

**[Report 1968] / Medical Officer of Health, Wrexham Borough.**

**Contributors**

Wrexham (Wales). Borough Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1968

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/a2zha864>

**License and attribution**

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

1 Copy

ACKD BY  
WAC

19/10/70

HEALTH  
A 19 OCT 1970  
F.O.

BOROUGH OF WREXHAM

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

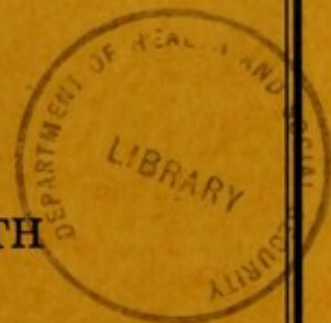
AND THE

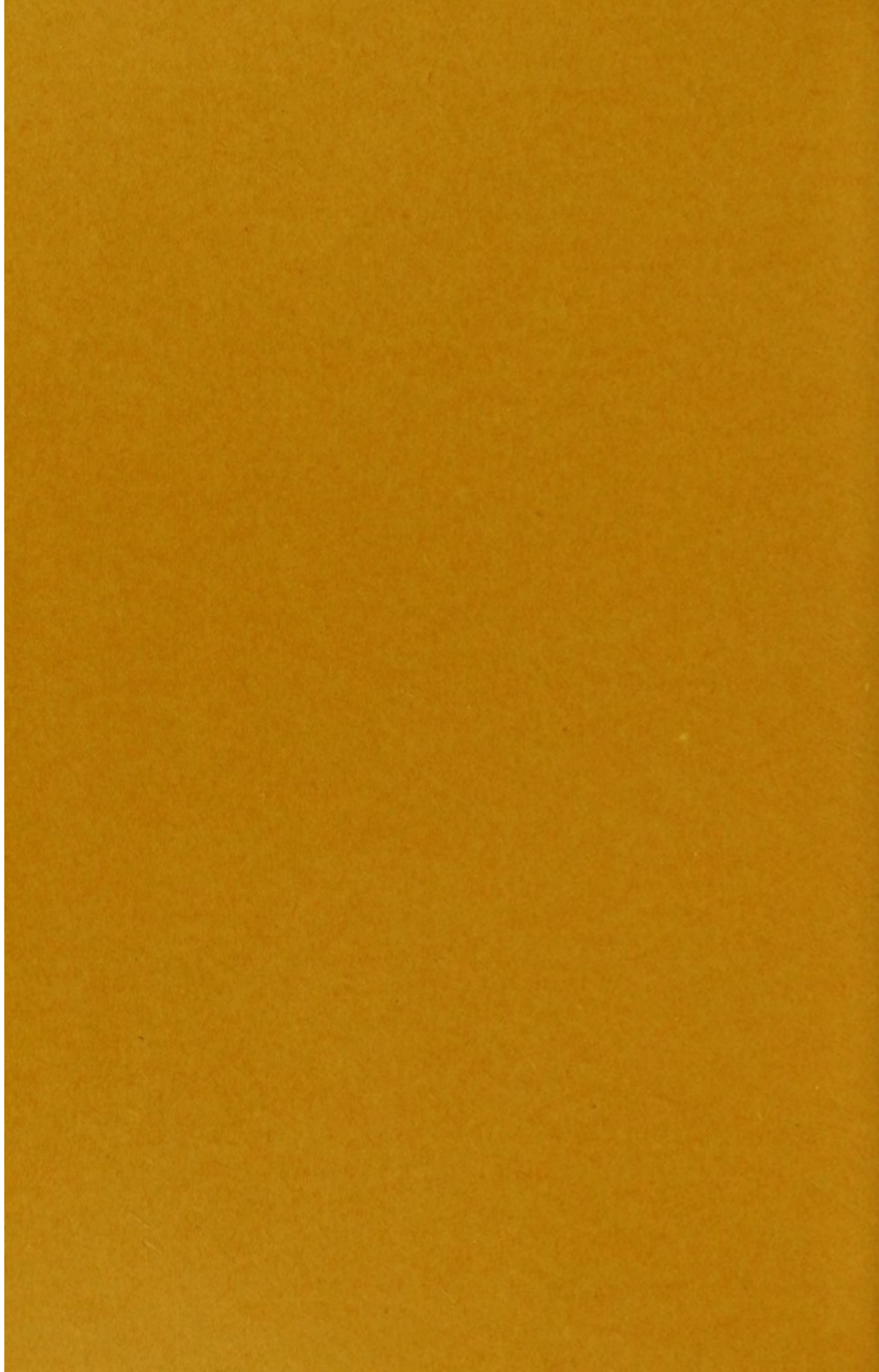
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1968

ALWYN GRIFFITH,  
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

A. McCARTNEY  
F.A.P.H.I.







BWRDEISDREF WRECSAM

# **ADRODDIAD BLYNYDDOL**

Y

SWYDDOG MEDDYGOL

A'R

PRIF AROLYGWR IECHYD

**AM Y FLWYDDYN 1968**

---

**ALWYN GRIFFITH,**  
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

**A. McCARTNEY**  
F.A.P.H.I.



Y PWYLLGOR IECHYD, 1968

HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1968

**Chairman** — Councillor Dr. L. WISE, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., F.C., PATH.

**Vice-Chairman**—Councillor SILAS DAVIES, J.P.

Alderman E. DAVIES, J.P.

" H. GRIFFITHS

" Mrs. C. JARVIS JONES

" E. McMAHON

" A. E. STABLER

" R. ROBERTS

His Worship the Mayor,

Councillor J. H. TAPLEY, B.E.M., J.P.

Councillor C. HUGHES

" C. JACKSON, J.P.

" J. LLOYD JONES

" Miss M. M. JONES, J.P.

" J. B. KYFFIN

" G. MORRIS

" A. E. PARKER

" G. H. PARRY

" H. TAYLOR

" W. C. WHITEHALL

" J. B. WILLIAMS

" Mrs. L. V. WISE, B.A., J.P.

**STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR 1968.**

**Medical Officer of Health**

**ALWYN GRIFFITH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

**Chief Public Health Inspector and Abattoir Superintendent**

**A. McCARTNEY, F.A.P.H.I.**

**Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector**

**B. JONES, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.**

**Additional Public Health Inspectors:**

**G. I. REES, M.A.P.H.I. (Resigned March, 1968)**

**E. T. CREWE, M.A.P.H.I.**

**P. R. ATKIN, M.A.P.H.I.**

**H. E. ROBERTS, M.A.P.H.I. (Commenced, May 1968)**

**Authorised Meat Inspector:**

**C. CATER, A.R.S.H.**

**Articled Pupil Public Health Inspectors:**

**B. P. CULLINANE**

**J. M. HUGHES (Resigned July, 1968)**

**W. E. G. BLACK (Commenced October, 1968)**

**Clerical Staff to the Health Department**

**Miss M. B. PARRY**

**Miss B. BEAKS**

**Mrs. A. JONES (Resigned September, 1968)**

**Miss V. DYER (Commenced October, 1968)**



## I GADEIRYDD AC AELODAU'R PWYLLGOR IECHYD.

Mr. Cadeirydd, Foneddigesau a Boneddigion,

Pleser yw cael cyflwyno'r Adroddiad hwn ar gyflwr iechyd y cyhoedd yn y Fwrdeisdref am y flwyddyn 1968.

Ym mis Gorffennaf cyhoeddwyd Adroddiad Seebohm. Mae'r Adroddiad yn cymeradwyo newid chwyldroadol yng ngweinyddiad y gwasanaethau cymdeithasol personol ac amser yn unig a ddengys ym mha fodd yr effeithir ar gyfrifoldeb yr awdurdodau lleol ym myd iechyd.

'Roedd cyflwr iechyd yn y Fwrdeisdref ar y cyfan yn foddhaol. Cafwyd cynnydd pellach yn nifer y boblogaeth i 37,400 o 37,120 yn 1967 — parhau'r cynnydd cyson er 1961. 'Roedd nifer y genedigaethau yn 294 yn uwch na'r marwolaethau ac er bod y genedigaethau yn 16 yn llai na'r llynnedd, mae'r cyfartaledd o 17.0 yn cymharu'n foddhaol a'r 16.9 i Gymru a Lloegr. 'Roedd 58 genedigaeth anghyfreithlon, dau yn llai nag yn 1967.

Bû 13 plentyn farw cyn bod yn flwydd oed, wyth ohonynt cyn tri mis. 'Roedd amhariad difrifol o'u genedigaeth ar bump.

Ni bû un fam farw ar enedigaeth plentyn.

Hyd yn ddiweddar, yr afiechydon heintus oedd yn lladd ac yn anafu. Gorchfygwyd y rhain i raddau helaeth ac erbyn hyn afiechydon y galon a'r gwythiennau, a'r cancr yw capteniaid marwolaeth. Bû 390 marwolaeth, 39% mewn unigolion dros 75 mlwydd oed; 'Roedd 75% dros 65 oed ac afiechyd y galon a'r gwythiennau oedd yn gyfrifol am 57% o'r rhain. Bû i glwy y galon ladd 95, 10 yn llai na'r llynnedd. Bû 71 farw o'r cancr, 37 yn llai; ac 'roedd y lleihad yn amlwg ym mhob lleoliad, yn cynnwys yr ysgyfaint. Cymerodd afiechydon llidiog yr ysgyfaint eu toll arferol.

Torrodd epidemig o'r frech goch allan yn yr hydref — gallai hwn fod y diwethaf o unrhyw faint os cytuna rhieni i'w plant dderbyn y frech. Mewn un digwyddiad o wenwyno gan fwydydd, effeithiwyd ar gant o unigolion. Amgryma'r ymchwiliad i'r digwyddiad mai cywiar heb ei lwyr baratoi a'i gynnal mewn tymheredd amheus oedd yn gyfrifol. Pwysleisia'r digwyddiad y pwysigrwydd o ddeallusrwydd techneg coginio gan bawb sydd a wnelo â phartoi bwyd. Yn ystod yr haf bû epidemig o'r Ffliw yn Sinai; lledaenodd yn gyflym i Hong Kong ar 'roedd tebygrwydd y cyrhaeddai Brydain. Cytunodd y Pwyllgor i gynnig y frech i'r oll o weithwyr y Cyngor. Brechwyd 185. Yn ddiweddarach daeth yn eglur bod y firws yn un gweddol newydd, yn wahanol i unrhyw un blaenorol ac 'roedd yn amlwg bod angen brech arbennig i'w atal. Cytunwyd i gynnig yr ail frech pan fyddai ar gael.

Mae bywyd ac iechyd pob un ohonom yn dibynnu i raddau helaeth ar ein hetifeddiaeth ac ar ein hamgylchfyd. Cymerwyd camau pellach yn ystod y flwyddyn i wella'r amgylchedd yn y Fwrdeisdref. Ym mis Chwefror cadarnhawyd y trydydd Orchymyn Rheoli Mwg a ddaw i rym ym Medi 1969. Mae'r budreddi sy'n halogi'r awyr yn ffactor pwysicaf mewn achosi rhai afiechydon yr ysgyfaint — afiechydon syn gyfrifol am un salwch o bob deg. 'Roedd y cyflenwad dŵr, hyn yn fynegai cywir o safon byw unrhyw gymdeithas, yn foddhaol mewn ansawdd a swm. Yn anffodus ni chymerwyd unrhyw gamau pellach



i fflworeiddio's cyflenwad er i'r Gweinidog annog yn bendant y mesur "cyn gynted ag y bo modd". Parhawyd i glirio tai anaddas. Anodd yw pennu unrhyw berthynas bendant rhwng y rhain ac afiechyd, ond gwyddys i sicrwydd bod y berthynas rhwng afiechyd a heidio yn un agos. Bû i nifer y ceisiadau am dai Cyngor aros rhywbeth yn debyg drwy gydol y flwyddyn ac yn sicr achosodd yr aros a'r disgwyl gryn drueni ac anhapusrwydd, pryder a digalondid, ac yn wir tor-priodas. Yn sicr bydd y rhaglen adeiladu sy'n mynd rhagddo yn foddion pendant i wella'r sefyllfa.

Dengys y ffaith bod cynifer o unigolion a chymdeithasau yn ymddiddori yn eu lles, bod cryn fesur o gydymdeimlad i'r hen a'r methedig. Bû Gwasanaeth Gwirfoddol Brenhinol y Merched yn cario ciniawau drwy gydol y flwyddyn heb fêth. Atebwyd pob cais at wahanol Gymdeithasau am gymorth i unigolion a theuluoedd. Parhaodd efrydwyr a disgyblion i ymweld yn rheolaidd a'r henoed, a braf yw gweld y cyfeillgarwch amlwg rhyngddynt. Nid oes prinder gweithwyr. Trueni na fyddai'r oll o'r henoed, rhai ohonynt mewn gwir angen, yn cofleidio peth o'r ewylllys da.

Mae'r gwasanaethau gwirfoddol ynghyd a'r rhai a ddarperir gan Adran Iechyd y Sir yn galluogi llawer i aros yn eu cartrefi. Cyfeiriaf yn arbennig at y gwasanaethau cymorth cartref a nyrsio, dau wasanaeth sy'n hollol anhepgor a hanfodol. Diolchaf i Swyddog Meddygol y Sir, y Dr. M. T. Islwyn Jones a'i staff am eu heffeithiolrwydd, ac am bob gymorth.

Bû i Mr. J. M. Davies, Syrfewr a Pheirianydd y Fwrdeisdref, ymddeol ddiwedd y flwyddyn. 'Roedd bob amser yn barod ei gyngor a'i gymwynas i'r Adran Iechyd. Dymunaf iechyd a phob hwyl iddo am lawer blwyddyn.

Diolchaf i Mr. McCartney, Prif Arolygwr Iechyd, y dirprwy Mr. Bernard Jones, yr Arolygwyr Ardal a'r clerod am eu cydweithrediad.

Hoffwn dalu teyrnged i chwi, Mr. Cadeirydd, i'ch dirprwy ac i oll o aelodau'r Pwyllgor Iechyd am hwyluso ym mhob ffordd ymarferol y gwasanaeth iechyd yn y Fwrdeisdref.

Yr eiddoch yn gywir,

**ALWYN GRIFFITH,**

**Swyddog Meddygol.**



## To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report on the public health in the Borough of Wrexham during the year 1968.

On July 23rd the Seebohm report was published. This recommended major changes in the administration of the personal social services and only time will tell how the present responsibilities of local authorities in health matters will be affected.

The health record of the year was generally favourable. The mid-year population rose to 37,400 from 37,120 in 1967, thus maintaining the steady increase since 1961. There were 16 fewer births, but an excess of 294 births over deaths, and the adjusted birth rate of 17.0 compared favourably with a rate of 16.9 for Wales and England. There were 58 illegitimate births, 2 fewer than in 1967.

Eight of 13 infant deaths occurred at age 3 months or under. Five had severe congenital abnormalities.

There was no maternal death.

With the control of the traditional infectious diseases, cardiovascular diseases and cancer are today the principal causes of death. Of the 390 deaths 39% were in persons over the age of 75 years; 70% were over 65 years and 57% of these were caused by cardiovascular catastrophes. The dreaded coronary thrombosis caused 85 deaths, 10 fewer than in 1967.

There were 71 deaths from cancer, 37 fewer than during the previous year. This decrease occurred at all sites including the lung. Pneumonia and bronchitis continued to take their toll and accounted for 14% of all deaths.

A measles epidemic commenced in the autumn; this could be the last one of note if parents accept the vaccination of those young children at risk. One food poisoning outbreak involved a hundred persons; investigation suggested that incompletely cooked chicken, thereafter maintained at equivocal temperatures, as the likely cause. This incident further emphasises the importance of a sound knowledge of the principles of food hygiene by all concerned in the preparation of food. There were reports during the summer of a large epidemic of Asian Flu in China, spreading to Hong Kong. There was every likelihood that it would reach these shores and the Committee agreed to offer vaccination to all employees; 185 members accepted. It later became apparent that the virus responsible differed considerably from previous strains, sufficiently different to require the production of a new type of vaccine. The Committee again agreed to offer the vaccine when available to all employees.

Our well being and survival depend on the interaction of two main factors, heredity and physical environment. Further strides towards the betterment of our environment were taken during the year. The third Smoke Control Order was confirmed in February and will come into operation in September, 1969. Air pollution is more strongly associated with bronchitis and emphysema than any other factor, including cigarette smoking. The water supply, a good



measure of living standards in a community, was satisfactory both in quality and quantity. No progress, however, was made in the implementation of fluoridation despite further urging "to adopt this measure at the earliest possible date" by the Minister. The clearance of unfit houses continued and over 400 persons were rehoused from unfit properties. It is difficult to establish a precise relationship between disease and defective housing, but that between disease and overcrowding has been established. The number of applicants on the Council housing list has remained substantially the same throughout the year. A great deal of misery and unhappiness, anxiety and depression, even breakdown of marriages, have resulted from unsatisfactory housing accommodation. No doubt the programme of new building now in progress will go a long way towards meeting our needs.

That public opinion is, in general, sympathetic towards the elderly and the handicapped is evident from the efforts of a host of voluntary workers. The W.R.V.S. delivered meals regularly and without fail throughout the year. A number of requests to various Societies for help to individual families have on each and every occasion been met. College students and pupils from senior schools in the town have continued their regular visiting to elderly persons; these are greatly appreciated. It is, however, unfortunate that so many elderly people who need help will accept none. There is no lack of enthusiastic volunteers — indeed there are many more willing and anxious to help than there are elderly persons who will accept, and appreciate the fact that they need help.

Services of voluntary workers and organisations together with the statutory services provided by the County Health Department enable many elderly and handicapped persons to remain in their own environment. These latter services particularly the Home Help and Nursing service, though much strained at times are fundamental. I must thank the County Medical Officer of Health and his staff for their invaluable help.

Mr. J. M. Davies, Borough Engineer and Surveyor retired at the end of the year after 46 years service in Local Government. Mr. Davies was always a good friend of the Health Department and I wish him good health and a long and enjoyable retirement.

I thank Mr. McCartney, Chief Public Health Inspector, his deputy, Mr. Bernard Jones, the District Inspectors and the clerical staff of the Department for their co-operation and help.

I wish to pay a warm and sincere tribute to you, Mr. Chairman, to your Deputy and to all the members of the Health Committee for forwarding in every practical way the health services of this Authority.

Yours sincerely,

ALWYN GRIFFITH,

Medical Officer of Health.



## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area ... ..	2,916 Acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimate) ... (Mid Annual)	37,400
Rateable Value of the Borough, April, 1968 ... ..	£1,355,255
Estimated Product of a Penny Rate, 1968/69 ... ..	£5,350
Estimated Product of a Penny Rate, 1969/70 ... ..	£5,500
No. of private dwellings (1st April, 1968) ... ..	6,248
No. of council dwellings (1st April, 1968) ... ..	5,806
Density of persons per dwelling ... ..	3.24

## POPULATION TRENDS SINCE 1958

Year.	Population		Annual Increase/Decrease	Natural Increase.
1958	32,650	Estimated figure	+ 680	269
1959	32,970	Estimated figure	+ 320	297
1960	32,590	Estimated figure	- 380	196
1961	35,427	Estimated figure	+ 2,837	315
1962	35,800	Estimated figure	+ 373	346
1963	36,120	Estimated figure	+ 320	292
1964	36,300	Estimated figure	+ 180	333
1965	36,670	Estimated figure	+ 370	295
1966	36,910	Estimated figure	+ 240	247
1967	37,120	Estimated figure	+ 210	271
1968	37,400	Estimated figure	+ 280	294

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Comparability Factors:

Deaths ... ..	1.14
Births ... ..	0.93

The area comparability factors for use with crude birth and death rates, calculated by the Registrar General, make allowances for the way in which age and sex distribution of the local population differ from those for England and Wales as a whole. When local crude birth and death rates are multiplied by the appropriate area comparability factor they are comparable with the crude rates for England and Wales and for the corresponding adjusted rates for any other area.

### BIRTHS.

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate Live Births ... ..	326	300	626
Illegitimate Live Births ... ..	27	31	58
Total Live Births ... ..	353	331	684

### Crude Birth Rate — Number of Live Births

per 1,000 population ... .. = 18.5

Adjusted Birth Rate ... .. = 17.2

Birth Rate England and Wales ... = 16.9

### The Birth Rates (adjusted) for previous years were:—

1957 ... ..	18.3	1963 ... ..	17.6
1958 ... ..	17.7	1964 ... ..	18.2
1959 ... ..	19.1	1965 ... ..	16.6
1960 ... ..	17.4	1966 ... ..	16.6
1961 ... ..	17.8	1967 ... ..	17.6
1962 ... ..	18.7	1968 ... ..	17.2



684 births included 7 sets of twins. The downward trend in the birth rate follows the pattern for England and Wales since 1965. The contribution of oral contraceptives is no doubt an important factor.

A disquieting feature is the number of illegitimate births, accounting for 8% of total live births.

## STILLBIRTHS.

A stillborn child is one born after the 28th week of pregnancy and which did not at any time breathe or show any other sign of life.

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate stillbirths... ..	7	6	13
Illegitimate stillbirths ... ..	—	1	1
Total stillbirths ... ..	7	7	14

### Causes of stillbirths.

- (1) Hydrocephalus and spina bifida.
- (2) Haemorrhage due to duodenal ulcer.
- (3) (a) Post maturity. (b) Cord round the neck.
- (4) (a) Macerated foetus (cause not known) Placental insufficiency.  
(b) Placental infection.
- (5) Hydramnios.
- (6) Hydrocephalus.
- (7) (a) Prolapsed cord. (b) Unstable lie.
- (8) Foetal anoxia, due to cord around the neck.
- (9) Congenital uterine abnormality.
- (10) Prolapsed cord.
- (11) Anencephalic foetus.
- (12) (a) Foetal anoxia. (b) Placental insufficiency.  
(c) P.E.T.
- (13) Hydrocephalus and spina bifida.
- (14) Intra uterine death.

It is noted that 4 stillbirths had severe abnormalities.

In his annual report for 1968 on all confinements in the Wrexham, Powys and Mawddach Hospital Management Committee catchment area, Mr. D. B. Whitehouse, Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, reports 39 stillbirths out of a total of 2,132 babies born, a rate of 18.2 per 1,000 births.

### The causes were:—

Congenital abnormalities ... ..	9
Placental insufficiency ... ..	17
Cord round neck ... ..	4
Prolapse cord ... ..	2
Accidental haemorrhage ... ..	5
Placenta proevia ... ..	1
Maternal exsanguination ... ..	1

Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week (early neo-natal deaths) are often considered together, under the heading Perinatal mortality, because of their frequently common aetiology e.g. causes found in the ante-natal period — maternal illness and congenital malformations.



# Age and Causes of Infant deaths.

Age	SEX		Causes of Death
	Male	Female	
2 days	1		(1) Acute haemolytic disease of the new born. (2) Prematurity.
3 days	1		Congenital pulmonary atresia.
1 week	1		Asphyxia due to virus pneumonia (virus unidentified).
1 month	1		Congenital heart disease (tricuspid atresia and transposition of great vessels).
2 months	1		Acute tracheo bronchitis.
2 months	1		Acute tracheo bronchitis.
3 months	1		(a) Congestive cardiac failure. (b) Ventricular septal defect. (c) Down's syndrome.
7 months		1	(1a) Broncho-pneumonia. (b) Fibrocystic disease of the pancreas. (2) Malrotation of gut and jejunal stenosis.
9 months		1	Viraemia with encephalitis and myocarditis.
9 months		1	(1a) Renal failure. (b) Pyelonephritis. (c) Spina bifida. (2) Broncho-pneumonia.
12 months	1		Asphyxia due to obstruction of external air passages sustained when deceased lay face down on the bedclothes of his bed. (Misadventure).
12 months	1		Laceration and bruising of brain due to fracture of skull sustained when a motor car in which the deceased was a passenger came into collision with another motor car. (Accidental).

Early neo-natal mortality — deaths under 1 week = 2.



Early neo-natal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) = 2.9.

Rate for England and Wales = 10.5

Neo-natal mortality — deaths under 4 weeks = 3.

Neo-natal mortality (per 1,000 live births) = 4.3.

Rate for England and Wales = 12.3

Peri-natal mortality = 16.0.

Peri-natal mortality rate = 22.9.

Rate for England and Wales = 25.0.

### Infant Mortality.

There were 13 infant deaths.

Infant Mortality rate — infant deaths under 1 year (per 1,000 live births) = 19.0.

Rate for England and Wales = 18.0.

8 deaths occurred at age 3 months or under.

Of the 13 deaths, 5 had severe congenital abnormalities. Most of these are not, in the present stage of knowledge preventable. Serious degrees of abnormalities are incompatible with life, but with improved medical care and modern surgical techniques many infants, born with less serious malformations, do survive and thrive.

The other outstanding cause of death in infants was bacterial/viral infection of the respiratory tract. This illness in infants is of sudden onset and frequently rapidly fatal.

### DEATHS (all ages)

	Male	Female	Total
Total all causes ... ..	217	169	386
Rate per 1,000 population = 10.3			
Adjusted rate = 11.7			
Death Rate England and Wales = 11.9			

### Causes of death at different periods of life, registered during 1968. International abbreviated list.

Principal Causes	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	1	—	1
2. Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	—	2	2
3. Malignant neoplasm, Stomach... ..	7	6	13
4. Malignant neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ... ..	23	2	25
4.a Malignant neoplasm, Breast ... ..	—	5	5
5. Malignant neoplasm, Uterus ... ..	—	1	1
6. Leukaemia ... ..	—	1	1
7. Other malignant neoplasms ... ..	15	11	26
8. Diabetes mellitus ... ..	1	1	2
9. Other endocrine etc. diseases ... ..	—	2	2
10. Anaemias ... ..	—	1	1
11. Other diseases of nervous system... ..	2	3	5
12. Chronic rheumatic heart disease ... ..	—	2	2
13. Hypertensive disease... ..	5	6	11
14. Ischaemic heart disease ... ..	53	32	85
15. Other forms of heart disease ... ..	13	20	33
16. Cerebrovascular disease ... ..	38	33	71
17. Other circulatory diseases ... ..	4	2	6
18. Pneumonia ... ..	13	18	31



	Principal Causes	Male	Female	Total
19.	Bronchitis and Emphysema... ..	18	5	23
20.	Other diseases of respiratory system... ..	4	—	4
21.	Peptic ulcer ... ..	2	—	2
22.	Cirrhosis of liver ... ..	1	1	2
23.	Nephritis and nephrosis... ..	—	3	3
24.	Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	1	—	1
25.	Other diseases, Genito-urinary system ... ..	—	2	2
26.	Diseases of musculo-skeletal system ... ..	1	1	2
27.	Congenital abnormalities ... ..	4	—	4
28.	Other causes of perinatal mortality	1	—	1
29.	Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	2	5	7
29.	Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	3	1	4
30.	All other accidents ... ..	5	2	7
31.	Suicide and self-inflicting injuries	—	1	1
Total:		217	169	386

Thirty nine per cent of all deaths occurred in persons aged 75 years or over, 70 per cent in persons over 65 years.

Infant deaths have already been referred to.

In age group 1—25 years, five deaths were caused by accidents, four being car accidents. At the other extreme accidental burns and falls at home were commoner. The total number of accidental deaths in and around the home in Great Britain in 1967 was 7,909 and in fact was the lowest total for 10 years. 65% of the deaths were in age group 65 and over. Falls constitute the foremost cause of accidental deaths. The second most frequent cause is poisoning, the majority being gas poisoning in the elderly. Burns and scalds were the third major cause followed closely by suffocation and choking; 75% of these were in infants' and children under 5 years.

#### Ages and Causes of Accidental Deaths

	Age	Cause of Death
Male	16 months	Asphyxia due to obstructions of external air passages sustained when deceased lay face down on the bed clothes of his bed.
Male	3 years	Shock due to third degree burns of head, face, arms, legs and trunk sustained at his home when deceased's elder brother tried to ignite the domestic fire by using petrol unwittingly causing some of the petrol to spill on the floor, leaving an uncapped petrol container in the same room.
Male	12 years	Laceration and bruising of brain due to fracture of skull sustained when a motor car in which the deceased was a passenger came into collision with another car.
Male	18 years	Fracture of skull and avulsion of brain. Fell from car/run over by car.
Female	24 years	Shock and haemorrhage due to multiple injuries sustained when a motor car in which deceased was a passenger came into collision with another motor car.



Male	40 years	Cardiac arrest due to ventricular fibrillation due to electrocution sustained when deceased, in a stuporous state, by reason of the injection of an overdose of Sodium Amytal capsules vomited and fell onto a domestic electric cable, the insulation of which broke down, causing an electrical current to flow through deceased's body.
Male	48 years	Intracranial haemorrhage due to fractured base of skull sustained when deceased caught his head on a girder whilst driving a locomotive below ground and was precipitated to the floor.
Male	55 years	Shock due to third degree burns of arms, trunk and legs sustained at his home when deceased's clothing became ignited by a defective paraffin heater.
Male	59 years	Asphyxia due to barbiturate poisoning sustained when deceased injected an overdose of nembutal capsules.
Female	83 years	Shock due to third degree burns of the face, trunk and thighs sustained when deceased's clothing became ignited by an open fire in the domestic grate.
Female	88 years	Shock due to retroperitoneal haemorrhage due to fracture of left pelvis sustained when deceased fell down the stairs at her home.

The cardiovascular diseases caused 43% of all deaths, the majority, as one would expect, in the older age group. Coronary thrombosis continued to take its toll of young life, killing 25 persons under the age of 65 years. The aetiology of this disease remains obscure. Stress of modern living, excessive cigarette smoking, lack of exercise are no doubt important contributory factors. Recent experimental work on animals and human volunteers, as well as epidemiological studies, support the theory that sugar in the diet is the prime villain. Sugar consumption rose in Britain 25 times in the past two centuries, with a threefold increase since 1900. Today the average intake is 120-lbs. of sugar a year. One difference between affluent and poor countries is the quantity of sugar used in the diet. I quote Professor Yudkin, Professor of Nutrition and Dietetics, Queen Elizabeth College, London — "I don't know of any country with a high sugar consumption that has a low incidence of coronary disease. There seems to be a rough correlation of sugar intake with the incidence of that disease".

It is gratifying to note a decrease in deaths from cancer at all sites, even the lung. Deaths from stomach cancer (and cancer of the oesophagus) have remained stationary over the past 10 years. These diseases are more prevalent in the Principality than in England. Studies on the relationship between soil and the risk of stomach cancer have failed to point clearly to a definite causative factor and it may well be that a genetic factor associated with "Welshness" is responsible.

There was one death from cancer of the uterus, compared with an average of 4 cases over the last 10 years. Cancer of the neck of the womb is the only common cancer that can be readily detected in the very early stage, when treatment will be completely successful.



It is unfortunate that the older and more ignorant members of the community, who are at special risk, are not taking full advantage of test service.

Of the "other malignant neoplasm" deaths, 7 were localised in the bowel, 5 in the prostate and 4 in the bladder.

There was one death only from Tuberculosis. Progress in this field has rapidly accelerated and mortality fallen sharply from the late forties and early fifties.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN 1968

(Arranged according to age)

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1 to 2</i>	<i>3 to 4</i>	<i>5 to 9</i>	<i>10 to 14</i>	<i>15 to 44</i>	<i>45 to 64</i>	<i>65 Plus</i>	<i>Total</i>
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	121
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	1	5	19	1	—	—	—	26
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	3
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	15	121	126	123	5	5	—	—	395
Whooping Cough	—	1	4	1	1	—	—	—	7
Infective Hepatitis	—	—	—	1	1	8	1	—	11
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	—	—	2	1	—	2	5	1	11
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
<b>TOTAL:</b>									<b>579</b>

No case of quarantinable disease, some of the most deadly diseases of the past, occurred. However, by modern speed of travel it is by no means impossible for a person in the highly infectious incubation period of Smallpox or Cholera, to arrive. In this modern age of jet planes and supersonic flying the only sure means of preventing these diseases, and some new ones, is by combating them at their source in the underdeveloped countries.

There were no notifications of diphtheria, poliomyelitis or enteric fever.



The Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations came into operation on 1st October. Certain diseases — puerperal pyrexia, acute primary pneumonia, acute rheumatism, ceased to be notifiable. Tetanus, Yellow Fever and Leptospirosis were made notifiable for the first time.

There were 11 notifications of Infective Hepatitis. Three young members of one family were affected and the remaining six members were given temporary protection with gamma globulin.

The measles epidemic commenced in the autumn. There were 11 notifications of Tuberculosis — 10 pulmonary, one with a lesion in the kidney. Seven were admitted to hospital for treatment.

In one large food poisoning incident 100 persons were affected. The cause was, almost certainly, inadequately cooked chickens maintained at a temperature which stimulated food poisoning organisms which had survived the cooking process to grow and multiply. In the other incident no cause was established in spite of extensive investigations, both in Wrexham and Welshpool. A person employed in the school meals service was found, on routine examination, to be a carrier of *Salmonella duban*. This organism is an unusual one in Britain and has only been isolated on four occasions over the past 12 years.

#### NUMBER OF TUBERCULOSIS CASES ON REGISTER

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	
1st January 1968	109	76	13	13	211
31st December 1968	84	58	9	10	161

## SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

### CHILD HEALTH CLINICS

No. 1 Grosvenor Road ... .. Monday and Wednesday Afternoons  
Medical Officer — Dr. Alwyn Griffith

Queens Park Clinic,  
Prince Charles Road ... .. Monday and Wednesday Afternoons  
Medical Officer — Dr. Doreen Cromer

Gatefield Clinic, Kingsmills Road ... .. Wednesday Afternoons  
Medical Officer — Dr. Alice Speight

The Institute, Garden Village ... .. Tuesday Afternoons  
Medical Officer — Dr. Alice Speight



## IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Absence of certain infectious diseases tends to produce a false sense of security and experience shows that an outbreak, either locally or in some distant land, is the best stimulant to an acceptance of immunisation/vaccination; four cases of diphtheria were notified in England during the first three months of 1969. It remains imperative that a high level of immunity to these diseases be maintained.

During 1968, 737 infants' and young children were primarily immunised against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, 850 against poliomyelitis and 207 against smallpox.

Of 700 infants born in 1967, 610 (87%) have, up to December, 1968, been immunised against Poliomyelitis. This is a very good acceptance rate and compares with 64% quoted in last year's report for infants born in 1966.

580 infants born in 1967 have been immunised against Diphtheria/Tetanus and Whooping Cough by December, 1968 — that is 83%, again a substantial improvement on the previous year. The figure for Smallpox vaccination, however, decreased from 34% to 24%.

### Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

	<i>Initial Course</i>					
	1968	1967	1966	1965	1961-64	1951-60
Diphtheria ... ..	208	339	27	12	97	54
Whooping Cough ...	208	330	27	11	25	41
Tetanus ... ..	208	339	27	12	96	60

	<i>Booster Protection</i>					
	1968	1967	1966	1965	1961-64	1951-60
Diphtheria ... ..	—	119	269	63	754	305
Whooping Cough ...	—	104	265	50	74	24
Tetanus ... ..	—	119	270	63	717	214

### Poliomyelitis

<i>Primary Vaccination</i>						
1968	1967	1966	1965	1961-64	1951-60	<i>Others</i>
91	510	64	23	115	13	34

<i>Booster Vaccination</i>						
1968	1967	1966	1965	1961-64	1951-60	<i>Others</i>
—	3	29	7	598	222	72



## Smallpox Vaccination

Primary Vaccination				Re-Vaccination			
1—2	2—4	5—15	16 and over	1—2	2—4	5—15	16 and over
172	78	17	39	—	4	21	51

### Cervical Cytology.

This clinic is held at 1, Grosvenor Road on Monday and Thursday evenings. During the year 981 attended. Seven were found to have positive smears and were referred for immediate treatment. 79 had abnormalities in the breast. Urine examination was unsatisfactory in 19 cases and 27 had abnormal blood pressures. All were referred for further investigations.

### Chiropody.

Clinics are held at 1, Grosvenor Road, Queens Park Clinic and Croesnewydd. 1,224 persons attended for treatment during the 12 months.

### Family Planning.

Clinics are held on Thursdays, 2 — 4 p.m. and on alternate Wednesdays, 6.45 — 8 p.m. at 1, Grosvenor Road.

### Midwifery and Home Nursing Services

Two Midwives and seven District Nurses are employed in the Borough.

### Home Helps.

Forty-seven home helps are engaged for duties in the Borough. The majority of recipients of help are elderly persons. Help is also provided for families with handicapped persons at home and for maternity cases.

### Health Visitors.

Seven Health Visitors are employed full-time.

The Health Visitor is a general trained nurse who has also obtained the Part 1 examination of the Central Midwives Board and in addition has obtained a special qualification in health visiting.

She deals with any family problems in which health is involved. She visits the homes and advises nursing mothers on the health of the baby and other children, advises on socio-medical problems and on the care of the aged and handicapped. She attends at Child Health Centres, tuberculosis clinics and at school medical inspections.



## Dental Service.

Mr. D. R. Pearce, B.D.S., D.P.D., is assisted by 2 full-time dental surgeons.

Mr. B. T. Broadbent, L.D.S., V.U., F.D.S., R.C.S., is the Consultant Orthodontist.

A comprehensive service is provided for all school pupils and for expectant mothers.

## County Welfare Residential Homes.

Accommodation in the Wrexham area is as follows:—

Argoed Hall, Froncysyllte ... ..	35 beds
New Hall, Ruabon ... ..	46 beds
Wren's Nest, Wrexham ... ..	35 beds
Gladwyn, Gresford ... ..	35 beds
Pen-y-Nant, Minera ... ..	30 beds
Welfare Establishment, Wrexham ...	37 beds
Nazareth House, Wrexham ... ..	66 beds

There were 42 persons on the waiting list for admission to Welfare accommodation. There is now every prospect that a purpose built home will be built in Rhosddu during 1969-70. It is hoped that this will not be a replacement for Croesnewydd and that this latter accommodation will be available until further Homes materialise in the area.

## National Assistance Act, 1948

### Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

An application for an Order for the compulsory removal from home of an elderly person living alone, in insanitary conditions was granted at the Wrexham Magistrates Court on 15th January, 1968. She was admitted to Pen-y-Nant Welfare Home, Minera.

The Order was renewed after three months for a further period of three months.

It was hoped that the person would remain at Pen-y-Nant on an informal basis, but she returned home on the expiry of the Order.

On 23rd November, 1968 action under the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951 was taken, concerning the same person — this allows immediate removal from home for a period of 21 days. A further application for extension under the 1948 Act was granted on 12th December, 1968.



# HOSPITAL SERVICES

## Hospital Accommodation:

War Memorial Hospital:	Beds
General Medicine ... ..	112
Unclassified ... ..	6
Private ... ..	6
Orthopaedics ... ..	79
 Maelor General Hospital:	 Beds
General Surgery ... ..	170
Paediatric Unit ... ..	55
Obstetric Unit ... ..	56
Geriatric Unit ... ..	76
Gynaecology ... ..	50
Special Care for Babies ... ..	24
Ophthalmology ... ..	24
Dermatology ... ..	6
Dentistry ... ..	4
Ear, Nose and Throat ... ..	24
Chest Diseases ... ..	20
Infectious Diseases ... ..	30
Unclassified ... ..	—
Private ... ..	4

## MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE.

In the course of 'rationalisation' of the Mass Radiography Service the unit operating in Wrexham was withdrawn on 1st January, 1968. A mobile unit will visit the town once every twelve months.

## VENEREAL DISEASE CLINIC.

43 patients attended the clinic at the War Memorial Hospital for treatment of gonorrhoea. 73 attended for treatment of "other conditions". There was no case of syphilis.

## PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE.

All bacteriological and virological examinations are carried out at the Laboratory at Chester.

The Department occasionally inevitably makes a heavy and sudden demand for Laboratory services. I wish to thank Dr. Pauline Poole, Director of the Laboratory and her staff for their help and co-operation.



# **WATER SUPPLY**

Mr. H. Seddon, B.Sc., M.I.C.E., M.I.W.E., Engineer to the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company reports on the Water Supply in the Borough:—

The water supply to the Borough of Wrexham was satisfactory in quality and quantity.

## **BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER**

### **Raw Waters**

31 samples of raw water from the four sources, from which the supply to the Borough is obtained, were subjected to bacteriological examination.

### **Treated Waters**

54 samples were taken of the treated water leaving those of the Company's works which supply the Borough. All samples, with the exception of one, were satisfactory. A further 14 samples of treated water were examined by Dr. Ingham of the Pathological Department, Chester Royal Infirmary, all of which were satisfactory.

### **Service Reservoirs**

13 samples of treated water from the Company's Higher Berse Reservoir, which supplies part of Wrexham, were also bacteriologically examined. All samples were of satisfactory quality.

### **Consumers' Taps**

10 samples of water were taken from consumers' taps situated in the Borough of Wrexham and bacteriologically examined. All were found to be satisfactory.

## **CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER**

### **Raw Waters**

14 samples of raw water from four sources were subjected to chemical analysis in connection with the supply to the Borough.

### **Treated Waters**

10 samples of treated water from the Company's works supplying Wrexham were subjected to chemical analysis.

### **Fluoride Testing**

No routine fluoride determinations were carried out on the water in 1968. The results of previous tests showed the fluoride content of the raw water sources to be less than 0.1mg/l.



No plumbo solvency tests were carried out on the Company's supply to the Borough in 1968, but tests carried out in 1967 showed that the supply was non-plumbosolvent. Lead tests were included in the routine chemical analysis for 1968.

No significant bacteriological contamination occurred in 1968. The one unsatisfactory bacteriological sample which did occur was found to be satisfactory on re-sampling.

Three complaints of discoloured water supply were received from consumers in Wrexham in 1968. These were the results of mains disturbances or were received from consumers supplied from cul-de-sac mains. Routine mains flushing was carried out in these cases and the supply restored to a clean condition.

The number of premises supplied within the Borough of Wrexham at the end of 1968 was 13,123.

### **SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL**

Because of increasing population and resulting sewage flow the Council undertook interim extensions to the Sewage Disposal Works in 1965. In conjunction with the Wrexham Rural District Council, the Borough Council have agreed to a joint scheme for the construction of a Joint Trunk Sewer to Five Fords Works and for the extension of the Disposal Works, to produce an effluent of Royal Commission Standard designed on estimated flows for the year 1985.

### **MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF BOROUGH EMPLOYEES**

43 persons were medically examined prior to employment; one was medically unfit for employment. All prospective employees are required to undergo a Chest X-Ray examination.

### **PRE-SCHOOL PLAY GROUPS**

There are 5 play groups in the Borough situated as follows:-

Queens Park Methodist Church

Ysgol Feithrin, Rhosddu Schoolroom

Garden Village Community Centre

Acton Community Centre

Maesydre Community Centre.

The Secretary is Mrs. June Pritchard, 17, Ffordd Elfed, Wrexham.

### **REGISTERED COMMON LODGING HOUSES**

There were no registered common lodging houses in the Borough.



ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1968

---

**To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

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

There were a number of staff changes during the year. Mr. G. J. Rees, after 10 years on the staff, left to take up the appointment of Deputy Surveyor and Public Health Inspector at Newtown, Montgomeryshire. During his time in the Department, Mr. Rees had been a loyal and efficient officer, and he left us with best wishes for his future career. He was replaced by Mr. Harold E. Roberts who joined the Department from Wrexham Rural District Council. Other changes included the resignation of Mr. J. Maurice Hughes as Pupil Public Health Inspector who was replaced by Mr. Wallace E. Black.

Clean air administration must take pride of place in the work of the Department during the year. The third smoke control order was confirmed by the Secretary of State in February, and arrangements are in hand for tackling a fourth smoke control area.

There was a considerable increase in the number of animals slaughtered and inspected at the Municipal Abattoir.

In the field of housing, the clearance of unfit houses is virtually completed and no longer presents any problems. The improvement of substantially well-built houses which lack modern amenities is now a matter for speedy consideration.

My thanks are again due to my Staff for their excellent work during the year, and I am indebted to Dr. Alwyn Griffith for his help and co-operation.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, may I express my thanks to you and to the Members of the Health Committee for your support and encouragement during a busy year.

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 ... ..	13,340
Total No. of complaints received ... ..	765
Total No. of notices served ... ..	175
Total No. of interviews with owners etc. ... ..	1,844

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

No. of smoke observations made ... ..	62
No. of visits made ... ..	2,380
No. of notices served (Formal) ... ..	2
No. of notices served (Informal) ... ..	3

Arrangements were completed during the year for the installation of three volumetric instruments in different parts of the town. These are sited at the rear of the Health Department Offices, the Grove Park Girls' Grammar School, and the Child Welfare Clinic on the Queen's Park housing estate. The instrument at the Grammar School is supervised and checked by the scholars and I am indebted to them and members of the school staff for their helpful co-operation.

As will be seen from the accompanying graphs, the readings for both smoke and sulphur dioxide are reasonably satisfactory and compare favourably with the national averages.

The confirmation of the third Smoke Control Order in February means that, when operative on September 1st, 1969, over 3,000 houses in the town will be smoke controlled. It is hoped that an Order dealing with a further 3,000 houses will be submitted for confirmation in the autumn of 1969. Having regard to the time-table laid down by law, I think the Committee can feel satisfied that the work of implementing the clean air programme in Wrexham is proceeding as rapidly and satisfactorily as possible.

### DISINFESTATION

No. of complaints received ... ..	147
-----------------------------------	-----

### CINEMAS AND PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT

No. of inspections made ... ..	12
No. of Notices served ... ..	—
No. of Notices complied with ... ..	—

### CLOSETS

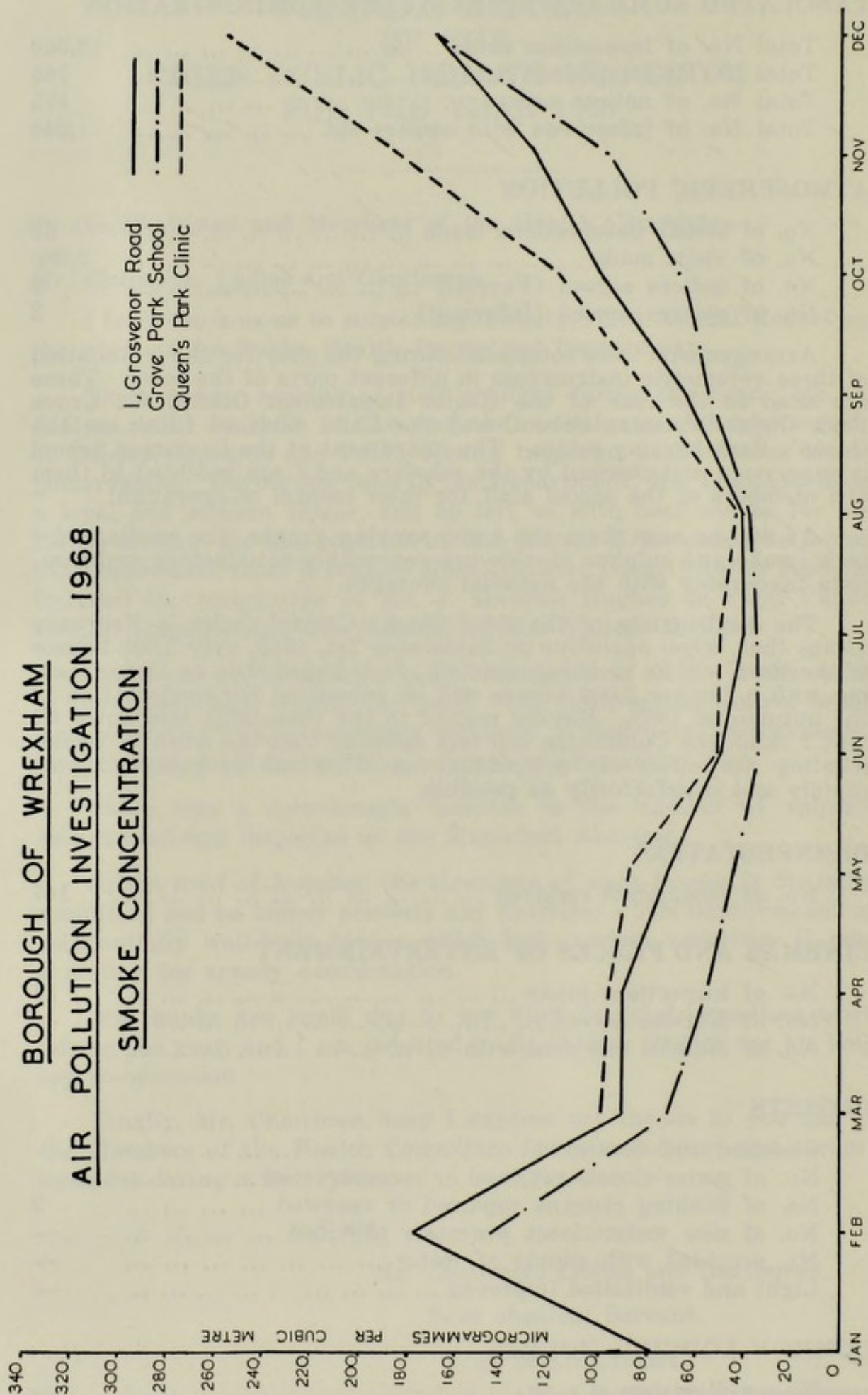
Cleansed and decorated ... ..	—
No. of water-closets repaired or reconstructed ... ..	—
No. of flushing cisterns repaired or renewed ... ..	2
No. of new water-closet pedestals provided ... ..	—
No. provided with supply of water ... ..	—
Light and ventilation improved ... ..	—

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES

No. on Register ... ..	—
------------------------	---

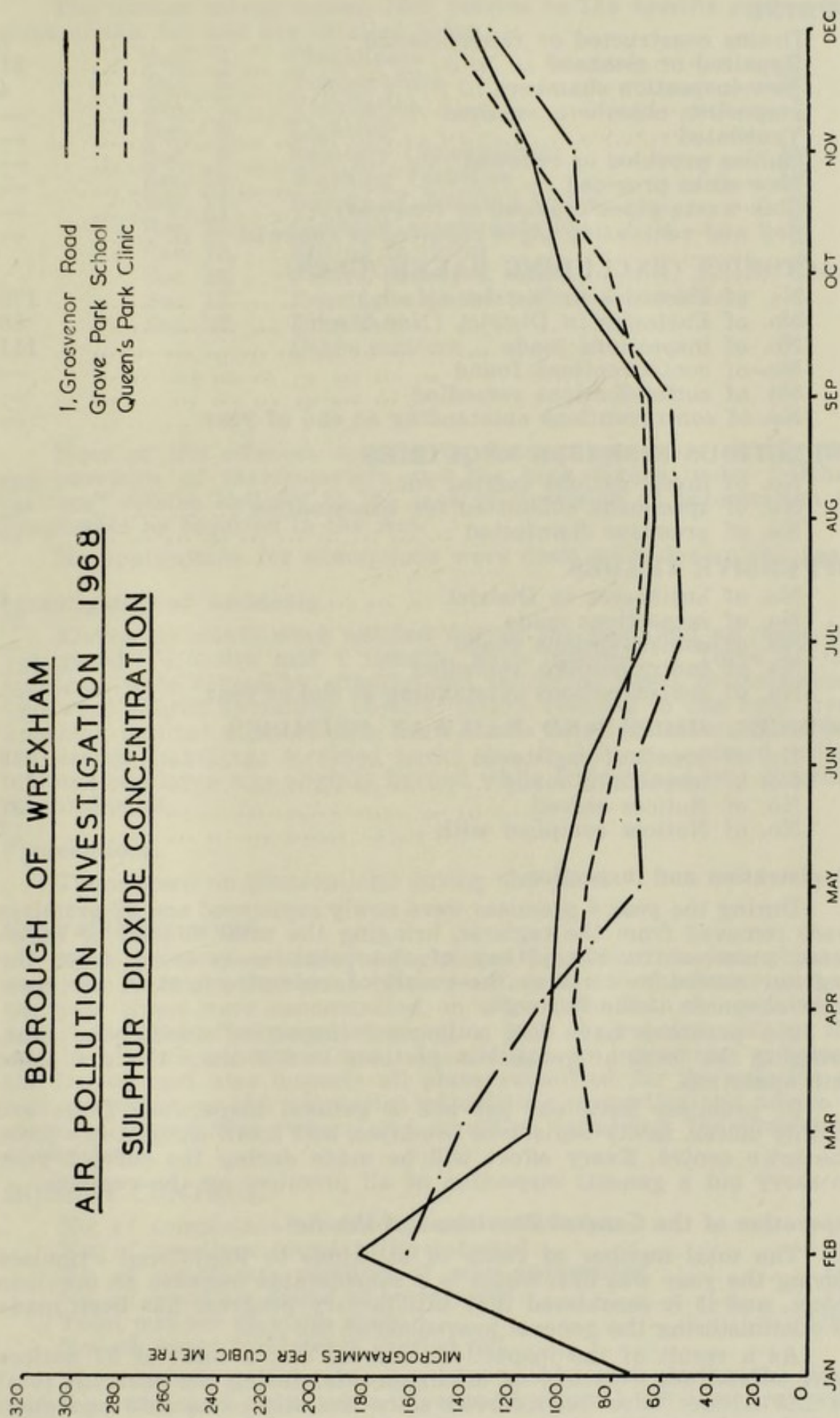


BOROUGH OF WREXHAM  
AIR POLLUTION INVESTIGATION 1968  
SMOKE CONCENTRATION





BOROUGH OF WREXHAM  
AIR POLLUTION INVESTIGATION 1968  
SULPHUR DIOXIDE CONCENTRATION





## **DRAINS**

Drains constructed or reconstructed ... ..	2
Repaired or cleansed ... ..	91
New inspection chambers ... ..	4
Inspection chambers repaired ... ..	—
Ventilated ... ..	—
Gullies provided or renewed ... ..	—
New sinks provided ... ..	—
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed ... ..	—
Soil and ventilating pipes repaired or renewed ... ..	—

## **FACTORIES (EXCLUDING BAKEHOUSES)**

No. of Factories in District (Mech.) ... ..	179
No. of Factories in District (Non-Mech.) ... ..	36
No. of inspections made ... ..	111
No. of contraventions found ... ..	—
No. of contraventions remedied ... ..	—
No. of contraventions outstanding at end of year ... ..	—

## **INFECTIOUS DISEASES ENQUIRIES**

No. of investigations carried out ... ..	144
No. of specimens submitted for examination ... ..	42
No. of premises disinfected ... ..	16

## **OFFENSIVE TRADES**

No. of businesses in District ... ..	4
No. of inspections made ... ..	87
No. of contraventions found ... ..	—
No. of contraventions remedied ... ..	—
No. of contraventions outstanding at end of year ... ..	—

## **OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES**

No. of premises registered ... ..	589
No. of inspections made ... ..	691
No. of Notices served ... ..	37
No. of Notices complied with ... ..	13

### **Registration and inspection.**

During the year 6 premises were newly registered and 32 premises were removed from the register, bringing the total number of registered premises to 589. Many of the premises removed from the register ceased to exist as the result of redevelopment in the commercial centre of the Borough.

258 premises have had a general inspection during the year, bringing the total of general inspections to 834 since the Act came into operation.

91 premises have not yet had a general inspection. These are mainly offices, newly registered premises, and small shops away from the town centre. Every effort will be made during the current year to carry out a general inspection of all premises on the register.

### **Operation of the General Provisions of the Act.**

The total number of visits of all kinds to Registered Premises during the year was 691, which is a considerable increase on previous years, and it is considered that satisfactory progress has been made in administering the general provisions of the Act.

As a result of the inspections carried out, a total of 37 notices were served, for a variety of infringements, during the year. A total of 243 notices have been served since the Act came into operation and these have either been complied with or work is in progress.



The notices served during 1968 related to 114 specific contraventions of the Act and are detailed below:—

Sec. 4.	Cleanliness ... ..	4
Sec. 6.	Temperature ... ..	22
Sec. 7.	Ventilation ... ..	1
Sec. 8.	Lighting ... ..	6
Sec. 9.	Sanitary Conveniences ... ..	15
Sec. 10.	Washing facilities ... ..	13
Sec. 11.	Supply of drinking water ... ..	2
Sec. 12.	Clothing accommodation ... ..	3
Sec. 13.	Sitting facilities ... ..	2
Sec. 16.	Floors, passages, stairs ... ..	1
Sec. 17.	Fencing exposed parts of machinery	2
Sec. 24.	First Aid ... ..	16
	Other matters ... ..	27
<b>Total ... ..</b>		<b>114</b>

Most of the offences relating to temperature were simply the non-provision of thermometers and the high figure under "Other matters" relates entirely to the lack of provision of Information to Employees as required in the Act.

No applications for exemptions were dealt with during the year.

#### **Investigation of Accidents.**

Eleven accidents were notified during the year and all were investigated. 4 males and 7 females were involved. Three of the accidents were caused by slipping and falling on floors or staircases; two were caused by falling objects; injury resulted in one case from knocking against a crate; cuts from knives resulted in two cases due to careless handling; strained backs due to lifting occurred twice; and one employee was slightly burned while frying food in a catering establishment.

#### **Prosecutions.**

There were no prosecutions during the year.

#### **General Observations.**

More visits were made to registered premises this year than in any year since the Act came into operation and in the latter part of the year these were concentrated on office premises. In general, it was found that office premises complied with the requirements of the Act in all but minor matters. In addition to inspecting premises, the Department also inspects all plans submitted for the erection of new properties or the adaptation of existing properties and advice is given to prospective owners and occupiers regarding the provisions of the Act.

#### **RODENT CONTROL.**

No. of complaints received of rat infestation ... ..	119
No. of premises found to be infested ... ..	107
No. of complaints received of mice infestation ... ..	253
No. of premises found to be infested ... ..	218
Total number of visits made ... ..	3,861
No. of sewer treatments carried out ... ..	3

There was a considerable increase in this work during the year, and the number of visits made increased by over 1,000 compared with 1967.



## REMOVAL OF HOUSEHOLD REFUSE.

No. of new dustbins provided by Statutory action ... ..	65
---	----

## DEFECTS REMEDIED.

### Dampness.

No. of roofs renewed or repaired ... ..	15
No. of eavesgutters and rainwater pipes repaired or renewed ... ..	10
Yard surfaces repaired or relaid ... ..	—

### Other Work.

No. of walls repaired ... ..	6
No. of walls rendered or repointed ... ..	2
No. of ceilings repaired ... ..	1
No. of floors repaired ... ..	—
No. of chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt ... ..	3
No. of firegrates repaired or renewed ... ..	—
Damp proof courses provided and dampness remedied ...	15
No. of doors and windows repaired or renewed ... ..	5
No. of food stores ventilated ... ..	—
Offensive accumulations removed ... ..	1
Sufficient water supply provided ... ..	—
Staircases repaired or renewed ... ..	2
Nuisances from animals abated ... ..	—

## SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

No. of Swimming Baths in the District ... ..	1
No. of samples taken (Bacteriological) ... ..	11
No. of samples satisfactory ... ..	9

## TENTS, VANS, SHEDS ETC.

No. of inspections made ... ..	11
No. of contraventions found ... ..	—

## WATER SUPPLY

No. of samples taken for bacteriological examination ...	11
No. of samples satisfactory ... ..	11
No. of samples taken for chemical analysis ... ..	—
No. of samples satisfactory ... ..	—

## WELL WATER.

No. of samples taken ... ..	29
No. of samples satisfactory ... ..	25

It will be noted that 4 samples of well water were unsatisfactory. Following investigation of the unsatisfactory samples, the owner of the premises concerned has installed a modern treatment plant and all subsequent samples have been of a high standard.

## 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 ... ..	27
---	----



## ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR

### (A) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.

#### Public Health Act, 1936.

##### Section 93.

(1)	No. of outstanding Notices carried over from previous year ... ..	7
(2)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Abatement Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	8
(3)	No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices:—	
	(a) By Owners ... ..	13
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(4)	No. of Notices outstanding at end of year ... ..	2

##### Section 45.

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

##### Section 39.

(1)	No. of outstanding Notices carried over from previous year ... ..	3
(2)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served for the renewing or repairing of existing drains ... ..	12
(3)	No. of dwelling-houses where the existing drains were renewed and cleansed:—	
	(a) By Owners ... ..	14
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(4)	No. of Notices outstanding at end of year ... ..	1

##### 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 ... ..  | — |

**Public Health Act, 1961.**

**Section 17.**

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| No. of Notices served ... ..        | — |
| No. of Notices complied with ... .. | — |

**(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 ... ..                                      | 4 |
| (2) | No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..   | — |
| (3) | No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..  | — |
| (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 ... ..   | 3 |
| (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 relet houses for human habitation ... .. | — |
| (8) | No. of Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by Medical Officer of Health ... ..                                     | — |
| (9) | No. of Local Authority owned houses demolished in pursuance of Medical Officer of Health's Certificate ... ..               | — |

**(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 ... .. | 1 |
|-----|--|---|



- (2) No. 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, 1957. Overcrowding.**

- (1) (a) No. of dwellings overcrowded at end of the year )  
 (b) No. of families dwelling therein ... ) Not  
 (c) No. of persons dwelling therein ... ) known
- (2) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... 5
- (3) (a) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... 10  
 (b) No. of persons concerned in such cases ... 31
- (4) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses again became overcrowded after the Local Authority had taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... Not known

## CLEARANCE OF UNFIT HOUSES

During the year, one Compulsory Purchase Order was confirmed, two Clearance Areas were purchased by agreement, and four unfit dwellings were closed.

A total of 115 houses were demolished, and 426 persons rehoused from unfit dwellings.

Since the clearance of unfit houses was resumed in 1955, 38 Clearance Areas have been declared, involving 548 houses, and individual action has been taken with regard to 127 houses. In addition, a total of 364 dwellings, mainly temporary hutments and prefabricated houses, have been demolished and replaced by permanent houses. The total of unfit dwellings dealt with is 1,039 with a population of 2,897 persons.

Unfit houses no longer pose any problems in Wrexham. I anticipate that a further review will be called for when the new Housing Bill becomes law, and it is possible that a further programme of clearance involving less than 100 houses will be submitted for consideration.

With the disappearance of its stock of unfit houses, coupled with the massive programme of new council building, Wrexham is ideally placed to deal with the third aspect of the housing problem — the improvement of a substantial number of dwellings which are of sound construction and are only lacking in modern amenities. There are approximately 1,000 houses in the town capable of improvement, but the present rate of progress in this direction is disappointing. There were only 44 grants approved during 1968, and at that rate it would take over 20 years to dispose of the problem in Wrexham. The proposed new housing legislation should make it more financially attractive to improve houses, and this factor, together with more positive action by the Local Authority, should lead to considerably increased activity in the next few years.



# Clearance Areas dealt with 1955 — 1968

<i>Clearance Area</i>	<i>No. of houses</i>	<i>No. of persons involved</i>
Offa Terrace	27	76
Templars Avenue	10	29
James Street, Edge Street, Crescent Road.	54	236
Penybryn, Ruabon Road	7	12
Barnfield (No. 1)	6	19
Barnfield (No. 2)	6	19
Eagle Street	10	29
Lorne Street	13	37
Park Street	7	23
Dean Road, Acton Terrace	27	89
Holt Road	13	39
Barnfield (No. 3)	2	—
Crescent Road	7	34
Mount Street (No. 1)	8	22
Ashfield Road	37	116
Earle Street	4	12
Erddig Road	23	71
Madeira Hill	10	30
Springfield Terrace	15	43
Garden Road	14	37
Alma Terrace	13	32
Holt Street	12	24
Tuttle Street (No. 1)	18	64
Tuttle Street (No. 2)	4	12
Lorne Street, 1962	5	15
Lorne Street, 1964	22	59
Park Street	11	32
Hilly View, Erddig Road	3	7
Earle Street	3	8
Erddig Road, 1964	4	4
Abenbury Street	24	55
Meifod Place	42	119
Hightown (No. 1)	58	136
Hightown (No. 2)	9	25
Hightown (No. 3)	9	14
Ruabon Road	4	8
Smithy Lane	2	3
West Street	5	12
38	548	1,602



## IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSES

During the year applications were approved for 40 standard grants and 4 discretionary grants.

## THE RENT ACT, 1957

Details of work during the year are as follows:—

No. of Applications for Certificates of Disrepair (Form I)	—
No. of Decisions not to issue Certificates ... ..	—
No. of Proposals to Issue (Form J) ... ..	—
No. of Undertakings received (Form K) ... ..	—
No. of Certificates of Disrepair issued (Form L) ... ..	—
No. of Cancellations applied for (Form M) ... ..	—
No. of Cancellations issued ... ..	—

## SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

	No. in district	No. of inspections made
Bakehouses ... ..	15	67
Butchers' Shops ... ..	43	48
Cafes, Restaurants and Snack Bars ...	39	44
Confectioners ... ..	19	26
Dairies and Milk Shops ... ..	43	24
Fried Fish Shops ... ..	15	20
Fruit and Greengrocers ... ..	46	19
General Provision Shops ... ..	101	185
Hotels, Clubs and Licensed Premises	67	45
Ice-Cream Premises ... ..	127	17
Wet Fish Shops ... ..	8	9
Street Food Vendors ... ..	—	209

The following canned and other foods were condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

	Lbs.		Lbs.
Tinned Foods ... ..	3,218½	Meat ... ..	278½
Jellies ... ..	81	Pigs Liver ... ..	94
Butter ... ..	84	Frozen Foods ... ..	1,964½
Tomato Paste ... ..	18½	Bacon ... ..	35
Fish ... ..	360½	Biscuits... ..	79½
Sweets ... ..	56	Miscellaneous... ..	44½
Frozen Poultry ... ..	461½		

TOTAL:— 6,777 lbs.

Percentage classifications are as follows:—

Home ... ..	57.9%	=	3,924½ lbs.
Foreign ... ..	38.9%	=	2,636 lbs.
Commonwealth ... ..	3.2%	=	216½ lbs.
	100.0%	=	6,777 lbs.



## FOOD COMPLAINTS

Thirty-four complaints concerning food were investigated during the year, and legal proceedings were instituted in respect of 6 of these. Details are as follows:—

	Fine.	Costs.
1. Packet of Ham Cured Shoulder containing foreign body ... ..	£25. 0. 0d.	—
2. Finger Dressing in Pasty	£25. 0. 0d.	—
3. Unsound Packet of Cheese Portions ... ..	£25. 0. 0d.	—
4. Bottle of Soda Water containing insect ... ..	£25. 0. 0d.	—
5. Jar of Salmon Paste containing piece of metal	£25. 0. 0d.	—
6. Unsound tin of Chicken Breast in Jelly ... ..	£25. 0. 0d.	—

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

A total of 23 formal samples and 15 informal samples were taken under the provisions of this Act during the year.

Formal	Informal
Milk ... .. 23	Milk ... .. 6
	Ice-Cream ... .. 7
	Smoke Pork Pate ... .. 1
	Bacon ... .. 1

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

<i>Article</i>	<i>No. Taken</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Not Genuine, or Sub-Standard</i>
Milk	54	54	—
Farm Butter	1	1	—
Cooking Fat	1	1	—
Cheese	1	1	—
Meat Pie	1	1	—
Sausage	4	3	1
Sausage Rolls	2	2	—
Tongue & Turkey Roll	1	1	—
Fish Paste	2	2	—



Continued from previous page.

<i>Article</i>	<i>No. Taken</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Not Genuine, or Sub-Standard</i>
Black Pudding	1	1	—
Soup	2	2	—
Ice-Cream	5	5	—
Ice-Lollies	2	2	—
Welsh Honey	1	1	—
Jam	1	1	—
Raspberries	1	1	—
Candied Peel	1	1	—
Plum Pudding	1	1	—
Mincemeat	1	1	—
Cream	2	2	—
Drinking Chocolate	2	2	—
Soft Drink	1	1	—
Cocktail	1	1	—
Rum	1	1	—
Vodka	1	1	—
Sauce	1	1	—
Pickled Onions	1	1	—
Cheese and Parsley Spread	1	1	—
Food Colouring	1	1	—
Food Flavouring	1	1	—
Slimming Tablets	2	2	—
Iron Jelloids	1	1	—
Chest & Lung Tablets	1	1	—
Prop. Tablets	1	1	—
Chemical Food	1	1	—
Garlic Liquid	1	1	—
Surgical Spirit	1	1	—
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>1</b>

As will be observed from the table, 54 samples of milk and 50 samples of other foods etc. were taken in the Wrexham Borough during the year. All the samples of milk submitted were reported by the Public Analyst to be genuine. In addition to the usual tests for quality every opportunity is taken to test (Farm Bottled Milk) for the presence of Antibiotics, the analyst further reports all 13 such tests carried out proved negative in each instance.

Only one of the samples of other food caused the Analyst to make an adverse report. This was a sample of sausage concerning which a requisite preservative notice had not been given. On investigation



it was found that notice had in fact been given in the contract of supply. The suppliers have undertaken to invoice further supplies correctly. The other samples were found to be satisfactory and to confirm to the required standards, labelling etc.

In addition to the samples already noted 36 informal samples of milk were taken from Schools, Institutes, Hospitals, vending machines etc., in the Borough. These samples are tested in the department and all such tests carried out during the year under review were satisfactory.

## DUTIES RELATING TO ICE-CREAM

There are 127 registered premises for ice-cream including three manufacturers. The shops selling ice-cream are supplied by eleven different makers.

During the year the following samples were taken:—

Bacteriological:—12.

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

Grade 1	...	...	...	...	12
Grade 2	...	...	...	...	—
Grade 3	...	...	...	...	—
Grade 4	...	...	...	...	—

Seven samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis, and were found to be up to the required statutory standard.

## INSPECTION OF MEAT

A total of 67,109 animals were slaughtered at the Abattoir during the year, an increase of 7,650 compared with 1967.

The increased use of the Abattoir is gratifying, and it is pleasing to note, that for the first time, the administration of the premises was self-supporting and proved no burden on the rates. However, the future financing of the Abattoir will have to be closely watched as the maintenance of the buildings and the renewal of equipment is becoming more costly after being in daily use since the Abattoir was opened in 1934.



	<i>Cattle Excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Calves</i>
No. Slaughtered	5,373	805	40,696	20,050	185
No. Inspected	5,373	805	40,696	20,050	185
<b>Disease except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	5	24	97	84	27
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned.	1,942	442	6,296	2,057	2
% of No. inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysti- cerci.	36.2 %	58.5 %	15.7 %	10.7 %	15.7 %
<b>Tuberculosis</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	1	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned.	—	—	—	647	—
% of No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	—	.12 %	—	3.2 %	—
<b>Cysticercosis</b>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned.	8	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned.	—	—	—	—	—

Total weight of meat condemned during the year:—

35 tons 4 cwts. 1 qr. 18 lbs.



# APPENDIX TO THE ANNUAL REPORT RELATING TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

## Part 1 of the Act.

1. **INSPECTIONS** relating to provisions for health made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1968.

<i>No. on Register</i>	<i>NUMBER OF</i>		
	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories where Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	36	52	—
(ii) Factories not included above where Section 7 is to be enforced by the Local Authority.	179	59	—
(iii) Other premises where Section 7 is to be enforced by the Local Authority.	—	—	—

2. Cases in which **DEFECTS** were found.

	<i>No. of cases with defects found</i>				
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred</i>		<i>Prose- cuted</i>
			<i>To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>	
Sanitary conveniences (Section 7)					
(a) Insufficient.	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defec- tive.	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for the sexes.	—	—	—	—	—
Total defects under part 1 of the Act.	—	—	—	—	—



Part VIII of the Act. Outwork (Sections 133 and 134).

Nature of Work.

Section 133

	<i>No. of out workers in August list as required by Sect. 133 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i>
Wearing apparel: Making etc.	1	—	—
Curtains and furniture hangings	2	—	—
Furniture and upholstery	1	—	—
TOTAL:	4	—	—

No instances relating to Section 134 (unwholesome premises) were known.









---

*Jones and Williams  
(Printers) Ltd.*

*69 Rhosddu Road,  
Wrexham*

*Telephone 2526*

---