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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.)

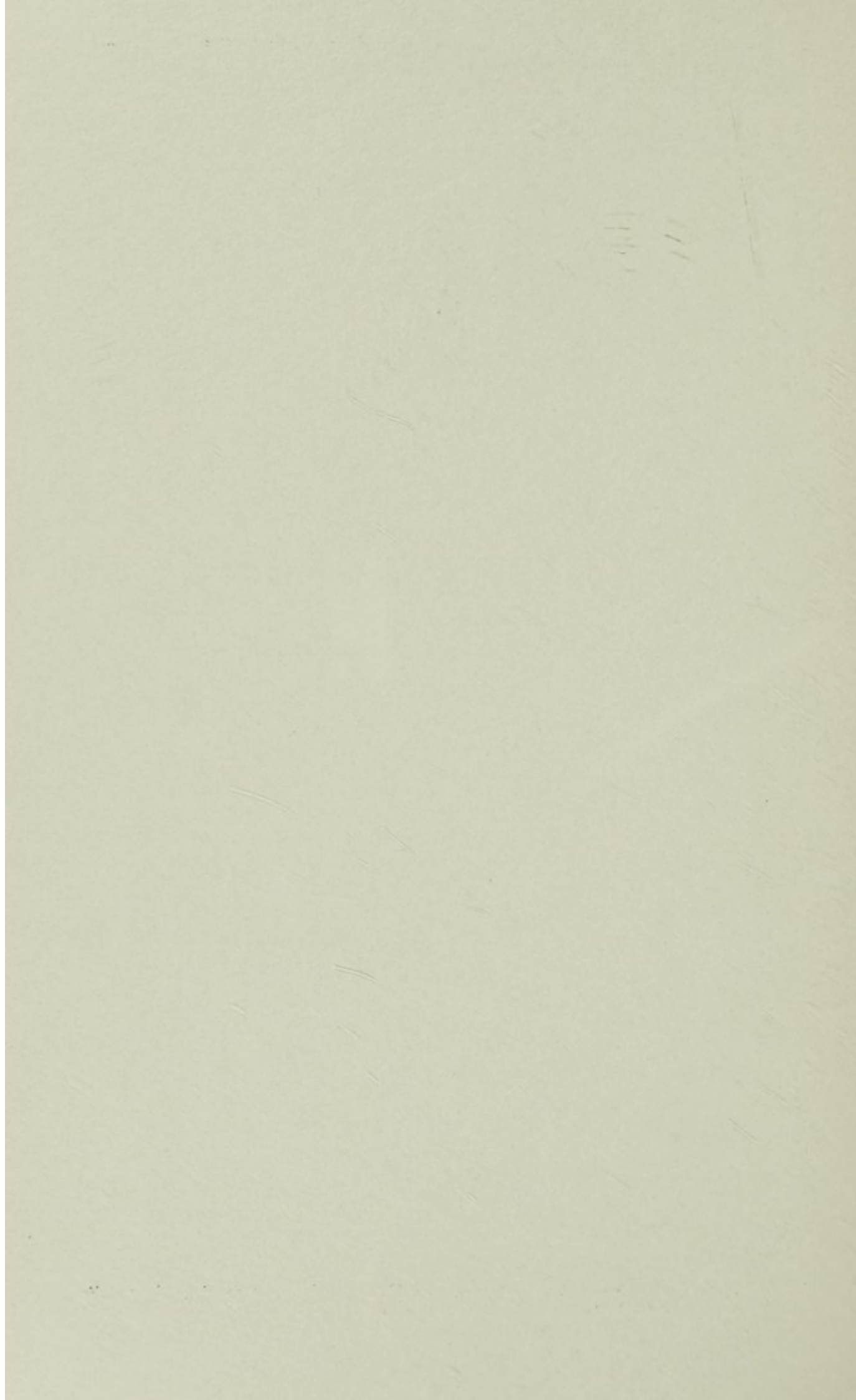
TOGETHER WITH THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

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

FOR THE YEAR

1968



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(D. P. W. ROBERTS, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
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(E. L. LLOYD JONES, M.B.E., F.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H.)

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1968



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URBAN DISTRICT OF RHYL

Health Department Offices:

RUSSELL HOUSE, RUSSELL ROAD, RHYL. Tel. No. Rhyl 4752.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1968:

Councillor J. ESMOR-THOMAS
(Chairman of the Council).

Cllr. J. C. ESPLEY	Cllr. Mrs. C. E. M. EDWARDS.
(Chairman).	„ ERIC J. DAVIES.
„ W. ELWYN CONWAY.	„ F. KELLY.
„ R. MERVYN OWEN.	„ EMLYN WILLIAMS, J.P.
„ D. E. HAMER JONES.	„ H. A. WESTON.

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, F.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

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

Assistant Building Inspector:

J. A. ROBERTS.

Chief Clerk and Meteorological Observer:

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

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Shorthand Typist:

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Miss P. SNAPE.

Maintenance Supervisor:

T. H. HEYES.

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Rodent Officer:

W. H. THOMAS.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1968.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Edwards and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for 1968.

The Registrar General's estimate for the mid-year population of the town was 21,660, which is an increase of 290 on the previous year.

There were 309 live births, of which 44 were illegitimate, giving an illegitimacy local rate per 1,000 live births of 142, compared with 103 the previous year, and this is considerably above the national average. This should be compared with neighbouring areas in Flintshire which have much lower illegitimacy rates.

The standard birth-rate for the town was 15.9 which is a rise on the previous year of 14 per thousand population, but is still below the national average of 16.9 per 1,000 population. There were four still-births, giving a local still birth-rate of 13 compared with the national average of 14 per 1,000 births.

Two deaths of infants under 1 year of age occurred during the year, giving an infant mortality rate of 6 per thousand births which compares well with the national average of 18. I am pleased to say that there were no deaths of mothers in child-birth or pregnancy, and this record has been maintained for many years.

354 deaths were recorded in the year giving a standardised death rate of 12.3 per thousand population, compared with the national death rate for England and Wales of 11.8. Of these deaths, 93 were due to coronary disease and 62 were due to cancer, of which the commonest site was cancer of the lung. Reference is made in the Report to the possible developments in the future with regard to screening of population for detection of disease. The official view is that it is still premature to consider the introduction of the mass-screening of the population for the detection of the disease, and the screening being carried out generally at present is confined to babies shortly after birth, cervical smear clinics and the chest X-Ray surveys in industry. This is done so as to obtain

the maximum results for the minimum of expense and, also, bearing in mind that, apart from expense, there is the problem of facilities being available for these procedures. The cervical smear clinics have now been running for some time and whilst the response was initially good, the public interest has now waned and some clinics may have to be closed through lack of response.

Reference has been made at the beginning of this foreword to the population having increased slightly during the year and this has coincided with the start of further house building in the town. Main drainage problems have put a complete embargo on house building development in the town for some years, but at last there has been some progress and phase 2(b) has now been completed, and phase 2(a) of the Council's main drainage scheme has now been commenced and completion of these works will release a considerable amount of land for development.

The Council has completed the clearance of slum dwellings in Victoria Road, Vale Road and Williams Street and is in the process of providing over 70 units of accommodation. This accommodation, whilst part of it has been used to accommodate former occupants of slum dwellings, has provided some surplus accommodation for general list needs, and there has been some improvement in the waiting list for Council dwellings.

The main difficulty the Council is faced with is lack of land and the future schemes will depend upon development of Walford Avenue and negotiations with the Flintshire County Council for the provision of old persons' dwellings on land adjacent to Y Gorlan.

During the year there were 46 cases of measles, 7 cases of tuberculosis, 4 cases of food poisoning, 22 cases of suspected food poisoning, 2 cases of typhoid fever and 2 cases of meningococcal infection.

I have made reference to the typhoid cases further on in the report and, whilst the number of measles cases is large, it is on balance slightly below the average for the previous 10 years, and I hope that the measles vaccine will make some reduction in the number of cases occurring each year, although the public response in accepting this vaccine has been poor.

Tuberculosis still constitutes a problem, especially among the middle and elderly groups of the population and the main feature of this problem is the re-activation of the disease. This

arises in patients who, having contracted the disease whilst in their twenties and thirties and often treated successfully, subsequently in their declining years develop bronchitis and heart disease which can, under certain circumstances, re-activate the tuberculosis.

Examination of the measurements of atmospheric pollution have shown that the amount of sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere has been fairly constant over the years, although rather higher in Edward Henry Street compared with Russell House. The average winter level is three times that of the summer and it will be interesting to see what impact the introduction of natural gas will have on the level of sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere.

Smoke pollution levels have, as with sulphur dioxide, been fairly similar over the years, although lower at Russell House compared with Edward Henry Street, with the average winter level five times that of the summer.

The Health Department continues to receive complaints from the public regarding the nuisance created by dogs fouling the footpaths. A bye-law has been adopted in the Rhyl area making it an offence for a person in charge of a dog to allow it to foul the footpath and action can be taken by any member of the public who sees an offence being committed to communicate the facts to the police. The police have certified copies of the bye-law to enable them to prosecute if sufficient evidence is available.

In my opinion, I do not consider legislation to be the answer to this problem, which like the problem of deposition of litter is a reflection of the attitude of individuals in society to their responsibilities to the community.

The parents should set an example to children in the training of dogs and disposal of litter, and perhaps in the course of decades there might be an improvement in the environment but the impression that I have gained is that these problems are getting worse, both in Rhyl and in Great Britain.

One great value in holidays overseas is the impression one receives of how people in other countries conduct their lives and we have a great deal to learn regarding management of domestic pets, litter deposition and atmospheric pollution.

The voluntary organisation in the town again continued their wonderful work and in particular, I would like to men-

tion the excellent work carried out by the W.R.V.S. providing Meals on Wheels Service, and also the British Red Cross in the loan of appliances, and many other organisations both large and small, contributing to the welfare of the citizens of the town.

In concluding my report, I would like to thank the staff of the Health Department for their unfailing support, especially during the "incident" at the end of 1968 when they all unquestionably rallied to the task in hand.

I should also like to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council, and Council Officials.

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 1968 (Registrar General's estimate)	21,660
Population change compared with previous year (increase of)	290
Number of inhabited properties (end of 1968)	7,507
Number of empty properties (end of 1968)	142
Rateable value of the Urban District at end of 1968	£1,262,171
Product of a penny rate	£4,962
General rate £1	13/7
No. of rated premises	8,855

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births: Male 155, Female 154	309
Legitimate live births: Male 128, Female 137	265
Illegitimate live births: Male 27, Female 17	44
Illegitimate local rate per 1,000 live births	142
National Illegitimate rate per 1,000 live births	88
Crude birth rate per 1,000 population	14.3
Birth rate comparability factor	1.11
Birth rate standardised	15.9
National birth rate per 1,000 population	16.9
Still births (total)	4
Legitimate still births	4
Illegitimate still births	—
Local still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	13
National still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	14.3
Infant deaths under one year of age	2
Legitimate infant deaths under age of 1 year	2
Illegitimate infant deaths under age of 1 year	—
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	6
National infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	18
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	7.4
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—
Infant deaths under 4 weeks of age (Neo-natal)	1
Legitimate infant deaths under 4 weeks of age	1
Illegitimate infant deaths under 4 weeks of age	—
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	3
National neo-natal mortality rate	12.4
Total perinatal deaths (still-births and deaths under one week combined)	5
Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	16
National perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	25
Deaths in first week of life (early neo-natal period)	1
Early neo-natal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	3
National early neo-natal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	10
Maternal mortality, including abortion:	
Number of deaths	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Nil

DEATHS.

Deaths: Male 177, Female 177	354
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	163
Comparability factor	0.76
Death rate standardised per 1,000 population	12.3
National death rate for England and Wales	11.9

POPULATION CHANGES IN THE URBAN DISTRICT.

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

Year	Mid-year population: 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	+ 301
1955... ..	19,300	+ 100	— 38	+ 138
1956... ..	19,510	+ 210	+ 43	+ 167
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
1962... ..	21,290	+ 170	+ 1	+ 169
1963... ..	21,440	+ 150	— 32	+ 182
1964... ..	21,570	+ 130	+ 20	+ 110
1965... ..	21,710	+ 140	— 38	+ 178
1966... ..	21,500	— 210	— 128	— 82
1967... ..	21,370	— 130	— 35	— 95
1968... ..	21,660	+ 290	— 45	+ 335

†Census Returns.

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

DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES.

The table below indicates some of the common causes of death in Rhyl and in England and Wales:—

	Rhyl %	England and Wales %
Coronary Heart Disease	28	20
Vascular lesions of C.N.S.	18	14
Cancer, excluding cancer of lung	15	5
Bronchitis	3	5
Cancer of lung	3	5
Other respiratory diseases	1	1

Cancer: The total deaths from cancer this year decreased by 6 over 1967, and the deaths from lung cancer fell by 9, which is a reversal of the National trend. Too much attention should not be paid to this, as wide variations in the number of deaths can occur from year to year. These figures shown below are an extract from the R.G. returns:—

Cancer deaths	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Lung	8	7	6	6	12	15	13	12	12	20	11	14	21	12
Stomach	10	4	13	10	10	13	9	9	5	8	7	4	5	7
Breast	7	6	8	6	6	9	7	6	4	8	3	11	3	6
Uterus	1	1	2	5	3	4	4	3	5	2	2	2	1	—
Leukaemia	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	3	4	2	1	1	—	1
Other sites	33	32	26	22	27	34	26	17	29	28	42	35	38	36
Total deaths all sites	60	51	57	50	60	75	60	50	59	68	66	67	68	62

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

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

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

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

The following chart shows the annual deaths from this disease in the district in recent years:—

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Deaths	55	46	59	60	80	62	87	85	81	79	90	101	88	93
Average for 1951-58: 50 per annum. Average for 1959-68: 85 per annum.														

SCREENING PROCEDURE

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

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

Cancer of the Cervix (the neck of the womb), Diabetes, High Blood Pressure, Defects of Vision, Hearing Defects, Anaemia, Urinary Infections in Young People, Coronary Heart Disease.

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

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

INFANT MORTALITY 1968.

There were 2 deaths of infants under one year of age notified locally, of which one occurred in the first week of life. Details of the deaths are given below:—

Age at death	Cause of death	(M. or F.)
1 Day	1a. Prematurity	F.
3 Months	1a. Congenital Heart disease (Ventricular Septal disease)	F.
	11. Mongolism	

TABLE SHOWING VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT FOR THE PAST EIGHTEEN 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	National 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	National death rate per 1,000 population	Infant deaths: Under 1 year of age	Local infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	National infant 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	—	—
1921	9,005	147	10.8	—	20.6	118	8.8	—	12.1	13	95.6	70.0
1931	13,490	172	13.81	—	15.8	164	12.52	—	12.3	8	46.5	66.0
1941	13,485	350	13.0	—	14.2	311	14.4	—	12.9	33	94.2	—
1951	21,530	301	16.1	16.1	15.5	317	16.95	14.4	12.5	12	39.0	29.6
1952	18,745	283	15.05	15.05	15.3	276	14.68	12.48	11.3	11	38.8	27.6
1953	18,800	272	14.39	14.39	15.2	262	13.86	11.78	11.4	13	47.8	26.8
1954	19,900	285	14.84	16.0	15.0	286	14.9	11.61	11.3	8	28.0	25.5
1955	19,100	276	14.3	15.4	15.0	314	16.27	12.69	11.7	7	25.4	24.9
1956	19,300	311	15.94	17.3	15.7	268	13.74	11.54	11.7	6	19.3	23.8
1957	19,510	290	14.8	16.0	16.1	305	15.57	13.08	11.5	6	20.7	23.0
1958	19,590	300	15.2	16.4	16.4	317	16.0	13.5	11.7	9	30.0	22.5
1959	19,710	312	15.75	17.1	16.5	318	16.0	13.32	11.6	8	25.6	22.0
1960	19,810	357	17.95	19.4	17.1	333	16.7	14.0	11.5	8	22.4	21.7
1961	19,940	396	18.75	19.1	17.4	349	16.2	14.9	12.0	10	25.3	21.4
1962	21,120	347	16.30	16.6	18.0	346	16.3	14.6	11.9	11	31.7	21.6
1963	21,290	340	15.86	17.5	18.2	372	17.35	13.5	12.2	14	41.2	21.1
1964	21,440	368	17.06	18.9	18.4	348	16.13	12.6	11.3	6	16.3	20.0
1965	21,570	321	14.8	16.4	18.0	359	16.5	12.6	11.5	5	15.5	19.0
1966	21,710	275	12.8	14.2	17.7	403	18.7	13.6	11.7	6	25.4	18.9
1967	21,500	291	13.6	14.1	17.2	326	15.3	11.5	11.2	5	17.1	18.3
1968	21,370	309	14.3	15.9	16.9	354	16.3	12.3	11.8	2	6.5	18.0

CAUSES OF DEATH 1968 in the Urban District of Rhyl.

Cause of Death	Sex	Total All ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	Age in years								
					1	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75 and over
B5 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
B18 Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B19(1) Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach ...	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
B19(1) Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach ...	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm—Lung, Bronchus ...	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm—Lung, Bronchus ...	F	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	4	2
B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm—Breast ...	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm—Breast ...	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	—
B19(5) Leukaemia ...	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
B19(5) Leukaemia ...	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B19(6) Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc...	M	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	5	8
B19(6) Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc...	F	20	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	5	11
B20 Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms ...	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B20 Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms ...	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
B21 Diabetes Mellitus ...	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B21 Diabetes Mellitus ...	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B23 Anaemias ...	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
B23 Anaemias ...	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
B46(2) Other Diseases of Blood, etc. ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B46(2) Other Diseases of Blood, etc. ...	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
B46(4) Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc. ...	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B46(4) Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc. ...	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—

Cause of Death	Sex	Total All ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	Age in Years												
					1	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75 and over				
B37 Cirrhosis of Liver	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
(B46(7) Other Diseases of Digestive System	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B38 Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
B39 Hyperplasia of Prostate	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
B46(8) Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B46(10) Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B42 Congenital Anomalies	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B44 Other causes of Perinatal Mortality	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B45 Symptoms and ill-defined Conditions	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
BE47 Motor Vehicle Accidents	F	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
BE48 All other Accidents	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
BE49 Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	F	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	177	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	177	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

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

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Deaths	2	4	9	3	2	—	2	—	1	2	1	1	4	1	4	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Forty-six cases of measles were notified during the year and this can be considered an average figure. Widespread use of the vaccine might well reduce the incidence of this disease, but the response from the public has been very slow up to now. Seven cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year and constant vigilance is still required to ensure that there is a minimum risk of spread of infection to contacts. Most of the cases occurred amongst the early middle-aged and the senile and is very often due to a re-activation of former disease. It can be assumed that tuberculosis will be still a problem to the community in 10 or even 20 years' time.

Only four cases of food poisoning were notified to the Department but 22 cases of suspected food poisoning were also investigated and all proved negative. I am sure most of the symptoms were due to a virus infection of the bowels, not necessarily associated with food. Three cases of scarlet fever were notified and two cases of meningitis and one case of puerperal pyrexia.

In October, 1968, new regulations were introduced governing the notification of infectious disease and all general practitioners were informed of these regulations by me. Certain diseases were eliminated from the list and these included puerperal pyrexia, scarletina, erysipelas and many others. Surprisingly, brucellosis was not included in the list of diseases added to those already notifiable. I am pleased to say that no cases of brucellosis occurred in Rhyl recently to my knowledge.

Two cases of typhoid fever occurred in Rhyl and the outbreak first came to the notice of the Health Department in early December, following the admission of these patients to a local hospital. The source of infection was never traced but the infection could have been contracted abroad whilst the

couple were on holiday in the Canary Islands. This outbreak caused a great deal of extra work to the Department and involved the surveillance of 51 close contacts of the family and nearly 300 visits were carried out by the staff of the Health Department during the ensuing weeks and over 400 letters were sent out to various individuals and authorities in Great Britain, Northern Ireland and Eire.

As previously mentioned, all our investigations proved fruitless but I am pleased to say that there was no spread of infection and the matter is now closed.

In this country we are fortunate in having a public water supply to practically all dwellings, except the remotest farms and cottages in the rural areas, and this supply is chlorinated, so that no typhoid or other organisms can be transmitted and it is very many years since there has been an outbreak of typhoid fever caused by the water supply. Most of the cases occurring today in Britain are due to infections contracted abroad, either by British people going abroad for holidays or commonwealth immigrants bringing in the disease from areas of the world where typhoid fever is endemic.

It cannot be too strongly emphasised that many countries in Southern Europe, North Africa and islands off North Africa have a water supply that is unsatisfactory and, whilst it is not always practicable to give T.A.B. (anti-typhoid injections) to travellers overseas, all those who travel overseas should clearly understand the risks involved and should not drink any unboiled water. The administration of T.A.B. injections can be done by the General Practitioners but, it must be clearly understood, that there could well be reactions in the first 24 hours after the injections, but this is a small price to be paid for the risk of contracting typhoid fever, which can cause a great deal of inconvenience to the patient and his family, and to the authorities.

Disease	Under 1 years	1-2 years	3-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-20 years	21-35 years	36-65 years	Over 65 years	At all ages	Cases admitted to hospital	Deaths
Scarlet fever	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Whooping cough... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Measles	4	10	16	16	—	—	—	—	—	46	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid and Typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	4	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis: Respiratory	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	2	7	4	1
Tuberculosis: Non-respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—

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

Disease	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Scarlet fever	4	1	—	4	2	5	22	5	4	3
Whooping cough	1	6	5	—	1	2	6	—	4	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	78	163	31	127	104	116	74	15	79	46
Pneumonia	—	1	—	2	8	2	—	2	1	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	1	—	2
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	9	18	4	26	19	1	9	16	3	—
Food poisoning	2	—	18	2	—	8	1	1	—	4
Paratyphoid and typhoid... ..	3	7	7	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Puerperal fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Tuberculosis: Respiratory	8	3	17	10	9	5	10	8	4	7
Tuberculosis: Non-respiratory	—	—	1	—	1	2	2	1	—	—
Erysipelas	—	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

As will have been seen in the previous table, there were 7 new cases of Tuberculosis, all of which were notified. Six were 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 M	F	Non- Respiratory M	F	Respiratory M	F	Non- Respiratory M	F
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6—10 „ ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11—15 „ ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16—20 „ ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21—25 „ ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26—35 „ ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
36—45 „ ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
46—55 „ ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
56—65 „ ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards...	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals ...	6	1	—	—	1	—	—	—

All the cases of Tuberculosis were treated in hospital initially and later returned home to continue therapy.

Most county district health authorities maintain a tuberculosis register of all persons who are suffering or recently have suffered from the disease, and this year the local list was revised in conjunction with the Chest Clinic and the County Council records. The position at the end of 1968 was as follows:—

Pulmonary cases: Males 40, Females 13 ...	53
Non-pulmonary cases: Males 2, Females 2 ...	4

One notified patient died during the year.

CHEST X-RAY FACILITIES.

The Welsh Regional Hospital Board had a mobile X-ray unit based at Wrexham, which visited all parts of North Wales, but the routine visiting of Rhyl, amongst other centres in North Wales, ceased at the end of 1967.

**WELSH HOSPITAL BOARD.
MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE.**

TABLE I.

**Details of Mass Radiograph Survey carried out at M.A.N.W.E.B.,
Rhyl, April, 1968.**

	Male	Female	Total
Total Number Examined	104	6	110
Abnormal Cases	5	—	5
Referred to Chest Physician	2	—	2
Other Abnormalities of Chest	3	—	3

REPORT OF THE CHEST PHYSICIAN.

The following information on the work of the Chest Clinic during the year 1968 has been kindly supplied by Dr. Morrison:—

Number of new cases in Rhyl U.D. Area during the period	3
Number of cases and contacts attending clinic during the period	458
Transfer in of existing cases of Tuberculosis	1

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 Fforddlas 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. An additional clinic has been provided in the East End of the town to cater for the needs of the area and a Medical Officer is present on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday afternoons of each month.

Welfare foods (vitamin tablets, cod liver oil and orange juice) are distributed at these clinics, and the arrangements are under the control of the Women's Voluntary Service, who have given excellent service throughout the year.

ANTE NATAL CLINICS.

Ante Natal Clinics are held at Fforddlas 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.

A clinic has recently been opened by the local Family Planning Association at the Infant Welfare Clinic, Fforddlas, Rhyl, and is under the medical direction of Dr. Anne McLeod. The clinic is held every Wednesday night, 7—8 p.m.

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 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 six 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.

Three full-time 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 complementary 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. Twenty-seven home helps are working in the town, and the majority are engaged on a part-time basis.

SECTION 26—VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Smallpox: As a result of Ministry of Health recommendations, it is now the policy to vaccinate infants at one year of

age instead of at birth or within the first three months, and the vaccination rate has fallen considerably during the past year.

Poliomyelitis: Vaccination against poliomyelitis continued throughout the year, but oral vaccination has now superseded the salk vaccine which was given by injection.

MEASLES.

A vaccine has now been prepared for protection of infants against measles, and immunisation is now available for all susceptible infants over 1 year of age.

TUBERCULOSIS.

All 13 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.

CERVICAL SMEAR

Clinic facilities are available at Mercier House, Russell Road, by appointment.

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 "in-educable" category), are admitted to the Training Centre at

"Tirionfa," Rhuddlan. There they receive training to the limits of their capabilities.

SCHOOL HEALTH.

Medical inspections of schoolchildren were carried out during this year by me as Assistant County Medical Officer, and a high standard of general health and fitness was noted.

SCHOOL PREMISES.

Minor improvements are still required in many of the school premises in the town. 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.

A new school is under construction at the Eastern end of the town.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Treatment is available at the following special clinics:—

H. M. Stanley Hospital, St. Asaph:

Males and Females—Tuesdays, 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; Hafan Glyd, Shotton; Plas Coed, Rhyl, and another Home is under construction at Prestatyn.

SECTION 47—NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

This section conveys powers on District Councils to remove persons who "are aged, 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 1968 it was not necessary to take any legal action. Legal action is only taken as a last resort and every effort is made to persuade people to accept advice and treatment for their benefit. The demands of the aged increase annually as the proportion of this group within the population rises, and this is especially so in Rhyl. This problem of the care of the aged is aggravated by relatives often living considerable distances away, being unable or unwilling for various reasons, to help in the care of their next of kin.

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.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE.

The local public health laboratory is at Conway, and Dr Kingsley Smith, the Director, and Dr. Griffiths, 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.

HEALTH EDUCATION AND FOOD HYGIENE.

Continued efforts were made during the year by the staff of the department to inculcate good hygiene practices in persons working in food premises, whilst improvement was continually being made in the equipment in these premises.

HOUSING.

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

New houses and flats provided by the Council	36
Private properties, mainly bungalows	49

Since the war the Council have built 1,093 houses, bungalows and flats. The table shown below indicates the yearly totals of new housing construction in the town:—

Some progress has now been made in municipal building schemes, which is particularly gratifying for the elderly persons awaiting suitable accommodation.

Year	New Council houses, bungalows or flats	New Private houses, bungalows or flats	No. of inhabited properties in town
1968	36	49	7507
1967	—	51	7458
1966	—	10	7428
1965	4	11	7431
1964	4	61	7368
1963	4	72	7375
1962	4	82	7299
1961	8	126	7213
1960	30	92	7079
1959	14	138	6957
1958	24	142	6803
1957	44	151	6380
1956	50	138	6440
1955	56	106	6245
1954	72	103	6082
1953	173	75	5907
1952	124	21	5658
1951	77	32	5509
1950	76	13	5400
1949	86	16	5311
1948	100	1	5208
1947	68	15	5125
1946	39	78	5018

TABLE SHOWING HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN TOWN
OVER PAST 97 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
1962	7299	21290	2.9
1963	7375	21440	2.9
1964	7440	21570	2.9
1965	7455	21710	2.9
1966	7465	21500	2.9
1967	7516	21370	2.9
1968	7564	21660	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 still a few families in houses in multiple occupation, where living conditions require improvement. 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 1968 was as follows:—

Number of families on general list	283
Number of persons waiting for old persons' accommodation ...	139
	422

SLUM CLEARANCE.

Slum clearance continued in the town and the housing areas in Victoria Road, Vale Road and Williams Street were cleared for redevelopment for providing Council flats. Five Council flats were built in West Street in 1968 and a further 31 flats and bungalows were under construction in Trellewelyn Road Estate and 15 flats were under construction in Victoria Road. The Council is now considering unfit property in the Bedford Street/Vaughan Street area, and also, the improvement of the former railway houses in Marsh Road.

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.

One hundred and sixty samples were taken during the year: 155 were found to be satisfactory and 5 unsatisfactory.

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 has now become part of a much larger regional Water Board.

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

Analysis:

Appearance	Clear
Odour	nil
Reaction, pH	7.8
Colour (Hazen Units)	less than 5
	Parts per million:
Total Solids	148
Nitrogen as free and saline ammonia	0.02
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	less than 0.01
Nitrogen as nitrites	nil
Nitrogen as nitrates	less than 0.5
Chlorides, as Cl.	21
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C.	1.7
Total hardness	68
Temporary hardness	56
Permanent hardness	12
Alkalinity	56
Total residual Chlorine	0.1
Free available Chlorine	0.1
Potassium, as K.	2.3
Anionic Synthetic detergents	—
Manganese, as Mn.	—
Cyanides and thiocyanates	—
Poisonous metals	nil
Free Carbon Dioxide	3.5

Opinion:

The chemical condition of this sample is entirely satisfactory.

MILK SUPPLY.

During the past ten 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 164 samples were taken by the Chief Public Health Inspector; also 23 samples were taken for biological examination. Full details appears 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.

Sixty-Three samples of ice cream were taken, and where unsatisfactory results were obtained, personal contact was made to 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 decreased by 284 on the previous year.

The amount of condemned meat was 4 tons, 19 cwt., 2 qtrs., 2 lbs.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS—OPEN AIR.

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

The water was regularly sampled and 16 samples were submitted for analysis, of which 14 were satisfactory and 2 unsatisfactory.

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. 26 samples were taken and submitted for analysis, of which 7 were found to be slightly contaminated.

Ten samples were also taken from a Private Paddling Pool of which 6 were unsatisfactory.

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 maceration, 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 applies to undiluted sewage, but during heavy rain-falls the valve into the main outfall pipe has to be opened to discharge the storm water. Work has now commenced on the Rhyl Cut Scheme and the provision of an improved drainage system in the southern and eastern aspect of the town. This work, when completed in 1970, will release large areas of land for future building development and reduce risk of flooding in the Brynhedydd Road area.

RHYL CUT.

Parts of this stream are in a very unsatisfactory condition, with indiscriminate dumping of rubbish, making parts of the Cut unsightly. The only course open is for the section from Grange Road to Fforddlas to be covered over. It is also a source of danger from the point of view of very young children.

CAMPING AND CARAVAN SITES.

The number of licensed sites used for camping was eleven 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 about 6,000.

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 new building bye-laws make it compulsory for all new grates to be capable of burning smokeless fuels.

The principal industrial smoke nuisances in the town have been eliminated and the source of the smoke is now entirely from the domestic chimney, and the coal burnt is becoming increasingly smokier every year. Fortunately, there is a progressive trend for householders to install central heating which is run by gas, electricity, oil or smokeless fuel, which reduces the atmospheric pollution from smoke.

SUPERANNUATION.

During the year, 29 medical examinations were carried out on employees of the Urban District Council in connection with fitness for employment and absence through ill-health.

I have great pleasure in giving below the report of Mr. G. G. 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.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EMPLOYMENT OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1968

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

(1) UNEMPLOYMENT.

Number of Persons Registered as Unemployed (excluding Registered Disabled Persons requiring Employment under sheltered conditions) for the year 1968.

Date	Men	Women	Total
8th January	686	172	858(791)
12th February	696	159	855(783)
11th March	629	147	776(757)
8th April	581	142	723(720)
13th May	501	111	612(619)
10th June	413	37	450(499)
8th July	374	23	397(419)
12th August	402	21	423(433)
9th September	459	43	502(500)
14th October	639	117	756(721)
11th November	675	144	819(780)
9th December	695	145	840(801)

The comparable figures for 1967 are given in brackets after each monthly total.

(2) DISABLED PERSONS.

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

Date	Men	Women	Total
8th January	60	9	69(73)
12th February	77	7	84(69)
11th March	72	9	81(70)
8th April	75	8	83(73)
13th May	58	6	64(52)
10th June	46	1	47(40)
8th July	46	3	49(33)
12th August	53	3	56(42)
9th September	51	4	55(45)
14th October	64	8	72(58)
11th November	72	9	81(60)
9th December	75	10	85(63)

Comparable figures for 1967 are given in brackets after the monthly totals.

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

Date	Men	Women	Total
January	17	—	17
February	20	1	21
March	17	1	18
April	18	1	19
May	12	1	13
June	13	—	13
July	12	—	12
August	11	—	11
September	11	—	11
October	15	1	16
November	15	1	16
December	17	1	18

Apart from the summer months the numbers unemployed were higher for 1968. This followed the national trend but in addition the effect of selective employment tax on a resort area is fairly substantial causing employers in Hotel, Catering, Amusements and the construction industries to prune their winter staff to a minimum.

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

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

Date	Men	Women	Total
April, 1968	561	84	645
April, 1967	516	93	609
April, 1966	452	90	542

A breakdown of the foregoing figures for 1968 shows the causes of disablement:—

	Men	Women
1914-18 Pensioners	38	—
Other H.M. Forces Cases	134	1
Disabled from birth or early childhood	77	30
Industrial accident or disease	71	10

The main types of disabilities were:—

	Men	Women
Injuries and diseases of lower limbs ...	84	10
Injuries and diseases of upper limbs ...	61	6
Spinal troubles	57	7
Heart complaints	60	3
Chest complaints	75	15

A high proportion of the disabled persons are in the higher age groups. It is normal to expect an area which is desirable

for health and pre-retirement purposes to have a higher proportion of disabled persons. Many move into the area with skills for which there is no local demand and at an age when it is difficult to fit them in to an employer's organisation.

(3) EMPLOYMENT

A committee has been set up to consider the establishment of a sheltered workshop in the area. The economic problems of local authorities have delayed any early progress in this field but there are strong hopes that the committee's effort will come to fruition in the fairly near future.

Despite the economic climate and a tightening up of employment opportunities plus the continuing effects of the Selective Employment Tax the Employment Exchange placed 871 men, 534 women, a total of 1,405 in the year 1968.

G. G. MORGAN,

11th JUNE, 1969.

General 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.

Removal Through Streets of Offensive or Noxious Matter or Liquids, 1964.

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, 1968

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Edwards, and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my thirty-sixth Annual Report for the year 1968.

Three applications for Standard Improvement Grants involving a sum of £484 were received during the year and were approved. Two applications were received for Discretionary Grants, one was refused and one was approved. A total of 83 Standard and 38 Discretionary Grants have been made under the various Housing Acts.

During the year the Minister issued a White Paper "Old Houses into New Homes" which laid emphasis on the repair and improvement of houses that can be improved and not to confine local authorities' resources on the clearance of unfit houses.

It is anticipated that legislation to implement the proposals in the White Paper will receive the Royal Assent during 1969.

Thirty-Six flats were erected during the year by the Council and occupied, leaving 40 units in course of construction. The Council decided as a policy to rehouse the 50 tenants of the prefab. site and to proceed with the redevelopment of the area by the provision of 76 traditional dwellings and bungalows. Steady progress was made in rehousing the tenants with sympathetic attention to their requirements and rehousing as near to the existing site as at all possible, and this has been achieved so far without any difficulty. The Council has been in negotiation with the Flintshire County Council to obtain further land owned by the County Council for the erection of old people's dwellings.

During the year only 49 houses were erected by private enterprise. This small number is governed by two factors:—

- 1.—The shortage of developable land in the area, and
- 2.—The lack of adequate sewerage in the eastern part of the district.

In the second instance, protracted negotiations with the River Board and the Ministry appear to be coming to a satisfactory conclusion and when the new sewerage scheme is completed in the eastern part of the district, it is anticipated that private building development will proceed apace.

At 31st December the Housing Register contained 283 applicants for general housing and 139 for aged persons' accommodation. During the year 34 tenants of Council houses left for a variety of reasons and the houses vacated were let to family units best suited to the accommodation available. The differential rent scheme continues to work satisfactorily, but due to increased costs, application was made to the Minister to increase the rents and at the time of preparing this report, the Minister had approved the increases.

During the financial year ending 31st March, the Council has loaned the sum of £16,360 for the purchase of pre-war private enterprise houses. The total loaned by the Council to date is £605,822. The total number of houses and flats erected by the Council since rebuilding commenced in 1946 is 1,093. The Council have sold to sitting tenants 84 houses.

There has been continuous supervision of premises processing and handling food and during the year as a result of a circular issued by the Welsh Office, the Medical Officer and I prepared a leaflet which was distributed to all food premises requesting dog owners not to take their dogs into the premises. I must say that this circular was welcomed by the trade and in the majority of premises prominently displayed and from observations, it would appear that the number of dogs entering food premises has reduced considerably.

As a result of known infection of chickens throughout the country, the Medical Officer of Health and I drew up a code of practice on the handling and processing of chickens, which was distributed to all the firms concerned. I feel that along with such code of practice and personal example by talks to staffs, there has been an improvement in the conscience of their responsibility by food handlers.

In connection with this matter, regular swabbing has taken place in food premises and sampling of parts of chickens and wherever any doubt has been experienced as a result of the analysis, advice has been offered and generally has been accepted. Despite all this, one must not be complacent as with migratory staffs as one gets in a seaside resort, it is necessary to continue teaching and preaching.

The second phase of the sewerage scheme proceeded during the year and there was considerable improvement in the Vale Road and Trellewelyn Road areas.

Despite national and local campaigns, the depositing of litter on the promenade gardens, beaches and main streets does not seem to abate and one wonders is this due to the fact that there are an abundance of day trippers here for a short while to enjoy the beauties and amenities of the seaside resort, who give no thought whatsoever as to the condition in which they leave the town, as I have visited other resorts and noticed, in particular, in inland resorts that there is very little, if any litter, lying about.

The Civic Amenities Act came into operation in January, 1968, and has meant a cleaning up of the district considerably by the removal of derelict cars and other rubbish, in fact, as a result of action taken the Council has removed and disposed of 12 vehicles and in addition to this number, several have been removed by the owners, as a result of the commencement of action under the Act.

Houses in multiple occupation have been kept under constant review and there was no need for court action as a result of any infringements.

During the year no fresh Direction Orders were made, 4 were revoked and there were 21 Direction Orders remaining in force at the end of the year.

The surveying of the district for the necessary provision of means of escape in case of fire under Section 60 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1961, was practically completed and it has been found that on a re-check, many houses which originally came within the purview of Section 60 of the Public Health Act, 1936, that is, Means of Escape in Case of Fire from any floor above 20 feet from ground level, have now changed their use to sum-

mer flatlets and the procedure has had to be re-started, to require the premises to comply with Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1961.

The Dee and Clwyd River Authority maintain the water course known as the Rhyl Cut, which passes through the district from east to west and the Authority have been very co-operative with the Council in maintaining the flow. During the year, commencement was made on the provision of a bye-pass from the Rhyl Cut, together with a pumping station at the east end of the town, adjacent to the Council's sewage pumping station, and this scheme in conjunction with the Council's sewerage scheme in the areas is anticipated will give relief to the Rhyl Cut and so prevent any flooding as a result of the over-loading of the sewers, together with the fact that it will open up land for housing and other development.

Towards the end of the year, two cases of confirmed typhoid fever were notified to the Medical Officer of Health, the patients having spent a holiday in the Canary Islands and had flown back to this country. Intensive precautionary measures were put in hand and a considerable time was spent in tracing contacts all over the country. Sewers in the vicinity of the dwelling-house and at the school where the children of the patients attended (who were found not to be suffering from the disease), were swabbed and no trace of the typhoid bacillus could be found. It is gratifying to note that despite the fact that the patients had been home for some little time and had been mixing with the general public that the disease was confined to two members only of the family.

One lesson that has been brought home as a result of this incident is the fact that with fast air travel, it naturally makes the time factor between places outside this country short, and extra vigilance is necessary to ensure that no major outbreak occurs.

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, Mrs. Edwards and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. L. LLOYD JONES,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

TABLE I.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

Number of Complaints Received	2300
Number of Drains and W.C.s Released and Cleansed by Department	2464
Number of Nuisances Found (including under Factories Act)	108
Number of Nuisances Abated	96
Number of Preliminary Notices Served	74
Number of Statutory Notices Served	10
Number of Preliminary Notices served for Fire Escape	10
Number of Statutory Notices served for Fire Escape	8

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

Public Health Acts—	
Complaints	219
Infectious Disease	33
Refuse Collection and Disposal	290
Schools	11
Offensive Trades	4
Smoke Observations	10
Water Supply	3
Swimming and Paddling Pools	29
Camping Grounds	70
Drain Tests, etc.—Smoke Machine	22
Theatres and Cinemas	12
Verminous Premises	19
Factories and Workplaces	121
Rats and Mice	3,660
Housing Acts—Inspections	309
Houses in Multiple Occupation	40
Council House Inspections	290
Pet Animals Act—Inspections	10
Housing Applicants Visited	200
Means of Escape in Case of Fire:	
Number of Premises Surveyed	39
Number of Visits in connection with Survey	270

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

	Registered	Visits
Abattoir (Municipal)	1	—
Butchers	22	300
Bakehouses	10	64
Boarding Houses and Hotels	272	190
Confectioners	19	30
Dairies and Milkshops	—	26
Fishmongers and Poulterers	10	100
Fish and Chip Shops	16	30
Food Factories	3	29
Grocers	42	250
General Stores	20	160
Greengrocers	28	40
Holiday Camp Kitchens	2	10
Ice Cream—		
Retailers	148	200
Wholesalers	2	42
Manufacturers	1	15
Kiosks	7	16
Mobile Vans	8	20
Soft Ice	16	100
Multiple Stores	2	201
Licensed Clubs	17	35
Public Houses	36	49
Snack Bars	12	16
Stalls—Shellfish	3	9
Stalls—Miscellaneous	14	16
Sweets and Minerals	38	20
Restaurants and Cafes	88	340
Wholesale—		
Grocers	2	120
Greengrocers	1	10
Poulterers	1	20

TABLE II.—SANITARY DEFECTS.

Damp Living and Bed Rooms	14
Defective Chimney Pots, Flues, Stacks and Flashings	1
Defective Roofs	5
Defective Floors, Living and Bed Rooms	1
Defective Gutters and Downspouting	4
Defective Plaster, Wall and Ceilings	5
Defective Skylights, Window Frames, Casing and Doors	2
Defective Fireplaces	—
Remove Accumulation, Manure and Refuse	21
Defective Yard Surface	2
Defective Dust Bins	1
Animals in such a state as to be a Nuisance	3
Offensive Smell/Effluvia	—
General Defects	4
Defective Brickwork	1
Filthy Rooms, Walls, Floors, Bedding and Furniture	1
Defective Timberwork	2
Total	67

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

Smoking Chimneys	1
PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936: SECTION 75.	
Defective, or want of, Dustbins (Supplied)	136
Defective, or want of, Dustbins (Trade)	40

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960.

Visits	4
Warning Letters	4

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955 & 1960.

Regulation No.		Infringements Found
5	Cleanliness of Equipment	2
8	Protection from risk of Contamination	4
	Sanitary Conveniences—	
14 (1) (a)	Clean and Efficient Order	6
14 (2)	Lighting and Ventilation	—
14 (4)	Communicating with Food Room	—
14 (5)	Notices re. Hand Washing	4
16 (1)	Wash-hand Basins	2
16 (2)	Absence of Hot Water	3
16 (3)	Absence of Soap, Towels, Nailbrushes	2
17	First Aid Materials	2
18	Accommodation for Clothing, etc.	1
19	Facilities for Washing Food and Equipment	1
22	Food Room not to be/or communicate with Sleeping Place	—
23	Cleanliness & Repair of Food Rooms	21
24	Accumulation of Refuse	—
26 (a) (b)	Stalls (Names inscribed thereon) and Cleanliness	—
28	Supply of Water to Stalls	—
	Total	48
	No. of Warning Letters	36

DRAINAGE: WATER CLOSETS AND WATER SUPPLY.

Defective W.C., Walls, Roofs and Doors	7
Defective Fittings, W.C., Sinks and Baths	4
Defective Access Covers, Chambers and Drains	22
Defective Water Services	1
Defective Soil Pipes	1
Defective Urinal Channel	—
Filthy W.C. Premises, Basins and Urinals	1
Defective Sink Waste Pipes	3
Defective Cesspools	—
	—
	39

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961:—

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	16	40	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	76	40	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers Premises)	16	12	—
Total	108	92	—

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	—	—	—	—

TABLE III.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Number of Rooms Disinfected, Lamp and Spray	7
Number of Rooms Disinfected, Spray only	1
Number of Houses Disinfected, Spray	1
Number of Houses Disinfected, Lamp and Spray	2
Number of Wards, Cubicles or Operating Theatres Disinfected ...	3
Number of Schools Disinfected	12
Number of Motor Ambulances, Cars or Vans Disinfected	1
Number of Caravans or Huts Disinfected	11
Number of Bungalows or Chalets Disinfected	—
Miscellaneous	9
Number of Articles Destroyed with Consent of Owner	2
Number of Articles Disinfected by Steam	546
Number of Articles Disinfected by Lamp and/or Spray	—
Disinfectant used (Steam)	27
Number of Articles Hot Air Dried	—

TABLE IV.—DISINFESTATION.

Number of Rooms Disinfested (D.D.T.)	3
Number of Wards, Shops, Cafes or Cinemas and Theatres Disinfested (D.D.T.)	1
Number of Houses or Flats Disinfested (D.D.T.)	4
Number of Caravans or Chalets, etc., Disinfested (D.D.T.)	1
Miscellaneous Items (D.D.T.), including Wasps Nests	1
Number of Houses, Flats, Cinemas, Caravans or other Premises Disinfested (Smoke Generators)	2
Number of Hospitals Partly Disinfested (Spray D.D.T.)	—
Number of Houses, Cinemas, Wards, Heating Ducts, etc., Disinfested by D.D.T. Powder	—

HYGIENE IN SHOPS, RESTAURANTS, HOTELS, ETC.

Regular visits have been made to the above premises and by example hygiene practices are taught, but despite continual teaching a few members of the staff seem to have very little interest in the hygienic production of foodstuffs and its handling which I am afraid is due to the fact that the employment of seasonal staff is not conducive to regular practices and one is led to believe that the type of person employed is not the right type.

During the year a few complaints were received of foreign matter in foodstuffs and when the incidents were fully investigated, it was found that in nearly all instances there was a failing of the human element. I am pleased to report again that in no instance was it necessary to institute legal proceedings.

FOODSTUFFS.

The details of foodstuffs voluntarily surrendered during the year still appears to be formidable, but it shows that there is very close co-operation between the retailers and the officers of the department.

CONDEMNED FOODSTUFFS.

Meat: 3,925lbs. 4ozs., 169 tins; Fowl: 231; Vegetables: 1,030 tins, 23 jars, 29 packets, 633lbs.; Fish: 153lbs., 145 tins, 32 jars, 31 packets; Fruit: 183lbs., 1,177 tins, 3 bottles, 116 packets; Cream: 28 tins; Ice Cream: 1 gall.; Milk: 175 tins; Powdered Milk: 4 tins; Milk Drinks: 13 tins; Milk Flavour: 16 tins; Milk Puddings: 14 tins; Soup: 256 tins., 1 packet; Jelly: 168 packets; Cheese: 113lbs.; Meat Pies: 27; Flour: 371lbs.; Tea: 3½lbs.; Sugar: 5lbs; Honey: 52 jars; Jam: 138 jars; Cake Mix: 24 packets; Cereals: 132 packets, 9 tins, 6lbs.; Christmas Puddings: 2; Nuts: 1½lbs., 33 packets; Sauce: 66 bottles; Salt: 1lb.; Bread: 5 packets; Currant Loaf: 1; Sausage: 12 packets; Meat Pud-

dings: 2; Cakes: 62; Fat: 160lbs.; Fruit Juice: 90 bottles; Meat Paste: 4 jars; Drinking Chocolate: 1 tin; Salad Dressing: 14 jars; Gravy Browning: 12 packets; Coffee: 13 tins; Peanut Butter: 4 jars, 8ozs.; Baby Food: 15 tins, 2 packets; Cooking Oil: 2 jars; Biscuits: 24 packets; Butter: 42lbs.; Fish Paste: 1 jar.

Frozen Foods:— Meat: 800 packets; Vegetables: 1,131 packets; Meat and Vegetables: 124 packets; Fruit: 44 packets; Fish: 1,572 packets, 24lbs., 85 jars; Fish Cakes: 331; Cakes: 153; Pies: 349; Pastry: 280 packets; Ice Cream: 135 packets; Chickens: 111; Fruit Drinks: 46 packets; Rissoles: 79; Beef and Hamburgers: 167; Fish and Chips: 99 packets; Mousse: 77 packets.

A copy of the Report for the period 1st January to 31st December, 1968, 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, 1968.

Description of Article	Number of Samples taken		Genuine		Not genuine or below standard	
Milk	25	...	25	...	—	—
Dairy Produce	4	...	4	...	—	—
Ice Cream and Lollies ...	10	...	10	...	—	—
Alcoholic Drinks	4	...	4	...	—	—
Meat Products	12	...	12	...	—	—
Cooking Fats and Oils ...	5	...	5	...	—	—
Cakes and Confectionery	10	...	10	...	—	—
Patent Medicines	5	...	5	...	—	—
Miscellaneous Groceries ...	26	...	26	...	—	—
Fruit and Vegetables ...	6	...	6	...	—	—
	—		—		—	—
	107		107		Nil	—
	—		—		—	—

All articles examined under the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs Act and the Merchandise Marks Orders, complied with the Regulations.

No evidence of fungicide, pesticide or prohibited colouring matter was found in any of the food samples taken. No evidence of bovine tuberculosis, brucellosis or penicillin was found in any of the farm bottled milk examined.

(Signed) ELWYN LEWIS,

County Public Health Inspector and
Food and Drugs Inspector.

MILK SUPPLY.

Whilst the Department is not in my opinion legally bound to take samples for bacteriological examination, the practice is still continued in the interests of all inhabitants. I am still continuing to be disturbed at the number of unsatisfactory results of samples of raw milk, the consumption of which might be detrimental to the health of the community.

It is significant that the majority of unsatisfactory samples are obtained during the summer season, when conditions are ideal for the rapid growth of bacteria, which might be due to bad handling between production and the offering for sale to the customer, or the long period which elapses between production and delivery. I feel that the time is fast approaching when, in the interests of health, all milk should be pasteurised. The problem of dirty milk bottles is still with us and due to the fact that so many people come to the town bringing with them "foreign" bottles for baby feeding, etc. on their journey, it is a most difficult matter to get rid of these bottles.

Regular bacteriological sampling of milk and cream is carried out. During the year 164 samples of milk were taken—152 satisfactory and 12 unsatisfactory.

Twenty-three samples of milk were tested for 'T.B. and Brucella infection. All were found to be satisfactory.

Analysis of Grades of Milk.

	No. of Samples	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	% Satis- factory	% Unsatis- factory
Pasteurised and T.T.					
Pasteurised	61	56	5		
Sterilised	32	32	—		
U.H.T.	7	6	1		
	100	94	6	94	6
Raw Milk	62	57	5	91.93	8.07
Cream	2	1	1	50	50
	164	152	12	92.68	7.32

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 (including 23 Soft Ice)	28
Retailers (including 10 Mobile Shop Vehicles)	116
Wholesale Distributors (Storage)	2

The amount of ice cream sold in the town is reflected by the number of retailers on the register. During the year, 63 samples were taken for bacteriological examination.

Table of Samples Taken.

	I.	Grade II.	III.	IV.	Total
Manufacturers	3	—	—	—	3
Soft Ice Machines	22	9	4	4	39
Retailers/Wholesalers	12	3	6	—	21
	37	12	10	4	63

It is interesting to note that 77.7 per cent. of all samples taken were in Grade I. and Grade II., 15.9 per cent. in Grade III., and 6.4 per cent. in Grade IV. Compared with 1967 there has been a decided drop in the percentage of samples in Grades I. and II., with the resultant increase in the Grades III. and IV. The increase in the number of lower grades of results are those samples taken from "soft ice cream" machines, which points out to the trade the importance of the thorough cleansing of the machines.

"There was no persistence of poor results from any one machine and in the follow up samples, the results improved. This was as a result of discussion and advice given to the owner or operator by the Public Health Inspector.

However, there can never be any complacency by Ice Cream retailers and their staffs, who must always observe the strictest rules of hygiene.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS.

There are four Dealers registered under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964.

PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

Animals slaughtered from 1st January, 1968, to 31st December, 1968:—

Cattle	1,783			
Calves	5			
Sheep and Lambs	10,341			
Pigs	3,916			
	16,045			
		T.	C.	Q. Lbs.
Meat Condemed	4	19	2	2

There has been a decrease in the number of animals slaughtered, being 284 less than during 1967.

There were no cases of *Cysticercus Bovis* detected during the year.

It is a significant fact that although the number of animals slaughtered in the Abattoir was only down by 284, the weight of meat condemned was nearly halved, and I think this could in no small measure be due to the efforts of the Animal Health Division at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The Abattoir is 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 1968

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed (if known)	1620	163	5	10341	3916	16045
Number inspected	1620	163	5	10341	3916	16045
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	3	1	7	11	23
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	407	67	—	246	111	831
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	25.18	42.94	20.0	2.44	3.11	—
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	31	31
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	.79	—
Cysticercosis:						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE V.—REFUSE COLLECTION.

Total Loads of all Refuse to Tip 3,409½
 260 Working Days. Total Loads: $3,409\frac{1}{2} = 13.11$ per working day.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

During the year things have been very hectic and in the height of the season a "go slow" was put into operation by the men, which resulted in the majority being given notice terminating their employment, which eventually resulted in a three-day stoppage of work. After negotiations with the Trade Union the men returned to work and it was agreed by the Council to put into operation a Productivity Incentive Scheme as a bridging measure. This scheme was prepared and agreed with the men's representatives and at the end of the year was with the Prices and Incomes Board for its approval.

The paper sack scheme covering the whole of the area south of the railway, some 4,500 to 5,000 premises, was inaugurated in May, but due to labour difficulties mentioned above, there was no appreciable saving in refuse collection costs, but it is hoped that as a result of the Productivity Incentive Scheme, there will be a considerable improvement during 1969.

Work at the refuse tip as far as the disposal of refuse is concerned, has been very satisfactory but several fires occurred. Whilst I have no actual evidence, I have reason to believe that these were deliberately started. The cost of putting them out was colossal and I would make an appeal to parents to request their children, particularly, to keep away from the refuse tip, as not only the cost is giving concern, but the welfare of any children, as with so much inflammable material being cartoned in containers and the empty containers being dumped on the refuse tip and when becoming over-heated explode, there might be disastrous effects to life and limb.

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 31/3/69 a total of 6,730 bins have been issued under the Rental scheme. The number of bins issued under the scheme for the financial year ending 31st March 1969, was 126. In addition, 5 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 ad-

dition 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.

It will be noted from the Table that the cost of Refuse Collection and Disposal continues to increase, and I think this is caused in the main as a result of the remarks I have made above—namely, the changing composition of refuse, absenteeism and shortage of labour.

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.

The Council gave very serious consideration to the continuation of the salvage scheme for paper, but after going very carefully into the costs involved, decided to discontinue the scheme as from the 1st April, 1968.

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

TABLE VI.—REFUSE.

Showing Cost of Refuse Collection and Disposal Year 1968-69 (To 31st March, 1969)

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	42545	39482	7703	5569	50248	45051
Gross Income	1351	1351	2584	2584	3935	3935
Net Cost	41194	38131	5119	2985	46313	41116
Net Cost per 1,000 Population	£1901.84	£1760.43	£236.33	£137.81	£2138.17	£1898.24
Net Cost per 1,000 Premises	£4652.06	£4306.15	£578.09	£337.09	£5230.15	£4643.24
Net Cost, Equivalent Rate in the £	8.21	7.60	1.02	0.59	9.23	8.19

Estimated Population (R.G.R., Mid-year 1968) ... 21,660
 Number of Rated Premises 8,855
 Total Rates in the £ 13/7
 Product of a 1d. Rate £5,017

(Signed) E. L. LLOYD JONES, M.B.E.,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING.

The approximate number of Dwelling Houses for all classes is 7,564.

Houses erected during 1968:—

By the Council:—	
Permanent Houses and Flats erected	36
Permanent Houses and Flats in course of erection	36
By Private Enterprise:—	
Houses and Bungalows erected	48
House and Bungalows in course of erection	65
By the County Council:—	
Permanent Houses for Police	—
Permanent Houses for Police in course of erection	—
Adaptations and Conversions	2

Work proceeded in implementing Section 60 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1961, regarding the provision of Means of Escape in Case of Fire, and the response to Notices served was extremely satisfactory, as can be observed by the table appearing below, and Groups I., II., III., IV., V. and VI. have been visited and action taken since first commenced:—

Premises Surveyed	1029
Visits to Premises in connection with Survey	2261
Informal Notices Served	674
Statutory Notices Served	377

Due to many changes of ownership and change of use, constant visits had to be made to ascertain that premises comply with whichever Act is applicable. Over the last 2 to 3 years, I would consider that the standard in most boarding-houses and flatlet houses has improved. It is noted also that the people concerned have been most helpful and are now realising the advantages in complying with the Council's policy. I have no knowledge of anyone who is not prepared to carry out the work which is required of them.

There are really no unhealthy areas in the district.

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE.

(A) House Demolished during the year 1968—

In or adjoining Clearance Areas declared under Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1957:

Unfit for human habitation	Number of houses	9
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	9

Included by reason of bad arrangement	Number of houses	Nil
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
On land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957	Number of houses	Nil
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
Not in or adjoining Clearance Areas : As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17 (1) Housing Act, 1957.	Number of houses	Nil
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	Number of houses	Nil
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	Number of houses	Nil
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
Houses included in unfitness orders made under para 2 of the Second Schedule to the Land Compensation Act, 1961...	Number of houses	Nil
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
Number of separate dwellings included above which were previously reported as closed	Reported as closed up to 31st December, 1966	Nil
	Reported as closed since 31st December, 1966	Nil

(B) Unfit Houses closed during the year in pursuance of closing orders or undertakings:

Under Sections 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1) Housing Act, 1957, and Section 26 Housing Act, 1961 ...	Number of houses	3
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	3
Under Sections 17 (3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	Number of houses	Nil
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
Parts of Buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act, 1957 ...	Number of dwellings	Nil

(C) Number of Persons Displaced during year:

From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas ...	28
From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance area...	Nil
From houses to be closed	5
From parts of buildings to be closed	2

(D) Number of Families Displaced during year:

From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas ...	15
From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance area...	Nil
From houses to be closed	5
From parts of buildings to be closed	2

(E) Unfit Houses made fit:

After informal action by local authority: by owner	Nil
After formal notice under Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957:	
(a) by owner	Nil
(b) by local authority	Nil
After formal notice under Public Health Acts	Nil
After modification or revocation of a clearance order under Section 21, Housing Act, 1961	Nil
After determination of a demolition order under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957	Nil
After determination of a closing order under Section 27 Housing Act, 1961	3

(F) Houses in which Defects were Remedied (other than unfit houses made fit):

After formal notice under Public Health Acts	65
---	----

(G) Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Act, 1957):

Position at end of year—

Retained for temporary accommodation	Number of houses	Nil
Under Section 48	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
Under Section 17 (2)	Number of houses	Nil
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
Under Section 46	Number of houses	Nil
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil

Licensed for temporary accommodation under Sections 34 or 53:

Number of houses	Nil
-------------------------	-----

(H) Purchase of Houses by Agreement:

Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed orders or compulsory purchase orders	Number of houses	Nil
	Number of occupants	Nil

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.

A new tenant of a vacated house may be allowed up to four weeks rent in lieu of decoration.

SEWERAGE

All sewerage in 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 pipe is covered with a considerable depth of tidal water when it is discharging. 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.

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

	Total Galls. Pumped	Daily Average
January 1st—February 18th	136,136,000	2,792,573
February 19th—March 31st	67,404,000	1,604,857
April 1st—May 26th	83,965,000	1,473,070
May 27th—July 7th	107,294,000	2,554,524
July 8th—September 1st	104,238,000	1,861,392
September 2nd—October 13th	101,947,000	2,486,512
October 14th—November 24th	68,190,000	1,623,571
November 25th—December 31st	59,401,000	1,605,702
	728,575,000	1,996,096

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

There is now only one property in the district, which is registered under the above Act.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Six premises are registered under the above Act.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964.

Six premises are registered under the above Act.

RHYL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ACT, 1956.

Thirty-three Hairdressing Establishments are registered under the above Act.

LICENSED PREMISES.

In general, all the licensed premises in the town are of a very high standard and there is a very happy relationship between the Licensing Bench, the Police Authorities and the Public Health Department, such relationship having, I feel, some bearing on the high standard referred to.

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.**

The Council continue to take energetic measures in their area.

From 1st January to 31st December, 1968, 145 properties were treated for rats.

Five hundred and ninety-two properties further to the above were treated for mice, and 1,248 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: 3,660.

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

The pigeon nuisance at the Royal Alexandra Hospital has been considerably reduced and up to the end of the year 110 pigeons had been trapped. During the summer months this operation was suspended. By co-operation with the local Homing Pigeon Society, "ringed" pigeons have not been destroyed.

In addition, several small infestations of pigeons, numbering 151, were eradicated, bringing the total number of pigeons destroyed up to 218.

Several visits were made to various properties for the eradication of moles, ants and wasps nests.

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

The Council are the authority responsible for operating the Shops Act, 1950.

The Public Health Inspectors are responsible for the whole of the administration of the Shops Act, 1950. The Council made the following Orders during the year:—

- 1—Sunday Trading Order, 1968, 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, 1968, for 18 weeks: Substituting for paragraph (b) of Section 2 of the Shops Act, 1950:
 - (a) At 9.30 p.m. in the evenings on the late day.
 - (b) At 9 p.m. in the evening on any other day.
- 3—Rhyl (Suspension of Weekly Half-Holiday) Order, 1968, for 16 weeks.

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

There were no prosecutions instituted under the Act.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

I have to report upon the workings of the above Act for the year 1968 ending on the 31st Decemeber.

During the year, 21 persons registered premises, bringing the total registered to 525 at the end of the year.

During the year 9 accidents were reported where the employee was disabled for three days or more, none being of a fatal nature and in every case the matter was investigated. Of the nine reported accidents, four were as a result of simply slipping or stumbling on slippery floors. One as a result of contact with a moving truck handle. One from a fall on a staircase. Two from falls from step ladders. One was as a result of contact with a moving conveyor belt.

In most instances it was found that the accidents were caused by lack of thought on the part of the employee and in every case advice was given to prevent a recurrence of similar accidents. The absence of proper guards on power-driven food slicers is a continued cause for concern. Employers must ensure that these machines are properly guarded.

There is an ample supply of leaflets and posters exhibited by employers regarding the probable causes of accidents, but I feel that more should be done in personal education of staffs into these hazards. I am not satisfied that the number of accidents (9) covers all accidents that happened, as although no instances were found of accidents happening which were not reported, I cannot but feel that more accidents must have occurred than were reported.

During the year, 404 visits of all kinds were paid by Inspectors to premises covered by the Act, and I append herewith the various tables required in accordance with Section 60 of the Act, together with tables showing defects found.

TABLE A—Registration and General Inspections.

Class of premises	No. of premises registered during the year	Total no. of reg. premises at end of year	No. of reg. premises receiving a general inspection during the year.
Offices	1	103	58
Retail Shops	12	303	230
Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	16	14
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	8	102	101
Fuel storage depots	1	1	1
Totals	21	525	404

TABLE B—Number of Visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises.
357.

TABLE C—Analysis of Persons employed in registered premises by workplace.

Class of workplace	No. of persons employed
Offices	679
Retail shops	1444
Wholesale departments, warehouses	186
Catering establishments open to the public	1213
Canteens	27
Fuel storage depots	14
Total	3563
Total Males	1339
Total Females	2224

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

Abstract not displayed	2
Cleansing and re-decoration of premises required (internal) ...	—
General repairs	—
Defective or dangerous staircase	—
Defective water closet basins, pedestals and seats	—
Inadequate accommodation for clothing	1
Inadequate artificial light	—
Inadequate cold water supply	—
Inadequate heating facilities	2
Inadequate hot water supply	—
Inadequate natural light	—
Inadequate sanitary accommodation	3
Inadequate ventilation	1
Inadequate washing facilities	2
Inadequate facilities for taking of meals	7
Insufficient first aid requisites	—
No balustrade or handrail round cellar opening in floor or on landings or staircases	—
No intervening ventilated space to water closet	—
No thermometer	—
Obstructed and dangerous surfaces to floors, staircases, etc. ...	—
Overcrowding	—
Washing facilities not marked for sexes	—
Washing facilities not separate for sexes	—
Water closet accommodation not marked for sexes	—
Unguarded machinery (Food slicers, etc.)	11
Total	29

TABLE D—Exemptions.

M/c. Line No.	Class of Premises	(1)	(2) No. of exemptions current at 31st December	(3) No. of exemptions granted or exten- ded during year	(4) No. of applications refused or exemp- tions withdrawn during year	(5) No. of cases in cols. (3) and (4) where employees opposed applicat'n.	(6) No. made against refusal to grant or extend an exemption or against withdrawal of exemption	(7) No. allowed
Part I.—Space (Sec. 5(2))								
1.	Offices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2.	Retail shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3.	Wholesale shops, warehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4.	Catering establishments open to pub- lic, canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5.	Fuel storage depots	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Part II.—Temperature (Sec. 6)								
11.	Offices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12.	Retail shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13.	Wholesale shops, warehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14.	Catering establishments open to pub- lic, canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15.	Fuel storage depots	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Part III.—Sanitary Conveniences (Sec. 9)

21. Offices	NIL
22. Retail shops	
23. Wholesale shops, warehouses	
24. Catering establishments open to public, canteens	
25. Fuel storage depots	

Part IV.—Washing Facilities (Sec. 10)

31. Offices	NIL
32. Retail shops	
33. Wholesale shops, warehouses	
34. Catering establishments open to public, canteens	
35. Fuel storage depots	

TABLE E—Prosecutions.

Prosecutions instituted of which the hearing was completed
in the year

Section of Act or title of Regulation or Order	No. of persons or companies prosecuted	No. of informa- tions laid	No. of informa- tions leading to a conviction
NIL			
No. of complaints (or summary applications) made under Sec. 22...			Nil
No. of interim orders granted			Nil

TABLE F—Inspectors.

No. of inspectors appointed under Section 52(1) or (5) of the Act ...	4
No. of other staff employed for most of their time on work in con- nection with the Act	—

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The responsibility for the care and maintenance of all public conveniences in the town is controlled by the Health Department, under the general supervision of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

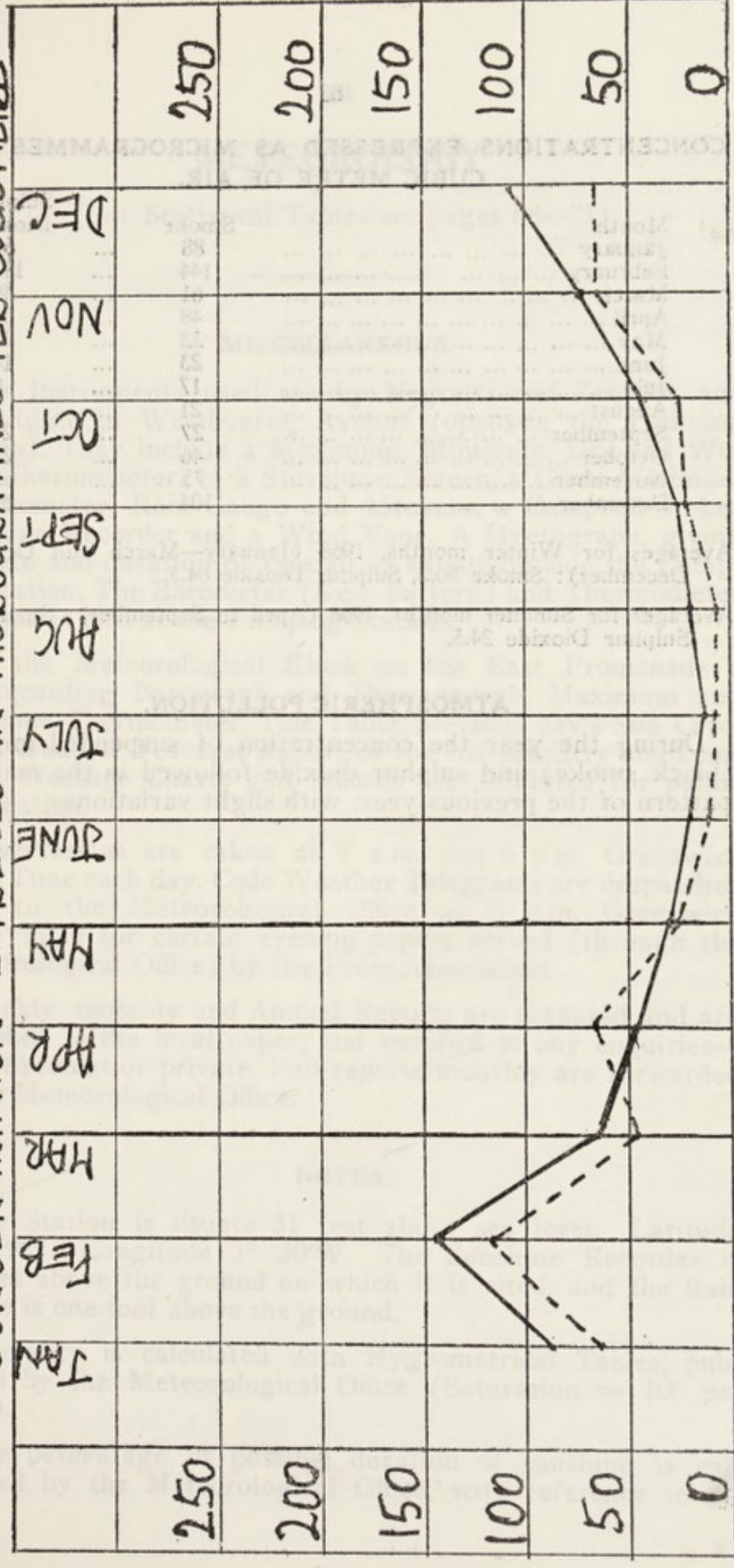
Consent was received from the Welsh Office to construct new toilets at the west end of the Coronation Gardens, in Vale Road, and at the end of the year work was proceeding with their construction. These new toilets will provide for a much-needed want in that area.

During the year concern was felt about the condition of the toilets at the rear of the Coliseum Theatre, on the West Promenade. The facts were reported to the Council, who decided that no extra monies should be spent on an attempt to repair these premises, as the building was in such a dilapidated state and gradually disintegrating, due to age. These toilets were erected over 40 years ago and it is hoped that loan consent will be forthcoming from the Welsh Office, to provide new toilets.

The vandalism continues and one wonders what can be done to bring home the wanton damage and resulting cost in replacement to those persons responsible.

All toilets in the town, whether attended or not, have free washing facilities, there being a wash-hand basin with a cold water tap over.

VOLUMETRIC METHOD MONTHLY AVERAGES
 HEALTH DEPARTMENT RUSSELL HOUSE RUSSELL ROAD RHYL
 CONCENTRATION EXPRESSED IN MICROGRAMMES PER CUBIC METRE



-----SULPHUR DIOXIDE

———SUSPENDED INANITY (SMOKE)

CONCENTRATIONS EXPRESSED AS MICROGRAMMES PER CUBIC METRE OF AIR.

Month	Smoke	Sulphur Dioxide
January	88	64
February	144	117
March	61	46
April	48	64
May	32	29
June	23	14
July	17	8
August	21	8
September	27	24
October	46	27
November	75	63
December	104	69

Averages for Winter months, 1968 (January—March and October—December): Smoke 86.3, Sulphur Dioxide 64.3.

Averages for Summer months, 1968 (April to September): Smoke 28.0, Sulphur Dioxide 24.5.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

During the year the concentration of suspended impurity (black smoke) and sulphur dioxide followed in the main the pattern of the previous year, with slight variations.

METEOROLOGY

(For Statistical Tables see pages 68—71)

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 daily 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 sited, and the Rain Gauge is one foot above the ground.

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

The percentage of possible duration of sunshine is calculated by the Meteorological Office, with reference to the

maximum duration theoretically possible in the latitude. The percentage of normal figures represent the mean daily duration for the year $\times 100 \div$ the average for the year (the past 30 years ending 1960 being the figure taken = 4.06 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 1968.

RAINFALL.

The rainfall for the year was slightly more than the 30 years' average (26.63 inches), the total being 26.80 inches as against 29.99 inches for the year 1967—which shows a decrease of 3.19 inches. The year's total was below the national average by 5.87 inches, and was the lowest since 1964 (20.38 inches).

The average rainfall for England and Wales (35 years' average) is 32.67 inches, and we usually find Rhyl well below this figure, as shown by Rhyl's 87 years' average (1881-1968) = 25.67 inches.

During the year 1968 rain fell on 158 days, as against 190 in 1967.

The monthly average of rains works out at 2.23 inches as against 2.50 inches for 1967, and a monthly average of 13.2 days on which rain fell, as against 15.8 days in 1967.

The highest recorded during the year (on one day was recorded on May 25th, when at 9 a.m. on the 26th May, 1.07 inches was recorded, however there was a very close total recorded on July 2nd—1.03 inches.

The wettest month during the year was September, with a total of 4.18 inches, and the driest was November, with a total of 1.34 inches (see Features).

FEATURES.

May: 1.07 inches—Highest daily total for May since 1965 (1.21 inches).

July: 3.01 inches was the lowest total for July since 1961 (3.06); and 1.03 inches on the 2nd July was the highest day's total for July also since 1961 (1.24 inches on the 12th).

August: 1.76 inches—This total was the lowest for August since 1959 (0.80 inches).

September: 4.18 inches was the highest total for September since 1958 (4.54 inches).

SUNSHINE.

The total bright sunshine recorded by the Campbell-Stokes Recorder during 1968 was 1,456 hours 54 minutes, as compared with 1,464 hours 42 minutes during 1967.

The instrument is now verified bi-annually by an official of the Meteorological Office. An inspection was made this year on 26th August.

The total record for 1968 is 7 hours 48 minutes less than that of 1967, which year was 87 hours 54 minutes more than that of 1966.

It is interesting to note the sunshine for the past ten years, including 1968 (see page 71).

These figures will show that the year 1968 was 45 hours 6 minutes less than the average total number of hours for the past ten recorded years, and 51 hours 12 minutes less than that of the average for 20 years.

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

The daily average of recorded sunshine works out at 3 hours 59 minutes, as against 4 hours 1 minute in 1967; 3 hours 46 minutes in 1966; 3 hours 56 minutes in 1965; 3 hours 49 minutes in 1964; 4 hours 9 minutes in 1963; 4 hours 17 minutes in 1962; and also in 1961; and as against 4 hours 12 minutes in 1960; and 4 hours 38 minutes in 1959.

Rhyl's daily average of recorded sunshine for 30 years (1931-60) is **4.06 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 1968 occurred on 10th June, there being 16 hours 6 minutes, as against 15 hours 18 minutes in June, 1967.

FEATURES.

January: 27 hours 42 minutes—Lowest total for January since 1941 (25 hours 54 minutes).

April: 187 hours 42 minutes—Highest total for April since 1962 (194 hours 6 minutes).

October: 67 hours 0 minutes—Lowest total for October on record, i.e., since 1905; also 7 hours 24 minutes on the 10th was the lowest day's total for October in the highest daily records since 1933 (6 hours 54 minutes).

1968 TEMPERATURES.

February: 50°F. (10°C.) on the 28th was the lowest Maximum for February since 1963 (47°F. on 27th); also the Minimum Reading of 23°F. (−5°C.) on 25th was the lowest Minimum for February since 1963 (22°F.).

April: 68°F. (20°C.) on 26th was the highest day's temperature for April since 1949 (75°F.)—highest on record for April.

June: 78°F. (25°C.) on 30th was the highest Maximum for June since 1963 (also 78°F.).

September: 75°F. (24°C.) on 9th was the highest Maximum temperature for September since 1961 (86°F.).

SUMMARISING.

The year 1968 was still well below the 20 years' average for sunshine. The year's rainfall was over 3 inches lower than that of 1967, and only 0.17 inches above the 20 years' average.

The temperature throughout the year was just above that of the past ten years, but slightly lower than the 20 years' average.

Seven months of the year, including all the summer months (except September) were below the past ten years' monthly averages and five of these months were below the 30 years' average. However, the months of October and November were 3.1°F. and 1.6°F. above the same months in 1967.

An average year for sunshine, but still below the 10 and 20 year annual average. It was drier than the previous year. Not an ideal year on the whole.

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

TABLE I.—METEOROLOGY FOR 1968.

Month.	Air Temperature in Degrees Fahrenheit.						Rainfall.						Wind. Prevailing Direction.	Bright Sunshine.			
	Means of		Highest Maximum.	Date.	Lowest Minimum.	Date.	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. Maximum.	B. Minimum.									Days.	Nights.					
January ...	46.7	37.9	54	14/30	20	10	2.65	17	0.45	8	6	11	S.W.	5.5	0.90	18	27.7
February ...	41.9	32.5	50	28	23	25	1.79	7	0.79	5	6	2	S.E.	9.9	2.98	20	86.4
March ...	48.9	39.1	70	28	28	8	1.92	14	0.78	19	5	10	S.W.	11.3	3.62	26	112.1
April ...	54.1	40.4	68	26	26	8	1.35	11	0.33	20	3	8	S.W.	12.2	6.26	29	187.7
May...	56.1	43.8	69	30	35	4	2.30	17	1.07	25	4	10	S.W.	13.3	5.90	27	182.8
June ...	65.1	50.8	78	30	41	9	2.28	13	0.48	26/28	3	8	N.W.	16.1	7.35	29	220.5
July ...	63.8	52.5	70	9/26	42	6	3.01	9	1.03	2	4	6	N.W.	15.4	5.80	27	179.8
August ...	65.5	54.1	79	22	45	15	1.76	12	0.55	19	4	6	N.	12.8	5.71	29	177.0
September ...	62.6	52.9	75	9	43	18	4.18	18	0.69	10	9	11	S.E.	11.9	3.98	28	119.4
October ...	60.0	50.9	68	21	42	8	2.49	16	0.47	1	5	9	S.W.	7.4	2.16	23	67.0
November...	49.6	41.3	58	25	28	9	1.34	11	0.54	26	4	9	S.E.	8.3	1.68	17	50.3
December...	43.9	35.8	55	2	22	14/15	1.73	15	0.35	24	4	2	S.E.	6.2	1.49	19	46.2
Total for year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	26.80	153	—	—	57	92	—	—	—	292	1456.9
Monthly Average ...	54.9	44.3	—	—	—	—	2.23	13.2	—	—	4.8	7.7	—	—	3.99	14.3	121.4
Total for 1967... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	29.99	190	—	—	60	100	—	—	—	310	1444.7
Monthly Average ...	55.4	44.9	—	—	—	—	2.50	15.8	—	—	5.0	8.3	—	—	4.01	25.8	122.1

TABLE 11.—10-20 YEARS AVERAGES—SUNSHINE, RAINFALL AND HUMIDITY.

Year	RAINFALL.					SUNSHINE.						Humidity. 9.0 a.m. Per cent.	
	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 Percentage of Average
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
1962	19.40	1.62	165	3.05	0.64	1566.5	67	298	4.28	229.9	52.6	107	76
1963	19.92	1.66	167	3.91	0.22	1514.6	60	305	4.15	207.8	43.1	107	79
1964	20.38	1.70	160	3.79	0.28	1392.5	64	302	3.81	192.3	42.0	98	76
1965	29.14	2.43	189	4.37	0.48	1450.7	64	301	3.96	220.2	30.8	99	77
1966	27.24	2.27	185	4.58	0.93	1376.8	67	298	3.76	231.0	25.2	88	77
1967	29.99	2.50	190	5.75	0.87	1464.7	55	310	4.01	248.4	35.6	100	77
1968	26.80	2.23	158	4.18	1.34	1456.9	74	292	3.99	220.5	27.7	96	77
Totals...	254.98	...	1722	...	...	15019.9	611	3042	...	...	...	1013	768
Average 10 years ...	25.50	2.13	172	...	...	1502.0	61	304	4.11	...	...	101	77
Average 20 years ...	25.43	2.12	173	...	...	1508.1	61	304	4.12	...	...	101	77

TABLE III.
MEAN TEMPERATURES, 1959-68.
ABSOLUTE TEMPERATURES OF KNOWN
RECORDS (SINCE 1905).

[illegible]

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

Month	SUNSHINE (Hours).										RAINFALL (Inches).									
	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Jan.	54.6	62.8	34.9	33.8	59.4	64.9	53.6	53.3	34.6	53.0	2.01	3.93	4.63	3.53	3.05	1.19	0.49	2.98	0.95	0.87
Feb.	60.4	92.5	68.1	77.1	52.6	102.8	61.2	30.8	59.9	70.4	4.95	0.17	1.66	2.33	1.22	0.22	0.28	0.48	2.36	2.66
March... ..	101.9	94.4	66.1	133.6	155.1	126.4	70.8	137.1	115.0	180.3	1.24	0.72	1.94	0.68	0.87	1.72	2.08	1.85	0.93	1.33
April	153.5	126.8	187.3	111.2	194.1	114.8	130.6	154.4	113.2	108.8	0.77	2.73	1.32	2.87	1.75	2.24	1.53	1.65	2.67	1.25
May	170.8	241.8	196.3	234.8	214.5	207.8	180.6	170.1	231.9	161.6	2.34	1.94	1.35	1.38	1.65	0.55	0.85	2.44	1.38	3.70
June	152.5	268.9	283.5	222.5	229.9	204.7	161.4	220.2	157.5	248.4	2.95	1.94	0.56	1.06	1.27	2.93	2.09	2.71	2.37	0.91
July	162.4	228.9	167.1	161.9	156.1	182.0	160.0	161.8	194.3	178.4	3.17	2.04	2.42	3.06	0.64	0.81	1.33	2.52	2.69	1.12
August	120.8	200.4	190.0	197.6	164.8	108.7	192.3	195.9	162.1	142.7	3.09	0.80	3.20	2.87	1.77	2.22	2.14	1.99	2.00	3.39
Sept.	111.5	178.2	146.6	144.3	103.6	162.6	169.6	89.9	152.7	134.4	4.54	0.57	3.66	1.63	2.08	1.68	1.18	3.52	1.62	3.36
Oct.	78.5	123.2	73.3	116.6	118.6	142.2	95.2	128.6	97.2	89.1	2.47	2.76	2.20	2.92	0.98	2.18	2.84	1.98	3.29	5.75
Nov.	43.8	51.7	55.7	60.5	57.8	54.6	75.2	62.7	34.1	62.0	1.39	3.08	5.57	1.83	1.87	3.91	1.78	2.65	2.40	2.41
Dec.	24.7	24.5	67.9	72.4	60.0	43.1	42.0	45.9	25.2	35.6	2.33	3.23	2.51	3.02	2.25	0.27	3.79	4.37	4.58	3.24
*Difference from Ave. for the Year	0.68	+ 0.58	+ 0.14	+ 0.22	+ 0.22	+ 0.09	0.25	0.10	0.30	0.01	+ 4.62	2.72	4.39	+ 0.55	7.23	6.71	6.25	+ 2.51	+ 0.61	+ 3.36

Sunshine: *This figure is the 30 years daily average = 4.06 hours.

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

