability factor	1.02
Birth rate standardised	19.1
National birth rate per 1,000 population	17.4
Still births (total)	6
Legitimate still births	5
Illegitimate still births	1
Local still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	14.93
National still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	18.7
Infant deaths under one year of age	10
Legitimate infant deaths under age of 1 year	9
Illegitimate infant deaths under age of 1 year	1
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	25.3
National infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	21.4
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	24
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	47
Infant deaths under 4 weeks of age	4
Legitimate infant deaths under 4 weeks of age (neo-natal)	3
Illegitimate infant deaths under 4 weeks of age	1
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	17.68
National neo-natal mortality rate	15.5
Total perinatal deaths (still-births and deaths under one week combined)	10
Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	24.7
Deaths in first week of life (early neo-natal period)	4
Early neo-natal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	10.1
Maternal mortality, including abortion:	
Number of deaths	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Nil

DEATHS.

Deaths: Male 177, Female 172	349
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	16.22
Comparability factor	0.91
Death Rate standardised per 1,000 population	14.7
National death rate for England and Wales	12

POPULATION CHANGES IN THE URBAN DISTRICT.

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

Year	Mid-year population: R.G. est. figure.	Population change during year.	Change in population due to births and deaths only during year.	Changes in population due to migration.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1872... ..	4,229	—	—	—
1882... ..	6,500	—	—	—
1891... ..	6,474†	—	—	—
1901... ..	8,461†	—	—	—
1911... ..	9,005†	—	—	—
1921... ..	13,490†	—	—	—
1931... ..	13,485†	—	—	—
1951... ..	18,745†	—	—	—
1952... ..	18,800	+ 55	+ 7	+ 48
1953... ..	18,900	+ 100	+ 10	+ 90
1954... ..	19,200	+ 300	— 1	+ 30
1955... ..	19,300	+ 100	— 38	+ 138
1956... ..	19,510	+ 210	+ 43	+ 253
1957... ..	19,590	+ 80	— 15	+ 95
1958... ..	19,710	+ 120	— 17	+ 137
1959... ..	19,810	+ 100	— 6	+ 106
1960... ..	19,940	+ 130	+ 24	+ 106
1961... ..	21,120†	+ 1180	+ 47	+ 1133

†—Census.

A minus sign in column (4) indicates an excess of deaths over births.

DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES.

The table below indicates the common causes of death in order of importance as extracted from national returns:—

44%	... Heart disease.
17%	... Vascular lesions of C.N.S.
13%	... Cancer, excluding cancer of lung.
8½%	... All other causes.
5½%	... Bronchitis.
5%	... Other circulatory diseases.
2½%	... Cancer of lung.
2½%	... Pneumonia.
2%	... Other respiratory diseases.

Cancer: The total deaths from cancer has remained fairly stationary over the past ten years, but the deaths from cancer of the stomach have decreased slightly while, conversely, the deaths from cancer of the lung have increased. These figures shown below are an extract from the R.G. returns.

Cancer deaths	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Lung	12	9	6	11	8	7	6	6	12	15	13
Stomach	14	11	13	9	10	4	13	10	10	13	9
Breast	3	5	4	7	7	6	8	6	6	9	7
Uterus	1	3	3	1	1	1	2	5	3	4	4
Leukaemia	1	—	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	1
Other sites	35	25	18	28	33	32	26	22	27	34	26
Total deaths all sites ...	66	53	45	58	60	51	57	50	60	75	60

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

The following chart shows the annual deaths from this disease in the district over the past ten years:—

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Deaths	40	48	50	40	55	46	59	60	80	62	87

Average for 1951-56: 45 per annum. Average for 1957-61: 69 per annum.

INFANT MORTALITY.

There were 10 deaths of infants under one year of age, of which seven occurred in the first four weeks of life. Details of the deaths are given below:—

Sex	Age at death	Cause of death
Male... ..	3 hours	Prematurity: 28 weeks gestation.
Female	1 month	Meningitis with myelocoele.
Male... ..	1 hour	Atelectasis.
Female	2 months	Acute tracheo-bronchitis.
Male... ..	2 months	Broncho-pneumonia.
Female	1 week	Hepatic necrosis.
Female	3 weeks... ..	Inhalation of vomit.
Female	2 months	Respiratory and cardiac failure.
Female	Child found on beach on 13/2/61	Asphyxia.
Male... ..	2 hours	Prematurity: 28-30 weeks gestation.

TABLE SHOWING VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT FOR PAST TEN YEARS IN DETAIL AND
SOME EARLIER RECORDS.

Year	Registrar-General's mid-year estimate of population	Number of local births: R.G. return	Local crude birth rate per 1,000 population	Local adjusted rate	Natural birth rate per 1,000 population	Local deaths: R.G. return	Crude death rate per 1,000 population	Adjusted local rate per 1,000 population	Natural death rate per 1,000 population	Infant deaths: Under 1 year of age	Local infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	National infant mor- tality rate
1882	...	167	25.8	—	—	92	14.0	—	—	—	—	—
1891	6,500	166	25.0	—	—	155	24.0	—	—	—	—	—
1901	6,474	176	20.8	—	—	132	15.4	—	—	—	—	—
1911	8,461	142	16.5	—	23.8	110	12.1	—	—	12	95.6	70.0
1921	9,005	147	10.8	—	20.6	118	8.8	—	121	13	46.5	66.0
1931	13,490	172	13.81	—	15.8	164	12.52	—	123	8	94.2	—
1941	13,485	350	13.0	—	14.2	311	14.4	—	129	33	39.0	29.6
1951	21,530	301	16.1	16.1	15.5	317	16.95	14.4	125	12	38.8	27.6
1952	18,745	283	15.05	15.05	15.3	276	14.68	12.48	11.3	11	47.8	26.8
1953	18,800	272	14.39	14.39	15.2	262	13.86	11.78	11.4	13	28.0	25.5
1954	19,900	285	14.84	16.0	15.0	286	14.9	11.61	11.3	8	25.4	24.9
1955	19,100	276	14.3	15.4	15.0	314	16.27	12.69	11.7	7	19.3	23.8
1956	19,300	311	15.94	17.3	15.7	268	13.74	11.54	11.7	6	20.7	23.0
1957	19,510	290	14.8	16.0	16.1	305	15.57	13.08	11.5	6	30.0	22.5
1958	19,590	300	15.2	16.4	16.4	317	16.0	13.5	11.7	9	25.6	22.0
1959	19,710	312	15.75	17.1	16.5	318	16.0	13.32	11.6	8	22.4	21.7
1960	19,810	357	17.95	19.4	17.1	333	16.7	14.0	11.5	8	25.3	21.4
1961	19,940	396	18.75	19.1	17.4	349	16.4	14.9	12.0	10	—	—
1961	21,120	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

CAUSES OF DEATH TABLE: REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S RETURNS

Comparability Factors: Births 1.02, Deaths 0.91.

Causes of Death		Males	Females
All Causes		177	172
1. Tuberculosis—Respiratory		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... ..		—	1
10—14. Malignant Disease (Cancer)... ..		25	34
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia... ..		—	1
16. Diabetes		2	1
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System		24	30
18. Coronary Disease—Angina		47	40
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease... ..		7	1
20. Other Heart Disease		15	19
21. Other Circulatory Disease		10	17
22. Influenza		4	—
23. Pneumonia		5	4
24. Bronchitis		13	2
25. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System		—	1
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum		—	—
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea		—	—
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis		1	—
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate		6	—
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion		—	—
31. Congenital Malformations		—	3
32. Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases... ..		7	8
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents		5	1
34. All Other Accidents		3	9
35. Suicide		2	1
36. Homicide and Operations of War		—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 32 above):			
Smallpox... ..		—	—
Polioencephalitis		—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	Total	4	6
	Legitimate	4	5
	Illegitimate	—	1
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	Total	4	3
	Legitimate	4	2
	Illegitimate	—	1
Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age	Total	3	1
	Legitimate	3	—
	Illegitimate	—	1
Live Births	Total	202	194
	Legitimate	190	185
	Illegitimate	12	9
Still Births	Total	3	3
	Legitimate	2	3
	Illegitimate	1	—
Resident Population (Estimated Mid-year) ...		21,120	

General Register Office, Somerset House, London, W.C.2.

TABLE IV.—CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING 1961.

Name of District: Rhyl Urban.		Local Returns: Age Periods.						
Causes of Death		All Ages	Under 5 years	5 and under 14 years	15 and under 24 years	25 years to 44 years	45 years to 64 years	65 years and over
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory... ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	8	—	—	—	—	2	6
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	11	—	—	—	—	4	7
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast...	8	—	—	—	—	3	5
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus, etc.	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	27	—	—	—	2	3	22
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
16.	Diabetes	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	58	—	—	—	—	5	53
18.	Coronary disease, angina ...	92	—	—	—	2	25	65
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
20.	Other heart diseases	26	—	—	—	—	5	21
21.	Other circulatory diseases ..	23	—	—	—	—	1	22
22.	Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23.	Pneumonia	20	1	—	—	—	3	16
24.	Bronchitis	12	1	—	—	—	5	6
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	2	—	—	—	1	—	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	4	—	—	—	—	1	3
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations, etc.	3	3	—	—	—	—	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	13	5	—	—	1	3	4
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	3	—	—	—	1	1	1
34.	All other accidents	9	—	—	—	1	—	8
35.	Suicide	3	—	—	—	1	1	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals		342	11	1	—	9	65	256

The discrepancy between the returns in the two tables is due to difficulties in transferring records of deaths from other authorities.

Table showing decrease in deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis over past ten years:—

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Deaths	7	5	2	4	9	3	2	—	2	—	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

It is pleasing to record that no cases of diphtheria or poliomyelitis occurred in the district during the year. The incidence of measles was considerably lower than in recent years, but epidemics often occur in cycles and it is possible that when the percentage of non-immune children rises in the community another epidemic may break out. Fortunately the disease is mild and complications are uncommon.

There were 18 cases of food poisoning, due in most cases to salmonella typhimurium, and at least half of these cases had a common food supply. Extensive investigations of all sources of food proved negative, but certain persons engaged in the preparation of food contracted the disease and it was necessary to prohibit their employment until clear of infection.

The following table shows the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases that occurred in 1961:—

TUBERCULOSIS.

As will have been seen in the previous table, there were 18 new cases of Tuberculosis notified, of which 17 were respiratory in origin and 1 non-respiratory. Close co-operation is maintained between the district, county and hospital authorities, as all have responsibilities in the treatment and after-care of tuberculosis sufferers. Details of these new cases are given below :—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
6—10 „ ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11—15 „ ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16—20 „ ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21—25 „ ...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
26—35 „ ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
36—45 „ ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
46—55 „ ...	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
56—65 „ ...	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—
65 and upwards...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	7	10	—	1	2	—	—	—

It will be observed that the vast majority of the new cases are over 35 years, which is probably due to a residue of infection usually contracted much earlier in life.

Most county district health authorities maintain a tuberculous register of all persons who are suffering or recently have suffered from the disease, and during the year the local list was revised in conjunction with the Chest Clinic and the County Council records, and the position at the end of 1961 was as follows :—

Pulmonary cases: Males 65, Females 50 ...	115
Non-pulmonary cases: Males 4, Females 1 ...	5

The following table shows the trend of the incidence of infectious notifiable diseases in the district over the past 10 years :—

Disease	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Scarlet fever	14	16	25	8	8	14	19	4	1	—
Whooping cough	17	38	5	52	6	17	8	1	6	5
Diphtheria	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	99	117	106	38	63	165	47	78	163	31
Pneumonia	3	3	3	2	3	4	1	—	1	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	2	4	—	9	2	—	2	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	2	6	10	20	—	13	9	18	4
Food poisoning	—	2	—	24	4	—	—	2	—	18
Paratyphoid and typhoid... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	7	7
Puerperal fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis: Respiratory ...	27	24	13	10	19	13	13	8	3	17
Tuberculosis: Non-respiratory	4	1	3	—	1	3	1	—	—	1

CHEST X-RAY FACILITIES.

The Welsh Regional Hospital Board has a mobile X-ray unit based at Wrexham, which visits all parts of North Wales, and is at the Town Hall every third Tuesday, all day. The unit is available to all members of the public, except young children, and details are given below of the 1961 results:—

MASS RADIOGRAPHY REPORT.

1,835 attended the mobile unit during the year.

Attendances of the Unit in Rhyl: 16.

Average public attendance per session: 115.

One hundred and eighty-four abnormalities were discovered amongst the 1,835 persons attending, and details are shown below:—

New cases of pulmonary T.B.	4
Healed primary T.B.	14
Healed post primary T.B.	29
Abnormalities of the lung, thorax and soft tissues	26
Malignant neoplasms of lung	1
Non-malignant neoplasms	2
Lymphadenopathies, excluding sarcoidosis	1
Congenital cardiac abnormalities	2
Acquired cardiac abnormalities	36
Pneumoconiosis	1
Pulmonary fibrosis	7
Emphysema	8
Bacterial virus and other infections of the lungs	1
Pleural thickening or calcification	13
Abnormalities of the diaphragm and oesophagus	5
Malformation of the lungs	1
Miscellaneous	1
Failed to attend Chest Clinic	3
	<hr/>
	155
Negative after investigation at Clinic	29
	<hr/>
Total	184
	<hr/>

I am indebted to Dr. Jarman for these figures.

REPORT OF CHEST PHYSICIAN.

For the period of nine months, April to December, 1961, inclusive, the following information has been kindly supplied by Dr. Morrison:—

Number of new cases in Rhyl during the period	10
Number of contacts attending clinic during the period	426

CHEST CLINIC.

The treatment of cases of tuberculosis is under the care of the Consultant Chest Physician, Dr. Morrison, at Rhyl.

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

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

SECTION 22—CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN. INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

The Clinic premises are in Ffordd Las and an infant welfare clinic is held every Wednesday afternoon, 2—4 p.m., and the Medical Officer is present on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month. There is need for an additional clinic for the east end of Rhyl as the present site is most inconvenient for mothers from this area.

Welfare foods (vitamin tablets, cod liver oil and orange juice) are distributed at these clinics, and the arrangements are under the control of the local voluntary clinic committee, who have given excellent service throughout the year.

ANTE NATAL CLINICS.

Ante Natal Clinics are held at Fford Las weekly and are staffed by hospital medical and nursing personnel, under the direction of the Consultant Obstetrician.

Talks are given to mothers attending these clinics by the health visitors on childbirth and baby management.

FAMILY PLANNING.

Special clinic facilities are available at Flint.

DENTAL CARE OF EXPECTANT MOTHERS.

This is carried out by the school dental staff of the County Council, and the service is free during the period of the pregnancy and up to one year after the birth of the baby. It is regrettable that more mothers do not take advantage of these facilities.

SECTION 23—MIDWIFERY SERVICES.

There are five midwives, who are also district nurses, working in the area, and they are responsible for the ante natal care, delivery and post-natal surveillance of these patients, under the general direction of the patient's doctor.

SECTION 24—HEALTH VISITORS.

Two full-time and one part-time (shared with an outside district) health visitors are responsible for giving advice to families on all aspects of health education. These duties have increased of late due to the ever-expanding needs of the community, especially the older members. Their duties are complimentary to the work of the general practitioners, who are often too busy to be able to give the necessary time to such matters as health education.

SECTION 25—HOME NURSING SERVICES.

This very valuable provision is carried out by the district nurses who are usually midwives, and the demands of the service increase yearly as the proportion of old people rises in the community. 27 home helps are working in the town, and the majority are engaged on a part-time basis.

SECTION 26—VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Smallpox. The number of children vaccinated in the district during the year is shown below:—

Age Period	Primary Vaccination		Re- Vaccination
Under 1 year	179	...	2
Over 1 year	20	...	—
2—4 years	8	...	—
5—14 years	12	...	11
15 years and over	20	...	52
	—		—
Total	239		66
	—		—

The number of babies under one year vaccinated in the town is approximately 60% of the birth rate, which is a reasonably satisfactory response. At the time of writing this report, this country has been faced with the possibility of a smallpox epidemic, but adequate measures taken by public health staff have succeeded in eliminating the disease. The question of advising mothers to have babies vaccinated has been re-opened and, at present, there is a divided body of opinion, although the majority view and official policy is to recommend primary vaccination in children up to school entry age.

DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS.

The number of children who received protection against the above diseases was as follows:—

Age Period	Primary	Re-inforcing (Diph. only)
Under 1 year	65	—
1—4 years	224	14
5—14 years	29	189
Total	369	203

I am pleased to say that a reasonably satisfactory level of protection against these diseases has been maintained in the child population.

POLIOMYELITIS.

During the year many adults and children were protected against the disease and special sessions were arranged during the evening in the mobile clinic at the Town Hall, for the benefit of the adult population. Open sessions are still available at the Ffordd Las Clinic on the 1st and 3rd Monday mornings of the month, between 10 and 11 a.m. At the end of the year, oral vaccine was introduced and it is hoped that it will be superior to the safe, but relatively weak for long-term protection, Salk vaccine, which is given by injection.

MEASLES.

Experiments are being conducted to introduce a safe and effective vaccine to protect infants against this disease, which can cause serious complications when infants under 2 years of age are attacked.

TUBERCULOSIS.

All thirteen year old children are offered vaccination (by the use of live attenuated tubercle bacilli B.C.G.) against this disease, and the majority of children are protected. The percentage of children who do not require vaccination is high, i.e., they have already had contact with the disease and developed a successful immunity, and this indicates a significantly high level of tuberculous infection in the community. The latest returns of new notifications for 1961 confirm this.

SECTION 27—AMBULANCES.

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

SECTION 28—PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE, AND LOAN OF EQUIPMENT.

Arrangements are in being for the loan of certain equipment from County Council sources for the use of handicapped persons. Equipment, such as specialised bedding, wheel chairs, etc., can also be hired from the local branch headquarters in Russell Road, Rhyl, of the British Red Cross Society, and this service has been a most useful supplement to the statutory facilities. The local voluntary organisations are to be highly commended in their efforts.

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBNORMALITY.

Visits are paid by mental welfare officers of the County Council to mentally ill patients, who require advice and help.

Subnormal children, who cannot be educated in an ordinary school and who are not severely retarded (i.e., in the idiot category), are admitted to the Training Centre at Fronfraith, Rhyl, which will be moving to Tirionfa, Rhuddlan. There they receive training to the limits of their capabilities.

SCHOOL HEALTH.

Medical inspections of school children were carried out during the year, as Assistant County Medical Officer, and it is pleasing to record the high standard of general health and fitness of the children. It is regrettable that children do not obtain sufficient sleep, due to the parents being too lax over the time allowed for television viewing. Furthermore, stricter control is required over consumption of sweets, due to the high incidence of dental decay.

SCHOOL PREMISES.

Minor improvements are still required in many of the school premises in the town, and two schools, both over 100 years old, are not suitable as school buildings, judged by modern standards. It is policy to install wooden draining boards in new school premises, and as replacements in existing premises. This, I believe, to be a false economy, as the useful life of the wooden boards is much less than that of stainless steel units, and often become contaminated and a vehicle for the spread of infections to food.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Treatment is available at the following special clinics:—

H.M. Stanley Hospital, St. Asaph.

Male and Females—5.30 to 7 p.m.

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.

Treatment is confidential and free, and inclusive of travelling expenses.

NURSING HOMES.

The following Nursing Home in the town is registered with the County Council and inspected periodically: Bryn Derwen, The Grove, Rhyl—8 Beds.

WELFARE HOMES.

Persons who are unable to look after themselves satisfactorily may be admitted to County Council Homes which are situated at Y Gorlan, Rhyl; The Lawns, Rhyl; Part of the Women's Convalescent Home, Rhyl; Carr Holme, Prestatyn; Park House, Prestatyn; and Hafan Glyd, at Shotton. Another Home at Plas Coed, Rhyl, is available for ladies, and is run by a voluntary committee.

SECTION 47—NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

This section conveys powers to District Councils to remove persons who "are aged or infirm or suffering from grave chronic disease, and are living in insanitary conditions and are unable to look after themselves, and are not receiving adequate care and attention from others." In 1961, legal action was necessary in one case, details of which are as follows:—

An old lady living alone in a bed-sitting room in a house in multiple occupation, had been confined to her bed for some weeks because of general ill-health, and a long standing disability of one leg. The home help had visited daily and health visitors and the district nurse had called regularly, but she was not receiving adequate care and attention, and became incontinent. She refused to go into hospital and in the interests of herself and the other tenants in the house, it became neces-

sary to take legal action and she was removed to Lluesty Hospital. The order was allowed to lapse after six months, and she was discharged home and is reasonably well at present.

During the year there were at least eight other instances of people, mainly over 65 years and usually living alone, who had become totally incapable of looking after themselves, and this is a most urgent problem today, especially in a seaside town. Requests for assistance come in from all sources—general practitioners, relatives, neighbours, police, welfare officers, health visitors, and every effort is made to keep the individual in his home as long as is possible, and when this becomes impossible, it is necessary to remove the patient to a home or hospital. Legal action is only rarely used and always as a last resort. During the year two orders were evoked and at the end of 1961, **no** orders were in force under this section.

CARE OF THE AGED.

I would like to pay particular credit to the work of all the voluntary organisations in the town in relieving the suffering and hardships of the old and lonely people in Rhyl. A committee has recently been formed, under the title of the "Care of the Aged and Lonely," to co-ordinate the work of the various voluntary bodies engaged in this social work, of which there are over fifteen in the town, and regular visiting is arranged to the most deserving cases.

HEALTH EDUCATION AND FOOD HYGIENE.

Lectures and film shows were given by Mr. Lloyd Jones and myself to the staff of the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Rhyl, in the instruction of clean food practice. Letters containing advice and posters were sent to all cafe and boarding-house proprietors in the town at the commencement of the summer season, drawing attention to the danger of faulty food practices.

DIABETES SURVEY.

Recently, with the co-operation of the County Welfare Officer and the Matrons of the Flintshire County Council homes, I carried out a survey to ascertain the incidence of diabetes in old people, and give below the results of the work: 243 urines were tested and 9 cases of glycosuria (sugar in the urine) were discovered (3.8%), of which 4 were known diabetics. Of the remaining 5 cases, there were 2 with confirmed diabetes and 2 cases which proved negative, and one, which is still under investigation and will probably be confirmed as diabetic.

It has been the policy in most of the homes to test the urines shortly after admission with the "clinistix." In the instances of the two new cases, these tests, carried out on admission approximately 2 years ago, were negative. As a result of this work, certain recommendations have been made and further details will be published when available, at a future date.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE.

The local public health laboratory is at Conway, and Dr. Kingsley Smith, the Director, and Dr. Harris, his Deputy, carried out the bacteriological examination 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.

HOUSING.

During the year the following new units of housing accommodation were provided in the town:—

New houses and flats provided by the Council	8
Private properties, mainly bungalows	126

Since the war the Council have built 815 houses, bungalows and flats. The table shown below indicates the yearly totals of new housing construction in the town:—

Year	New Council houses	New Private houses	No. of inhabited properties in town
1961	8	126	7213
1960	30	92	7079
1959	16	138	6957
1958	23	142	6803
1957	44	151	6380
1956	50	138	6440
1955	56	106	6245
1954	72	99	6082
1953	173	67	5907
1952	124	19	5658
1951	77	22	5509
1950	76	15	5400
1949	86	16	5311
1948	100	1	5208
1947	68	15	5125
1946	39	78	5018

The house building development in Rhyl is likely to slow down in future, due to shortage of land and sewerage difficulties.

**TABLE SHOWING HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN TOWN
OVER PAST 90 YEARS.**

Year	No. of houses	Population	No of persons per house
1872	1040	4229	4.0
1881	1220	6481	5.3
1891	1329	6474	4.8
1901	—	8461	—
1911	2018	9005	4.4
1921	2710	13490	4.9
1931	3281	13485	4.1
1941	4979	21530	4.3
1951	5509	18745	3.4
1961	7213	21120	2.9

The above table shows the improvement in overcrowding that has taken place in the town, especially in the past decade. The majority of the serious long-standing cases of overcrowding have been re-housed, but there are between 10 and 15 houses in multiple occupation, occupied usually by families who have moved to the town from outside areas, and where living conditions are very unsatisfactory. The Authority is continually faced with the problem of tenants being unable to meet their rent commitments because of an inability to budget their finances satisfactorily, and this is aggravated by gross overspending on hire purchase commitments. It is extremely distasteful to have to evict such families, especially where children are concerned, as they are the unfortunate victims of their parents' mismanagement.

The waiting list for Council accommodation at the end of 1961 was as follows:—

Number of families on general list	269
(Increase of 18 compared with previous year)	
Number of persons waiting for old persons' accommodation	98

At the time of writing this report, the Housing Committee were giving consideration to a scheme for the erection of flats

in the West End of the town and, also, are having discussions with the County Council on the latter scheme for financial assistance for provision of accommodation for old persons, and it is hoped that a successful outcome will result. Details of the County Council scheme are given below:—

1.—Basic Conditions for Contribution by County Council.

“In order to qualify for a contribution from the County Council the following basic conditions must be fulfilled:—

(a) An application for the County contribution must be made in good time before the commencement of any scheme to which it relates and be accompanied by the following details and information:—

- (i) The estimated cost of the scheme;
- (ii) An outline list of the welfare services to be provided with the estimated cost of such services;
- (iii) Plans of the scheme for formal approval in writing by the County Council.

(b) Units of housing accommodation shall be occupied by single persons of pensionable age (i.e., men over 65 years of age and women of 60 years of age), or married couples where both husband and wife are of pensionable age, or by persons who, in the opinion of the County Welfare Officer, can benefit from special housing accommodation by reasons of infirmity.

2.—Welfare Facilities.

The County Council considers that the following welfare facilities—the list is not necessarily intended to be exhaustive—are desirable in connection with housing accommodation provided for aged and other people intended to be covered by this scheme and that the District Council should, wherever possible and practicable, provide as many of these welfare facilities as are appropriate to the particular scheme:—

- (a) Central heating for the dwellings;
- (b) A common room for use by the residents in the scheme;

- (c) Baths of a type suitable for old people and provided with fittings to enable old people to get in and out without assistance;
- (d) Communicating bells between individual dwellings and, **in the case of major schemes only, the residence of the Warden;**
- (e) Fittings arranged so as to be convenient of access to old people and which will avoid the need for them to resort to undue bending or climbing of step ladders, etc., to gain access to such fittings;
- (f) Bath safety rails.

3.—Contributions by the County Council.

(a) **Basic Contribution:** The County Council will make a basic contribution of £10 per annum in respect of each unit of accommodation for the period of the loan in relation to all schemes.

(b) **Minor Schemes:** For schemes of less than 18 houses (i.e., minor schemes) an additional contribution will be made by the County Council for the period of the Housing loan of £1 for every £10 of capital expenditure incurred by the Housing Authority in the provision of welfare facilities for all or any of the units of accommodation within the scheme, subject to a maximum of £25, including the basic grant of £10.

(c) **Major Schemes:** The County Council will make an additional contribution to the District Council in respect of welfare facilities calculated on the following basis by reference to the annual deficiency on the scheme concerned:—

- (i) The annual contribution in respect of welfare facilities shall not exceed the total deficiency incurred thereon in the year to which it relates;
- (ii) No contribution will be made in respect of items properly chargeable to the Housing Revenue Account and which could properly be covered by rents;
- (iii) Other than the basic contribution of £10 (above) there will be no subsidisation of rents nor assistance in respect of expenditure which would normally be borne by tenants;

- (iv) The expenses towards which the County Council will contribute will be limited to those incurred by District Councils in providing welfare facilities, e.g., the welfare services of the kind referred to above and communal facilities or services, the cost of which cannot properly be recovered in rent and can be considered to arise as a direct consequence of the houses being erected for old people, e.g., warden's house and costs and laundry services; and
- (v) A contribution calculated on the basis of the foregoing principles and the contribution in 3(e) above will be the maximum contribution payable in respect of the major scheme to which they relate. Of that maximum, there will be paid in every year to the District Council concerned such proportion as the number of dwellings comprised in the scheme and actually occupied during that year by tenants approved by the County Council bears to the total number of dwellings in the scheme.

SLUM CLEARANCE.

The first post-war programme has been completed and consideration has been given to the second five-year phase. It is hoped to put provisional proposals before the Housing Committee in the current year. The Council have given favourable consideration to most of the requests for improvement grants, and property owners are encouraged to make greater use of these facilities.

WATER SUPPLY.

There is an efficient and abundant supply of bacteriologically and chemically pure water. Regular samples are taken and the results are always satisfactory. The Water Engineer and his staff exercise extreme vigilance in ensuring a satisfactory supply from the bacteriological aspect.

Ninety-eight samples were taken during the year and found to be satisfactory.

There is one private supply in the district, from a bore-hole 250 ft. deep, but this water is only used for trade purposes. The local water undertaking is likely to become part of a much larger regional Water Board in the near future.

A recent sample of water was submitted for analysis chemically and the following details are given below :—

Appearance	right with a very slight deposit
Microscopical Examination	Traces of mineral and organic debris
Colour	7
P.H.	7.5
Electrical conductivity	230
Chlorine present as chloride	19
Hardness total	70
Carbonate	32
Non-carbonate	38
Turbidity	less than 3
Nitrate Nitrogen	4.2
Metals—Iron	0.06
Manganese	0.03
Zinc, Copper, Lead	Absent
Odour	Slightly chlorinous
Free Carbon Dioxide	2
Dissolved solids dried at 180°C.	155
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	32
Nitrite Nitrogen	less than 0.01
Oxygen absorbed	0.60
Residual Chlorine	0.03
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.036
Fluoride	0.06

All above quantities in parts per million.

The water is fairly soft in character and contains no excess of mineral constituents. It is free from noticeable colour and of a very satisfactory organic quality. From the aspect of the chemical analysis these results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

MILK SUPPLY.

During the past two years, the responsibility for the routine sampling of milk has been transferred to the County Council, but it is considered that in order to ensure a satisfactory standard of milk, routine bacteriological testing of milk be continued, and 204 samples were taken by the Chief Public Health Inspector, and fuller details appear in his report. My chief concern is the presence of brucella organisms in milk, which can occur in unpasteurised T.T. supplies. I should like to see all milk pasteurised. The ultimate responsibility for ensuring a satisfactory milk supply for sale to the public still remains with the district health authority.

ICE CREAM.

One hundred and forty-two samples of ice cream were taken, and where unsatisfactory results were obtained, personal contact was made with the manufacturers to ensure an improvement in supplies.

PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

The slaughterhouse has now been brought up to a satisfactory standard, and has been approved by the Ministry.

The number of animals slaughtered increased by 7,639 on the previous year.

The amount of condemned meat was 4 tons, 3 cwts., 2qrs., 7 lbs.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

These baths are owned by the local authority and are open for the season.

The water was regularly sampled and 30 samples were submitted for analysis, of which all were satisfactory.

As has been previously mentioned, there is need for new baths with a heated supply of water.

CHILDREN'S PADDLING POOL.

The water in the pool is chlorinated, and the plant is satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There are ten cesspools in the district, and these are emptied at regular intervals by means of a cesspool emptier, the contents being disposed of into the main sewer. As far as is known, there are no pail closets in the district, the remainder of the properties 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 branch sewer. The remainder of the sewage gravitates to a main pumping station where, after passing through a revolving screen, it is pumped into a high level storage reservoir of a holding capacity of $1\frac{3}{4}$ million gallons, and from the storage tank it gravitates out to sea, where it is discharged approximately 1,000 yards from the high water mark into the sea, commencing half-hour on ebb after high water, for two hours, when the valve is closed until the next tide. This applied to undiluted sewage, but during heavy rain-falls the valve into the main outfall pipe has to be opened to discharge the storm water. The major contract for the branch sewer and new automatic main pumping station has been let, and an early start is to be made in 1962. This matter has been

long delayed, and it is hoped that the scheme will be completed within two years, and will relieve flooding in certain parts of the town during heavy rainfall.

RHYL CUT.

There has been no change in the condition of this open stream, but the Dee and Clwyd River Board are formulating a plan to improve the drainage in the eastern end of the town, which it is hoped will ultimately reduce the risk of flooding.

CAMPING AND CARAVAN SITES.

The number of licenced sites used for caravans was eight, and strict control under a Local Act is enforced to prohibit tenting. The estimated number of campers resident in the district at the height of the season is 3,500.

SMOKE CONTROL.

It has been increasingly recognised that atmospheric pollution, from whatever source, can cause ill-health, whether in the form of bronchitis or cancer of the lung. The town is comparatively free of smoke, but I should, nevertheless, wish the Council to adopt a byelaw under the Clean Air Act, whereby all grates installed in new or reconditioned dwellings should be capable of burning smokeless fuels, so that at a future date, when consideration is given to the setting up of a smoke control zone, considerable expense will be saved by the Authority. Furthermore, the majority of new grates are capable of burning smokeless fuels, and the additional cost to prospective home buyers will be virtually negligible. Also, it should be added, that ordinary coal can be burned in these appliances.

At the time of writing this report, the Council have agreed to co-operate with two other district councils in a scheme for the detection of level of atmospheric pollution in the area. My purpose in this action is to be in a position over the next 5 to 10 years, of studying the general levels of pollution in the town and to advise the Council accordingly.

The principal smoke nuisance, apart from the chief culprit of domestic smoke, is the British Railways engine shed, and a laundry chimney. It is hoped that the Royal Alexandra Hospital chimney will cease to emit smoke in September, 1962.

SUPERANNUATION.

During the year, 62 medical examinations were carried out on employees of the Urban District Council, in connection with fitness for employment, and absence through ill-health.

EMPLOYMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

I have great pleasure in giving below the report of Mr. C. Morgan, the manager of the local employment exchange in Rhyl, which covers the area of Rhyl U.D., Prestatyn U.D., St. Asaph R.D. and part of Abergele U.D.

Number of Persons Registered as Unemployed (excluding Registered Disabled Persons requiring employment under sheltered conditions) for the year 1961.

Date	Men	Women	Total
16th January	441	233	674
13th February,	440	221	661
13th March	409	201	610
10th April	359	141	500
15th May	307	97	404
12th June	228	15	243
10th July	195	9	204
14th August	228	14	242
11th September	266	44	310
16th October	441	148	589
13th November	454	183	637
11th December	473	182	655

The downward trend in unemployment, apparent since 1958, continued in 1961, but hardened towards the end of the year, due to a general levelling off of employment throughout the country.

These factors must be considered also in the light of the rise in the insured population of the area since 1958. In June, 1958, the insured population was 11,814, and in June, 1961, it was 13,099—an increase of nearly 11 per cent.

Disabled Persons.

	11th April, 1960		17th April, 1961	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
1914-18 Pensioners	64	—	49	—
Other disabled (H.M.F.)	115	1	111	1
Disabled from birth or early childhood	45	17	45	17

The largest causes of disablement are injuries and diseases to the upper and lower limbs.

Next comes Pulmonary T.B. and diseases of the heart and circulatory system. Other chest complaints figure high on the list, but it is felt that the majority of these people have come here for their health.

This is an important point in considering what can be done for these disabled. A large number of elderly workers "retire" here because of their health, are happy if they find something during the season, and retire officially on reaching the age of 65.

Fifty per cent. of the unemployed Registered Disabled Persons are over 55; Seventy-five per cent. are over 50. None are over 65. Statistics show that very few of the younger disabled are unemployed for a lengthy period.

Registered Disabled Persons—Section I.

Number unemployed on:—	Men	Women	Total
16th January, 1961	50	11	61
20th February, 1961	60	9	69
20th March, 1961	58	8	66
17th April, 1961	46	8	54
15th May, 1961	42	8	50
20th June, 1961	40	2	42
17th July, 1961	38	1	39
21st August, 1961	34	4	38
18th September, 1961	44	6	50
16th October, 1961	58	11	69
20th November, 1961	55	11	66
18th December, 1961	43	11	54

Section II Cases (suitable for employment under sheltered conditions only) have been excluded. The total varies between one and six.

The total number registered as disabled are as follows:—

	Men	Women	Total
20th April, 1959	359	56	415
19th October, 1959	384	62	446
11th April, 1960	408	59	467
18th October, 1960	412	66	478
17th April, 1961	412	51	463
16th October, 1961	410	68	478

These figures are not strictly representative of the disabled in this area, but are approximately correct—persons register at this office but leave the area, others register elsewhere but come here to reside.

It would appear, therefore, that the problems of the disabled in this area are three-fold, and in order of importance I would list them as:—

- (1) **Living in this Area:** Without diversifications of industry, opportunities of fitting a person with a specific disability to a specific job, seldom arise. A small circle of employers are being approached time after time, and although willing to consider the disabled, are limited in the number of posts they can offer.
- (2) **Age:** In an area with a high percentage of unemployment, the older person is at a great disadvantage—unfortunate but understandable. As will be seen from the figures quoted, most of the Registered Disabled Persons are in the “over 50s.” It must be borne in mind, however, that the majority of our **able-bodied** unemployed are in the same age group.
- (3) **Disability:** This, in the majority of cases, is the least of the problems.

Employment—Section II:

The vacancies in this office area outstanding on 13th June, 1962, were:—

Agriculture	2 men
Timber	2 men
Construction	12 men
Transport	3 men
Distributive Trades	15 women, 4 men
Professional Services	1 man, 16 women
Miscellaneous Services (including Recreation, Cinemas, Catering, Hotels, Laundries, Domestic Service)	18 men, 133 women
Public Administration	1 man, 1 woman

You will appreciate that, although outstanding vacancies are recorded on a certain date, many of them will be filled in a very short time. A large number are seasonal vacancies and will be difficult to fill, as for example, the vacancies for women in catering. Other vacancies (e.g., Agriculture and Building) are for skilled men at a time when there is a shortage of skilled labour.

Generally, apart from seasonal work, we have very few vacancies outstanding for very long in the area, the exceptions being vacancies for skilled workers in particular trades.

The vacancies recorded from other districts within daily travelling distances are in two categories:—

- (a) Skilled workers, mainly in Building and in Engineering.
- (b) Workers for seasonal work for similar vacancies we are finding difficulty in filling ourselves.

It is well nigh impossible to balance the unemployed with the vacancies available. The vacancies outstanding are usually for workers with special skills and not suitable for the unemployed.

Some indication of the vacancies in the area can be gleaned from the fact that in 1961 this office placed in employment 842 men and 587 women.

The general picture is, therefore, vacancies for skilled workers in certain industries; more vacancies in summer for females than the number of women available; a high number of vacancies for men in the summer; a few unskilled vacancies for either sex in the winter months.

General Comments.

The area is a seasonal holiday resort and, consequently, the unemployed figures are high in winter and low in summer. In fact, there is a substantial shortage of female labour during the summer months. In the last 12 months two factories have been set up in the area, already employing about 60 workpeople. These two factories hope to extend their labour force to about 200 in the next two years. Work has already started on another new factory which hopes to employ up to 150 workers in the next two years.

I think it fair to say that workpeople move to this area on medical advice, due to their own illnesses or illnesses of their family. The workpeople often have special skills or experience which are difficult to fit into the industries of the area, and they are also at an age where it is difficult to train them in new skills.

(Signed) G. G. MORGAN,
Manager.

LIST OF ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE.

Rhyl Improvement Act, 1852, 1872, 1901.
 Rhyl Water Act, 1912.
 Rhyl U.D.C. Act, 1935.
 Rhyl U.D.C. Act, 1956.

BYELAWS.

Camping, 1935 and 1951.

Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures, 1913.

Offensive Trades—Dealers in Rags and Bones, 1915.

Register for Marine Stores, 1915.

Common Lodging Houses, 1877.

Nuisance, 1890.

Removal of Offensive Matters, 1896.

Sanitary Conveniences, 1897.

Food, 1951.

Slaughterhouse, 1957.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no common lodging houses in the Urban District.

INSPECTIONS UNDER FACTORIES ACT, 1937 TO 1959.

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

(Signed) D. P. W. ROBERTS,

Medical Officer of Health.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

For the year ended 31st December, 1961.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my twenty-ninth Annual Report for the year 1961.

During the year, one application was received for a Discretionary grant, and was approved.

Thirteen applications were received for Standard Grants under the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, and approved. This makes a total of 27 approved since the inception of the Act.

Over 95 per cent. of the applications were from owner/occupiers, and it is very disappointing that more owners of tenanted houses are not taking advantage of the provision of what, in this modern age, are the essential standard amenities in any house with a life of at least 15 years, viz., Hot Water Supply, Bath or Shower in a Bathroom, Wash-hand Basin, Internal Water Closet, and a Food Store.

Assuming that all the amenities are provided and the full grant of £155 is made, the added rent increase is $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., or £19 7s. 6d. per annum— $7/5\frac{1}{2}$ per week, which is less than two 20 packets of cigarettes or 2 ozs. of tobacco.

Representations have been made to the Government by professional associations and Local Authorities associations that consideration should be given to the introduction of legislation to enforce both landlords and tenants to provide and accept the facilities.

One application for a Certificate of Disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957, was received and granted.

The number of houses and flats erected by the Council was eight, this being a decrease of 22 on the previous year.

The eight houses and flats erected were for the purpose of re-housing families displaced as a result of action taken under the Housing Act, 1957. There were no houses erected for "general needs," the reason being the continued difficulty of raising capital monies for the erection of houses at a rate of interest which would provide homes at a reasonably economic rent and, although the Council were most anxious to provide more homes for the people, they felt that the wisest course was to call a temporary halt to general house building. Another factor is that the number of applicants has been reduced considerably over the years, and the vacancies arising each year appear to be satisfying the immediate requirements.

The re-housing of families, as a result of statutory action, continued to proceed smoothly, and the co-operation between the Department and the National Assistance Board has been invaluable to the occupants, particularly those who are elderly, in allaying fears as to their ability to pay the increased rent for the new accommodation.

The first five-year slum clearance programme has been completed.

A preliminary survey has been carried out to ascertain what houses might be included in proposals to place before the Council as a further five-year programme, and in this connection, it is necessary that steps be taken to ascertain if there is any suitable land available for housing development to provide accommodation for persons who may be displaced.

The difficulties of finding suitable land is added to by the fact that the Urban District is nearly fully developed.

The differential rent scheme for tenants of Council houses continues to work satisfactorily, with the result that the ratepayer has again not been called upon to make up any deficiency in the Housing Revenue Account.

The Council continues to loan money for the purchase of old and new houses, and for the financial year ending 31st March, 1962, the sum was £70,604. The total loaned to date is £430,077. The total number of houses and flats erected by the Council since re-building commenced after the war is 1,042.

We continue to exercise vigilance in an endeavour to secure compliance with the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act,

1955, and the regulations made thereunder and, in particular, during the summer season which, with the large influx of visitors, both permanent and daily, poses very difficult problems, one of many being the imported seasonal labour into the catering trade who do not seem to appreciate the dangers of lack of personal hygiene which may be the source of a potential food poisoning outbreak, with disastrous results to the main industry of any seaside resort—the catering for the health and welfare of its visitors. Continued perseverance by personal example and patient repetition of hygiene education to staffs has, I think, in no small measure, had bearing on the fact that no major food poisoning outbreak was reported during the year.

I am pleased to report that since writing the last report, the Council have accepted a tender for the first part of the new Sewerage Scheme. Provision of added pumping capacity at the Westbourne Avenue Pumping Station; overhaul of the machinery at the Coast Road Station; provision of larger sewers from Westbourne Avenue Pumping Station to Marsh Road, along the Cob, under the Cut to Fforddlas Road, Marsh Road to Fforddlas, Fforddlas Road, Victoria Road, Prince Edward Avenue, Clifton Park Road and Lynton Walk. It is anticipated that this contract will be completed in about two years.

The second outlet from the Rhyl Cut, constructed by the Dee and Clwyd River Board, has continued to function, and I am pleased to report that the Board have prepared a scheme to construct another Culvert and pipeline from the Cut adjacent to the Rhyl Coast Road Pumping Station, together with a Pumping Station on the Golf Links, which will deal with flood water and so relieve that portion of the Cut running through the Urban District.

It is hoped that this scheme will receive early approval.

The Council are having discussions with the Board for making provision in this scheme for dealing with storm water from the Coast Road Pumping Station, and if the discussions are successful, it may mean the development of land on the South side of the Cut which, at the present time, is beset by difficulties in disposal of sewage.

There were twelve applications for site licences under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

During the year, several conferences were held between the Officers of the Planning Department and Fire Department of the Flintshire County Council and all County District Public Health Inspectors, resulting in an agreed memoranda of general conditions to be attached to all site licences being presented to the Flintshire County Council and all County District Councils, which has been accepted with minor amendments peculiar to each district, as a model for the whole County of Flintshire.

Of the twelve applications for site licences, two have been approved as residential sites—for one caravan and two caravans, respectively.

Four have been approved as summer caravan sites, to be occupied during the period 31st March to 31st October in each year.

In two cases, the Planning Authority made a discontinuance Order under Sec. 26 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, that the sites cease to be used. In the first case, the Minister held a public inquiry, as a result of appeal, and confirmed the order and, in the second case, there was an appeal, but on the day of the inquiry the appeal was withdrawn.

In the remaining four cases, negotiations are still proceeding between the applicants, the Planning Authority and the Licensing Authority.

In my opinion, the main difficulty in dealing with existing site applications is the ambiguity of Sec. 3(2) of the Act, as any site operator who made application under Sec. 16 within two months of the passing of the Act, does not commit an offence under Section 1 of the Act until such time as a site licence is first issued.

The operative words in Section 3(2), "and the applicant shall either at the time of making the application or **subsequently . . .**" the word "subsequently" is a vague term and, in my view, is delaying considerably the issuing of site licences.

During the year, two persons were prosecuted for operating sites without a licence. The Magistrates found the cases proved and fined the defendants £5 in each case.

Several complaints were received during the year of noise nuisance from two industrial premises and, particularly during the summer, of excessive noise emanating from amusement arcades and, I am pleased to report, that as a result of discussions with managements, steps were taken to reduce noise to a minimum.

The production of portable wireless sets, easily carried in the hand, would seem to be causing considerable annoyance, both to visitors and residents alike, and one wonders in this fast moving age, whether people, for their own enjoyment and pleasure, have little thought for the quiet comfort and pleasure of others.

The Public Health Act, 1961, was placed on the Statute Book in August, and one of the most important provisions—the power to deal with accumulations of rubbish and compensation for stopping employment to prevent spread of disease—will be of great assistance.

One of the difficulties with accumulations of rubbish is the depositing of this material, particularly old car bodies and bedding on the roadside and in ditches by unknown persons which, besides being unsightly, very often become breeding grounds for flies and vermin; and the public can assist if they will only report any incidents of unauthorised tipping, particularly the registration of the vehicle depositing the rubbish.

A major step has been taken by the coming into force of the Housing Act, 1961, especially that part dealing with houses in multiple occupation, and it is hoped that with the coming into operation of the requisite regulations prescribing a management code, persons who have to live in this type of house will be provided with the essential necessities to enable them to live a decent life.

In my opinion, the occupation of “summer flats” and “flat-lets” will come within the purview of this Act, so it will be appreciated that to deal with the problem in a seaside resort will take time.

The Council provide a free 24-hour service for the un-stopping of choked drains, water closets and other sanitary fittings and, whilst I am sure this is appreciated by the public, I would make an appeal to the ratepayers to endeavour to notify the Department of their difficulty before 5 o'clock in the afternoon (Monday to Friday), 12 noon on Saturday,

as I have found several instances where the drain has been known to be choked for many hours and, in some instances, days, before the Department is notified.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of my Committee, 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 and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

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

TABLE I.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

Number of Complaints Received	2317
Number of Drains and W.C.s Released and Cleansed by Department	2181
Number of Nuisances Found (including under Factories Act)... ..	164
Number of Nuisances Abated	113
Number of Preliminary Notices Served	78
Number of Statutory Notices Served	25

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

Public Health Acts—	
Complaints	156
Infectious Disease	63
Refuse Collection and Disposal	345
Schools	26
Offensive Trades	5
Smoke Observations	2
Water Supply	10
Public Conveniences	50
Swimming and Paddling Pools	65
Camping Grounds	90
Drain Tests, etc.—Smoke Machine	19
Theatres and Cinemas	28
Vermineous Premises	25
Factories and Workplaces	240
Rats and Mice	2751
Housing Acts—Inspections	210
Houses Let in Lodgings	68
Council House Inspections	303
Pet Animals Act—Inspections	10
Shops Act, 1950—Welfare Arrangements	27
Housing Applicants Visited	170

**FOOD AND DRUGS ACT REGULATIONS.
SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.**

	Registered	Visits
Abattoir (Municipal)	—	1050
Butchers	22	300
Bakehouses	11	72
Boarding Houses and Hotels	272	125
Confectioners	19	95
Dairies and Milkshops	—	86
Fishmongers and Poulterers	10	225
Fish and Chip Shops	16	46
Food Factories	3	90
Grocers	42	530
General Stores	20	165
Greengrocers	28	63
Holiday Camp Kitchens	2	30
Ice Cream—		
Retailers	144	210
Wholesalers	3	62
Manufacturers	2	58
Kiosks	10	62
Mobile Vans	7	30
Soft Ice	6	—
Multiple Stores	2	350
Licensed Clubs	17	35
Public Houses	36	52
Snack Bars	12	33
Stalls—Shellfish	3	40
Stalls—Miscellaneous	14	63
Sweets and Minerals	38	40
Restaurants and Cafes	88	360
Wholesale—		
Grocers	3	85
Greengrocers	1	18
Sugar Confectioners	5	3
Poulterers	1	18

TABLE II.—SANITARY DEFECTS.

Damp Living and Bed Rooms	17
Defective Chimney Pots, Flues, Stacks and Flashings	6
Defective Roofs	15
Defective Floors, Living and Bed Rooms	2
Defective Gutters and Downspouting	9
Defective Plaster, Wall and Ceilings	4
Defective Skylights, Window Frames, Casing and Doors	8
Cords to Windows and Fastenings	5
Defective Fireplace	1
Remove Accumulation, Manure and Refuse	11
Defective Yard Surface	2
Defective Dust Bins	1
Animals in such a state as to be a Nuisance	1
Offensive Smell/Effluvia	2
General Defects	4
Defective Brickwork	2
Filthy Rooms, Walls, Floors, Bedding and Furniture	6
Defective Timberwork	2
Total	98

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

Smoking Chimneys	2
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PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936: SECTION 75.

Defective, or want of, Dustbins (Supplied)	381
Defective, or want of, Dustbins (Trade)	87

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960.

Visits	12
Notices	7

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955 & 1960.

Regulation No.		Infringements	
		Found	Remedied
5	Cleanliness of Equipment	1	1
8	Protection from risk of Contamination	—	—
	Sanitary Conveniences—		
14 (1) (a)	Clean and Efficient Order	5	5
14 (2)	Lighting and Ventilation	—	—
14 (4)	Communicating with Food Room	—	—
14 (5)	Notices re. Hand Washing	4	4
16 (1)	Wash-hand Basins	7	7
16 (2)	Absence of Hot Water	—	—
16 (3)	Absence of Soap, Towels, Nailbrushes	3	3
17	First Aid Materials	—	—
18	Accommodation for Clothing, etc....	—	—
19	Facilities for Washing Food and		
	Equipment	1	1
22	Food Room not to be/or communicate		
	with Sleeping Place	—	—
23	Cleanliness & Repair of Food Rooms	21	21
24	Accumulation of Refuse	1	1
26 (a) (b)	Stalls (Names inscribed thereon) and		
	Cleanliness	1	1
28	Supply of Water to Stalls	—	—
	Total	44	44
	No. of Warning Letters		23

DRAINAGE: WATER CLOSETS AND WATER SUPPLY.

Defective W.C., Walls, Roofs and Doors	6
Defective Fittings, W.C., Sinks and Baths	9
Defective Access Covers, Chambers and Brickwork	8
Defective Water Services	1
Defective Soil Pipes	4
Defective Urinal Channel	1
Filthy W.C. Premises, Basins and Urinals	4
Defective Sink Waste Pipes	5
Choked and Defective Drains	25
Defective Gully	1
Choked Ditch	1
	—
	65
	—

RHYL U.D.C. ACT, 1935.

In 15 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 6 cases it was necessary for the Council to carry out the work in default.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 TO 1959.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937:—

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	No. of written notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	32	39	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	132	59	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers Premises)... ..	12	36	—
Total	176	134	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found:—

Particulars	No. Found	No. Remedied	Referred to H.M. Ins'tor.	Referred by H.M. Ins'tor.
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)... ..	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)... ..	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6)... ..	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):				
(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 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out- workers in August list required by Sec. 110 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in un- wholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel:						
Making, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning and washing... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Household linen	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lace, lace curtains and nets	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curtains and furniture hangings	—	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture and upholstery	—	—	—	—	—	—
Electro-plate	—	—	—	—	—	—
File making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brass and brass articles	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fur pulling	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iron and steel cables and chains	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cart gear	—	—	—	—	—	—
Locks, latches and keys	—	—	—	—	—	—
Umbrellas, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Artificial flowers	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nets, other than wire nets	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tents	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sacks	—	—	—	—	—	—
Racquet and tennis balls	—	—	—	—	—	—

Part VIII. of the Act: Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)—continued

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out- workers in August list required by Sec. 110 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in un- wholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Paper bags	—	—	—	—	—	—
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brush making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pea picking	—	—	—	—	—	—
Feather sorting	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stuffed toys	—	—	—	—	—	—
Basket making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chocolates and sweetmeats	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Textile weaving	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lampshades	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE III.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Number of Cases Removed to Isolation Hospital	—
Number of Rooms Disinfected, Lamp and Spray	7
Number of Rooms Disinfected, Spray only	3
Number of Houses Disinfected, Spray	1
Number of Houses Disinfected, Lamp and Spray	3
Number of Wards or Cubicles Disinfected	7
Number of Schools Disinfected	13
Number of Motor Ambulances, Cars or Vans Disinfected	—
Number of Caravans or Huts Disinfected	5
Number of Bungalows or Chalets Disinfected	3
Miscellaneous	1
Number of Articles Destroyed with Consent of Owner	1
Number of Articles Disinfected by Steam	743
Number of Articles Disinfected by Lamp and/or Spray	2
Disinfector used (Steam)	63
Number of Articles Hot Air Dried	—

TABLE IV.—DISINFESTATION.

Number of Rooms Disinfested (D.D.T.)	14
Number of Wards, Shops, Cafes or Cinemas and Theatres Disinfested (D.D.T.)	1
Number of Houses or Flats Disinfested (D.D.T.)	2
Number of Caravans or Chalets, etc., Disinfested (D.D.T.)	1
Miscellaneous Items (D.D.T.), including Wasps Nests	5
Number of Houses, Flats, Cinemas or Caravans Disinfested (Smoke Generators)	2
Number of Hospitals Partly Disinfested (Spray D.D.T.)	10
Number of Houses, Cinemas or Wards, etc., Disinfested by D.D.T. Powder	2
Public Abattoir (Spray and Wash-down with Disinfectant)	2

FOODSTUFFS.

The details of foodstuffs voluntarily surrendered during the year would still appear to be formidable, which shows that the retailer has continued confidence in the officers of the department and encourages the retailer to call in the Public Health Inspector for expert advice, and so ensure that any doubtful commodity is not offered to the public for human consumption.

During the year a few complaints were received of foreign matter in foodstuffs; the incidents were fully investigated and, in each case, the facts were reported to the Council, who considered the matter without the name of the individual person or firm being disclosed, and in each case where there had been no previous complaint a warning was issued.

The reason for complaints of this nature is due, very often, to the lack of proper rotation of the foodstuffs concerned, and the absence of knowledge of the retailer of the necessity to dispose of foodstuffs such as meat pies within 48 hours of delivery by the wholesaler, also the constant removal and replacing of frozen foods in freezing cabinets.

It has been argued that the coding of foodstuffs by the wholesaler is a difficult matter, but I feel that in this modern age, some form of identification of the date of production of perishable foodstuffs would be a step in the right direction and would obviate what might be an unfortunate outbreak of food poisoning.

Condemned Foodstuffs.

Meat, 527½lbs. and 701 tins; Vegetables, 730 tins and 76 pkts.; Meat and Vegetables, 12 tins; Fruit, 931 tins and 20 pkts.; Fish, 86 tins, 5 stone 9lbs., and 89 pkts.; Soup, 263 tins; Milk, 167 tins; Cream, 15 tins; Cheese, 61 boxes and 1½lbs.; Milk Puddings, 19; Steam Pudding, 1; Creamed Rice, 59 tins; Creamed Sago, 12 tins; Fat, 150lbs.; Vinegar, 1 bottle; Egg White, 2 tins; Meat Pies, 36; Cereals, 237 pkts.; Nuts, 72 bags; Fish and Meat Paste, 295 jars; Jam, 4 jars; Syrup, 1 tin; Biscuits, 289 pkts; Sweets, 6 pkts.; Mustard, 1 tin; Salad Cream, 3 jars; Horseradish, 1 jar; Coffee, 1 tin; Mincemeat, 1; Sauce, 1 bottle; Frozen Chickens, 202; Ice Cream Mix, 1 tin; Ready Dinners, 3; Hamburgers, 2; Baby Food, 4; Flavouring, 1 bottle.

A copy of the Report for the period 1st January, to 31st December, 1961, received from Mr. Elwyn Lewis, M.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I., County Public Health Inspector, who is responsible to the County for samples taken in Rhyl and District under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, is appended hereunder:—

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

Particulars of the Samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, in the Rhyl Urban District area during the year ended 31st December, 1961.

Description of Article	Number of Samples taken		Genuine	Not genuine or below standard
Milk	40	...	40	—
Dairy Produce... ..	4	...	4	—
Ice Cream and Lollies ...	14	...	14	—
Alcoholic Drinks	7	...	7	—
Sausages	16	...	16	—
Cooked Meats and Pies ...	4	...	4	—
Cooking Fats and Oils ...	4	...	4	—
Cakes and Confectionary	16	...	16	—
Patent Medicines	5	...	5	—
Miscellaneous Groceries ...	12	...	12	—
Fruit and Vegetables... ..	8	...	8	—
	<hr/> 130		<hr/> 130	<hr/> —

(Signed) ELWYN LEWIS,

County Public Health Inspector and
Food and Drugs Inspector.

MILK SUPPLY.

The retailing of milk within the Urban District has now been reduced to less than 6 retailers delivering milk from door to door. Despite this fact, 16 to 20 samples of milk are taken each month, due to the grades of milk sold by the various retailers.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1960, the registration of premises for the sale, storage and distribution of Milk is the responsibility of the County Council, who are the Food and Drugs Authority.

The selling of milk in bottles from shops seems to be on the increase.

The problem of dirty bottles continues to be difficult, particularly on camping grounds, as milk is brought on to the camp in "foreign" bottles, and just left lying about, and in an endeavour to assist in getting over the problem circular letters have been placed in all moveable dwellings pointing out the problem and asking the residents to bring all empty bottles to a central point. I am pleased to report that the response to the appeal has been satisfactory.

Regular bacteriological sampling of milk is carried out. During the year 212 samples of milk were taken—185 satisfactory and 19 unsatisfactory, also 8 were not analysed due to being unfit on arrival at the Laboratory, caused through delay in transit because of fog.

It should be noted that there is a larger percentage of unsatisfactory results in Raw milk (14 out of 19) than in pasteurised, therefore one is prompted to ask has not the time arrived when all milk ought to be pasteurised.

Twenty-one samples of milk were also tested for T.B. or Brucella Infection. All except one were found to be satisfactory.

The rapid growth of the introduction of milk vending machines has added to the litter problem, as despite the fact that the proprietors have placed litter bins or baskets adjacent to the machines, the public are still careless with the empty milk cartons.

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 110):—

Manufacturers and Retailers	8
Retailers (including 12 Mobile Shops)	153
Wholesale Distributors (Storage)	3
	—
	164
	—

The amount of ice cream sold in the town is reflected by the number of retailers on the register. During the year 152 samples were taken for bacteriological examination.

Table of Samples Taken.

	Grade				Total
	1	2	3	4	
Retailers	42	7	2	1	52
Wholesale Distributors	52	4	—	—	56
Manufacturers/Retailers... ..	14	5	2	1	22
Soft Ice Machines	8	1	—	3	12
	—	—	—	—	—
	116	17	4	5	142
	—	—	—	—	—

Also ten samples were taken and not analysed due to being unfit on arrival at the Laboratory caused through delay in transit because of fog.

The number of samples taken was a slight increase on the previous year. The results were down on the previous year, for, of the 152 samples, 5 were in Grade IV., against 2 in 1960.

Upon examination of the above figures, it will be noted that 94.1 per cent. of the results were in Grades I. and II., 2.6 per cent. in Grade III., and 3.3 per cent. in Grade IV., which, to my mind, taking into account the various difficulties experienced, particularly in a seaside resort, due to changes in temperature and a fluctuating population, reflects credit on the trade in all its aspects, who by full co-operation are endeavouring to give a nourishing food which is produced and handled hygienically.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

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

PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

Animals slaughtered from 1st January, 1961, to 31st December, 1961:—

Cattle	1,521
Calves	63
Sheep and Lambs	24,488
Pigs	5,146
	<hr/>
	31,218
	<hr/>

Meat condemned: 4 tons, 3 cwts., 2 qtrs., 7 lbs.

Despite the number of animals slaughtered increased by nearly 8,000, there was a reduction in meat condemned, which indicates that there continues to be an improvement in animal health and, in this connection, it is interesting to note that whenever a lesion of Tuberculosis, no matter how mild, is found, the facts are reported to the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, who follow up the animal back to the herd and take appropriate action.

There were 2 cases of *Cysticercus Bovis* detected during the year, which is the same as 1960. The carcasses were refrigerated for 21 days before release for human consumption.

There were also 2 cases of Swine Fever. The carcasses were buried and buildings were washed down with disinfectant.

From the above figures the number of animals slaughtered increased by 7,639 on the previous year.

All the necessary work required to comply with the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, was completed by the 1st April, being the date fixed by the Minister.

During the year, as a result of representations made to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Abattoir was approved as a slaughterhouse for the reception and slaughter of cattle from the Irish Free State.

**CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN
WHOLE OR IN PART FOR THE YEAR 1961.**

	Cattle, exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed (if known)	1455	66	63	24488	5146	31218
Number inspected	1455	66	63	24488	5148	31220
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	1	2	6	12	21
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	241	36	—	129	99	505
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	16.56	56.06	3.17	0.55	2.16	—
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	—	—	—	3	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	15	—	—	—	170	185
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	1.10	—	—	—	3.36	—
Cysticercosis:						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	2	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE V.—REFUSE COLLECTION.

Loads of Domestic Refuse to Tip	2,771
Loads of Trade Refuse and Salvage	1,114
Loads of Fish Refuse to Tip	70
	3,955

256 Working Days. Total Loads: 3,955—15.44 per working day.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

In the early part of the year a complete survey and investigation of refuse collection methods was undertaken, with the result that the whole system was re-organised, which, I feel, has been advantageous to the Council, the townspeople and the men employed in this work.

During the summer season the collection of refuse in the central area of the town by 9.30 a.m. posed many difficulties, among which the parking of locked cars in entries and passages was the biggest, but despite all these trials, the staff worked excellently in an endeavour to maintain an efficient and regular service.

The operation of Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, continues to prove a success, ratepayers as a whole have co-operated wholeheartedly. Up to 31/3/62 a total of 4,182 bins have been issued under the rental scheme. The number of bins issued under the scheme for the year ending 31st March, 1962, was 381. In addition, 90 bins were delivered to Council houses. 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 work of tipping up the second portion of the Cob land proceeded satisfactorily.

I referred in my last report that the Minister was to hold an inquiry into the Council's appeal against the refusal of the County Planning Authority to permit the tipping of refuse in an area between the sea wall and Mumzone Bungalow, at Splash Point.

The decision of the Minister was to allow the appeal and work of tipping up the land commenced on October 1st and was completed in the first week of 1962. Fears were expressed that nuisance and infestation by vermin might arise, but I am pleased to say that, with the exception of odd days, with gale force winds, which caused a certain amount of paper to be blown about, the whole operation was completed without the fears materialising, and I feel that a very valuable piece of land has been reclaimed at a very low cost.

The practice of setting fire to the contents of dustbins is becoming a greater problem, and not only is this a nuisance to the neighbours, but if hot material is tipped into a collecting vehicle it may not only destroy the vehicle but set fire to the refuse tip, with very serious consequences. I would also

mention that burning of refuse, thereby creating smoke, is an offence under the Clean Air Act and renders the person concerned liable to prosecution. I, therefore, appeal to the public to refrain from burning refuse as, if they felt that a once weekly collection, particularly in the summer season, is not sufficient for their premises, they can take advantage of the extra collection at 9d. per bin, referred to earlier in this report.

In 1960 the gross cost of collection was £26,785, whilst the income was £6,909, giving a net figure of £19,876. This year the cost was £24,456, the increase being mainly due to wages, high rate of sickness with the payment therefor, together with a capital expenditure of £1,800 for the purchase of a new refuse collection vehicle, paid for out of revenue.

It will also be noted from the table showing the cost of refuse disposal (on page 59) that the net cost this year was £3,477 as against £5,515 yast year, a decrease of £1,098.

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 5½ tons on the figures for 1960. It will be noted that the excess of income over expenditure is shown as £37, but the expenditure includes £500 capital paid out of Revenue for a new baling machine to replace a machine which had been in service for over 20 years.

The baling of wastepaper is becoming more costly each year, due to the amount of contraries which are mixed with the raw material at source—particularly polythene, tarred paper and string, which has to be removed by hand before baling can take place, but it must be remembered that if salvaging of waste paper—673 tons this year—compressed by a machine, does not appear to be as great a profit-making concern as hitherto, there is a considerable conserving of tipping space, as the material would have to be collected and disposed of anyway, also, there is a reduction of fire risk at the tip.

I would still urge the townspeople to keep this material separate from other refuse and place it at a point easily accessible for the refuse collectors to move when they call.

Weight: 1st January to 31st December, 1961.

	T.	C.	Q.		T.	C.	Q.
Waste Paper	673	11	2	Lead	6	0	
Iron	9	7	1	Rags and Bagging ...	20	10	2
Baled Tins	-	-	-	Bottles and Jars			
Aluminium	15	3		(208.07 grs.)... ..	12	4	3
Copper	3	2		Miscellaneous	5	0	
Brass	8	0					
Zinc and Pewter	-	1					
					717	12	2

Income and Expenditure: 1st April, 1961—31st March, 1962.

Income £6,352. Expenditure £6,315.
 Excess of Income over Expenditure £37.

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

TABLE VI.—REFUSE.

Showing Cost of Refuse Collection and Disposal, Year 1961-62 (To 31st March, 1962).

Particulars	Collection and Salvage		Disposal (Tip)		Total	
	Including loan charges	Excluding loan charges	Including loan charges	Excluding loan charges	Including loan charges	Excluding loan charges
Gross Expenditure	£ 31734	£ 31351	£ 3679	£ 3679	£ 35413	£ 35030
Gross Income	7278	7278	202	202	7480	7480
Net Cost	24456	24073	3477	3477	27933	27550
Unit Costs—Gross Expenditure per Ton... ..	48/9.86	48/2.79	5/7.92	5/7.92	54/5.78	53/10.71
Gross Income per Ton... ..	11/2.36	11/2.36	3.73d.	3.73d.	11/6.09	11/6.09
Net Cost per Ton	37/7.50	37/0.43	5/4.19	5/4.19	42/11.67	42/4.62
Net Cost per 1,000 Population	£1157.95	£1139.82	£164.63	£164.63	£1322.58	£1304.45
Net Cost per 1,000 Premises	£2958.27	£2911.94	£420.59	£420.59	£3378.86	£3332.53
Net Cost, Equivalent Rate in the £	15.78d.	15.53d.	2.24d.	2.24d.	1/6.02	1/5.77

Refuse removed during the year (approx) 13,000 tons
 Estimated Population (R.G.R., Mid-year, 1961) 21,120
 Number of Rated Premises 8,267
 Total Rates in the £ 23/10
 Product of a 1d. Rate... .. £1,550

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

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

HOUSING.

The approximate number of Dwelling Houses for all classes is 7,213.

Houses erected during 1961:—

By the Council:—

Permanent Houses and Flats erected	8
Permanent Houses and Flats in course of erection	4

By Private Enterprise:—

Houses and Bungalows erected	126
-------------------------------------	-----

By the County Council:—

Permanent Houses for Police	—
Permanent Houses for Police in course of erection	—

Adaptations and Conversions	4
------------------------------------	---

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. In addition, a new tenant of a vacated house may be allowed up to four weeks' rent in lieu of decoration.

During the year, no houses were demolished as a result of action taken under the Housing Acts. Four houses were dealt with by means of Closing Orders or undertakings under the Housing Acts.

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 $1\frac{1}{2}$ 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 weather 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 a daily average:—

	Total Gallons Pumped	Daily Average
January	110,674,143	3,570,133
February	76,165,824	2,720,208
March	41,274,721	1,331,442
April	69,052,376	2,301,745
May	62,127,516	2,004,113
June	43,863,347	1,462,111
July	77,441,317	2,498,107
August	77,351,879	2,495,221
September	44,095,109	1,469,836
October	60,285,061	1,944,679
November	56,944,236	1,898,141
December	81,681,054	2,634,872
	<hr/> 800,956,583 <hr/>	<hr/> 2,194,402 <hr/>

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

There are now two premises which are registered under the above Act in the district.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Five premises are registered under the above Act.

RHYL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ACT, 1956.

Twenty-seven Hairdressing Establishments are registered under the above Act.

LICENSED PREMISES.

There is complete co-operation between the Superintendent of Police and his staff and the Public Health Inspectors. Whenever plans for alterations to licensed premises are submitted for consideration by the Licensing Justices, the Public Health Inspectors are consulted and appear before the Justices to make any observations insofar as those observations affect public health and hygiene matters.

It has been the practice for years now to present a written report to the Justices sitting at the Annual Brewster Sessions on the sanitary arrangements and hygiene provisions at hotels, public houses, clubs, billiard halls, ballrooms, theatres and places of public entertainment.

As a result of representations this year there has been a considerable improvement in the sanitary arrangements at one public house, and one hotel has been completely demolished and a modern hotel built on the site.

I must say that, in the main, the brewery companies and hotel managements are most co-operative in complying with the requirements of the Public Health Department.

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, 1961, 131 properties were treated for rats.

One hundred and seventy-eight (178), properties further to the above, were treated for mice, and 655 other properties were inspected.

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

The Rhyl Cut was treated three times throughout its entire length in the Rhyl area.

Total number of visits made during the year for rats and/or mice: 2,751.

The latest methods 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, 1961, Section 51, exempting for 18 Sundays the Sunday Closing Provisions of the Act for 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, 1961, for 18 weeks: Substituting for paragraph (b) of Section 2 of the Shops Act, 1950:
 - (a) At 9.30 p.m. in the evening on the late day.
 - (b) At 9 p.m. in the evening on any other day.
- 3—Rhyl (Suspension of Weekly Half-Holiday) Order, 1961, for 16 weeks.
- 4—The Rhyl (Extension of Hours) Exhibition Order, 1961.

Regular visits and inspections were made to see that the requirements of the Act were complied with.

METEOROLOGY

For Statistical Tables see Pages 69—72.

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 and Thermograph, Maximum and Minimum Thermometer, Tide Table, previous day's Sun Card, Daily Weather Forecast Report of the Air Ministry and combined Weather Charts and Records are exhibited for public information.

Observations are taken at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Greenwich Mean Time each day. Code Weather Telegrams are despatched every day to the Meteorological Office at 6 p.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 paper, 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 $53^{\circ} 19'N$. Longitude $3^{\circ} 30'W$. 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 dura-

tion for the year $\times 100 \div$ the average for the year (the past 30 years ending 1959 being the figure taken = 4.10 hours for Rhyl). The average rainfall for the years 1921—1950 (30 years) is 26.63 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 rain 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 THE YEAR 1961.

RAINFALL.

The rainfall for the year was above the 30 years' average (26.63 inches), the total being 27.18 inches as against 31.02 inches for the year 1960—which shows a decrease of 3.84 inches. The year's total was below the national average by 5.49 inches.

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

During the year 1961, rain fell on 173 days, as against 179 in 1960.

The monthly average of rain works out at 2.26 inches, as against 2.59 inches for 1960, and a monthly average of 14.4 days on which rain fell, as against 14.9 days in 1960.

The highest recorded during the year (on one day) was, recorded on July 12th, when at 9 a.m. on the 13th, 1.24 inches was recorded (including the early morning of the 13th).

The wettest month during the year was January, with a total of 3.53 inches, and the driest was March, with a total of 0.68 inches (see Features).

FEATURES.

March: 0.68 inches—Lowest total for March since 1948 (0.62 inches).

April: 2.87 inches was the highest total for April since 1932 (2.96 inches).

July: 1.24 inches was the highest day's total for July since 1947 (1.35 inches).

October: 2.92 inches was the highest total for October since October, 1954 (4.42 inches).

SUNSHINE.

The total bright sunshine recorded by the Campbell-Stokes Recorder during 1961 was 1,566 hours 18 minutes, as compared with 1,536 hours, 48 minutes during 1960.

The instrument is now verified bi-annually by an official of the Meteorological Office. No inspection was made this year, being due in 1962.

We had the misfortune to again have the Sun Sphere stolen on the 15th February (night), and had to obtain estimated sunshine figures from the Meteorological Office from February 16th to March 4th inclusive. A new Sphere was purchased from the Meteorological Office and fitted up on the evening of May 9th (in the interim period between March 5th to May 9th, a loaned sphere from the Meteorological Office was used).

The total record for 1961 is 29 hours 30 minutes more than that of 1960, which year was 157 hours 18 minutes less than that of 1959.

It is interesting to note the sunshine for the past ten years, including 1961 (see Table II. on page ??).

These figures will show that the year 1961 was 49 hours 18 minutes more than the average total number of hours for the past ten recorded years, and 48 hours 12 minutes more than that of the average for 20 years.

During the past 20 years the records show that Rhyl has enjoyed, on an average, 305 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 17 minutes, as against 4 hours 12 minutes in 1960; 4 hours 38

minutes in 1959; 3 hours 23 minutes in 1958; 4 hours 3 minutes in 1957; 4 hours 12 minutes in 1956; 4 hours 47 minutes in 1955; 3 hours 37 minutes in 1954; 4 hours 20 minutes in 1953; and 3 hours 58 minutes in 1952.

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 1961 occurred on 29th June, there being 15 hours 36 minutes, as against 14 hours 48 minutes in May, 1960.

FEATURES.

January: 33.8 hours—Lowest total for January since 1941 (25 hours 54 minutes).

April: 111.2 hours—Lowest total for April since 1941 (106 hours 42 minutes).

December: 72.4 hours—Highest total for December since 1929—32 years (80 hours 24 minutes).

Note.—The total number of days of sunshine for the year 1961 was 320 and was the highest year's total since 1949 (322).

1961 TEMPERATURES.

February: Average for month of 46.0°F. was 4.6°F. below the 30-year average for this month. Also the highest average for February on record.

March: Average for the month was 48.1°F., and 4.2°F. above the 30-year average for March.

August: 83°F. on the 29th was the highest daily temperature for August since 1955 (86°F.).

September: 86°F. on 1st was the highest daily maximum of the year and for any September month on record (viz., 1905—56 years). Previous best 80°F. in Septembers of 1919, 1954 and 1959.

November: 26°F. on 27th—lowest minimum temperature for November since 1952 (24°F.).

December: 18°F. on 28th—equal lowest minimum for December (with December, 1920) on record, i.e., since 1905; also the lowest of the year.

Note.—The mean average temperature for December, 1961, was 37.9°F., being 5.3°F. below the normal average, and the lowest for December since 1933 (36.7°F.).

The year 1961 was above the average for sunshine and also above the average for rain. As for temperature, it was also just above the last ten years' average, but slightly below the 20 years' average. The year, as a whole, was fairly good.

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

TABLE I.—METEOROLOGY FOR 1961.

Month.	Air Temperature in Degrees Fahrenheit.							Rainfall.						Wind. Prevailing Direction.	Bright Sunshine.			
	Means of		Highest	Date.	Lowest	Date.	Minimum.	Inches.	No. of days Rain Fell.	Most in a Day. —Ins.	Date	.04 or More.			Day.—Hours.	Daily Average. —Hours.	Days on which Bright Sunshine was recorded.	Total Hours.
	A.	B.										Days.	Nights.					
	Maximum.	Minimum.																
January ...	45.2	34.0	39.6	56	29	21	26	3.53	19	0.75	5	7	4	5.2	1.09	20	33.8	
February ...	51.7	40.2	46.0	59	15	33	21	2.33	13	0.52	28	6	9	8.0	2.75	24	77.1	
March ...	53.9	42.4	48.1	63	5	33	20	0.68	12	0.21	31	1	4	10.1	4.31	29	133.6	
April ...	55.7	41.2	49.7	65	16	33	3	2.87	22	0.39	25	11	8	11.3	3.71	27	111.2	
May... ..	58.2	45.4	51.8	70	13	35	28	1.38	6	0.79	4	2	3	14.9	7.57	31	234.8	
June ...	64.2	49.9	57.1	78	30	40	14	1.06	9	0.38	10	2	7	15.6	7.42	28	222.3	
July ...	63.5	53.0	59.3	69	12	44	6	3.06	12	1.24	12	3	6	14.4	5.22	30	161.9	
August ...	65.7	53.7	59.7	83	29	44	7	2.87	17	0.77	7	5	10	12.2	6.37	31	197.6	
September .	66.6	52.4	59.5	86	1	40	25	1.63	15	0.31	4	4	9	12.0	4.81	28	144.3	
October ...	58.6	46.4	52.5	67	4	37	29	2.92	21	0.48	27	5	15	9.4	3.76	29	116.6	
November...	50.3	40.2	45.3	59	1	26	27	1.83	13	0.66	29	5	7	6.7	2.02	20	60.5	
December...	43.1	32.6	37.9	57	10	18	28	3.02	14	0.65	29	6	10	6.6	2.34	23	72	
Total for year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27.18	173	—	—	57	99	—	—	320	1566.3	
Monthly Average ...	56.4	44.3	50.4	—	—	—	—	2.26	14.4	—	—	4.8	8.3	—	4.28	26.7	130.5	
Total for 1960... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31.02	179	—	—	67	100	—	—	314	1536.8	
Monthly Average ...	55.9	44.4	50.1	—	—	—	—	2.59	14.9	—	—	5.6	8.3	—	4.20	26.1	128.1	

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

Year	RAINFALL.					SUNSHINE.							Humidity.
	Inches.	Monthly Average.—Inches.	Total Rain Days.	Month's Greatest Fall.—Inches.	Month's Lowest Fall.—Inches.	Hours.	Sunless Days.	Sunshine Days.	Daily Average.—Hours.	Highest in One Month.—Hours.	Lowest in One Month.—Hours.	Duration of Average Percentage	
1952	22.40	1.87	163	3.42	0.68	1455.8	53	313	3.98	196.2	39.2	93	77
1953	20.39	1.70	131	2.97	0.53	1588.0	66	299	4.34	231.8	23.7	102	77
1954	30.90	2.58	202	5.16	1.02	1336.5	69	296	3.61	217.2	35.2	89	78
1955	19.00	1.58	155	2.58	0.33	1754.3	63	302	4.78	312.6	38.5	114	78
1956	26.12	2.18	170	7.31	0.44	1526.1	65	301	4.20	270.2	35.9	100	79
1957	26.60	2.22	170	5.13	0.26	1476.2	67	298	4.05	306.1	39.8	102	79
1958	31.25	2.60	200	4.95	0.77	1235.4	71	294	3.38	170.8	24.7	83	79
1959	23.91	1.99	156	3.93	0.17	1694.1	63	302	4.64	268.9	24.5	109	75
1960	31.02	2.59	179	5.57	0.56	1536.8	52	314	4.20	283.5	34.9	101	77
1961	27.18	2.26	173	3.53	0.68	1566.3	45	320	4.28	234.8	33.8	108	77
Totals...	258.77	...	1699	...	...	15169.5	614	3039	...	...	...	1001	776
Average 10 years ...	25.88	2.16	170	...	...	1517.0	61	304	4.15	...	...	100	77
Average 20 years ...	25.51	2.12	172	...	...	1518.1	60	305	4.15	...	...	99	77

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

Month	SUNSHINE (Hours).										RAINFALL (Inches).									
	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Jan.	51.7	58.5	36.0	35.5	42.7	59.2	39.8	54.6	62.8	34.9	2.46	2.67	0.53	2.01	1.76	2.51	1.40	2.01	3.93	4.63
Feb.	83.7	87.2	60.6	55.8	73.1	69.0	86.7	60.4	92.5	68.1	2.94	0.83	1.94	1.96	2.16	0.44	2.04	4.95	0.17	1.66
March... ..	92.2	116.2	152.4	116.7	169.9	152.2	95.8	101.9	94.4	66.1	4.69	0.86	0.97	1.80	1.55	1.17	1.36	1.24	0.72	1.94
April	178.7	148.0	196.4	217.2	164.6	182.6	167.9	153.5	126.8	187.3	1.23	1.08	1.98	1.02	0.87	1.90	0.26	0.77	2.73	1.32
May	189.1	186.0	231.8	167.2	211.4	270.2	221.5	170.8	241.8	196.3	2.94	1.95	1.34	2.61	1.98	0.50	1.46	2.34	1.94	1.35
June	233.4	196.2	189.2	145.6	153.2	187.8	306.1	152.5	268.9	283.5	0.70	1.32	1.38	2.68	2.58	1.35	1.35	2.95	1.94	0.56
July	187.8	176.8	198.6	121.1	312.6	151.6	135.0	162.4	228.9	167.1	0.97	0.68	1.47	2.37	0.33	4.18	4.12	3.17	2.04	2.42
August	136.4	158.5	175.3	122.8	251.0	160.4	121.6	120.8	200.4	190.0	3.32	1.42	2.75	2.19	1.44	7.31	4.53	3.09	0.80	3.20
Sept.	107.2	106.0	132.4	163.3	164.1	106.7	100.1	111.5	178.2	146.6	1.42	3.13	2.97	2.16	0.96	2.43	5.13	4.54	0.57	3.66
Oct.	131.9	124.3	130.7	72.1	111.8	113.2	79.7	78.5	123.2	73.3	0.96	3.42	1.31	4.42	2.00	1.22	1.56	2.47	2.76	2.20
Nov.	62.4	58.9	60.9	64.0	61.4	37.3	63.5	43.8	51.7	55.7	5.10	1.74	2.68	5.16	1.04	1.55	1.76	1.39	3.08	5.57
Dec.	54.9	39.2	23.7	35.2	38.5	35.9	58.5	24.7	24.5	67.9	3.23	3.30	1.07	2.52	2.33	1.56	1.63	2.33	3.23	2.51
* Difference from	+	—	+	—	+	+	—	—	+	+	+	—	—	+	—	—	—	+	—	+
Avge for the Year	0.03	0.13	0.24	0.49	0.68	0.10	0.05	0.72	0.54	0.10	3.33	4.23	6.24	4.27	7.63	0.51	0.63	4.62	2.72	4.39

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

Rainfall: This figure is 30 years yearly average = 26.63 inches.

