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WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH
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6 SEP 1938

A.

BOROUGH OF RUTHIN.

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for 1937.

Medical Officer of Health
(part time)

Sanitary Inspector
(part time)

ENID HUGHES,
M.D., D.P.H.

P. THOMAS.

R. T. ROBERTS, PRINTER, RUTHIN.

REPORT OF THE

Annual Report

of the

JOHN H. HUGHES,
GOVERNOR.

ALBANY, N. Y.,
JANUARY, 1882.

ALBANY: PUBLISHED BY THE STATE.

**To His Worship the Mayor, and Members of the
Ruthin Borough Council.**

THE MANOR HOUSE.

RUTHIN.

JUNE, 1938.

MR. MAYOR, MISS BEECH AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1937, which has been prepared according to the circular issued by the Welsh Board of Health.

During the year the population has increased slightly. The Birth rate has increased from 12.3 to 15.1 per 1000 population, but the standardised birth rate is only 13.1, which is lower than that for England and Wales, namely 14.9. The death rate per 1000 population has dropped from 14.5 to 13.5, and the standardised figure of 11.7 compares favourably with the figure for England and Wales—12.4.

The infant mortality rate is 62.5 per 1000 births, an increase over 51.3 last year and higher than 58, the figure for England and Wales. This is not to be taken too seriously as the total births were only 48, and one death produces a big alteration in the rate per 1000.

The outstanding achievement of the year was the satisfactory working of the filtration and chlorinating plant at the Water Works. Repeated bacteriological reports showed the great advantage to the townspeople since the taking over of this supply by the Council, in a supply of reliable water.

There was singularly little infectious disease during the year. There was practically no demand for the free immunisation against diphtheria. It is to be hoped that people fully realise that three months must elapse between this immunisation and full protection against the disease.

The question of housing occupied much of the time and attention of the Council. It was finally decided to build thirty-six

houses as a start in the housing scheme. Thirty-six houses out of the list considered suitable for demolition were therefore selected. It is not considered that these thirty-six were the only unsatisfactory houses in the town, but that they were the most suitable to demolish first.

I wish to thank the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Thomas for his helpful co-operation in the work in the borough.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Miss Beech and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ENID HUGHES,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area.	...	...	...	2016 acres.
Resident population (estimated mid-year 1937)				3175
Number of inhabited houses	...	...		910
Rateable value	...	...	...	£18,148
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	£71

Vital Statistics.

		Total,	Male.	Female.
Live Births.	{ Legitimate	46	26	20
	{ Illegitimate	2	1	1
		48	27	21

Live Birth rate per thousand resident population.

1937	1936	England and Wales.
15.1	12.3	14.9

Standardised birth rate 13.1

	Total	Male	Female
Still Births	Legitimate	1	0
	Illegitimate	0	0
	1	1	0

	1937	1936	England & Wales.
Still birth rate per 100 total (live and still) births.	20.4	0	

	1937	1936	England and Wales
Still birth rate per 1000 population	0.31	0	0.60

Deaths	Total.	Male.	Female.
	43	18	25

Death rate per 1000 1937 estimated population—	1936	England & Wales
13.5	14.5	12.4

Standardised death rate 11.7

Deaths from puerperal causes 0

..... 1936 0

Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age.

	1938	1937	England & Wales.
All infants per 1000 live births.	62.5	51.3	58
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births.	65.2	27	Not available.
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births.	0	500	Not available.
Deaths from cancer (all ages)	5	4	
Deaths from measles (all ages)	0	0	
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	0	0	
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0	0	

There was a severe epidemic of influenza in January and February. Three deaths were notified, all in elderly persons, of average age 75. The death rate from pneumonia during the year was a little less than in 1936. Other wise there was very little notifiable infections during the year. There were no return cases.

There is no evidence available that unemployment has had any significant influence on health or physique. It is noticed that the food prepared by housewives on the dole varies considerably in individual cases. I should be glad to see some instruction on the preparation of cheap nourishing food. I do not think pamphlets and notes are of much value, but lectures or demonstrations might be.

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

1. (i) Public Health Officials. Part-time Medical Officer of Health.
Part-time Sanitary Inspector.

(ii) Public Health Services.

- (a) Laboratory facilities. No change.
- (b) Ambulance Services. The service obtained by private transport and an Ambulance at Denbigh remains adequate
- (c) Nursing in the home. No change.
- (d) Treatment centres and clinics. No change.
- (e) Hospitals. No change.

There are available beds for all surgical cases and maternity cases, but poor facilities for adequate treatment of ear, nose and throat cases.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.1. (i) *Water.*

The water supply has functioned regularly through the year. For the first three months of the new working, samples for bacteriological examination were taken monthly, and later quarterly tests were made. An epidemic of mild jaundice occurred in the autumn, and numerous special examinations were made of water supplies. The bacteriological reports in all cases were satisfactory. Samples are now sent monthly for bacteriological examination. As the water is chlorinated, more frequent sampling is not thought necessary.

(ii) *Drainage and Sewerage.*

During the year the disposal works functioned satisfactorily.

2. *Rivers and Streams.*

No evidence of pollution during the year.

(i) *Closet Accommodation*

Number of dry closets converted to water carriage system during the year	9
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Number of dry closets remaining on 31 Dec. 1937.	57
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(At the end of 1933 this number was 102)

Number of water closets	859
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(ii) *Public Cleansing,*

The scavenging of streets is carried out regularly. House refuse is collected weekly from all premises. During the year, 34,745 ashbins and 124 ashpits were emptied, making a total of 832 loads, equivalent to about 624 tons.

(iii) *Sanitary Inspection of the area-*

Factories, Workshops and Bakeries.

These are regularly inspected and are kept in a satisfactory state.

Daries, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

Several visits of inspection have been paid and the dairies etc are all well maintained.

(iv) *Shops Act 1936.*

There are 103 shops registered under this act, and they are periodically inspected.

(v) *Smoke Abatement.*

No action has been necessary under this Act during the year.

(vi) *Swimming Bath.*

There are no swimming baths in the area.

(vii) *Eradication of bed bugs.*

One case of bed bug infestation was dealt with in a privately owned house, no further complaints have been received. There has been no supervision or education of persons to prevent such infestation.

(4) *Schools.*

The sanitary condition of the elementary schools is improved. There is now a water supply in both schools for drinking purposes as well as toilet purposes. There was singularly little infectious disease during the year, and no action was necessary as regards school closure.

SECTION D.

Housing.1 *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.*

- | | | | |
|-----|-----|--|-----|
| (1) | (a) | Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 194 |
| | (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose. | 243 |
| (2) | (a) | Number of dwelling houses (included under subhead (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Regulations (Consolidated) 1925 | 85 |
| | (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose. | 94 |
| (3) | | Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. | 40 |
| (4) | | Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to in the preceding subhead) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. | 14 |

(2) *Remedy of defects without service of formal notice during the year.*

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal notice by the local Authority or their officers.	14
--	----

3 *Action under Statutory Powers during the year.*

- | | | |
|-----|--|------|
| (a) | Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936. | |
| 1 | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. | Nil. |
| 2 | Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after services of formal notices. | |
| (a) | By owners | Nil, |
| (b) | By local Authority in default of owners. | Nil. |
| (b) | Proceedings under the Public Health Acts. | |

1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. Nil.

2 Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.

(a) By owners. Nil.

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners. Nil.

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. Nil.

2 Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. Nil.

Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. Nil.

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. Nil.

Housing Act 1936 Part iv Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year. 51

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	51
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein.	235
(b) Number of fresh cases of overcrowding reported during the year.	Nil.
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.	Nil.
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases.	Nil.
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling Houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of over-crowding.	Nil.

It is considered that the majority of cases of over crowding may be dealt with when there are more houses built with larger rooms. The over crowding is not in my opinion nearly so urgent a question in Ruthin as the bad state of certain of the houses. With the proposed demolition of many of these houses and the moving of the tenants to the new houses now in course of construction, over crowding will largely disappear.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.*Milk and Dairies.*

The dairies and farms producing and selling milk were regularly inspected. They are consistently clean and well kept.

Samples were taken from all milk sellers in the Borough for a biological test for tubercle. In every case the test was negative.

Meat.

The slaughter houses and meat shops have been regularly inspected.

Carcases inspected and condemned

	Cattle. excluding cows.	Cows	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs
Number killed (if known)					
Number inspected	46	0	14	108	26
<i>All diseases except tuberculosis.</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	0	0	0	0	0
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned.	2	0	0	14	0
Percentage of the number infec- ted disease other than tuberculosis	44%	0	0	13%	0
Number killed (if known).					
Number inspected	46	0	14	108	26

All diseases except tuberculosis.

Whole carcasses condemned	0	0	0	0	0
Carcases, of which some part or organ was condemned	2	0	0	14	0
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	44%			13%	

Tuberculosis only.

Whole carcasses condemned	0	0	0	0	0
	Cattle, excluding cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Carcases of which some part or was condemned	0	0	0	0	0
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	0

(c) Adulteration etc.

These acts are not administered by the Local Authority.

(d) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.
No such work has been done.(e) *Nutrition.*

No action has been taken by the Council to increase the knowledge of the public about adequate nutrition, though there is ample need of such instruction in the borough.

(f) Shell Fish.

Not applicable in the District.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

There was very little infectious disease during 1937. Two out of three cases of scarlet fever notified were known to have been contracted out of the district. Two of three notified cases of diphtheria were suspected contacts with a case out of the district. There was no spread of the diseases in either case. There were this year no return cases after discharge from the Isolation Hospital, but strict supervision is kept over discharge cases to reduce the risk. The absence of any convalescent fever hospital in the County is troublesome.

There was a wide-spread epidemic of influenza at the end of January and the beginning of February, with a return of the epidemic, less widespread but more severe in April. Three deaths only were registered from influenza and these occurred in elderly inmates of the Public Assistance Institution.

Only one child was immunised against diphtheria under the Council scheme for free immunisation. It was decided to use the Two-shot method with alum precipitate toxin in future, as there were 3.5% of failures in the case immunised.

No action was necessary for school closure throughout the year,

There was an epidemic of jaundice, elsewhere referred to, during the late autumn. No cause was found, though the disease was apparently mildly infectious, affecting a large number of children in one of the schools.

Notifiable diseases other than Tuberculosis.

Disease.	Age Group.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Small Pox	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever	3—	1	1	0
	20—	1	1	0
	35—	1	1	0
Diphtheria	5—	1	1	0
	10—	1	1	0
	15—	1	0	0
Enteric Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	35—	2	1	Nil
Erysipelas	65—	1	1	1
Pneumonia	Under 1—	1	0	Nil
	5—	1	1	Nil
	10—	1	1	Nil
	45—	1	0	Nil
	65—	2	2	2

4 (a) *Prevention of Blindness.*

No action was taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act 1925 or under Section 176 of the Public Health Act 1936 for the prevention of blindness or the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

(b) *Tuberculosis.*

No action was necessary under the Public Health (prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, or under section 62 of the Public Health Act 1925, or Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1937.

New Cases.				Deaths.			
Respiratory.				Respiratory, Non-respiratory.			
Age periods.	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
0—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15—	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
25—	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
35—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45—	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
55—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals.	2	0	1	0	1	1	0

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

RESEARCH REPORT
ON THE
STRUCTURE OF
THE
CRYSTAL
OF
SODIUM
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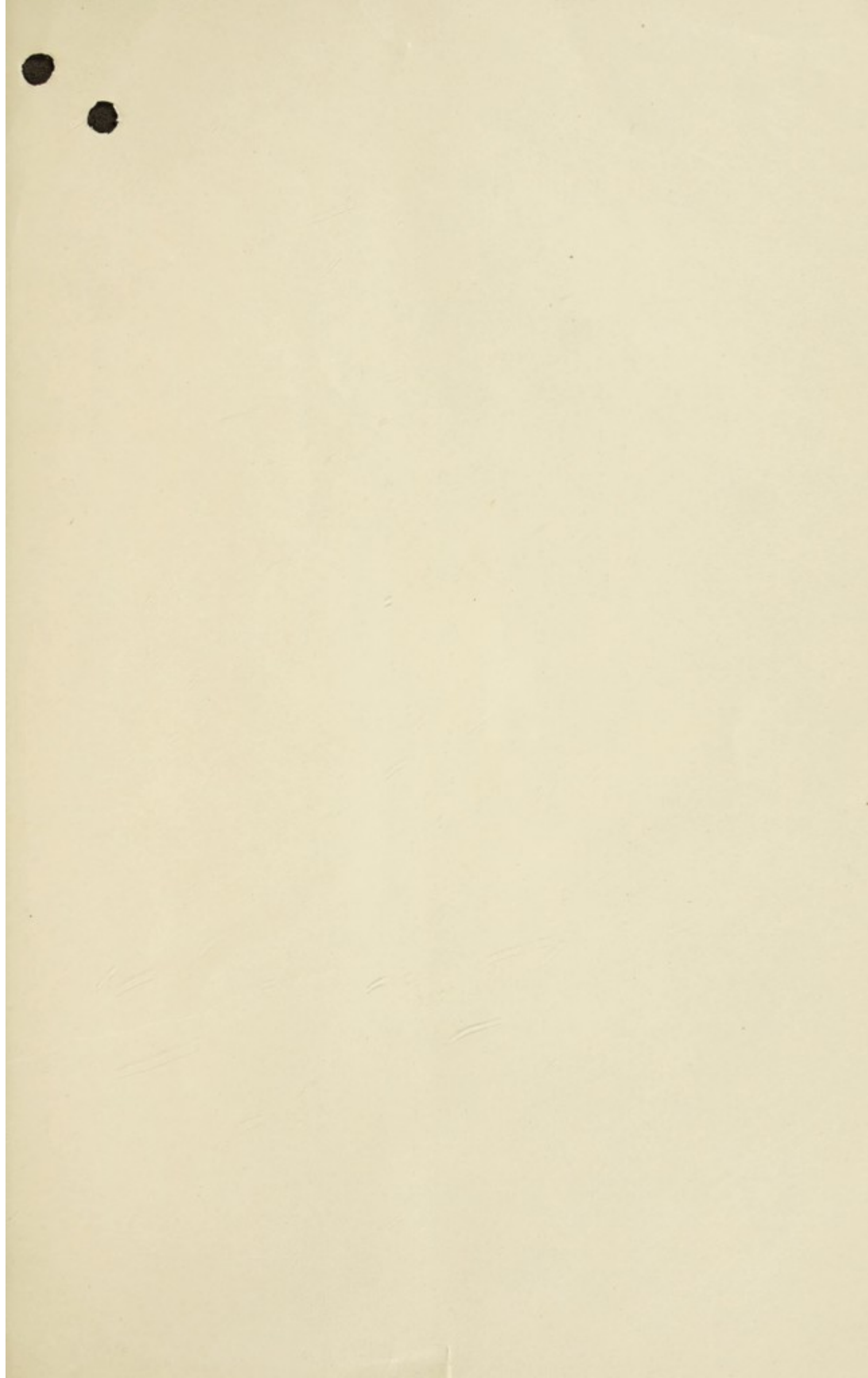
BY
J. H. VAN VLECK

PH.D. THESIS
SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF THE DIVISION OF THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES
IN CANDIDACY FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
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UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
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