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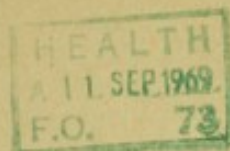
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BOROUGH OF RUTHIN

ANNUAL

HEALTH REPORT

1968

Medical Officer of Health	-	M. JONES ROBERTS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Part-time Clerical Assistant Western No. 2 District	-	MRS. I. F. QUA, County Council Clinic, Mount Street, Ruthin. Tel. No. Ruthin 2361.
Public Health Inspector	-	D. S. MORGAN, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
Clerical Assistant	-	MISS B. OWEN, Town Hall, Ruthin. Tel. No. Ruthin 2855.

THE  
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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
Borough of Ruthin.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

The Public Health Inspector and I have pleasure  
in presenting our report on the health of the Borough for the  
year 1968.

We wish to thank you, Mr. Mayor, the Chairman  
of the Health and Housing Committees and members for the  
assistance given to us during the year. We would also like  
to thank the officials and members of the staff for their  
assistance whenever asked for.

Yours faithfully,

M. JONES ROBERTS

Medical Officer of Health.

The Mayor of the Borough and the Chairmen of  
the Health Committees during the year were as follows:-

Mayor of the Borough	-	Alderman Ellis Davies.
Chairman of the Housing and Public Health Committee	-	Alderman Mrs. H. Adam.



# GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE BOROUGH.

Area of the Borough .....	2016 acres
Registrar General's estimated mid-year population .....	3,920
Number of inhabited houses .....	1,500
Rateable Value (1:4:68) .....	£161,699.
Sum represented by a penny rate .....	£617

The estimated population of the Borough was 3,920 compared with 3,790 in 1967, an increase of 130.

The number of inhabited houses was 1,500 compared with 1,266 in 1967, an increase of 234.

## DEATHS.

Comparability Factor: 0.64.

	<u>England and Wales, 1968.</u>	<u>Ruthin Borough</u> <u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Crude Death Rate (per 1000 population)	11.9	14.5	13.
Corrected Death Rate (per 1000 population)		9.1	8.
Stillbirth Rate (per 1000 live and still- births)	14	48.7	19
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1000 total live and stillbirths)	0.24	24.3	Nil
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 total live births)	18	25.6	Nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks per 1000 total live births)	12.3	25.6	Nil
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1000 total live births)	10.5	25.6	Nil
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1000 total live and still- births)	25	73.1	19

The following table shows the number of deaths which occurred during the year.

Cause of Death	Sex	Total All ages	25 -	35 -	45 -	55 -	65 -	75 and over
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	M	2	-	-	1	-	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	F	2	1	-	-	-	1	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	M	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	2	-	1	-	-	1	-
Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	M	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hypertensive Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	7	-	1	-	2	1	3
	F	4	-	-	-	-	1	3
Other forms of Heart Disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
Cerebrovascular Disease	M	4	-	-	-	-	2	2
	F	4	-	-	-	-	1	3
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	M	4	-	-	-	2	-	2
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	2	-	-	-	1	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peptic Ulcer	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Diseases of Musculo- Skeletal System	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
All Other Accidents	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL ALL CAUSES:	M	24	-	1	2	5	6	10
	F	28	1	1	-	1	5	20



There were 52 deaths during the year compared with 56 the previous year, giving a Death Rate of 8.5 compared with 9.1 in 1967, and 11.9 for England and Wales. Of these deaths, 41 occurred in persons aged 65 years and over.

Malignancy caused 9 deaths compared with 9 in 1967, 2 of these were due to lung cancer compared with 2 last year; 1 was cancer of the breast and 2 cancer of the womb.

Heart and vascular diseases accounted for 26 deaths compared with 12 last year.

Bronchitis was a cause of 2 deaths and pneumonia 7 deaths, all occurring in people aged 55 years and over.

Pulmonary tuberculosis was the cause of one death.

One death was caused by a disease of the nervous system, 1 to peptic ulcer and 1 to other diseases of the digestive system.

There was 1 death due to disease of the genito-urinary system, 1 to diseases of the skin and 1 to diseases of the musculo-skeletal system.

There was one accidental death compared with 2 last year and this occurred in an aged person who fell out of bed and fractured her femur.

#### Infant Deaths.

There were no infant deaths this year compared with 1 last year, giving an Infant Mortality Rate of Nil compared with 25.6 last year and 18 for England and Wales.

#### Still-Births.

There was 1 still-birth compared with 2 last year, giving a Still-birth Rate of 19 compared with 48.7 last year and 14 for England and Wales.

This still-birth (a boy) occurred in hospital at 40 weeks' gestation and was due to placental insufficiency and group A rhesus negative. It is difficult to say whether this was avoidable.

#### Maternal Mortality.

There were no maternal deaths compared with 1 last year, giving a Maternal Mortality Rate of Nil compared with 24.3 the previous year and 0.24 for England and Wales.

#### Motor Vehicle Accidents.

Total number of accidents within the Borough:-

Slightly injured:	16
Seriously injured:	3
Killed;	0
Total:	19

#### BIRTHS.

Comparability Factor: 1.32

Number of births relating to residents: 54



The hospital in Ruthin has a maternity unit which also caters for the surrounding areas. Births relating to residents in the Borough also take place in hospitals in adjoining areas. The births were classified as follows:-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>		
Legitimate	25	24	49		
Illegitimate	1	3	4		
Still-births	1	-	1		
	<u>27</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>54</u>		
		<u>England and Wales, 1968.</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	
Crude Birth Rate (per 1000 home population)		16.9	10.3	13.5	
Corrected Birth Rate (per 1000 population)			13.6	17.8	

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

As can be seen from the table, the following infectious diseases were notified during the year.

Notifiable Disease	Total 1967	Total 1968	1 - 5 years	6 - 15 years
Dysentery	2	-	-	-
Measles	21	6	5	1
Whooping Cough	2	3	3	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	-	-	-
TOTALS:	26	9	8	1

Nine cases were notified compared with 26 in 1967. Of these, 6 cases were due to measles and 5 of these occurred in children of 1 to 5 years of age.

There were 3 cases of whooping cough compared to 2 the previous year, all occurring in children aged between 1 and 5 years and in the same family.

#### Tuberculosis.

No cases of tuberculosis were notified compared to 1 in 1967. Four cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were removed from the register during the year, 3 having died and 1 was cured.

The following table shows the number of cases on the register at the beginning and end of 1968.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total.</u>
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>ales</u>	<u>Females</u>	
Number on Register on 1st January, 1968.	7	3	2	0	12
Number on Register on 31st December, 1968.	3	3	2	0	8



### Anthrax.

One case of anthrax was notified in a cow but this notice was withdrawn following veterinary examination.

### Brucella.

No cases were notified during the year.

## PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following shows the number protected by prophylactic measures:-

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Booster</u>
Diphtheria	45	187
Whooping Cough	44	77
Tetanus	49	181
Poliomyelitis (Sabin vaccine)	72	127
Measles	14	
Smallpox	46	3 (re-vaccination)

### Tuberculosis - B.C.G. Vaccination.

The number of senior school children tested and given B.C.G. vaccination was as follows:-

#### Brynhyfryd School.

Number of children tested:	109
Number of children found to be negative:	21
Number of children found to be negative and given B.C.G. vaccination	80

Those found to be positive were followed up by chest examination, x-ray etc. The families were also investigated.

The Mass Radiography Unit did not visit the Borough during the year.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

### Food.

The number of food premises in the Borough is as follows:

General Food premises (grocery etc.)	19
Public Houses and Hotels	10
Cafes and Restaurants	7
School Canteens	4
Kitchens in Hospitals and Old Peoples' Homes	2
Bakehouses	4
Butchers' Shops	10
Fried Fish Shops	5
Vans and Stalls	2

During the year 22 visits have been made to food premises.

### Unsound Food.

The undermentioned foodstuffs were certified as being unfit for human consumption.



Tinned meat:	4 lb.
Tinned vegetables	35 lbs.
Tinned Fruit	36 lbs.

#### Ice Cream.

No samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination. There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the Borough, and all the ice cream sold is manufactured by large firms who sample regularly throughout the country.

#### Meat Inspection.

During the year 195 visits were made to the slaughterhouse for the purpose of meat inspections etc.

#### Slaughterhouse.

There is one slaughterhouse in the centre of the town, and as regards slaughtering it is up to required standards. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries have made their annual visits and are satisfied with the existing conditions prevailing there. During the year the whole premises have been repainted.

#### Animals slaughtered.

During the year the following number of animals were slaughtered:-

Cattle .....	872
Calves .....	12
Sheep .....	6,239
Pigs .....	740

#### Condemned Meat.

The following meat and offal were rejected as unfit for human consumption:-

Ox liver .....	364 lbs.
Sheep liver .....	233 lbs.
Pig liver .....	196 lbs.
Miscellaneous Offal .....	65 lbs.
Pigs' Heads .....	15 lbs.
Beef Carcase Meat .....	981 lbs.
Sheep Carcases and Organs.	365 lbs.

#### Food Sampling.

Food sampling under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, has been carried out by Mr. Hugh Owens, Chief Inspector, County of Denbigh, and we are grateful to him for the following report.

Article	Number Taken	Genuine	Not Genuine or Sub-Standard
MILK	9	8	1
Cultured Buttermilk	1	1	-
Ice Cream	1	1	-
Phenol Gargle	1	1	-
<hr/>			
TOTAL	12	11	1

Of the nine samples of milk submitted to the Public Analyst only one was the subject of an adverse report. This was a sample which was certified as being deficient in fat. When investigated it was found that the producer was not as careful with his bottling procedure as he should have been. He has been advised and cautioned accordingly.



The other samples were found to be genuine and free from all prohibited preservatives and colouring matter. In addition to the test for quality six samples of farm bottled milk submitted were examined for the presence of antibiotics, with a negative result in each case.

As you will no doubt observe, the year has been quite satisfactory and the amount of trouble small. Although stringent economy measures will prevail during the next financial year, this should in no way effect the sampling programme.

Two particular features worth commenting on are the new medicines Act and the publication of the Analysts report on pesticidal residues. As yet I have not had much time to study the new Act, but it would appear that much more stringent provisions will be made with regard to medicines and drugs generally. The pesticidal residue report is published by the association of Public Analysts, 325 Kennington Road, London, S.E. 11, and deals with the first 12 months of the joint scheme which has been in operation throughout England and Wales.

#### Brucellosis.

Milk from all producer/retailers are sampled at least once a quarter.

#### Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

15 visits have been made to these premises during the year and there are 73 registered premises within the Borough. Due to pressure of work on the Surveyor's and Housing Manager's side of this post it is impossible to do justice to this aspect of the work.

#### Water Supply.

The water supply to the town is the responsibility of the West Denbighshire and West Flintshire Water Board. The Board take their samples as a safeguard to ensure that their plant is working correctly and we, as a Public Health Authority, take samples so that the public are safeguarded against any error or breakdown which could not be foreseen.

The following samples have been taken during the year:-

Date	Nature of Sample	Report - Ministry of Health Classification.
2:4:68	Part filtered and chlorinated water from tap in house, Llanfair Road, Ruthin.	Class 1 - Excellent
30:4:68.	Filtered and chlorinated water from taps at 82, Haulfryn and 8, Canol-y-Dre.	Class 1 - Excellent
18:6:68.	Raw water from tap at Efail Newydd Borehole.	Class 1 - Excellent
18:6:68.	Filtered and chlorinated water from 5, Upper Clwyd Street.	Class 1 - Excellent
24:7:68.	Raw water from tap, Efail Newydd Borehole.	Class 1 - Excellent
13:8:68.	Raw water from tap in Efail Newydd (from Borehole).	Class 1 - Satisfactory.



Date	Nature of Sample	Report - Ministry of Health Classification.
13:8:68.	Filtered and chlorinated water from tap at 5, Upper Clwyd Street, (Bathafarn & Efail Newydd)	Class 4 - Unsatisfactory.
20:8:68.	Raw water from tap in Pump house, Efail Newydd.	Class 1 - Satisfactory.
20:8:68.	Filter House (Bathafarn)	Class 1 - Excellent.
11:9:68.	Filtered and chlorinated water from taps at The Pines, Greenfield Road, Ruthin, Bathafarn Farm and 5, Upper Clwyd Street, Ruthin.	Class 1 - Excellent.
2:10:68.	Filtered and chlorinated water from tap at Bathafarn Filter House.	Class 1 - Excellent.
9:10:68.	Filtered and chlorinated water from tap at Ruthin Clinic.	Class 1 - Excellent.
2:10:68.	Filtered and chlorinated water from taps at 56, Porth-y-Dre, and Ruthin Clinic.	Class 1 - Excellent.
17:10:68.	Filtered and chlorinated water from taps at Bathafarn Filter House.	Class 1 - Excellent.
	Raw water from tap at Efail Newydd.	Class 1 - Excellent.
27:11:68.	Filtered and chlorinated water from taps, Bathafarn Filter House, and 5, Upper Clwyd Street, Ruthin.	Class 1 - Excellent.
	Raw water from tap in Efail Newydd Borehole.	Class 1 - Excellent.
10:12:68.	Filtered and chlorinated water from tap, Bathafarn Filter House.	Class 1 - Excellent.
10:12:68.	Raw water from tap in Efail Newydd Pumphouse.	Class 1 - Excellent.

#### Chemical Analyses.

The following reports of chemical analyses of samples of water have been kindly sent by the Engineer, West Denbighshire and West Flintshire Water Board.

24th October, 1968. Efail Newydd borehole, Ruthin.

#### Analysis

a	clear and colourless
Appearance	no deposit
Odour	nil
Reaction, pH	6.9
Colour (Hazen Units)	less than 5
	- parts per million-
Total solids	320
Nitrogen as free & saline ammonia	0.00
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	0.00
Nitrogen as nitrites	nil



Nitrogen as nitrates	2.5
Chlorides, as Cl	26
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C	0.2
Total hardness	238
Temporary hardness	190
Permanent hardness	48
Alkalinity	190
Free Chlorine	nil
Potassium, as K	1.4
Anionic synthetic detergents	-
Manganese, as Mn	Less than 0.025
Cyanides and thiocyanates	-
Poisonous metals	nil
Iron, as Fe	0.05
Free carbon dioxide	48

#### Opinion.

The water contains a rather high concentration of aggressive carbon dioxide and may have some corrosive effect upon metals, particularly iron and zinc. The organic condition is satisfactory.

24th October, 1969. Bathafarn Filter House, Ruthin.

#### Analysis

Appearance	clear and colourless no deposit
Odour	nil
Reaction, pH	7.0
Colour (Hazen Units)	less than 5 - parts per million -
Total solids	184
Nitrogen as free & saline ammonia	0.00
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	0.00
Nitrogen as nitrites	nil
Nitrogen as nitrates	less than 0.5
Chlorides, as Cl	24
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C	1.3
Total hardness	114
Temporary hardness	72
Permanent hardness	42
Alkalinity	72
Free Chlorine	nil
Potassium, as K	0.8
Anionic synthetic detergents	-
Manganese, as Mn	less than 0.025
Cyanides and thiocyanates	-
Poisonous metals	nil
Iron, as Fe	0.07
Free carbon dioxide	19

#### Opinion

The chemical condition of this water is satisfactory.

#### Housing.

The number of houses completed within the Borough during the year is as follows:-

Number of private houses and bungalows completed:	115
Number of Council houses, bungalows and flats completed:	120 three bedroomed houses 20 Old Age Pensioners bungalows



Total number of Council houses in the area is as follows:-

Houses:	4 bedroomed:	1
	3 bedroomed:	374
	2 bedroomed:	42
	1 bedroomed:	4
Bungalows:	2 bedroomed:	70
	1 bedroomed:	-
Flats:	1 bedroomed:	20
	2 bedroomed:	8
Total:		519

The position regarding the applicants for Council houses during the year was as follows:-

Number of applicants on register December, 1968:	25
Number of new applicants during the year:	40
Number rehoused during the year:	160

#### Council Houses.

During this year the Council has completed 120 three bedroomed houses and 20 Old People's dwellings. These houses are Rofton industrialised steel houses, the outer shells of which are brought to site in sections, and bolted together. All internals are then made up on site around a centre core unit. The contract figure for the work was £408,000 and as Supervisory Officer in charge of the scheme it has entailed a considerable amount of extra work and responsibility during and after office hours.

As these houses were a new venture, there were a large number of teething troubles to overcome. I am pleased to say that with constant and vigilant supervision the contract is now coming to an end without too many unsurmountable defects.

The estate is now becoming a pleasant looking unit, regardless of the fact that the houses are flat roofed and totally untraditional.

There are still 25 to 30 people on the Council's waiting list for houses and there is also need for at least 20 bungalows for elderly people.

It would be a great advantage to this housing authority if bungalows were built, as there are a number of elderly people still occupying 2 and 3 bedroomed council houses who could be encouraged to take bungalows, thus releasing houses to cope with the housing need in this area.

#### Improvement Grants.

The number of Discretionary and Standard Grants approved by the Council during the year is as follows:-

Number of Discretionary Grants:	4
Number of Standard Grants:	0

#### Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The new sewage works are operating satisfactorily and a new elevator has been purchased to facilitate the removal of sludge from the beds. At the moment it is not possible to assess the efficiency of this new piece of equipment.



At times the works have been overloaded due to the discharge from the cattle auction market held in the town during the latter end of each week, but notices have been served on the owners to provide their own settlement tanks etc. so that the works can function satisfactorily and receive a constant unvaried flow of sewage which it can adequately deal with. The unsatisfactory results on analyses have been basically due to the auction mart and minor troubles with the dosing chamber which has now been rectified.

Due to the increase of building in the area a further section of sewers will have to be increased and if the building programme of the town carries on as at present, the sewage works will also have to be extended. As you will note the 1966 and 1967 figures for private house building were respectively numbered 20 and 43 and council houses building nil, but the 1968 figures are 115 private houses built and 140 council houses. This is a tremendous stride forward in the progress of this small town, and plans have been approved for private building for a further 200 houses, which will be built within the next two years.

#### Analytical Report on Final Effluent from the Sewage Works.

6th May, 1968.

pH.....7.3

Appearance .....Turbid, yellow/grey.

Odour ..... Very faint septic.

The following results (unless otherwise stated) are expressed in parts per million:

Oxygen absorbed from acid N/80 $\text{KMnO}_4$ in 4 hours at $27^\circ\text{C}$ (Permanganate Value) .....	14.6
Biochemical Oxygen Demand in 5 days at $20^\circ\text{C}$ .....	43
Free and Saline Ammonia (as N) .....	8.9
Nitrite Nitrogen .....	0.54
Total Oxidised Nitrogen .....	11.1
Chloride (as Cl) .....	52
Suspended Solids (dried at $105^\circ\text{C}$ .....	34

Remarks: Unsatisfactory.

15th August, 1968.

pH .....7.5

Appearance .....Slight yellow/grey

Odour ..... Slight sewage

Oxygen absorbed from acid N/80 $\text{KMnO}_4$ in 4 hours at $27^\circ\text{C}$ (Permanganate Value).....	16.0
Biochemical Oxygen Demand in 5 days at $20^\circ\text{C}$ .....	23
Free and Saline Ammonia (as N) .....	6.6
Nitrite Nitrogen .....	0.80
Total Oxidised Nitrogen .....	12.0
Chloride (as Cl) .....	52
Suspended Solids (dried at $105^\circ\text{C}$ .....	27

Remarks: Borderline.

16th September, 1968.

ph.....7.4

Appearance .....Turbid, grey/green.

Odour .....Sweetish.



Oxygen absorbed from acid N/80 $\text{KMnO}_4$ in 4 hours at 27°C (Permanganate Value) .....	17.9
Biochemical Oxygen Demand in 5 days at 20°C .....	30.0
Free and Saline Ammonia (as N) .....	5.4
Nitrite Nitrogen .....	0.58
Total Oxidised Nitrogen .....	12.9
Chloride (as Cl) .....	55
Suspended Solids (dried at 105°C) .....	44

Remarks: Borderline.

2nd October, 1968.

pH ..... 7.5  
 Appearance ..... Turbid, slight grey/green.  
 Odour ..... Earthy.

Oxygen absorbed from acid N/80 $\text{KMnO}_4$ in 4 hours at 27°C (Permanganate Value) .....	13.7
Biochemical Oxygen Demand in 5 days at 20°C .....	23.5
Free Saline Ammonia (as N) .....	12.2
Nitrite Nitrogen .....	0.63
Total Oxidised Nitrogen .....	16.7
Chloride (as Cl) .....	53
Suspended Solids (dried at 105°C) .....	24

Remarks: Borderline

10th October, 1968.

pH ..... 7.3  
 Appearance ..... Greyish yellow, turbid.  
 Odour ..... Earthy.

Oxygen absorbed from acid N/80 $\text{KMnO}_4$ in 4 hours at 27°C (Permanganate Value) .....	18.2
Biochemical Oxygen Demand in 5 days at 20°C .....	45
Free and Saline Ammonia (as N) .....	16.3
Nitrite Nitrogen .....	1.0
Total Oxidised Nitrogen .....	13.2
Chloride (as Cl) .....	47
Suspended Solids (dried at 105°C) .....	44

Remarks: Unsatisfactory

14th October, 1968.

pH ..... 7.4  
 Appearance ..... Slight greyish yellow, turbid.  
 Odour ..... Earthy

Oxygen absorbed from acid N/80 $\text{KMnO}_4$ in 4 hours at 27°C (Permanganate Value) .....	13.2
Biochemical Oxygen Demand in 5 Days at 20°C .....	20
Chemical Oxygen Demand (Dichromate Value) .....	78
Free and Saline Ammonia (as N) .....	5.8
Nitrite Notrogen .....	0.5
Chloride (as Cl) .....	51
Suspended Solids (dried at 105°C) .....	20
Total Oxidised Nitrogen .....	6.0

Remarks: Satisfactory.



18th October, 1968.

pH.....	7.2	
Appearance .	Yellow-grey, turbid.	
Odour .....	Earthy.	
Oxygen absorbed from acid N/80 KMnO <sub>4</sub> in 4 hours at 27°C		
(Permanganate Value) .....		16.2
Biochemical Oxygen Demand in 5 days at 20°C .....		25
Free and Saline Ammonia (as N) .....		10.4
Nitrite Nitrogen .....		0.31
Total Oxidised Nitrogen .....		12.6
Chloride (as Cl) .....		50
Suspended Solids (dried at 105°C).....		52

Remarks: Borderline.

23rd October, 1968.

pH.....	7.0	
Appearance .....	Slight yellow, slight turbid	
Odour .....	Slight earthy.	
Oxygen absorbed from acid N/80 KMnO <sub>4</sub> in 4 hours at 27°C		
(Permanganate Value) .....		13.8
Biochemical Oxygen Demand in 5 days at 20°C .....		16.5
Free and Saline Ammonia (as N) .....		3.8
Nitrite Nitrogen .....		0.4
Total Oxidised Nitrogen .....		16.3
Chloride (as Cl) .....		54
Suspended Solids (dried at 105°C).....		62

Remarks: Satisfactory except for high suspended solids.

#### Public Conveniences.

These have been maintained in a satisfactory condition but complaints have been received due to the dirty habits of people who use the toilets. They are cleaned every morning and damage and filthiness have occurred after the period of cleansing on numerous occasions.

#### Refuse Collection.

The town is served with a regular weekly collection of house refuse and approximately 1,850 bins are collected weekly. The Council has ordered a new refuse vehicle of a larger capacity to cope with the increased quantity of refuse collection.

#### Refuse Disposal.

The refuse tip is being maintained in as clean a condition as possible and controlled tipping is carried out to the best of our ability, having regard to the covering material and plant available and the extra loads brought in from the Ruthin Rural District Council. During the year the Ruthin Rural District Council deposited 1028 loads at the tip.

#### Offensive Trades.

There are five fish frying establishments within the Borough and no complaints have been received about them during the year.

#### Rodent Control.

During the year 21 properties were successfully treated against



rats and all infestations notified to the office are promptly dealt with.

# FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

## Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

### PART 1 OF THE ACT.

#### 1. - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	31	10	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	11	8	-	-
Total	42	18	-	-

#### 2. - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-



note and all infractions notified to the office are promptly dealt with.

# FACTORIES ACT, 1947

Particulars  (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted  (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector. (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	1	-

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found	Number of cases in which defects were found	Number of cases in which defects were found	Number of cases in which defects were found	Number of cases in which defects were found
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unsanitary conditions (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Defective drainage (S.5)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

# PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE IN THE AREA.

## Laboratory Service.

The Public Health Laboratory at Conway carries out bacteriological examinations of water, food, etc. to detect any contamination. Milk is also examined bacteriologically and biologically for the presence of tubercle bacilli and brucella abortus.

Examination of throat swabs, blood, faeces, etc. are carried out to detect the presence of bacteria and viruses at Conway Public Health Laboratory and specimens have also been accepted at Rhyl hospital laboratory.

## Ambulance Service.

The following is given for the information of the Council, and the numbers refer to cases conveyed by the various ambulances and the mileage covered during the year.

	<u>Denbigh/ Ruthin.</u>	<u>Llanrwst.</u>	<u>Llangernyw.</u>	<u>Cerrig.</u>	<u>Totals.</u>
Number of cases conveyed -					
by ambulance	12,178	1,294	1,556	104	15,132
sitting case cars	8,831	5,110	31	1,568	15,540
Total miles travelled -					
by ambulance	128,186	14,906	19,761	1,202	164,055
sitting case cars	77,598	32,215	250	30,319	140,382
Number of ambulances per station:	7	1	1	1 (disbanded July, 1968)	
Whether manned by voluntary or full-time personnel:	Full-time	Full-time and voluntary	Full-time and voluntary	Voluntary. No ambulance at present.	
Number of sitting case cars	7	4	1	7	

<u>Area summary:</u>	Number of journeys.	Number of cases.	Total mileage.
Ambulances	4,874	15,132	164,055
Sitting case cars	2,746	15,540	140,382
Total:	7,620	30,672	304,437

## Mental Health Service.

This service is under the supervision of the County Medical Officer of Health. The Mental Welfare Officer for this area is Mr. Glyn Lloyd who may be contacted at the County Council Health Department, Mount Street, Ruthin, tel. no. Ruthin 2361.

## Orthopaedic Clinic.

This clinic is held at the Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh, on the first and third Wednesday morning in each month. Surgeons from the Gobowen Orthopaedic Hospital attend on the third Wednesday in each month.

Patients from the Borough also attend Orthopaedic clinics held weekly at Rhyl and Wrexham hospitals.



### Venereal Disease Clinic.

<u>Place</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>
H. M. Stanley Hospital, St. Asaph.	Tuesday	4.30 - 6.30 p.m.
War Memorial Hospital, Wrexham.	Monday (males) Wednesday (females)	5 - 7 p.m. 5 - 7 p.m.

### Family Planning Clinic.

Clinics are held as follows:-

Nant-y-Glyn Clinic, Colwyn Bay.	Monday Thursday	2.30 - 3.30 p.m. 7 - 8 p.m.
The Clinic, Fforddlas, Rhyl.	Wednesday	7 - 9 p.m.
The Clinic, Prestatyn.	Thursday	10 - 11 a.m.
The Clinic, King Street, Mold.	Wednesday	7 - 8 p.m.
The Infant Welfare Centre, Borough Grove, Flint.	Thursday	7 - 8 p.m.
1, Grosvenor Road, Wrexham.	Thursday 2nd & 4th Wednesday	2 - 4.30 p.m. 6.15 - 7.30 p.m.

### Cervical Cytology Clinic.

Clinics are held as follows:-

1, Grosvenor Road, Wrexham.	Thursday	5.30 - 8 p.m. By appointment on
Nant-y-Glyn Clinic, Colwyn Bay.	Friday	5 - 8 p.m. By appointment on

and also by General Practitioners.

### Chiropody Clinic.

This clinic is held at the Clinic, Mount Street, Ruthin, every Wednesday, by appointment. Patients are referred by General Practitioners, Health Visitors and District Nurses. A charge of 2/6d per treatment is made.

The number of persons who attended during the year was as follows:-

	<u>Ruthin.</u>	<u>Bryn Mair.</u>
Number on register:	151	
Number of sessions held	83	6
Number of appointments made:	553	36
Number of attendances:	477	36

The total number of treatments in 1968 was 477 compared with 450 in 1967, showing an increase of 27. The number of individual cases seen in 1968 was 125 and the number on the patients' register at December, 1968, was 151.

The attendance generally is fairly good with a slight falling



off in the winter months due to bad weather, illness and poor bus services from some outlying areas. There has been no domiciliary treatments at all yet in the Ruthin area.

#### Chest Clinic.

Patients from the Borough attend the Chest Clinic held every Wednesday morning at the Denbigh Infirmary and at the weekly clinics held at the Chest Clinic, Grosvenor Road, Wrexham, and at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Rhyl.

#### School Ophthalmic Clinic.

Clinics for school children are held at the Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh, by appointment, and children attend ophthalmic clinics held at Denbigh and St. Asaph Hospitals, and at Dr. Enid Hughes's surgery, Ruthin.

#### Child Guidance Clinic.

Clinics are held as follows:-

<u>Place</u>	<u>Day</u>
Bod Difyr, Cefn Road, Colwyn Bay.	Wednesday and Friday by appointment.
Gatefield Clinic, King's Mills Road, Wrexham.	Thursday and Friday, by appointment.
Mercier House Clinic, Russell Road, Rhyl.	Monday, by appointment.

#### Infant Welfare Clinic.

This clinic is held every Tuesday afternoon between 1.30 and 3.30 p.m. at the Clinic, Mount Street, Ruthin, and is well attended as can be seen from the following attendance figures:-

<u>Year of Birth.</u>	<u>First Attendances.</u>
1968	106
1967	70
1966/63	122
Total Attendances:	
Under 1 year	568
1 - 5 years	319

Special transport to the Clinic is provided from the outlying districts at Erryrys, Llanferres and Maeshafn where there are no convenient buses. The numbers carried during the year were as follows:-

	<u>Number of Visits.</u>	<u>Number carried - Mothers.</u>	<u>Babies.</u>
From Llanarmon Yn Ial, Llanferres and Maeshafn to Ruthin.	7	25	27

#### Welfare Foods.

Welfare foods are sold at the Clinic during clinic sessions.



### Dental Clinic.

The very satisfactory new clinic at Ruthin continues to provide under Mr. Elton comprehensive treatment for children who attend the schools in the Ruthin Borough and Ruthin Rural District areas. Pupils from outlying districts are conveyed to the clinic by the local authority ambulance service and this arrangement has been found to work well in practice.

It is recognized at national level that the number of expectant and nursing mothers treated by the local health authorities is declining and that also there is a decrease in the numbers of pre-school children treated. An increasing number of mothers now regularly attend for treatment with general dental practitioners. The dental inspection of expectant and nursing mothers is, however, most important, as it enables the need for treatment to be assessed and efforts to be made to ensure that, when necessary, it is being provided by one service or the other. This inspection also affords an excellent opportunity for dental health education. There is no provision under present statutory requirements for the compulsory inspection of pre-school children as distinct from children attending school. Attendance of this class is therefore voluntary and largely dependant upon the mother's "dental awareness". However, all pre-school children for whom treatment is sought from the local authority receive it.

### Prevention of Dental Disease.

This should be the first aim of a local authority health service. In this respect, it is appropriate to note the statement which the Minister of Health made to Parliament in October, 1968. He said "Fluoridated water has been supplied for some years in Anglesey, Watford and Birmingham. I am pleased to say, that since April of this year, five more fluoridation schemes have started, one in Lincolnshire, two in Warwickshire, one covering parts of Worcestershire and Warwickshire, and one covering the whole of Newcastle upon Tyne and Gateshead and parts of Northumberland and County Durham. The total population receiving fluoridated water in England and Wales now exceeds two million.

I have recently written to local health authorities urging those who have not already done so to adopt this valuable preventive health measure as soon as possible.

In order to assist authorities and to demonstrate my complete faith in the efficacy and safety of fluoridation, I have abandoned the time limit attached to my offer to indemnify local health authorities and statutory water undertakings against the cost of proceedings brought on the grounds of injury to health alleged to have been caused by fluoridation. Previously the indemnity was limited to proceedings started before August 3rd, 1970".

### School Health Attendant.

The School Health Attendant visited the schools in the area for the purpose of routine testing of children's vision and hearing. Children who were found to have defective hearing and/or vision were followed up and referred to a consultant for further examination where necessary. Colour vision tests are given to all boys at the age of 10 years.

The number of children tested during the year was as follows:-

	<u>Vision</u> <u>Sweeps</u>	<u>Audiometric</u> <u>Sweeps</u>	<u>Colour</u> <u>Vision</u>
Number of children tested	1036	1088	282
Number satisfactory	1015	1051	268
Number of defects found	21	37	14
Number referred to Medical Officer	-	29	-
Number for observation	-	8	-
Number referred to School Nurse	21	-	-



### Speech Therapy Clinic.

The speech therapy clinic is held in Ruthin each week and liaison is maintained with colleagues in the Health and Education Departments, and with schools in the district.

We are most fortunate in this county, in having a Welsh speaking Speech Therapist, and Welsh children from Ruthin may be seen in school and if necessary attend her clinic in Denbigh.

The speech therapists are often asked to comment on the problems encountered by a child who is learning to speak in a bilingual environment. Most children acquire two or three languages quite easily, but some are a little slow in becoming fluent. They may need help, and it is often advisable to use one language for a time in order to avoid confusion. The speech therapy clinic is well attended and parents appear to be grateful for the advice and treatment offered.

### Nursing Services.

The following are the names and addresses of the nursing staff serving the Borough:-

Health Visitors:	Miss C. J. Davies ) Miss E. Edwards )	County Council Clinic, Mount Street, Ruthin. Tel. No. 2361.
Tuberculosis Health Visitor:	Mrs. M. Lloyd Jones	The Chest Clinic, Wrexham. Tel. No. Wrexham 4242.
District Nurse/ Midwife:	Sister E. Owen	2, Maes Hafod, Ruthin. Tel. No. Ruthin 2642.
Relief District Nurse:	Sister E. M. Dowell	23, Park Road, Ruthin. Tel. No. Ruthin 2489.

### Domestic Help Service.

The number of cases where domestic help was provided was as follows:-

Chronic sick and T.B.	2
Maternity:	1
Over 65 years of age:	136

### Care of the Aged.

No cases of persons in need of care and attention were brought to our notice during the year and no action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act was taken. The services of the Health Visitors, District Nurses, Home Helps, Mental Welfare Officer and the County Welfare Department are made available and assist the elderly to remain in their own homes.

### Weather Report - Summary for 1968.

We are grateful to Brynhyfryd School for the following summary of the weather for 1968.

Total Rain	29.45" (10 year mean 30.82")
Total Rain Days	182 days (10 year mean 194 days/yr.)
Total Sunshine hours	1284.3 hours (5 year mean 1310.4 hours)
Wettest month	July with 3.97" (total of nine days rain but over 1" fell on each of 3 days.)



## Speech Therapy Clinic.

The speech therapy clinic is held in Dublin each week and is attended by a number of colleagues in the Health and Education Departments, and with schools in the district. We are most fortunate in this county, in having a Welsh speaking speech therapist, and Welsh children from Dublin may be seen in school and if necessary attend her clinic in Lough.

The speech therapist is often asked to comment on the problems encountered by a child who is learning to speak in a bilingual environment. Most children acquire two or three languages quite easily, but some are a little slow in becoming fluent. They may need help, and it is often advisable to use one language for a time in order to avoid confusion. The speech therapy clinic is well attended and parents appear to be grateful for the advice and treatment offered.

## Nursing Services.

The following are the names and addresses of the nursing staff serving the District:-

Health Visitors: Miss C. J. Davies (County Council Clinic, Mount Street, Dublin. Tel. No. 2341.)  
Miss E. Edwards (County Council Clinic, Mount Street, Dublin. Tel. No. 2341.)

Public Health Nurse: Miss M. Lloyd Jones (The Clinic, Wexham. Tel. No. Wexham 4545.)

Health Visitor: Miss E. O'Connell (5, Mount Street, Dublin. Tel. No. Dublin 2341.)

Public Health Nurse: Miss E. O'Connell (5, Mount Street, Dublin. Tel. No. Dublin 2341.)

## Domestic Help Service.

The number of cases where domestic help was provided was as follows:-

At present we are working at a level of 100 cases and 100 hours of help per week.

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