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BOROUGH OF WREXHAM

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1948

T. P. EDWARDS,
M.D., B.S. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Cantab.)

A. McCARTNEY,
M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.



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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my **26th Annual Report** on the Health and Vital Statistics of the Borough of Wrexham for the year 1948.

The population has increased by 550 according to the estimate of the Registrar-General. The Birth Rate during the year has diminished and so has the Death Rate, which has reached the very low figure of 10.7 and is below that of England and Wales, whereas the Birth Rate continues to be above that for England and Wales as a whole. The Infantile Mortality Rate is extremely low and it is satisfactory to note that there was no illegitimate infantile mortality. This rate is the lowest on record for the Borough, and for the second year in succession there have been no maternal deaths.

The position as regards infectious disease is discussed in detail in the Report. There has been an increase in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever and a large increase in the number of cases of Measles and Whooping Cough notified. For the second year in succession we have had no cases of Diphtheria. Immunisation against Diphtheria is carried out during the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics and also at special sessions on Saturday mornings, though it is more convenient for mothers to bring their babies to be immunised during the Clinics.

The most important event during the year has been the coming into force of the National Health Service Act, whereby most of the services of the Public Health Department have been transferred to the County Council, and at the same time a special Health Committee has been formed to deal with matters of Public Health under this Act, for this area. In this Committee, the representatives of the County Council have a majority and though the Committee has been formed for many months, there have so far been no meetings. The Sanitary Inspector's Department is still under the Borough and for certain aspects of Public Health, there must still be a Health Committee for the Borough, in addition to the one recently appointed.

I wish once more to express my appreciation of the excellent work carried out by the sanitary, nursing and clerical staff during the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. P. EDWARDS,

Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman—Alderman CYRIL O. JONES, B.A.

Vice-Chairman—Councillor WILLIAM MORRIS.

Alderman ASTON.

Councillor EDWARD JONES.

Alderman BLEW.

Councillor W. H. EVANS.

Alderman BREESE.

Councillor FITZPATRICK.

Alderman DUTTON.

Councillor McMAHON.

Alderman EMYR WILLIAMS.

Councillor E. S. E. HACKETT.

Councillor Mrs. CHALLONER.

Councillor MEADOWCROFT.

Councillor Mrs. LINDA DAVIES.

Councillor STABLER.

Councillor J. A. DAVIES.

Councillor THOMAS.

Councillor EDWARD DAVIES.

Councillor WALLIS.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (Councillor Mrs. Catherine Jones).

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Chairman—Alderman CYRIL O. JONES, B.A.

Vice-Chairman—HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR.

(Councillor Mrs. Catherine Jones).

**The Members of the Health Committee with the following
Co-opted Members :—**

Mrs. BURROWS.

Mrs. GLYN POWELL.

Mrs. GRIFFITHS.

Mrs. EMYR WILLIAMS.

Mrs. CYRIL JONES.

Mrs. WOLFENDEN.

Mrs. ERIC JONES.

Mrs. MANFORD JONES } *Consult-*Dr. R. S. BROCK. } *ative.***GENERAL STATISTICS.**

Area (Acres)	2,916
Population (mid 1948—Registrar-General's estimate)	29,100
Rateable Value of the Borough (1st April, 1949)....	£171,753
Product of a Penny Rate	£660/13/11
Corporation Houses (31st December, 1948).....	2,336
No. of Inhabited Houses (31st December, 1948)....	7,628
Density of Persons per House	3.8

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Population 29,100 (Mid. 1948).
(Registrar-General's Estimate).

Births.

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Birth (Legitimate)	276	280	556
Live Birth (Illegitimate)	15	13	28
Totals	291	293	584

Birth Rate 20.1 England and Wales 17.9

Stillbirths.

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	8	8	16
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Totals	8	8	16

Rate of Stillbirths per 1,000 population 0.55
Rate of Stillbirths per 1,000 population (England and Wales) 0.42
Rate of Stillbirths per 1,000 total (live and still) births 26.6

Deaths.

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
	153	159	312

Death Rate 10.7 England and Wales 10.8

Maternal Mortality.

Number of Women dying in or in consequence of childbirth—

1. From Sepsis..... —
2. From other causes —
-
- Nil.
-

RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL (Live and Still) BIRTHS.

	<i>Wrexham</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
1. Puerperal Causes	0.0	0.13
2. Other Causes.....	0.0	0.89
Totals	0.0	1.02

Infantile Mortality.

(Deaths of Infants under one year of age).

	<i>Males</i>		<i>Females</i>		<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	12	....	10	....	22
Illegitimate, .....	—	....	—	....	—
Totals	12	....	10	....	22

Infantile Mortality Rate.

Legitimate	37.7
Illegitimate	0.0
Total	<u>37.7</u>

Legitimate Male Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 legitimate births	43.5
Legitimate Female Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 female legitimate births	36.2
Illegitimate Male Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 male illegitimate birth	0.0
Illegitimate Female Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 female illegitimate births	0.0

Births.

During the year there were 584 live births, of which 291 were males and 293 females. The total number is a decrease of 87 over 1947. Of these births, 556 were legitimate and 28 illegitimate. The legitimate births have decreased by 68 and the illegitimate births have decreased by 19.

The Birth Rate for the previous years and for 1948 was as follows :—

1939	11.4	1944	20.3
1940	17.0	1945	19.98
1941	16.8	1946	20.8
1942	17.5	1947	23.6
1943	20.8	1948	20.1

Survival Rate.

The excess of births over deaths is 272, making a Survival Rate of 9.3 per thousand population.

Stillbirths.

During the year there were 16 Stillbirths. Of these, 8 were males and 8 females, none being illegitimate.

The rate is 0.55 per thousand population as compared with 0.42 for England and Wales. The rate of stillbirths per thousand live and stillbirths is 26.6, as compared with 27.5 for 1947.

The following table shows the number of stillbirths, stillbirth rates per 1,000 live and stillbirths, and per 1,000 population for the last ten years :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Stillbirths</i>			<i>Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 live and still births</i>	<i>Stillbirth Rate per per 1,000 popula- tion.</i>
1939		25	....	59.1	 0.9
1940		21	....	41.9	 0.7
1941		20	....	39.0	 0.6
1942		21	....	42.1	 0.7
1943		14	....	23.4	 0.5
1944		26	....	47.0	 1.0
1945		21	....	39.3	 0.8
1946		22	....	36.7	 0.79
1947		19	....	27.5	 0.67
1948		16	....	26.6	 0.55

Deaths.

During the year, the total number of deaths registered as having occurred in the Borough was 628. From this number, 341 persons who were non-resident must be deducted, but 25 Borough residents who died outside the Borough have to be added. This makes a total number of deaths in respect of the Borough of 312, as compared with 382 in 1947.

Death Rate.

Taking the figure of 312 as representing the actual number of deaths, this gives a death rate of 10.7, as compared with 13.4 in 1947.

The death rate for the previous years and for the year 1948 is as follows :—

1939	15.5	1944	12.5
1940	15.2	1945	13.1
1941	13.8	1946	12.6
1942	17.5	1947	13.4
1943	13.6	1948	10.7

The following Table gives the causes of deaths : —

<i>Causes.</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.	—	1	1
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory Sys....	5	2	7
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	2	3
8. Syphilitic Diseases	—	—	—
9. Influenza	—	—	—
10. Measles	—	—	—
11. Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—
12. Cancer	28	23	51
13. Diabetes....	—	3	3
14. Cerebral Haemorrhage	22	29	51
15. Heart Disease....	44	52	96
16. Other Circulatory Diseases....	3	2	5
17. Bronchitis	5	4	9
18. Pneumonia (all forms)	4	8	12
19. Other Respiratory Diseases	3	1	4
20. Peptic Ulcer	2	1	3
21. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)....	1	—	1
22. Appendicitis	1	—	1
23. Other Digestive Diseases	2	4	6
24. Nephritis	1	4	5
25. Puerperal and Post.-abort. sepsis.	—	—	—
26. Other Maternal Causes	—	—	—
27. Premature Births	5	3	8
28. Congenital Causes	3	3	6
29. Suicide	3	1	4
30. Other violent causes	6	3	9
31. Road Traffic Accidents	2	—	2
32. All other causes	12	13	25
TOTALS	153	159	312

Cancer.

During the year there were 51 deaths, 28 being males and 23 females. The number for the previous year was 62 so that there has been a decrease of 11 cases. The ratio of Cancer deaths to total deaths is 1 : 6.1 as compared with 1 : 7.2 in 1947. Deaths from Cancer amount to 16.3 per cent. of the total deaths.

Heart Disease.

Heart Disease was responsible for 96 deaths, as compared with 112 in 1947. The total number represents 30.8 per cent of the total deaths.

Intra-Cranial Haemorrhage.

Fifty-one deaths occurred from Cerebral Haemorrhage as compared with 44 in 1947, and amounted to 16.3 per cent. of the total deaths.

Pulmonary Causes.

There were 9 deaths from Bronchitis as compared with 24 in 1947. Deaths from Pneumonia have decreased from 22 to 12. From all non-tuberculous pulmonary causes, 25 persons died, or 8.0 per cent. of the total deaths. In addition to these, there were 7 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis or 2.2 per cent., making the total pulmonary deaths from all causes 32, namely, 17 males and 15 females, or 10.3 per cent. of the total deaths.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of children under one year of age was 22, as compared with 36 for 1947. All of these were legitimate, and included 12 males and 10 females.

The causes of death are shewn in the following table :—

Prematurity....	8
Pneumonia....	5
Congenital Causes	6
Marasmus	—
Convulsions	1
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	—
Gastro-enteritis	1
Bronchitis	—
Accident	1
	—
Total	22
	—

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is 37.7, as compared with 53.6 for 1947 and 34.0 for England and Wales. This is the lowest rate ever recorded in this area.

One interesting feature is the absence of illegitimate mortality, both males and females, and the male legitimate infant mortality rate is much lower than it was the previous year.

The infantile mortality rate for the previous years and the year 1948 is as follows :—

1939	62.8	1944	58.8
1940	128.1	1945	76.0
1941	74.4	1946	39.9
1942	67.9	1947	53.6
1943	84.0	1948	37.7

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were do deaths from maternal causes during the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

During the year, 809 cases of Infectious Disease were notified to the Public Health Department, as against 373 in 1947 and 436 in 1946. There has been an increase in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever to 53 as compared with 31 in 1947. There were no cases of Diphtheria for the second year in succession. Five cases of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis were notified. The Pneumonia cases have increased from 69 to 71 and resulted in 12 deaths. Measles notifications have increased to 471, as compared with 220 in 1947 and 302 in 1946. Whooping Cough notifications have increased to 198, as compared with 33 in 1947 and 43 in 1946.

Of all the notifiable diseases, 52 cases were admitted to the Fever Hospital. In addition, one case of tuberculous meningitis was admitted and 9 other cases of a non-infectious character were also admitted in error, bringing the total number of admissions to 62.

Of the notifiable diseases, 12 cases died from Pneumonia. There were no deaths from Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Cerebro-spinal Fever or Measles and Whooping Cough. One death occurred in the case of a Borough resident who contracted Typhoid Fever outside the area.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.
(Excluding Tuberculosis).

<i>Diseases.</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Cases Admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Smallpox	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	53	45	—
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.....	1	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—
Pneumonia	71	—	12
Erysipelas	4	3	—
C.S.F.	5	2	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Measles	471	2	—
Whooping Cough	197	—	—
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica.....	—	—	—
TOTALS	809	52	13

**FEVER HOSPITAL STATEMENT FOR 1948—
BOROUGH CASES.**

Remaining in Hospital 31st December, 1947 :—

Scarlet Fever..... 3

Admitted to Hospital during the year 1948 :—

Scarlet Fever ,..... 45

(?) Diphtheria 1

C.S.M..... 2

T. B. Meningitis 1

Measles 2

(?) Typhoid 1

Erysipelas ,..... 3

Others 7

Total **62**

Discharged during the year 1948 :—

Scarlet Fever.....	42
(?) Diphtheria	1
C.S. Meningitis	2
T.B. Meningitis.....	—
Measles.....	2
(?) Typhoid	1
Erysipelas	3
Others	6
Total	57

Remaining in Hospital 31st December, 1948 :—

Scarlet Fever	6
T.B. Meningitis	1
Others	1
Total	8

Deaths in Hospital Nil.

DIPHTHERIA.

There were no cases of Diphtheria during the year, for the second year in succession. There have been no deaths from this disease for the past five years, the last death being in 1943.

DIPHTHERIA INCIDENCE — 1937 - 1948.

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Cases</i>	<i>Case Rate per 1,000 Population</i>	<i>No. of Deaths</i>	<i>Death Rate per 1,000 Population</i>	<i>No. Immunised.</i>
1937	177	6.9	15	0.59	64
1938	74	2.8	8	0.3	148
1939	69	2.7	7	0.27	47
1940	111	3.9	5	0.18	35
1941	106	3.7	1	0.03	427
1942	60	2.1	3	0.10	1,449
1943	42	1.5	1	0.04	1,003
1944	41	1.6	—	0.0	211
1945	21	0.8	—	0.0	418
1946	9	0.3	—	0.0	774
1947	—	0.0	—	0.0	609
1948	—	0.0	—	0.0	543

Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the year, 543 cases under the age of 15 were immunised. Of these, 388 were below the age of 5 and 155 were children, of school age between the ages of 5 and 15. In addition, 246 children who were immunised more than five years ago received re-inforcing doses.

Scarlet Fever.

Fifty-three cases of Scarlet Fever occurred during the year, as compared with 31 in 1947. Of these, 45 were admitted to the Isolation Hospital and there were no deaths. Once again the type of infection was a very mild one. The case rate per thousand population is 1.82, compared with 1.73 for England and Wales.

Measles.

471 cases were notified as compared with 220 in 1947, and the case rate is 16.1 per thousand population, as compared with 9.34 for England and Wales. There were no deaths from this infection during the year.

Whooping Cough.

197 cases were notified as compared with 33 in 1947. The case rate per thousand population was 6.7, as compared with 1.16 in 1947 and 3.42 for England and Wales. There were no deaths during the year.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

Five cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever were notified during the year, as compared with 4 in 1947. The case rate is 0.17 per thousand population, as compared with 0.14 in 1947 and 0.03 for England and Wales.

Enteric Fever.

One case was notified during the year and was treated in the War Memorial Hospital. Another case was admitted to the Isolation Hospital as Paratyphoid Fever but was found to be wrongly diagnosed. Also, a death occurred in the case of a Borough resident who contracted Typhoid Fever and died outside the area—at the Orthopaedic Hospital, Gobowen.

Erysipelas.

Four cases were notified during the year as compared with 5 in 1947. The case rate per thousand population is 0.13 as compared with 0.21 for England and Wales.

Pneumonia.

71 cases were notified during the year, as compared with 69 in 1947. The case rate per thousand population is 2.4 as compared with 0.73 for England and Wales. Of these, 15 were under the age of two years and 32 under the age of five years. Fifteen of the cases were over the age of 45 years and 12 cases occurred in the school age group, between five and fifteen. There were 12 deaths during the year, as compared with 22 in 1947.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

One case was notified during the year.

Smallpox.

No cases were notified during the year.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

Six cases were notified during the year, as compared with 2 in 1947.

TUBERCULOSIS.

26 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year. Of these, 14 were males and 12 females. Of the 14 males, 5 were between the ages of 25 and 35, and 1 below the age of five years. Of the 12 female cases, 10 were between 25 and 35. In addition to these, there were 4 cases of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis, all female. There were 7 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 5 being males, and 3 deaths from other forms of Tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR.

(Arranged according to Age).

Age Periods	NEW CASES.							
	Pulmonary				Non-Pulmonary			
	M.		F.		M.		F.	
0—1	—	....	—	....	—	....	—	....
1—5	—	....	1	....	—	....	1	....
5—10	1	....	—	....	—	....	2	....
10—15	1	....	—	....	—	....	—	....
15—20	—	....	—	....	—	....	1	....
20—25	1	....	—	....	—	....	—	....
25—35	5	....	10	....	—	....	—	....
35—45	2	....	—	....	—	....	—	....
45—55	2	....	—	....	—	....	—	....
55—65	2	....	1	....	—	....	—	....
65 plus	—	....	—	....	—	....	—	....
Totals	18	....	12	....	—	....	4	....

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

(Arranged according to Age).

	<i>Under</i> 1 Year	1 <i>to</i> 2	2 <i>to</i> 3	3 <i>to</i> 4	4 <i>to</i> 5	5 <i>to</i> 10	10 <i>to</i> 15	15 <i>to</i> 20	20 <i>to</i> 35	35 <i>to</i> 45	45 <i>to</i> 65	65 <i>plus</i> Total
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever....	—	3	4	2	7	19	13	4	—	1	—	53
Pneumonia	9	6	8	3	6	11	1	3	4	5	11	71
Erysipelas.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	4
C.S.F.	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	5
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis												
Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid and												
Paratyphoid.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal												
Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	1	—	—	6
Ophthalmia												
Neonatorum.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles.....	30	67	55	75	80	157	3	1	3	—	—	471
Whooping Cough	24	30	26	37	31	44	2	2	1	—	—	197
Totals	68	106	93	117	124	232	19	12	13	9	12	4 809

In comparing the above Table with that of 1947 it will be noticed that there has been a very large increase in the number of cases of infectious disease notified, the total number being 809, as compared with 373 in the previous year. Of the 809 cases, 668 were cases of Measles and Whooping Cough, as compared with 253 in the previous year. Scarlet Fever cases have increased by 22 to 53, and Pneumonia has increased by 2 to 71. Puerperal Pyrexia has also increased by 4, but Ophthalmia Neonatorum has diminished by one. Of these 809 cases, 68 were under the age of one and, of these, 64 were cases of Measles and Whooping Cough. Between the ages of one and two there were 106 cases, of which 97 were Measles and Whooping Cough.

Of the 809 cases, 508 were under the age of five and of these 241 were between the ages of three and five. Of the 508 cases, 465 were cases of Measles and Whooping Cough. Between the ages of five and fifteen (school age), there were 251 cases. Of these, 32 were Scarlet Fever, 12 were Pneumonia and 206 were cases of Measles and Whooping Cough, but of these 157 cases between the ages of 5 and 10 were Measles.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

In view of the changes which have occurred and as a result of the National Health Services Act, the Maternity and Child Welfare Services were transferred to the County Council on the 5th July, 1948 and the figures in this Report deal only with the period 1st January to 4th July, during which time the services were under the control of the Borough Council.

Number of Mothers with Babies attending the Maternity Centre....	776
Total Attendance of Mothers with Babies	4772
Average sessional attendance (per baby)	6.3
Average sessional attendance...	93.5
Number of Medical Consultations	986
Ante-natal Cases....	272
Ante-natal Attendance	935
Post-natal Cases	4
Post-natal Attendances	4

In the above Table it will be noted that the average sessional attendance at 1 Grosvenor Road has diminished to 93.5 as against 96.0 in 1947, and it is of interest to note that the average sessional attendance at the three subsidiary clinics is 44.1. The average sessional attendance at Garden Village has been 30.9, at Queen's Park 33.1, and at Gatefield 50.9. The total attendance in all the clinics for the six months has been 6,184 as compared with 9,794 for the whole of the year 1947. The total number of medical consultations at the Clinics for the six months was 1,450 as compared with 1,558 for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1947. These figures indicate, in a striking manner, the benefits that have accrued from the establishment of these new Clinics.

It is quite possible that the Queen's Park Clinic will become more fully used owing to the increasing housing developments in the area.

Arrangements are made at the Clinics for the distribution of vitamins and dried milk. At 1, Grosvenor Road these are distributed by the Food Office Staff, but arrangements have been made with voluntary workers for the distribution at the subsidiary Clinics.

The following Table shows the number of visits paid during the period 1st January to 4th July, 1948, by the Health Visitors :—

(a) To expectant Mothers	First Visits	53
	Total Visits	151
(b) To children under 1 year of age....	First Visits	253
	Total Visits	1,510
(c) To children between the ages of 1 and 5 years.....	Total Visits	1,683
Total Visits		3,650

Number of Babies Notified to M.O. (as adjusted by transferred notifications) :—

1st January to 4th July, 1948.

No. of Births notified	323
Males	160
Females	163
No. of illegitimate babies	14
No. of Stillbirths	8
No. of neo-natal deaths (under one month)	5
No. of deaths under twelve months	6
Infantile Mortality Rate (1.1.48 — 4.7.48)	34.1
Infantile Mortality Rate for 1948 (for information)	37.7

Health Visitors' Work at Homes and Centre.

Number of Breastfed Babies during first visit	248
Number of Bottlefed Babies during first visit	62
Number of Twins	4
Number of Infant Welfare Sessions at Centre	(51)
Number of Infant Welfare Sessions at Subsidiary Clinics.....	(37) — 88

SUBSIDIARY CLINICS — ATTENDANCES.

January 1st — July 4th, 1949.

Name of Clinic.	No. of Sessions.	No. of attendances under one year of age	No. of first visits under one year of age	No. of first visits over one year of age	No. of Medical Consult- ations	Total attendances
Garden Village	12	204	166	22	3	341
Queen's Park	13	319	112	61	20	343
Gatefield	12	458	153	74	11	532
TOTALS	37	981	431	157	34	1,216
						464
						1,412

Care of Premature Infants.

During the period 1st January to 4th July, 13 babies weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ -lbs or less were notified to us and use was made of the special equipment which has been obtained in relation to Circular 20/44. Four babies were born at home and 9 in hospital. Those born at home, one died during the first twenty-four hours and 3 survived at the end of one month. Of those born in hospital, 2 died in the first twenty-four hours and 7 survived at the end of one month.

Maternity Homes.

During the period 1st January to 4th July, 90 cases were dealt with at Croesnewydd Hospital, where maternity cases are still being admitted, and 86 at Trevalyn, making a gross total of 166 cases.

Home Help and Domestic Help Schemes.

Provision for Home Help was made in ten confinement cases from 1st January to 4th July. Provision was also made for domestic help in eight cases of illness during the six months. Since the transfer of the services increasing use has been made of them, and it is difficult at times to meet the demand for assistance.

Orthopaedic Treatment.

Arrangements for treatment and examination of children suffering from Orthopaedic defects remain as in previous years. Such cases are referred to the Orthopaedic Clinic, 16 Grosvenor Road, where they are examined by the Specialist personnel of the Robert Jones and Dame Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry.

LABORATORY WORK.

Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Conway.

This Laboratory has been established to help Local Authorities throughout the country in their investigation of milk and water supplies in relation to Infectious Disease. Diphtheria immunisation material is also supplied from the Laboratory as required. Bacteriological examinations of Water Samples are undertaken, but any chemical work and milk supplies are examined only in reference to outbreaks of suspected infectious disease, and not as a routine measure.

Emergency Hospital.

This Hospital has a Laboratory in which milk supplies are examined. Certain pathological work is also undertaken, chiefly for Emergency and Isolation Hospitals.

The Wrexham and East Denbighshire War Memorial Hospital.

The Pathological Department of the War Memorial Hospital is used in reference to sampling of milk under the administration of Dr. Grace, of Chester.

Samples of Milk are continually being sent to the Laboratory in Rhosymedre under the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Samples are also sent for chemical analysis to the Public Analyst—Mr. Lowe, of Chester.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

- (a) **Infectious Disease**—Motor Ambulances attached to the Wrexham Fever Hospital ;
- (b) **Non-Infectious and Accident Cases**—Motor Ambulances attached to the St. John Ambulance Brigade, Wrexham Branch.

The following Report has been received from the Honorary Secretary of the Local Branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade :—

Number of Cases carried....	5,175
Number of Road Accidents	81
Total number of Cases,....	5,256
Total Mileage	47,443
Number of Cases where First Aid was rendered....	443
Attendances at Public Functions	374
Total hours of duty given voluntarily by members (excluding hours of duty at Public Functions)	20,316

RAINFALL AND METEOROLOGY.

I am indebted to Mr. S. E. Ashmore, Honorary Meteorologist for the Borough, for the following Report on Rainfall and Meteorology in the Borough during the year :—

Temperature.

Average Temperature for the year 1948	....	....	49.9°	(highest since 1945).
Coldest month—February.	Temperature	....	40.3°	
Warmest month—July.	„	....	60.3°	
Coldest day—20th February.	„	....	29.1°	(highest point).
Warmest day—29th July.	„	....	88.0°	(highest recorded in this century).
Coldest Night—21st February.	„	....	24.2°	(lowest point).
Warmest night—29th July.	„	....	64.1°	(lowest point).

Frost.

Last Spring Ground Frost....	....	24th June.	
First Autumn Ground Frost	....	20th August.	
Number of days on which there was Ground Frost	....	....	151
Number of days on which there was Air Frost	....	....	40

Snow.

Snow fell on 22 days.

Rainfall.

Rainfall for the Year....	....	29.99"	
Wettest Month—January	....	6.73"	(Wettest January since 1897).
Driest Month—March	....	0.98"	
Wettest Day—11th August	....	1.9"	
No. of Days with rainfall of 0.01" or more	....	180	
No. of days with a rainfall of 0.04" or more	....	135	
No. of rain hours	....	498.5	
Longest period of rain in any one day	....	16.3 hours	(10th January)
Partial Drought	....	Nil.	
Absolute Drought	....	Once (16 days)	
Dry Spell	....	Once (18 days)	
Rain Spell	....	Once (16 days)	

General.

Pressure slightly above normal. (The average has been the same for three consecutive years).

Wind—Much less than average from the North ; above normal from the East and South-East.

Sunshine—Above normal.

Humidity—78 per cent. (practically normal).

TAP WATER — BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORTS.

SOURCE	SAMPLE									
	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.	No. 5.	No. 6.	No. 7.	No. 8.	No. 9.	No. 10.
6 Lorne Street	4 Oak Drive	Central Kitchen	37 Mount Street	18 Spring Road	37 Mount Street	4 Oak Drive	4 Oak Drive	8 Tower View	4 Oak Drive	4 Oak Drive
Date of Collection	8.1.48	14.1.48	28.1.48	28.1.48	4.2.48	4.2.48	9.2.48	18.2.48	4.3.48	16.3.48
Plate Count Yeastral Agar 3 days										
22°C aerobically ml	0	2	0	3	0	1	2	1	3	12
Plate Count Yeastral Agar 2 days										
37°C aerobically per ml	11	5	5	4	1	2	1	17	10	0
Probable No. of coliform bacilli										
MacConkey 2 days 37° per 100 ml	0	2	0	25	0	0	2	2	0	0
Approx. proportions of Faecal and Non-Faecal Coli:—										
(a) Faecal Coli per 100 ml	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Non-Faecal Coli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ministry of Health Classification and Remarks	Class 1 highly satisfactory	Class 2 not up to standard for chlorinated water	Class 1 highly satisfactory	Class 4 unsatisfactory	Class 1 highly satisfactory	Class 1 highly satisfactory	Class 2 not up to standard for chlorinated water	Class 2 not up to standard for chlorinated water	Class 1 highly satisfactory	Class 1 highly satisfactory

TAP WATER — BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORTS.

SOURCE	No. 11.	No. 12.	No. 13.	No. 14.	No. 15.	No. 16.	No. 17.	No. 18.	No. 19.	No. 20.
	SAMPLE	SAMPLE	SAMPLE	SAMPLE	SAMPLE	SAMPLE	SAMPLE	SAMPLE	SAMPLE	SAMPLE
9 Mold Road	Imperial Buildings	46 Neville Crescent	1 Grosvenor Rd.	Bakery Ruthin Rd.	Rhosddu School	United Dairies	4 Westminister Drive	Rhosddu Infants School	Church Boys Sch'l	
Date of Collection	23.3.48	1.4.48	12.4.48	15.4.48	18.4.48	4.5.48	12.4.48	20.5.48	31.5.48	16.6.48
Plate Count Yeastral Agar 3 days 22°C aerobically ml	5	5	2	9	5	0	2	0	5	2
Plate Count Yeastral Agar 2 days 37°C aerobically per ml	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	12
Probable No. of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° per 100 ml	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Approx. proportions of Faecal and Non-Faecal Coli :—										
(a) Faecal Coli per 100 ml	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Non-Faecal Coli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ministry of Health Classification and Remarks	Class 1 highly satisfactory	Class 2 satisfactory	Class 1 highly satisfactory			Class 3 improvement desirable				

TAP WATER — BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORTS.

SOURCE	SAMPLE No. 21.	SAMPLE No. 22.	SAMPLE No. 23.	SAMPLE No. 24.	SAMPLE No. 25.	SAMPLE No. 26.	SAMPLE No. 27.	SAMPLE No. 28.	SAMPLE No. 29.	SAMPLE No. 30.
	62 Manley Road	9 Temp- plars Ave	7 Edward Street	29 Barons Road	57 Deva Way	Cheerio Cafe Chester St.	16 Yorke Street	14 Gardd Estyn	20 Colliery Rd. Rhosddu	49 Mold Road
Date of Collection	26.7.48	26.7.48	26.7.48	26.7.48	4.8.48	4.8.48	4.8.48	4.8.48	4.8.48	4.8.48
Plate Count Yeastral Agar 3 days 22°C aerobically ml	0	0	3	7	40	15	800	1	6	5
Plate Count Yeastral Agar 2 days 37°C aerobically per ml	3	2	0	1	1	3	2	4	0	1
Probable No. of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° per 100 ml	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Approx. proportions of Faecal and Non-Faecal Coli:—										
(a) Faecal Coli per 100 ml	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Non-Faecal Coli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ministry of Health Classification and Remarks	Class 1 highly satisfactory					Class 1				

TAP WATER — BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORTS.

SOURCE	SAMPLE No. 31.	SAMPLE No. 32.	SAMPLE No. 33.	SAMPLE No. 34.	SAMPLE No. 35.	SAMPLE No. 36.	SAMPLE No. 37.	SAMPLE No. 38.	SAMPLE No. 39.	SAMPLE No. 40.
6 Cobden Road	Church Boys Sch'l	30 Mooreland Av.	197 Holt Road	16 Fairbourne St.	11 Croesnewydd Cottages	Alexandra Sch'l Lodge	27 Beechley Road	72 Vernon Street	17 Villier Street	
Date of Collection	24.6.48	1.7.48	19.7.43	19.7.48	19.7.48	19.7.48	19.7.48	19.7.48	26.7.48	26.7.48
Plate Count Yeastral Agar 3 days 22°C aerobically ml	7	0	2	30	12	640	7	10	1	3
Plate Count Yeastral Agar 2 days 37°C aerobically per ml	1	10	1	1	3	100	0	0	7	10
Probable No. of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° per 100 ml	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Approx. proportions of Faecal and Non-Faecal Coli:—										
(a) Faecal Coli per 100 ml	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Non-Faecal Coli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ministry of Health Classification and Remarks	Class 1 highly satis- factory	Class 2 satisfactory	Class 1	Class 1	Class 2	Class 1 Agar counts are high	Class 1	Class 1	Class 1 highly satis- factory	Class 1 highly satis- factory

TAP WATER — BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORTS.

SOURCE	SAMPLE No. 51.	SAMPLE No. 52.	SAMPLE No. 53.	SAMPLE No. 54.	SAMPLE No. 55.	SAMPLE No. 56.	SAMPLE No. 57.
13 Ffordd Maclor		McMahon Brook Street	19 Caia Road	32 Aston Grove	81 Vernon Street	20 Spring Road	1 Grosvenor Road
Date of Collection	21.10.48	26.10.48	4.11.48	11.11.48	24.11.48	10.12.48	17.12.48
Plate Count Yeastral Agar 3 days 22°C aerobically ml	2	5	0	0	0	2	0
Plate Count Yeastral Agar 2 days 37°C aerobically per ml	2	0	0	1	0	6	1
Probable No. of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° per 100 ml....	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Approx. proportions of Faecal and Non-Faecal Coli :—							
(a) Faecal Coli per 100 ml	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Non-Faecal Coli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ministry of Health Classification and Remarks	Class 1	Class 2 satisfactory	Class 1 highly satisfactory				

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1948.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my **Third Annual Report** on the work of the Sanitary Inspection Department.

The Report is mainly in tabulated form, with comments on certain items of particular interest, and it provides a comprehensive survey of the work of your Inspectors.

During the year, Mr. F. H. Wynne and Mr. G. Pritchard, Articled Pupils in my Department, were both successful in qualifying as Sanitary Inspectors. They have now been appointed at Liverpool and Birkenhead respectively, and our best wishes go with them.

I gratefully acknowledge the help and consideration I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, and may I also express my thanks to Dr. T. P. Edwards, and to my Staff for their loyal work throughout the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. McCARTNEY,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.**General Summary.**

Total Number of Inspections made	12,568
Total Number of Complaints received....	975
Total Number of Notices served	887
Total Number of Interviews with owners, etc.	389

Bakehouses.

Number in District (a) Factories (Mech)	24
(b) Factories (Non-Mech.)	6
Number of Underground Bakehouses in District	—
Number of Inspections made	129
Number of Contraventions found	6
Number of Contraventions remedied	6
Number of Contraventions outstanding at end of year	—

Bed Bugs.

Number of Inspections made	214
Number of Council Houses :—	
(i) Found to be Infested	13
(ii) Disinfested by this Department....	13
Number of Other Houses :—	
(i) Found to be Infested	8
(ii) Disinfested by this Department....	8

Cinemas and Places of Entertainment.

Number of Inspections made	7
Number of Notices served ,...	—

Closets.

Number of Water Closet compartments cleansed and limewashed	4
Number of Water Closets repaired or reconstructed....	16
Number of Flushing Cisterns repair or renewed	16
No. of New Water Closet Pans or Pedestals provided....	39
No. provided with supply of water	11

Common Lodging Houses.

Number Registered at December 31st, 1948	2
Number of Inspections made—(Day)	36
Number of Inspections made—(Night)	39
Number of Contraventions found	2
No. of Contraventions remedied	2
Number of Contraventions outstanding at end of year	—

I am still far from satisfied with the standard of Common Lodging Houses in the Borough.

All that one can say in favour of existing arrangements is that a certain amount of control is exercised over "casuals" who frequent the Borough from time to time. A model Municipal Lodging House is the only solution to the problem, and I can assure the Committee that as soon as the time is more opportune I will raise the matter for their consideration.

In March, the Keeper of one registered common lodging house was prosecuted for failing to comply with the conditions of Section 241 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and a fine of £1 was imposed. Following the case, the Keeper surrendered his registration and the premises are no longer being used as a Common Lodging House.

Cowsheds.

Number of Premises registered ....	....	....	....	18
Number of Milch Cows in District ....	....	....	....	249
Number of Inspections made ....	....	....	....	139
Number of Contraventions found ....	....	....	....	—
Number of Contraventions remedied ....	....	....	....	—
Number of Contraventions outstanding at end of year....				—

Dairies.

Number of Persons registered ....	....	....	....	31
Number of Premises registered ....	....	....	....	31
Number of Inspections made ....	....	....	....	243
Number of Contraventions found ....	....	....	....	1
Number of Contraventions remedied ....	....	....	....	1
Number of Contraventions outstanding at end of year....				—

Drains.

Drains Constructed or Re-constructed....	....	....	....	2
Tests to New Drains ....	....	....	....	1
Repaired or Cleansed ....	....	....	....	23
New Inspection Chambers ....	....	....	....	1
Ventilated ....	....	....	....	3
Additional Gullies ....	....	....	....	11
New Sinks Fixed ....	....	....	....	3
Sink Waste Pipes—Repaired or Renewed ....	....	....	....	10
Soil and Ventilating Pipes Repaired or Renewed				7

Factories (Excluding Bakehouses).

Number of Factories in District (Mech.)	....	....	159
Number of Factories in District (Non-Mech.)	....	....	88
Number of Inspections made	....	....	429
Number of Contraventions found	....	....	9
Number of Contraventions remedied	....	....	9
Number of Contraventions outstanding at end of year....			—

Fried Fish Shops.

Number of Fried Fish Shops in District	....	....	13
Number of Inspections made	....	....	84
Number of Contraventions found	....	....	1
Number of Contraventions remedied	....	....	1
Number of Contraventions outstanding at end of year....			—

Food Premises.

Number of Visits to Food Preparation Premises	....	430
Number of Visits to Provision Shops	....	63
Number of Visits to Fish Shops	....	26
Number of Visits to Other Food Shops	....	179

The improved conditions at food preparing and catering establishments in the Borough, upon which I remarked in my last Annual Report, have been maintained during the year.

Ice Cream.

Number of Registered Premises	....	24
Number of Manufacturers	....	5
Number of Retailers (other than Manufacturers)	....	19
Number of Inspections made	....	160

Infectious Diseases, Disinfections, etc.

Number of Visits made	....	83
Number of Rooms Disinfected	....	162
Number of Infected Articles Treated	....	84

Licensed Premises.

Number of Inspections made	....	11
Number of Statutory Notices Served	....	3
Number Complied with	....	3

Offensive Trades.

Number of Businesses in District....	....	....	....	5
Number of Inspections made	....	....	....	16
Number of Contraventions found	....	....	....	—
Number of Contraventions remedied	....	....	....	—
Number of Contraventions outstanding at end of year....	....	....	....	—

Rodent Control.

Number of Premises Inspected ....	....	....	....	1,392
Number of Premises found Infested	....	....	....	142
Number of Visits made ....	....	....	....	3,904
Number of Rats killed in private premises	....	....	....	2,012
Number of Rats killed in Sewers....	....	....	....	542

I do not think that due regard is sometimes paid to the importance of this branch of the work of a Health Department.

During the year, 3,904 visits were made, as compared with 38 visits made in the year 1938. Rodent control methods in force today are much more comprehensive, and include systematic treatment of sewers, refuse tips and properties throughout the town, and the fact that there is no major rat infestation within the Borough at the present time is obviously due to the rodent control measures now in force.

Removal of Household Refuse.

Number of New Ashbins provided by Informal Action ....	....	....	....	205
Number of New Ashbins provided by Statutory Action ....	....	....	....	135

Sanitary Defects Remedied.**Dampness—**

Number of Roofs Renewed or Repaired....	....	....	....	158
Number of Rainwater Gutters and Down Spouts re- newed or Repaired	....	....	....	96
Yard Surfaces Repaired or Relaid	....	....	....	15
Yard Drainage Improved....	....	....	....	3

Interior Work—

Number of Rooms Cleansed and Limewashed....	....	5
Number of Walls Repaired	....	98
Number of Ceilings Repaired	....	22
Number of Floors Repaired	....	23
Number of Chimney Stacks Repaired or Rebuilt	....	3
Number of Firegrates Repaired or Renewed	....	25
Number of Washing Boilers Repaired or Renewed	....	5
Dampness Remedied	....	58
Offensive Accumulations Removed	....	1
Number of Doors and Windows Repaired or Renewed	....	94
Number of Staircases Repaired	....	5
Ventilation Improved	....	3
Sufficient Water Supply Provided	....	22

Smoke Observations.

Number of Observations made	....	95
No. of Visits made	....	28
Number of Notices Served	....	14

Swimming Baths and Pools.

Number of Swimming Baths in the District	....	1
Number of Samples of Water taken	....	14
Number of Samples Satisfactory	....	12

Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.

Number of Inspections made	....	18
Number of Contraventions found	....	—

Water Supply.

Number of Samples taken for Analysis	....	59
Number of Samples found unsatisfactory	....	6

The six unsatisfactory samples were from the supply of the Wrexham & East Denbighshire Co., and remedial action was taken by them.

HOUSING.

Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of Dwelling-houses where Defects were remedied in consequence of Informal Action by the Local Authority or their Officers....	335
--	-----

Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(A) Proceedings under the Public Health Act, Section 93 :—

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Abatement Notices were Served requiring Defects to be Remedied	48
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were Remedied after Service of Formal Notices :—	
(a) By Owners	47
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners....	—

Section 45 :—

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were Served requiring Defective Water Closets to be Repaired	13
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses where Defective Water Closets were Repaired after Service of Formal Notices :—	
(a) By Owners	11
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners....	—

Section 39 :—

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were Served for the Renewing or Repairing of existing Drains	8
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses where the existing Drains were renewed or repaired and cleansed—	
(a) By Owners	8
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners....	—

Section 138 and Water Act, 1945. Section 30 :—

- | | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|---|
| (1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were Served requesting Owner to provide Water Supply in Pipes | .... | .... | .... | .... | 5 |
| (2) Number of Dwelling-houses in which Water Supply was provided after Service of Formal Notices :— | | | | | |
| (a) By Owners | .... | .... | .... | .... | 5 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners.... | | | | | — |

(B) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- | | | | |
|--|-------|------|---|
| (1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were Served requiring Repairs | .... | .... | — |
| (2) Number of Dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after Service of Formal Notices :— | | | |
| (a) By Owners | , ... | .... | — |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners | .... | .... | — |

(C) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|---|
| (1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | .... | .... | .... | — |
| (2) Number of Dwelling-houses Demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | .... | .... | .... | — |
| (3) Number of Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of Undertaking given by Owner | .... | .... | .... | — |
| (4) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Undertaking from Owners accepted, not to re-let houses for human habitation | .... | .... | .... | — |

(D) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- (1) Number of Separate Tenements or Underground Rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ,...
- (2) Number of Separate Tenements or Underground Rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the Tenement or Room having been rendered fit

(E) Housing Act, 1935. Overcrowding :—

(1) (a) Number of Dwellings Overcrowded at the end of the year	} Not Known	
(b) Number of Families dwelling therein ...		
(c) Number of Persons dwelling therein		
(2) Number of New Cases of Overcrowding reported during the year		34
(3) (a) Number of Cases of Overcrowding relieved during the year		11
(b) Number of Persons concerned in such cases....		38
(4) Particulars of any cases in which Dwelling-houses again became overcrowded after the Local Auth- ority have taken steps for the Abatement of Over- crowding		—

Re-housing of Families Living in Insanitary Conditions.

During the year I expressed my concern to the Health Committee over the living conditions of families living in certain properties within the Borough.

The properties concerned were 34 dwelling houses formally condemned just prior to the outbreak of War, closed, and then opened for re-occupation to house families affected by the war-time air raid damage.

My Report met with the sympathetic consideration of the Council and I am pleased to report that, at the time of going to Press, 29 out of the 34 houses have been closed and some partly demolished.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.**Bacteriological Sampling of Milk.**

Number of Samples taken	224
------------------------------	-----

1. School Milks. (Pasteurised).

Total Number of Samples taken	45
Total Number of Samples satisfactory	45
Total Number of Samples submitted to the Phosphatase Test	45
Number found satisfactory	45

(Accredited Milk).

Eight Samples of Accredited Milk were taken and 5 were satisfactory.

The supply of Accredited Milk to a School in the Borough has now been discontinued and all Schools are being supplied with Pasteurised Milk.

I am pleased to record that, for the second year in succession, every sample of Pasteurised Milk for school children was found to be satisfactory.

2. Designated Milks other than School Milks.**(Pasteurised Milk).**

No. of Samples taken 72 No. satisfactory 67

(Tuberculin Tested Milk).

No. of samples taken 44 No. satisfactory 30

Most of the unsatisfactory samples were obtained from one producer, with premises outside the Borough, who eventually appeared before the Health Committee for interview.

The result was the discontinuance of the unsatisfactory supply, and the supply of milk from a new T.T. Herd, from which every sample since has passed the Statutory Tests.

(Tuberculin Tested/Pasteurised Milk).

No. of samples taken 47 No. satisfactory 46

All samples passed the Phosphatase Test, but one failed to pass the Methylene Blue Test.

(Accredited Milk).

No. of samples taken 8 No. satisfactory 2

3. Rinses of Bottles, Daird Utensils, etc.

Number of Rinses taken.... 9

Number satisfactory 6

4. Biological Testing for Tubercle Bacilli.

Twenty-one samples of milk were submitted for examination for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli and two samples were returned as Positive.

The samples were obtained from a wholesale depot in the Borough, but the milk in question was produced under the supervision of the Denbighshire County Council.

The matter was referred to them for " follow-up " action.

5. Ice-Cream Samples.

No. of samples taken 33 No. satisfactory 31

I am pleased to record a very high percentage of satisfactory ice-cream samples taken during 1948.

It is unfortunate, however, that the provisional test, to which ice-cream is being submitted, has not met with the full approval of Health Authorities throughout the Country. Doubts are cast upon its reliability by both Bacteriologists and Sanitary Inspectors, and one wonders if there is any important difference between Ice-cream samples returned as Grade 1 or Grade 4 !

The whole question of Ice-Cream policy should, in my opinion, be reviewed by the appropriate Government Departments, with particular emphasis on chemical standards, bacteriological examination, and the sale of Ice-Cream from mobile vehicles.

MEAT. MUNICIPAL ABATTOIR.

I am pleased to record 100% Meat Inspection during the year at the Municipal Abattoir, in which period 45,557 animals were slaughtered for human consumption, an increase on 1947 of 3,348.

The importance of this part of the Public Health Service is stressed by the amount of meat condemned.

	CATTLE excluding Cows	COWS	SHEEP and LAMBS	PIGS	CALVES
No. Slaughtered	2,417	2,430	25,290	6,127	9,293
No. Inspected	2,417	2,431	25,291	6,127	9,298
DISEASE					
Except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned	4	76	55	16	114
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	786	1,298	1,768	177	35
% of No. inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis	32.7%	56.5%	7.2%	3.1%	1.6%
TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole carcasses condemned	11	94	—	22	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	265	732	—	284	5
% of No inspected affected with Tuberculosis	11.4%	33.9%	—	4.99%	.09%

Total weight of meat condemned during the year—108 tons, 12-cwt., 1 qr., 18 lbs.

IMPORTED MEAT DISTRIBUTED AT THE MUNICIPAL ABATTOIR DURING THE YEAR.

<i>Mutton Carcases.</i>	<i>Beef Quarters.</i>	<i>Other Meat and Offal.</i>
47,048	11,013	730,260

Imported Meat Condemned at the Municipal Abattoir during the year—831-lbs.

OTHER FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED.

	<i>Lbs.</i>		<i>Lbs.</i>
Tinned Foods....	7,290	Cake and Pudding	
Powdered Soup	27	Mixture....	187 $\frac{1}{4}$
Fried Fruit	951 $\frac{1}{4}$	Cake	114
Confectionery....	235 $\frac{1}{2}$	Preserves	394 $\frac{1}{4}$
Poultry....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	Butter	39 $\frac{1}{4}$
Meat Pies....	35	Beverages	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bacon	1,485 $\frac{1}{4}$	Bread	437 $\frac{1}{2}$
Gravy Salt....	7	Cheese....	27 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dried Egg	56	Sausages....	33
Custard Powder ...	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	Black Puddings	14
Fish Cakes....	191 $\frac{1}{4}$	Pickles....	217 $\frac{1}{4}$
Flour	127	Fish....	1,463
Cereals....	1,384	Semolina....	280
Dried Peas and Beans	307	Lemonade Powder	28
Fruit	15	Brawn, etc.	60
Fish Paste....	28 $\frac{3}{4}$	Nuts....	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
Macaroni	40	Trifles....	185 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Miscellaneous	191

The Ministry of Food were contacted on numerous occasions during the year with regard to the disposal of such items of tinned foods, dried fruit, cereals, and bacon.

Disposal arrangements in these cases were sometimes made by the Ministry, and most of the other foods were disposed of for animal purposes.

**INSPECTION OF SHOPS UNDER SHOPS ACT, 1934
(Sec. 10), AND FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 (Sec. 13).**

Notices Served	....	....	....	2
Notices complied with	....	....	....	2

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

A total of 56 Formal Samples and 34 Informal Samples were taken under the provisions of this Act during the year.

The articles sampled were as follows :—

Formal.	Informal.
Milk..... 56	Milk 1
	Lime Flavour Cordial 1
	Grapefruit Squash 1
	Ginger 1
	Strawberry Barley Pudding Mixture 1
	Barley 3
	Sauce 2
	Mustard 2
	Kipper Paste 1
	Ground Ginger 2
	Meat Paste.... 1
	White Pepper /
	Ground Cinnamon 3
	Rolled Oats 1
	Semolina 1
	Sponge Flour Mixture 1
	Gravy Browning 1
	Tomato Soup 1
	Baking Powder 2
	Bisto.... 1
	Almond Substitute 1
	Pudding Powder.... 1
	Flour 1

Fifteen Formal and six Informal Samples were reported as
“ Not Genuine.”

Special reports were submitted to the Committee during the year on the food samples reported by the Public Analyst as " Not Genuine."

An informal sample of Strawberry Barley Pudding Mixture was found to be swarming with mites and all stocks were withdrawn from the retailer and destroyed.

Fourteen of the unsatisfactory formal milk samples were obtained from three different producers. In one case " Appeal-to-Cow " samples showed a Friesian herd giving milk below standard, in the second case the producer received a written warning from the Town Clerk after the matter had been carefully considered by the Health Committee, and in the third case, the producer was successfully prosecuted in the local Police Court.

All the other unsatisfactory samples showed slight deficiencies and were dealt with by informal action.

In July a special Memorandum on milk standards was prepared by the Town Council and submitted to all Members of Parliament for their consideration and support. Local Authorities throughout the Country have shown a great interest in the Memorandum and a large number of copies have been sent on request.

At the time of preparing this Report, there is no indication of any action being taken by any of the Ministries concerned.

I am indebted to Mr. D. Wynne Griffiths, Inspector of Weights and Measures, for the following information of the operation of the Act within the Borough by the County Authorities.

<i>Article</i>	<i>No. Taken</i>	<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Not Genuine or Sub-Standard.</i>
Milk	41	32	9
Beer	1	1	
Whiskey	2	2	
Tinned Fish	1	1	
Jam	3	2	1
Tinned Peas	1	1	
Condensed Milk....	1	1	
Cake Flour	1	1	
Mustard	1	1	
Sweet Spirit of Nitre	1	1	
Salad Dressing	1	1	
Ice Cream....	3	3	
Gelatine	1	1	
Sausages	2	2	
Fish Paste....	1	1	
Saccharin Tablets.	1	1	
Bread	1	1	
	—	—	—
Totals	63	53	10
	—	—	—

The milk samples shown as “ Not Genuine ” were only slightly below the standard, or were eliminated by “ appeal ” samples.

One sample of Jam was very slightly below the standard for Soluble Solids.

All other samples were certified as being genuine and free from all prohibited preservatives and colouring matter.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Legal proceedings were instituted during the year as under—

- (1) 22nd March, 1948. **Public Health Act, 1936. Section 241.**

Registered Common Lodging House.

The keeper of a registered common lodging house was summoned for failing to ensure that either he or his deputy were on the premises between the hours of 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.

- (2) 22nd March, 1948. **Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Section 3.**

A milk producer from outside the Borough was fined £2/0/0 with £5/5/0 costs for selling milk which was certified by the Public Analyst as being 15 per cent. deficient in milk fat.

ABATTOIR FINANCE.

**Abattoir Trading Account for the Year Ended
31st March, 1948.**

EXPENDITURE.				INCOME.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Wages	678	3	5	Tolls	2096	17	2
Superannuation Contri- butions.....	17	10	9	Sale of Manure.....	76	10	0
Water.....	121	4	0	Rent of Piggeries.....	50	0	0
Rates, Taxes, Tithe and Insurance.....	173	19	1	Rent of Offices.....	91	2	4
General Repairs and Sundries	496	14	5	<i>Ministry of Food—</i>			
Haulage	309	8	0	Contribution towards			
Painting.....	447	15	0	Deficiency.....	781	0	0
Lighting, Fuel and Cleaning	391	18	8	Deficit for the year	1063	13	3
Salaries Account	587	11	8				
Telephone	10	14	6				
Printing, etc.	3	0	6				
Machinery and Equip- ment	117	2	0				
<i>Loan Charges—</i>							
Interest	£327	0	9				
Sinking Fd	£477	0	0				
	804	0	9				
	£4,159	2	9		£4,159	2	9



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