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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

AND HOUSING MANAGER

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

FOR THE YEAR

1971



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

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

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URBAN DISTRICT OF RHYL

Health Department Offices :

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

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1971 :

Councillor D. ROBERTS
(Chairman of the Council).

Cllr. J. C. ESPLEY (Chairman).	Cllr. H. A. WESTON.
" W. ELWYN CONWAY.	" GWILYM HUGHES.
" J. SKEFFINGTON.	" ERIC J. DAVIES.
" R. MERVYN OWEN.	" W. T. REID.
" H. N. RIPPINGALE.	

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 & Housing Manager :

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

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :

A. E. HOWGATE, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector :

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

Assistant Building Inspector :

P. IBALL.

Chief Clerk and Meteorological Observer, Retired July 1971 :

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

Senior Clerk :

S. R. SYMS.

Clerical Assistant :

Miss C. ELIE.

Shorthand Typist :

Mrs. J. M. JONES.

Secretary :

Miss P. SNAPE.

Maintenance Supervisor :

T. H. HEYES.

Disinfector :

A. S. JONES.

Rodent Officer :

W. H. THOMAS.

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1971

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Edwards and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for 1971.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population was 21,600 which is based on the Census estimation in June, and is an increase of 100 over the previous year. Over the past 10 years, the population of the town has increased by only about 500, although the number of dwellings has increased in the same period by 400. This indicates that there is a trend which is both local and national for the number of persons per dwelling to fall, and I think this trend will probably continue for some time to come.

There were 263 live births in the town, giving an adjusted birth rate of 13.5 per thousand, which is a significant fall on the 1970 figure and below the national birth rate of 16 per thousand population. The infant mortality rate was very satisfactory, with only two infant deaths, and the local infant mortality rate was 8 compared with the national figure of 18 per 1000 live births.

The illegitimacy rate was particularly high in 1970 (160 per 1000 births) but there was a small fall in 1971, with 31 illegitimate births, giving a local rate of 133 per thousand births — which is still considerably above the national rate of 80. Three still-births occurred during the year and this, of course, was a considerable reduction on the previous year, and the still-birth rate was almost equivalent to the national figure.

A slight reduction occurred in the number of deaths from cancer compared with 1970. The number of deaths from heart disease and, in particular, coronary heart disease, rose from 85 in 1970 to 121, which was almost within reach of the 1969 figure of 128. The vast majority of these deaths, of course, occurred in people over the age of 70.

I have made reference in my report to a few simple guide lines to healthy living, which are simple enough to follow. These views expressed are not original — they are well known to all members of the public through the medium of the Press, Radio and

Television, but nevertheless there is a considerable part to be played by local authority health departments in the field of health education.

As Medical Officer to your Council, I have the opportunity to examine employees and, especially in the case of men, it is invariably the rule for artisans to be heavy smokers, to be aware of the risks involved, and yet continue to ignore advice given to them on smoking.

In the early part of 1971, there was a large outbreak of dysentery in the town, mainly affecting school children, and I made detailed reference to this in my 1970 report. The outbreak gradually receded during the late spring and early summer, and fortunately the winter of 1971/72 has been comparatively free of dysentery. Members of the public are often taken ill with sickness and diarrhoea and most of these incidents are either confined to individuals or families. There may be associated cases in the neighbourhood or amongst colleagues at work or in school, and symptoms usually last 2-3 days. I am sure that most of these illnesses are due to viruses, and since there are over 100 different types of virus which can cause gastro-intestinal symptoms, it is going to be a difficult task to provide vaccines in order to immunise the population against these germs. The same situation holds good for the common cold, and here again there are over 80 different viruses which can give rise to upper respiratory infections. Further research is necessary to discover a chemical agent which can block the spread of viruses in the cells, or a protective vaccine that can give blanket cover to the many different types of viruses.

I have made reference in my report to the risks involved in smoking cigarettes. In September 1971 an Anti-Smoking Clinic was held in the Town Hall and demonstrations and films were given for five evenings, but the response from the public was rather disappointing, with only 25 people attending.

Tuberculosis is still a community health hazard, and eight cases were notified during the year in Rhyl, the majority of these were in people aged over 60. Constant vigilance will be required for many years to come in ensuring that there is no increase in the spread of the disease.

Sulphur dioxide pollution levels were at a rather high level in the summer of 1971 but the average smoke pollution level showed a further slight fall compared with previous years.

The Walford Avenue housing scheme was completed during the year and construction started on the Maes Emlyn flats for old people in the grounds of Y Gorlan. I hope that when the latter scheme is completed, the majority of old age pensioners requiring suitable accommodation will be rehoused.

The Rhyl Cut surface water scheme was completed during the year and a start has now been made on the remaining sections of the overall sewerage scheme, mainly in the southern part of the town. When these works are completed, all that will remain, apart from small trunk schemes in the central parts of the town, will be the new outfall, but it is possible that with the reorganisation of water supplies and sewage disposal in 1972, and the changes which this may bring about, there may be a re-appraisal of this plan, and I would like to see full treatment provided for the sewage from Rhyl. I hope that the new Council will press the regional water authority for this to be carried out if the new central council is not vested with these powers.

Plans for the reorganisation of local government in the Health Services are now taking shape, and this report will no doubt be the penultimate one. I have retained the presentation of the report as it has been set down in the past until the dissolution of the present Council, so as to maintain the continuity of the statistics.

Medical advice to the new local government authorities after 1974, whether at County or District level, will no doubt be available, but the unification of the various branches of the health services under the proposed Area Health Authority will require a period of adjustment for all parties concerned. We must not lose sight of the purpose of reorganisation – that is, the betterment of society and the improvement in the health and welfare of the citizens of this country.

I would like to pay warm tribute to the excellent work carried out by the voluntary organisations in the town in their untiring efforts for the welfare of the people of Rhyl.

Mr. Field retired in July after 43 years service in the Health Department as Chief Clerk, and Meteorological Observer, and we all wish him a happy and long retirement after such long and efficient service to the Council.

In concluding my report, I would like to thank the staff of the Health Department for their unfailing support and also 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 1971 (Registrar General's estimate)	21,600
Population change compared with previous year (increase of)	100
Number of inhabited properties (end of 1971)	7,655
Number of empty properties (end of 1971)	162
Rateable value of the Urban District at end of 1971	£1,305,117
Product of a penny rate	£12,168
General rate £1965
No. of rated premises	9,094

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births : Male 142, Female 121	263
Legitimate live births : Male 125, Female 107	232
Illegitimate live births : Male 17, Female 14	31
Illegitimate local rate per 1,000 live births	133
National illegitimate rate per 1,000 live births	80
Crude birth rate per 1,000 population	12.2
Birth rate comparability factor	1.11
Birth rate standardised	13.5
National birth rate per 1,000 population	16.0
Still births (total)	3
Legitimate still births	1
Illegitimate still births	2
Local still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	11
National still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	12
Infant deaths under one year of age	2
Legitimate infant deaths under age of 1 year	1
Illegitimate infant deaths under age of 1 year	1
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	8
National infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	18
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	4
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	32
Infant deaths under 4 weeks of age (Neo-natal)	4
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	4
National neo-natal mortality rate	12
Total perinatal deaths (still-births and deaths under one week combined)	3
Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	11
National perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	22
Deaths in first week of life (early neo-natal period)	—
Early neo-natal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	—
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 176, Female 190	366
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	16.9
Comparability factor	0.72
Death rate standardised per 1,000 population	12.2
National death rate for England and Wales	11.6

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
1969	21,510	— 150	— 149	— 1
1970	21,500	— 10	— 83	+ 73
1971	21,600†	+ 100	— 103	+ 203

†Census Returns.

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

Cancer : The total deaths from cancer this year decreased by 11 over 1970, and the deaths from lung cancer decreased by 5. 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	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Lung	6	6	12	15	13	12	12	20	11	14	21	12	10	18	13
Stomach ...	13	10	10	13	9	9	5	8	7	4	5	7	5	13	10
Breast	8	6	6	9	7	6	4	8	3	11	3	6	3	12	10
Uterus	2	5	3	4	4	3	5	2	2	2	1	—	3	—	4
Leukaemia	2	1	2	2	1	3	4	2	1	1	—	1	2	2	1
Other sites	26	22	27	34	26	17	29	28	42	35	38	36	40	35	31
Total deaths all sites ...	57	50	60	77	60	50	59	68	66	67	68	62	63	80	69

The following chart shows the annual deaths from coronary heart disease in Rhyl in recent years :—

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Deaths	59	60	80	62	87	85	81	79	90	101	88	93	128	85	121

*SIMPLE GUIDE LINES TO A HEALTHIER WAY OF LIVING*1. *Eating less.*

It can be taken for granted that most of us eat too much, especially those past 40 years of age.

Try to avoid second helpings and whenever possible make do with one potato instead of two, and one slice of bread in place of two. Eating to excess can be a form of habit, easy to develop and difficult to break.

2. *More Exercise*

Exercise keeps the joints flexible, increases the tone of the muscles, increases the cardiac reserve and in the long run has a beneficial effect on the blood pressure.

"A little a day keeps the cardiologist away".

No need to run six miles a day – just an evening constitutional, especially for the office bound man.

3. Try to develop as many interests in life as possible, apart from the daily occupation – not always easy to achieve. Hobbies including sport, either indulged in actively or passively, have an important influence on health, setting the mind free from obsession, prejudices and anxiety – far better than pills from the doctor.

4. *Cup of tea* – far better stimulant and sedative than a cigarette.

5. Hot bath on going to bed, provided it is not after a large meal. Great relaxant of muscles, relieves anxiety, blood pressure lowered – one of the best home remedies.

SMOKING AND HEALTH

An Anti-Smoking Clinic was held in the Rhyl Town Hall in September 1971 and just over 20 people attended the five evening sessions, at which films and demonstrations were given and the members of the audience were asked to participate.

The response from the public attendance-wise was very disappointing but I have recently written to the people who attended, asking for their comments. It would appear from the replies I have received that about half have restarted smoking, although not smoking to the same extent as prior to the clinic.

The main risks to health from smoking cigarettes are :—

1. *Lung Cancer*

In heavy smokers there is a 15-30 times greater risk of developing cancer of the lung as against non-smokers, and it has also been shown that the risk is increased by the inhalation of smoke; by the earlier onset of smoking; by taking more puffs from each cigarette by keeping the cigarette in the mouth between puffs; and by relighting half smoked cigarettes. Recent studies have suggested that filter type cigarettes may have slightly reduced the risk of developing lung cancer, compared with unfiltered cigarettes. Cigar smoking and pipe smoking seem to have a smaller effect on the incidence of cancer of the lung. This may be due to the fact that most of the dangerous inhalants are condensed in the pipe or cigar before inhalation. When people give up smoking, it has been shown that the risk of developing lung cancer falls significantly and steadily over the years.

Between 1951 and 1966 half of the doctors in the United Kingdom who used to smoke, stopped smoking over the period, and this compares with the general consumption of cigarettes over the same period, which has been unchanged. The incidence of cancer of the lung has fallen considerably amongst doctors, and this strongly suggests that stopping smoking of cigarettes will reduce the general mortality from this appalling disease, which last year accounted for the deaths of over 30,000 men.

It has been stated as an argument by smokers that lung cancer does occur amongst non-smokers, and this is true — but the incidence is extremely small, and of course, cancer can occur in any organ of the body at any age.

2. *Bronchitis and Emphysema*

Many studies of this disease have been carried out throughout the world in the past 20 years, and there has been a strong correlation between the prevalence of excess production of sputum, the incidence of bronchitis and the number of cigarettes smoked. These symptoms usually abate when smokers cut down their

cigarette consumption or stop smoking. Every aspect of lung function is affected by cigarette smoke. There is a narrowing of airways, impairment of gas transfers (oxygen etc.) across the lung membrane, diminution of exercise tolerance, etc.

Amongst doctors in England and Wales, aged between 30 and 60, many of whom stopped smoking cigarettes, there was a 30% reduction in bronchitis mortality between 1953 and 1965 and this compares with a reduction of only 4% in all men of the same age group in England and Wales over the same period, amongst whom there was no reduction in cigarette smoking

3. *Coronary Heart Disease*

The mortality from this disease has steadily increased over the last half century, not only in the United Kingdom, but throughout the western world. The cause of this increase is still largely unknown, but it is believed that cigarette smoking is a significant factor. Other factors, of course, are physical inactivity, obesity, high blood pressure, diabetes, etc.

Cigarette smoking or the injection of nicotine promotes the release of chemicals from the adrenals, and these affect the components of the blood, tending to increase the fatty content of the blood and also tending to cause cardiac irregularities. This, repeated many times a day, many days of the year and over many years, does, of course, eventually damage the heart and arterial system. The stopping of cigarette smoking in an otherwise heavy smoker, can reduce the risk of developing a heart attack by up to 30%.

4. *Other diseases whose causation may be related to cigarette smoking.*

It is believed that cigarette smoking may be a factor in the causation of cancer of the urinary tract and in particular, cancer of the bladder, as there is a higher incidence of this disease amongst cigarette smokers. Scientists are still unravelling the various chemical components in cigarette smoke, and it may perhaps be shown in years to come that there are many more than the two or three known cancer producing agents in cigarette smoke.

How to stop Smoking.

The Health Education Council have produced an excellent booklet on this subject and this is available at the Health Department.

They refer in their leaflet to the various types of smoker :—

1. The stimulation smokers, who smoke to give themselves a lift, a perk, to keep them going and prevent themselves slowing down. If this kind of smoker gives up, he looks for a substitute stimulant like tea, coffee, beer etc.

2. The handling smokers, who must have something to hold, manipulate, and watch. Pipe smokers belong to this classification.
3. The relaxation smokers, who are referred to in the cigarette advertisement, and enjoy a cigarette after a good meal and relaxation in familiar surroundings.
4. The crutch smokers, who light cigarettes in moments of stress, when they are upset or beset by cares and worries.
5. The craving smokers, who are physically addicted to tobacco.
6. The habit smokers, who smoke automatically and are often surprised to find a cigarette in their mouths when they are looking for another one !

Plan of action to help you stop smoking.

There are many ways of trying to stop smoking, but I would suggest that smokers might find it easier to give up smoking if they plan this event with a change of surroundings or change of their routine. This could be done whilst they are on holiday or perhaps during a short break from work. It would be advantageous to decide in advance that one is going to give up smoking and then attempt to stop for good.

The first week after deciding to stop smoking is the most difficult, and it may be necessary, in some cases, it is absolutely necessary, to try to find an alternative, such as something to chew e.g. sweets, or some other type of agent to occupy one's mind and thoughts during the period when the desire for a cigarette becomes pre-eminent. Try also to vary your routine whilst at work and try to persuade your colleagues at work who offer you cigarettes to refrain from doing so.

Most people find that their appetite improves and fear they will put on weight. There is no doubt that there is a certain weight gain in the first few weeks after stopping smoking, but this is due to a period of adjustment by the body and this weight gain will settle down after some weeks. Nevertheless, it is important to take more exercise during these weeks to combat this increase in weight, which in some cases is due to increased fluid retention. Try to combat temptations by travelling in "No Smoking" compartments on trains and buses, and if you have managed to give up the habit, try then to persuade your friends to follow your example.

If the public feel that they would welcome further anti-smoking clinics in the district, I would be willing to put on future campaigns should there be a general desire.

INFANT MORTALITY 1971

There were 2 deaths of infants under one year of age notified locally. Details of the deaths are given below :—

Age at death	Cause of death	(M. or F.)
2 weeks	1. (a) Septicaemia (b) Melingo Myelocoele Hydrocephalus.	M.
3 months	1. (a) Dehydration (b) Diabetes Insipidus. 11. Gastro Enteritis.	M.

STILLBIRTHS

3 Stillbirths were recorded in 1971 and details of 2 are given below:—

Age at death	Cause of death	(M. or F.)
31 weeks	1. (a) Pre-eclamptic toxæmia 11. Ante Partum haemorrhage. Prematurity.	M.
38 weeks	1. (a) Hydrops foetalis (b) Rhesus Negative. Mother with Anti D & Anti C Antibodies.	F.

TABLE SHOWING VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT FOR THE PAST TWENTY YEARS IN DETAIL

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
1952	18,800	283	15.05	15.05	15.3	276	14.68	12.48	11.3	11	38.8	27.6
1953	19,900	272	14.39	14.39	15.2	262	13.86	11.78	11.4	13	47.8	26.8
1954	19,100	285	14.84	16.0	15.0	286	14.9	11.61	11.3	8	28.0	25.5
1955	19,300	276	14.3	15.4	15.0	314	16.27	12.69	11.7	7	25.4	24.9
1956	19,510	311	15.94	17.3	15.7	268	13.74	11.54	11.7	6	19.3	23.8
1957	19,590	290	14.8	16.0	16.1	305	15.57	13.08	11.5	6	20.7	23.0
1958	19,710	300	15.2	16.4	16.4	317	16.0	13.5	11.7	9	30.0	22.5
1959	19,810	312	15.75	17.1	16.5	318	16.0	13.32	11.6	8	25.6	22.0
1960	19,940	357	17.95	19.4	17.1	333	16.7	14.0	11.5	8	22.4	21.7
1961	21,120	396	18.75	19.1	17.4	349	16.2	14.9	12.0	10	25.3	21.4
1962	21,290	347	16.30	16.6	18.0	346	16.3	14.6	11.9	11	31.7	21.6
1963	21,440	340	15.86	17.5	18.2	372	17.35	13.5	12.2	14	41.2	21.1
1964	21,570	368	17.06	18.9	18.4	348	16.13	12.6	11.3	6	16.3	20.0
1965	21,710	321	14.8	16.4	18.0	359	16.5	12.6	11.5	5	15.5	19.0
1966	21,500	275	12.8	14.2	17.7	403	18.7	13.6	11.7	6	25.4	18.9
1967	21,370	291	13.6	14.1	17.2	326	15.3	11.5	11.2	5	17.1	18.3
1968	21,660	309	14.3	15.9	16.9	354	16.3	12.3	11.8	2	6.5	18.0
1969	21,510	270	12.6	14.0	16.3	419	19.5	14.2	11.9	1	4.0	18.0
1970	21,500	310	14.4	16.0	16.0	393	18.3	13.2	11.7	4	13.0	18.0
1971	21,600	263	12.2	13.5	16.0	366	16.9	12.2	11.6	2	8.0	18.0

CAUSES OF DEATH 1971 in the Urban District of Rhyl
Courtesy of Registrar General

Cause of Death	Sex	Total All ages	Age in years										
			Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and over
B3 Bacillary Dysentery, Amoebiasis ...	M	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B4 Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
B5 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
B19(1) Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, etc. ...	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus...	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ...	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
B19(4) Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine ...	F	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	2
B19(6) Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
B19(7) Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ...	F	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	3	3
B19(8) Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ...	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
B19(9) Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate ...	F	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	4
B19(10) Leukaemia ...	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B19(11) Other Malignant Neoplasms ...	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
B21 Diabetes Mellitus ...	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	6	3
	F	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

Table showing deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis over past seventeen years :—

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Deaths	9	3	2	—	2	—	1	2	1	1	4	1	4	1	—	1	2

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

99 cases of dysentery were notified to the Health Department in the year, and this is probably only a proportion of the total number of people affected. I commented at length in 1970 report on the outbreaks which started in December of that year and continued until the early summer of the following year. Fortunately, there has been no recurrence since, but there is always the possibility that the disease will break out in epidemic form again.

Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis still occur and eight new cases were notified, of which 5 were over 65 years of age. Furthermore, notification was received of ten cases of scarlet fever, 6 cases of food poisoning and 1 case of measles.

Notification of infection under the current public health legislation only gives a small indication of the amount of bacterial and viral infection in the community. Most minor infections are of a viral nature, the diagnosis of which is often difficult and the treatment even more difficult and unsatisfactory.

Disease	Under 1 year	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	—	—	4	6	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—
Whooping cough	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid and Typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	6	4	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tetanus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	2	5	18	28	14	19	8	5	99	13	1
Tuberculosis : Respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	5	8	6	2
Tuberculosis : Non-respiratory..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Infective Hepatitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Brucellosis (Non-Notifiable). Other diseases which are notifiable under 1968 Public Health Regulations include: Acute Encephalitis, Amoebic Dysentery, Anthrax, Leprosy, Lepto Spirosis, Malaria, Yellow Fever and Smallpox.

TUBERCULOSIS

As will have been seen in the previous table, there were 8 new cases of Tuberculosis. Close co-operation is maintained between the district, county and hospital authorities, as all have responsibilities in the treatment and after-care of tuberculosis sufferers. Details of these new cases are given below :—

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

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 1971 was as follows:—

Pulmonary cases : Males 38, Females 7	45
Non-pulmonary cases : Males 3, Females 2	5

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, a mongst other centres in North Wales ceased at the end of 1967.

REPORT OF THE CHEST PHYSICIAN

The following information on the work of the Chest Clinic during the year 1971 has been kindly supplied by Dr. Morrison:—

Number of new cases in Rhyl U.D. Area during the period	8
Number of cases and contacts attending clinic during the period	360
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

Ffordd Las Clinic

Clinic held every Wednesday afternoon between 2.0 and 4.0 p.m. and a Medical Officer is present on the 1st, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month.

Mercier House Clinic, Arcville Corner

Clinic held every Tuesday afternoon between 2.0 and 4.0 p.m. and a Medical Officer is present on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month.

Welfare foods are sold at both clinics and these arrangements are under the control of voluntary committees to whom the community is greatly indebted for the excellent service provided.

ANTE NATAL CLINICS

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

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, Fforddilas, Rhyl, and is under the medical direction of Dr. Anne McLeod. The clinic is held every Wednesday night, 7—8 p.m.

CERVICAL SMEAR CLINIC

Women wishing to have a cervical smear test carried out may either make arrangements with their family doctor or contact the County Health Department at Shire Hall, Mold, and the test is carried out by appointment at Mercier House Clinic.

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

Four full-time health visitors are responsible for giving advice to families on all aspects of health education. Their duties are complementary to the work of the general practitioners.

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. Thirty-four home helps are working in the town, and the majority are engaged on a part-time basis.

SECTION 26—VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH, TETANUS AND POLIOMYELITIS

Immunisation against these diseases is given, usually by a course of injections and oral vaccine at 4 months of age, and repeated at 6 months and finally at 10 months. It is very important that ALL infants have protection against these diseases and this can be given at the infant welfare clinic or by the family doctor.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Routine vaccination of babies against smallpox has now been discontinued.

MEASLES

Immunization against measles is offered to all babies who have not had the disease after completion of the course of immunization against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and polio, and consists of one injection with very few reactions. It is to be regretted that the acceptance rate is still below a level which can be considered satisfactory.

TUBERCULOSIS

All 13 year old children are offered vaccination (by the use of live attenuated tubercule baccilli B.C.G.) against this disease, and the majority of children are protected.

RUBELLA (German Measles)

All girls between 12 and 14 years of age are eligible to be vaccinated against this disease in order to reduce the risks of congenital malformations in any babies born to young women who might contact German Measles in the early months of pregnancy.

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 School at "Tirionfa," Rhuddlan. A new school for educationally sub-normal children was opened in Rhyl in 1971, and the school accepts children who have for various reasons, whilst attending schools in Rhyl and surrounding districts, become educationally sub-normal. This school will function as both a primary and a secondary school, accepting children from 7 years up to the normal school leaving age of 16.

SCHOOL HEALTH

Medical inspections of school children were carried out during this year by me as Medical Officer, and a high standard of general health and fitness was noted, although the infestation of the hair and scabies is still a problem and shows no sign of diminishing.

SCHOOL PREMISES

Minor improvements are still required in many of the school premises in the town. I am pleased to hear that the County Education Committee are to replace all wooden draining boards with stainless steel units in school kitchens.

New extensions are under construction at Blessed Edward Jones Roman Catholic Secondary School and construction has commenced on the new extensions to the Rhyl High School.

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—Wednesdays, 5—7 p.m., Saturdays, 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 AND HOMES FOR THE AGED

Nursing Homes and Homes for the Aged are registered with the County Council and are inspected by the Health and Welfare Departments.

WELFARE HOMES

Persons who are unable to look after themselves satisfactorily may be admitted to County Council Homes which are situated at Plas Coed, Y Gorlan, The Lawns, Part of the Women's Convalescent Home, Rhyl; Carr Holme, Park House, Llys Nant, Prestatyn; Hafan Glyd, Shotton, and Llys Gwenffrwdd, Holywell.

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 1971 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	69
Private properties, mainly bungalows	75

Since the war the Council have built 1,216 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
1971	69	75	7655
1970	8	87	7552
1969	46	68	7512
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 100 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
1969	7678	21510	2.8
1970	7767	21500	2.8
1971	7904	21600	2.7

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 1971 was as follows :—

Number of families on general list	290
Number of persons waiting for old persons' accommodation	238
	—
	528
	—

SLUM CLEARANCE AND SUB-STANDARD PROPERTY

The Bedford Street/Vaughan Street clearance area was confirmed by the Minister and the unfit houses were demolished. The work of Improvement of the former Railway houses in Marsh Road (Railway Terrace) has now been completed satisfactorily. The re-development of Walford Avenue was also completed during the year and construction commenced on the erection of 57 flats for aged persons and warden's accommodation in the grounds of Y Gorlan, Brighton Rd., and it is hoped that some of these flats will be available for occupation at the end of 1972.

The slum clearance programme was revised during the year and only two small rows of houses were found to be unfit for human habitation and not repairable at reasonable cost. Government have now changed and the emphasis on tackling the problem of unfit housing from demolition to improvement of existing sub-standard dwellings by the provision of generous standard and discretionary grants.

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 of the local Water Board and his staff exercise extreme vigilance in ensuring a satisfactory supply from the bacteriological aspect.

Eighty-seven samples were taken during the year : 85 were found to be satisfactory and 2 unsatisfactory.

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

Appearance	Clear and Colourless
Odour	nil
Reaction, pH	7.0
Colour (Hazen Units)	less than 5
	Parts per million :
Total Solids	100
Nitrogen as free and saline ammonia	0.00
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	0.00
Nitrogen as nitrites	very slight
Nitrogen as nitrates	1.00
Chlorides, as Cl.	17
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27° C.	1.7
Total hardness	59
Temporary hardness	46
Permanent hardness	13
Alkalinity	46
Total residual Chlorine	nil
Free available Chlorine	nil
Potassium, as K.	0.4
Anionic Synthetic detergents	—
Manganese, as Mn.	—
Cyanides and thiocynates	—
Poisonous metals	nil

Opinion :

The chemical condition of this water is satisfactory.

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 25 samples were submitted for analysis. 23 were satisfactory, and 2 were 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. 59 samples were taken and submitted for analysis, of which 17 were found to be slightly contaminated.

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. 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 rainfalls the valve into the main outfall pipe has to be opened to discharge the storm water. The surface water drainage scheme involving the Rhyl Cut was completed during the year and the necessary works are being put in hand for commencement of work in 1972 of the laying down of the new sewers in the Ffordd Derwen area.

RHYL CUT

Parts of this stream are in a very unsatisfactory condition, with indiscriminate dumping of rubbish, making parts of the Cut unsightly.

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

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.
 Nuisances, 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, 1971

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Edwards, and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report upon the Health Department for 1971.

The Council's policy with regard to modernisation and repair of older dwelling houses, as an alternative to demolition, continued during the year and although the rate of progress was not very great, I am satisfied that this is the correct action to take and will ultimately lead to the saving of a considerable amount of housing stock. A Public Inquiry was held into the Hope Place Clearance Order, and it was very significant to note that the Minister, through his Inspector, rejected the Order, whilst accepting that one of the houses was unfit for habitation and required demolition. I think the Minister's decision, as a result of this Inquiry, is a complete vindication of the Council's policy to modernise and repair the older dwellinghouses as a more suitable alternative to demolition.

A considerable amount of work was done during the year as a result of applications for Qualification Certificates from landlords in order to change the tenancy of unfurnished dwellinghouses from controlled to regulated tenancies, and again, quite a large number of houses were repaired in order to comply with the conditions for issue of Qualification Certificates.

Twenty applications for Grants totalling £5,336 were approved during the year. In order to encourage owners of larger properties to avail themselves of grants for conversion, the Council decided to make grants available when the flats provided by conversion consisted of at least two bedrooms, or alternatively, occupy the whole of one floor of the dwellinghouse. It is hoped that this will lead to genuine applications to provide flats to increase the permanent housing stock and deter applicants who will wish to convert premises solely for summer occupation.

No general Improvement Areas were declared and I do not feel that there is any area of sufficient size in the district to merit this procedure.

The Walford Avenue Estate was completed during the year, and examination of the vacancies in dwellings together with the number of new applicants, shows a very reasonable picture in the family accommodation area, and at the present time this section of housing need would appear to be under control. The serious present housing need is now in the provision of suitable accommodation for our elderly citizens, and the problem increases daily. Construction commenced during the year on the Maes Emlyn scheme which will provide accommodation for 57 flats, and whilst this will go a long way to relieving the problem on completion in 1973, I think more accommodation of the sheltered type will still be required.

It was again significant that the number of complaints from noise increased, involving the Public Health Inspectorate in a considerable amount of late night work to investigate complaints.

In conclusion, may I express my appreciation of the continuing support I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Committee, and my fellow Chief Officers. The hard work and loyalty of every member of the staff contributes so much to the smooth and efficient running of any department.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Edwards and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. GEOFFREY BLACK,

Chief Public Health Inspector and

Housing Manager.

TABLE I. — GENERAL SUMMARY

Number of Complaints Received	2107
Number of Drains and W.C.s Released and Cleansed by Department ...	2418
Number of Nuisances Found (including under Factories Act)	217
Number of Nuisances Abated	154
Number of Preliminary Notices Served	116
Number of Statutory Notices Served	7
Number of Preliminary Notices served for Fire Escape	49
Number of Statutory Notices served for Fire Escape	—

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Public Health Acts—

Complaints	188
Infectious Disease	284
Refuse Collection and Disposal	173
Schools	21
Offensive Trades	7
Smoke Observations	38
Water Supply	27
Swimming and Paddling Pools	54
Camping Grounds	48
Drain Tests, etc. — Smoke Machine	66
Theatres and Cinemas	15
Verminous Premises	27
Factories and Workplaces	58
Rats and Mice	3616
Housing Acts — Inspections	403
Houses in Multiple Occupation	118
Council House Inspections	443
Pet Animals Act — Inspections	11
Housing Applicants Visited	260
<i>Means of Escape in Case of Fire :</i>	
Number of Premises Surveyed	100
Number of Visits in connection with Survey	80

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

	Registered	Visits
Abattoir (Municipal)	1	388
Butchers	22	50
Bakehouses	7	53
Boarding Houses and Hotels	272	186
Confectioners	19	68
Dairies and Milkshops	—	39
Fishmongers and Poulterers	10	36
Fish and Chip Shops	16	44
Food Factories	3	30
Grocers	42	178
General Stores	20	150
Greengrocers	28	54
Holiday Camp Kitchens	2	14
Ice Cream —		
Retailers	113	167
Wholesalers	3	9
Manufacturers	1	10
Kiosks	7	22
Mobile Vans	9	18
Soft Ice	17	79
Multiple Stores	2	189
Licensed Clubs	19	64
Public Houses	42	62
Snack Bars	12	32
Stalls — Shellfish	3	11
Stalls — Miscellaneous	14	40
Sweets and Minerals	38	15
Restaurants and Cafes... ..	88	224
Wholesale —		
Grocers	1	62
Greengrocers	1	16
Poulterers	1	12

TABLE II. — SANITARY DEFECTS

Damp Living and Bed Rooms	25
Defective Chimney Pots, Flues, Stacks and Flashings	—
Defective Roofs	6
Defective Floors, Living and Bed Rooms	8
Defective Gutters and Downspouting	5
Defective Plaster, Wall and Ceilings	—
Defective Skylights, Window Frames, Casing and Doors ...	—
Defective Fireplaces	—
Remove Accumulation, Manure and Refuse	16
Defective Yard Surface	—
Defective Dust Bins	6
Animals in such a state as to be a Nuisance	—
Offensive Smell/Effluvia/Dust	1
General Defects	—
Defective Brickwork	—
Filthy Rooms, Walls, Floors, Bedding and Furniture	1
Defective Timberwork	1
Total	69

CLEAN AIR ACTS, 1956 & 1968

Dark Smoke Emissions from Chimneys	3
Dark Smoke Emissions	1

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936: SECTION 75

Defective, or want of, Dustbins (Supplied)	178
Defective, or want of, Dustbins (Trade)	12

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

Complaints Received	64
Cases Complained of	28
Nuisance Remedied—Informally	28

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955 & 1970 FOOD HYGIENE (MARKET STALLS & DELIVERY VEHICLES) REGULATIONS, 1966

	Infringements Found
Cleanliness of Equipment	4
Protection from risk of Contamination	12
Sanitary Conveniences	7
Wash-hand Basins	30
First Aid Materials	9
Accommodation for Clothing, etc.	3
Facilities for Washing Food and Equipment	2
Food Room not to be/or communicate with Sleeping Place ...	—
Cleanliness and Repair of Food Rooms	6
Accumulation of Refuse	2
Stalls—Names inscribed thereon	3
Overalls for Food Handlers	5
Personal Cleanliness	2
Total	85
No. of Warning Letters	31

DRAINAGE: WATER CLOSETS AND WATER SUPPLY

Defective W.C., Walls, Roofs and Doors	10
Defective Fittings, W.C., Sinks and Baths	9
Defective Access Covers, Chambers and Drains	18
Defective Water Services	—
Defective Soil Pipes	1
Defective Urinal Channel	—
Filthy W.C. Premises, Basins and Urinals	—
Defective Sink Waste Pipes	5
Defective Cesspools	—
	43

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	11	11	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	65	15	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers Premises)	10	7	—
Total	86	33	—

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	1
Number of Rooms Disinfected, Spray only	—
Number of Houses Disinfected, Spray	1
Number of Houses Disinfected, Lamp and Spray	—
Number of Wards, Cubicles or Operating Theatres Disinfected (L. & S.)	1
Number of Schools Disinfected	10
Number of Motor Ambulances, Cars or Vans Disinfected	1
Number of Caravans or Huts Disinfected	—
Number of Bungalows or Chalets Disinfected	—
Miscellaneous (School Toilets)	1
Number of Articles Destroyed with Consent of Owner	—
Number of Articles Disinfected by Steam	507
Number of Articles Disinfected by Lamp and/or Spray	—
Disinfectant used (Steam)	21
Number of Articles Hot Air Dried	—

TABLE IV. — DISINFESTATION

Number of Rooms Disinfested (D.D.T.)	10
Number of Wards, Shops, Cafes or Cinemas and Theatres Disinfested (D.D.T.)	2
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	2
Number of Houses, Flats, Cinemas, Caravans or other Premises Disinfested (Smoke Generators)	3
Number of Hospitals Partly Disinfested (Spray D.D.T.)	1
Number of Houses, Cinemas, Wards, Heating Ducts, etc., Disinfested by D.D.T. Powder	—

HYGIENE IN SHOPS, RESTAURANTS, HOTELS, ETC.

Constant visits continue to be made to all food premises to enforce the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations and to endeavour to continually educate new employees into the food handling trade.

All complaints of stale or unsound food were investigated, although no occasions were found for the institution of legal proceedings. Time and again it was necessary to draw the attention of shopkeepers to the essential need to preserve correct stock rotation so that food is sold to the customer as fresh as possible. It becomes more and more apparent that open date coding of foodstuffs is essential in order to produce correct stock rotation in all premises.

An interesting aspect of food poisoning dangers arose during the year when it was discovered that specimens obtained from tortoises contained salmonella organisms. Subsequent investigations revealed that tortoises and terrapins can excrete salmonella organisms, and it was necessary to draw the attentions of shops selling these animals to the dangers of handling them and then not washing the hands before in turn handling food, and, of course, to ensure that these animals did not come in direct contact with any human foodstuffs.

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.

FOOD SURRENDERED OR CONDEMNED

	Tons	cwts.	lbs.
1. Fresh Meat		13	5
2. Cooked meat and meat products		—	
3. Canned meats		3	81
4. Other canned foods		10	34
5. Fish (fresh)		—	
6. Fruit and Vegetables (fresh)		2	106
7. Frozen foods due to cabinet breakdown		11	60
8. Other foods	1	14	7
Total	3	15	69

A copy of the Report for the period 1st January to 31st December, 1971, received from Mr. Harold E. Roberts, M.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, 1971

Description of Article	Number of Samples taken	Genuine	Not Genuine
Milk	19	19	—
Dairy Produce	7	7	—
Ice Cream Products... ..	8	8	—
Alcoholic Drinks... ..	3	3	—
Cakes and Confectionery ...	10	10	—
Sausages & Meat Products	12	11	1
Miscellaneous Groceries ...	36	36	—
Fruit and Vegetables	12	12	—
	<u>107</u>	<u>106</u>	<u>1</u>

One sample of sausage was found to have a slight meat content deficiency. Subsequent samples have been satisfactory.

No evidence of Brucellosis, Tuberculosis or antibodies was found in any milk submitted for bacteriological examination.

Eight samples of foodstuffs in course of preparation were bacteriologically examined and found to be satisfactory.

All articles examined under the Pharmacy and Poisons Act and the Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs Act were found to be satisfactory.

(Signed) H. ROBERTS,

County Public Health Officer.

MILK SUPPLY

Despite the fact that the responsibility for the cleanliness of milk supplies is, in the main, outside the purview of the local authority, the sampling of milk continues and on the whole the results of bacteriological examination are satisfactory.

Regular bacteriological sampling of milk and cream is carried out. During the year 74 samples of milk were taken — 70 satisfactory and 4 unsatisfactory.

Thirteen samples of milk were tested for T.B. and Brucella infection. All were found to be satisfactory.

<i>Analysis of Grades of Milk</i>				
	No. of Samples		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised and T.T. Pasteurised	32	...	30	2
Sterilised	21	...	21	—
U.H.T.	—	...	—	—
	53		51	2
	—		—	—
Raw Milk	16	...	14	2
Cream	13	...	6	7
	29	...	20	9
	—		—	—
Raw Milk Ring Test	16		16	—

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	1
Retailers	113
Wholesale Distributors (Storage)	3
Mobiles	9
Soft Ice	17
	143

During the year, 57 samples were taken for bacteriological examination.

Table of Samples Taken

	Grade				Total
	I.	II.	III.	IV.	
Manufacturers	3	—	—	—	3
Soft Ice Machines	31	5	2	1	39
Retailers/Wholesalers	7	8	—	—	15
	41	13	2	1	57

OTHER FOODS

Routine samples were taken of the following for bacterial examination :—

	No. Taken	No. Un- satisfactory
Meat Pies	15	2
Sliced Meats	23	9
Chickens (Cooked and Uncooked)	15	1
	<hr/> 53	<hr/> 12

SCRAP METAL DEALERS

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

PUBLIC ABATTOIR

Animals slaughtered from 1st January, 1971, to 31st December, 1971:—

Cattle	2,292
Calves	2
Sheep and Lambs	9,156
Pigs	6,344
	<hr/> 17,794

	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.
Meat Condemned	1	15	3	7

There has been an increase in the number of animals slaughtered, being 941 more than during 1970.

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

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE
OR IN PART FOR THE YEAR 1971

	Cattle, exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed (if known) ..	1993	299	2	9156	6344	17794
Number inspected	1993	299	2	9156	6344	17794
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned...	—	—	—	3	5	8
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned...	117	41	—	101	806	1065
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	5.92	13.71	0.00	1.14	12.78	—
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned...	—	—	—	—	41	41
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	—	—	—	—	.65	—
<i>Cysticercosis :</i>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE V. — REFUSE COLLECTION

Total Loads of all Refuse to Tip	3,218
Total Weight (calculated in accordance with Ministry Recommenda- tions — 1 cubic yard Refuse = 2 cwt.)	11,263 tons

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The Productivity Incentive Scheme for refuse collection continued to operate very successfully, and few complaints were received of the service during the year.

The Council agreed to extend the sack system of collection to an additional 700 premises during the forthcoming year. The Council also agreed to inaugurate during the forthcoming year a system for the collection of garden refuse. Under this system special plastic sacks may be purchased from the Council, and garden refuse placed in these sacks is removed by the collectors during the normal course of their work.

Refuse disposal is still by means of controlled tipping on the Cob land and continues to be satisfactory. I reported during the year on the future of refuse disposal under reorganisation, and my view is that it will be necessary to instal some form of pre-treatment of refuse before any further extension of the present tip can be sought. In view of impending local government reorganisation, this matter has been referred to the Joint Committee of the new merging authorities, and will, in my opinion, require to be dealt with as a matter of urgency by the new authority when elected in 1973.

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

TABLE VI. — REFUSE

Showing Cost of Refuse Collection and Disposal Year 1971/72 (To 31st March, 1972)

Particulars	Collection		Disposal		Total	
	Including loan charges	Excluding loan charges	Including loan charges	Excluding loan charges	Including loan charges	Excluding loan charges
Gross Expenditure	£ 54,211	£ 48,608	£ 12,771	£ 12,114	£ 66,982	£ 60,722
Gross Income	1,626	1,626	4,335	4,335	5,961	5,961
Net Cost	52,585	46,982	8,436	7,779	61,021	54,761
Net Cost per 1,000 Population	2,434.49	2,175.09	390.56	360.14	2,825.05	2,535.23
Net Cost per 1,000 Premises	5,782.38	5,166.26	927.64	855.40	6,710.02	6,021.66
Net Cost, Equivalent Rate in the £	4.32p	3.86p	0.69p	0.64p	5.01p	4.50p

Estimated Population (R.G.R. Mid-year 1971) ... 21,600
 Number of Rated Premises 9,094
 Total Rates in the £ 96½p
 Product of a 1p Rate (est.) £12,168

(Signed) E. G. BLACK,
 Chief Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING

The approximate number of all Dwellings for all classes to end of 1971 is 7,904.

Dwellings Erected and in course of Erection during 1971—

By the Council :—

Erected (Houses – 69; Bungalows – Nil)	69
Houses and Flats in course of erection	59

By Private Enterprise :—

Erected (Houses – 16; Flats – 0; Bungalows – 59)	75
Houses and Bungalows (in course of erection)	114
Adaptations and Conversions	Gains 2 } Losses — } (Due to demolition) 9 }
	Net —7

MEANS OF ESCAPE IN CASE OF FIRE

The coming into operation during the year of the Fire Prevention Act, 1971, caused considerable concern with regard to the Council's policy on 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. Whilst awaiting legal interpretation on its responsibilities, the Council were unable to formulate a definite policy with regard to established premises, and Statutory Notices were only served in respect of new premises coming within the scope of the legislation for the first time.

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

(A) Houses Demolished during the year 1971—

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 Compensa-
tion Act, 1961

Number of houses	Nil
Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil

Number of separate dwellings in-
cluded above which were pre-
viously reported as closed

In or adjoining Clearance Areas	Nil
Not in or adjoining Clearance Areas	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	2
Number of separate dwellings contained therein	2

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	16
From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance areas ...	Nil
From houses to be closed	6
From parts of buildings to be closed	Nil

(D) Number of Families Displaced during year :

From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas	7
From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance areas ...	Nil
From houses to be closed	2
From parts of buildings to be closed	Nil

(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	9
(b) by local authority	Nil
After formal notice under Public Health Acts	Nil
After modification or revocation of a clearance order made 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	Nil

(F) Other Houses in which Defects were Remedied :

After formal notice under Public Health Acts	23
After formal action under Section 19(1A) Housing Act 1957 :	
(a) by owner	4
(b) by local authority	Nil
After informal action by local authority	19

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

Position at end of year—

Retained for temporary accom-		
modation	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.

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

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

Five 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-six 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.

I did, however, have to express my concern to the Licensing Justices at the continued habit of smoking by persons whilst engaged in working in the licensing trade. This, of course, is an offence under the Food Hygiene Regulations and I trust that the Council will not have to resort to legal proceedings in order to eradicate the habit.

*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, 1971, 162 properties were treated for rats.

Three hundred and eighty-four properties further to the above were treated for mice, and 396 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 several times throughout its entire length in the Rhyl area.

Total number of visits made during the year for rats and/or mice : 3,616.

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

Several small infestations of pigeons, numbering 45, were eradicated. It is unfortunate that in certain circumstances these birds become a pest and a nuisance and have to be destroyed.

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, 1971, 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, 1971, for 18 weeks : Substituting for paragraph

(b) of Section 2 of the Shops Act, 1950 :

- (a) At 9.30 p.m. in the evening on the late day.
- (b) At 9 p.m. in the evening on any other day.

3—Rhyl (Suspension of Weekly Half-Holiday) Order, 1971, for 18 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 1971 ending on the 31st December.

During the year, 26 persons registered premises, bringing the total registered to 505 at the end of the year.

I append the various tables required by the Ministry of Labour in accordance with Section 60.

TABLE A — Registration and General Inspections

Class of premises	No. of premises newly registered during the year.	Total no. of reg. premises at end of year.	No. of reg. premises receiving one or more general inspec- tions during the year
Offices	6	93	85
Retail Shops	13	297	246
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	1	15	15
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	6	98	98
Fuel storage depots	—	2	1
Totals	26	505	445

*TABLE B — Number of Visits of all kinds (including General Inspections)
to Registered Premises :*

632.

No exemptions under Parts I, II, III and IV of the Act are in force.

TABLE C — Analysis by Workplace of Persons employed in registered premises at end of year

Class of workplace	No. of persons employed
Offices	774
Retail shops	1248
Wholesale departments, warehouses	171
Catering establishments open to the public	1025
Canteens	10
Fuel storage depots	24
Total	3252
Total Males	1324
Total Females	1928

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

No. of letters sent re infringements	7
Abstract not displayed	2
Cleansing and re-decoration of premises required (internal)	3
General Repairs	1
Defective or dangerous staircase	—
Defective water closet basins, pedestals and seats	2
Inadequate accommodation for clothing	—
Inadequate artificial lights	—
Inadequate cold water supply	—
Inadequate heating facilities	—
Inadequate hot water supply	—
Inadequate natural light	—
Inadequate sanitary accommodation	—
Inadequate ventilation	—
Inadequate washing facilities	4
Inadequate facilities for taking of meals	—
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	3
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.)	1
Total	23

TABLE F — *Inspectors*

No. of inspectors appointed under Section 52(1) or (5) of the Act	3
No. of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act	—

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The management and control of all public conveniences is in the Health Department.

The new toilet block at the Coliseum was completed during the year and proved very satisfactory during the summer. Complaints were received of the inadequacy of the Gents toilets at the Bowling Green, and the Council gave instructions for enlargement to be carried out in the ensuing year.

The system of free washing facilities, including supply of towel, at all conveniences where an attendant is on duty, came into operation and proved highly satisfactory, showing little abuse by the public. All charges were also removed from the toilets in the town centre during the year, although for economic reasons, charges continued at the public conveniences on the promenade.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

**AVERAGE CONCENTRATION OF SMOKE AND SULPHUR DIOXIDE
EXPRESSED AS MICROGRAMMES PER CUBIC METRE OF AIR**

Month	Smoke	Sulphur Dioxide
January	82	66
February	73	40
March	58	62
April	N	N
May	20	39
June	18	36
July	9	26
August	15	37
September	N	N
October	39	48
November	40	35
December	68	59

N—Insufficient daily readings in the month.

Averages for Winter months, 1971 (January—March and October—December):
Smoke 60.0, Sulphur Dioxide 51.6.

Averages for Summer months, 1971 (April to September): Smoke 15.5
Sulphur Dioxide 34.5.

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various positions in the Department of the Interior, and who have been assigned to the various divisions of the Department.

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