

**[Report 1952] / Medical Officer of Health, St. Asaph (Denbigh) R.D.C. and St. Asaph (Flint) R.D.C.**

**Contributors**

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ST. ASAPH RURAL DISTRICT  
COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

for the

Year Ending 31st December 1952

by the

Medical Officer of Health

(Dr. R. RHYDWEN)

and

Sanitary Inspector

(Mr. R. P. BARLOW)



**ST. ASAPH RURAL DISTRICT  
COUNCIL**

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ST. ASAPH RURAL DISTRICT  
COUNCIL

# ANNUAL REPORT

Year Ending 31st December 1952

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Medical Officer of Health

and

Sanitary Inspector

ST. ASAPH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH FOR 1952

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for 1952 in accordance with the requirements of Circular 42/51 Wales.

The general state of health in the district was most satisfactory during the year. In all, 94 cases of Infectious Disease were notified to the Medical Officer of Health during the year, being a decrease of 78 on the number notified in 1951, the decrease being due to the biennial decrease in the incidence of Measles.

Once again no case of Diphtheria occurred during the year, and the only deaths due to notifiable Infectious disease were four due to Pneumonia.

This is the fifth year in which no maternal death due to childbirth has occurred in the district. Our Infantile Mortality rate has dropped from 54.5 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1951 to 38.8 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1952, five deaths of infants under one year of age having occurred in 1952. Three of these deaths occurred in hospital, two being due to prematurity and one to gross abnormality of the child.

The Birth Rate for the year was 12.07 births per 1,000 of the population, the number of births being 129, twenty less than in 1951.

Corrected for comparison with the country as a whole, our birth rate would be 15.69 per 1,000 of the population, which compares favourably with the National rate of 15.3 per 1,000 of the population. The need for some correction for comparative purposes is obvious when one realises that there is a great excess of males in the district, there being some 2,000 soldiers at Kinmel Camp who are now included in our population figures.

The Death Rate for the district continues to be below the average for the country, our crude Death Rate being 10.19 deaths per 1,000 of the population, and our comparative Death Rate being 9.89 deaths per 1,000 of the population as compared

with the National rate of 11.3 deaths per 1,000 of the population.

The Housing problem still remains, and many inhabitants of the district still occupy sub-standard property. Fifteen Council houses were completed and occupied during the year, and ten private houses were also completed.

The water supply to the Waen and Bodfari parishes was in short supply on several occasions during the year, as has been the case in several previous years. It must be borne in mind that when the water supplies to the parishes of Cwm, Bodfari, Dymeirchion, Waen and Rhualt were originated there was no thought of the hundreds of cattle troughs that have to be supplied in those areas today. The plain truth is that these areas have not sufficient water in normal years to adequately supply humans, cattle and market gardens, and in dry weather someone is bound to be short either for himself, his cattle, or his land. The new water supply from the Rhyl mains will result in an adequate and pure water supply. This scheme should be commenced sometime in 1954.

In conclusion, I should like to thank the Clerk, the Sanitary Surveyor and other Council Officials for their co-operation and assistance during the year.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

R. RHYDWEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

### GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (Land and Inland Water) .....	23,057 acres.
Population at 1931 Census (which includes Meliden and part of Dyserth since transferred to Prestatyn Urban District) .....	7,873
Population, Registrar General's Estimate Mid-1952 .....	10,690
Number of Inhabited Houses according to the Rate Book .....	2,606
Rateable Value .....	£49,113
Product of a Penny Rate .....	£193 16 6

## HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

## WATER.

BODELWYDDAN, RHUDDLAN and ST. ASAPH are supplied by the Rhyl Urban District Council's Undertaking.

DYSERTH. The greater part of the parish is supplied by the Prestatyn Urban District Council's Water Undertaking. BRYNIAU, Dyserth, is supplied from the mains of the Holywell Rural District Council's Water Undertaking, as it is a high level area.

BODFARI is supplied from works constructed by the Council. This supply is contaminated on occasion and the inhabitants have been advised to boil all drinking water.

CWM is supplied from works constructed by the Council. One source of supply (Aelwyd Ucha) fails completely during dry weather, and on these occasions the supply is augmented from the Birkenhead Corporation Water Supply via the Holywell Rural District Council Supply Mains. TREMEIRCHION is supplied from works constructed by the Council. This water supply is chlorinated, as in Summer the water has to be pumped from a polluted source. This results in a bacteriologically pure water.

RHUALLT has a piped supply derived from springs in the neighbourhood. WAEN is supplied from works constructed by the Council. The distribution of water has been much improved by the construction of new mains, and in 1952 there was no failure in the supply.

## GENERAL REMARKS.

There was no severe failure of the water supply in any part of the district during the year. It was, however, necessary to restrict the consumption in Bodfari and Cwm.

The need for a pure and adequate water supply to the parishes of Bodfari, Cwm, Tremeirchion, Rhualt and Waen is as great as ever, for in a dry summer several of these parishes suffer from a water shortage and the water supply is polluted in all these districts at some time or other during the year. At the time of writing the Council has received the Welsh Board of Health's provisional approval of its scheme for the



provision of an adequate and pure water supply to these parishes.

Properties supplied with water by the Council's Undertakings:—

	<i>Total No. of Houses.</i>	<i>Number supplied with Water.</i>	
		<i>(a) into Houses.</i>	<i>(b) Stand pipe.</i>
Cwm .....	111	97	6
Bodfari .....	122	76	14
Tremeirchion	187	117	19
Waen .....	75	70	3

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

St. Asaph and Dyserth and Rhuddlan have a sewage disposal system, though the one at Rhuddlan is overloaded and there is no disposal works there.

Bodelwyddan, Bodfari and Tremeirchion are without sewage disposal works. Outline schemes in respect of Bodelwyddan, Rhuddlan and Tremeirchion were accepted by the Council in 1948 and a Welsh Board of Health Enquiry was held at Rhuddlan during the year in respect of the work to be carried out in that parish. It is now known that approval for the laying of new sewers and the construction of a sewage disposal works at Rhuddlan has been granted.

## RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No pollution of rivers and streams was reported during 1952.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

In the areas supplied with sewers, very few privies remain. In the remainder of the district 10% of the houses have privies with fixed receptacles and 90% privies with moveable receptacles. The Council have arrangements for the removal of the night soil in certain areas.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse is removed from all parishes in the Rural District by the Council's Refuse lorries.

## SHOPS AND OFFICES.

No action was required in respect of shops and offices during the year.

## CAMPING SITES.

The Maesgwilym Camp, The Pleasant View Holiday Camp and the Vale of Clwyd Holiday Camp, Rhuddlan, are licensed for the Summer months only.

The water supply to these camps is satisfactory, as are the general standards of hygiene maintained in the camps.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No action was required during 1952.

## SCHOOLS.

No closure due to outbreaks of infectious disease was required during 1952.

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION.

96 children under five years of age and 2 children between the ages of five and fifteen years were immunised during the year. 42 other children received a reinforcing (Boosting) dose.

54 children under the age of five years and three persons over the age of fifteen years were vaccinated for the first time during the year. In addition, 2 children between the ages of five and fifteen years, and 9 persons over fifteen years of age, were re-vaccinated during the year.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

The Welsh Regional Board has a Chest Clinic at 22 Edward Henry Street, Rhyl, for the treatment and investigation of cases or suspected cases of Tuberculosis. The Clinic is held on Friday mornings for new cases and on Friday afternoon, 2.30 p.m.—4.30 p.m., for Pneumo thorax treatment.

The nearest Sanatoria are at Llangwyfan and Penyffordd.

## VENEREAL DISEASES.

The nearest Clinic for the treatment of these diseases is at St. Asaph Hospital. This clinic is held on Tuesday evenings from 5.15 p.m. to 7.15 p.m. The treatment is confidential, free and inclusive of travelling expenses.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

The Flintshire County Council holds Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics at St. Asaph (Thursday p.m.), Rhyl (Wednesday p.m.) and Kinnel Camp, Bodelwyddan (Thursday p.m.).

## SMALLPOX.

In the event of an outbreak of Smallpox, provision can be made for the isolation and treatment of cases by arrangement with the Flintshire County Council and the Welsh Regional Board.

## DISINFECTION.

The disinfection of large articles such as bedding can be carried out through arrangements made by the Sanitary Surveyor with the Rhyl Urban District Council.

## LABORATORY FACILITIES.

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory, Conway. Fifty-one examinations of raw water were made during the year.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948.

Section 47. Removal to suitable premises of elderly persons in need of care and attention.

No formal action was required under this section of the Act during 1952.

## HOUSING.

During 1952 the following numbers of houses were completed and occupied.

	<i>For the Local Authority.</i>	<i>Private Houses.</i>
Rhuallt .....	4	—
Dyserth .....	11	4
Rhuddlan .....	—	4
Tremeirchion .....	—	1
Bodelwyddan .....	—	1
	—	—
Total .....	15	10

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

All animals are slaughtered at the Public Abattoir, Rhyl, which is the municipally controlled centre for the district.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

(a) BIRTH RATE. The total number of Births credited to the District by the Registrar General during 1952 was 129, of which 74 were male and 55 female. Five of these children were illegitimate, 2 being male and 3 being female.

The Birth Rate was 12.07 per 1,000 of the population. The National Birth Rate for 1952 was 15.3 per 1,000 of the population, but the local Birth Rate, corrected to allow for the large excess of males in the area, is 15.69 per 1,000 of the population, which is, of course, quite satisfactory.

There were 3 Still Births during the year.

(b) DEATH RATE. The total number of Deaths credited to the District after allowing for inward transfers and outward transfers was 109. 53 of these were deaths of males and 56 deaths of females.

The Crude Death Rate for the district was 10.19 per 1,000 of the population as compared with a Death Rate of 11.3 per 1,000 of the population for England and Wales as a whole. Our Comparative Death Rate is even lower, being 9.89 per 1,000 of the population.

(c) INFANTILE MORTALITY. There were five deaths of Infants under one year during 1952. This gave an Infant Mortality rate of 38.8 per 1,000 live Births as compared with the rate of 27.6 per 1,000 live births for England and Wales as a whole.

(d) INFECTIOUS DISEASE. 94 cases of Infectious Disease were notified during 1952.

These consisted of :—

Dysentery .....	1 case.
Erysipelas .....	2 cases.
Scarlet Fever .....	3 „
Whooping Cough .....	50 „
Measles .....	18 „
Pneumonia .....	16 „
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	4 „

(e) ZYMOTIC MORTALITY. Four deaths were attributed to Pneumonia.

(f) PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS. One death was attributed to Pulmonary Tuberculosis, giving a mortality rate of 0.094 per 1,000 of the population as compared with a rate of 0.212 per 1,000 of the population for England and Wales.

(g) TUBERCULOSIS (NON-PULMONARY). There was no death in this group.

Cases on the T.B. Register :—

December 31st, 1951. Pulmonary 56. Non-Pulmonary 13.

December 31st, 1952. Pulmonary 56. Non-Pulmonary 13.

Increase or Decrease — —

(h) OTHER RESPIRATORY DISEASES — Nil.

(j) HEART DISEASE. There were 15 male deaths and 19 female deaths from heart disease, being a total of 34 deaths.

(k) INTRACRANIAL VASCULAR LESIONS. There were 15 deaths from this cause, seven being deaths of men and eight being deaths of women.

(l) CANCER. Twenty-three deaths were recorded as being due to cancer. Twelve were deaths of males and eleven deaths of females. The Cancer Mortality rate for the district was 2.15 per 1,000 of the population as compared with the National Rate of 1.993 per 1,000 of the population.

TABLE 2.

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
1. Respiratory Tuberculosis .....	0	1
3. Syphilitic Disease .....	0	1
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases .....	0	1
10. Malignant Neoplasm Stomach .....	4	0
11. Malignant Neoplasm Bronchus, Lung .....	2	0
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast .....	0	1
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus .....	0	4
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	5	5
15. Leucæmia .....	1	1
16. Diabetes .....	1	1
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System .....	7	8
18. Coronary Disease, Angina .....	4	3
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease .....	3	4
20. Other Heart Disease .....	8	12
21. Other Circulatory Diseases .....	1	1
23. Pneumonia .....	3	1
24. Bronchitis .....	0	2
26. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum .....	1	0
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis .....	1	2
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate .....	3	0
31. Congenital Malformations .....	2	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases .....	4	5
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents .....	1	0
34. All other Accidents .....	0	1
35. Suicide .....	0	1
ALL CAUSES .....	53	56

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1952.

## GENERAL INFORMATION.

### WATER SUPPLIES.

Serious shortages were again experienced during the summer, the springs at Cwm, Tremeirchion and Bodfari drying up almost completely. The supply to Tremeirchion was augmented by pumping and chlorinating water from a stream.

In Bodfari and Cwm, long periods of rationing were resorted to.

During the summer many complaints were received from consumers about the lack of water.

### CONTROL OF CIVIL BUILDING.

The issue of Private Building Licences to erect houses was still kept under close control, although the issuing of licences was greatly facilitated, twenty-five such licences being issued.

### HOUSING ACT 1949.

Two applications for improvement grants were received during the year. One of these was recommended, confirmed and issued, the other was recommended and confirmed, but the applicant did not eventually make use of it.

### PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949.

The Pests Operator has continued his duties with success throughout the year. The survey of farms and other agricultural buildings was completed and the necessary action taken in conjunction with the Flintshire C.A.E.C. Periodical treatment of sewers is carried out, and all notifications are immediately attended to. A total of 68 premises were visited and treated, in addition to farms.

### SALVAGE.

Collections went on apace during the year, and up to 28th April the value of Salvage disposed of was £127 11s. 3d. After this, however, great difficulty was experienced in disposing of the collections, and the collections were considerably reduced.

## INSPECTIONS.

Total number of inspections and visits made ..... 834

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Number of cases inquired into, including Scabies... 4  
 Number of Houses Disinfected ..... 4

## DWELLINGS.

Number made fit for Habitation ..... 3  
 Number of Cases of Overcrowding ..... —

## DRAINAGE &amp;c.

Number laid or relaid ..... 40  
 Number cleaned, trapped and ventilated ..... 38  
 Number of new Water Closets ..... 15  
 Number of repairs to Water Closets ..... 45  
 Number of new Privies and Ashpits ..... —  
 Number of Privies converted into W.C.s ..... —

## SCAVENGING.

Number of Pail Closets emptied ..... 3250  
 Number of Ashbins emptied ..... 51500  
 Number of Ashpits emptied ..... 389  
 Number of Loads of Refuse ..... 840  
 Number of Tons of Refuse ..... 2420

## REFUSE.

Number of accumulations removed ..... 2  
 Number of notices in respect of new Bins ..... 4

## REFUSE TIPS.

The Tip at Dyserth is still in use for the whole district, and is now looked after regularly by a man who is always on the site.

## HOUSING SURVEY.

It has again not been found possible to proceed with the Survey, except in the case of individual houses.

## WATER.

Number of new connections made (all purposes) .... 3  
 Number of repairs, fittings, etc. .... 215



## DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

Number of dealers licensed .....	5
Number of dealers' premises in district .....	3
Number of dealers' premises inspected .....	3

## OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number dealt with .....	—
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## ANIMALS.

Number of cases causing nuisance .....	—
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## LOADING HOUSES.

Number registered .....	—
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## CLERICAL WORK.

Number of letters received .....	1952
Number of letters written .....	1983
Number of Preliminary Notices served .....	8
Number of Preliminary Notices complied with .....	4

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Number of Abatement Notices served .....	4
Number of Abatement Notices complied with .....	3
Number of Prosecutions .....	1

## FOOD &amp; DRUGS.

Particulars of the samples taken under the Food & Drugs Act 1938 in the St. Asaph Rural District Council area for the year ended 31st December 1952 as supplied by the County Sanitary Inspector.

<i>Article.</i>	<i>Numbers of Samples taken.</i>	<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Not Genuine or below standard.</i>
Milk .....	18	14	4
Sausages .....	4	4	—
Patent Medicines ...	2	2	—
Sweets .....	2	2	—
Ice Cream .....	2	2	—
Confectionery .....	2	2	—
Beer .....	3	3	—
Meat Pies .....	1	1	—
Flour .....	1	1	—
Soup .....	2	2	—
Fruit .....	1	1	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	38	34	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The 4 milk samples reported as not being genuine were low in solids not fat, and the attention of the producers was drawn to the matter.

Details of food certified as unfit for human consumption:—

<i>Description.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Weight.</i>	
		<i>lbs.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>
Sliced Ham .....	1 tin		
Cooked Ham .....	2 tins		
Home-produced Ham .....	1 tin		
Cooked Shoulder Ham .....	4 tins		
English Shoulder Ham .....	1 tin		
Luncheon Meat (Danish) .....	12 tins		
Luncheon Meat (Belgian) .....	6 tins		
Luncheon Meat (Holland) .....	1 tin		
Beef .....		136	
Black Pudding .....		3 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Pork Sausage .....		4	
Apples (Belgian) .....	2 tins		
Sliced Bacon .....		26	
Carnation Milk .....	2 tins		
Jaffa Orange Slices in Syrup .....	1 tin		
Carrots .....	1 tin		
Potatoes .....			30
Pig's Liver .....		1 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Pineapple .....	1 tin		
Danish Bristling in Tomato .....	20 tins		
Beef Sausage .....		50	
Margarine .....		10 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Lobster .....	1 tin		
Mixed Meat Loaf .....	1 tin		
Salmon (Group 3) .....	1 tin		
Fresh Garden Peas .....	1 tin		

## RAIN GAUGE.

Diameter of funnel — 5 inches.

Height of top above ground — 12 inches.

Height of ground above sea level — 195 feet.

## RHYL'S RAINFALL — 10 years average.

Average Rainfall for 10 years, in inches, is as follows:—

1943	—	26.14	1948	—	24.04
1944	—	26.02	1949	—	21.31
1945	—	19.66	1950	—	25.67
1946	—	29.30	1951	—	29.96
1947	—	29.93	1952	—	22.40

Yearly average for 10 years — 25.92.

## WATER SAMPLES.

Weekly samples of water consumed at Tremeirchion were taken during 1952. All of these were found to be Class 1, Highly Satisfactory.

PART I OF THE ACT

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

PREMISES. (1)	M/c. line No. (2)	Number on Register. (3)	Number of		Occupiers Prosecuted. (6)	M/c. line No. (7)
			Inspections. (4)	Written Notices. (5)		
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authori- ties .....	1	39	31	Nil.	Nil.	1
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	2	33	22	Nil.	Nil.	2
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) .....	3	—	—	—	—	3
TOTAL .....		72	58	Nil.	Nil.	

## 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

PARTICULARS. (1)	M/c. line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found.			Referred		Numbers of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (7)	M/c. line No. (8)
		Found. (3)	Remedied. (4)	To H.M. Inspector. (5)	By H.M. Inspector. (6)			
Want of cleanliness (S.1) .....	4	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	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)—	9	—	—	—	—	—	9	
(a) Insufficient .....	10	1	1	—	1	—	10	
(b) Unsuitable or defective .....	11	—	—	—	—	—	11	
(c) Not separate for sexes .....	12	—	—	—	—	—	12	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) .....	TOTAL	1	1	Nil.	1	Nil.	Nil.	

PART VIII OF THE ACT.  
OUTWORK

Section 110.		Section 111.					
(Sections 110 & 111).		No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c).	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises.	Prosecu- tions.
Section 110.	M/c. line No.						
Nature of Work.							
Wearing Apparel :— Making, etc. .... Cleaning and Washing..	13	1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
				OTHER OUT- WORK—"NIL"			

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

These cases are listed in the following table, showing the nature of the defect, the date when it was first discovered, the date when it was first reported, the date when it was first corrected, and the date when it was last corrected. They should be referred to the appropriate pages of the report.

Case No.	Date when first discovered	Date when first reported	Date when first corrected	Date when last corrected	Nature of defect	Part of work affected	Person responsible	Remarks
1	1910	1910	1910	1910	Defective work	...	...	...
2	1910	1910	1910	1910	Defective work	...	...	...
3	1910	1910	1910	1910	Defective work	...	...	...
4	1910	1910	1910	1910	Defective work	...	...	...
5	1910	1910	1910	1910	Defective work	...	...	...
6	1910	1910	1910	1910	Defective work	...	...	...
7	1910	1910	1910	1910	Defective work	...	...	...
8	1910	1910	1910	1910	Defective work	...	...	...
9	1910	1910	1910	1910	Defective work	...	...	...
10	1910	1910	1910	1910	Defective work	...	...	...

BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS







