

[Report 1956] / Medical Officer of Health, Ruthin R.D.C.

Contributors

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29 JUN 1957
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RURAL DISTRICT OF RUTHIN

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT 1956

Medical Officer of Health

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

The Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh.

Tel. No. Denbigh 289.

Chief Public Health Inspector

G. WYNNE REES, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.,

Rural District Council Offices, Well Street, Ruthin.

Tel. No. Ruthin 333.

GENERAL INFORMATION

HEALTH REPORT

1938

Section of the

Department of Health

and Mental Hygiene

State of New York

Annual Report

for the year 1938

Albany, New York

1939

*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 1956.

During the year the Sanitary Inspectors (Change of Designation) Act, 1956, was passed. This provides that in future the Sanitary Inspector shall be designated Public Health Inspector.

In April, Mr. John Griffiths, was appointed to the post of Assistant Public Health Inspector, and he has been most helpful and has co-operated in all the activities of the Health Department.

A great deal of publicity has been given to the location of the District Medical Officer's office. This arose following my request for better office accommodation. At the present time, the office consists of one room at the County Health Clinic at Denbigh, which is also occupied by my clerk, and this causes a great deal of inconvenience. It is most difficult to interview anyone, especially if the interview is of a confidential nature, discuss matters with other officials, write reports, etc., when the clerk is occupied in typing, answering telephone calls, etc. If there is a clinic, e.g. orthopaedic clinic, ophthalmic clinic, Welsh Board of Health clinic, dental clinic, etc., held in the premises, and a doctor occupies the room in which the one and only telephone extension is placed, everyone comes into the office to use the telephone and this makes it impossible for me to do any clerical work during office hours. A partition to divide the room into two would improve matters to a certain extent, but this would not be entirely satisfactory as it would make my office and the clerk's into very small rooms.

The location of the office is a matter entirely for the Western No. 2 District Health Committee to decide on, and Denbigh was chosen in the first instance as being the most central for the area, as Aled Rural District was then included in the Western No. 2 Health Area. Aled Rural District is now part of the Western No. 1 Health Area, thus Denbigh is no longer the centre of the area which covers Hiraethog Rural District, Llanrwst Urban District, Ruthin Rural District, Ruthin Borough and Denbigh Borough. Fifty per cent of my time is allocated to County Council duties with the County Health Department at Wrexham.

In the event of my clerk being away, no relief clerk is available. During 1956 she was away on holiday for over two weeks and sick leave for seven weeks during a period of three months. This meant

that I had to do all the clerical work as well as my professional work. Had the office been in Ruthin, probably a clerk from the County Offices would have been available to assist with typing, answering the telephone, etc.

The Chief Public Health Inspector and I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council and the various Committees for their co-operation during the year, and we would thank the other Officials and members of the staff for their assistance at all times.

Yours faithfully,

M. JONES ROBERTS.

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

Chairmen of the Council:—

January—May 1956: Mr. I. ab IORWERTH.

June—December 1956: Mr. R. T. JONES.

Chairmen of the Public Health Committee:—

January—May 1956: Mr. W. R. JONES.

June—December 1956: Mr. J. W. JONES.

Chairmen of the Housing Committee:—

January—May 1956: Rev. W. ROGER HUGHES.

June—December 1956: Rev. W. ROGER HUGHES.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT

Area of the district	98,651 Acres
Registrar General's estimated population (mid 1956)	9,460
Number of inhabited houses	3,089
Rateable Value	£75,654
Sum represented by a penny rate	£294/12/1

The estimated population has decreased by 80, i.e. from 9,540 in 1955 to 9,460 in 1956.

The number of inhabited houses has increased from 3,076 in 1955 to 3,089 in 1956.

DEATHS

Comparability Factor 1.00

The number of deaths registered during 1956 was 114 (59 Males and 55 Females) compared with 119 deaths (70 Males and 49 Females) registered in 1955.

	England and Wales		
	1956	1955	1956
Crude death rate (per 1,000 population)	11.7	12.37	12.05
Corrected death rate (per 1,000 population)	—	11.38	12.05
Still-birth rate	23.0	0.63	1.47
Maternal Mortality rate	0.56	Nil	Nil
Infant Mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	23.8	51.85	20.69

The causes of death are shown in the following table with the number of deaths for 1955 shown for comparison:—

	1955	1956		
	Total.	Total.	Males.	Females.
Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—
Tuberculosis — Respiratory	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis — Other	—	1	1	—
Syphilitic Diseases	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	1	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—	—
Malignant Diseases:—				
Stomach	7	2	—	2
Lungs, Bronchus	1	—	—	—
Breast	3	2	—	2
Uterus	1	—	—	—
Other	8	11	6	5
Total Cancer deaths	20	15	6	9

Leukaemia	1	—	—	—
Diabetes	1	1	—	1
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	20	17	6	11
Coronary Diseases	15	15	9	6
Hypertension with heart diseases...	1	3	1	2
Other heart diseases	23	25	14	11
Other circulatory diseases	6	5	4	1
Influenza	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	1	4	2	2
Bronchitis	4	4	2	2
Other respiratory diseases	2	1	1	—
Ulcer of stomach, etc.	1	—	—	—
Gastritis, diarrhoea, etc.	—	1	1	—
Nephritis, nephrosis, etc.	—	1	1	—
Prostatic Hyperplasia	2	1	1	—
Maternal causes	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	1	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	16	14	7	7
Motor vehicle accidents	1	3	3	—
All other accidents	2	1	—	1
Suicide	—	2	—	2
Homicide	—	—	—	—
All Causes	119	114	59	55

The deaths occurred in the following age groups:—

Under 1 year	3 (2 Males and 1 Female).
1—10 years	Nil.
10—20 years	Nil.
20—30 years	2 (Males).
30—40 years	4 (3 Males and 1 Female).
40—50 years	5 (1 Male and 4 Females).
50—60 years	11 (8 Males and 3 Females).
60—70 years	23 (7 Males and 16 Females).
70—80 years	29 (17 Males and 12 Females).
80—90 years	34 (18 Males and 16 Females).
90 years and over	3 (1 Male and 2 Females).
Total	114 (59 Males and 55 Females).

The number of deaths during 1956 was 114 compared with 119 in 1955. Of these, 89 occurred in persons of 60 years of age and over. The death rate has increased from 11.38 in 1955 to 12.05 in 1956, and this compares with 11.7 for England and Wales.

There were no deaths attributed to pulmonary tuberculosis, although 3 cases were removed from the tuberculosis register during the year due to deaths. The reason for this apparent discrepancy is that one death occurred on 31st December 1955, but the notification was not received until the beginning of 1956 and the name was not removed from the register until the first quarter of the year. One case died primarily from cerebral embolism and chronic bronchitis and the other from silicosis.

One case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis died, the cause of death being:—(a) Addison's Disease, (b) T.B. Suprarenals.

There were 15 deaths due to cancer compared with 20 in 1955, but none of these were due to cancer of the lungs.

Deaths due to vascular lesions, lesions of the heart and other circulatory diseases amounted to 60 compared with 65 during the previous year. Of these, 15 were due to coronary diseases, compared with 15 in 1955.

There were no deaths from influenza, but 4 deaths were due to pneumonia.

Deaths due to motor vehicle accidents totalled 3, and the cause of the other accidental death was a fractured skull caused by a fall off a bicycle on the highway.

Maternal Mortality

There were no deaths due to maternal causes, thus giving a maternal mortality rate of Nil, the same as in 1955, compared with 0.56 for England and Wales.

Still-Births

The still-birth rate for 1956 was 1.47, compared with 0.63 in 1955. The rate for England and Wales was 23.0.

The actual number of still-births was 14 compared with 6 the previous year.

Infant Deaths

The infant mortality rate was 20.69 compared with 51.85 in 1955 and 23.8 for England and Wales. The actual number of infant deaths was 3 compared with 7 in 1955.

One baby died at the age of 1 day and the cause of death was

(a) Prematurity, (2) Atelectasis. This was a first baby and it appears that death could not have been prevented — the mother attended her own doctor for ante-natal care. The home conditions were satisfactory.

One baby died aged 1 week and the cause of death was prematurity. This was also a first baby and it appears that death could not have been prevented — the mother attended her own doctor for ante-natal care.

The third baby died of haemolytic disease of the newly-born. This was the fifth baby and died at the age of 10 hours. The mother attended her own doctor for ante-natal care.

Births

Comparability Factor 1.02

The number of births relating to residents of the Rural District was 145 (71 Males and 74 Females) compared with 135 (68 Males and 67 Females) in 1955. Of these 145 births, only 16 (6 Males and 10 Females) were actually registered in the area, the remaining births having taken place in hospitals outside the district, e.g. Denbigh, Ruthin and other hospitals.

The births were classified as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	69	71	140
Illegitimate	2	3	5
Total	71	74	145

	England and Wales,		
	1956	1955	1956
Crude birth rate (per 1,000 population)	15.7	14.15	15.33
Corrected birth rate (per 1,000 population)	—	14.43	15.63

Infectious Diseases

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1956 arranged in the various age groups. The number of cases notified in 1955 is given in the first column for comparison.

Notifiable Disease.	1955 Total.	1956 Total.	Under 1 year.	1-5 years.	6-15 years.	16-25 years.	26-45 years.	46-65 years.	65 years and over.	Ages unknown.	Number admitted to Hospital.
Scarlet Fever	2	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	10	28	2	11	15	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Suspected Poliomyelitis	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	155	37	2	17	15	2	—	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia	6	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suspected Food Poisoning	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	12	7	—	—	2	1	1	3	—	—	—
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—
Totals	194	85	4	28	38	3	3	5	1	3	2

The total number of cases of infectious diseases (including tuberculosis) notified during the year was 85 compared with 194 cases notified during 1955. The decrease in the number of cases notified was due to the fact that an epidemic of measles occurred in the rural district during 1955 and 155 cases of measles were notified then compared with 37 cases in 1956.

Two of the cases of scarlet fever occurred in the same area, and on following up it was found that several children attending the school had been suffering from sore throats. Throat and nose swabs were taken from all the children who were suspected of having the disease, but these did not show the presence of haemolytic streptococci, although one showed a slight growth of various other organisms. (There was another case of scarlet fever from an adjoining area attending this school.) The third case was in another parish and occurred in a sister of a child who had been notified as suffering from the disease at the end of 1955.

There was one case of mild bulbar poliomyelitis in a person aged 46 years, who was admitted to hospital. She first complained of a sore throat on the 1st of the month and had difficulty in swallowing on the 16th, but the diagnosis of poliomyelitis was not made until the 19th of the month. The case was thoroughly investigated, but the source of the infection was not traced and no further cases were notified.

The case of food poisoning was caused by salmonella typhimurium and occurred in a child who was in the area on a holiday. He was only here for a very short period and must have been infected before he came to the area. No further cases were notified

Two other cases of suspected food poisoning were followed up, but in neither case was the diagnosis confirmed.

There were 28 cases of whooping cough notified in 1956 compared with 10 cases in 1955.

Three cases of pneumonia occurred compared with 6 cases in 1955. One of these cases occurred in a child aged 7 years and the other two cases were in elderly persons aged 62 years and 65 years.

The under-mentioned cases of infectious diseases were notified by various head teachers during the year. These cases were in addition to the ones entered in the above table:—

Measles	9
Whooping Cough	5
Chicken Pox	84
German Measles	38
Mumps	1

The cases of whooping cough and measles were not confirmed by notification from general practitioners. Chicken pox, German measles and mumps are not notifiable diseases.

Two cases of suspected anthrax in animals were notified during the year, but these cases were not confirmed after the animals had been examined by a Veterinary Surgeon and there were no human cases.

During the year, 7 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified compared with 12 cases, and 3 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis compared with 4 cases during 1955. The lesions in the non-pulmonary cases were in the glands of neck (two cases) and kidneys.

The milk supplies in respect of the latter cases were investigated and proved to be satisfactory in each case.

Two other cases of tuberculosis were added to the register during the year, the patients having come to reside in the district from other areas. Fourteen cases were removed from the register, eight patients having left the area, three had recovered, and three died.

The number of cases on the tuberculosis register at the beginning and at the end of the year was as follows:—

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
Number of cases on the register on 1st January 1956	32	34	13	7	86
Number of cases on the register on 31st December 1956	31	34	13	6	84

Ten cases of tuberculosis were admitted to hospitals or sanatoria during the year and seven cases were discharged.

The following table indicates the number of inspections and visits carried out by the Public Health Inspector in regard to infectious diseases:—

Number of visits re infectious diseases	43
Number of visits re tuberculosis	15
Number of premises fumigated and disinfected	12
Number of cases where bedding was removed for stoving	Nil
Number of cases where disinfectant was used	13

PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough

There have been no notified cases of diphtheria in the district for years. Diphtheria inoculation is carried out at the same time as the inoculation against whooping cough, and the number of inoculations given in the district is shown in the following table, together with the number of cases of whooping cough notified since 1951. These figures may not be strictly accurate as babies are sometimes given the inoculations by their own doctors and these are not always recorded.

Year.	Number of births.	Number immunised against diphtheria.	Number of booster injections.	Number immunised against whooping cough.	Number immunised against whooping cough and diphtheria (Combined).	Number of cases of whooping cough notified.
1951	154	220	69	Nil	14	1-5 years 6 } 5 years and 7 } 13 over
1952	163	32	155	15	62	1-5 years 5 } 5 years and 3 } 8 over
1953	158	13	119	Nil	151	1-5 years 26 } 5 years and 13 } 39 over
1954	161	24	86	Nil	101	1-5 years 9 } 5 years and 5 } 14 over
1955	135	21	259	Nil	94	1-5 years 6 } 5 years and 4 } 10 over
1956	145	15	203	Nil	110	1-5 years 13 } 5 years and 15 } 28 over

Of the 28 cases of whooping cough which occurred in 1956, only 5 cases had definitely been immunised against the disease; in 8 cases the parents were doubtful as to whether the children had been immunised, but in the remaining 15 cases the children had not been immunised.

It is interesting to learn that most of the babies who had been immunised had the disease in a mild form.

I am unable to give any details as to whether the children notified as suffering from whooping cough in the years 1951 to 1955 (inclusive) had been immunised or not.

Smallpox

Vaccination against smallpox is generally carried out at the clinic at the age of 8 weeks, but some doctors prefer to wait until the child is 3—4 months old. All children should be vaccinated before their first birthday, but the younger the child the less risk there is of any complications.

Number of primary vaccinations given 90

Number of re-vaccinations given 13

The re-vaccinations were in respect of persons going abroad.

Poliomyelitis

Vaccination against poliomyelitis was undertaken during the months of May and June 1956 and the number given the injections was as follows:—

Number completed the course of injections 20

The two injections were given with three weeks interval between them. There was not sufficient vaccine to vaccinate all the children whose parents had given consent, therefore certain groups of children were chosen. These were children born in the months of November and March 1947-1954 (inclusive). Those born in August and October were then vaccinated and those born in May if vaccine were available.

Vaccination was discontinued after 30th June so that no risk was taken during the season when poliomyelitis becomes prevalent.

No child who received the injections complained of illness or any ill effect following the vaccination, and all the children appear to have been well. Of course no risks were taken. Any child who attended for the injection but who suffered from colds, asthma, hay fever, had been in direct contact with any infectious disease, or had any other prophylactic injection during the previous three weeks, was not given the injection. When vaccination against poliomyelitis is commenced again in 1957, priority will be given to children whose parents have already given their consent.

Tuberculosis

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

No prophylactic injection, i.e. B.C.G., for the prevention of tuberculosis is given generally in this county, but all contacts of cases are asked to attend the Chest Clinic where they are given tests, and if necessary they are vaccinated against the disease. Most babies who are contacts are given this protection when they are very young.

Routine testing and B.C.G. vaccination of school children has not been undertaken in the county up to date, but if a case occurs in a school, the children are tested (with the parents' consent) and followed up by X-ray examination, etc., and a search is made for the infecting person.

The source of infection is often found to be a person in the older age group, e.g. a grandparent, who does not know of the presence of the disease. Attendance of the whole population for X-ray

examination during the visit of the Mass Radiography Unit to the area will go far in the discovery of such cases. Secondary cases are more likely now that open cases are living longer. Better housing conditions will help to reduce the incidence of the disease particularly where there is overcrowding.

The co-operation of the general public is very essential for the success of eradicating tuberculosis from the community. Early diagnosis of cases will ensure that they are isolated, thus preventing the spread of the disease to others. It must be remembered that the presence of a case of tuberculosis is a danger to others at home and at work. The tracing of contacts and the original source of infection must be carried out immediately and treatment of all concerned must be carried out at the earliest possible moment. Early treatment will shorten the period of illness and enable the sufferer to return to work sooner.

Food

Number of food premises in the area 112

These consist of:—

	Number of premises.	No of visits paid to these premises.
Shops	48	50
Public Houses	27	35
Hotels	4	8
Cafes	6	6
Bed and Breakfast Accommodation ...	4	4
School Canteens	15	20
Other Canteens	2	6
Vans	4	4
Dairies	1	6
Slaughterhouses	1	54

The food premises in the area are mainly family concerns which do not employ assistants. In most cases facilities for washing are available. Traders whose premises fall below standard have indicated their willingness to carry out repairs and improvements, and in many cases these have already been carried out. The standard of cleanliness is generally satisfactory. In the very few cases which were not satisfactory, steps were immediately taken to have the conditions remedied.

Inspections of the School Canteens in the district revealed that a number fall below the standard required by the Food Hygiene

Regulations, 1955. New canteens will have to be constructed at some schools, and improvements and alterations carried out at others. It is hoped that this work will be completed as soon as possible.

Ice Cream

There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the district. Twenty-three premises are registered for the sale of pre-packed ice cream, and vehicles from adjoining districts retail ice cream in the area. Vehicles and premises are periodically inspected and found to be satisfactory.

Milk Supplies

Several samples of milk were sent for bacteriological and biological examination during the year, but none showed the presence of Brucellosis or Tuberculosis.

Condemned Foodstuffs

The following articles of food were condemned during the year as being unfit for human consumption:—

- 1 × 8 oz. Heinz Spaghetti.
- 5 × 13½ oz. Corbatch Blackcurrants.
- 3 × 15 oz. Quality Brand Pilchards.
- 3 × 1 lb. 13 oz. Popular Halves Bartlett Pears.
- 1 × 1 lb. 13 oz. Ardoma Bartlett Pears Halves.
- 1 × 16 oz. Ky Halves Bartlett Pears.
- 1 × 1 lb. 1 oz. Rich-Pie Fruit Cocktail.
- 1 × 1 lb. 3 oz. Batchelors Dwarf Processed Peas.
- 1 × 8¾ oz. Rich Ripe Fruit Cocktail.
- 1 × 12 oz. Libby's Luncheon Meat.
- 1 × Carnation Evaporated Milk (2 pints equivalent).
- 1 × 6 lb. Libby's Ox Tongues.
- 1 × 2½ lbs. Smedley Pears.

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 were condemned during the year:—

19 Sheep's Plucks.

1 Pig Pluck.

Number of visits made to slaughterhouse for meat inspection	52
Number of visits made to slaughterhouse (part from meat inspection)	2

COUNTY OF DENBIGH

Particulars of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955,
in the RUTHIN RURAL DISTRICT during the year ended
31st December 1956.

Article.	No. Taken.	Genuine.	Not Genuine, or Sub-Standard.
MILK	6	5	1
Butter	1	1	—
Cheese	1	1	—
Mincemeat	1	1	—
Plum Pudding	1	1	—
Jam	1	1	—
Port Wine	1	1	—
Rum	1	1	—
Totals	13	12	1

As will be observed from the above Table, one sample of milk was certified to be "Not Genuine." This was a sample of bottled milk in which there was a very small percentage of extraneous water, but the amount of water present was too small to justify any action other than cautioning the vendor.

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

17 Vicarage Hill,
WREXHAM.
8th March 1957.

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

Water Supplies

There are five satisfactory water supplies in the rural district, and water is also purchased in bulk from the Birkenhead supply. The three small supplies which are unsatisfactory are to be replaced.

During the year a new main linking the existing supplies at Llanarmon and Llandegla was completed. Extensions to the Bryn Eglwys, Llandegla and Llanarmon areas, necessitating the construction of service reservoirs at Llandegla and Bryn Eglwys, were commenced during the year. Completion of these works is anticipated early in 1958.

The construction of a new reservoir at Saron and the extension of supplies to the parishes of Llanrhaeadr, Llanynys and Cyffylliog were completed during the year.

Approximately 65 per cent of the properties in the district have a piped water supply. When the new schemes are completed there will be a piped supply everywhere except in the very isolated areas.

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

Name of place where sample was taken.	Date.	Result.
BOREHOLE SUPPLY.	3/1/56	Class 1. Satisfactory.
	3/1/56	" "
	17/1/56	" "
	17/1/56	" "
	24/1/56	" "
	24/1/56	" "
	31/1/56	" "
	31/1/56	" "
	7/2/56	" "
	7/2/56	" "
	14/2/56	" "
	14/2/56	" "
	28/2/56	" "
	10/4/56	" "
	10/4/56	" "
	1/5/56	" "
	1/5/56	" "
	15/5/56	" "
	15/5/56	" "
	29/5/56	" "
	29/5/56	" "
	12/6/56	" "
	12/6/56	" "
	26/6/56	" "
	26/6/56	" "
	17/7/56	" "
	17/7/56	" "
	24/7/56	" "
	24/7/56	" "
	27/11/56	" "
	27/11/56	" "
PRION SUPPLY.	3/1/56	" "
	3/1/56	" "
	10/1/56	" "
	10/1/56	" "
	31/1/56	" "
	28/2/56	" "
	28/2/56	" "
	10/4/56	" "
	12/6/56	" "
	12/6/56	" "
Prion Council Houses.	10/7/56	Moderately contaminated
	10/7/56	Class 4. Unsatisfactory for chlorinated water.
	10/7/56	Class 4. Unsatisfactory for chlorinated water.
	17/7/56	Class 1. Satisfactory.
	7/8/56	" "
	7/8/56	" "
	14/8/56	" "
	20/8/56	" "
	20/8/56	" "
	20/8/56	" "
	4/9/56	" "

Name of place where sample was taken.	Date.	Result.
Llangwyfan Storage Tank.	4/9/56	Class 4. Unsatisfactory.
Llangwyfan Meter Pit.	4/9/56	" "
	17/9/56	Class 1. Satisfactory.
	17/9/56	" "
	17/9/56	" "
	2/10/56	" "
	2/10/56	" "
	16/10/56	" "
	16/10/56	" "
	30/10/56	" "
	30/10/56	" "
	30/10/56	" "
	13/11/56	" "
	13/11/56	" "
	13/11/56	" "
	27/11/56	" "
	11/12/56	" "
	11/12/56	" "
CRICOR.	3/1/56	" "
	1/5/56	" "
	2/10/56	" "
LLANFERRES SUPPLY.	28/2/56	Class 4. Unsatisfactory.
	1/5/56	Class 1. Satisfactory.
	30/10/56	Class 2. Satisfactory.
	27/11/56	Class 4. Unsatisfactory.
	11/12/56	Class 2. Satisfactory for unchlorinated water.
LLANDEGLA (Penstryt)	10/1/56	Class 4. Unsatisfactory.
"	31/1/56	Unsatisfactory.
"	15/5/56	Class 4. Unsatisfactory for a main piped supply.
"	29/5/56	Class 3. Suspicious.
"	25/9/56	Class 4. Unsatisfactory.
BIRKENHEAD	2/10/56	Class 1. Satisfactory.
BRYN EGLWYS	10/1/56	Class 4. Unsatisfactory.
New Supply	15/5/56	Unsatisfactory for a main piped supply.
Old Supply	15/5/56	Unsatisfactory for a main piped supply.
New Supply	29/5/56	Class 4. Unsatisfactory.
	12/6/56	" "
	12/6/56	Class 3. Suspicious.
	25/9/56	" "
NANT-Y-NE SUPPLY.	10/1/56	Class 1. Satisfactory.
	14/2/56	" "
	28/2/56	Class 4. Unsatisfactory.
	10/4/56	Class 1. Satisfactory.
	10/7/56	" "
	20/8/56	Class 4. Unsatisfactory.
	4/9/56	Class 1. Satisfactory.
	25/9/56	" "
	11/12/56	Class 2. Not quite up to standard for chlorinated water.
NANTGLYN.	23/10/56	Class 4. Unsatisfactory.
	30/10/56	Class 3. Unsatisfactory for chlorinated water.
	13/11/56	Class 1. Satisfactory.
	11/12/56	Class 4. Unsatisfactory.

All unsatisfactory reports were followed up. In some cases contamination was due to alterations and improvements at the headworks. Every endeavour has been made to rectify the trouble by frequent flushings. When the new mains and improvements are completed in Scheme 1, 1a and 2 the parishes of Bryn Eglwys, Llandegla and Llanferres should have a wholesome supply of water. A chlorination plant has been installed on the Nant-y-Ne supply.

Housing

The number of Council Houses erected during the year was	14
The number of private houses erected during the year was	6
Total number of Council Houses — Pre-War	40
Post-War.....	325
Total number of other houses	2,734

Thirty-one applications for Improvement Grants were received during the year, and all were approved. More applications were received than in any previous year, and there is every indication that, with the provision of new water and sewerage schemes, the number of applications will increase.

In addition to the reconditioning carried out with grant aid under the Housing Acts, the Denbighshire Agricultural Committee continues to make grants for improvements to farm houses under the provisions of the Hill Farming and Livestock Rearing Act.

Close co-operation is maintained when the Agricultural Executive Committee Authorities intend to make Hill Farming and Livestock Rearing Grants. The Public Health Inspector is requested by the A.E.C. to inspect the premises to ascertain if the proposed grant-aided work on the house will bring it up to the standard required by the Housing Acts, 1936/54.

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.

Care of the Aged

Several aged people living alone gave cause for concern during the year. All cases were followed up, and in some instances a home help was provided to clean up the house, assist in preparing the food, etc., thus making it possible for these aged people to remain in their own homes. In a few cases they agreed to go to a Home, and it was not necessary to take action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, during the year.

Schools

The Council have again been concerned with the drainage and sanitary accommodation at Llanrhaeadr and Llanbedr Schools. It is understood that the work of converting the privies to water closets at Llanbedr School will be carried out early in 1957.

Some improvements have been carried out to the schools since the Council's report to the Denbighshire County Council.

Sewage Disposal

Further progress has been accomplished during the year with respect to the construction of the new sewerage schemes reported in detail in previous reports.

Schemes of sewerage and sewage disposal for the villages of Erryrys, Llanarmon, Llandegla and Llanfair D.C. were completed during the year. Other schemes have been postponed for the present due to cost. These are:—

Llanbedr.
Waen, Aberwheeler.
Cyffylliog.
Llanrhaeadr Village.

Closet Accommodation

During the year, 34 new Water Closets were provided for existing premises.

Drains

Thirty-four cases of defective drainage were dealt with, and in 7 cases new drains were laid.

Number of visits regarding drainage 493

Rodent Control

The Council has a rodent control service in operation and employs a part-time Rodent Operative who carries out the practical work of destruction of rats and mice under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

As a general rule, a charge is made for this service in respect of treatments of business premises, and private dwelling houses are treated free of charge.

By regular visiting, any infestations are found and dealt with before they reach serious proportions, and the sewers are treated twice a year.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

Premises.	M/c. line No. (2)	Number on Register. (3)	Number of Inspections. (4)	Number of Written Notices. (5)	Number of Occupiers prosecuted. (6)	M/c. line No. (7)
(1)						
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority ...	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	22	27	Nil	Nil	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	13	13	Nil	Nil	3
TOTAL		35	40	Nil	Nil	

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars.	M/c. line No. (2)	Cases Found. (3)	Cases Remedied. (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector. (5)	Referred cases in which To H.M. prosecutions were Inspector. instituted (6)	No. of M/c. line No. (8)
(1)						
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4					4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5					5
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	6					6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7					7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8					8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):—						
(a) Insufficient	9	1	1		Nil	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	1	1			10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11					11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12					12
TOTAL	60	2	2	Nil	Nil	

Refuse Collection

Refuse is removed fortnightly from all dwelling houses by the Council's manual employees under the control of the Surveyor, as part of the rate fund services. Trade refuse from business premises and refuse from farms, however, is not removed by the Council, the occupiers of these premises having to make their own arrangements for its disposal.

The very few complaints received during the year were investigated and promptly dealt with.

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

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

Rag Flock Act, 1951

There are 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.

Summary and Classification of Visits made by the Public Health Inspectors

Visits made under the Public Health and Housing Acts	631
Visits made in respect of drainage work	493
Visits to Council Houses	459
Visits in respect of water supplies	64
Visits for Food Inspection	193
Visits for Meat Inspection	54
Visits to investigate cases of Infectious Disease	43
Disinfections	12
Visits to Factories and Workshops	40
Visits to Schools	24

Laboratory Service

The Public Health Laboratory is at Conway.

Samples of water, milk and ice-cream are regularly sent there for bacteriological examination. Other types of bacteriological examinations are also carried out there to aid in the diagnosis of illness, e.g. food poisoning, scarlet fever, meningitis, etc.

Ambulance Service

The whole service is controlled by the County Medical Officer of Health at Wrexham, but Denbigh and Llanrwst are under the

jurisdiction of the Ambulance Sub-Office at Colwyn Bay. This has accounted for a reduction in the amount of Sitting Case Car work.

There are four ambulance stations in the Western No. 2 Health Area, situated at Denbigh, Ruthin, Llanrwst and Cerrig-y-Drudion, with one ambulance at each station. Each station is manned by voluntary personnel except at Denbigh where a full-time driver was appointed and he commenced duties on 9th January 1956. 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 ambulance station at Llangernyw is to be re-opened in February 1957 and will be manned by a full-time driver.

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.

Name of Ambulance.	Area Served.	No. of cases conveyed.	Total Mileage.
Cerrig-y-Drudion	Upper Hiraethog.	72	2566
Denbigh	Denbigh Borough and parts of Aled R.D. and Ruthin R.D.	1489	17456
Llanrwst	Llanrwst and District.	104	3324
Ruthin	Ruthin Borough and Ruthin R.D.	506	9739

Cases Conveyed by Sitting Case Cars

Month 1956.	TAXIS.			W.V.S.		
	Journeys.	Cases.	Miles.	Journeys.	Cases.	Miles.
January	170	474	7,506	55	147	2,303
February	158	505	7,449	30	120	1,693
March	133	455	6,373	37	106	1,902
April	130	436	6,494	32	135	1,639
May	160	456	7,199	37	162	2,004
June	143	444	6,593	38	210	2,273
July	168	577	8,460	32	164	1,882
August	138	464	6,995	36	212	2,148
September	113	340	5,956	37	124	1,677
October	127	172	5,288	37	141	1,957
November	118	353	5,194	37	187	1,970
December	94	288	3,947	21	97	1,149
Total	1,652	4,964	77,454	429	1,805	22,597

Mental Health Service

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

Orthopaedic Clinics

A clinic is held at the Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh, on the first and third Wednesday morning in each month, with Surgeons from Gobowen Orthopaedic Hospital attending once every two months. Some patients attend the clinic held on the second and fourth Tuesday afternoons at Bala. The clinic held at Corwen was discontinued during the year.

Clinics are also held weekly at hospitals at Rhyl and Wrexham.

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

Venereal Diseases

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

Tuberculosis Clinics

Patients from the area attend the Chest Clinic which is held every Wednesday morning at the Denbigh Infirmary or at the weekly clinics held at Wrexham and Rhyl, whichever is the most convenient.

Ante-Natal Clinics

As there is no Ante-Natal Clinic held in the rural district, cases referred by the patient's own doctor are seen at the Local Authority's Consultant Clinic which is held at the Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh, on alternate Friday mornings or at the Wrexham Clinic which is held on Wednesday mornings.

Some patients from the rural district attend the routine Ante-Natal Clinic held at Denbigh on alternate Wednesday mornings.

The attendance at the Denbigh Clinics during the year was as follows (the figures include patients from the rural districts):—

	Routine Clinic.	Consultant Clinic.
First Visits	24	105
Re-visits	39	186
Post-Natal	1	43
Gynae	—	35
Total	64	369

Patients who are booked at the St. Asaph Hospital for their confinement attend the clinic which is held at the hospital on Monday afternoons.

Infant Welfare Clinics

No Infant Welfare Clinics are held in the rural district, but mothers attend with their babies at clinics held at Ruthin and Denbigh. The following figures showing the attendance at these clinics during the year include babies from other areas.

	Denbigh Clinic.	Ruthin Clinic.
First Visits	107	123
Re-visits	1325	1144
Total	1432	1267

Welfare Foods are available during the clinic sessions at the Denbigh and Ruthin Clinics, and are also available at 40 Well Street, Ruthin, and at the Denbigh Clinic on Friday afternoons. Depots are also open in various villages for the convenience of mothers who are unable to get to the clinics for the foods.

No transport is arranged to convey mothers and babies to the Ruthin and Denbigh Infant Welfare Clinics from the rural districts.

Dental Clinics

These clinics are held at the Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh, as and when necessary for the examination and treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and toddlers.

Nursing Services

Number of Health Visitors ...	2	(Miss S. C. Evans and Mrs. E. A. Beech-Davies).
Number of Tuberculosis Health Visitors	2	(Miss M. Thomas and Miss M. Lloyd-Edwards).
Number of District Nurses ...	4	(Nurse Holland, Clawddnewydd, Nurse Jones, Llanarmon Y.I., Nurse Jones, Nantglyn, Nurse Williams, Rhewl).

The two Health Visitors also cover other areas, i.e. Ruthin and Denbigh Boroughs and parts of Aled and Hiraethog Rural Districts. The two Tuberculosis Health Visitors cover the whole of the county.

Domestic Help Service

The number of domestic helps employed in the district during the year was twenty-one.

The number of cases where domestic help was provided in 1956 was as follows:—

Maternity	1
Tuberculosis	Nil
Chronic Sick and Aged	12
Other cases	8
Total	21



