

[Report 1954] / Medical Officer of Health, Ruthin R.D.C.

Contributors

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WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH.
1955

RURAL DISTRICT OF RUTHIN

ANNUAL

HEALTH REPORT

1954

Medical Officer of Health

M. JONES ROBERTS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

The Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh.

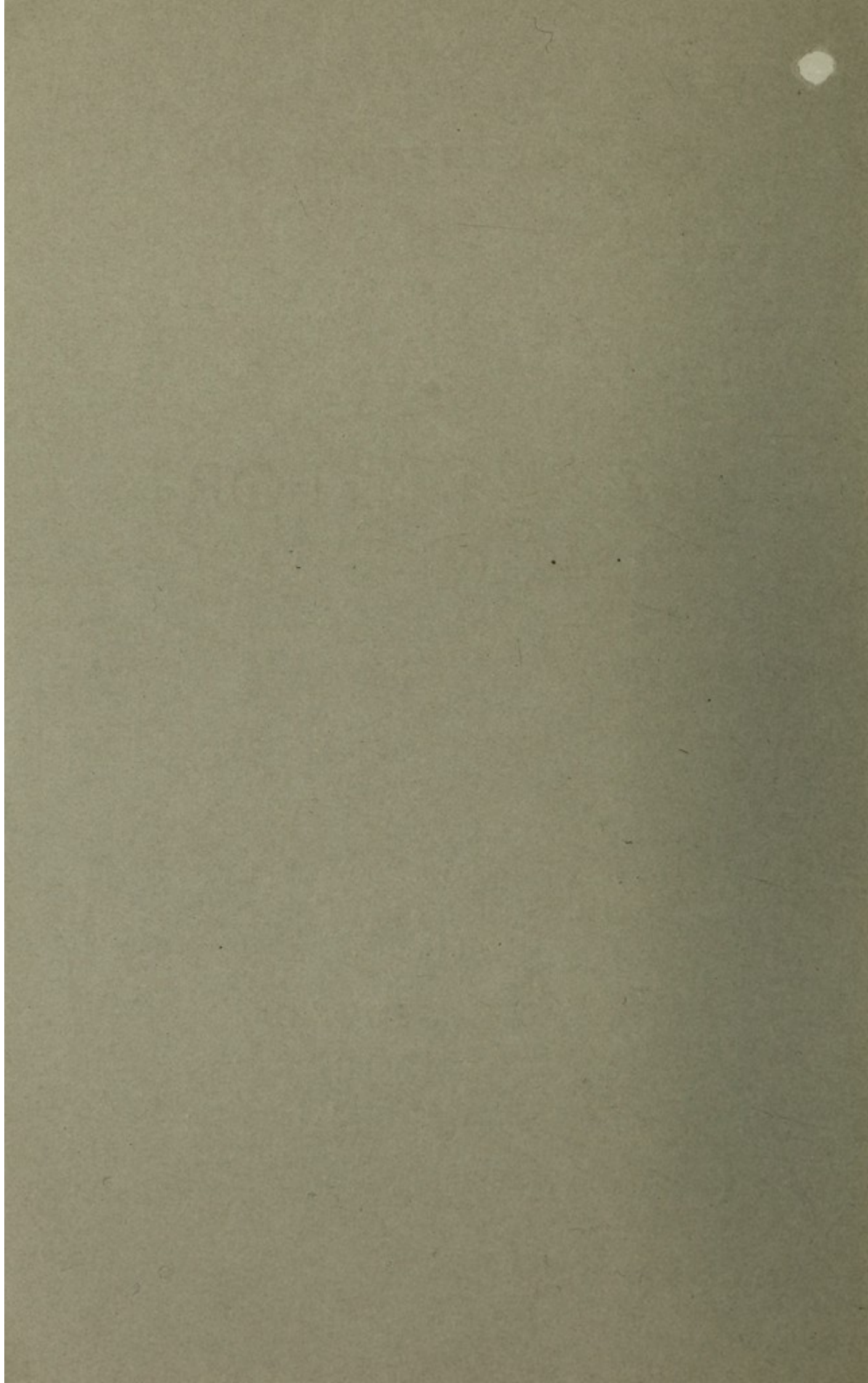
Tel. No. 289.

Sanitary Inspector

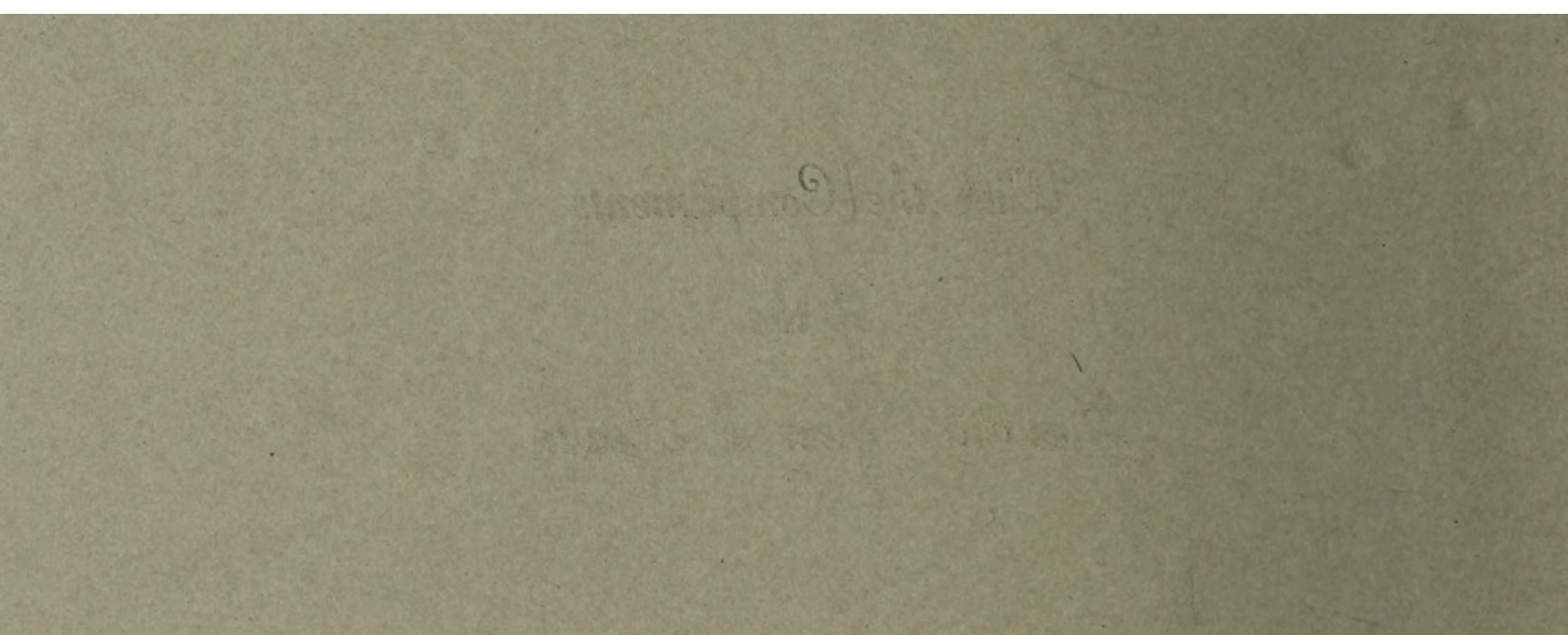
G. WYNNE REES, A.R.San. I., Cert. S.I.B.

Rural District Council Offices,

Well Street, Ruthin Tel. 333



*With the Compliments
of the
Medical Officer of Health.*



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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE RUTHIN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the health of the Rural District for the year 1954.

Both the Sanitary Inspector and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Council for all the assistance and co-operation we received during the year. We would also thank the officials and other members of the staff for their willingness to assist us at all times.

Yours faithfully,

M. JONES ROBERTS.

The Chairmen of the Council and Committees during the year were:—

Chairman of the Council:—

January—May 1954: Mr. G. LLEWELYN EDWARDS.

June—December 1954: Mr. EDWARD ROBERTS.

Chairman of the Public Health Committee:—

January—May 1954: Mr. I. ab IORWERTH.

June—December 1954: Mr. W. R. JONES.

Chairman of the Housing Committee:—

January—May 1954: Mr. D. M. WILLIAMS.

June—December 1954: Mr. D. M. WILLIAMS.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT

Area of the District	101,032 Acres
Registrar General's estimated population (mid 1954)	9,560
Number of inhabited houses	3,041
Rateable Value	£44,693
Sum represented by a penny rate	£173/12/-

DEATHS

Comparability Factor 0.92

The number of deaths registered during 1954 was 117 (55 Males and 62 Females) compared with 96 (51 Males and 45 Females) in 1953.

	England and Wales.		
	1954	1953	1954
Crude death rate (per 1,000 population)	11.3	10.0	12.24
Corrected death rate (per 1,000 population)	—	8.7	11.26
Still-birth rate (per 1,000 population)	24.0	0.20	0.10
Maternal Mortality rate	0.69	6.3	Nil
Infant Mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	25.5	25.3	18.63

The causes of death are shown in the following table with the number of deaths for 1953 shown for comparison:—

	1953	1954		
	Total.	Total.	Males.	Females
Tuberculosis — Respiratory	1	—	—	—
Tuberculosis — Other	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	—	1	1	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—
Other parasitic and infective diseases	—	—	—	—
Malignant Diseases—Stomach	2	6	2	4
Lungs, etc. ...	1	1	1	—
Breast	1	—	—	—
Uterus	—	—	—	—
Other	8	15	9	6
Total Cancer deaths	12	22	12	10

Leukæmia	3	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	19	25	7	18
Coronary diseases	9	11	6	5
Hypertension with heart disease ...	—	7	3	4
Other heart diseases	17	25	11	14
Other circulatory diseases	4	6	3	3
Influenza	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia	7	2	1	1
Bronchitis	2	3	3	—
Other respiratory diseases	—	—	—	—
Ulcer of stomach, etc.	1	1	1	—
Gastritis, diarrhœa, etc.	—	1	1	—
Nephritis, Nephrosis	3	1	1	—
Prostatic Hyperplasia	3	—	—	—
Maternal Causes	1	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	1	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	7	3	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	—	—	—
All other accidents	4	4	2	2
Suicide	1	—	—	—
Homicide	—	—	—	—
Total	96	117	55	62

The deaths occurred in the following age groups:—

Under 1 year.....	3 (2 Males and 1 Female).
1—10 years	1 (Female).
10—20 years	Nil.
20—30 years	3 (2 Males and 1 Female).
30—40 years	2 (Both Males).
40—50 years	6 (3 Males and 3 Females).
50—60 years	8 (2 Males and 6 Females).
60—70 years	26 (13 Males and 13 Females).
70—80 years	31 (14 Males and 17 Females).
80—90 years	32 (14 Males and 18 Females).
90 years and over.....	5 (3 Males and 2 Females).

Total 117 (55 Males and 62 Females).

Of these 117 deaths, 94 occurred in persons aged 60 years and over.

The causes of the increased number of deaths were:—

Cancer

There were twenty-two deaths from cancer of all types during 1954 compared with twelve deaths from the same cause in 1953.

Lesions of the heart and vascular system

There were seventy-four deaths from lesions of the heart and vascular system during 1954 compared with forty-nine during 1953. Eleven of these deaths were due to coronary disease.

Infectious Diseases

No deaths were caused by any of the notifiable diseases apart from two deaths due to pneumonia. There was one death due to influenza. One other death was due to a syphilitic disease.

There were four deaths due to accidents, but none of these were motor vehicle accidents.

Maternal Mortality

There were no maternal deaths during the year, thus giving a maternal mortality rate of Nil.

Infant Deaths

The infant mortality rate of 18.63 is lower than in 1953 when the rate was 25.3. The rate for England and Wales for 1954 was 25.5 which was the lowest rate ever recorded in this country.

The actual number of infant deaths was three compared with four in 1953. These deaths were followed up by the Health Visitor. In two cases the mother had attended her own doctor for ante-natal supervision and in the third case the mother had attended the Ante-Natal Clinic.

One death occurred at the age of one day and was due to prematurity. The second death occurred at the age of eight hours and was due to atelectasis and prematurity. The third death occurred at the age of three months and was caused by shock due to inhalation of regurgitated stomach contents.

In each of these cases, the Health Visitor states that death was unavoidable.

Still-Births

The still-birth rate is lower in 1954 (0.10) than it was in 1953 (0.20). The actual number of still-births was one compared with two in 1953.

The total loss of infant life during the year was four.

Births

Comparability Factor 1.02

There were 161 births (81 Males and 80 Females) relating to

residents in the Rural District during 1954 compared with 158 (73 Males and 85 Females) in 1953. These births were classified as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	76	78	154
Illegitimate	5	2	7
Total	81	80	161

	England and Wales,		
	1954	1953	1954
Crude birth rate (per 1,000 population)	15.2	16.5	16.84
Corrected birth rate (per 1,000 population)	—	18.3	17.18

Infectious Diseases

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1954 arranged in the various age groups. The number of cases notified during 1953 is given in the first column for comparison.

Notifiable Disease.	1953 Total	1954 Total	Under 1 year	1—5 years	6—15 years	16—25 years	26—45 years	45—65 years	65 years and over	Ages unknown	Number admitted to hospital
Scarlet Fever	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	7	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	115	38	2	17	16	1	1	—	—	1	1
Poliomyelitis	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	39	14	4	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(Observation)	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	14	10	—	—	1	1	5	—	3	—	—
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	3	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	179	70	6	23	26	3	7	1	3	1	3

The total number, including tuberculosis, notified during the year was seventy compared with one hundred and seventy-nine in 1953.

There were thirty-eight cases of measles compared with one

hundred and fifteen cases the previous year, and fourteen cases of whooping cough compared with thirty-nine cases in 1953.

There was one case of poliomyelitis which proved to be of the abortive type. The case was fully investigated including bacteriological examination of samples of both the water and the milk supply, but the source of the infection could not be traced. A case occurred in the same area two years ago, but there was no connection between the cases. The patient fully recovered and there was no paralysis.

The case of anthrax was admitted to hospital where the final diagnosis was one of pyrexia of unknown origin. Several cases of anthrax in cattle occurred in an adjoining area, but no human cases have occurred.

There were ten cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and three cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis compared with fourteen cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and two cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis during the previous year.

The sites of the lesions of the non-pulmonary tuberculosis cases were wrist, right hip and glands of neck. The milk supply in each case was investigated and found to be satisfactory.

The following table shows the state of the tuberculosis register during the year:—

	<i>Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females</i>	
Number on register on 1st January 1954	30	29	9	13	81
Number on register on 31st December 1954 ...	31	27	11	6	75

The number of cases of tuberculosis admitted to hospitals or sanatoria during the year was six and the number of patients discharged from hospitals or sanatoria during the same period was five.

PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough

Immunisation against whooping cough and diphtheria has continued and this service is available by the family doctor and at the Infant Welfare Clinic. Unless the child has suffered from whooping cough, inoculation against both these very infectious diseases is given at the same time. Three injections are necessary at monthly intervals.

Diphtheria has disappeared from the area, but parents should remember that the reason for this is immunisation. Unless every child is immunised, there is grave danger of the disease returning to the community. Because there are no cases, the child has no chance of acquiring natural immunity, therefore any stray germ is likely to cause a severe illness as the child is not protected. Paralysis, heart lesions, difficulty in swallowing, etc., can be very severe in diphtheria, but parents do not usually realise this. I am sorry to say that there are still several children coming into the schools without this protection. It means that they must have two injections at school to be protected. When a child enters school at about five years of age, a "booster" dose is recommended. This dose stimulates the doses given during infancy so that the children remain immune and this is most important.

Parents seeing cases of whooping cough and knowing the hazards, are much more anxious to have their babies immunised against it, and for this reason children are lucky that they can be immunised against diphtheria at the same time. Giving the injections in a combined form protects against both diseases.

The number of children immunised during the year is shown as follows:—

	<i>Diphtheria only.</i>	<i>Booster.</i>	<i>Combined Whooping Cough and Diphtheria.</i>
Under 5 years	22		101
Over 5 years	2	86	Nil

Smallpox Vaccination

I would again stress the importance of vaccination during infancy. Owing to rapid air travel from countries where smallpox is found, contacts and even cases in the early stages may come into the country and spread the infection before they become aware of the fact, hence the reason why vaccination is more important now than it was, say, twenty years ago. Vaccination can be given by the baby's own doctor, or at the Infant Welfare Clinic.

The number of vaccinations carried out during the year was eighty-seven and six re-vaccinations were carried out mostly in respect of people going abroad.

Tuberculosis

All notified cases are followed up in detail by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor. She reports on the housing conditions, etc., and any defects reported are followed up. Anyone suffering from tuberculosis and concerned with the handling of milk, food, etc., are seen and advised regarding the danger. All contacts are advised to

attend the Chest Clinic for examination which includes a clinical and X-ray examination and, for children and young adults, a skin test. If found clear, but susceptible, B.C.G. vaccination is offered. Most parents take the advice of the Chest Physician and have their children vaccinated against tuberculosis.

School children are not yet receiving B.C.G. vaccination as a routine procedure at school.

All contacts who attend school are reported to the Principal School Medical Officer and a note is made on their school medical inspection cards. In this way they can be seen at school medical inspection and followed up.

The Mass Radiography Unit did not visit the rural area during the year, but visited the Ruthin Borough. Some of the inhabitants of the rural district attended the Unit for X-ray examination and the following tables show the results. The figures include the inhabitants of the Borough as well as the Rural District.

Children over fourteen years of age attending the Brynhyfryd Secondary School were given the opportunity of attending for X-ray examination and the following table shows the results (the figures include pupils from the Borough as well as pupils from the Rural District).

WELSH REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD — MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

Details of Mass Radiographic Survey carried out at RUTHIN —
General Population and School Children — June 1954.

Analysis in Age Groups — Table "A"

	Under 15		15—24		25—34		35—44		45—59		60 and over		Totals	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Grand Total.	60	78	67	132	94	97	83	87	76	90	29	31	409	515
Total number examined	4	3	1	7	6	15	10	12	9	16	11	13	41	66
Number found to be abnormal														
11.58%														
Classification of abnormal cases :—														
(a) Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Requiring further observation	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3
(c) Other abnormalities of the chest	4	2	1	7	6	14	10	12	9	15	11	13	41	104
11.25%														

WELSH REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

Survey of School Children at Ruthin — June 1954.

Table "C" — Details of Individual Schools.

Name of School.	Total number X-rayed.		Total Abnormal.		Definite P.T.		Needing further observation for P.T.		Other abnormalities of the chest.	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
Grammar School, Ruthin	123	53	70	6	3	3	—	—	6	3
Brynhyfryd School, Ruthin	52	20	32	2	1	1	—	1	1	—
Totals	175	73	102	8	4	4	—	1	7	3
Total Males Females										
Staff	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

Details of other abnormalities for General Poluoation
and School Children of Ruthin, June 1954.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Healed Primary P.T.	11	6	5
Healed Post Primary P.T.	12	5	7
Pleural Thickening	18	10	8
Bronchitis and Emphysema	7	3	4
Cardio Vascular Disease: Acquired	14	3	11
Pulmonary Fibrosis	1	—	1
Basal Fibrosis	3	—	3
Pneumoconiosis: Stage 2	1	1	—
Bony Abnormality	35	13	22
Miscellaneous	2	—	2
Total	104	41	63

Sanitary Inspector's visits regarding infectious diseases

No. of visits to investigate cases of Infectious Diseases	34
No. of premises disinfected	14

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE RURAL DISTRICT

Laboratory Service

The Public Health Laboratory at Conway is under the direction of Dr. Kingsley Smith. Samples of water, milk and ice-cream are regularly sent there for bacteriological examination. Various other types of bacteriological examinations are carried out here to aid in the diagnosis of illness, e.g. food poisoning, scarlet fever, meningitis, etc.

Advice and assistance is always readily given by Dr. Kingsley Smith regarding epidemics, the taking of samples, etc. I would like to thank Dr. Kingsley Smith for his assistance during the Health Exhibition held in Ruthin during the month of June 1954. He not only prepared specimens for the Exhibition, but attended in person on the opening day to explain the various exhibits to the general public.

Ambulance Service

This service is controlled by the County Medical Officer of Health.

There are five ambulance stations in the Western No. 2 Health Area. These are situated at Denbigh, Ruthin, Llangernyw, Llan-

rwst and Cerrig-y-Drudion, and there is one ambulance at each station, making a total of five ambulances for the area. Each station is manned by voluntary personnel. To supplement the ambulances, use is made of voluntary drivers of the W.V.S. Hospital Car Service and local taxi proprietors for the conveyance of sitting cases. Ambulances for the conveyance of infectious cases are sent from the hospitals concerned at Wrexham and Colwyn Bay.

The following is given for the information of the Council and the numbers refer to cases conveyed by the various ambulances and the mileage for the year commencing 1st December 1953 and ending 30th November 1954.

<i>Name of Ambulance.</i>	<i>Area served.</i>	<i>No. of cases Conveyed.</i>	<i>Total Mileage.</i>
Cerrig-y-Drudion	Upper Hiraethog	50	2,357
Denbigh	Denbigh Borough.		
	Parts of Aled Rural District and Ruthin Rural District	451	9,396
Llangernyw	Llangernyw, Gwytherin, Pandy Tudur and part of Eglwysbach.	274	8,214
Llanrwst	Llanrwst and District.	115	4,102
Ruthin	Ruthin Borough and Ruthin Rural District	288	8,754

Cases Conveyed by Sitting Case Cars

	<i>No. of journeys.</i>	<i>No. of cases.</i>	<i>Mileage.</i>
1953. December	215	571	8,255
1954. January	185	565	7,417
February	204	522	8,224
March	211	619	9,253
April	184	507	7,746
May	156	437	6,893
June	149	475	7,682
July	184	433	7,740
August	168	371	7,655
September	200	472	9,642
October	179	419	7,467
November	184	467	7,452
Total	2,219	5,858	95,426

Mental Health Service

This service is under the supervision of the County Medical Officer of Health.

Much can be done to prevent mental ill health by the proper housing of the inhabitants of the district.

Orthopædic Clinic

These clinics are held at Rhyl and Wrexham Hospitals weekly, and every first and third Wednesday morning each month at the Denbigh Clinic. Surgeons from Oswestry Orthopædic Hospital attend once every three months at Denbigh Clinic.

Patients from the rural district attend the clinic which is the most convenient for them.

Venereal Diseases

Clinics are held at hospitals in Llandudno, Wrexham, Chester and Bangor.

Tuberculosis Clinic

Patients from the rural district attend the Chest Clinic held every Wednesday morning at Denbigh, or at the weekly clinics held at Wrexham and Rhyl, whichever is the most convenient for them.

Ante-Natal Clinic

No Ante-Natal Clinic is held at Ruthin or in the rural district, but cases are referred by the patient's doctor to the Local Authority's Consultant Clinic which is held at Denbigh Clinic on alternate Friday mornings or at Wrexham on Tuesday mornings. Some patients attend the routine Ante-Natal Clinic held at Denbigh.

Infant Welfare Clinic

There are no Infant Welfare Clinics held in the rural district, but mothers attend with their children at the clinics which are held at Ruthin on Tuesday afternoons or at Denbigh on Wednesday afternoons. These clinics are well attended as shown by the following figures:—

Denbigh Clinic		Ruthin Clinic	
1st Visits	152	1st Visits	89
Re Visits	1427	Re Visits	1296
Total	1579	Total	1385

These clinics serve the Boroughs as well as the Ruthin Rural District and parts of Aled Rural District.

In Denbigh there is a clinic specially built for this purpose, but in Ruthin there are no specially built premises and use is made of the Baptist Chapel Schoolroom, Park Road, which is not adequate. These premises are only used for Infant Welfare Clinic sessions, therefore all other special examinations, e.g. examination of handicapped pupils, special examinations of children regarding transport to school, absence from school, examination of pupil teachers, school canteen staff and county council staff, etc., have to be carried out in a very small room at 40 Well Street. This room is also used as an Office and is totally inadequate for medical purposes.

A Sub-Committee of the Western No. 2 Area Committee has been appointed to go into the question of alternate clinic premises.

Transport to clinics is not provided in the area. Most people seem to manage to get to the clinics by means of public transport on market days to Denbigh and on fair days to Ruthin. A clinic would serve an useful purpose in the Llanarmon—Eryrys area where transport to clinics is difficult.

At Ruthin the Welfare Foods and Cow and Gate Dried Milk are distributed during the clinic sessions on Tuesday afternoons and this causes the available space to become cramped. Welfare Foods are also distributed at 40 Well Street on Friday afternoons, so that the room there is not available for other purposes during that session.

Welfare Foods and Cow and Gate Dried Milk are distributed at Denbigh Clinic on Wednesday afternoons and welfare foods are available on Friday afternoons.

Various depots in villages in the rural districts are open for the convenience of mothers who are unable to get to the clinics for the foods.

Dental Clinic

This clinic is held once a month at Denbigh Clinic and patients can also attend the clinic held at Wrexham.

Cases referred from Ante-Natal Clinics and from Infant Welfare Clinics include expectant and nursing mothers and toddlers.

I have not been able to obtain the figures for the clinics separately but the following figures show the number of cases treated in the

Western No. 2 Area during the year (at Denbigh and Llanrwst):—

Number of cases referred for treatment	43
Number completed treatment	19

There has been a shortage of Dental Officers in the County, therefore clinics cannot be held more frequently. It is satisfying to note that the number of cases treated during the year was an increase on the number treated during 1953.

Nursing Services

The number of Health Visitors working in the area is two. They also cover Ruthin Borough, Denbigh Borough and part of Aled Rural District and Hiraethog Rural District.

They carry out domicilliary visits to all babies as soon as possible after the fourteenth day from birth. In addition, they attend at Infant Welfare Clinics, Ante-Natal Clinics, special clinics such as Ophthalmic Clinics, examination of staff, pupil teachers, teachers, school canteen staff, etc. They are also School Nurses and attend at the schools for cleanliness inspection, following up of infectious and contagious diseases and they attend at school medical inspections. Extra duties in connection with cancer research, arranging for home helps, etc., also come within their domain. These duties mean that the two Health Visitors have to put a great deal of work into their day and often do not finish until late on in the evenings when they settle down to do their clerical work.

One Tuberculosis Health Visitor works in the area and she covers the whole of the Western half of the County except the Borough of Ruthin.

There are five District Nurses working in the area and they are stationed one each at Llanarmon, Rhewl, Nantglyn, Clawddnewydd and Cerrig-y-Drudion.

There are eleven Home Helps working in the area.

Care of the Aged

Several cases of aged people reported as being in need of care and attention were investigated. In no case was action taken under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, necessary although some cases did seem to come into this category, but with persuasion, they entered a home voluntarily. In other cases the Health Visitor was contacted and she was able to find a home help to go in on occasions to care for the person concerned.

As the area is scattered there are no Derby and Joan Clubs, but maybe these can be formed in villages in the near future. No "Meals on Wheels" service run by the W.V.S. is possible because the area is so scattered. The W.V.S., who usually do a great deal for the aged in this respect, do arrange for the aged in the area to be visited and they assist them in all possible ways.

Clean Food Campaign

Clean Food Byelaws have been in operation in the district since 1951. During the year an attempt was made to stimulate public interest in the importance of food hygiene and for this purpose a fairly large portion of a Civic Exhibition held in conjunction with Ruthin Borough Council and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was devoted to this subject. Films were shown and exhibits included samples prepared by Dr. Kingsley Smith, of the Public Health Laboratory at Conway, which showed how bacteria causing food poisoning, etc., were grown from contaminated fingers, hair, dirty water used for washing dishes, etc. It is hoped that the general public learnt a great deal from what was seen.

The Exhibition was most successful, over 6,000 people attended during the week.

It has been the policy to try to assist shopkeepers and others to appreciate the necessity of good food handling. Education rather than legal proceedings is the best way of achieving success and film shows are ideal for this purpose as was shown by the various films shown during the Exhibition.

Food poisoning can spread through the failing of personal cleanliness as well as through poor structural condition of the premises.

The Sanitary Inspector made the following visits during the year:—

Number of visits made to bakehouses	4
Number of visits made to food premises	106

All the premises used in connection with the manufacture, preparation or sale of food were visited and the general standard of cleanliness was found to be satisfactory.

Ice Cream

There are no manufacturers of ice cream within the district, but 21 premises are registered for the sale of pre-packed ice cream, and vehicles from adjoining districts retail ice cream in the area during the summer months. Vehicles and premises were periodically inspected and found to be satisfactory.

Milk Supplies

The County Medical Officer of Health reported that samples of T.T. milk were taken in the Rural District by the County Sanitary Officer and sent for biological examination. Four samples showed the presence of brucella but no tubercle. The milk in each case was diverted for pasteurisation in order to make it safe for human consumption.

Man can be affected by drinking raw infected milk, and the only way to control the disease, apart from inoculation of the herds and the elimination of infected animals, is for all milk used for human consumption to be pasteurised or heat treated.

Condemned Foodstuffs

The following articles of food were condemned during the year, being unfit for human consumption.

- 12 × 15oz. Tins of Corsair Brand Pilchards in Tomato Sauce.
- 9½ lbs. Bacon.
- 1 × 12oz. Tin of Emery Corned Beef.
- 1 × 20oz. Tin of Smedley's Red Plums.
- 11 × 16oz. Tins of Heinz Spaghetti.
- 38 × 15oz. Tins of Eatwell Pilchards.
- 2 × 20oz. Tins of Holly Hall Grapefruit.
- 14 × 20oz. Tins of Tomato Juice.
- 2 × 16oz. Tins of Grade 1 Sailor Salmon.
- 4 × 28oz. Tins of Surfmaid Canned Grapes.
- 1 × 9lb. 13oz. Tin of Cooked Boneless Ham.
- 1 × 16oz. Tin of Dennys Cooked Irish Ham.
- 3 × 6oz. Tins of Schorman Orstein Horse Raddish.
- 1 × 20oz. Tin of Smedley's Golden Plums.
- 1 × 19½oz. Tin of Cambridge Strawberries.
- 4 Tins of Carnation Evaporated Milk.
- 1 × 1lb. Tin of Glenryck Brand Pilchards in Tomato.
- 1 × 1lb. 13oz. Tin of Croyden Brand Apricots.
- 2 × 1lb. Tins of Silver Leaf Pineapple Tit-bits.
- 1 × 1lb. Tins of Silver Leaf Pineapple Pieces.
- 1 × 14oz. Tin of Felice del Forno Plum Peeled Tomatoes.
- 1 × 1lb. Tin of Corbatch Cherries in Syrup.
- 6 × 1lb. Tins of English Red Plums.
- 6 × 1lb. Tins of Golden Glory Beans.
- 28lbs. of Bananas.
- 24 × 1lb. 8½oz. Tin of Letona Marmalade.
- 1 × 1lb. 2½oz. Tin of Armavale Sliced Apples.
- 3 × 1lb. 4oz. Tins of Corbatch Victoria Plums.
- 2 × 1lb. 4oz. Tins of Country Market Select Dessert Plums.
- 1 × 1lb. 4oz. Tin of Baldwin's Dessert Damsons.

- 4 × 19½oz. Tins of Hillhall Damsons in Syrup.
 5 × 1lb. 3oz. Tins of Golden Dazzle Apples.
 10 × 4oz. Tins of Barlova.
 4 × 14oz. Tins of Red Cerries in Light Syrup.
 5 × 16oz. Tins of English Crown Italian Tomatoes.
 6 × 1lb. 12oz. Tins of Gooseberries.
 4 × 1lb. Jars of Hartley's Billberries.
 6 × 8oz. Tins of Bengers Food.
 17 × 14¾oz. Tins of Barbell Orange Segments.
 1 × 6 fl. oz. Jar of Capers.
 38 × 3¾oz. Packets of Hollandia Table Jelly Crystals

COUNTY OF DENBIGH

**Particulars of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938,
 in the Ruthin Rural District during the year ended
 31st December 1954.**

<i>Article.</i>	<i>No. Taken.</i>	<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Not Genuine, or Sub-Standard</i>
MILK	5	5	—
Butter	1	1	—
Jam	2	2	—
Plum Pudding	1	1	—
Sausage	1	1	—
Pork Luncheon Meat ...	1	1	—
Mustard	1	1	—
Vinegar	1	1	—
Cream of Tartar	1	1	—
Totals	14	14	—

All the samples were certified by the Public Analyst to be free from prohibited preservatives and colouring matter.

17 Vicarage Hill,
 WREXHAM.
 21st March 1955.

THOS. H. EVANS,
 Chief Inspector,
 County of Denbigh.

Slaughterhouses

There is one licensed slaughterhouse in the area, situated in the parish of Llanferres.

All animals killed were inspected prior to release for sale to the public.

The following meat was condemned during the year:—

25 Sheep Livers.

2 Pig Livers.

Number of visits made to slaughterhouses for meat inspection	55
Numbers of visits made to slaughterhouses (apart from meat inspection)	10

WATER SUPPLIES

Scheme 1

A start was made on the laying of a new main which will link existing supplies at Llanarmon and Llandegla.

It is hoped that extensions to the Bryn Eglwys area will be commenced in 1955.

Scheme 2

The laying of a new main to Waen (Aberwheeler) and the construction of a new service reservoir near Llangwyfan Hospital is almost completed, the Aberwheeler main having been completed.

Scheme 5

A start was made on the laying of a new main from Clywedog Reservoir to Meifod. The work also involves the provision of a new service reservoir at Meifod and the laying of a new main to serve the Gyffylliog area.

Bacteriological examination of water supplies was regularly carried out. Those supplies found to be unsatisfactory were investigated, and everything possible was done to bring the water up to standard.

The following are the reports on samples of water sent for bacteriological examination during the year:—

<i>Name of place where sample was taken.</i>	<i>Date.</i>	<i>Result.</i>
Borehole, Llanynys.	1/3/54	Class 1. Highly Satisfactory.
	3/5/54	" " "
	28/6/54	" " "
	9/8/54	" " "
	20/9/54	" " "
	1/11/54	" " "
Prion (Clywedog Reservoir).	1/3/54	Class 2. Not quite up to standard for Chlorinated water.
	15/3/54	Class 1. Highly Satisfactory.
	3/5/54	" " "
	28/6/54	" " "
	9/8/54	" " "
	1/11/54	" " "
Cricor Reservoir Supply.	1/3/54	" " "
	3/5/54	" " "
	28/6/54	" " "
	9/8/54	" " "
Nant y Ne and Birkenhead joint supply.	1/3/54	" " "
	3/5/54	" " "
	28/6/54	" " "
	9/8/54	" " "
	20/9/54	" " "
	1/11/54	" " "
Moel Famau,	30/3/54	" " "
Llanferres supply.	3/5/54	" " "
	9/8/54	" " "
Llandegla Piped Supply.	18/5/54	Class 4. Unsatisfactory. This sample contained a moderate number of coli-form bacilli, some of which appeared to be of recent excretal origin.
	20/9/54	Class 1. Highly Satisfactory.
Gyffylliog piped supply.	18/5/54	" " "
Birkenhead Main Piped Supply.	18/5/54	" " "
Bryneglwys Supply (Old)	18/5/54	Class 4. Unsatisfactory.
	20/9/54	Class 1. Highly Satisfactory.
Bryneglwys Supply (New)	18/5/54	" " "
	20/9/54	" " "
Llanynys Borehole and Nant y Ne Joint Supply.	20/9/54	" " "

No samples of water were sent for chemical analysis.

Number of visits made in respect of water supplies 12

Schools

The Principal School Medical Officer asked for a full report on all school premises in the County. He hopes to classify them according to the defects so that he may place on a priority list all those schools in urgent need of attention and he will bring them to the notice of the Education Authority.

The Sanitary Inspector and I visited all the schools in the rural district and a full report was sent to the Principal School Medical Officer in July.

The Council have again been concerned with the drainage and sanitary accommodation of the schools at Llanelidan and Llanrhaiadr. It is understood that the work of converting the pail closets to water closets at Llanelidan School will be carried out early in 1955.

Number of visits made to school premises 28

Housing

Twenty-one houses were erected during the year, eight of these being built by the Council and thirteen by private enterprise. Considerable progress was made on other sites in the district.

One building was converted into a dwelling during 1954. During the year seventeen applications for Improvement Grants were received. Ten applications were approved, four disapproved and three applications were receiving consideration at the end of the year.

Inspections of the Council Houses in the district were regularly carried out, and with very few exceptions they were found to be kept in a satisfactory condition.

Number of visits made in respect of housing 920

Sewage Disposal

During the year the Llandyrnog Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme was completed.

The Sewerage Scheme for Rhewl and Gellifor was commenced and should be completed during 1955.

Schemes were in active course of preparation for the villages of Eryrys, Llanarmon, Llandegla, Derwen, Llanfair and Waen (Aberwheeler). It is hoped these schemes will be commenced in 1955.

Several other villages are waiting for a proper means of sewerage disposal.

Closet Accommodation

During the year 25 new Water Closets were provided for existing premises.

Drains

Twenty-two cases of defective drainage were dealt with, and in 17 cases new drains were laid.

Number of visits made regarding drainage 253

Rodent Control

A part-time Rodent Operator is employed by the Council. Domestic premises are treated free of charge, but in all other cases a charge is made.

Refuse tips, sewers and other Council properties are periodically baited and kept free of infestation.

The Public Health Exhibition held in June, in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, undoubtedly stimulated the public interest in rodent control.

Factories and Workshops

Garages	6
Flour Mills	6
Electric Light Works	2
Sawmills	4
Bakehouses	1
Building Trades	5
Milk Factory	1
Others	7

The above were periodically inspected.

Premises and Occupations which can be Controlled by By-Laws or Regulations

There were no offensive trades or hop-pickers in the district.

Rag Flock Act, 1951

There were no premises within the district in which Rag Flock is manufactured, used or sold.

Rivers and Streams

No complaints were received regarding the pollution of rivers or streams in the district.

Refuse Collection

The Council's scheme for the fortnightly removal of refuse continues to function well. All complaints received were investigated and promptly dealt with.

Summary and Classification of Visits made by Sanitary Inspector

Visits made under Public Health and Housing Acts	920
Visits in respect of Drainage Work	253
Visits in respect of water supplies	12
Visits to Bakehouses	4
Visits for Food Inspection	106
Visits for Meat Inspection	55
Visits to investigate Infectious Disease	25
Disinfections	14
Visits to Factories and Workshops	41
Visits to Slaughterhouses (apart from Meat Inspection)	10
Visits to Schools	28

