

**[Report 1956] / Medical Officer of Health, Wrexham R.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Wrexham (Wales). Rural District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1956

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/e3uukb9y>

**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>

s/r.

WREXHAM BOARD OF HEALTH.  
RECEIVED  
20 DEC 1957  
A.

WREXHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND THE  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

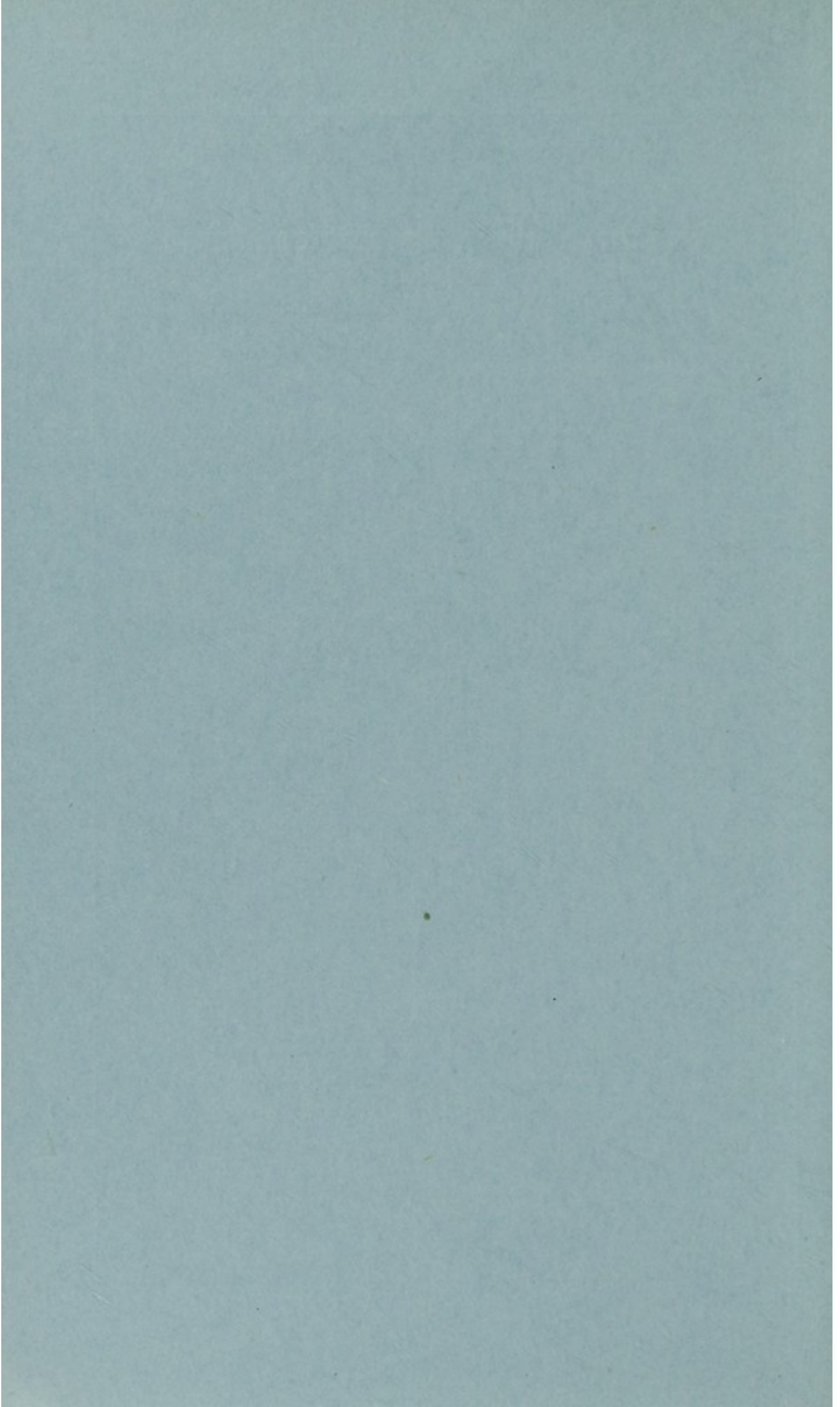
FOR THE YEAR

## 1956



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

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



STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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

---

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING OFFICER

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

---

PUBLIC HEALTH, HOUSING AND PETROLEUM INSPECTORS

S. DAVIES, C.M.I.

H. C. D. JONES.

C. DAVIES.

D. R. GEORGE.

E. LLOYD, C.M.I.

PUPIL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

D. O. HUGHES.\*

S. A. HUGHES.

B. JONES.

REFUSE REMOVAL SUPERINTENDENT

W. I. HUGHES.

CHIEF CLERK

Miss O. M. DAVIES.

JUNIOR CLERK

Miss E. JONES.

---

ENGINEER

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

DEPUTY ENGINEER

E. R. MYERS, A.M.I.Mun.E.

---

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

COUNCILLOR JOHN LEYLAND, J.P.

VICE CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL

COUNCILLOR R. D. JONES.

CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH COMMITTEE

COUNCILLOR R. D. JONES.

VICE CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH COMMITTEE

COUNCILLOR J. E. POWELL.

THE HEALTH COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

---

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

TREVOR L. WILLIAMS, LL.M.

---

\* Part of Year.

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
**FOR THE YEAR 1956.**

*To the Chairman and Members of the*

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my sixth ANNUAL REPORT on the health and vital statistics of the Wrexham Rural District for the year ending 31st December, 1956.

During the year, the Council decided to make a start on the huge task of clearing the Wrexham Rural District of its slums. These have been a blot on our landscape for many years and the Parish of Rhos has been chosen for the first attack, while other areas will be dealt with in rapid succession.

As a result of this programme, new houses built by the Council will almost entirely be devoted to rehousing families displaced from these Clearance Areas. This may, for a time, aggravate the position as regards the rehousing of other classes of families on our waiting list.

The problem of caravan dwellers continue to be a source of trouble in our district, and give rise to much complaint in various localities, due to lack of amenities and proper sanitation.

Properly licensed sites are an urgent necessity now that the caravan has come to stay, and local authorities are not in a position to refuse a licence merely because they are averse to the establishment of caravans in their district.

The Food Hygiene Regulations came into force on July 1st, 1956, and the provisions go a long way towards bringing about a higher standard of cleanliness in our catering establishments.

There were no serious epidemics of infectious diseases during the year, for the majority have been brought under control by immunisation and vaccination, but in their place we find an increase in such diseases as Cancer, Heart Disease and Rheumatism. The prevention of these still baffles medical science and will require much further research.

Clean air, pure water and good food are still the main contributors to good health and it is our duty to see that they are made available. In a district such as ours, this particularly applies to clean air and the Clean Air Bill may do much to help in this direction.

I should like to express my thanks to the Council, and especially the Health Committee, for their help and support during the year. The Chairman, Mr. R. D. Jones, has been a real friend and adviser.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) T. KENRICK HUGHES,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

## 1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) .....	72,370
Population, R.G.'s Estimate, 1956, Mid-Annual .....	62,190
Population, Density per acre .....	0.86
Number of Inhabited Houses .....	20,083
Number of Inhabited Council Houses .....	5,855
Sum represented by a 1d. Rate, 1955—1956 .....	£844 1s. 9d.

## 2. VITAL STATISTICS.

Comparability Factor.    1.00 (Births).            1.16 (Deaths).

<b>LIVE BIRTHS.</b>				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate .....	.....	.....	.....	502	462	964
Illegitimate .....	.....	.....	.....	15	9	24
Total .....				<u>517</u>	<u>471</u>	<u>988</u>

Birth Rate per 1000 population.	Crude	15.89
	Adjusted	15.89
	England and Wales	15.6

<b>STILL BIRTHS.</b>				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate .....	.....	.....	.....	17	14	31
Illegitimate .....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
Total .....				<u>17</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>31</u>

Still Birth Rate per 1000 Total Births	30.42
Still Birth Rate per 1000 Population	0.498
England and Wales	23.0

<b>TOTAL BIRTHS (LIVE AND STILL).</b>				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate .....	.....	.....	.....	519	476	995
Illegitimate .....	.....	.....	.....	15	9	24
Total .....				<u>534</u>	<u>485</u>	<u>1019</u>

<b>DEATHS.</b>				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
				449	326	775

Death Rate per 1000 population.	Crude	12.46
	Adjusted	14.45
	England and Wales	11.7

<b>MATERNAL MORTALITY.</b>				<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .....	.....	.....	.....	1	1

<b>INFANTILE MORTALITY.</b>				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate .....	.....	.....	.....	9	11	20
Illegitimate .....	.....	.....	.....	2	—	2
Total .....				<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>22</u>

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births .....	22.27
England and Wales .....	23.8
Male Legitimate I.M.R. per 1000 male legitimate births .....	31.87
Female Legitimate I.M.R. per 1000 female legitimate births .....	41.13
Male Illegitimate I.M.R. per 1000 male illegitimate births .....	133.33
Female Illegitimate I.M.R. per 1000 female illegitimate births .....	—
Total legitimate I.M.R. per 1000 legitimate births .....	34.82
Total illegitimate I.M.R. per 1000 illegitimate births .....	40.34

**WREXHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.**  
**1956.**

**TABLE 1.**

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Acreage</i>	<i>Number of Houses 1956</i>	<i>Population (Estim.)</i>	<i>Density of Population per acre</i>	<i>Rateable Value</i>
Abenbury .....	1717	110	297	0.17	£ 13,546
Allington .....	3578	476	1415	0.39	10,739
Bersham .....	1784	1431	4305	2.41	22,715
Bieston .....	1683	56	191	0.11	3,357
Broughton .....	1089	2178	6760	6.20	30,640
Brymbo .....	2543	1261	4123	1.62	32,010
Burton .....	2869	231	768	0.26	4,964
Cefn .....	1876	2185	6447	3.43	43,929
Erbistock .....	2919	131	451	0.15	2,661
Erddig .....	287	9	40	0.14	503
Esc. Above .....	3953	168	483	0.12	4,577
Esc. Below .....	1640	839	2660	1.62	21,004
Gresford .....	1099	589	1520	1.38	16,396
Gwersyllt .....	2103	1960	6128	2.91	32,873
Holt .....	2912	347	1083	0.37	6,182
Isycoed .....	3532	97	414	0.11	9,009
Llangollen R. ....	9953	844	2574	0.26	15,732
Llantysilio .....	5163	196	588	0.11	2,890
Llay .....	2251	982	3468	1.54	28,889
Marchwiel .....	3389	282	617	0.18	11,055
Minera .....	1393	407	1191	0.85	6,930
Penycae .....	4694	822	2205	0.47	10,194
Rhos .....	1441	3352	10,890	7.56	53,547
Ruabon .....	5906	1036	3259	0.55	26,917
Sesswick .....	2596	94	313	0.12	3,593
Gas Board .....					3,505
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>72,370</b>	<b>20,083</b>	<b>62,190</b>	<b>0.86</b>	<b>418,357</b>

Product of a Penny Rate—1955/1956—£844/1/9d.



**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	Inst. Mort. Rate per 1000 births	Dths from Tu- ber- cul- osis
		M.	F.	Tot.						
Abenbury	297	8	5	13	43.77	3	10.10			
Allington	1415	10	21	31	21.91	18	12.72			
Bersham	4305	42	44	86	19.98	60	13.94	1	11.63	
Bieston	191	1		1	5.24	2	10.47	1	1000.	
Broughton	6760	62	51	113	16.72	70	10.36	3	26.55	2
Brymbo	4123	34	36	70	16.98	43	10.43			1
Burton	768	7	5	12	15.63	6	7.81			
Cefn	6447	41	41	82	12.72	76	11.79	1	12.20	
Erbistock	451	4	5	9	19.96	4	8.87			
Erddig	40									
Esc. Above	483	2	1	3	6.21	8	16.56			
Esc. Below	2660	15	20	35	13.16	26	9.77	1	28.57	
Gresford	1520	6	16	22	14.47	21	13.82			
Gwersyllt	6128	74	59	133	21.70	80	13.05	6	45.11	
Holt	1083	12	12	24	22.16	13	12.00	1	41.66	
Isycoed	414	3	1	4	9.66	6	14.49			
Llan. R.	2574	10	10	20	7.77	49	19.04	1	50.	1
Llantysilio	588					9	15.31			
Llay	3468	37	32	69	19.90	40	11.53	1	14.49	
Marchwiel	617	8	5	13	21.07	8	12.97			1
Minera	1191	14	7	21	17.63	19	15.95	1	14.62	
Penycae	2205	25	22	47	21.32	37	16.78	1	21.28	
Rhos	10,890	64	62	126	11.66	121	11.11	4	31.50	1
Ruabon	3259	36	16	52	15.96	56	17.18			1
Sesswick	313	2		2	6.39					
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>62,190</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>988</b>	<b>15.89</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>12.46</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22.27</b>	<b>7</b>

TABLE 3.

## BIRTHS.

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>Legitimate.</i>		<i>Illegitimate.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Abenbury	8	5	.....	.....	13
Allington	10	20	.....	1	31
Bersham	41	44	1	.....	86
Bieston	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Broughton	60	50	2	1	113
Brymbo	33	36	1	.....	70
Burton	7	5	.....	.....	12
Cefn	39	40	2	1	82
Erbistock	4	5	.....	.....	9
Erddig	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Esc. Above	2	1	.....	.....	3
Esc. Below	14	20	1	.....	35
Gresford	6	15	.....	1	22
Gwersyllt	72	58	2	1	133
Holt	11	12	1	.....	24
Isycoed	3	.....	.....	1	4
Llangollen R.	10	10	.....	.....	20
Llantysilio	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Llay	35	31	2	1	69
Marchwiel	8	5	.....	.....	13
Minera	14	7	.....	.....	21
Penycae	24	21	1	1	47
Rhos	62	61	2	1	126
Ruabon	36	16	.....	.....	52
Sesswick	2	.....	.....	.....	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>988</b>

**TABLE 4.**

**DEATHS.**

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>		<i>Deaths under One year of age.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Abenbury .....	2	1	.....	.....	3
Allington .....	10	8	.....	.....	18
Bersham .....	30	29	.....	1	60
Bieston .....	.....	1	.....	1	2
Broughton .....	32	35	2	1	70
Brymbo .....	26	17	.....	.....	43
Burton .....	1	5	.....	.....	6
Cefn .....	40	35	1	.....	76
Erbistock .....	2	2	.....	.....	4
Erddig .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Esc. Above .....	7	1	.....	.....	8
Esc. Below .....	20	5	.....	1	26
Gresford .....	17	4	.....	.....	21
Gwersyllt .....	45	29	4	2	80
Holt .....	8	4	.....	1	13
Isycoed .....	2	4	.....	.....	6
Llan. Rural .....	33	15	1	.....	49
Llantysilio .....	2	7	.....	.....	9
Llay .....	30	9	1	.....	40
Marchwiell .....	3	5	.....	.....	8
Minera .....	12	6	.....	1	19
Penycae .....	20	16	1	.....	37
Rhos .....	70	47	1	3	121
Ruabon .....	26	30	.....	.....	56
Sesswick .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>775</b>

**THE POPULATION OF THE RURAL DISTRICT.**

The estimated population of the District as given by the Registrar General was 62,190, as compared to 62,320 in 1955. This shows a slight fall of 130 in spite of an excess of births over deaths of 213.

**COMPARABILITY FACTORS.**

These factors are supplied by the Registrar General and enable the crude birth and death rates to be adjusted for more accurate comparison with other areas in respect of age and sex distribution. The figure for adjusting the birth rate is 1.00 while that for adjusting the death rate is 1.16.

**BIRTHS.**

The total number of live births registered during the year was 988 as compared with 896 in 1955, which shows a welcome

rise of 92. The total births have been fluctuating above and below the 1000 mark since 1950, and 1954 was the most recent occasion when they exceeded 1000.

With the rehousing of numerous young couples from lodgings to their own houses, these families will have room to expand, which should give an impetus to the number of births in our district.

There were 517 boys and 471 girls born, giving the boys a majority of 46. Of these births, 24 were illegitimate, including 15 boys and 9 girls.

The illegitimate child is now well cared for and much of the old stigma attached to illegitimacy has now disappeared in these enlightened days. Provision is made for the unmarried mother and child at Bersham Hall, which serves the North Wales Counties. Many of these children are adopted into good homes and have quite a promising future.

#### **BIRTH RATE.**

The birth rate for 1956 was 15.89 as compared to 14.38 for 1955. The birth rate for England and Wales was 15.6.

#### **STILL BIRTHS.**

The number of still births that occurred during 1956 was 31, as compared to 30 in 1955, so that there has been no marked change.

These deaths represent a considerable loss of infant life, which might possibly be preventable if every mother attended an ante-natal clinic for supervision up to the date of confinement. This precaution is unfortunately not observed in all cases, which may have disastrous results for both mother and child.

#### **STILL BIRTH RATE.**

The still birth rate for 1956 was 30.42 as compared to 33.48 in 1955. That for England and Wales was 23.

#### **DEATHS.**

There were 775 deaths registered during 1956 as compared to 826 deaths in 1955. This shows a fall of 51 at a time when deaths are tending to increase owing to the greater proportion of old people in our district. There were 449 males deaths and 326 female deaths.

The main causes of death are the same as in former years, with diseases of the heart and circulation far ahead of all other causes. This is due to the fact that most old people succumb to diseases of this kind, the total being 390. Cancer was respons-

ible for 125 deaths. It is very noticeable that cancer of the lung and stomach affects men much more than women. There were 19 deaths from cancer of the stomach among men while only 8 women died of this complaint, and again, 20 men died of cancer of the lung and bronchus but only 2 women.

Although cancer of the lung and bronchus is on the increase, the number of deaths in our district was the same as in 1955, and was actually 2 less among the men, who are stated to run the greatest risk on account of their heavy smoking of cigarettes. The cigarette has now been tracked down as the "killer" as regards cancer of the lung and each one acts as an added coffin nail in the chest of the heavy smoker.

**TABLE 5.**  
**DEATHS FROM MALIGNANT DISEASES.**

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Lung and Bronchus .....	20	2	22
Breast and Uterus .....	—	16	16
Stomach .....	19	8	27
Others .....	34	26	60

#### **DEATH RATE.**

The death rate was 12.46 as compared to 14.18 in 1955. The adjusted death rate was 14.45 and compared to 11.7 for England and Wales.

#### **INFANTILE MORTALITY.**

The number of infants who died before attaining the age of 12 months was 22 as compared to 29 in 1955, and 40 in 1954. Thus we find a great saving of infant life during the past 3 years, during which the number of deaths has fallen from 40 to 22, and represents a percentage improvement of almost 50 per cent.

The enormous amount of rehousing of families during this period may have helped a lot in this respect. As we proceed with our slum clearance programme, we can hope for still lower figures.

#### **INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE.**

The infantile mortality rate was 22.27 per 1000 live births as compared to 32.37 in 1955. That for England and Wales was 23.8. Thus, for the first time, our infant mortality rate is below that of England and Wales, which is a great achievement in an industrial area such as ours.

TABLE 6.

BIRTHS AT TREVALYN MATERNITY HOSPITAL  
DURING 1956.

Parishes	Total R.D. Births	Births at Trevalyn						Total
		Males		Females		Total		
		Legit.	Illegit.	Legit.	Illegit.	Legit.	Illegit.	
Abenbury .....	13	5		4		9		9
Allington .....	31	8		12	1	20	1	21
Bersham .....	86	16		15		31		31
Bieston .....	1	1		1		2		2
Broughton .....	113	21	2	24		45	2	47
Brymbo .....	70	12	1	17		29	1	30
Burton .....	12	7		4		11		11
Cefn .....	82	12		15		27		27
Erbistock .....	9	2		5		7		7
Erddig .....								
Esc. Above.....	3	4		1		5		5
Esc. Below .....	35	6		8		14		14
Gresford .....	22	6		10		16		16
Gwersyllt .....	133	27		21		48		48
Holt .....	24	8		9		17		17
Isycoed .....	4	1				1		1
Llangollen R. ....	20	4		1		5		5
Llantysilio .....								
Llay .....	69	16		21		37		37
Marchwiell .....	13	5				5		5
Minera .....	21	6		5		11		11
Penycae .....	47	9		9		18		18
Rhos .....	126	20		30		50		50
Ruabon .....	52	20		4		24		24
Sesswick .....	2	1				1		1
Total .....	988	217	3	216	1	433	4	437
Outward transferable Births .....		213	20	181	22	394	42	436
Grand Total .....	988	430	23	397	23	827	46	873

Inward Transferable Births—254.

TABLE 7.

## CAUSES OF DEATH.

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>All Ages.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	3	6
2. Tuberculosis, other	1	.....	1
3. Syphilitic disease	.....	.....	.....
4. Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....
5. Whooping Cough	.....	.....	.....
6. Meningococcal infections	.....	.....	.....
7. Acute poliomyelitis	.....	.....	.....
8. Measles	.....	.....	.....
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1	2
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	19	8	27
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	20	2	22
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	.....	11	11
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	.....	5	5
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	34	26	60
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2
16. Diabetes	1	4	5
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	61	72	133
18. Coronary disease, angina	75	26	101
19. Hypertension with heart disease	6	4	10
20. Other heart disease	57	69	126
21. Other circulatory diseases	15	5	20
22. Influenza	1	1	2
23. Pneumonia	14	8	22
24. Bronchitis	33	8	41
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	10	2	12
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	8	5	13
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	.....	.....	.....
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	11	6	17
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	10	.....	10
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	.....	1	1
31. Congenital malformations	4	5	9
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	47	39	86
33. Motor vehicle accidents	10	2	12
34. All other accidents	5	10	15
35. Suicide	2	2	4
36. Homicide and operations of war	.....	.....	.....
TOTAL	449	326	775

## **PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

All cases of notifiable infectious disease should be notified to the District Medical Officer of Health immediately they are diagnosed. As soon as this is done, it is the duty of the Medical Officer of Health to see that steps are taken to prevent the spread of infection.

In many instances, notifications are received too late for effective action to be taken, while in diseases such as Measles, it is almost impossible because the most infectious period occurs before the rash appears and before the disease is suspected. This is the chief reason that Measles epidemics are more widespread than most other diseases. Notification of this disease is now a waste of time and money, and the whole system of notification of infectious diseases should be revised, in view of the change in character of many of them.

Chicken Pox should be made notifiable, in view of the dangers of Small Pox with which it can be easily confused.

There was a total of 242 cases of infectious diseases notified during the year as compared to 943 in 1955. An epidemic of Measles caused the large number in 1955, but there were no comparable epidemics in 1956.

### **SCARLET FEVER.**

There were 52 cases of Scarlet Fever as compared to 19 in 1955. Most of these occurred in Gresford, where a small outbreak of 24 cases was centred on the school but subsided in the holidays. The cases were mild in character and only 2 had to go to hospital.

### **POLIOMYELITIS.**

Only one case of Poliomyelitis was notified.

### **WHOOPIING COUGH.**

There were 35 cases of Whooping Cough notified as compared to 35 in 1955. Two of these were removed to hospital.

### **MEASLES.**

Only 43 cases of Measles were notified as compared to 772 in 1955, when there was an epidemic in our district. As epidemics occur about every two years, the next one can be expected in 1957.

### **MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS.**

There were 3 cases of Meningitis notified as compared to 4 in 1955. All were under 5 years old and were treated in hospital.



### **PUERPERAL PYREXIA.**

There were 2 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia notified, both of whom were treated in hospital.

### **PNEUMONIA.**

There were 14 cases of Pneumonia notified as compared to 24 cases in 1955.

### **FOOD POISONING.**

Only 1 case of Food Poisoning was notified as compared to 4 cases in 1955.

We have been fortunate in the small number of food poisoning outbreaks in our district for many years, and this points to the care and supervision which is exercised over our catering establishments as well as to the high standards of cleanliness observed on these premises, both as regards the foods and the staff themselves. The new Food Hygiene Regulations will help in this direction.

### **DYSENTERY.**

There were 18 cases of dysentery notified in 1956, but there were no cases in 1955.

These cases were comprised of small family groups in different areas and with no obvious contact. They occurred in Bersham, Broughton, Esclusham Below, Gwersyllt, Llangollen Rural and Llantysilio, three were removed to hospital, their ages ranging from 3 years to 25 plus.

The origin of these cases was not possible to trace.

### **TUBERCULOSIS.**

There were 68 new cases of Tuberculosis notified in 1956 as compared to 78 cases in 1955 and 99 in 1954, so that at last we are beginning to see a gradual fall in the incidence of new cases, and this is the main object of all preventive measures taken by local authorities. Much has been done in rehousing T.B. families and giving them good living conditions. Every effort is made to discover unknown cases who are the main source of infection. This is where Mass Radiography and Tuberculin Testing are of such great help. B.C.G. vaccination will also give some protection to those in contact with T.B. cases and will be given to all school children aged 13 years whose parents consent. In this way, the scourge of Tuberculosis will be gradually wiped out, if these measures are pursued with vigour and receive the co-operation of the general public, without which nothing can be achieved.

There were 63 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 5 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis. 45 of the cases occurred among persons aged 25 plus and this disease certainly takes a heavy toll of the young adult.

TABLE 8.

## INCIDENCE OF ALL NOTIFIABLE DISEASES ACCORDING TO PARISHES.

Parish	Removed to Hospital																					
	Scarlet Fever	Wh. Cough	Measles	Potomylitis	Pulm. T. B.	Non-Pulm. T. B.	Menn Infection	Dysentery	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Food Poisoning	Erysipelas	Total	Scarlet Fever	Wh. Cough	Measles	Potomylitis	Menn. Infection	Dysentery	Erysipelas	Total	
Abenbury			1										1									1
Allington				1									1									1
Bersham	8				2		1	4				1	16									16
Bieston		1				1							2									2
Broughton			8					1				1	18									18
Brymbo	1	3	1		3							1	9									9
Burton																						
Cefn	1		2		11	1			3			1	19								1	2
Erbistock					1								1									1
Erddig																						
Esc. Above																						
Esc. Below	1	6			4			4					15									15
Gresford	24	7	1		3				1		1		37									37
Gwersyllt	5	13	16		9		1	1	6				52									52
Holt	1	1			2		1						5									5
Isycoed	1												1									1
Llan. Rural					4			6					10									10
Llantysilio					1			2					3									3
Llay		2	3		1				1				6									6
Marchwiel	2				1					1			4									4
Minera	1												1									1
Penycae	1		2			1							4									4
Rhos	6		7		10				1			2	26									26
Ruabon			1		1				1			1	5									5
Sesswick		2	1		2				1			1	6									6
Totals	52	35	43	1	63	5	3	18	2	14	1	5	242	2	2	1	1	3	3	2	14	242

TABLE 9.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

<i>Diseases.</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Isolation H.</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Scarlet Fever .....	52	2	.....
Whooping Cough .....	35	2	.....
Measles .....	43	1	.....
Poliomyelitis .....	1	1	.....
Pulmonary T.B. ....	63	.....	6
Non-Pulmonary T.B. ....	5	.....	1
Meningococcal Infection .....	3	3	.....
Dysentery .....	18	3	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	2	.....	.....
Pneumonia .....	14	.....	22
Food Poisoning .....	1	.....	.....
Erysipelas .....	5	2	.....
Totals .....	242	14	29

TABLE 10.

INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES  
ACCORDING TO AGES.

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Under 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 unknown</i>	<i>Tot.</i>
Scarlet Fever .....	.....	2	12	24	11	2	1	.....	52
Whooping Cough .....	4	9	11	10	1	.....	.....	.....	35
Measles .....	2	6	12	13	5	2	2	1	43
Poliomyelitis .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Pulmonary T.B. ....	.....	2	.....	3	.....	12	45	1	63
Non-Pulmonary T.B. ....	.....	.....	1	1	1	1	1	.....	5
Meningococcal Inf. ....	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Dysentery .....	.....	.....	2	8	1	1	3	3	18
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	2
Pneumonia .....	3	.....	1	2	1	1	6	.....	14
Food Poisoning .....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Erysipelas .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	.....	5
Totals .....	10	20	39	63	20	21	64	5	242

TABLE 11.  
INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN COUNCIL HOUSES.

Parish	Total							Removed to Hospital							
	Sc. Fever	Wh. Cough	Measles	Potiomylitis	Pulmonary T. B.	Measles	Total	Sc. Fever	Wh. Cough	Measles	Polio.	Measles Inf.	Dysentery	Pneumonia	Total
Abenbury							1								1
Allington															1
Bersham	3				1		4	1							1
Bieston															1
Broughton			4		1		10						1		1
Brymbo															1
Burton			1		4		6			1					1
Cefn															1
Erbistock															1
Erddig															1
Esc. Above	1	4	1		3		8							1	1
Esc. Below	14	1	1		6		17		1					1	2
Gresford	2	12	8		1		29								1
Gwersyllt							3								1
Holt															1
Isycoed															1
Llan. Rural					2		2								1
Llantysilio															1
Llay			3		1		4								1
Marchwiel	1						1								1
Minera															1
Penycae	3		1		3		8								1
Rhos			1				1								1
Ruabon															1
Sesswick															1
Totals	25	18	19	1	25	1	94	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	8

**TABLE 12.**  
**TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS AND TOTAL DEATHS**  
**FROM TUBERCULOSIS ACCORDING TO AGES.**

Age Groups	NEW CASES				Tot.	TOTAL DEATHS				
	Pulm.		N-Pulm.			Pulm.		N-Pulm.		Tot.
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
Under 1 year										
1—4	1	1	1		3					
5—9	3		1		4					
10—14				1	1					
15—19		5			5					
20—24	1	6		1	8					
25—34	6	9			15					
35—44	6				6		1		1	
45—54	2	2	1		5		1		1	
55—64	8	3			11	2		1	3	
65 and over	7	2			9	1	1		2	
Age unknown	1				1					
Totals	35	28	3	2	68	3	3	1	7	

**IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH.**

The aim of the campaign against Diphtheria is to prevent the recurrence of this dread disease. The surest way of doing this is to persuade all parents to have their children immunised.

Unless the level of the children immunised is kept above 75 per cent there is always the danger of Diphtheria returning. The percentage in our district is about 50 per cent so that we must increase our efforts to persuade parents as to the necessity for this protection. The County Council provide the facilities for immunisation and vaccination at the schools and clinics, while Health Visitors who visit the homes of all new born infants inform the mothers of the need for immunisation and vaccination and also where it can be done, so that none can plead ignorance should their child catch Diphtheria or Small Pox.

During 1956, there were 234 children protected against Diphtheria alone, while 621 received combined protective doses against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.

**TABLE 13.**  
**IMMUNISATION.**

**Number of Children immunised during 1956.**

Diphtheria Immunisation.

	0—1 yrs.	1—5 yrs.	5—14 yrs.	15 plus.
Primary Doses	8	72	153	1
Reinforcings	—	263	634	—

## Diphtheria and Whooping Cough

<u>Immunisation, Combined.</u>	0—1 yrs.	1—5 yrs.	5—14 yrs.
	469	150	2
<u>Whooping Cough Immunisation.</u>	1—4 yrs.		
	1		

### VACCINATION.

Vaccination is voluntary and has fallen into disfavour, as compared to 50 years ago when practically all children were vaccinated as a matter of course by the Vaccination Officer.

The mothers of today have not seen or heard of Small Pox and consider the dangers negligible. However, there is always the danger of cases of Small Pox being imported to this country by sea or air from foreign countries where the disease is still prevalent. This has already happened on several occasions in other parts of the country with fatal results. It could just as easily happen here. "Be prepared" is a good motto, and is very applicable where Small Pox is concerned, for it is too late to think of vaccination once a child has been infected. If all children were vaccinated before the age of 3 months, there would be very little danger of infection. Unfortunately, the majority of the child population of today are un-vaccinated and would fall easy victims to this disease.

205 children received primary vaccination, 23 were re-vaccinated.

As protection by vaccination only lasts about 7 years, it is very advisable to be re-vaccinated at 7 yearly periods.

Persons going abroad are compelled to be vaccinated.

**TABLE 14.**  
**VACCINATION.**

Primary Vaccinations.					
<i>Under 1 yr.</i>	<i>1 yr.</i>	<i>2—4 yrs.</i>	<i>5—14 yrs.</i>	<i>15 plus.</i>	
154	12	2	14	23	
Re-Vaccinations.					
<i>Under 1 yr.</i>	<i>1 yr.</i>	<i>2—4 yrs.</i>	<i>5—14 yrs.</i>	<i>15 plus.</i>	
—	—	—	7	16	

### MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

The Mass Radiography Service is organised by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board, who arrange for visits to each district in Wales, after consultation with the local authorities concerned.

The service visited Rhos, Ruabon, Johnstown and the numbers who were X-rayed and the results found are given in the following tables. The highest percentage of abnormalities was found in the higher age groups of the men.

In Rhos: 50 out of 107 men aged 45—59 and 50 out of 83 men aged 60 and over showed abnormalities.

TABLE 15.  
 WELSH REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD—MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE. TABLE A.  
 DETAILS OF MASS RADIOGRAPHIC SURVEY CARRIED OUT AT RHOS.  
 ANALYSIS IN AGE GROUPS.

	Grand Total	Under 15		15—24		25—34		35—44		45—59		60 and over		Totals	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Total Number Examined .....	738	105	102	36	49	53	42	48	34	107	60	83	19	432	306
Number found to be abnormal (a and b) .....	137 or 18.56%	.....	3	2	.....	5	5	8	.....	50	5	50	9	115	22
Classification of abnormal cases :— (a) Requiring further observation .....	10 or 1.35%	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	2	2	2	1	6	4
(b) Other abnormalities of the Chest	127 or 17.21%	.....	2	2	.....	4	5	7	.....	48	3	48	8	109	18

TABLE 16.

## WELSH REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD—MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE.

TABLE A.

## DETAILS OF MASS RADIOGRAPHIC SURVEY CARRIED OUT AT RUABON.

## ANALYSIS IN AGE GROUPS.

	Grand Total	Under 15		15—24		25—34		35—44		45—59		60 and over		Totals	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Total Number Examined .....	757	77	92	110	120	35	67	45	45	56	68	21	21	344	413
Number found to be abnormal (a and b) .....	53 OR 7.00%	1	3	8	1	2	2	5	2	15	6	6	2	37	16
Classification of abnormal cases :— (a) Requiring further observation .....	7 OR .92%	.....	1	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	1	.....	6	1
(b) Other abnormalities of the Chest	46 OR 6.08%	1	2	5	1	2	2	5	2	13	6	5	2	31	15



TABLE 17.

## WELSH REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD—MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE. TABLE A.

DETAILS OF MASS RADIOGRAPHIC SURVEY CARRIED OUT AT JOHNSTOWN, DENBIGHSHIRE, AMONGST THE GENERAL POPULATION, DECEMBER, 1956.

## ANALYSIS IN AGE GROUPS.

	Grand Total	Under 15		15—24		25—34		35—44		45—59		60 and over		Totals	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Total Number Examined .....	138	.....	.....	9	10	13	16	22	15	28	13	9	3	81	57
Number found to be abnormal (a and b) .....	31 OR 22.46%	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	5	1	14	2	6	1	27	4
Classification of abnormal cases :— (a) Requiring further observation .....	6 OR 4.35%	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	6	.....
(b) Other abnormalities of the Chest	25 OR 18.11%	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	3	1	10	2	6	1	21	4

**TABLE 18.**

**HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.**

**1. GENERAL.**

(a) Wrexham and East Denbighshire War Memorial Hospital	.....	.....	.....	.....	201 beds.
(b) Maelor General Hospital—					
Emergency Unit	.....	.....	.....	.....	206 beds.
Isolation Unit	.....	.....	.....	.....	110 beds.

**2. MATERNITY CASES.**

Trevalyn Manor Maternity Hospital	.....	45 beds.
Maelor General Hospital (Maternity Unit).	.....	21 beds.
Cottage Hospital, Llangollen	.....	6 beds.
Cottage Hospital, Chirk	.....	8 beds.

**3. ORTHOPAEDIC.**

Robert Jones & Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Gobowen.

**CLINICS.**

**1. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.**

These are established in the following areas:—Rhos, Llay, Southsea, Brymbo, Rhostyllen, Coedpoeth, Broughton, Cefn, Rossett, Gresford, Froncysyllte, Johnstown, Holt, Ruabon and Rhosrobin.

**2. 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. A Clinic is also held at Cefn.

**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:—

Brynteg	2	Holt	1
Brymbo	1	Gwersyllt	2
Broughton	1	Llay	2
Bwlchgwyn	1	Rhos	4
Cefn	2	Rhostyllen	1
Gresford	1	Ruabon	1
Garth	1		

**2. HEALTH VISITORS.**

There are seven Health Visitors (who are also School Nurses) employed in the rural district on Maternity and Child Welfare and School Medical work.

## DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

<i>No. of Cases.</i>		<i>No. of Domestic Helps employed.</i>
General .....	156	94
Tuberculosis .....	9	
Midwifery .....	7	

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. Section 47.

Powers are given to the District Council under this Act to remove to Hospital or Home, any persons found to be living alone who are aged and infirm and incapable of devoting to themselves the proper care and attention necessary to keep themselves or their homes in a clean and healthy condition, and having no other persons willing to do it for them.

When compulsory powers are taken it is necessary to apply to a Court for confirmation of the Order which is then valid for 3 months, after which period application must be renewed if necessary. The Court can refuse the application if they do not think there are adequate grounds for removal.

The decision as to when to take compulsory action is a very difficult one for it infringes the liberty of the individual. If anything happens to an aged person living alone, we are criticised for neglecting to take action. When we do take action we are sometimes accused of exercising dictatorial powers. Therefore, every attempt is first made to persuade such persons to go voluntarily and only as a last resort in cases of utmost urgency is compulsion used.

Only one person was moved to hospital under this Act in 1956, and he later voluntarily entered a Home for the Aged.

## RAINFALL.

We are supplied each year with the rainfall figures taken at Packsaddle by the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company and I wish to express my appreciation of their willingness to give us this information. The total rainfall for the year was 32.17 inches as compared to 28.96 in 1955.

We had a very dry spring but a shockingly wet summer. The wettest month of the year was the holiday month of August, which effectively damped the enthusiasm of most holiday makers.

The figures for each month are given in Table 19.

**TABLE 19.**  
**RAINFALL FIGURES TAKEN AT PACKSADDLE,**  
**FOR THE YEAR 1956.**

<i>Month</i>	<i>Rainfall (Inches).</i>
January	4.72
February	0.49
March	1.86
April	1.98
May	0.54
June	1.75
July	3.89
August	5.71
September	3.31
October	2.32
November	1.44
December	4.16
	—
Total .....	32.17
	=

#### **SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.**

Most of our district is well sewered and very little remains to be done.

The Burton and Lavister Sewerage Scheme will complete our present programme.

#### **HOUSING.**

The total number of Council houses built in our district up to 31st December, 1956, was 5,855, of which 311 were built during the year.

During the next 4 years the Council are committed to build at the rate of 300 houses a year. The majority of these are to be devoted to the needs of slum clearance which will cause some delay in the housing of other classes of applicant.

There are still 5,500 people on the waiting list for Council Houses which shows how great is the problem we have to cope with in the face of rising costs which entail higher rents. The withdrawal of the government subsidy, except for slum clearance purposes, has placed an almost insuperable obstacle towards rehousing families in lodgings and living in overcrowded conditions.

One way to overcome this difficulty is to purchase sub-standard properties at reasonable prices and re-condition them into suitable dwellings. This has already been tried with great success at Rhostyllen, Gwersyllt and Rhos, and I hope that many more properties falling into disrepair because their owners cannot afford the costs of reconditioning will be acquired, as this will save money on Council Houses, and will relieve our waiting list.

**TABLE 20.**  
**HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR 1956.**

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>Total No. of Council Houses at 31.12.56.</i>	<i>Council Houses erected in 1956.</i>	<i>Private Houses completed in 1956.</i>	<i>Council Houses in course of erection 31.12.56.</i>
Abenbury .....	2	.....	1	.....
Allington .....	165	10	3	.....
Bersham .....	327	22	5	.....
Bieston .....	4	.....	.....	.....
Broughton .....	646	22	3	62
Brymbo .....	342	30	1	50
Burton .....	10	.....	5	.....
Cefn .....	703	32	.....	18
Erbistock .....	18	.....	.....	.....
Esc. Above .....	.....	.....	1	.....
Esc. Below .....	347	14	6	8
Gresford .....	129	.....	15	.....
Gwersyllt .....	846	44	1	55
Holt .....	68	.....	.....	.....
Isycoed .....	12	.....	.....	.....
Llan. Rural .....	190	.....	.....	.....
Llay .....	346	.....	.....	.....
Marchwiell .....	103	34	.....	.....
Minera .....	74	.....	.....	.....
Penycae .....	344	85	2	68
Rhos .....	831	.....	2	12
Ruabon .....	338	18	.....	38
Sesswick .....	10	.....	2	.....
TOTALS	<u>5855</u>	<u>311</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>311</u>

### SLUM CLEARANCE.

Under Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936, the Council decided to proceed to secure the clearance of certain areas in Rhos by ordering the demolition of the houses therein.

As regards the programme of slum clearance it was decided to deal with the worst areas first.

### WATER SUPPLY.

During 1956, we had a very wet year, apart from a dry spring, so that there was no shortage of water in our district.

Most of the district is supplied by the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company, who have taken over most of the smaller undertakings and have provided a safe and reliable supply.

The Llantysilio Water Supply Scheme is nearing completion but the reservoir situated in the Llangollen Urban District Council's area is incapable of supplying the needs of all the householders hoping to be served by this scheme.

It is desirable for premises to be connected to the main as soon as possible and for this purpose 20,000 gallons of water per day would be needed.

The Garth and Froncysyllte Undertakings still remain to be dealt with for they are subject to periodical surface contamination as shown by the bacteriological results of the samples taken at regular intervals.

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**  
**FOR THE YEAR 1956.**

---

*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 carried out by the Public Health Inspectors during 1956.

On the recommendation of the Working Party on the Recruitment, Training and Qualification of Sanitary Inspectors, legislation was introduced to change the title to that of Public Health Inspector.

The main activities of the Department during the year have been concentrated on Meat Inspection and the Inspection of Unfit Houses.

The introduction of the Food Hygiene Regulations during the year placed further duties on the Department and every effort was made to secure the compliance of the regulations in all food premises. A considerable amount of work was carried out but it should be pointed out that constant inspection of all food premises is necessary if a high standard is to be maintained.

I have to acknowledge the assistance and co-operation of all members of the Staff and the Council's Chief Officers.

I would also thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued confidence and support.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. THOMAS,  
*Chief Public Health Inspector.*

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

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

TABLE 21.

### HOUSING :

No. of houses re-roofed	.....	.....	.....	.....	28
No. of houses repaired—Roofs	.....	.....	.....	.....	74
No. of houses repaired—Walls	.....	.....	.....	.....	56
No. of houses repaired—Doors	.....	.....	.....	.....	35
No. of houses repaired—Lighting	.....	.....	.....	.....	50
No. of houses otherwise treated to prevent dampness	.....	.....	.....	.....	29
No. of houses in which defective floors were renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	30
No. of houses in which defective floors were repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	17
No. of houses provided with new pavements in back yards	.....	.....	.....	.....	28
No. of houses provided with ventilated food stores	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
No. of houses provided with new kitchen grates	.....	.....	.....	.....	44
No. of houses provided with new washing boilers	.....	.....	.....	.....	13
No. of houses provided with baths	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
No. of visits re Council House Applicants	.....	.....	.....	.....	2335

### DRAINAGE :

No. of new cesspools constructed	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
No. of new septic tanks constructed	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
No. of kitchen sinks provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
No. of new drains laid to old premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	30
No. of drains repaired or improved	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
No. of Inspection Chambers constructed	.....	.....	.....	.....	13
No. of Nuisances abated (drains)	.....	.....	.....	.....	75

### SANITARY CONVENIENCES :

No. of new water closets provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
No. of old water closets furnished with flushing cisters	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
No. of old water closets repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
No. of privies converted into water closets	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
No. of privies repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
No. of new earth closets and privies	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
No. of portable ashbins provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	337

### WATER SUPPLY :

No. of old premises supplied	.....	.....	.....	.....	21
No. of service pipes repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	17

### MILK (S.D.) (S.A.) ORDER, 1955 :

No. of visits to premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	52
---------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	----

### LICENSED PREMISES :

No. of visits to Licensed Premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
------------------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	----

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937 :

No. of visits and inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	68
No. of workshops repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
No. of workshops cleansed on notice	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
No. of new sanitary conveniences provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
No. of sanitary conveniences improved	.....	.....	.....	.....	1

**FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955:**

No. of visits to Food Preparation Premises	.....	.....	148
No. of visits to Canteens	.....	.....	20
No. of visits to Restaurants and Snack Bars	.....	.....	28
No. of visits to Ice Cream Premises	.....	.....	39
No. of visits to Bakehouses	.....	.....	24

**SHOPS ACT:**

No. of visits and inspections	.....	.....	108
-------------------------------	-------	-------	-----

**MEAT INSPECTION:**

No. of visits to Slaughterhouses	.....	.....	2107
No. of visits to Butchers' Shops and Stalls	.....	.....	18
No. of visits to Knackers Yards	.....	.....	77

**CLERICAL WORK:**

No. of Intimatory Notices issued	.....	.....	642
No. of Intimatory Notices complied with	.....	.....	586
No. of Statutory Notices issued	.....	.....	75
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	.....	.....	82
Total No. of Visits and Inspections	.....	.....	12,527

**HOUSING.**

As the result of the change in the Government's Housing Policy, the Council decided to erect houses for rehousing families from unfit houses.

A number of houses ear-marked for demolition before the outbreak of war were still occupied and as no repairs had been carried out by the owners in the interim period, the conditions under which these families lived were deplorable.

As an initial step, 7 Clearance Areas, comprising 35 houses, were declared. A Public Inquiry was held in August, 1956, and the Minister of Housing and Local Government subsequently confirmed the Clearance Orders.

In addition, the Health (Unfit Houses) Sub-committee considered the condition of 144 Individual Unfit Houses, where the owners were given the opportunity to submit proposals for rendering the properties fit for occupation.

112 Demolition Orders and 13 Closing Orders were made, and 19 Undertakings to improve the properties were accepted by the Council, of which 7 were completed within the year.

One feature in connection with the unfit houses is the fact that most of them are occupied by small families of elderly people, and it would appear that accommodation for these families could be provided by the erection of bungalows and two bedroom houses.



During the year a large number of houses have changed ownership and many houses which were originally placed in Grade 4 have been repaired and modernised, which has made a considerable contribution to the improvement of the housing conditions in the area.

After the Council decided to re-introduce Improvement Grants, 76 applications were received. 4 applications were rejected but grants to the amount of £11,748 were made to the owners of 72 houses.

The total expenditure incurred by these owners on the improvements, and general repairs which did not rank for grants, was £37,864.

A large number of houses were repaired as the result of informal action and personal interviews with the owners, so that, during the year, a considerable amount has been involved in maintaining property in a state of repair.

#### **CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR.**

Two applications for Certificates of Disrepair under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, were made, but in respect of one house only was a certificate issued.

This certificate, together with one issued in 1955, were subsequently revoked as the necessary repairs were carried out.

#### **COUNCIL HOUSE TENANCIES.**

The Department paid 2335 visits in connection with applications for houses. The information provided by the investigations is collated in the Department and presented to the Selection of Tenants Sub-committee which enables them to assess the needs of the applicants.

#### **WATER SUPPLY.**

25 samples of water from the various Statutory Water Undertakings were submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Birkenhead.

The results of the samples are given in Table 22.

In addition, 15 samples of water from private sources were submitted for bacteriological examination.

TABLE 22. 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>
<b>Wrexham &amp; East Denbighshire Water Company.</b>					
1. Gwersyllt (1.5.56) .....	8	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
2. Gwersyllt (10.7.56) .....	1	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
3. Cefnybedd (10.7.56) .....	1	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
<b>(Brymbo Supply).</b>					
1. Brymbo (5.1.56) .....	7	2	2	.....	Unsatisfactory.
2. Minera (29.5.56) .....	7	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
3. Bwlchgwyn (18.9.56) .....	18	2	.....	.....	
4. Bwlchgwyn (18.9.56) .....	14	.....	.....	.....	
5. Coedpoeth (9.10.56) .....	4	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
6. Minera (9.10.56) .....	4	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
7. Tanyfron (23.10.56) .....	2	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
8. Southsea (27.11.56) .....	11	5	.....	.....	Please repeat.
9. Brymbo (27.11.56) .....	7	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.

TABLE 22. WATER SUPPLY.

<i>Nature of Sample and where taken</i>	<i>Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 2 days 27°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>
(Cefn Supply). 1. Acrefair (29.5.56) .....	1	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
2. Acrefair (26.6.56) .....	2	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
3. Acrefair (14.8.56) .....	28	17	.....	.....	Please repeat.
4. Acrefair (11.9.56) .....	36	35	5	.....	Unsatisfactory.
5. Cefn (27.9.56) .....	21	80	8	.....	Unsatisfactory.
6. Acrefair (27.9.56) .....	119	180 +	13	.....	Unsatisfactory.
7. Cefn (13.11.56) .....	8	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.

TABLE 22. WATER SUPPLY—(continued)

<i>Nature of Sample and where taken.</i>	<i>Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 37°C 2 days 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>
<b>(Ruabon Supply).</b>					
1. Ruabon (5.1.56) .....	3	2	.....	.....	Please repeat.
2. Ruabon (10.7.56) .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
<b>Wrexham Rural District Council Water Supplies. (Froncysyllte Supply).</b>					
1. Vron (5.1.56) .....	7	25	25	.....	Unsatisfactory.
2. Vron (11.9.56) .....	6	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
<b>(Garth Supply).</b>					
1. Garth (11.9.56) .....	11	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
2. Garth (27.11.56) .....	21	35	2	.....	

## MEAT INSPECTION.

There are 11 licenced private slaughter houses in use. The following Table gives the total number of animals slaughtered for human consumption during the year.

TABLE 23.

Year 1956	<i>Cattle ex- clud- ing Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number killed (if known) .....	1641	700	252	17,622	32,494	52,709
Number inspected .....	1641	700	252	17,622	32,494	52,709
<b>All Disease except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned	22	110	17	18	119	286
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	72	102	.....	432	2291	2897
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci .....	5.73	3.29	6.75	2.55	7.42	6.04
<b>Tuberculosis only.</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned	9	47	.....	.....	40	96
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	17	64	.....	.....	1360	1441
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis .....	1.58	15.86	.....	.....	4.31	2.92
<b>Cysticereosis.</b>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Generalised and totally condemned .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

The total weight of carcase meat condemned as being unfit for human consumption was 59 tons, 14 cwts., 0 qrs., 23½ lbs.

This shows an increase of 13,547 animals on the previous year. With no increase in staff this has placed an undue strain on the work of the department and necessitated a considerable amount of overtime.

The Health Committee considered the position and recommended the appointment of an additional Inspector, but unfortunately, no appointment was made due to the lack of suitable candidates.

In addition to the animals slaughtered for human consumption, 15 cattle were dealt with under the Tuberculosis (Slaughter of Reactors) Order, 1950; 13 under the Diseases of Animals Act, 1950; and 3 under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938.

All meat found to be unfit for human consumption is coloured and arrangements made for its collection and treatment for other purposes.

### POULTRY INSPECTION.

12,375 carcasses of dressed poultry were examined during the year, 30 (3 qts., 13 lbs.) of which were found to be unfit for human consumption.

### INSPECTION OF OTHER FOODS.

The following is a list of foods which have been examined at local shops and found to be unfit for human consumption.

**TABLE 24.**

Meat	.....	.....	.....	.....	405 tins.
Meat	.....	.....	.....	.....	115 lbs.
Fish	.....	.....	.....	.....	80 tins.
Fish	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 stone.
Carrots	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 tins.
Vegetables	.....	.....	.....	.....	10 tins.
Beans	.....	.....	.....	.....	25 tins.
Peas	.....	.....	.....	.....	49 tins.
Soup	.....	.....	.....	.....	12 tins.
Tomatoes	.....	.....	.....	.....	167 tins.
Spaghetti	.....	.....	.....	.....	8 tins.
Fruit	.....	.....	.....	.....	276 tins.
Fruit	.....	.....	.....	.....	9 lbs.
Milk	.....	.....	.....	.....	117 tins.
Jam	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 jars.
Cake	.....	.....	.....	.....	6 lbs.

### FOOD SAMPLING.

The Denbighshire County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority, and the following report has been received from the Food and Drugs Inspector.

**TABLE 25.**

Particulars of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, in the Wrexham Rural District, during the year ended 31st December, 1956.

<i>Article</i>	<i>Number Taken.</i>	<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Not genuine or sub-standard</i>
Milk .....	120	118	2
Margarine .....	2	2	—
Butter .....	4	4	—
Lard .....	1	1	—
Cheese .....	1	1	—
Flour .....	1	1	—
Cake Flour .....	1	1	—
Baking Powder .....	1	1	—
Oatmeal .....	1	1	—
Pearl Barley .....	1	1	—
Rice .....	1	1	—
Tinned Beans .....	1	1	—
Fish Paste .....	1	1	—
Meat Paste .....	1	1	—
Luncheon Meat .....	1	1	—
Sausages .....	6	6	—
Suet .....	1	1	—
Vinegar .....	1	1	—
Mustard .....	1	1	—
Pickled Onions .....	1	1	—
Condensed Milk .....	1	1	—
Jelly .....	1	1	—
Ice Cream .....	6	6	—
Double Cream .....	2	2	—
Jam .....	5	5	—
Sugar .....	1	1	—
Custard Powder .....	1	1	—
Tea .....	1	1	—
Coffee .....	1	1	—
Soft Drinks .....	1	1	—
Beer .....	1	1	—
Brandy .....	1	1	—
Gin .....	1	1	—
Whisky .....	1	1	—
Rum .....	1	1	—
Gripe Mixture .....	1	1	—
Cod Liver Oil .....	1	1	—
Bicarbonate of Soda .....	1	1	—
Camphorated Oil .....	1	1	—
Cream of Tartar .....	1	1	—
Amm. Tinc. of Quinine .....	1	1	—
Totals .....	<u>179</u>	<u>177</u>	<u>2</u>

Both the milk samples shown in the Table as being "Not Genuine" were certified by the Public Analyst as being slightly deficient in fat. In one instance the deficiency was accounted for when an "Appeal to Cows" sample was taken and it was

found that the cows were giving milk which was below the standard. In the other case, in which the deficiency was very small, the retailer and the farmer who produced the milk were visited and cautioned.

In addition to the milk samples submitted to the Public Analyst during the year, thirty-seven samples of milk taken from Schools and sixty-four from Institutions in the W.R.D.C. area were tested in this Office by the Inspectors. All of these samples were found to be up to the presumptive standards prescribed by the Sale of Milk Regulations 1939, viz. : 3 per cent of fat and 8.5 per cent of solids-not-fat.

Fifty-nine samples of foods and of drugs, as enumerated in the Table, were certified by the Analyst as being genuine and free from all prohibited preservatives and colouring matter.

### **FOOD PREMISES.**

The number of registered premises where food is prepared for human consumption is 81.

It is my opinion that regular inspection of all food premises is essential but with the present staff it has not been possible to give this matter the attention which it deserved.

It must, however, be reported that a considerable improvement in the technique employed at these establishments has been observed, and occupiers are taking steps to comply with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

### **ICE CREAM.**

The number of premises on the register licenced to store and sell Ice Cream is now 179. Only one person is manufacturing on his own premises, all the others buying in bulk from the large manufacturers.

During the year, 25 samples were submitted for analyses ; 24 were Grade 1, and one Grade 2.

### **FISH FRYING.**

There are 51 premises on the Council's register. The majority of these are open in the evenings only and all inspections have been carried out after the normal duties.

The management of these establishments is generally satisfactory.

### **BAKEHOUSES.**

The number of bakehouses on the Council's register at the end of 1956 was 21, being 8 less than the previous year.



The premises have been regularly inspected and were found to be maintained in a satisfactory condition.

### MILK REGULATIONS.

The supervision of milk production is now vested in the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, but milk distributors are licenced by the District Council.

The number of Dealers Licences issued during 1956 was 52 and 6 Supplementary Dealers Licences.

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

During the year 3 factories were closed and 5 new establishments were registered, making a total of 147 factories on the Council's register at the end of 1956.

Regular inspections were carried out and it was found necessary to serve notices on the occupiers in respect of 6 premises.

**TABLE 26.**

FACTORY.	<i>No. on Register.</i>
Bacon Factory .....	1
Blacksmiths .....	5
Boot Repairers .....	15
Bottling Works .....	3
Brickworks .....	13
Chemical Works .....	2
Chocolate Manufacturers .....	1
Coach Builders .....	2
Cotton, Weaving and Spinning .....	3
Cycle Shops .....	4
Dairies .....	2
Dressmaking and Tailoring .....	5
Electrical Equipment .....	6
Garages .....	38
Gas Works .....	3
Grass Drying .....	1
Iron, Steel and Metal Manufacturers .....	4
Joinery (Upholstery and Undertaking, Builders' Shops, etc.) .....	21
Laundries .....	3
Millers .....	2
Paint Manufacturers .....	1
Printers .....	3
Sawmills .....	3
Stonemasons .....	3
Seed Dressing .....	1
Tiled Fireplaces .....	2
	147

## **CAMPING SITES.**

There are two licenced camping sites in the district, namely :—

Abbey Farm, Llangollen.  
Chester Road, Gresford.

## **PUBLIC CLEANSING.**

A regular collection has been maintained in spite of the time lost by workmen through illness.

Considerable assistance could be given by householders if domestic refuse only was placed in bins and some attempt was made to reduce the amount of paper.

The amount of combustible matter disposed of at the various tips is a matter of concern, especially in view of the provisions of the Clean Air Bill and every effort must be made to safeguard against tip fires.

## **PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.**

Since the operation of the Damage by Pests Act, the Council has been the statutory body responsible for dealing with the destruction of rats and mice on all properties.

All private premises are treated free but a charge is made for the treatment of all infested business premises.

All the Council's sewers are test baited bi-annually, and only slight infestations were found.

The Council's sewerage works and refuse tips are periodically inspected and treated when found necessary.

General surveys of the area were carried out, including 97 farms. Any infestations found to exist on farms were reported to the Agricultural Committee, who arrange for the treatment of the premises.

The number of premises inspected during the year was 745, and 360 of these were found to be infested. Details are given in the following Table.

**TABLE 27.**

Domestic Premises	.....	297
Business Premises	.....	56
River Banks, etc.	.....	7
		— —
		360
		==

### **INFESTATION BY BED BUGS.**

17 complaints of infestation by bed bugs were reported, 10 from private houses and 7 from council houses. In all cases the premises and furniture were disinfested.

### **KNACKERS YARDS.**

There are two premises licenced as Knackers Yards, namely :  
Tyddyn Daniel, Marchwiel.  
Ffrwd, Brymbo.

These premises are inspected regularly and no complaints of nuisances have been received.

In addition to other animals slaughtered at the Knackers Yards 38 horses were slaughtered, and 25 carcasses of horses were received at these premises during 1956.

### **RAG FLOCK ACT, 1951.**

Two premises are registered under the above Act, namely :  
Messrs. S. Aston & Sons, Johnstown.  
Remploy, Trading Estate, Wrexham.



