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A.

BOROUGH OF WREXHAM.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1958

E. WILLIAMS,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

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



BOROUGH OF WREXHAM.

Public Health Department,
1, Grosvenor Road,
WREXHAM.

(Tel. No. Wrexham 2103).

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To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health and Vital Statistics of the Borough of Wrexham for 1958. The Report follows the form laid down in the Welsh Board of Health Circular 42/51.

It is with regret that I have to record the death of Alderman Dr. Emyr Williams, who had been a Member of the Council for 36 years. His wise counsel will be missed at the meetings of the Health Committee of which he was a very able Member.

I wish to acknowledge and thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their help and co-operation during the year, and for the assistance of the Chief Public Health Inspector and the staff of the Health Department in general.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

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

Vice-Chairman—Councillor Wm. Evans.

Alderman DUTTON.

„ Mrs. C. JARVIS JONES.

„ STABLER.

Councillor CRAIG.

„ EDWARD DAVIES.

„ J. A. DAVIES.

„ GRIFFITHS.

„ Mrs. HAYNES.

„ HUGHES.

„ JACKSON.

„ LLOYD JONES.

„ LINDSAY.

„ E. PRICE.

„ RICHARDS.

„ ROBERTS.

„ TAPLEY.

„ TAYLOR.

„ T. F. THOMAS.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health :

E. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Abattoir Superintendent :

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

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :

B. JONES, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors :

S. J. V. JAMES TECWYN ROBERTS G. J. REES
(H.M. Forces).

Articled Pupil Public Health Inspector :

G. L. HORNE

Clerk to the Health Department :

Miss M. M. PARRY

Clerks to the Public Health Inspectors' Department :

Miss M. B. PARRY,	Miss G. HUGHES.	Miss B. BEAKS.
	(Resigned July, 1958).	(Commenced August, 1958).

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area	2,916 Acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimate)	32,650 (mid Annual)
Rateable value of the Borough, April 1st, 1959	£409,415
Product of a Penny Rate	£1,605
No. of Inhabited Houses (December 31st, 1958)	10,198
No. of Corporation Houses (December 31st, 1958)	4,848
Density of Persons per house	3.2

POPULATION TRENDS SINCE 1945.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Population.</i>	<i>Annual Increase. /Decrease.</i>	<i>Natural Increase.</i>
1945	25,670 Estimated Figure	- 300	176
1946	27,800 Estimated Figure	+ 2130	226
1947	28,450 Estimated Figure	+ 650	289
1948	29,100 Estimated Figure	+ 650	272
1949	29,710 Estimated Figure	+ 610	215
1950	30,470 Estimated Figure	+ 760	206
1951	30,940 Census Figure	+ 470	164
1952	32,090 Estimated Figure	+ 1150	209
1953	32,420 Estimated Figure	+ 330	196
1954	32,290 Estimated Figure	- 130	200
1955	32,330 Estimated Figure	+ 40	159
1956	32,810 Estimated Figure	+ 480	257
1957	31,970 Estimated Figure	- 840	247
1958	32,650 Estimated Figure	+ 680	269

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Population (R.G. Estimate Mid Annual)	32,650
Comparability Factors:—	
Deaths	1.15
Births	.97

BIRTHS.

During the year there were 596 live births, of which 291 were Males and 305 Females. This is an increase of 8 as compared with the previous year.

The total number of illegitimate births was 25, of which 13 were Males and 12 Females. The total number of illegitimate births for 1957 was 25.

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Live births (Legitimate)	278	293	571
Live births (Illegitimate)	13	12	25
	291	305	596

Birth Rate (Adjusted) per 1,000 population	17.7
England and Wales	16.4

Birth Rate.

The Birth Rate for previous years and for 1958 is as follows:—

1947	23.6	1953	15.46
1948	20.1	1954	15.18
1949	20.7	1955	15.9
1950	17.2	1956	16.9
1951	17.8	1957	18.3
1952	17.1	1958	17.7

Stillbirths.

There was a total of 15 Stillbirths during the year, as compared with 17 during the previous year.

	Male	Female.	Total.
Stillbirths (Legitimate)	8	7	15
Stillbirths (Illegitimate)	—	—	—
	8	7	15

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 population 0.5

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Stillbirths) 24.5

England and Wales 21.6

The following table shows the number of stillbirths, the stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths, and per 1,000 population for the last 12 years.

Year.	No. of Stillbirths.	Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths.	Rate per 1,000 Population.
1947	19	27.5	0.6
1948	16	26.6	0.5
1949	20	35.9	0.7
1950	21	37.2	0.6
1951	20	36.9	0.64
1952	10	17.2	0.31
1953	15	28.1	0.46
1954	15	27.0	0.46
1955	14	25.7	0.43
1956	11	18.9	0.33
1957	17	28.1	0.53
1958	15	24.5	0.5

DEATHS.

The total number of deaths of Borough residents during the year was 327. This figure is 24 less than occurred in 1957. The total number of Males who died was 174 and Females 153.

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	174	153	327
Death Rate (Adjusted) per 1,000 population	11.5		
England and Wales	11.7		

Death Rate.

The Adjusted Death Rate (taking the comparability factor into consideration) is 11.5. The Death Rate for England and Wales is 11.7.

The Death Rate for previous years and for 1958 is as follows:—

1947	13.4	1953	10.49
1948	10.7	1954	11.16
1949	12.9	1955	12.16
1950	11.8	1956	10.8
1951	11.04	1957	10.6
1952	11.95	1958	11.5

The following table gives the causes of death:—

<i>Causes.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	1	3
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	1	1
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, Stomach	3	1	4
11. Malignant neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	14	2	16
12. Malignant neoplasm, Breast	—	6	6
13. Malignant neoplasms, Uterus	—	6	6
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	21	14	35
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	2	2
16. Diabetes	—	2	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	18	38	56
18. Coronary disease, angina	43	16	59
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	3	5
20. Other heart diseases	16	19	35

21. Other circulatory diseases	2	2	4
22. Influenza	—	—	—
23. Pneumonia	8	3	11
24. Bronchitis	6	5	11
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	2	3
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	2	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	—	2
28. Nephritis, nephrosis	3	1	4
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	4	—	4
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	2	2
31. Congenital malformations	4	2	6
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	16	17	33
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	—	1
34. All other accidents	5	4	9
35. Suicides	2	2	4
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	174	153	327

Neo-Natal Deaths.

This represents the number of deaths occurring in infants under the age of 4 weeks. There were 10 deaths in all, 7 being Males and 3 Females.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	6	3	9
Illegitimate	1	—	1
	7	3	10

Neo-Natal Death Rate per 1,000 live births 16.8

Infantile Mortality.

During the year 16 infants died under the age of 1 year, this figure being the same as for the previous year.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	11	3	14
Illegitimate	1	1	2
	12	4	16

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births (total) 26.8
 Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births (Legitimate) 24.5
 Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births (Illegitimate) 80.0
 England and Wales 22.5

The Infantile Mortality Rate for previous years and for 1958 is shown as follows:—

1947	53.6	1953	32.9
1948	37.7	1954	18.6
1949	50.4	1955	30.18
1950	44.2	1956	22.8
1951	28.7	1957	27.2
1952	35.02	1958	26.8

The following table gives the causes of death occurring in infants under 1 year:—

Age.	Sex		Causes of Death.
	Male.	Female.	
1 hour	1		Prematurity.
1 hour	1		Hydrocephalus and meningocele.
3 hours		1	Prematurity.
1 day	1		Congenital abnormalities.
2 days		1	Prematurity.
3 days	1		Congenital abnormalities.
4 days	1		Prematurity.
1 week	1		Congenital abnormalities.
2 weeks		1	Acute Bilateral Broncho-pneumonia.
2 weeks	1		Intracranial haemorrhage.
1 month	1		Cerebral haemorrhage.
2 months	1		Acute Bilateral Broncho-pneumonia.
5 months	1		Acute Bilateral Broncho-pneumonia.
7 months	1		Congenital abnormalities.
10 months		1	Congenital abnormalities.
11 months	1		Congenital abnormalities.

Maternal Mortality.

There were two deaths due to childbirth during the year as compared with one for the previous year. The Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths was 3.3.

Cancer Deaths.

There were 67 deaths from Cancer during the year, as compared with 56 in 1957. The Cancer deaths had increased by 5 in Males and 6 in Females.

The ratio of Cancer deaths to total deaths is 1: 4.9, as compared with 1: 6.1 in 1957. The percentage of Cancer deaths to total deaths is 20.5.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Stomach	3	1	4
Lung and Bronchus	14	2	16
Breast	—	6	6
Uterus	—	6	6
Others	21	14	35
	38	29	67

The total number of Cancer deaths and the percentage of Cancer deaths to total deaths since 1947 is shown in the following table:—

Year.	Total No. of Deaths.	Cancer Deaths.			Percentage of Cancer Deaths to Total Deaths.
		Male.	Female.	TOTAL.	
1947	382	36	26	62	16.2
1948	312	28	23	51	16.3
1949	360	26	28	64	17.8
1950	337	26	27	53	15.7
1951	358	25	27	52	14.5
1952	362	32	21	53	14.6
1953	321	26	24	50	15.6
1954	339	35	24	59	17.4
1955	371	40	19	59	15.9
1956	313	31	31	62	19.8
1957	341	33	23	56	16.1
1958	327	38	29	67	20.5

Heart Disease.

Heart disease was responsible for 103 deaths. Of these 63 were Males and 40 Females. The percentage of deaths from Heart disease to total deaths is 31.5 as compared with 29.6 in 1957.

Pulmonary Causes.

There were 28 deaths from Pulmonary causes during the year, 3 of these being due to Tuberculosis, 11 due to Pneumonia and 11 due to Bronchitis.

Respiratory Disease.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
T.B. Respiratory	2	1	3
Pneumonia	8	3	11
Bronchitis	6	5	11
Influenza	—	—	—
Others	1	2	3
	17	11	28

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year a total of 170 infectious disease notifications were received, as compared with 889 notified during the previous year, the bulk of this latter figure was, however, due to a measles epidemic which occurred in the early spring of 1957 and continued throughout the summer and autumn.

Whooping Cough notifications fell to a total of 25, as compared with 64 for the previous year, this is the lowest number of whooping cough cases reported within the Borough since prophylactic immunisation against the illness began.

There were no cases of Poliomyelitis, there was only one case notified throughout the County.

One Food Poisoning notification was received, but although full detailed enquiries were made including submission of various food samples for bacteriological examination, the cause of the infection could not be ascertained.

There were no cases of Diphtheria reported.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis notifications during the year, numbered 14, as compared with 23 for the previous year, there being 11 males and 3 females affected. In each instance, the family contacts of the person concerned were examined at the Chest Clinic.

Any tuberculous family living under adverse housing conditions are readily rehoused in more suitable accommodation by the Housing Committee. The Committee has always co-operated fully in this matter.

26 cases (20 pulmonary and 6 non-pulmonary) were removed from the Tuberculosis Register during the year. The following table shows the number of cases on the Register on the 1st January and 31st December, 1958.

	PULMONARY.			NON-PULMONARY.		
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	TOTAL	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	TOTAL
1st January, 1958.	133	108	241	15	21	36
31st December, 1958.	143	106	249	15	21	36

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

<i>Disease.</i>	Rates per 1,000 Population.			
	<i>Notification.</i>		<i>Deaths.</i>	
Dysentery	14	0.4	—	—
Typhoid	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal	2	0.06	—	—
Scarlet Fever	14	0.4	—	—
Whooping Cough	25	0.8	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	72	2.2	—	—
Pneumonia	21	0.6	11	0.3
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—
Acute Paralytic	—	—	—	—
Acute Non-paralytic	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, Pulm'ary	14	0.4	3	0.09
Tuberculosis, Other	6	0.2	1	0.04
Food Poisoning	1	0.04	—	—

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN 1958.

(Arranged according to Age).

<i>Disease.</i>	Under 1	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 44	45 to 64	65 plus	TOTAL
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	7	7	—	—	—	—	14
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	2	4	8	6	21
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	2	6	5	—	—	—	—	14
Typhoid & Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	6	30	20	16	—	—	—	—	72
Whooping Cough	3	7	10	5	—	—	—	—	25
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Tuberculosis, Pulm'ary	—	—	—	—	—	7	7	—	14
Tuberculosis, Other	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	1	6
TOTALS	12	39	44	33	2	18	15	7	170

TUBERCULOSIS CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

(Arranged according to Age).

<i>Age Period.</i>	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
0—1	—	—	—	—
1—4	—	—	—	—
5—9	—	—	—	—
10—14	—	—	—	—
15—19	1	1	—	2
20—24	1	1	1	—
25—34	2	—	1	—
35—44	1	—	1	—
45—54	—	—	—	—
55—64	6	1	—	—
65 plus	—	—	—	1
TOTALS	11	3	3	3

The following table shows the number of Lung Tuberculosis cases notified and the rate per 1,000 population, and the deaths due to Lung Tuberculosis and rate per 1,000 population since 1947.

<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>
1947	30	1.1.	13	0.5
1948	30	1.03	7	0.2
1949	42	1.4	13	0.4
1950	24	0.8	10	0.3
1951	17	0.6	8	0.3
1952	46	1.4	4	0.1
1953	50	1.5	5	0.2
1954	31	0.9	6	0.2
1955	24	0.7	1	0.03
1956	20	0.6	1	0.03
1957	23	0.7	4	0.1
1958	14	0.4	3	0.09

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION.

Protective immunisation and vaccination against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Smallpox are undertaken by the General Practitioners and at the Infant Welfare Clinics.

There are four separate clinics within the Borough. These clinics are open once each week with the exception of the clinic held at No. 1, Grosvenor Road, which is held twice a week.

Separate clinics are held for vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.

A total of 266 infants under one year of age were immunised against these diseases within the Borough during the year. There is very little improvement over the number immunised in 1957. Approximately 45% of the infants born during the year receive prophylactic immunisation during their first year of life.

The following table shows the number of children immunised against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough during the year.

Diphtheria Immunisation.					Diphtheria & Whoop'g Cough Im.				
<i>Primary Doses</i>			<i>Repeat Doses</i>		<i>Primary Doses</i>			<i>Repeat Doses</i>	
0—1	1—4	5—15	1—4	5—15	0—1	1—4	5—15	1—4	5—15
2	3	1	4	11	266	78	4	2	14

The Combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough immunisation was commenced within the Borough in 1952. The following table gives the total number of children in the age groups 0—1, 1—4 and 5—9 years who have been immunised since 1953 onwards.

Year.	Total Births.	Whooping Cough Notifications All Ages.	Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Imm.		
			0—1	1—4	5—9
1953	517	111	135	113	—
1954	539	45	128	136	—
1955	530	71	129	123	—
1956	570	35	209	118	2
1957	588	64	267	112	1
1958	596	25	266	78	4

Vaccination Against Smallpox.

A total of 432 persons were vaccinated against Smallpox during the year, 303 of these were infants under 1 year of age. It is unusual to find more infants receiving protection from smallpox than diphtheria and whooping cough. This may be attributed to the smallpox scare which occurred on Merseyside during the year.

Vaccination Against Poliomyelitis.

Protection against Poliomyelitis by vaccination initially offered to children in the 3—10 year age groups was extended during the year to children from 6 months to 15 years and also to expectant mothers. By the end of the year, 3,331 children in the age groups 6 months to 15 years had each received two injections, which amounts to approximately 45% of the population concerned.

CARE OF THE AGED.

During the year, 15 aged persons (5 males and 10 females) requested admission to the Welfare Homes for Elderly Persons. They were suitably accommodated in Homes in Wrexham or the immediate vicinity.

One elderly person who was living alone was removed compulsory to a Home, as being in need of care and attention under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act. It was only after a very full investigation of the circumstances under which the person concerned was living, that the Borough Council adopted this procedure.

Where possible the elderly people are given every assistance to enable them to remain as long as possible in their own homes. The more needy cases are frequently visited by the Health Visitors and in instances of illhealth by the District Nurses. They are also assisted in running their own homes through the Home Help Scheme. The County Health Authority employ two full-time and 42 part-time Home Helps for the Borough and the immediate surrounding district.

During the year a "Meals on Wheels Scheme" for the elderly was arranged by the Borough Council. The Service at present provides one hot meal a week at the cost of 1/- per person, the Borough Council being responsible for the additional cost, and also the provision of transport for delivery.

The "Meals" are prepared at the Whitegate School Kitchen during the school term and by the Canteen of Messrs. Thomas Marshall & Co. (Loxley) Ltd., of the Abenbury Brickworks during the School holidays. The delivery of the "Meals" to the aged is undertaken by the Women's Voluntary Service, without whose help and assistance the Service could not be undertaken. At present between 25 and 30 "Meals" are delivered each week and they are greatly appreciated by the elderly persons.

The Health Department is becoming increasingly more concerned with the case of the elderly person who is in need of more nursing attention than can ordinarily be given at home or in a Welfare Home. Such persons are in need of hospitalization, not for medical treatment so much as for nursing care. They are aged and may be living alone or in company with another aged person who is unable to give the necessary care and attention required. Such persons' names are placed on the waiting list for admission to the Geriatric Unit of the Maelor General Hospital, and the waiting period may extend up to three months. During this waiting period, nursing care and attention can be given during the day-time by the District Nurse assisted by the Health Visitor and the Home Help. Unfortunately they may have to be left alone throughout the evening and night and it is during this period that great concern is caused.

Fortunately we are now being assisted by the Catholic Church Mission, which established a Help and Nursing Service in the Borough—this Service commenced during October of this year. This Voluntary Organisation consists of five fully qualified Nursing Sisters, who are prepared to undertake overnight nursing in the homes in addition to their daytime welfare and nursing duties. The organisation has already been most helpful in the short period they have been in the Borough.

We are also assisted in the overnight care of the aged through the Cancer Relief Fund which provides money for the payment of night sitters in the case of cancer patients.

HOUSING.

With the removal of the subsidy on houses built for general letting, the Housing Department have concentrated on the erection of houses for rehousing families removed from unfit premises.

The Council commenced its programme of Slum Clearance in 1955, when a total of 286 dwellings were scheduled for clearance or closure by 1960. So far 270 dwellings have been dealt with and 111 have been cleared and 132 families have been rehoused.

In addition the Council have cleared 100 Prefabricated Houses off the Holt Road, and rehoused the families concerned.

The number of housing applicants living in rooms or apartments within the Borough has increased from 520 to 551. The lack of houses for general letting has resulted in a lengthening of the waiting period from 1½—2 years to a period of 3—4 years for a family of husband and wife and two children.

The Council have limited the letting of houses to applicants who are already householders except in extreme cases, in an attempt to assist as far as possible those families who are living in rooms.

The following table shows the number of applicants for Council Houses as at December, 1958.

Apartments.

1.—Residing in the Borough	551
2.—Residing outside the Borough	31

Householders.

1.—Residing in the Borough	387
2.—Residing outside the Borough	91
TOTAL	1,060

SCHOOLS.

During the past six years there have been many changes in the Schools within the Borough. The rapid rise in the school's population and the existing overcrowding of classrooms that occurred up to about 1952 has been alleviated by the building of a number of new schools within the last few years.

To date six new schools have been built, Hafod-y-Wern Infants, Hafod-y-Wern Junior, Gwenfro Infants, Gwenfro Junior, St. David's Modern and the Wrexham Technical College. These

schools have large spacious classrooms which are well heated, ventilated and with adequate natural lighting. They have modern indoor toilets with wash-hand bowls with hot and cold water, adequate cloakrooms, gymnasiums and in certain schools there are shower baths. These schools also have modern up-to-date school kitchens and separate dining rooms.

A start has been made on a further three schools within the Borough, they are the Bryn Offa Secondary Modern School to accomodate 550 to 600 pupils, the St. Joseph's Secondary Modern School for 240 pupils and the Alexandra Special School for 100 pupils.

In the existing schools there have been a number of improvements, a new toilet block has been erected at the Alexandra Infants' School. A new kitchen and dining room has also been built for the Alexandra Schools. New toilet facilities have been provided at the Rhosnessney Controlled School, new toilet facilities and cloakrooms are now being built for the St. Giles Junior Mixed School and for the St Giles Infants' School, these schools have also their own kitchen and dining rooms. Grove Park Boys' Grammar School has a new three storey science block with toilet facilities and cloakrooms installed. Acton Park School has new additional classrooms and toilets and there are proposals for separate kitchens.

CLEAN FOOD.

There has been continued improvement in food premises and in the hygienic handling of food generally during the year. Alterations to food shops have been carried out to conform with the requirements of the Clean Food Regulations. In the case of new premises which are to be erected for the sale or preparation of food, the plans are scrutinized to ensure that the necessary hygiene requirements are satisfactory.

During the year, seven instances of Foreign Bodies in food sold to the general public were reported to the Health Department. No action was taken by the Health Committee in these cases.

In 1957, there were 11 complaints regarding Foreign Bodies and in 1956, there were 23 complaints.

WATER.

During the year 18 samples of the town's water supply were taken at various points and submitted for bacteriological examination. All samples were reported as being satisfactory.

One sample was submitted for chemical analysis and this again proved satisfactory.

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Provision.

Bacteriological examination of water, milk and ice cream are examined at the Public Health Laboratory at Birkenhead.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

(1) General.

(a) Wrexham and East Denbighshire War Memorial
Hospital 230 Beds.

(b) Maelor General Hospital—

Paediatric Unit 44 Beds.

Geriatric Unit 89 Beds.

Emergency 204 Beds.

Infectious Diseases Isolation 34 Beds.

(Made up of 20 Isolation Cubicles and 1 ward
of 14 beds).

(2) Maternity Cases.

(a) Trevalyn Maternity Hospital 47 Beds.

(b) Croesnewydd Maternity Unit 18 Beds.

(3) Orthopaedic.

Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic
Hospital, Gobowen.

CLINICS.

(1) Orthopaedic.

The diagnosis and After-Care Treatment of Orthopaedic Cases is carried out at the Wrexham and East Denbighshire War Memorial Hospital, supplemented by institutional treatment at the Orthopaedic Hospital, Gobowen.

(2) Venereal Disease Clinic.

A Venereal Disease Clinic is established at the Out-Patient's Department of the War Memorial Hospital.

(3) Infant Welfare Clinics.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held at four centres weekly within the Borough.

Gatefield, Kings Mills Road Monday Afternoon.

No. 1, Grosvenor Road Monday and Wednesday Afternoon.

Garden Village Institute,

Kenyon Avenue Wednesday Afternoon.

Queen's Park Thursday Afternoon.

(4) Ante-Natal Clinics.

No. 1—Grosvenor Road—

Tuesday Morning and Afternoon.

Wednesday Morning only.

Queen's Park—Thursday Morning only.

(5) Eye Clinic.

An Eye Clinic is held on alternate Fridays at No. 1, Grosvenor Road.

(6) Family Planning Clinic.

A Family Planning Clinic is held on Thursday afternoon at No. 1, Grosvenor Road, Wrexham.

(7) Dental Clinics.

Dental Clinics are held weekly at No. 1, Grosvenor Road.
Wrexham.

Maternal and Child Welfare Monday.

Fillings Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Orthodontics Alternate Tuesdays and every Thursday.

Casuals Friday and Saturday mornings.

(8) Speech Therapy.

Speech Therapy Clinics are held weekly within the Borough.

No. 1, Grosvenor Road Monday and Thursday mornings.

Gatefield Wednesday.

Queen's Park Friday.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1958.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Thirteenth Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors' Department.

During the year, great progress was made with the clearance of unfit houses, and the information given in the Report indicates that we are more than keeping pace with the approved five year programme.

It is pleasing to record the opening during the year of the new cold store and staff welfare arrangements at the Municipal Abattoir. The facilities provided, and the very reasonable charges made, merit a much greater use of the Abattoir, and one looks forward with confidence to increased activities during the next few years.

My thanks are due to you, Mr. Chairman, and to the Members of the Committee for your kind consideration during the year. I would also acknowledge the help of Dr. Evan Williams, Medical Officer of Health.

All the Staff of the Health Department have carried out their duties efficiently, and I am grateful to them for their co-operation.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. McCARTNEY,

Chief Public Health Inspector

TABULATED SUMMARY of SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

Total No. of Inspections made	7,942
Total No. of Complaints received	371
Total No. of Notices served	257
Total No. of Interviews with owners, etc.	445

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

No. of smoke observations made	94
No. of visits made	139
No. of Notices served (Informal)	10
No. of deposit gauges sited in the Borough	2

The average monthly deposit of soot, etc., for the past three years is as follows:—

	1956.	1957.	1958.
Parish Church Site	19 tons.	16 tons.	12 tons.
Cartrefle College Site	10 tons.	9 tons.	11 tons.
Allotment Garden, Prices Lane —	—	—	11 tons.

During the year, the deposit gauge which had been sited in the grounds of the Cartrefle Training College for five years, was re-sited in Price's Lane. As before, the site is mainly residential, but figures are again showing that the domestic deposit of soot etc., is of more concern than emissions from industrial sources.

Towards the end of the year, preparations were being made for a survey of the first Smoke Control Area in the Borough. It is hoped that a further twelve months will show considerable progress in our efforts towards clean air.

Bed Bugs.

No. of Inspections made	47
No. of Council Houses—	
(i) Found to be infested	10
(ii) Disinfested by this Department	17
No. of other premises—	
(i) Found to be infested	3
(ii) Disinfested by this Department at owner's expense	3

Cinemas and Places of Entertainment.

No. of Inspections made	7
No. of Informal Notices served	—
No. of Notices complied with	—

Closets.

Cleansed and limewashed	—
No. of water-closets repaired or reconstructed	19
No. of flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	14
No. of new water-closet pans or pedestals	9
No. provided with supply of water	1

Common Lodging Houses.

No. on Register	Nil.
----------------------	------

Drains.

Drains constructed or reconstructed	3
Repaired or cleansed	11
Ventilated	4
Guillies provided or renewed	2
New sinks provided	2
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	9
Soil and ventilating pipes repaired or renewed	2

Factories (Excluding Bakehouses).

No. of Factories in District (Mech.)	168
No. of Factories in District (Non-Mech.)	52
No. of Inspections made	70
No. of contraventions found	4
No. of contraventions remedied	4
No. of contraventions outstanding at end of year	—

Infectious Diseases Enquiries.

No. of investigations carried out	32
--	----

Offensive Trades.

No. of Businesses in District	5
No. of Inspections made	33
No. of contraventions found	1
No. of contraventions remedied	1
No. of contraventions outstanding at end of year	—

Rodent Control.

No. of premises inspected	762
No. of premises found infested	165
No. of visits made	2,387

Removal of Household Refuse.

No. of new ashbins provided by Statutory action	45
--	----

Sanitary Defects Remedied.**Dampness.**

No. of roofs renewed or repaired	73
No. of eavesgutters and rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	46
Yard surfaces repaired or relaid	12

Other Work.

No. of walls repaired	31
No. of walls rendered or repointed	14
No. of ceilings repaired	12
No. of floors repaired	1
No. of chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	7
No. of firegrates repaired or renewed	5
Damp proof courses provided and dampness remedied	9
No. of doors and windows repaired or renewed	107
Offensive accumulations removed	5
Sufficient water supply provided	3
Staircases repaired or renewed	1

Swimming Baths and Pools.

No. of Swimming Baths in the district	1
No. of samples of water taken	14
No. of samples satisfactory	14

Tents, Vans, Sheds, Etc.

No. of Inspections made	64
No. of contraventions found	—

Water Supply.

No. of samples taken for Analysis	18
No. of samples satisfactory	18

HOUSING.

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

No. of dwelling-houses where defects were remedied in consequence of Informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	77
--	----

Action Under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(A) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts—Section 93.

(1) No. of outstanding Notices carried over from previous year.	22
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Abatement Notices were served requiring defects to be re- medied	47
(3) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices:—	
(a) By Owners	52
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
(4) No. of Notices outstanding at end of year	17

Section 45.

(1) No. of outstanding Notices carried over from previous year	7
--	---

(2) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defective water-closets to be repaired	22
(3) No. of dwelling-houses where defective water-closets were repaired after service of Formal Notices:—	
(a) By Owners	18
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	1
(4) No. of Notices outstanding at end of year	10

Section 39.

(1) No. of outstanding Notices carried over from previous year	20
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served for the renewing or repairing of existing drains	25
(3) No. of dwelling-houses where the existing drains were renewed and cleansed:—	
(a) By Owners	38
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
(4) No. of Notices outstanding at end of year	7

Section 138 and Water Act, 1945. Section 30.

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requesting Owner to provide water supply in pipes	—
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in which water supply was provided after service of Formal Notices: —	
(a) By Owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	—
(3) No. of Notices outstanding at end of year	—

(B) Proceedings under Sections 9 and 10 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2) No. 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 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served under Section 16	7
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
(3) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	1
(4) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	4
(5) No. of dwelling-houses closed in pursuance of Closing Orders	4
(6) No. of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of Undertaking given by Owner	—
(7) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Undertaking from owners accepted not to re-let houses for human habitation	—

(D) Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	2
(2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	2

(E) Housing Act, 1957.—Overcrowding.

(1) (a) No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	} not known
(b) No. of families dwelling therein	
(c) No. of persons dwelling therein	
(2) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	8
(3) (a) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	20
(b) No. of persons concerned in such cases	80
(4) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses again became overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Not known.

Clearance of Unfit Houses.

The task of clearing unfit houses within the Borough continued during the year. One hundred and seventeen houses were included in Clearance Areas and action was taken for the demolition of another 7 houses. One of the latter was privately owned and a Demolition Order was made; the other 6 houses were owned by the Borough Council and were approved for demolition following certification by the Medical Officer of Health. A further 69 houses were demolished as a result of formal action taken in previous years.

During the year, 98 families were re-housed from unfit houses, and the remaining 36 prefabricated bungalows were demolished and the families re-housed.

Since the Council commenced its programme of clearance in 1955, a total of 270 houses have been dealt with and 132 families have been re-housed. In addition to these figures, 100 prefabricated bungalows have been cleared away, and the tenants provided with other accommodation.

The Rent Act, 1957.

A considerable amount of work under this Act appears to have been done by mutual arrangement between owners of property in the Borough and their tenants. In consequence, the number of applications made to the local authority has been less than was anticipated.

Details of work during the year are as follows:—

No. of Applications for Certificates of Disrepair (Form I)	39
No. of Proposals to Issue (Form J)	39
No. of Undertakings received (Form K)	13
No. of Certificates of Disrepair issued (Form L)	26
No. of Cancellations applied for (Form M)	7
No. of Cancellations issued	6

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

The undermentioned table gives details of the number and type of food premises within the Borough, and the number of inspections made during the year. More than 800 inspections were carried out, and these visits have revealed an improved standard of cleanliness in most of the food premises. There are, unfortunately, a small minority of food handlers who have

to be constantly reminded of their responsibilities, and this is done mainly by the Public Health Inspectors during their visits to food premises. It was found necessary to write to the occupiers of food shops on 16 occasions during the year.

	<i>No. in District.</i>	<i>No. of inspections made.</i>
Bakehouses	23	82
Butchers' Shops	42	172
Cafes, Restaurants and Snack Bars	23	40
Dairies and Milk Shops	16	25
Fried Fish Shops	16	43
Fruit and Greengrocers	45	19
General Provision Shops	106	179
Hotels and Public Houses	60	76
Ice-Cream Premises	99	129
Wet Fish Shops	11	22
Cake Shops	12	14
Sweet Shops	41	26

Foreign Bodies in Food.

Seven complaints were investigated during the year, but no statutory action was considered necessary.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

A total of 39 Formal samples and 33 Informal samples were taken under the provisions of this Act during the year.

The articles sampled were as follows:—

Formal.	Informal.
Milk 39	Tinned Cream 3
	Tinned Milk 6
	Salad Cream 1
	Jam 1
	Milk 4
	Spice 1
	Ice-Cream 11
	Custard Pie 1
	Sauce 2
	Tomato Piquant 1
	Tomato Ketchup 1
	Gravy Browning 1

One Formal and Two Informal samples were returned as "Not Genuine."

I am indebted to Mr. T. H. Evans, Inspector of Weights and Measures, Denbighshire County Council, for the following details of his work in the Borough during the year.

<i>Article.</i>	<i>No. Taken.</i>	<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Not Genuine or Sub-Standard.</i>
Milk	59	59	—
Margarine	1	1	—
Cheese Spread	1	1	—
Flour	1	1	—
Sago	1	1	—
Tinned Carrots	1	1	—
Meat Paste	1	1	—
Sausages	2	2	—
Fish Paste	1	1	—
Pepper	1	1	—
Salad Cream	1	1	—
Chutney	1	1	—
Jam	4	4	—
Condensed Milk	1	1	—
Table Jelly	1	1	—
Blanc Mange Powder	1	1	—
Mincemeat	1	1	—
Christmas Pudding	1	1	—
Cocoa	2	2	—
Soft Drinks	1	1	—
Beer	4	4	—
Gin	1	1	—
Brandy	2	2	—
Whiskey	1	1	—
Port Wine	1	1	—
Light Magnesia Carb	1	1	—
Tartaric Powder	1	1	—
Aspirin Tablets	1	1	—
Gripe Water	1	1	—
Camphorated Oil	1	1	—
TOTALS	97	97	—

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

In addition to the milk samples submitted to the Public Analyst during the year, seventy samples of milk taken from Schools and Institutions in the Borough of Wrexham were tested in this Office by the Inspectors. All of these samples were found to be up to the presumptive standards prescribed by the Sale of Milk Regulations 1939, viz., 3 per cent. of fat and 8.5 per cent. of solids-not-fat.

Duties relating to Ice-Cream.

There are 99 registered premises for ice-cream including two manufacturers.

During the year the following samples were taken:—

Bacteriological—22. These were graded as follows by the Public Health Laboratory Service:—

Grade 1	....	22.
Grade 2	....	—
Grade 3	....	—
Grade 4	....	—

Milk and Dairies Administration.

In addition to 14 registered dairy premises, there are now 46 persons registered as purveyors under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949. Under the provisions of the Milk and Dairies (Special Designations) Regulations, 54 Dealer's Licences and 16 Supplementary Licences have been granted. Seven informal Notices were served for minor infringements of the Regulations during the year.

I give below the details relating to the bacteriological sampling of Milk:—

No. of samples taken		185
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(1) School Milks (Pasteurised).

No. of samples taken		3
No. of samples satisfactory		3
No. of samples submitted to the Phosphatase Test	....	3
No. found satisfactory	....	3

School Milks (T.T./Pasteurised).

No. of samples taken	....	14
No. of samples satisfactory	....	12
No. of samples failing the Methylene Blue Test	....	2
No. of samples submitted to the Phosphatase Test	....	14
No. found satisfactory	....	14

(2) Designated Milks other than School Milks.

(Pasteurised Milk).

No. of samples taken	72
No. of samples satisfactory	69
No. of samples failing the Methylene Blue Test	3
No. of samples submitted to the Phosphatase Test	72
No. found satisfactory	72

(Tuberculin Tested Milk).

No. of samples taken	25
No. of samples satisfactory	23
No. of samples failing the Methylene Blue Test	2

(Tuberculin Tested/Pasteurised Milk).

No. of samples taken	59
No. of samples satisfactory	59
No. of samples submitted to the Phosphatase Test	59
No. found satisfactory	59

(Sterilised Milk).

No. of samples taken	12
No. of samples satisfactory	12

Inspection of Meat.

Work at the Municipal Abattoir continued to increase during the year. In May, the new Cold Store and the new welfare block for the employees was formally opened by the Chairman of the Health Committee (Alderman Cyril O. Jones, B.A.), at a ceremony presided over by His Worship the Mayor (Councillor W. H. Evans).

There has been some "teething" troubles with the Cold Store plant, but in the main it has proved of great benefit to local

butchers, and the use of the Cold Store during its first six months more than exceeded our expectations.

With the completion of the new facilities, the Abattoir is now capable of providing a service far greater than it is being required to at the present time. The service and equipment provided is good, the charges are lower than any other public abattoir, and it is reasonable to anticipate much greater use in future years.

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows.</i>	<i>Cows.</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>
No. Slaughtered	3,162	341	28,627	15,179	218
No. Inspected	3,162	341	*50,748	15,179	218
Disease except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci.					
Whole carcasses condemned	3	3	49	32	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,070	76	2,584	468	10
% of No. inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	33.9%	23.2%	5.2%	3.3%	6.9%
Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcasses condemned	9	2	—	2	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	221	30	—	150	—
% of No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis	7.3%	9.4	—	1.0%	—
Cysticercosis.					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	13	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

* This figure includes dressed carcasses and imported meat brought into the Abattoir.

Total weight of meat condemned during the year:—

20 tons 19 cwts. 1 qr. 5 lbs.

Canned and Other Food, Etc., Condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Tinned Foods	3,783 lbs.	Cheese	121 lbs.
Flour ...	9 lbs.	Cheese Spread	4 lbs.
Butter	10 lbs.	Baby Foods	9 lbs.
Fruit Juices	35 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	Poultry	63 lbs.
Tomato Juice	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	Fish	490 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Macaroon Paste	128 lbs.	Meat	60 lbs.
Liquid Egg	69 lbs.	Mayonnaise	6 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Chinese Frozen Egg	22 lbs.	Potatoes	6,664 lbs.
Macaroni	6 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	Bacon	11 lbs.
Sweets	8 lbs.	Miscellaneous	19 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Preserves	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.		

TOTAL—11,530 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.

Percentage classifications are as follows:—

Home ...	14.1%	=	1,622 lbs.
Foreign ...	20.7%	=	2,391 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Empire ...	65.2%	=	7,516 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
	100.0%	=	11,530 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.

WREXHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL.

Abattoir Revenue Account — Year Ended 31st March, 1958.

EXPENDITURE.		INCOME.		
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
PREMISES AND PADDOCKS—				
Electricity, Fuel and Water	931 14 9	Tolls	4,811 16 10	5,229 19 7
Rates, Taxes, Tithes and Insurance	551 16 4	Sale of Manure	114 7 6	2,673 1 7
Maintenance and Repairs	600 2 6	Van Washing	0 2 0	
Painting	880 12 3	Rent of Office	91 0 0	
Removal of Manure, Inedible Offals and Ashes and Emptying Settling Tank	278 15 7	Rent of Refrigerator	20 0 0	
Protective Clothing	23 9 10	Sale of Condemned Meat and Offal	163 8 5	
Chemicals, Cleaning Requisites and Laundry	69 12 8	Wayleave (Hughes Bros.)	0 2 6	
Wages	1,367 11 10	Parking Fees—F.M.C.	26 0 0	
Equipment	159 14 2	Sale of Scrap Materials etc.	3 2 4	
Paddock—		Deficit Borne by Council		
Cultivation and Tree Planting	38 19 0			
Loan Charges—				
Interest	664 19 6			
Principal	1,165 1 5			
Debt Management	7 12 1			
General Expenses—				
Printing, Stationery, Telephone and Stamp Duty	23 0 5			
Salaries, Superannuation and Insurance	991 18 6			
Payments for condemned carcasses returned	83 15 0			
Consultant's fees and expenses	64 5 4			
	£7,903 1 2			£7,903 1 2





