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RURAL DISTRICT OF RUTHIN

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ANNUAL  
HEALTH REPORT

1959

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**Medical Officer of Health**

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

The Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh.

Tel. No. Denbigh 289.

**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.





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**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
RUTHIN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

The Public Health Inspector and I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Health Report for the year 1959.

We wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for all the assistance we have received during the year, and we would thank the other Officials and members of the staff for their ready assistance at all times.

Yours faithfully,

M. JONES ROBERTS,

Medical Officer of Health.

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

Chairmen of the Council :—

January—May 1959 : Councillor Rev. H. GLYNNE JONES.

June—December 1959 : Councillor J. O. MORRIS.

Chairmen of the Public Health Committee :—

January—May 1959 : Councillor J. PIERCE.

June—December 1959 : Councillor J. PIERCE.

Chairman of the Housing Committee :—

January—May 1959 : Councillor J. O. MORRIS.

June—December 1959 : Councillor DAVID ROBERTS.



## GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT

Area of the Rural District .....	98,651 (Acres)
Register General's estimated population (mid-1959)...	9,380
Number of inhabited houses .....	3,115
Rateable Value (1/4/59) .....	£81,907
Sum represented by a penny rate .....	£309

The estimated population was 9,380 in 1959 compared with 9,390 in 1958, a decrease of 10.

The number of inhabited houses has increased from 3,111 in 1958 to 3,115 in 1959.

### DEATHS

Comparability Factor .....	1.00
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	England and Wales 1959	1958	1959
Crude death rate (per 1,000 population)...	11.6	10.65	11.41
Corrected death rate (per 1,000 population)	—	10.65	11.41
Still-birth rate (per 1,000 population) .....	—	0.64	0.32
Still-birth rate (per 1,000 live and still births)	20.7	38.96	17.64
Maternal mortality rate .....	0.38	Nil	Nil
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	22.0	Nil	11.97
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 legitimate live births) .....	—	Nil	12.27
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 illegitimate live births) .....	—	Nil	Nil
Neo Natal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births first four weeks) .....	15.8	Nil	11.97



The following table shows the number of deaths which occurred during the year. The number of deaths which occurred in 1958 is shown in the first column for comparison.

Cause of Death	1958	1959	
	Total.	Total	Males. Females
Poliomyelitis .....	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—Respiratory .....	—	1	1
Tuberculosis—Other.....	—	—	—
Syphilitic Diseases.....	1	—	—
Diphtheria .....	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections.....	—	—	—
Measles .....	—	—	—
Other Infective and parasitic diseases .....	1	—	—
Malignant diseases—Stomach.....	2	3	2 1
Lungs, Bronchus.....	2	4	4
Breast.....	1	3	— 3
Uterus.....	1	—	—
Other .....	13	9	1 8
Total Cancer deaths .....	19	19	7 12
Leukaemia .....	—	1	— 1
Diabetes .....	2	—	—
Vascular lesions of the nervous system.....	17	25	11 14
Coronary diseases .....	16	12	9 3
Hypertension with heart diseases .....	1	—	—
Other heart diseases.....	7	15	6 9
Other circulatory diseases .....	7	4	1 3
Influenza .....	2	4	2 2
Pneumonia .....	4	2	— 2
Bronchitis .....	4	2	2
Other respiratory diseases .....	—	3	3
Ulcer of stomach, etc.....	1	1	— 1
Castritis, diarrhoea, etc. ....	1	1	1
Nephritis, nephrosis, etc.....	2	1	1
Prostatic hyperplasia .....	1	1	1
Maternal causes.....	—	—	—
Congenital malformations .....	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases .....	5	11	5 6
Motor vehicle accidents .....	—	1	— 1
All other accidents .....	5	3	— 3
Suicide ..	4	—	—
Homicide.....	—	—	—
All Causes.....	100	107	50 57



The deaths occurred in the following age groups :—

	Total.	Males.	Females
Under 1 year.....	2	2	—
1 — 10 years .....	2	—	2
10 — 20 years .....	—	—	—
20 — 30 years .....	1	1	—
30 — 40 years .....	2	1	1
40 — 50 years .....	4	3	1
50 — 60 years .....	6	3	3
60 — 70 years .....	19	11	8
70 — 80 years .....	33	15	18
80 — 90 years .....	30	12	18
90 years and over.....	8	2	6
Total.....	107	50	57

There were 107 deaths during the year compared with 100 the previous year, giving a death rate of 11.41 compared with 10.65 in 1958. Of these deaths 90 occurred in persons aged 60 years and over.

There was one death from pulmonary tuberculosis compared with Nil the previous year.

Four deaths were due to influenza compared with two the previous year, and two deaths were due to pneumonia compared with four in 1958.

There were no deaths due to any other infectious disease.

Deaths due to cancer numbered 19, the same as in 1958. Of these, one was due to cancer of the lung compared with two the previous year.

Deaths from vascular lesions, lesions of the heart and lesions of the circulatory system totalled 56, compared with 48 the previous year, 12 being due to coronary diseases compared with 16 in 1958.

There were no suicidal deaths compared with 4 the previous year.

Deaths due to accidents numbered 4, one of these was due to a motor vehicle accident ; one was caused by asphyxia due to immersion in water, and the other two were due to accidents in the home. These were :—

1. In a person aged 83 years due to myocardial failure due to toxæmia which was accelerated by a fracture of the neck of the femur caused by a fall in the bedroom.
2. In a person aged 85 years due to myocardial infarct due to senile arteriosclerosis which was accelerated by a fracture of the neck of the femur caused by a fall at home.



## Still-Births

The Still-Birth Rate was 17.64 compared with 21.6 in 1958 and 20.7 for England and Wales. The actual number of still-births was 3 compared with 6 the previous year.

## Infant Deaths

The Infant Mortality Rate was 11.97 compared with Nil in 1958 and 22.0 for England and Wales. The actual number of infant deaths was 2.

One death was in male child aged 7 hours and occurred in hospital. The cause of death was atelectasis and prematurity and appears to have been unavoidable.

The other death was in a male child aged 6 hours and occurred in hospital. The cause of death was prematurity and accidental haemorrhage and appears to have been unavoidable.

## Maternal Mortality Rate

There were no maternal deaths during the year, giving a Maternal Mortality Rate of Nil, the same as in 1958 and compared with 0.38 for England and Wales.

## Births

Comparability Factor ..... 1.02

Actual number of births registered ..... 54 (27 Males and 27 Females)

Number of births relating to residents... 167 (95 Males and 72 Females)

Mothers are admitted to hospitals outside the area for confinement as there is no maternity hospital in the area.

The births were classified as follows :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate .....	92	71	163
Illegitimate .....	3	1	4
	England and Wales		
	1959	1958	1959
Crude birth rate (per 1,000 population) ....	16.5	15.76	17.80
Corrected birth rate (per 1,000 population)	—	16.07	18.15
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births .....	—	4.05	2.40



## Infectious Diseases

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1959 arranged in the various age groups. The number of cases notified during 1958 is given in the first column for comparison.

Notifiable Disease	1958 Total	1959 Total	At Ages							Ages unknown
			Under 1 year	1-5 year	6-15 years	16-25 years	26-45 years	46-65 years	65 years and over	
Scarlet Fever .....	1	6	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ....	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .....	48	34	—	20	12	—	1	—	—	1
Pneumonia .....	5	4	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis ....	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Food Poisoning .....	—	5	—	—	—	1	3	1	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ....	5	5	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	—
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>

The total number of cases of infectious diseases (including tuberculosis) notified during the year was 57 compared with 67 cases in 1958. The decrease in the number of cases notified was due to the fact that 34 cases of measles were notified during the year compared with 48 cases the previous year.

Six cases of scarlet fever were notified compared with one case in 1958. These cases were scattered throughout the area.

One case of paralytic poliomyelitis was notified compared with Nil the previous year. This case occurred in a female child aged 11 years who was admitted to hospital. The usual investigations were carried out, but the source of infection was not found and no further cases were notified. This child had not been vaccinated against the disease.

There were no cases of whooping cough notified compared with 7 cases in 1958.



One case of erysipelas was notified compared with Nil the previous year.

There were 5 cases of food poisoning notified during the year compared with Nil the previous year. These cases occurred at the same time as 8 cases in Ruthin Borough. The common agent seems to have been watercress which had been gathered in a stream by a local resident and sold at a shop in Ruthin Borough. Samples of the watercress were not available for bacteriological examination. Samples of water from the stream which was open to pollution were sent for bacteriological examination, but no pathogenic organisms were found.

The under-mentioned cases of infectious diseases were notified by Head Teachers of various schools during the year. These cases were in addition to the ones entered in the above tables :—

Mumps .....	3
Chicken Pox .....	22

Neither of these infectious diseases are notifiable.

During the year, 6 cases of tuberculosis (5 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary) were notified, being the same as in 1958. The lesion in respect of the non-pulmonary case was in the spine.

Two other cases of tuberculosis were added to the register during the year in respect of patients who had come to reside in the area.

Eight cases of tuberculosis were removed from the register in 1959, 2 patients having left the area, 5 recovered and one died.

The following table shows the number of cases of tuberculosis on the register at the beginning and at the end of 1959.

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.
	Males	Females	Males	Females.	
Number on register on 1st January 1959 .....	37	39	13	3	92
Number on register on 31st December 1959 .....	41	36	12	3	92

Nine cases of tuberculosis were admitted to hospitals or sanatoria during the year and 6 cases were discharged.

The following table indicates the number of inspections carried out by the Public Health Inspector regarding infectious diseases :—

No. of visits re infectious diseases .....	58
No. of visits re tuberculosis .....	27
No. of rooms fumigated and disinfected .....	12
No. of cases where disinfectant was used .....	12
No. of cases where bedding was removed for stoving ...	1



## PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### Diphtheria and Whooping Cough

There were no cases of diphtheria notified during the year and the general population must not forget that this is due to the fact that children are inoculated against this disease. It is most essential that parents should see that their children have this preventive treatment. The injections are now given in conjunction with those for whooping cough, three injections being given at monthly intervals commencing when the child is aged 2—3 months. A booster dose is given when the child is 4—5 years and another at the age of 10 years.

The number immunised against these diseases during the year was as follows :—

Number immunised against whooping cough and diphtheria combined :—

Under 5 years ..... 86

Over 5 years ..... 6

Number immunised against diphtheria only :—

Under 5 years ..... 1

Booster injections ..... 110

### Smallpox

All babies should be vaccinated against smallpox. This is given when the baby is 2—3 months old.

The number of vaccinations carried out during the year was as follows :—

Number of primary vaccinations ..... 104

Number of re-vaccinations ..... 9

### Poliomyelitis

The number of children and young adults who have been vaccinated against poliomyelitis is quite good, but one should not be satisfied until this has reached the 100% mark.

The number of persons who were vaccinated against this disease during the year was as follows :—

Number of second injections given ..... 722

Number given booster injections ..... 999



Vaccinations against poliomyelitis is to be extended to persons up to the age of 40 years, and other priority groups have been named. Special sessions will be arranged in the evenings for adults. Consent cards for all ages may be obtained from :—

Denbigh Clinic ;  
 Ruthin Clinic ;  
 Llanrwst Clinic ;  
 Health Visitors ;  
 General Practitioners ;  
 Medical Officer of Health's Office at Denbigh ; and  
 County Medical Officer of Health's Department, Wrexham.

These cards should be completed and sent to the County Medical Officer, County Health Department, 16 Grosvenor Road, Wrexham, and arrangements will be made for persons to attend at the Clinic nearest to them, or they may attend the family doctor if desired.

### **Tuberculosis**

No B.C.G. vaccinations were carried out during the year apart from the vaccination of contacts who attend at the Chest Clinic.

The Mass Radiography Unit did not visit the Rural District during the year, but visited the Denbigh and Ruthin Boroughs once every 3 weeks. The attendances were very poor during the first six months of the year, but they have improved since the Unit was located more centrally at the County Hall at Denbigh, and since the day was changed from a Friday to a Monday and an evening session was introduced at Ruthin.

The following tables show the number of persons who attended at the Unit for X-ray examination during the year and include persons from Denbigh and Ruthin Boroughs and Aled Rural District.

	Denbigh.	Ruthin.
Total number examined .....	563	433
Number of visits .....	15	14
Average attendances per visit .....	38	31

### **Type of examinee :—**

General population volunteers .....	409	243
General practitioner referrals .....	14	13
National Service Recruits .....	7	—



Ante-Natal Clinic .....	—	2
Civil Servants and Local Oovernment Officers.....	65	94
Schoolchildren .....	8	23
Teachers .....	19	19
Students .....	—	6
Hospital Staff : North Wales Counties Hospital ...	10	—
General .....	20	15
Factory Groups .....	11	—
Old People's Homes .....	—	18
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total.....	563	433
	<hr/>	<hr/>

### **Special Surveys :—**

C.W.S. Creamery, Llandyrnog ..... 72 (52 Males and 20 Females)

### **Abnormal Cases Found**

Referred for further investigations .....	11	7
Other pulmonary abnormalities (not requiring further observations) .....	12	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total.....	23	13
	<hr/>	<hr/>

### **National Assistance Act, 1948. Section 47**

### **National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951**

One person was removed to hospital under this sections of the Act. This patient was elderly and was bedridden and her own doctor brought her to our notice as she refused to go into hospital. Although the family tried to care for the patient, it was almost impossible for them to give her the necessary care and attention. The conditions at the home were mos unsuitable for her to be nursed there and action had to be taken for her removal to hospital.

### **National Assistance Act, 1948. Section 50**

One person was buried under this section of the Act.

### **Housing**

Forty pre-war houses and 325 post-war houses have been built by the Council, making a total of 365 houses.

Nine privately-owned houses were completed and occupied during



1959, an increase of one on the previous year. Again the difficulty of obtaining suitable sites has undoubtedly had a serious effect on private building.

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

The Council continues to make grants under the Housing Acts, in respect of improvement to houses. Twenty-six schemes were completed during the year. Since the Housing Acts 1949—1954 introduced the improvement grant scheme 114 houses have been improved at a cost to the Council of approximately £34,282. This type of work gives considerable satisfaction and results in a standard of accommodation comparable with that of a new house, and at considerably less cost.

The House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, which came into operation on the 14th June, introduced a new system of Standard Grants to supplement the present system of Improvement Grants. So far very little interest has been shown in the new grant. Four applications have been received and approved. The schemes have not yet been completed.

Again close co-operation is maintained with the Ruthin Regional Office of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, in connection with the making of grants for improvement of farm houses, under the provisions of the Hill Farming and Livestock Rearing Act. A number of the schemes were completed during the year, and every endeavour is made to maintain the standards required by the Housing Acts.

### **Schools**

The scheme for converting the existing privies to water closets at the Llanbedr School, was completed during the year. The increased number of pupils attending this School has given rise to serious overcrowding, and the provision of an additional class room is essential for the well-being of both staff and pupils.

### **School Canteens**

Inspections of the school canteens in the district revealed that a number still fall below the required standard.

The Denbighshire Education Committee are preparing schemes for the erection of new canteens at the following 5 schools :—

Pentre Celyn ,  
Llanfair D.C. ;  
Bryn Eglwys ;  
Llanferres ; and  
Prion.



It is expected that all these schemes will be completed during 1960.

The following is a report on the conditions now existing at the various School Canteens :—

#### **Llanferres C.P. School Canteen**

Meals prepared at Llanarmon School, and transported to this School in sealed containers. Washing-up is carried out in a small hut situated at the rear of the School, and constructed of galvanized sheets on timber. An enamelled bowl is used in place of a sink, and water is heated in a calor gas boiler.

These arrangements are most <sup>unsatisfactory</sup> satisfactory, and the hut should be condemned forthwith.

#### **Llanfair D.C. School Canteen**

Meals prepared in Central Kitchen at Ruthin, and transported to this School in sealed containers. The washing-up room is situated inside the School, and is also used as a Children's Cloakroom. A sink is provided, with hot and cold water taps above. Water is heated in a 12-gallon capacity electric geyzer. About 40 meals per day are served in the classroom.

These arrangements are most unsatisfactory, and a proper canteen is required.

#### **Pentre Celyn School Canteen**

Meals prepared in Central Kitchen at Ruthin, and transported to this School in sealed containers. The washing-up room is also used as a Children's Cloakroom. A sink is provided, with hot and cold taps above. A 12-gallon capacity electric geyzer heats the water. About 45 meals per day are served in the classroom.

These arrangements are most unsatisfactory, and a proper canteen is required.

#### **Prion C.P. School Canteen**

This canteen is too small, and is situated at too great a distance from the School. The walls are rough and the lighting and ventilation poor. No sanitation is provided for the staff or children, and wash hand basins with a continuous supply of hot and cold water should be provided. The arrangements for the storage of food have been improved by the provision of a refrigerator, but vegetables, etc., continue to be stored in bins in an old outhouse. The meals are served in a dining room attached to the kitchen. This room is dark and poorly ventilated.

#### **Bryn Eglwys C.P. School Canteen**

This canteen is situated in the Church Hall. The building is construc-



ted of brick and timber, and is in quite a good state of repair, but requires re-decorating. It is not separated from the Main Hall, and unauthorised persons can gain access to the kitchen. Facilities are provided for preparation, cooking and storage of food. Perishable foods are stored in a refrigerator. There is a cold tap above the sink, and water for washing-up is heated in a calor gas boiler. Water for hand washing is heated by a small calor gas geyzer. Hot and cold water taps are provided over the wash basin. There is no clothes locker, and no sanitary accommodation for the Canteen Staff. The arrangements are not very satisfactory, and a new canteen providing exclusively for the needs of the School would be more desirable.

### **Cyffylliog School Canteen**

The canteen forms part of the main school building, and meals are served in a classroom. Adequate cooking and washing facilities are provided, with hot and cold taps above sink and wash basin. There is a ventilated food store and a refrigerator is provided in the School corridor for storage of perishable foods. To comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, the following require attention :—

- (a) The kitchen requires re-decorating.
- (b) A clothes locker and sanitary accommodation should be provided for the Canteen Staff.

### **Llanelidan C.P. School Canteen**

This canteen is also used as a Village Hall Kitchen. The building has a brick and concrete base with walls and roof of corrugated iron sheets on timber.

The structural condition of the building is most unsatisfactory, and the headroom is inadequate. Due to its state of disrepair, the building is being continually infested with rats.

The Canteen is available for use by other persons, and a new canteen is urgently required to provide exclusively for the needs of the School.

### **Llanbedr C.P. School Canteen**

The canteen forms part of the main School building, and meals are served in the Classroom. Adequate cooking and washing facilities are provided, with hot and cold taps above sink and wash basin. An electric refrigerator is installed for the storage of perishable foods. To comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations, the following require attention :—

- (a) The provision of a Clothes Locker and Sanitary Accommodation for the Canteen Staff.

### **Llanrhaeadr School Canteen**

The canteen forms part of the main school building, and meals are



served in a classroom. Adequate facilities are provided for the preparation and cooking of food, and for the supply of hot water. A sink is installed with hot and cold taps above. An electric refrigerator is used for the storage of perishable foods. The storage space for other foods is inadequate, and further accommodation should be provided. In order to comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations the following are required :—

- (a) A wash hand basin for the exclusive use of the Canteen Staff.
- (b) Provision of sanitary accommodation, and a clothes locker for Canteen Staff.

### **Llandyrnog C.P. School Canteen**

Constructed of brick with slate roof and concrete floors, and set apart from the main School building. The Canteen is in a good state of repair and decoration. Adequate cooking and washing facilities are provided, with hot and cold taps above the sink and wash hand basin. An electric refrigerator is installed.

Sanitary accommodation should be provided for the Canteen Staff. The Children's accommodation is used at present.

### **Gellifor C.P. School Canteen**

This Canteen has been provided with all the amenities required by the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, with the exception of a Clothes Locker, and separate Sanitary Accommodation for the Canteen Staff.

### **Rhewl C.P. School Canteen**

Constructed of concrete blocks with corrugated asbestos roof and concrete floors. The Kitchen and Dining Room are incorporated in the one building, which is set apart from the main school building. The Canteen is in a good state of repair and decoration. There are adequate facilities for the preparation, cooking, and storage of food, and for the supply of hot water, etc. Sanitary accommodation is provided for the staff, and the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations are being complied with.

### **Nantglyn C.P. School Canteen**

At this canteen part of the infants' cloakroom has been converted into a kitchen and small pantry. The area is rather restricted, and the kitchen becomes very hot during the summer months. Adequate cooking and washing facilities with hot and cold taps above sink and wash hand basin have been provided. Unfortunately, owing to the restricted space, the wash hand basin has had to be installed in the Children's Cloakroom. Food storage facilities have been improved by the provision of a refrigerator.



### **Graianrhyd C.P. School Canteen**

This Canteen occupies an old Cloak Room. It is small, poorly ventilated, and has a door leading into a large classroom. Steam and cooking odours gain access to this classroom, and an alternative entrance should be provided. Hot water is obtained from a geyzer fixed over a deep glazed sink. A wash hand basin has been provided, with a cold water tap above. This has been fixed in a corner of the canteen, and is quite inaccessible. No separate sanitary accommodation has been provided for the staff, the toilets being shared with the children. Although a refrigerator has been provided, the food storage facilities continue to remain unsatisfactory.

### **Llandegla School Canteen**

The Canteen is situated in the Village Hall. The construction is of brick, stone and slate. The interior of the building is badly in need of re-decorating.

Adequate facilities are provided for the preparation, cooking and storage of food, and for the supply of hot water. Hot and cold taps are fitted above the sink and wash basin. An electric refrigerator is provided.

The arrangements are not entirely satisfactory, as the Canteen is available for use by other persons. There is no clothes locker for the use of the Canteen Staff.

### **Derwen C.P. School Canteen**

The Kitchen is small and opens out into the classroom. Steam enters the classroom and a separate entrance should be provided. Ventilation is poor and should be improved. Apart from the provision of a wash hand basin in the kitchen, adequate facilities for the preparation and cooking of food have been provided. A wash hand basin has been installed in the Staff toilets. Storage facilities have been improved by the provision of a refrigerator, but unfortunately this has had to be fixed in the children's cloakroom, some distance from the kitchen. A clothes locker should be provided.

### **Clocaenog C.P. School Canteen**

Use is made of the Church Hall, a most unsatisfactory arrangement. The Hall is situated some distance from the school, and the canteen is used by other bodies. Adequate facilities have been provided for the preparation and cooking of food. Storage facilities have been improved by the installation of a refrigerator.

Clothes lockers should be provided for the staff. Ceilings and walls require re-decorating.

### **Llanarmon School Canteen**

The canteen is situated in the main school building, and meals are served in a classroom. There are adequate facilities for the preparation



and cooking of food, also adequate washing facilities, with hot and cold water taps above sink and wash hand basin. To comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations, the following items require attention :—

- (a) The provision of a Clothes Locker and Sanitary Accommodation for the Staff.
- (b) Improved ventilation. At present steam collects in the room when cooking is in process. An electrically operated extractor fan fitted into an external wall should disperse the steam and improve the ventilation.

## Food

Number of food premises in the area ..... 108

These consist of :—

	Number of Premises.
Shops .....	48
Public Houses .....	26
Hotels .....	3
Cafes .....	6
School Canteens .....	16
Other Canteens .....	2
Vans .....	5
Dairies .....	1
Slaughterhouses .....	1

The total number of inspections made at the above premises was 202.

The food premises in the area are mainly family concerns, and only a few employ assistants. Conditions were generally found to be satisfactory as regards cleanliness and staff hygiene. Improvements were carried out at a number of premises, and it is pleasing to report that no statutory action was found necessary.

## Condemned Foodstuffs

The following articles of food were condemned during the year :—

- 1 × 1 lb. 14 oz. Tin of Golden Glory Apricots (Halves) in Syrup.
- 4 × 1 lb 13 oz. Tins of Golden Areas Brand Australian Bartlett Pears.
- 1 × 10 oz. Tin of Smedley's Garden Peas.
- 1 × 8 oz. Tin of Heinz Baked Beans.
- 1 × 15 oz. Tin of Del Monte Pilchards in Tomato Sauce.
- 1 × 11½ oz. Tin of Swift Plate Brand Luncheon Meat.
- 1 × 6 lb. Tin of Libby's Corned Beef.
- 2 × 6 lb. Tins of Exeter Brand Corned Beef (Product of Australia).
- 1 × 6 lb. Tin of C.A.P. Brand Corned Beef (Product of Argentina).



## Food Sampling

This is carried out in the district by the Weights and Measures Department of the County Council, to whose Chief Inspector, Thomas H. Evans, Esq., thanks are due for permission to include the following table :—

Article	No. Taken	Genuine	Not Genuine, or Sub-standard
MILK .....	8	8	—
Butter .....	2	2	—
Lard .....	1	1	—
Sausages .....	2	2	—
Ice Cream .....	2	2	—
Honey .....	1	1	—
Beer .....	1	1	—
Totals .....	17	17	—

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

## Milk Supplies

Two samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year.

One sample of milk was submitted for biological examination, and the result proved to be satisfactory.

## Ice Cream

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

## 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 Byelaws have not been adopted in the area.

The slaughterhouse is regularly cleansed and whitewashed, and during the year some essential repairs were carried out.

Number of visits made to slaughterhouse for meat inspection ..... 61

Number of visits made to slaughterhouse (apart from meat inspection) ..... 4



## Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cow:			Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed (if known) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	608	1	Nil
Number Inspected .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	608	1	Nil
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</b>						
Whole carcases condemned .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	127	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspec- ted affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	Nil	Nil	Nil	20.8%	Nil	Nil
<b>Tuberculosis only.</b>						
Whole carcases condemned .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspec- ted affected with tuberculosis...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<b>Cysticercosis</b>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigerations .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally con- demned .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

### Water Supplies

Five sources of water supply are owned by the Council. Water is also purchased in bulk from the Birkenhead Corporation and the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company.

A new service is to be constructed at Fronheulog (Llanrhaeadr) and a new water main is to be laid from Fronheulog to Rhewl. In addition to this scheme, short lengths of new water main are to be laid at Gellifor and Llanbedr.

The scheme for laying a new 4" main from the existing Nantglyn system to connect to the Aled Council's main at Bylchau is expected to be carried out in 1960.

Approximately 68 per cent of the properties in the district have a piped water supply.

175 samples of water were taken and sent for bacteriological examination during the year. All unsatisfactory reports were followed up. In most cases contamination was due to the very low level of the water in



the reservoir brought about by the exceptionally dry summer. Every endeavour was made to improve the supplies.

The following samples of water were sent for bacteriological examination during the year 1959 :—

Name of Supply	No. of Samples Taken	Result
Borehole Supply .....	58	Class 1—53 samples Class 2— 2 samples Class 3— 3 samples
Prion Supply .....	60	Class 1—57 samples Class 2— 1 sample Class 3— 2 samples
Cricor Supply .....	14	Class 1—11 samples Class 4— 3 samples
Nant y Ne Supply .....	19	Class 1—17 samples Class 3— 1 sample Class 4— 1 sample
Moel Fammau Supply .....	6	Class 1— 6 samples
Birkenhead Corporation Supply .....	4	Class 1— 4 samples
Nantglyn Supply .....	1	Class 3— 1 sample
Wrexham and East Denbighshire Supply .....	12	Class 1—11 samples Class 2— 1 sample
Mold Water Company Supply .....	1	Class 1— 1 sample

### Sewage Disposal

No new schemes were started during the year, but further progress was made in the preparation of schemes for Graigfechan, Llanbedr and Waen, Aberwheeler. A start should be made on these schemes early in 1960.

### Closet Accommodation

Thirty-six conversions from privies to water closets were carried out during the year.

### Rodent Control

The Council has a rodent control service in operation and employs a part-time Rodent Operator 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. Private dwelling houses are treated free of charge.



*Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1959  
for the Rural District of Ruthin in the County of Denbighshire.*

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

**PART I OF THE ACT**

1. Inspections for purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections by Sanitary Inspectors).

PREMISES (1)	Number of			
	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	16	20	Nil	Nil
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) .....	11	34	Nil	Nil
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>Nil</b>



## 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)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)— (a) Insufficient .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out- work) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil



# **PART VIII OF THE ACT OUTWORK**

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecu- tions (7)
Wearing (Making apparel (etc, (Cleaning and (Washing	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Household linen	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Lace, lace curtains & nets	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Curtains and furniture hangings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Furniture & Upholstery	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Electro-plate	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
File making	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Brass and brass articles	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Fur pulling	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Iron and steel cables and chains	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cart gear	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Locks, latches and keys	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Umbrellas, etc,	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Artificial flowers	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil



**PART VIII OF THE ACT (Continued)**  
**OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)**

Nature of Work	Section 110				Section 111	
	No. of Out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in some premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
<b>1</b>						
Nets, other than wire nets	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Tents	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sacks	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Racquet and tennis balls	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Paper bags	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Brush making	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pea picking	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Feather sorting	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Stuffed toys	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Basket making	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Chocolates & sweetmeats	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cosaques,	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Christmas stockings, etc.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Textile weaving	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Lampshades	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<b>TOTAL</b>	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil



## **Refuse Collection**

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

The very few complaints received during the year were investigated and promptly dealt with. These were all in connection with the non-collection of refuse.

## **Premises and Occupations which can be Controlled by Bye-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 is manufactured, used or sold.

## **Rivers and Streams**

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

## **Summary and Classification of Visits made by the Public Health Inspectors**

Visits made under the Public Health and Housing Acts	1,095
Visits made in respect of drainage work .....	350
Visits to Council Houses .....	512
Visits in respect of water supplies .....	115
Visits for Food Inspection .....	202
Visits for Meat Inspection .....	61
Visits to investigate cases of infectious disease .....	58
Disinfections .....	12
Visits to Factories and Workshops .....	51
Visits to Schools .....	37



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

### Laboratory Service

The Public Health Laboratory is at Conway, and samples of water, milk and ice cream are 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

This service is controlled by the County Medical Officer of Health at Wrexham, but Denbigh, Llanrwst and Llangernyw ambulances are under the jurisdiction of the Ambulance Sub-Station at Colwyn Bay.

There are six ambulances in the Western No. 2 Health Area situated at Denbigh, Ruthin, Llanrwst, Llangernyw and Cerrig y Druidion, with one ambulance at each station except at Ruthin, where there are two. Two stations, i.e. Llanrwst and Cerrig y Druidion, are manned by voluntary personnel, but at Denbigh, Ruthin and Llangernyw full-time drivers are employed. To supplement the ambulances, use is made of 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 covered during the year.

Name of Ambulance Station	Denbigh	Ruthin	Llanrwst	Llangernyw	Cerrig-y-Druidion	Totals
Number of cases .....	2,129	2,458	74	2,185	81	6,927
Total mileage .....	30,333	31,989	2,880	26,406	3,286	94,894

### Sitting Case Cars — Taxis

No. of Journeys	No. of Cases	Total Mileage
1,185	3,825	58,102

The above figures were given by the County Medical Officer.

### 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 mornings in each month, with surgeons from the Gobowen Orthopaedic Hospital attending once every two months. Some patients attend the clinic held on the second and fourth Tuesday mornings at Bala.

Clinics are held weekly at hospitals in Rhyl and Wrexham.

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

### **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 the Chest Clinic, Grosvenor Road, Wrexham, and the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Rhyl.

### **Venereal Diseases Clinics**

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

### **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, i.e. Denbigh and Ruthin Boroughs and Aled Rural District.

	Under 1 year		1—5 years		Total Visits
	1st Visits	Re-visits	1—2 years	2—5 years	
Denbigh .....	170	1,274	311	555	2,310
Ruthin .....	84	663	141	141	1,029

These figures were given by the County Medical Officer.

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 the various villages for the convenience of mothers who are unable to get to the clinics for the food.

### **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.



The number of cases treated during the year was as follows :—

Number examined .....	3
Number requiring treatment .....	3
Number treated .....	4
Number completed treatment .....	4

### **Nursing Services**

The following are the names and addresses of the nursing staff serving the district.

### **Health Visitors**

Miss C. J. Davies, 40 Well Street, Ruthin, Tel. No. Ruthin 200.

Miss M. Roberts, 40 Well Street, Ruthin, Tel. No. Ruthin 200.

Miss S. C. Evans, The Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh, Tel. No. Denbigh 289.

Miss O. M. Hobson, The Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh, Tel. No. Denbigh 289.

Miss Evans and Miss Hobson also cover Denbigh Borough and part of Aled Rural District. Miss Davies and Miss Roberts also cover Ruthin Borough and part of Hiraethog Rural District.

### **Tuberculosis Health Visitors**

Miss M. Thomas, 21 Severn Road, Colwyn Bay.

Miss M. Lloyd Edwards, The Chest Clinic, Grosvenor Road, Wrexham, Tel. No. Wrexham 4242.

Miss Thomas and Miss Lloyd Edwards also cover the whole of the county.

### **District Nurses**

Nurse Jones, Annedd Wen, Nantglyn, Denbigh, Tel. No. Nantglyn 225.

Nurse Holland, Arffryn, Clawddnewydd, Ruthin, Tel. No. Clawddnewydd 203.

Nurse Jones, Arosfa, Llanarmon Y.I., Mold, Tel. No. Llanarmon Y.I. 87.



Nurse M. Williams, Min y Coed, Rhewl, Ruthin, Tel. No. Ruthin 254.

Nurse Fowell, Telpyn Smithy, Rhewl, Ruthin, Tel. No. Ruthin 492.

### Domestic Help Service

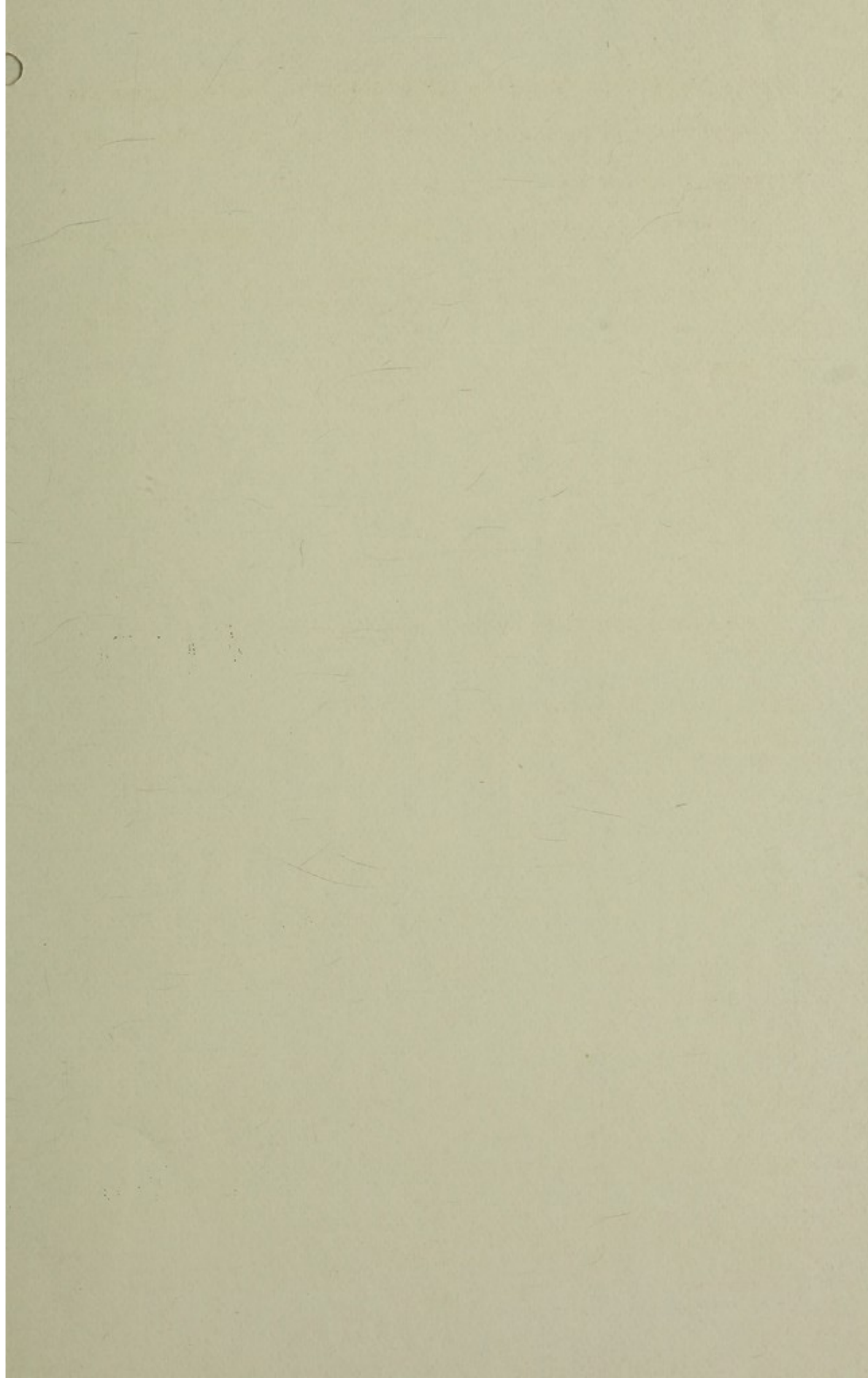
The number of domestic helps employed in the district during the year was 23.

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

Maternity .....	1
Tuberculosis .....	1
Chronic Sick and Aged .....	20
Others .....	13
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>35</b>

These figures were given by the County Medical Officer.







Nurse M. Williams, Missy Coed, Rhewl, Ruthin, Tel. No. Ruthin 254.

Nurse Powell, Telpyn Smithy, Rhewl, Ruthin, Tel. No. Ruthin 492.

### Domestic Help Service

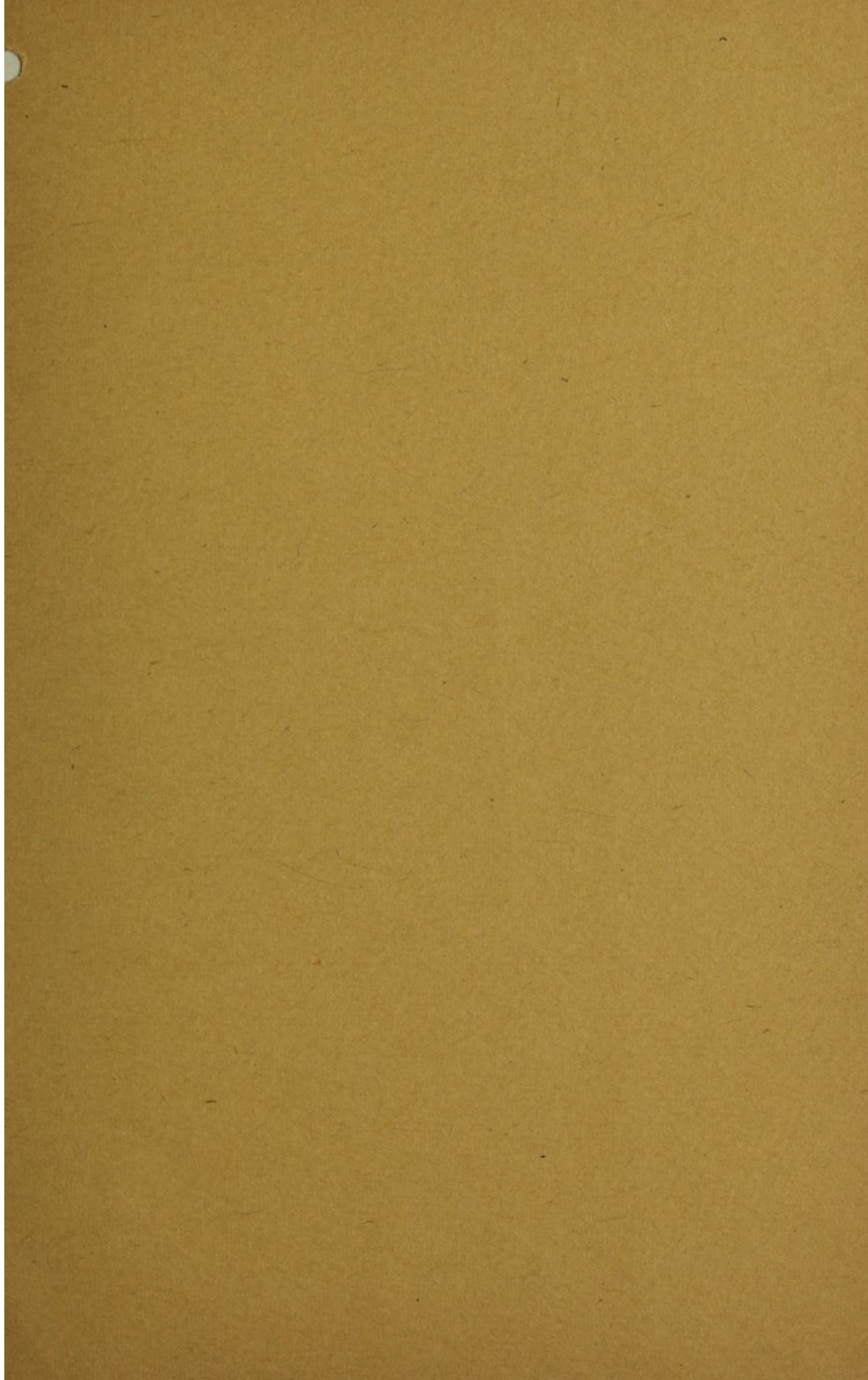
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WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH.  
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