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WREXHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND THE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1952

T. KENRICK HUGHES,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

D. THOMAS,
C.R.S.I., C.M.I.



STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

T. KENRICK HUGHES, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(Appointed 1st March, 1952).

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING OFFICER

D. THOMAS, F.S.I.A., C.M.I.

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S. DAVIES, C.M.I.

H. C. D. JONES.

C. DAVIES.

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J. M. EDWARDS, C.M.I.

PUPIL SANITARY INSPECTOR

EMYR LLOYD

(Serving in H.M. Forces).

REFUSE REMOVAL SUPERINTENDENT

H. ADAMSON.

CLERKS

MISS O. M. DAVIES.

MISS B. WHITLEY.

ENGINEER

D. E. EDWARDS, M.B.E., A.R.I.C.S.

DEPUTY ENGINEER

T. A. BOWEN, A.M.I.MUN.E.

HEALTH COMMITTEE (1952).

CHAIRMAN

COUNCILLOR R. D. JONES.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

COUNCILLOR TUDOR WILLIAMS, F.C.I.I.

THE HEALTH COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

TREVOR L. WILLIAMS, LL.M.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1952.

To the Chairman and Members of the
HEALTH COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my second ANNUAL REPORT on the health and vital statistics of the Wrexham Rural District for the year ending 31st December, 1952.

The year has been one of outstanding events, for we witnessed the end of one reign with the tragic death of His Majesty King George VI, and the commencement of a new reign with the accession of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. May we hope that the new reign will bring Peace and Prosperity in its train.

During the summer we experienced a drought which caused a serious shortage of water in some parts of our District for several months. The drought ended in October with storms and heavy rain which saved the situation. This drought clearly demonstrated the insufficiency of the water supply to places such as Cefn and Llantysilio. This state of affairs must be put right as soon as possible and it is gratifying to report that steps are being taken to remedy this serious defect which are given in detail in the body of this report.

The Council's Housing Schemes have been making good progress but have not yet succeeded in meeting the urgent needs of the District and still greater efforts will be required if the "housing problem" is to be mitigated, let alone solved.

Secondary factors also aggravate this problem, among which is the fact that although Council Houses were originally intended for those who could not afford a decent house, many are occupied by persons who could well afford to buy a house of their own and are consequently being subsidised by the ratepayers who may be earning less than themselves.

There are also instances of three-bedroom houses being tenanted by one person, while large families are crowded into one room in apartments. Some means should be adopted to adjust these anomalies.

In general, the public are very anxious to do what is right to safeguard the public health, but there is an amazing ignorance among many as to the necessity for good hygiene and cleanliness

in relation to food production. Some catering establishments exist, where toilet facilities are often inadequate and when available, not used.

Too often the reason for hygiene and cleanliness is not made clear and to be effective the imparting of knowledge of "what to do" should be accompanied by the information of "why it should be done."

Drainage, sewerage and pure water, clean and good food are still the basis of good health and it is our duty to make this clear to the public if progress is to continue.

I should like to express my earnest thanks to the Council and especially to the Health Committee for their kind consideration towards me which has been a great help. The Chairman of the Health Committee, Mr. R. D. Jones, has been a staunch friend throughout the year.

I have also to acknowledge my appreciation of the willing support of my fellow officials, both of my own and other departments, and in particular to the staff, comprising the Health Department who have carried out their duties efficiently throughout the year and are always ready and willing to assist me in every way.

Finally, I would thank Mr. Trevor L. Williams for his invaluable advice on legal matters and guidance through the intricacies of Local Government.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. KENRICK HUGHES,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	72,370
Population, R.G.'s Estimate, 1952, Mid-Annual	...	...	...	...	62,280
Population, Density per acre	...	...	...	...	0.86
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	18,503
Number of Inhabited Council Houses	...	...	...	...	4,430
Sum represented by a 1d. Rate, 1951—1952	...	...	...	...	£756 1s. 6d.

2. VITAL STATISTICS.

Comparability Factor. 1.05 (Births). 1.03 (Deaths).

LIVE BIRTHS.				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	538	473	1011
Illegitimate	...	...	...	23	10	33
Total				561	483	1044

Birth Rate per 1000 Population. Crude—16.8 Adjusted—17.6
England and Wales 15.3

STILL BIRTHS.				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	25	14	39
Illegitimate	...	...	...	2	—	2
Total				27	14	41

Still Birth Rate per 1000 Total Births—37.78
Still Birth Rate per 1000 Population — 0.66
England and Wales — 0.35

TOTAL BIRTHS (LIVE AND STILL).				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	563	487	1050
Illegitimate	...	...	...	25	10	35
Total				588	497	1085

DEATHS.				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
				401	276	677

Death Rate per 1000 population, Crude—10.9. Adjusted—11.2.
England and Wales—11.3.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.				<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	—
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 Total Births (Live and Still)				—	—
England and Wales				—0.72	—

INFANTILE MORTALITY.				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	28	12	40
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total				28	12	40

Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1000 Live Births)	...	38.3
England and Wales	...	27.6
Male Legitimate I.M.R. per 1000 male legitimate births	...	52.04
Female Legitimate I.M.R. per 1000 female legitimate births	...	25.37
Male Illegitimate I.M.R. per 1000 male illegitimate births	...	—
Female Illegitimate I.M.R. per 1000 female illegitimate births	...	—
Total Legitimate I.M.R. per 1000 Legitimate Births	...	39.56
Total Illegitimate I.M.R. per 1000 Illegitimate Births	...	—

WREXHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.
1952.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Acreage</i>	<i>Number of Houses 1952</i>	<i>Population (Estim.)</i>	<i>Density of Population per acre</i>	<i>Rateable Value</i>
Abenbury ...	1717	109	299	0.17	£ 8598
Allington ...	3578	428	1428	0.39	5574
Bersham ...	1784	1311	4316	2.42	11,342
Bieston ...	1683	56	193	0.11	1469
Broughton ...	1089	1996	6768	6.21	17,072
Brymbo ...	2543	1191	4118	1.62	11,165
Burton ...	2869	220	771	0.27	3632
Cefn ...	1876	1999	6439	3.43	22,950
Erbistock ...	2919	131	454	0.15	1738
Erddig ...	287	9	40	0.14	483
Esc. Above ...	3953	166	485	0.12	3546
Esc. Below ...	1640	753	2672	1.63	10,148
Gresford ...	1099	509	1527	1.38	8887
Gwersyllt ...	2103	1797	6128	2.91	17,317
Holt ...	2912	327	1089	0.37	3251
Isycoed ...	3532	97	416	0.12	4089
Llangollen R. ...	9953	748	2561	0.26	8963
Llantysilio ...	5163	196	590	0.11	2049
Llay ...	2251	931	3491	1.55	13,551
Marchwiell ...	3389	238	620	0.18	3586
Minera ...	1393	391	1197	0.86	3659
Penycae ...	4694	607	2176	0.46	4747
Rhos ...	1441	3278	10,916	7.57	29,736
Ruabon ...	5906	924	3271	0.55	12,955
Sesswick ...	2596	91	315	0.12	1885
Total ...	72,370	18,503	62,280	0.86	212,392

Product of 1d. Rate, 1951-52—£765 1s. 6d.

TABLE 2.

ANALYSIS OF VITAL STATISTICS.

Parish	Es- tim- ated Pop.	Births			Birth Rate per 1000 Pop.	Dths	Death Rate per 1000 Pop.	Dths un- der one year	Inft. Mort. Rate per 1000 births	Dths from Tu- ber- cul- osis
		M.	F.	Tot.						
Abenbury	299	4	1	5	16.7					
Allington	1428	17	9	26	18.2	20	14.			
Bersham	4316	35	34	69	15.9	41	9.5	2	28.9	1
Bieston ...	193	2		2	10.4	1	5.2			
Broughton	6768	46	48	94	13.9	71	10.5	4	42.6	1
Brymbo ...	4118	39	35	74	17.9	49	11.9	3	40.5	1
Burton ...	771	2	3	5	6.5	13	16.9			1
Cefn ...	6439	52	48	100	15.5	68	10.6	4	40	4
Erbistock	454	2	5	7	15.4	5	11			
Erddig ...	40		1	1	25.0					
Esc. Above	485	2	1	3	6.2	2	4.1			
Esc. Below	2672	27	30	57	21.3	26	9.7	1	17.5	1
Gresford	1527	19	13	32	20.9	15	9.8	1	31.25	
Gwersyllt	6128	82	61	143	23.3	75	12.2	8	55.9	3
Holt ...	1089	14	9	23	21.1	15	13.8	2	86.9	
Isycoed ...	416	1	2	3	7.2	2	4.8			
Llan. Rur.	2561	11	15	26	10.2	23	9.	1	38.5	
Llantysilio	590					6	10.2			
Llay ...	3491	46	30	76	21.7	37	10.6	3	39.5	
Marchwiell	620	13	10	23	37.1	7	11.3			
Minera ...	1197	12	5	17	14.2	15	12.5	2	117.6	
Penycae ...	2176	18	17	35	16.1	21	9.6	1	28.6	
Rhos ...	10,916	88	71	159	14.6	124	11.4	6	37.7	3
Ruabon	3271	26	34	60	18.3	40	12.2	2	33.3	1
Sesswick	315	3	1	4	12.7	1	3.2			
TOTAL	62,280	561	483	1044	16.8	677	10.9	40	38.3	16

TABLE 3.

BIRTHS.

Parish				BIRTHS		BIRTHS		Total
				Legitimate		Illegitimate		
				M.	F.	M.	F.	
Abenbury	...	...	...	4	1	.....	.....	5
Allington	...	...	...	17	9	.....	.....	26
Bersham	...	...	...	32	33	3	1	69
Bieston	...	...	...	2	.....	.....	.....	2
Broughton	...	...	...	43	46	3	2	94
Brymbo	...	...	...	36	35	3	.....	74
Burton	...	...	...	2	3	.....	.....	5
Cefn	...	...	...	50	47	2	1	100
Erbistock	...	...	...	2	5	.....	.....	7
Erddig	...	...	...	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Esclusham Above	...	...	...	2	1	.....	.....	3
Esclusham Below	...	...	...	26	29	1	1	57
Gresford	...	...	...	19	12	.....	1	32
Gwersyllt	...	...	...	80	61	2	.....	143
Holt	...	...	...	14	9	.....	.....	23
Isycoed	...	...	...	1	2	.....	.....	3
Llangollen Rural	...	...	...	11	14	.....	1	26
Llantysilio	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Llay	...	...	...	44	29	2	1	76
Marchwiell	...	...	...	13	10	.....	.....	23
Minera	...	...	...	12	5	.....	.....	17
Penycae	...	...	...	17	17	1	.....	35
Rhos	...	...	...	82	70	6	1	159
Ruabon	...	...	...	26	33	.....	1	60
Sesswick	...	...	...	3	1	.....	.....	4
Total				538	473	23	10	1044

TABLE 4.

DEATHS.

<i>Parish</i>				DEATHS		<i>Deaths under 1 year of age.</i>		<i>Total</i>
				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Abenbury	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Allington	...	...	...	16	4	...	...	20
Bersham	...	...	...	22	17	2	...	41
Bieston	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Broughton	...	...	...	32	35	3	1	71
Brymbo	...	...	...	29	17	2	1	49
Burton	...	...	...	6	7	...	...	13
Cefn	...	...	...	43	21	3	1	68
Erbistock	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	5
Erddig	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Esclusham	Above	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
Esclusham	Below	...	...	11	14	...	1	26
Gresford	...	...	...	11	3	1	...	15
Gwersyllt	...	...	...	41	26	6	2	75
Holt	...	...	...	9	4	2	...	15
Isycoed	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2
Llangollen	Rural	...	...	13	9	...	1	23
Llantysilio	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	6
Llay	...	...	...	21	13	3	...	37
Marchwiel	...	...	...	4	3	...	...	7
Minera	...	...	...	8	5	1	1	15
Penycae	...	...	...	11	9	1	...	21
Rhos	...	...	...	68	50	3	3	124
Ruabon	...	...	...	18	20	1	1	40
Sesswick	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Total				373	264	28	12	677

POPULATION OF THE RURAL DISTRICT.

The estimated population for the District as given by the Registrar General was 62,280, which is 343 less than the total given for the census of 1951, when the population was 62,623. This figure shows that the population of the Rural District has risen by 1597 since 1935, when alteration in the boundaries took effect and the population was reduced from 64,010 to 60,683.

COMPARABILITY FACTORS.

These figures are supplied by the Registrar General and enable the crude birth rate and death rate to be adjusted for more accurate comparison with other areas. The figure for adjusting the birth rate is 1.05 and 1.03 for adjusting the death rate.

BIRTHS.

The number of live births registered during the year was 1044 which is 65 more than the previous year when there were 979. This is an encouraging sign at a time when the balance between the old and the young is tending to turn on the wrong side, and we are becoming predominantly a nation of old people. Unless the Birth Rate continues to rise this tendency will not be brought to a halt.

There were 33 illegitimate births as compared to 42 in 1951.

The number of male births was 561 and the number of females was 483, showing a predominance of males over females of 78.

Confinement in hospitals and nursing homes continues to be more popular than domiciliary confinement, as shown by the following figures.

Trevalyn Maternity Hospital	...	533	} 784
Other Hospitals	...	251	
Home	...	260	

The government is endeavouring to encourage more domiciliary confinements by the offer of higher grants for home cases. Under present conditions it is cheaper and less trouble for the mother to be confined in the hospitals or nursing homes.

It is somewhat paradoxical that now Midwives are provided with every modern contrivance at great expense, such as cars, gas and oxygen, stethoscope, blood pressure apparatus, etc., they have fewer cases to attend.

This can hardly be called economical at a time when the predominant note in national life is the call for economy.

BIRTH RATE.

The Birth Rate for 1952 is 17.6 (Crude 16.8) as compared to 16.4 for 1951. This figure is higher than that for the County of Denbigh which was 15.1 and also higher than that for England and Wales which was 15.3.

STILL BIRTHS.

The number of Still Births that occurred during 1952 was 41, as compared with 33 in 1951. It is not always realised that a considerable number of potential infant life is lost from this cause. The figure for 1952 is higher than the number of infants dying under 12 months.

The only means of improving this is by more and better ante-natal supervision which is not at present assisted by the Tripartite System of ante-natal supervision existing under the National Health Service. Where some mothers are under the care of their own doctor, others attend Hospital clinics and others County Council clinics. Unification of supervision would improve matters.

STILL BIRTH RATE.

The still birth rate per 1000 of the population is 0.66 as compared with 0.53 in 1951. The rate for England and Wales is 0.35. The still birth rate per 1000 total births, live and still, is 37.78, and shows a considerable increase over the 1951 figure which was 33.7.

DEATHS.

There were 677 deaths registered in 1952 as compared with 929 deaths in 1951. This shows a reduction of 252 on the previous year, which had been the highest total for many years.

There were 401 male deaths and 276 female deaths.

From Table 6 the main causes of death can be readily seen. Diseases of Heart and Vascular System and Malignant Disease, take the highest toll of life.

With the advent of the National Health Act and the new resources at the service of Medical Science, one expects a fall in the number of deaths. Many of the killing diseases have lost their terrors, for Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Pneumonia and Meningitis no longer take the toll of life that they used to, and the expectation of life has jumped by 12 years in half a century.

On the other hand certain diseases are on the increase and cause more deaths.

Lung diseases, principally Cancer, caused six times as many deaths among males and nearly three times as many females as occurred 20 years ago.

Coronary Thrombosis and other Circulatory diseases have also caused an increasing toll of deaths. The reasons for these increases have not yet been clearly defined, and have been attributed to smoking, and the increased strain that modern life puts on the circulatory system, but with no proof. Nevertheless there is no doubt that smoking and nervous strain is increasing.

DEATH RATE.

The total adjusted death rate for the year was 11.2 (crude 10.9) as compared with 15.3 for 1951.

This rate is below that for the County which was 12 and that for England and Wales which was 11.3. This is the lowest death rate attained for some years in this District, and when we recall that it is to a large extent an industrial area, this is a great achievement.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of children who died below the age of twelve months was 40 as compared to 45 in 1951.

It is encouraging to find this figure gradually getting lower. The reduction in infant mortality has been one of the greatest successes that preventive medicine has achieved during the past twenty years.

In the Annual Report for the Rural District for 1931, we find that there were 92 infant deaths out of a total 1123 births, so that we find the number reduced to less than half by 1952. These figures speak for themselves, and show the progress that is being made, and prove that the time and money spent on the care of young infants is now paying dividends.

Another change that can be noticed is that whereas many infants used to die from chest complaints and digestive troubles (gastric enteritis) these have been greatly reduced by new treatments and hygienic feeding.

The majority of infant deaths are now due to Prematurity and Congenital defects and are to a large extent inevitable.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE.

The Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 live births was 38.3 as compared to 45.9 in 1951.

The rate for the County of Denbighshire was 33.8 and for England and Wales 27.6.

Although the figure of 38.3 is considerably higher than that for England and Wales, the rate is not high for an Industrial Area.

When we compare this figure with that for 1931 when the Infant Death Rate was 81.9 we may take heart and pride in the great reduction that has been effected in 21 years.

DEATHS FROM MALIGNANT DISEASES.

There were 113 deaths from Malignant Diseases during 1952 as compared to 107 during 1951. Of these 62 were males and 51 females.

The localities of the body affected are shown in the table below.

DEATHS FROM MALIGNANT DISEASES.

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Lung and bronchus	14	1	15
Breast and uterus	—	10	10
Stomach	17	16	33
Others	31	24	55

It has been suspected that there has been a continued increase in the incidence of Malignant Disease during recent years. Statistics have shown that this is very marked in parts of North Wales. It was therefore decided to carry out an investigation into all environmental factors that might be considered to have a bearing on the causation of this disease. This investigation is under the direction of the County Medical Officer of Health in Denbighshire, in conjunction with the Scientific Advisory Committee of the British Empire Cancer Campaign.

HEART DISEASE.

Heart disease causes the greatest number of deaths and during the year 198 died from this complaint. This was very much lower than the figure for 1951 when 298 persons died of heart disease.

TABLE 5.

**BIRTHS AT TREVALYN MATERNITY HOSPITAL
DURING 1952.**

<i>Parishes</i>	<i>Total Births</i>	<i>Males</i>		<i>Females</i>		<i>Total</i>		
		<i>Legit.</i>	<i>Illegit.</i>	<i>Legit.</i>	<i>Illegit.</i>	<i>Legit.</i>	<i>Illegit.</i>	<i>Tot.</i>
Abenbury ...	5	5		3		8		8
Allington ...	26	11		4		15		15
Bersham ...	69	18	1	11		29	1	30
Bieston ...	2							
Broughton ...	94	26	2	23	2	49	4	53
Brymbo ...	74	15		17		32		32
Burton ...	5	2		1		3		3
Cefn ...	100	17		25	1	42	1	43
Erbistock ...	7			2		2		2
Erddig ...	1							
Esc. Above	3							
Esc. Below	57	17		17	1	34	1	35
Gresford ...	32	16		9	1	25	1	26
Gwersyllt ...	143	34	1	28		62	1	63
Holt ...	23	10		6		16		16
Isycoed ...	3			2		2		2
Llan. R. ...	26	3		2	1	5	1	6
Llantysilio ...								
Llay ...	76	30		24		54		54
Marchwiell	23	3		1		4		4
Minera ...	17	7		3		10		10
Penycae ...	35	6	1	8		14	1	15
Rhos ...	159	40	1	27		67	1	68
Ruabon ...	60	18		27		45		45
Sesswick ...	4	2		1		3		3
Total R.D. Births ...	1044	280	6	241	6	521	12	533
Outward transferable Births ...		191	5	190	9	381	14	395
Grand Total	1044	471	11	431	15	902	26	928

TABLE 6.
CAUSES OF DEATH.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>	<i>All Ages</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	5	5	10
2. Tuberculosis, other ...	4	2	6
3. Syphilitic disease ...	3		3
4. Diphtheria ...			
5. Whooping Cough ...			
6. Meningococcal Infections ...	2		2
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ...			
8. Measles ...			
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases		1	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	17	16	33
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	14	1	15
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ...		5	5
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...		5	5
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	31	24	55
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	1	1	2
16. Diabetes ...	4	4	8
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	58	43	101
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	53	22	75
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	5	6	11
20. Other heart disease ...	57	55	112
21. Other circulatory disease ...	8	5	13
22. Influenza ...		1	1
23. Pneumonia ...	8	3	11
24. Bronchitis ...	32	24	56
25. Other diseases of respiratory system...	5		5
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	6	2	8
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...		2	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...	5	2	7
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	10		10
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...			
31. Congenital malformations ...	4	4	8
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	48	32	80
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	4	2	6
34. All other accidents ...	10	8	18
35. Suicide ...	6		6
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	1	1	2
Total ...	401	276	677

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

All cases of notifiable infectious diseases should be notified to the M.O.H. immediately. As soon as this is done, it is the responsibility of the M.O.H. to see that reasonable precautions are taken to prevent the spread of infection by means of isolation and disinfection of infected articles and premises. All too frequently infectious cases are allowed to mix freely with other children in public places, in contravention of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Of recent years some Infectious Diseases have changed their character and although Scarlet Fever has become comparatively mild and rare, others such as Measles, have become more common and more deadly.

Diphtheria has been non-existent for several years in this District as a result of immunisation, and we hope a similar result will follow the immunisation against Whooping Cough only recently commenced.

Table 7 shows the incidence of these diseases in the various Parishes.

SCARLET FEVER.

There were 68 cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year as compared with 41 notified in 1951.

There has been no serious outbreak of this disease for several years and the figure shows only slight fluctuation from year to year.

POLIO-ENCEPHALITIS AND POLIOMYELITIS.

It is gratifying to report that only 2 cases of this disease were notified during the year.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

Only 55 cases of Whooping Cough were notified in 1952 as compared to 114 cases in 1951 and 165 in 1950.

These figures show a marked drop in the incidence of this disease which is very desirable, for the disease causes so great suffering to young infants and is reported to be responsible for more deaths of young children during epidemics than all other infectious diseases combined.

MEASLES.

There were 318 cases of Measles notified as compared to 479 in 1951. These figures are comparatively low for this disease which did not reach epidemic proportions this year. Epidemics are generally repeated every two years.

ERYSIPELAS.

There were 19 cases of Erysipelas notified during 1952 as compared to only 6 in 1951.

DYSENTERY.

One case of dysentery was notified during the year and was treated in hospital.

The source of the infection was not traced.

PARATYPHOID.

Two cases of Paratyphoid were notified during the year, at the same period as three occurred in the Wrexham Borough.

As there had been a considerable outbreak of this disease in South Wales at this time, careful enquiries were made as to any common source of infection. These investigations unfortunately failed to produce any definite results so that the source of the trouble has yet to be discovered.

FOOD POISONING.

Four mild cases of Food Poisoning were notified, but as the notifications were received after the patients had recovered, no specimens were available for examination, hence it was not possible to determine what food was responsible.

MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS.

2 cases of Meningitis were notified and removed to Hospital. Both were children under 10 years of age.

These diseases are still very dangerous and fatal, though modern advances in treatment give great hopes of a cure.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

According to the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, 1951, Puerperal Pyrexia means any febrile condition occurring in a woman in whom a temperature of 100.4° Fahrenheit (38° Centigrade) or more, has occurred within fourteen days after childbirth or miscarriage.

There were five cases notified in 1952 as compared to 2 in 1951.

The great improvement in the technique of the management of confinement, together with the discovery of Penicillin and sulpha drugs, have reduced Puerperal Pyrexia to a rare disease, whereas before the days of aseptic confinement this disease was a menace to all mothers.

PNEUMONIA.

31 cases of Pneumonia were notified during the year as compared with 72 cases in 1951.

8 were under 25 years of age and 23 were over 25 years of age. 11 deaths occurred from their number.

Pneumonia is particularly fatal to the very young and the aged.

TUBERCULOSIS.

82 cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year as compared to 71 cases in 1951.

Of these, 74 were Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 8 Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis. There were 10 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 6 from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

One of the great difficulties in dealing with Tuberculosis is the problem of the temporarily cured or improved patients who leave the Sanatorium to return to hopelessly unsuitable surroundings.

The problem is being dealt with by giving housing priority to Tubercular patients and we are kept informed by the Chest Physician which cases most need re-housing.

The Mass Radiography Service is doing valuable work in our District and has visited most of the industrial areas. The visits are well advertised and the public has made good use of the service. Apart from the advantage of discovering early cases of Tuberculosis and other defects of the chest, the radiograph reassures the remainder that they are healthy and so takes a load off many people's minds.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN COUNCIL HOUSES.

A comparison of the incidence of infectious diseases in Council Houses with that of other houses shows that 226 cases were notified from Council Houses out of a total of 589, leaving a balance of 363 from other types of house. 30 cases of Tuberculosis were notified from Council Houses out of a total of 82.

TABLE 7.

INCIDENCE OF ALL NOTIFIABLE DISEASES ACCORDING TO PARISHES.

Parish.	Removed to Hospital.													Total.	Total.												
	Sc. Fever.	Wh. Cough.	Measles.	Erysipelas.	Puer. Pyr.	Food Pois.	Paralytic Polio.	Para. Typhoid.	Dysentery.	Meningococ. Inf.	Pulm. T.B.	N. Pulm. T.B.	Pneumonia.		Sc. F.	Wh. Cough.	Erys.	Para. Polio.	Para. Typh.	Dysentery.	Meningo. Inf.	Pneumonia.	Total.				
Abenbury	2	2	2											6													
Allington	5	2	10		3					1	2		1	8	2						1		3				
Bersham	2	2			1									19	2												
Bieston																											
Broughton	3	2	11	1			2			1	7		2	29	3		2			1			6				
Brymbo	1			2							4	1		8	1								1				
Burton											1			1													
Cefn	6	1	121	2							9	1	1	141	3								3				
Erbistock	5		11											16	4								4				
Erddig																											
Esclusham Above			2			3								5													
Esclusham Below	1		14								1	2	1	19	1							1	2				
Gresford	8	8	2	2							2			22	3		2						5				
Gwersyllt	15	13	20	2		1					5	1	6	63	8	2							10				
Holt																											
Isycoed																											
Llangollen Rural	1		10								3	1	1	16	1								1				
Llantysilio	1										1			2	1								1				
Llay	1	2			1						6			10													
Marchwiel	1		1								1		1	4													
Minera				1										2			1						1				
Penrycae	2	4	4								1		4	15													
Rhos	2	20	13	8			2				27	1	6	80	1				2	1			5				
Ruabon	12		97	1							4	1	8	123	10								10				
Sesswick																											
Totals	68	55	318	19	5	4	2	2	1	2	74	8	31	589	40	3	3	2	2	1	2	1	154				

TABLE 8.
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Cases ad- mitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Scarlet Fever	68	40	.....
Whooping Cough	55	3	.....
Measles	318	.....	.....
Erysipelas	19	3	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	.....	.....
Food Poisoning	4	.....	.....
Para Polio	2	2	.....
Para Typhoid	2	2	.....
Dysentery	1	1	.....
Meningococcal Infection	2	2	.....
Pneumonia	31	1	11
Pulm. T.B.	74	.....	10
N.-Pulm. T.B.	8	.....	6
Total ...	589	54	27

TABLE 9.
**INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES ACCORDING
TO AGES.**

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Un- der 1 year</i>	<i>1 to 2</i>	<i>3 to 4</i>	<i>5 to 9</i>	<i>10 to 14</i>	<i>15 to 24</i>	<i>25 +</i>	<i>Age un- known</i>	<i>Tot.</i>
Scarlet Fever ... ..	.....	4	17	40	7	.....	.....	.....	68
Whooping Cough	9	13	21	11	1	.....	.....	.....	55
Measles	20	65	110	109	11	1	2	.....	318
Erysipelas ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	18	.....	19
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	1	1	5
Food Poisoning ... ..	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	4
Para Polio ... ..	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Para Typhoid ... ..	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Dysentery ... ..	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Mening. Infection ... ..	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Pneumonia ... ..	.....	2	1	3	1	1	23	.....	31
Pulm. T.B.	3	.....	1	7	.....	13	49	1	74
N.-Pulm. T.B. ... ..	.....	1	.....	2	.....	2	3	.....	8
Total ...	32	86	154	175	21	20	99	2	589

TABLE 10.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN COUNCIL
HOUSES.

Parish		Sc. Fever.	Wh. Cough	Measles.	Erysipelas	Puer. Pyrexia	Para. Typhoid	Pulm. T.B.	N. Pulm. T.B.	Pneumonia	Total.	Rem' ved to Hospital			
												Sc. Fever	Wh. Cough	Para. Typhoid	Total.
Abenbury	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Allington	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bersham	...	...	1	...	4	...	1	...	...	1	7	1	...	...	1
Bieston	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Broughton	...	...	1	1	2	1	...	3	...	...	8	1	...	...	1
Brymbo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	3	...	...	...	...
Burton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cefn	...	...	2	...	67	...	...	5	...	1	75	1	...	...	1
Erbistock	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Erddig	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Esclusham	Above	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Esclusham	Below	...	...	...	5	...	...	1	1	1	8	...	...	...	...
Gresford	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	6	...	...	...	...
Gwersyllt	...	...	6	10	12	...	...	2	...	3	33	2	1	...	3
Holt	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Isycoed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Llangollen	Rural	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	1	...	4	...	...	...	...
Llantysilio	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Llay	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Marchwiel	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Minera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Penycae	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...
Rhos	...	...	1	11	6	2	...	1	10	1	33	1	1	1	3
Ruabon	...	...	2	...	38	1	...	...	...	...	41	1	...	...	1
Sesswick	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	17	26	138	4	2	1	26	4	8	226	7	2	1	10

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH.

The County Council is responsible for the arrangements for the carrying out of Immunisation and Vaccination.

Parents may either have their children done by their own doctor or at the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics. They are advised to have their children immunised after about the eighth month and then to have a booster dose just before going to school at the age of 4 years. This procedure is the most reliable way of maintaining full protection.

It is important that over 75% of the children in a community should be protected, otherwise there is a danger of outbreaks of Diphtheria occurring, and it should always be remembered that Diphtheria is still "deadly." Children may be immunised against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough separately or they may receive a combined dose, which gives protection against both diseases.

By choosing the combined method the child need only have three injections instead of 6, which would be necessary when immunising separately.

During the year 134 received primary doses for Diphtheria, which means being immunised for the first time, while 295 received Booster or re-inforcing doses at about the age of 4 years.

12 were immunised for Whooping Cough alone (these children had probably already been immunised for Diphtheria).

The combined injection for Diphtheria and Whooping Cough has gained in popularity, as 212 were immunised as compared to 86 last year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Primary Doses.

0—5 yrs.	5—14 yrs.	Total.
69	65	134

Re-inforcings.

0—5 yrs.	5—14 yrs.	Total.
25	270	295

DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION (COMBINED).

0—5 yrs.	212
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WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION.

0—5 yrs.	12
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VACCINATION.

In proportion to the number of children born it might be true to say that vaccination is hardly practiced in this District.

There is a great deal of ignorance as to this procedure, for many mothers have not the slightest idea against what disease

vaccination is meant to protect their children, having never seen or heard of Smallpox. It is therefore not surprising that this protection is not in demand and that the greatest increase is noticed among those who have to be compulsory vaccinated to go abroad.

There were 143 children under 15 who received primary vaccinations and 58 over 15 years, while 3 under 15 were re-vaccinated and 28 were re-vaccinated over 15.

VACCINATIONS AGAINST SMALLPOX.

Age Group.	Primary Vaccinations.	Re-vaccinations.
Under 1 year	119	—
1 year	13	—
2—4 years	7	—
5—14 years	4	3
15 years and over	58	28

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1938. Section 47.

Powers are given to the District under this Act to remove to Hospital or Home any persons found to be living in insanitary conditions and unable to care for themselves by reason of ill-health and having no other persons willing to care for them at home. When compulsory powers are taken it is necessary to apply to a Court for confirmation, and the Court may order the person to be returned home if they think fit.

Officials of the Council are open to public criticism whatever course they adopt in these cases. They may be told that they are acting like Dictators for removing a certain person ; on the other hand they can be accused of neglecting their duties by not having removed any person who may have been found living alone in a neglected state.

The question of when to remove any person from their homes by compulsion is always fraught with difficulties, and should only be used in the most urgent of cases, for it does infringe the liberty of the person involved.

During 1953 it was found necessary to make application for the removal of one old lady, who was totally blind and bed-ridden, to Hospital, and for another old lady to be removed to a Home for the Aged.

TABLE 11.

**TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS AND TOTAL DEATHS
FROM TUBERCULOSIS ACCORDING TO AGE.**

Age Groups	NEW CASES					TOTAL DEATHS				
	Pulm.		N-Pulm.		Tot.	Pulm.		N-Pulm.		Tot.
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
Under 1 year ...	3				3					
1—4 ...	1			1	2					
5—9 ...	6	1		2	9					
10—14 ...										
15—19 ...	2	2			4					
20—24 ...	2	6	1	1	10		1			1
25—34 ...	8	9			17		1			1
35—44 ...	7	6		1	14	1		1	1	3
45—54 ...	7		2		9	3	1	2		6
55—64 ...	6	2			8	1	1		1	3
65 and over ...	3	2			5		1	1		2
Age unknown ...	1				1					
Totals ...	46	28	3	5	82	5	5	4	2	16

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.**(1) GENERAL.**

(a) Maelor General Hospital ...	229 beds.
(1) Croesnewydd Unit ...	180 beds.
(2) Isolation Unit ...	108 beds.
(b) Wrexham War Memorial Hospital ...	170 beds.

(2) MATERNITY CASES.

Trevalyn Manor Maternity Hospital ...	45 beds.
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(3) ORTHOPAEDIC.

Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic
Hospital, Gobowen.

CLINICS.**(1) MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.**

These are established in the following areas—Broughton, Brymbo, Cefn, Coedpoeth, Gresford, Gwersyllt, Holt, Llay, Rhos, Rhostyllen, Rossett, Ruabon and Southsea. Two new clinics were opened during the year. These were at Holt and Ruabon.

(2) SCHOOL CLINICS.

The foregoing child welfare clinics are used as minor ailments clinics.

(3) ORTHOPAEDIC CLINICS.

The diagnosis and after-care treatment of orthopaedic cases is carried out at the War Memorial Hospital, Wrexham, supplemented by institutional treatment at the Orthopaedic Hospital, Gobowen. An Orthopaedic Clinic is also held at Cefn.

(4) VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC.

The only V.D. Clinic in the County is established in Wrexham (Out-patient Department, Wrexham War Memorial Hospital), which is now controlled by the Welsh Regional Board.

NURSING SERVICES.

(1) GENERAL AND MIDWIFERY.

District Nurse Midwives and District Nurses for the home visiting of the sick and for Maternity cases are provided in the following areas:—

Brymbo	...	2	Gwersyllt	...	2
Broughton	...	2	Llay	...	2
Bwlchgwyn	...	1	Overton	...	1
Cefn	...	2	Rhos	...	2
Gresford	...	1	Rhostyllen	...	1
Holt	...	1	Ruabon	...	1
			Trevor	...	1

(2) HEALTH VISITORS.

There are six health visitors (who are also school nurses) employed in the Rural Districts on Maternity and Child Welfare and School Medical work. They are under the control of the Denbighshire County Council.

RAINFALL.

We have been supplied with the following rainfall figures taken at Packsaddle by the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company, and I wish to express appreciation of the manner in which the Company supplies us with information.

January, October and December were the months of heavy rainfall. During the spring and summer months part of our District experienced conditions of drought.

The total rainfall for the year was 35.62 as compared to 39.24 in 1951.

1952.

January	5.31 inches	May	2.78 inches	Sept.	3.17 inches
Feb.	1.19 inches	June	2.78 inches	October	6.86 inches
March	.68 inches	July	2.13 inches	Nov.	2.74 inches
April	2.01 inches	August	2.59 inches	Dec.	4.53 inches

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Most of our District is well sewered, but there are certain outlying districts that have not yet been supplied with these amenities. Schemes are under consideration for Burton, Lavister, while certain houses on the main road at Johnstown require a sewer.

During the year the drainage scheme for Marchwiel village was commenced and completed and the drainage scheme for Bwlchgwyn and Minera was commenced.

Schemes such as these are expensive and before they can be undertaken, an Enquiry is held by the Ministry as to the urgency of the need thereof.

HOUSING.

The Housing Programme has been carried on with customary vigour and the Wrexham Rural District Council had the distinction of being the leading housing authority of its kind in Wales for the number of houses built since 1945.

During the year 375 Council houses were completed, while 33 Private Houses were built, bringing the total number of Council Houses in the District up to 4,427.

In spite of this excellent progress, our housing problems remain as great as ever. Many families are living under conditions that are totally unfit. Overcrowding is rife and in some cases the sexes are not segregated as they should be. Unfortunately, people have to live under these intolerable conditions for years, without hope of relief in the near future. This results in much domestic unhappiness, from the simple fact that these families are never able to obtain the slightest degree of privacy, comfort or quietness, and as a result it is impossible to assess the number of nervous breakdowns that have been caused by such environmental conditions.

Furthermore, it is a matter for grave concern that many houses are in a bad condition through lack of attention in past years, and the limitation of repair work during the war years.

Programmes for building new houses can only affect this aspect of the Housing Problem, in so far as demolition orders are made and tenants rehoused.

The Government should be urged to take action to enable local authorities to enforce effectively the provisions of the Housing Acts in regard to the habitable standards of existing houses.

TABLE 12.

HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR 1952.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Private Houses Erected in 1952</i>	<i>Council Houses Completed in 1952</i>	<i>Total Number of Council Houses</i>	<i>Council Houses in course of erection</i>
Abenbury			2	
Allington			130	
Bersham	1	30	218	18
Bieston		4	4	
Broughton	4	68	475	40
Brymbo	2	1	268	18
Burton	1	6	10	
Cefn		39	543	56
Erbistock			18	
Erddig				
Esclusham Above				
Esclusham Below	4	7	271	
Gresford	5	18	86	
Gwersyllt	2	50	690	38
Holt	2		54	14
Isycoed	1	4	12	
Llangollen Rural	2	42	96	84
Llantysilio				
Llay		26	298	12
Marchwiel		18	60	
Minera		4	62	
Penycae			134	20
Rhos	4	28	758	57
Ruabon	5	24	228	37
Sesswick		6	10	
Totals	33	375	4427	394

WATER SUPPLY.

Practically the whole of the Wrexham R.D. has a piped water supply, with the exception of Llantysilio. A scheme for the supply of this area has now received approval.

There are four main Water Companies supplying water in our area, which are the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company, Brymbo Water Company, Cefn Water Company and the Ruabon Water Company. The Cefn and Ruabon Companies have of recent years been unable to cope with areas they serve owing to increase of population and the calls of industry.

CEFN WATER COMPANY.

During the summer months of 1952, the water supply of Cefn and district gave cause for considerable anxiety, as it was

found necessary to cut off the water supply for long periods during each day, thereby causing great inconvenience to both domestic and commercial users.

The reservoirs supplying this area* are quite inadequate to meet the present demand when there is a period of low rainfall.

Proposals are under consideration for the compulsory acquisition of the Cefn Water Undertaking by the Wrexham Water Company, subject to the Wrexham Rural District Council receiving assurances that—

- (a) An adequate and constant supply of wholesome water would be made available for all houses and premises within the area of supply of the Cefn Water Company, whether by gravitation, boosting or otherwise.
- (b) That a rebate on the Wrexham Company's existing scale of charges be granted to consumers in the area during the transitional period.

RUABON WATER COMPANY.

Proposals are also under consideration for the acquisition of the Ruabon Water Undertaking by the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company. The Wrexham Water Company propose to improve the water supply in the Ruabon area by the immediate laying of a "Bus Main" to connect the Wrexham area to the Ruabon area and later to the Cefn area.

The Company hoped that there would be a marked improvement in the water supply within twelve months.

LLANTYSILIO WATER SCHEME.

Llantysilio remains one of the few places in the Rural District without a piped water supply. They have no other adequate means of supply, having to rely on wells and streams, with the result that water has to be transported there during times of drought.

In order to remedy this serious deficiency, the Council propose to acquire a bulk supply from the Llangollen Urban District Council.

These proposals were considered at a Public Inquiry held at Llangollen on 27th February, 1952. When this scheme is approved and goes into operation it will greatly improve the amenities of Llantysilio.

Samples of all the water supplies have been taken throughout the year, the results of which are shown in Table 16.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1952.

To the Chairman and Members of the
HEALTH COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the ANNUAL REPORT on the work of the Sanitary Inspectors' Department for the year 1952. The information contained in the Report gives details of the various duties carried out.

Progress in most spheres can be reported, but disappointment must be expressed that greater progress has not been made in the maintenance of existing property. This is due, no doubt in large measure, to economic reasons.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the efforts and loyalty of each individual member of the Public Health Staff.

I would take this opportunity of paying tribute to the late Mr. D. E. Edwards, Engineer and Surveyor. He was a most conscientious Officer and loyal colleague, and the relationship between the departments has always been of a cordial nature.

I would acknowledge the courtesy received from the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

D. THOMAS,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

The following Table gives a detailed list of the actual work done by the Sanitary Inspectors in the Rural District during the year.

TABLE 13.

HOUSING.

DWELLINGS.

	<i>Number</i>
No. of houses re-roofed	33
No. of houses repaired—roofs, walls, etc.	49
No. of houses otherwise treated to prevent dampness	64
No. of houses in which defective floors were removed	57
No. of houses provided with new pavements in back yards	12
No. of houses in which old pavements were repaired	15
No. of food stores provided	5
No. of new kitchen grates and washing boilers provided	133
No. of houses provided with baths	23
No. of houses provided with H. & C. water	21
No. of visits to applicants for Council Houses	2931
Abatement of overcrowding	233

DRAINAGE.

No. of new cesspools constructed	1
No. of new septic tanks constructed	21
No. of kitchen sinks provided	43
No. of new drains laid to old premises	95
No. of drains repaired	57
No. of house drains disconnected from road drains	1
No. of new Inspection Chambers	4

SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

No. of new water closets provided	79
No. of old water closets furnished with flushing cisterns	30
No. of old water closets repaired	47
No. of privies converted into water closets	4
No. of new earth closets and privies	2
No. of privies repaired	3
No. of portable ashbins provided	262
No. of urinals repaired	—

WATER SUPPLY.

No. of old premises supplied	34
No. of service pipes repaired	5

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

No. of workshops repaired	1
No. of workshops cleansed on notice	1
No. of new sanitary conveniences provided or improved	4
No. of visits and inspections	179
No. of visits to bakehouses	102
No. of bakehouses improved	1

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

No. of visits to food premises	...	...	...	363
No. of pigs inspected	...	...	...	26
No. of Ice Cream samples taken	...	...	...	55

CLERICAL WORK.

No. of Intimatory Notices issued	...	...	...	769
No. of Intimatory Notices complied with	...	...	...	697
No. of Statutory Notices issued	...	...	...	122
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	...	...	...	170
Total number of visits and inspections	...	...	...	12,111

HOUSING.

In spite of the progress made by the Council with the erection of houses, a large number of families still occupy houses which are sub-standard.

Many owners have carried out their obligations and maintain their property in a reasonable state of repair, but there are others, who for various reasons, make no attempt to comply with the notices served upon them.

The repair and maintenance of existing houses is an important factor in the adequate housing of the public and the failure of owners to meet their obligations will eventually impose an undue strain on the finances of the Council, who will be compelled to either re-house the occupants in Council houses, or undertake the work of improving and repairing the property in default. Many such owners are aged, with a limited income, which does not permit them to carry out extensive repairs.

A large number of sub-standard properties which were earmarked for demolition in 1938, and which were still occupied, had deteriorated to such an extent that they were dangerous, and representations were made to the Health Committee for these houses to be dealt with under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.

A Sub-Committee was appointed to inspect the 49 houses where representations had been made, and eventually Demolition Orders were made in each case. It is significant that no undertaking to repair the properties was submitted for the consideration of the Council. 7 houses on which Demolition Orders were operative have been demolished.

555 properties were inspected under the Housing Act, 1936, involving 1471 visits, and 70 were repaired on the service of informal notices, but in 63 instances, it was necessary to serve Statutory Notices on the owners. 23 were complied with by the owners but in 2 instances it was necessary for the Council to carry out the work in default.

OVERCROWDING.

No definite figures of the extent of overcrowding existing in the area are available, as there is a constant movement of tenants.

233 overcrowded families, involving 1007 persons, were re-housed by the Council during the year.

LICENCES.

50 licences, amounting to £16,247 were issued for repairing and improving property.

COUNCIL HOUSE APPLICANTS.

2931 visits were paid by the Sanitary Inspectors to applicants for Council Houses.

The inspections provide information on conditions prevailing at each house and any special features are duly noted and the information obtained is collated and presented to the Selection of Tenants Sub-Committees, who are then better able to determine the need of each family. This method of allocating houses, in spite of criticism levelled by disappointed applicants, generally gives satisfaction.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The drainage of the village of Plasbennion and the parish of Marchwiel were completed during the year, and private property owners are to be complimented for the expeditious way in which they connected their properties to the sewer, and it can be reported that all properties within the sewered area, with the exception of those houses earmarked for demolition, have been connected to the main sewerage scheme. The total number of houses connected during the year is 95.

MEAT INSPECTION.

All the meat consumed in the Rural District is slaughtered at the Wrexham Borough Abattoir. There are 4 Slaughter Houses within the Rural District which are registered for the purpose of slaughtering cottagers' pigs. During the year 26 pigs were slaughtered and examined and in no case was it necessary to condemn any proportion of the carcasses.

FOOD CONDEMNED.

The following Table shows the articles of food which have been inspected at the various shops, and found to be unfit for human consumption.

TABLE 14.

Meat	...	...	...	...	...	275 tins. 22 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	56 tins. 15 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Fish Paste	...	...	...	...	...	36 jars. 4 lbs.
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	160 tins.
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	...	220 tins.
Peas	...	...	...	...	...	85 tins.
Beans	...	...	...	...	...	28 tins.
Beetroot	...	...	...	...	...	11 tins.
Vegetable	...	...	...	...	...	38 tins.
Tomato Juice	...	...	...	...	...	10 tins.
Pudding	...	...	...	...	...	2 tins.
Jam	...	...	...	...	...	13 tins.
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	625 tins.
Jelly	...	...	...	...	...	32 pkts.
Soup	...	...	...	...	...	13 tins.
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	2 pkts. 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Sausage	...	...	...	...	...	19 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	28 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	41 lbs.
Sugar	...	...	...	...	...	336 lbs.
Flour	...	...	...	...	...	12 lbs.
Margarine	...	...	...	...	...	2 lbs.
Eggs	...	...	...	...	...	85

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

I am indebted to the Chief Inspector of the Food and Drugs Authority for the following report on the number of samples taken during the year within the Council's Area.

TABLE 15.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Particulars of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, in the
WREXHAM RURAL DISTRICT, during the year ended 31st December,
1952.

<i>Article</i>					<i>Number Taken</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Not genuine or sub- standard</i>
Milk	...	...	...	...	103	83	20
Butter	...	...	...	...	2	2	.....
Jam	...	...	...	...	2	2	.....
Bread	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Buns	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Sausages	...	...	...	...	5	4	1
Fish Paste	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Tinned Fish	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Tinned Vegetables	...	...	...	...	2	2	.....
Cake Mixture	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Mustard	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Pepper	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Pearl Barley	...	...	...	...	2	2	.....
Oatmeal	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Condensed Milk	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Beef Suet	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	3	3	.....
Jelly	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Marmalade	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Salad Cream	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Vinegar	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Honey	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Saccarin	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Olive Oil	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Aspirin	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Soft Drinks	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Beer	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Rum	...	...	...	...	1	1	.....
Totals					141	120	21

As will be observed from the above Table, 20 retail samples of milk were certified by the Public Analyst as being "Not Genuine or Sub-standard." In 11 of these samples the deficiency was in solids-not-fat but, as no added water was found to be present in any of them, no further action was taken. In 8 instances the deficiency was in the fat content but in each case it was too slight to justify any further action apart from tendering advice and administering a caution. Subsequent samples taken from these suppliers proved to be genuine milk of good quality. In the remaining instance of milk reported "Not Genuine" the

Public Analyst certified the addition of 6% of water and the vendor, who was a farmer in the area, was prosecuted but the justices dismissed the case.

In addition to the 103 samples of milk analysed by the Public Analyst during the year, 28 samples of milk, taken from Schools, etc., in the area, were tested in this Office by the Inspectors. The School milks were all genuine and of good quality.

One informal sample of pork sausages was certified to be slightly deficient in meat and the butcher who manufactured and sold them was visited and cautioned. A short time after the Inspector's visit another sample of sausages was taken from this butcher and he had apparently put the matter right for these proved to be up to the standard.

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

FOOD PREPARATION ROOMS.

There are 78 premises where food is prepared and stored, an increase of 4 on the previous year. 363 visits were paid and the standard of cleanliness and management is well maintained.

BAKEHOUSES.

The total number of bakehouses on the register is 36. During the year 2 premises were discontinued as bakehouses and 1 premises registered. 102 visits were paid and all premises were found to be clean, the limewashing and painting carried out in accordance with the regulations.

FISH AND CHIP SHOPS.

There are 83 premises in which the trade of Fish Frying is carried on, 1 premises having been discontinued during the year. The premises and the fittings are well maintained and comply with the Clean Food Regulations.

ICE CREAM.

There are 136 persons registered to store and retail Ice Cream, 11 having been registered during the year, and 12 having discontinued.

55 samples of Ice Cream were submitted for bacteriological examination, all of which were found to comply with the standard laid down.

MILK REGULATIONS, 1949.

During the year 39 Retailers' Licences and 8 Supplementary Licences were issued by the Council under the above Regulations.

WATER SUPPLY.

82 Samples of water have been submitted for bacteriological analyses during the year. The following Table gives the results,

TABLE 16. WATER SUPPLY.

Nature of Sample and where taken	Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 2 days 37°C Aerobically per ml.	Probable No. Coliform Bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.	Probable No. Faecal Coli per 100 ml.	Non-Faecal Coli per 100 ml.	Remarks.
Brymbo Water Company. 1. Tap water : 27a Hill St., Lodge (26.2.52) ...					Satisfactory.
2. Tap water : 3 Roberts Terrace, Coedpoeth (21.2.52)					Satisfactory.
3. Tap water : 25 Penygelli Rd., Coedpoeth (11.3.52)					Satisfactory.
4. Tap water : 27a Hill Street, Lodge (5.6.52) ...					Satisfactory.
5. Tap water : 7 Pisgah Hill, Pentre Broughton (21.8.52)	4	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
6. Tap water : 29 Castletown Road, Moss (28.10.52) ...		1	1	.....	No pathogenic organisms isolated. Satisfactory.
Cefn Water Company. 1. Tap Water : Copington House, Acrefair (8.4.52) ...					Satisfactory.
2. Tap water : 9 Garth Road, Trevor (8.4.52) ...					Satisfactory.

TABLE 16. WATER SUPPLY—(continued)

<i>Nature of Sample and where taken</i>	<i>Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 2 days 37°C Aerobically per ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Coliform Bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Non-Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
3. Tap water : 2 Maesmadoc, Acrefair (5.6.52)	34	.....	.....	.....	
4. Tap water : 9 Garth Road, Trevor (5.6.52)	20	3	3	.....	No pathogenic coli isolated. Faecal count high for a piped supply.
5. Tap water : 7 Cae Coch, Cefnmawr (22.7.52)	28	.....	.....	.....	
6. Tap water : 9 Garth Road, Trevor (22.7.52)	3	8	1	.....	Not satisfactory.
7. Tap water : 9 Garth Road, Trevor (31.7.52)	18	8	3	.....	Not satisfactory.
8. Tap water : 2 Maes Madoc, Acrefair (31.7.52)	15	7	1	.....	Not satisfactory.
9. Tap water : 2 George Av- enue, Trevor (12.8.52)	6	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.*
10. Tap water : 11 Plas Issa, Rhosymedre (12.8.52)	7	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.

TABLE 16. WATER SUPPLY—(continued)

<i>Nature of Sample and where taken</i>	<i>Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 2 days 37°C Aerobically per ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Coliform Bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Non-Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
11. Tap water : Westlands, Trevor (26.8.52) ...	12	5	3	.....	No pathogenic coli isolated. Repeat.
12. Tap water : 9 Garth Road, Trevor (9.9.52) ...	110	180+	180+	.....	Unsatisfactory.
13. Tap water : 2 Maes Madoc, Acrefair (9.9.52) ...	18	17	3	.....	Please repeat.
14. Tap water : 2 Maes Madoc, Acrefair (18.9.52) ...	1	1	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
15. Tap water : 9 Garth Road, Trevor (18.9.52) ...	25	11	3	.....	No pathogenic organisms is- olated. Unsatisfactory.
16. Tap water : Tegfan, Acre- fair (7.10.52) ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
17. Tap water : 9 Garth Road, Trevor (7.10.52) ...	.....	7	3	.....	No pathogenic organisms is- olated. Unsatisfactory.
18. Tap water : 9 Garth Road, Trevor (28.10.52) ...	.....	160	160	.....	No pathogenic organisms is- olated. Unsatisfactory.

TABLE 16. WATER SUPPLY—(continued)

<i>Nature of Sample and where taken</i>	<i>Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 2 days 37°C Aerobically per ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Coliform Bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Non-Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
19. Tap water : 9 Garth Road, Trevor (18.11.52) ...	.....	Nil	Nil	.....	Satisfactory.
Ruabon Water Company. 1. Tap water : Bank House, Park St., Ruabon (21.2.52)	.....	.....	1	.....	No pathogenic organisms is- olated. Satisfactory.
2. Tap water : 1 Heol-y-felin, Rhos (11.3.52) ...	.....	1	1	.....	No pathogenic organisms is- olated. Satisfactory.
3. Tap water : 1 Owen Street, Rhos (5.6.52) ...	.....	3	Nil	.....	No pathogenic coli isolated.
4. Tap water : 6 Hill Street, Rhos (1.7.52) ...	800	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
5. Tap water : Hafod Colliery Pit Baths (5.8.52) ...	4	Nil	Nil	.....	Satisfactory.
6. Tap water : 12 Heol Offa, Johnstown (21.8.52) ...	4	8	Nil	.....	
7. Tap water : Gelliwen Farm, Drefechan (26.8.52) ...	4	Nil	Nil	.....	Satisfactory.

TABLE 16. WATER SUPPLY—(continued)

<i>Nature of Sample and where taken</i>	<i>Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 2 days 37°C Aerobically per ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Coliform Bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Non-Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
8. Tap water: Police Station, High St., Ruabon (9.9.52)	18	Nil	Nil	.....	Satisfactory.
9. Tap water: High Street, Johnstown (28.10.52) ...	.....	11	5	.....	No pathogenic organisms is- olated. Unsatisfactory.
Wrexham Water Company.					
1. Tap water: "Homewood," Ruabon Rd., Rhostyllen (21.2.52) ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
2. Tap water: 2 Main Road Cottages, Marchwiel (11.3.52) ... ..	.....	1	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
3. Yew Tree Cottage, Holt (5.6.52)	Nil	Nil	Nil	.....	Satisfactory.
4. Tap water: "Homewood," Wrexham Rd., Rhostyllen (21.8.52)	1	Nil	Nil	.....	Satisfactory.
5. Tap water: Whitegate Farm, Holt (21.8.52) ...	220	1	Nil	.....	

TABLE 16. WATER SUPPLY—(continued)

<i>Nature of Sample and where taken</i>	<i>Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 2 days 37°C Aerobically per ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Coliform Bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Non-Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
6. Tap water : Firgrove, Holt (16.9.52)	2	1	Nil	.....	Satisfactory.
7. Tap water : Smithfield Green, Holt (16.9.52) ...	2	50	Nil	.....	Coliform count high.
8. Tap water : 24 Woodlands, Gwersyllt (28.10.52) ...	.....	Nil	Nil	.....	Satisfactory.
9. Tap water : Five Oaks, Legacy (7.10.52) ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
WREXHAM RURAL DIS- TRICT COUNCIL WATER SUPPLIES: Vron Water Supply. 1. Tap water : 1 Council Hou- ses, Vroncysyllte (11.3.52)	27	11	11	.....	No pathogenic organisms is- olated.
2. Tap water : 1 Council Hou- ses, Vroncysyllte (5.6.52)	33	Nil	Nil	.....	
3. Tap water : 1 Council Hou- ses, Vroncysyllte (22.7.52)	1	11	1	.....	Not satisfactory.

TABLE 16. WATER SUPPLY—(continued)

<i>Nature of Sample and where taken</i>	<i>Plate Count Yeastel Agar 2 days 37°C Aerobically per ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Coliform Bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Non-Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
4. Tap water : 1 Council Houses, Vroncysyllte (31.7.52)	19	180+	180+	.....	Not satisfactory.
5. Tap water : New Council Houses, Vroncysyllte (12.8.52)	29	50	50	.....	No pathogenic organisms isolated. Unsatisfactory.
6. Tap water : 4 Vron Heulog, Vroncysyllte (26.8.52) ...	10	Nil	Nil	.....	Satisfactory.
7. Tap water : 1 Council Houses, Vroncysyllte (9.9.52)	10	8	3	.....	Unsatisfactory.
8. Tap water : 1 Council Houses, Vroncysyllte (18.9.52)	4	2	1	.....	Please repeat.
9. Tap water : 1 Council Houses, Vroncysyllte (14.10.52)	approx. 560	180+	9	.....	No pathogenic organisms isolated. Unsatisfactory.
10. Tap water : 1 Council Houses, Vroncysyllte (28.10.52)	30	160	90	.....	No pathogenic organisms isolated. Unsatisfactory.

TABLE 16. WATER SUPPLY—(continued)

<i>Nature of Sample and where taken</i>	<i>Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 2 days 37°C Aerobically per ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Coliform Bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Non-Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
11. Spring water from inlet, Service Reservoir, Vroncysyllte (18.11.52) ...	60	4	2	.....	Please repeat.
12. Tap water: 1 Council Houses, Vroncysyllte (18.11.52)	3	2	Nil	.....	Satisfactory.
Garth Water Supply.					
1. Tap water: 2 Hafryn, Garth (11.3.52) ...	14	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
2. Tap water: 2 Hafryn, Garth (5.6.52) ...	80	Nil	Nil	.....	
3. Tap water: Bron Haul, Garth (24.6.52) ...	64	50	17	.....	No pathogenic organisms isolated. Unsatisfactory.
4. Tap water: 2 Hafryn Garth (22.7.52) ...	1	13	1	.....	Not satisfactory.
5. Tap water: 3 Hafryn, Garth (5.8.52) ...	3	Nil	Nil	.....	Satisfactory.
6. Tap water: 3 Hafryn, Garth (26.8.52) ...	.....	Nil	Nil	.....	Satisfactory.

TABLE 16. WATER SUPPLY—(continued)

<i>Nature of Sample and where taken</i>	<i>Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 2 days 37°C Aerobically per ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Coliform Bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Non-Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
7. Tap water: 3 Hafryn, Garth (9.9.52)	7	3	1	.....	Please repeat.
8. Tap water: 3 Hafryn, Garth (18.9.52)	Nil	1	Nil	.....	Satisfactory.
Sun Bank Supply.					
1. Spring water: Standpipe, Soar Chapel (24.4.52)	16	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
2. Spring water: Ty Nant (garden spring), Sun Bank (24.4.52)	5	5	3	.....	No pathogenic organisms is- olated. Satisfactory, apart from somewhat high faecal coli content.
3. Spring water from storage tank, below Ty Nant (24.4.52)	5	50	50	.....	No pathogenic organisms is- olated. Unsatisfactory.
4. Stream water, Sunbank, before entering storage tank (29.7.52)	248	180+	50	.....	

TABLE 16. WATER SUPPLY—(continued)

Nature of Sample and where taken	Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 2 days 37°C Aerobically per ml.	Probable No. Coliform Bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.	Probable No. Faecal Coli per 100 ml.	Non-Faecal Coli per 100 ml.	Remarks.
5. Tap water : Bryn Melyn, Sun Bank (5.8.52) ...	24	20	20	.....	Not satisfactory.
6. Spring water from stand- pipe, Soar Chapel, Sun Bank (29.7.52) ...	7	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
7. Stream water : Sun Bank, overflow from storage tank (29.7.52) ...	12	17	.....	.....	
Miscellaneous Samples.					
1. Land spring water, Bryn Amma, Frondeg (24.6.42)	5	1	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
2. Water before filtration : The Cottage, Bronheulog, Llangollen (May, 1952) ...	8	180	160	.....	Faecal B. coli present (non- pathogenic). Unsatisfac- tory.
3. Water after filtration : The Cottage, Bronheulog, Llan- gollen (May, 1952) ...	1	1	1	.....	No pathogenic organisms is- olated. Satisfactory.

TABLE 16. WATER SUPPLY—(continued)

<i>Nature of Sample and where taken</i>	<i>Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 2 days 37°C Aerobically per ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Coliform Bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Non-Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
4. Land spring water from spout in stream opposite Cae Hovah Farm, Wern (24.6.52)	9	180+	3	.....	No pathogenic organisms isolated. Unsatisfactory.
5. Land spring water from pipe in stream: 1 and 2 Hafod Wen Cottages, Wern (24.6.52)	34	180+	180+	.....	No pathogenic organisms isolated. Unsatisfactory.
6. Deep well water: Broad Oak Farm, Rossett (24.6.52)	33	90	90	.....	No pathogenic organisms isolated. Unsatisfactory.
7. Deep well water: Ty Canol Farm, Rhos (1.7.52)	160	180+	180+	.....	No pathogenic organisms isolated. Unsatisfactory.
8. Land spring water: Rhos Hall, Hall Lane, Rhos (22.7.52)	2	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.

TABLE 16. WATER SUPPLY—(continued)

<i>Nature of Sample and where taken</i>	<i>Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 2 days 37°C Aerobically per ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Coliform Bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Non-Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
9. Deep well water: Broad Oak Farm, Rossett (31.7.52)	20	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
10. Well water from tap at Llay Hall Cottage, Llay (12.8.52)	5	5	3	.....	No pathogenic organisms isolated. Doubtful. Please repeat sample.
11. Shallow well water from tap: Llay Hall Cottage, Llay (16.9.52)	1	1	Nil	.....	Satisfactory.
12. Deep well water from pump, Crossing Cottage, Talwrn (7.10.52)	610	180+	2	.....	No pathogenic organisms isolated. Unsatisfactory.

6 Samples of water have been submitted for chemical analyses. The following Table gives the results.

TABLE 17.

SAMPLES TAKEN FOR CHEMICAL ANALYSES.

Sample No. 1. 7 Pisgah Hill, Pentre Broughton (Brymbo Water Co.), 21.8.52.

Sample No. 2. Westlands, Trevor (Cefn Water Co.), 26.8.52.

Sample No. 3. 12 Heol Offa, Johnstown (Ruabon Water Co.), 21.8.52.

Sample No. 4. Holmwood, Wrexham Road, Rhostyllen (Wrexham Water Co.), 21.8.52.

Sample No. 5. 3 Hafryn, Garth (Garth Water Supply), 26.8.52.

Sample No. 6. 4 Vron Heulog, Vron (Vron Water Supply), 26.8.52.

<i>In parts per 100,000 of Water.</i>	<i>No. 1</i>	<i>No. 2</i>	<i>No. 3</i>	<i>No. 4</i>	<i>No. 5</i>	<i>No. 6</i>
Total Solid matter in solution	120.0	160.0	220.0	200.0	200.0	340.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates ...	0.25	0.25	0.38	0.38	0.38	2.0
Nitrites ...						
Chlorine in Chlorides ...	14.0	21.0	15.0	31.0	14.0	20.0
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hours at 80°F ...	0.67	0.71	0.63	0.31	Nil	0.25
Free and Saline Ammonia ...	Nil	0.02	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	0.04	0.06	0.25	0.01	0.02	0.03
Lead, Copper Zinc ...	Nil	Nil	Zinc 0.8	Nil	Zinc 1.0	Nil
Microscopical Examination of the Sediment ...	Trace of Sand	Nil	Nil	Nil	Trace of Iron Rust	Nil
Temporary Hardness ...	25.0	65.0	110.0	130.0	130.0	230.0
Permanent Hardness ...	30.0	10.0	40.0	Nil	10.0	20.0
pH. Value ...	6.9	8.2	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.5

All Samples were satisfactory.

FACTORY ACT, 1937.

There are 143 factories on the Council's register ; 3 new premises having been registered during the year and one discontinued.

The following Table gives details of the various activities carried on.

TABLE 18.

<i>Factory.</i>						<i>No. Registered.</i>
Bacon Factory	...	...	...	...	...	1
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	...	4
Boot Repairers	...	...	...	...	...	15
Bottling Works	...	...	...	...	...	2
Brickworks	...	...	...	...	...	14
Chemical Works	...	...	...	...	...	3
Coach Builders	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cotton, Weaving and Spinning	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cycle Shops	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dressmaking and Tailoring	...	...	...	...	...	4
Electrical Equipment	...	...	...	...	...	5
Garages	...	...	...	...	...	32
Gas Works	...	...	...	...	...	2
Grass Drying	...	...	...	...	...	1
Iron, Steel and Metal Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	7
Joinery (Upholstery and Undertaking, Builders' Shops), etc.	...	...	...	...	...	17
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	3
Millers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Paint Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	1
Printers	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sawmills	...	...	...	...	...	4
Salvage Depot	...	...	...	...	...	1
Stonemasons	...	...	...	...	...	3
Seed Dressing	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tiled Fire Places	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ice Cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	3
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During the year 179 visits were paid to the various factories. It was necessary to serve notices on the occupiers to improve the sanitary conveniences at 8 factories.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

A survey of the district was carried out and where infestations were observed, block treatment was arranged.

During the year the following treatments took place :

Manholes	...	...	...	369
Refuse Tips	...	...	...	83
Sewage Works	...	...	...	76
Domestic Premises	...	...	...	240
Business Premises	...	...	...	42
River Banks	...	...	...	4

78 farms were inspected and where infestation was found, the Pests Officer of the Agricultural Executive Committee was informed, who made the necessary arrangements for the treatment of the premises. In no case was it found necessary to serve Statutory Notices on the occupiers of infested farms.

INFESTATION BY BED BUGS.

28 premises were found to be infested by bed bugs, 15 in Council Houses and 13 in Private Houses.

The premises, including furniture, were treated with Zaldecide and no re-infestation was reported.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are two licenced Knackers Yards in the District, at Tyddyn Daniel, Marchwiel, and Ffrwd, Brymbo.

40 visits were paid to the Knackers Yards which were found to be conducted in a satisfactory manner.

There is also one registered Marine Store in the area. Certain alterations have been carried out to the premises and the business is now conducted satisfactorily.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

Two premises have been registered under the above Act for the storage and use of Rag Flock in the manufacture of furniture etc. No samples of the filling material have been submitted for examination.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

This important service is operated by the Council throughout the district, excepting in the agricultural parishes of Abenbury, Bieston, Erddig, Erbistock and Sesswick.

In addition to the Council's property in these parishes, arrangements have been made with the owners of 157 privately owned properties for the refuse to be cleared, for which they pay an annual charge.

This work is heavy, unpleasant and dusty, and calls for a measure of physical fitness, and the work, generally speaking, has been carried out satisfactorily.

Periodical complaints have been received of the irregularity of the collections, but these have always occurred during the period when the staff was depleted through illness.

During the year 1,128 working days were lost, an increase on the previous year of 192 days. Of the many features which retard the work of cleansing, the chief is the absence of satisfactory storage facilities. Many households use a variety of receptacles which necessitate the service of two men to convey the refuse to the lorry, whereas, where standard bins are provided, the operation is completed by one man. Pressure is constantly being brought to bear upon owners to provide standard bins, some of whom endeavour to place the responsibility upon the occupiers.

The refuse is disposed of by tipping and the Health Committee has, on several occasions, considered the question of controlled tipping, but on account of the shortage of suitable labour and expense, the matter has been repeatedly deferred.

A demonstration of controlled tipping by mechanical means was demonstrated during the year and the Committee decided to acquire a "Calfdozer." This will, no doubt, effect a tremendous improvement in the condition of the tips.

The cost of refuse removal for the present year amounted to £24,379 18s. 5d. which is equivalent to £1 7s. 11d. per house. It is estimated that 28,775 tons of refuse were removed.

A new 16 h.p. Karrier Bantam Refuse Collector was put into service at Cefn in April, replacing an old vehicle which had been in use since 1939.







