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WREXHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

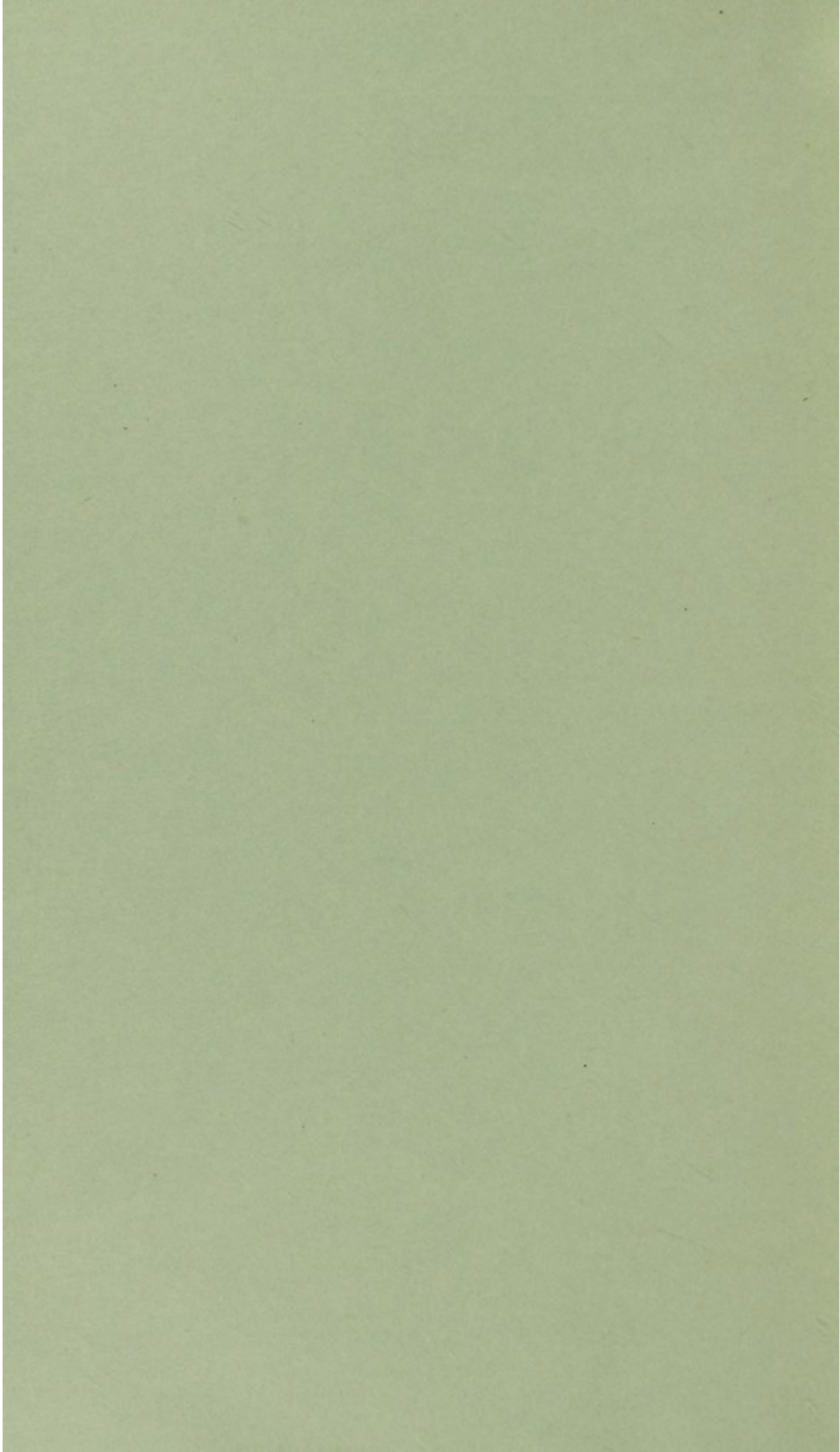
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1958

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

**D. THOMAS,
F.A.P.H.I., C.M.I.**



STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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

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TREVOR L. WILLIAMS, LL.M.

* Part of Year.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1958.

To the Chairman and Members of the
HEALTH COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my eighth Annual Report on the health and vital statistics of the Wrexham Rural District for the year ended 31st December, 1958.

This report follows the lines laid down in a government circular on this subject, particularly in regard to Vital Statistics and the Food Hygiene Regulations.

The year has been notable in several respects, for although it has been an anxious one from a financial point of view, progress continued to be made in practically all directions.

In the sphere of housing, it was proposed that 100 bungalows be built to meet the specialised needs of old people and 140 houses be built to meet the needs of the slum clearance programme. However, no council houses were built to meet general needs for which there is an increasing and urgent demand.

We find Education Authorities building palatial schools in which to teach many children who have to live in conditions of degradation and squalor at home. Good homes should come first, if children are to grow up healthy and derive benefit from their education.

During the year the Polio Vaccination programme was extended to include persons aged 15—25 years, and there has been about a 60 per cent response.

No serious epidemics of infectious disease occurred, though new cases of Tuberculosis showed an increase.

A campaign to prevent accidents in the home was organised during November, and an exhibition was based on an Old People's Bungalow in Cefn, showing all the latest devices to prevent accidents.

A most interesting event was the discovery of Bronze Age remains on a housing site at Brymbo. These included well preserved parts of a skeleton in a grave with a beaker and knife. Archaeologists reported that they belonged to the Beaker Folk. That a skeleton should remain in such a good state of preservation since the Bronze Age speaks well for the strength and nutrition of the men of that age.

Today, people's remains may not last long after burial, but they are certainly living considerably longer, owing to the progress of medical skill and science. This is not altogether beneficial, for the lot of many an old person is not a happy one, and the problem of how best to help them is a very difficult one.

Finally, the main props for good health continue to be good feeding and good housing with perfect cleanliness.

I am indebted to the Chief Public Health Inspector and his staff for their help and co-operation, as also the clerical staff.

My thanks are also due to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their kindness and consideration.

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, 1958, Mid-Annual	62,120
Population, Density per acre	0.86
Number of Inhabited Houses	20,523
Number of Inhabited Council Houses	6,356
Sum represented by a 1d. Rate, 1957—1958	£1,574 10s. 3d.

2. VITAL STATISTICS.

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

LIVE BIRTHS.	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	522	456	978
Illegitimate	21	11	32
Total	543	467	1010

Birth Rate per 1000 population. Crude 16.26
Adjusted 16.26
England and Wales 16.4

STILL BIRTHS.	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	21	11	32
Illegitimate	1	2	3
Total	22	13	35

Still Birth Rate per 1000 Live and Still Births 34.56
England and Wales 21.6

TOTAL BIRTHS (LIVE AND STILL).	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	543	467	1010
Illegitimate	22	13	35
Total	565	480	1045

DEATHS.	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	413	332	745

Death Rate per 1000 population. Crude 11.99
Adjusted 13.91
England and Wales 11.7

MATERNAL MORTALITY.	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	1	1
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births—0.96		

INFANTILE MORTALITY.	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	12	5	17
Illegitimate	2	1	3
Total	14	6	20

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births—total	19.80
England and Wales	22.5
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births—legitimate	17.38
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births—illegitimate	93.75
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births	12.87
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births	3.17

**WREXHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.
1958.**

TABLE 1.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Acreage</i>	<i>Number of Houses 1958</i>	<i>Population (Estim.)</i>	<i>Density of Population per acre</i>	<i>Rateable Value</i>
					£
Abenbury	1717	110	297	0.17	14,571
Allington	3578	481	1415	0.39	11,885
Bersham	1784	1471	4302	2.41	23,314
Bieston	1683	56	191	0.11	2,959
Broughton	1089	2268	6750	6.20	31,161
Brymbo	2543	1296	4120	1.62	28,897
Burton	2869	231	768	0.26	5,468
Cefn	1876	2143	6424	3.42	43,103
Erbistock	2919	131	450	0.15	2,563
Eddig	287	9	40	0.14	562
Esc. Above	3953	177	483	0.12	4,156
Esc. Below	1640	850	2658	1.62	22,797
Gresford	1099	623	1520	1.38	15,811
Gwersyllt	2103	2039	6118	2.91	35,697
Holt	2912	345	1081	0.37	6,204
Isycoed	3532	98	414	0.11	14,493
Llangollen R.	9953	846	2572	0.26	15,957
Llantysilio	5163	197	588	0.11	2,811
Llay	2251	984	3465	1.54	28,982
Marchwiell	3389	282	617	0.18	10,433
Minera	1393	412	1189	0.85	7,029
Penycae	4694	911	2293	0.49	13,333
Rhos	1441	3386	10,783	7.43	51,350
Ruabon	5906	1082	3269	0.55	25,843
Sesswick	2596	95	313	0.12	4,275
Gas Board					8,550
Total	72,370	20,523	62,120	0.86	432,210

Product of a Penny Rate—1957/1958—£1,574 10s. 3d.

TABLE 2.
ANALYSIS OF VITAL STATISTICS.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Es- tim- ated Pop.</i>	<i>Births</i>			<i>Birth Rate per 1000 Pop.</i>	<i>Dths</i>	<i>Death Rate per 1000 Pop.</i>	<i>Dths un- der one year</i>	<i>Inft. Mort. Rate per 1000 births</i>	<i>Dths from Tu- ber- cul- osis</i>
		<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Tot.</i>						
Abenbury	297	5	8	13	43.77	3	10.10	1	76.92	
Allington	1415	11	17	28	19.79	10	7.07			
Bersham	4302	30	28	58	13.48	54	12.55	1	17.24	
Bieston	191	5	1	6	31.41	5	26.18	1	166.66	
Broughton	6750	72	65	137	20.29	66	9.78	3	21.89	1
Brymbo	4120	32	39	71	17.23	51	12.38	1	14.08	
Burton	768	7	4	11	14.32	7	9.11			
Cefn	6424	48	28	76	11.83	82	12.76	2	26.32	3
Erbistock	450		5	5	11.11	7	15.56			
Erddig	40					1	25.00			
Esc. Above	483	5	1	6	12.42	2	4.14			
Esc. Below	2658	18	22	40	15.05	25	9.41	1	25.00	
Gresford	1520	16	16	32	21.05	31	20.39	1	31.23	
Gwersyllt	6118	80	60	140	22.88	79	12.91	4	28.57	3
Holt	1081	9	5	14	12.95	16	14.80			
Isycoed	414	3	3	6	14.49	3	7.25			
Llan. R.	2572	18	19	37	14.39	41	15.94			
Llantysilio	588	3	4	7	11.90	6	10.20			1
Llay	3465	38	26	64	18.47	27	7.79			1
Marchwiell	617	8	10	18	29.17	12	19.45	1	55.56	
Minera	1189	8	9	17	14.30	24	20.19			
Penycae	2293	27	22	49	21.37	25	10.90	2	40.82	
Rhos	10,783	68	53	121	11.22	111	10.29	1	8.26	6
Ruabon	3269	29	22	51	15.60	54	16.52	1	19.61	
Sesswick	313	3		3	9.58	3	9.58			
TOTAL	62,120	543	467	1010	16.26	745	11.99	20	19.80	15

TABLE 3.

BIRTHS.

Parish.	Legitimate.		Illegitimate.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Abenbury	5	8			13
Allington	11	16		1	28
Bersham	27	27	3	1	58
Bieston	5	1			6
Broughton	72	63		2	137
Brymbo	32	38		1	71
Burton	7	4			11
Cefn	47	27	1	1	76
Erbistock		5			5
Erddig					
Esc. Above	5	1			6
Esc. Below	18	21		1	40
Gresford	16	16			32
Gwersyllt	73	59	7	1	140
Holt	8	5	1		14
Isycoed	3	3			6
Llangollen R.	13	13		1	37
Llantysilio	3	4			7
Llay	34	26	4		64
Marchwiel	8	10			18
Minera	8	9			17
Penycae	26	22	1		49
Rhos	64	52	4	1	121
Ruabon	29	21		1	51
Sesswick	3				3
TOTAL	522	456	21	11	1010

TABLE 4.

DEATHS.

Parish.	Deaths.		Deaths under One year of age.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Abenbury	2	.....	.....	1	3
Allington	6	4	.....	.....	10
Bersham	36	17	1	.....	54
Bieston	1	3	1	.....	5
Broughton	40	23	2	1	66
Brymbo	25	25	.....	1	51
Burton	5	2	.....	.....	7
Cefn	32	48	2	.....	82
Erbistock	2	5	.....	.....	7
Erddig .....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Esc. Above	1	1	.....	.....	2
Esc. Below	17	7	.....	1	25
Gresford	14	16	1	.....	31
Gwersyllt	44	31	4	.....	79
Holt	8	8	.....	.....	16
Isycoed	2	1	.....	.....	3
Llan. Rural	24	17	.....	.....	41
Llantysilio	1	5	.....	.....	6
Llay	12	15	.....	.....	27
Marchwiell	6	5	1	.....	12
Minera	15	9	.....	.....	24
Penycae	9	14	1	1	25
Rhos	64	46	1	.....	111
Ruabon	31	22	.....	1	54
Sesswick	2	1	.....	.....	3
TOTAL	399	326	14	6	745

THE POPULATION OF THE RURAL DISTRICT.

The estimated population of the District as given by the Registrar General was 62,120, as compared with 62,160 in 1957. According to these estimates there has been a fall of 70 since 1956, when the population was 62,190. During the year there was an excess of births over deaths of 265.

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 births was 1.00 and for deaths 1.16.

BIRTHS.

The total number of live births registered during the year was 1010 as compared to 963 in 1957 and 988 in 1956. Thus

we have reversed the downward trend and have climbed up over the 1000 mark which was usually attained prior to 1950. This is a very satisfactory improvement and shows there is plenty of life and vigour in our district yet.

There were 543 boys and 467 girls born and of these 32 were illegitimate.

Most of the unmarried mothers and children are cared for at Bersham Hall and arrangements are made for the children to be adopted if so desired.

BIRTH RATE.

The Birth Rate was 16.26 as compared to 15.49 in 1957. That for England and Wales was 16.4.

STILL BIRTHS.

There was a total of 35 Still Births during 1958, as compared with 26 in 1957, showing an increase of 9. These still births are a sad waste of potential infant life. Much could be done to reduce this figure by better ante-natal care and supervision.

STILL BIRTH RATE.

The still birth rate was 34.65 as compared to 26.99 in 1957. That for England and Wales was 21.6.

DEATHS.

There was a total of 745 deaths during the year as compared to 786 in 1957, showing a fall of 41. Of these 413 were males and 332 females.

As usual, the chief killers were cancer and diseases of the heart and circulation. Cancer caused 123 deaths while diseases of the heart and circulation caused 389 deaths.

Although cancer is said to be on the increase, the number of deaths was actually less than for 1957 when 147 deaths occurred.

Cancer of the lung and bronchus caused less deaths than in 1957, for 18 men and 3 women died as compared to 25 men and 2 women in 1957.

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

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Lung and Bronchus	18	3	21
Breast and Uterus	1	13	14
Stomach	16	12	28
Others	32	28	60

SMOKING AND LUNG CANCER.

The relationship between lung cancer and heavy smoking, particularly of cigarettes, is controversial, even though the facts cannot be denied.

Not to smoke, or at least to smoke only in moderation, is advice which is good at all ages, and the best approach is to try and persuade school children of the grave dangers associated with smoking, which they think is a sign of manliness. Some smokers think they are safe if they use a cigarette holder, but the only safe cigarette holder is one without a hole in the middle.

The Conference of the Royal Society of Health gives a lot of its time to preaching about the dangers of smoking, but as many delegates at the conference smoke like chimneys throughout every session, these warnings fall somewhat flat. If the Royal Society of Health is sincere on this subject they should prohibit smoking at the conference, to set an example which the delegates could follow. "Example is better than precept."

DEATH RATE.

The crude death rate was 11.99 per 1000 population but the adjusted rate was 13.91. This is the figure for comparison with England and Wales at 11.7.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There was a total of 20 infants who died below the age of 12 months. This is the lowest figure yet attained in this District. In 1957, there were 23 deaths and in 1956 there were 22 deaths, while over 10 years ago in 1947 there were 66 infant deaths. These figures show how infant mortality has fallen by two-thirds in the past 10 years and is a striking proof of the efficiency of our Maternity and Child Welfare Service.

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE.

The Infantile Mortality Rate was 19.80 per 1000 live births as compared with 23.88 for 1957. The figure for England and Wales was 22.5.

This is the lowest Infantile Mortality Rate yet achieved by our district and it is highly satisfactory to find that our figure is considerably lower than that for the country as a whole, which is a great achievement for an industrial area such as ours.

TABLE 6.

BIRTHS AT TREVALYN MATERNITY HOSPITAL DURING 1958.

Parishes	Total R.D. Births	Births at Trevalyn						Total
		Males		Females		Total		
		Legit.	Illegit.	Legit.	Illegit.	Legit.	Illegit.	
Abenbury	13			5		5		5
Allington	28	7		15		22		22
Bersham	58	12		13		25		25
Bieston	6	4				4		4
Broughton	137	33		28	1	61	1	62
Brymbo	71	15		14	1	29	1	30
Burton	11	4		5		9		9
Cefn	76	10		15		25		25
Erbistock	5			2		2		2
Erddig	—							
Esc. Above	6			1		1		1
Esc. Below	40	8		16		24		24
Gresford	32	12		11		23		23
Gwersyllt	140	30	2	29		59	2	61
Holt	14	7	1	3		10	1	11
Isycoed	6	3		2		5		5
Llangollen R.	37	2		2		4		4
Llantysilio	7	1				1		1
Llay	64	19	1	16		35	1	36
Marchwiell	18	6		5		11		11
Minera	17	2		4		6		6
Penycae	49	14		9		23		23
Rhos	121	35		26		61		61
Ruabon	51	11		8		19		19
Sesswick	3	3				3		3
Total	1010	238	4	229	2	467	6	473
Outward transferable Births		195	30	174	27	369	57	426
Grand Total	1010	433	34	403	29	836	63	899

Inward Transferable Births—313.

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	13	2	15
2. Tuberculosis, other			
3. Syphilitic disease	1		1
4. Diphtheria			
5. Whooping Cough			
6. Meningococcal infections		1	1
7. Acute poliomyelitis			
8. Measles			
19. Other infective and parasitic diseases		1	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	16	12	28
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	18	3	21
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	8	9
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus		5	5
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	32	28	60
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia		1	1
16. Diabetes	1	3	4
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	57	70	127
18. Coronary disease, angina	61	35	96
19. Hypertension with heart disease	5	6	11
20. Other heart disease	62	67	129
21. Other circulatory disease	11	15	26
22. Influenza	1		1
23. Pneumonia	13	7	20
24. Bronchitis	36	9	45
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	7		7
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	1	5
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	3	6
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	13		13
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion		1	1
31. Congenital malformations	4	3	7
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	31	41	72
33. Motor vehicle accidents	5	1	6
34. All other accidents	9	7	16
35. Suicide	7		7
36. Homicide and operations of war	1	1	2
TOTAL	413	332	745

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were no serious epidemics of infectious disease during the year. Measles showed the highest figure with 240 cases, while Tuberculosis came next with 69 cases. All infectious diseases should be notified promptly by general practitioners so that there may be no delay in taking what precautions are necessary and in finding the source of the infection. This is very important in cases of food poisoning.

There is a suggestion that certain diseases such as Measles, should no longer be notifiable, as modern methods of treatment have proved so efficacious in treating the disease and its complications that it no longer proves dangerous to life, while general practitioners would be saved much time and trouble.

There was a total of 400 cases of infectious diseases notified in 1958 as compared with 972 cases in 1957. The large number in 1957 was due to an epidemic of Measles with 785 cases, while only 240 cases were notified this year.

SCARLET FEVER.

There were 35 cases of Scarlet Fever as compared with 32 cases in 1957. They were all mild and none were admitted to Hospital.

POLIOMYELITIS AND ENCEPHALITIS.

Only 1 case of Encephalitis occurred who was an adult and was admitted to hospital.

WHOOPING COUGH.

There were 11 cases of Whooping Cough notified as compared with 45 cases in 1957. They were all under 10 years old and none were admitted to hospital.

MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS.

One case, a child under 12 months, was notified and died in hospital.

PNEUMONIA.

There was a total of 31 cases of Pneumonia notified as compared with 20 cases in 1957. 11 cases occurred between the ages of 1 year to 25 years and 20 cases occurred in persons over 25 years. There were 20 deaths from Pneumonia.

FOOD POISONING.

There were 4 cases of Food Poisoning notified as compared with 9 in 1957. They were mild cases affecting adults and none were admitted to hospital.

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 69 new cases of Tuberculosis notified as compared with 61 in 1957. These included 62 pulmonary cases and 7 non-pulmonary cases. Great progress has been made in the fight against Tuberculosis. During the last 10 years, deaths from Tuberculosis have been reduced by 80 per cent, while the incidence of new cases has been reduced by 38 per cent.

In dealing with Tuberculosis in the past, the emphasis was laid on finding, isolating and treating the cases; but now this has changed to preventive measures, the most important being good feeding, good housing and fresh air. Of the 62 pulmonary cases, 40 were men and 22 women.

The ages of the men were as follows :

- 4 between 10 and 25 years.
- 10 between 25 and 45 years.
- 26 over 45 years.

The ages of the women were as follows :

- 8 between 10 and 25 years.
- 6 between 25 and 45 years.
- 8 over 45 years.

These figures indicate that women tend to be infected at a younger age than men, for although nearly twice as many men are infected, they were mostly over 45 years old.

TABLE 9.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

<i>Diseases.</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Cases ad- mitted to Isolation H.</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Scarlet Fever	35	.....	.....
Whooping Cough	11	.....	.....
Measles	240	2	.....
Pulmonary T.B.	62	.....	15
Non-Pulmonary T.B.	7	.....	.....
Meningococcal Septicaemia	1	1	1
Encephalitis	1	1	.....
Dysentery	2	.....	.....
Pneumonia	31	.....	20
Para-typhoid	1	1	.....
Food Poisoning	4	.....	.....
Erysipelas	5	.....	.....
Totals	400	5	36

TABLE 10.

INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE 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	1	.....	11	21	1	1	.....	.....	35
Whooping Cough	2	5	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
Measles	9	40	58	129	2	2	.....	.....	240
Pulmonary T.B. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	10	50	.....	62
Non-Pulm T.B. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	5	.....	7
Meningococcal Septicaemia	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Encephalitis .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Dysentery .....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Pneumonia .....	.....	1	3	3	1	3	20	.....	31
Para-typhoid .....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Food Poisoning .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	.....	4
Erysipelas .....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	4	.....	5
Totals	13	47	73	159	7	19	82	.....	400

TABLE 11.

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

Age Groups	NEW CASES				Total	TOTAL DEATHS				Total
	Pulm.		N-Pulm.			Pulm.		N-Pulm.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
Under 1 year										
1—4 "										
5—9 "										
10—14 "	1	1			2					
15—19 "	1	3	2		6					
20—24 "	2	4			6					
25—34 "	4	3	1	3	11					
35—44 "	6	3		1	10	1				1
45—54 "	9	3			12	3	1			4
55—64 "	9	2			11	2				2
65 and over	8	3			11	7	1			8
Age unknown										
Totals	40	22	3	4	69	13	2			15

**IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING
COUGH.**

The immunisation campaigns of recent years have resulted in one of the most striking accomplishments of preventive medicine, for Diphtheria is now of rare occurrence. Provided we can maintain the level of children immunised above 75 per cent, we can feel safe from this disease. Should, however, the percentage fall, Diphtheria may once again make its appearance. The fact that no cases have occurred for many years in itself lulls people into a sense of false security and they may think the simple precaution of immunisation is not worth while. Do not let us wait for a death to bring home the importance of immunisation as protection against this dread disease.

There were fewer children immunised during 1958 than in 1957. This was largely due to the campaign against Polio, which necessitated a slackening of the Diphtheria Campaign. The numbers immunised are shown in the following Table.

TABLE 12.**IMMUNISATION.**

Number of Children Immunised during 1958.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

	0—1 yr.	1—4 yrs.	5—14 yrs.	15 plus.
Primary Doses	4	1	1	—
Reinforcings		0—4 yrs. 21	5—14 yrs. 76	15 plus. —

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation Combined.

	0—1 yr.	1—4 yrs.	5—14 yrs.	15 plus.
Primary Doses	416	67	24	—

Whooping Cough Immunisation. NIL.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALL POX.

Small Pox cases are now almost entirely confined to persons who have come to this country by sea or plane and localised epidemics can be started in this way, usually at our ports.

These outbreaks start a scare and everybody wants to be vaccinated at once.

It is, therefore, much wiser to be protected before-hand than to wait for an outbreak of the disease.

The level of vaccinations is low and only a small percentage of children were vaccinated this year. The number of births was 1010, but only 274 children under 1 year were vaccinated. Vaccination is usually performed before the baby is three months old.

TABLE 13.**VACCINATION.****Primary Vaccinations.**

Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2—4 yrs.	5—14 yrs.	15 plus.
274	33	19	23	33

Re-Vaccinations.

Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2—4 yrs.	5—14 yrs.	15 plus.
—	—	1	13	18

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS.

During 1957, vaccination against Polio. was extended to cover all children up to 15 years of age, and up to 60 per cent of these children responded and were done.

During 1958, additional age groups were added. These included persons aged 15 to 25 years. Expectant mothers were also urged to secure protection.

As the older age groups were mostly workers, it was necessary to make special arrangements at the clinic, so that they could attend. Clinics were therefore kept open until 6.30 p.m. once each month.

The course of injections included two doses at an interval of a month, plus a third dose about 12 months later. The response has been very good and 60 per cent of these age groups have had protection against this disease.

TABLE 14.

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS.

<i>6 months to 5 years.</i>	<i>5—15 years.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1859	4238	6097

TOTAL BOOSTER INJECTIONS.
1666.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

The Mass Radiography Service is playing a big part in the fight against Tuberculosis.

Permanent centres are based in the large towns, while the Mobile Van visits the outlying districts. The permanent centre in our area is based at the Wrexham War Memorial Hospital and is open to the public every Thursday without appointment, during the morning, afternoon and evening.

We are informed of the programme of rural visits by the Mobile Van and the residents are notified of the time and place by posters and handbills. Many of the works and factories were visited as well as the villages. The response in many of the small towns and villages was most disappointing.

The Van visited Brynteg for the first time in 1958, and only 291 attended, which was very poor out of a population of over 6,000.

This kind of response will make the Welsh Board of Health consider the visit not worth the time and expense involved.

Among the places visited were :—

Broughton, Brymbo, Cefn, Coedpoeth, Gresford,
Gwersyllt, Holt, Llay, Rhos, Rhostyllen, Rossett
and Ruabon ;

and the numbers of those who attended are given in the following Table.

TABLE 15.

**WELSH REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD—
MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE.**

Details of Mass Radiographic Survey carried out amongst the
General Population.

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>Total Number Examined.</i>	
	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Broughton	145	146
Brymbo	121	168
Cefn	151	201
Coedpoeth	216	227
Gresford	69	108
Gwersyllt	79	94
Holt	37	44
Llay	286	167
Rhos	358	288
Rhostyllen	134	115
Rossett	39	85
Ruabon	81	132

TABLE 16.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

1. GENERAL.

(a) Wrexham and East Denbighshire War Memorial Hospital	.....	.....	.....	.....	230 beds.
(b) Maelor General Hospital—					
Emergency Unit	.....	.....	.....	.....	252 beds.
Isolation Unit	.....	.....	.....	.....	137 beds.
Paediatric Unit	.....	.....	.....	.....	64 beds.

2. MATERNITY CASES.

Trevalyn Manor Maternity Hospital	.....	47 beds.
Maelor General Hospital (Maternity Unit).	.....	18 beds.
Cottage Hospital, Llangollen	.....	7 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, Rhosrobin and Trevor.

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 and also a Peripheral Physiotherapy Clinic is held there on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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	1½	Holt	1
Brymbo	1	Gwersyllt	2
Broughton	1½	Llay	2
Coedpoeth	1	Rhos	3
Cefn	2	Rhostyllen	1½
Gresford	1	Ruabon	1
Garth	1		

2. HEALTH VISITORS.

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

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

This is a County Council Service and is of great value in helping the old and infirm to keep their homes together. The home help does the cleaning and will prepare meals. Unfortunately, the service does not cover week-ends or nights and during this time the people have to fend for themselves.

The Domestic Helps were employed in the following cases :

Tuberculosis	.....	7
Midwifery	.....	6
Chronic Sick	.....	160
Others	.....	49

The number of Domestic Helps employed was 84.

RAINFALL.

We are supplied each year with the rainfall figures taken at Packsaddle by the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company. I am very grateful for their willingness in supplying this information.

The total rainfall for the year was 39.64 inches as compared with 34.14 inches in 1957, and 32.17 inches in 1956.

These figures show that we have had increasingly wet summers during the past 3 years. During 1958, June, July, August and September had more than 4 inches of rain. The driest month was April, while the wettest was February with over 5 inches of rain.

TABLE 17.
RAINFALL FIGURES TAKEN AT PACKSADDLE,
FOR THE YEAR 1958.

<i>Month</i>	<i>Rainfall</i> (<i>Inches</i>).
January	3.77
February	5.85
March	1.50
April	.62
May	2.41
June	4.18
July	4.14
August	4.09
September	4.28
October	3.02
November	2.22
December	3.56
Total	 39.64

HOUSING.

The total number of Council Houses built in our district up to 31st December, 1958, was 6356, of which 235 were built during the year, also 62 houses were built privately.

Every effort was made to eliminate the slum clearance problem in areas where it was small, while maintaining the advance now being made in areas where the problem was very considerable.

Bungalows for old people were built on the most suitable sites and proved very popular.

Certain properties were also bought for reconditioning to house problem families.

There is still a shortage of houses for general needs and there are many families, particularly young married couples, who cannot hope to have a council house for many years to come.

TABLE 18.

HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR 1958.

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>Total No. of Dwellings at 31.12.58.</i>	<i>Council Dwellings erected in 1958.</i>	<i>Private Dwellings completed in 1958.</i>	<i>Council Dwellings in course of erection 31.12.58.</i>
Abenbury	2	.....	.....	.....
Allington	165	.....	3	.....
Bersham	359	32	4	8
Bieston	4	.....	.....	.....
Broughton	742	33	1	25
Brymbo	391	41	1	24
Burton	10	.....	.....	29
Cefn	737	17	3	45
Erbistock	18	.....	.....	.....
Esc. Above	4	.....	.....	.....
Esc. Below	365	6	3	.....
Gresford	129	.....	20	7
Gwersyllt	934	40	1	35
Holt	68	.....	.....	.....
Isycoed	12	.....	.....	.....
Llan. Rural	193	3	2	.....
Llay	350	4	1	.....
Marchwiell	103	.....	.....	2
Minera	74	.....	1	.....
Penycae	455	44	1	44
Rhos	848	8	19	11
Ruabon	383	7	2	.....
Sesswick	10	.....	.....	.....
TOTALS	6356	235	62	230

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

No major schemes for sewerage and drainage were carried out—most of our district is already sewered.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company is now responsible for the water supply of most of our district, and there were no shortages this year owing to the heavy rainfall.

Local shortages have occurred at Brymbo and Broughton, due to pipe corrosion and the pipes gradually being replaced.

Llangollen supplies the Llantysilio area while Garth and Froncysyllte are supplied by our own water undertakings.

Samples of water from Garth and Froncysyllte show unsatisfactory bacteriological results from time to time, therefore these water supplies should be chlorinated.

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

To the Chairman and Members of the
HEALTH COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present what will probably be my final report on the work carried out by the Public Health Inspectors' Department for the year ending December, 1958.

Early in the new year I shall be reaching retiring age, having been connected with the Health Department of the Council for 40 years. Serving the one authority over a long period enables one to appreciate the great improvement which has taken place in environmental hygiene in the Rural District. Unlike constructional works which are immediately apparent to all, the activities of the Health Department which are preventive and educational, are not spectacular, and cannot be measured by the records contained in one Annual Report. During the period, the Council has made a practical contribution towards ensuring that its population has had the opportunity of enjoying the fullness of life which is "man's heritage."

Substantial progress has been made in the provision of Houses, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal, Water Supplies, Public Cleansing, Meat and Food Inspection, Milk Supplies, etc., and the Council's achievements will bear favourable comparison with Councils with larger populations and resources.

Much, however, remains to be done, particularly in connection with re-development of the parishes, food handling, and clean air, and these will, no doubt, be dealt with in the future with the same enthusiasm as the other problems which the Council has had to face.

I can look back on my association with the Council with great pleasure and pride, and feel honoured in being privileged to participate in its varied activities.

I would acknowledge with gratitude the co-operation and assistance I have always received from the Chairman and Members.

I desire to express my appreciation of the assistance received from the Medical Officer of Health and pay a special tribute to the Public Health Inspectors and the Clerical Staff for their loyalty and devotion.

Finally, I would express my sincere thanks to the Clerk of the Council and all Chief Officers for their willing assistance at all times.

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 19.

HOUSING:

No. of houses re-roofed	2
No. of houses repaired—Roofs	58
No. of houses repaired—Walls	62
No. of houses repaired—Doors	37
No. of houses repaired—Lighting	54
No. of houses otherwise treated to prevent dampness	54
No. of houses in which defective floors were renewed	27
No. of houses in which defective floors were repaired	38
No. of houses provided with new pavements in back yards	14
No. of houses provided with ventilated food stores	1
No. of houses provided with new kitchen grates	29
No. of houses provided with new washing boilers	1
No. of houses provided with bathrooms	5
No. of visits re Council House Applicants	1021

DRAINAGE:

No. of Nuisances abated (drains)	58
No. of new cesspools constructed	—
No. of new septic tanks constructed	7
No. of kitchen sinks provided	32
No. of new drains laid to old premises	20
No. of drains repaired or improved	9
No. of Inspection Chambers constructed	8

SANITARY CONVENIENCES:

No. of new water closets provided	13
No. of old water closets furnished with flushing cisterns	8
No. of old water closets repaired	10
No. of privies converted into water closets	—
No. of privies repaired	—
No. of new earth closets and privies	—
No. of portable ashbins provided	530

WATER SUPPLY:

No. of old premises supplied	15
No. of service pipes repaired	2

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

No. of visits to premises	54
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LICENSED PREMISES:

No. of visits to Licensed Premises	67
No. of Licenced Premises improved	35
No. of sanitary conveniences improved	20

FACTORIES ACT, 1937:

No. of visits and inspections	115
No. of workshops repaired	—
No. of workshops cleansed on notice	—
No. of new sanitary conveniences provided	—
No. of sanitary conveniences improved	—

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955:

No. of Food Premises improved	.....	.....	.....	7
No. of visits to Food Preparation Premises	.....	.....	.....	114
No. of visits to Canteens	.....	.....	.....	19
No. of visits to Restaurants and Snack Bars	.....	.....	.....	26
No. of visits to Fish and Chips Shops	.....	.....	.....	55
No. of visits to Ice Cream Premises	.....	.....	.....	20
No. of visits to Bakehouses	.....	.....	.....	43
No. of Bakehouses repaired	.....	.....	.....	—
No. of Bakehouses cleansed on notice	.....	.....	.....	—

MEAT INSPECTION:

No. of visits to Slaughterhouses	.....	.....	.....	2173
No. of visits to Butchers' Shops and Stalls	.....	.....	.....	26
No. of visits to Knackers Yards	.....	.....	.....	85

CLERICAL WORK:

No. of Intimatory Notices issued	.....	.....	.....	774
No. of Intimatory Notices complied with	.....	.....	.....	678
No. of Statutory Notices issued	.....	.....	.....	67
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	.....	.....	.....	80
Total No. of Visits and Inspections	.....	.....	.....	16,971

HOUSING.

During the year the Council built 235 houses and bungalows for the rehousing of families from unfit houses and aged persons. This brings the total of houses erected in the area to the end of 1958 to 6,356. In this connection it is interesting to note that in addition to the new townships built in all the Urban Parishes, the village of Llay Main has been built within the same period. In 1921, Llay comprised 150 houses with a population of 753 compared with the present population of 3,465 occupying 984 houses.

The need for improving the housing conditions has been the most pressing problem which all local authorities have had to face. Although housing legislation since the 19th century has made provision for dealing with Unfit Houses and Unhealthy Areas, no serious attempt to deal with the problem was made until the advent of the Housing Act, 1930. The financial provisions contained in the act gave the necessary impetus to Slum Clearance.

In 1934 the Council submitted its first proposals to the Minister of Health, which included 139 houses in 20 Clearance Areas and affecting 1,028 occupiers. 85 Clearance Areas comprising 532 houses were confirmed by the Minister of Health and the tenants were rehoused. In addition 413 Individual Unfit houses were dealt with by the Health (Unfit Houses) Sub-Committee. Unfortunately the outbreak of hostilities in 1939

suspended operations, and a large number of unfit houses continued to be occupied. In 1956 the treatment of Unfit Houses was resumed and to the end of December, 1958, 66 Clearance Areas were confirmed comprising 447 houses. In addition 458 Demolition Orders and 26 Closing Orders have been made by the Council in respect of Individual Unfit Houses.

In dealing with unfit houses in the post war period, one is struck by the fact that a very large number are occupied by only one person. There is also a marked diminution in the density of all occupied houses. In 1921 the figure was practically 5 per house, but the average today is 3.5 per house.

OVERCROWDING.

No correct assessment of the amount of overcrowding which exists can be given without a constant survey being made. When a survey was carried out in 1948, it was found that 2,507 privately owned houses and 762 Council houses were overcrowded. With the demolition of a large number of small unfit houses the present figure is much lower.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

During the year, 88 applications for improvement grants were considered and granted by the Council. The cost incurred on repairs and improvements amounted to £58,088 8s. 11d. and grants of £19,876 were paid.

RENT ACT, 1957.

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received from the occupiers of 105 houses. Certificates were granted in respect of 96 applications, but in respect of 9 the applications were not considered justified. One undertaking given to carry out the repairs necessary to the properties was complied with.

WATER SUPPLIES.

35 samples of water were taken from houses in the areas, which are supplied by the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company, and 14 samples from supplies provided by the Council.

These were submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Birkenhead.

The results of the examinations are given in detail in Table 20.

TABLE 20. 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.
Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company.					
1. Bwlchgwyn (15.4.58)	6	.....	.....	.....	Excellent.
2. New Broughton (15.4.58)	4	.....	.....	.....	Excellent.
3. Llay (15.4.58)	7	25	.....	.....	Fair.
4. Acrefair (20.5.58)	67	.....	.....	.....	Excellent.
5. Bwlchgwyn (10.6.58)	2	.....	.....	.....	
6. Coedpoeth (10.6.58)	11	8	.....	.....	
7. Acrefair (17.6.58)	14	25	.....	.....	
8. Penrycae (3.7.58)	7	80	35	.....	Unsatisfactory.
9. Penrycae (31.7.58)	7	.....	.....	.....	Excellent
10. Rhostyllen (31.7.58)	18	2	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
11. Coedpoeth (31.7.58)	14	250	2	.....	Unsatisfactory.

TABLE 20. 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.
12. Acrefair (31.7.58)	2	13	.....	.....	Coliform count suspicious.
13. Penrycae (31.7.58)	4	2	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
14. Gwynfryn (26.8.58)	5	.....	.....	.....	
15. Bersham (26.8.58)	4	.....	.....	.....	
16. Acrefair (26.8.58)	12	2	100	.....	Unsatisfactory.
17. Acrefair (4.9.58)	30	35	17	.....	Unsatisfactory.
18. Lodge (4.9.58)	55	130	2	.....	Unsatisfactory.
19. Brynteg (16.9.58)	9	50	.....	.....	Coliform count suspicious.
20. Brymbo (16.9.58)	7	35	2	.....	Unsatisfactory.
21. Rhosymadoc (16.9.58)	4	250	.....	.....	Coliform count suspicious.

TABLE 20. 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.
22. Acrefair (16.9.58)	10	.....	.....	.....	Excellent.
23. Lodge (30.9.58)	5	.....	.....	.....	
24. Rhosymadoc (30.9.58)	1	.....	.....	.....	
25. Trevor (30.9.58)	22	.....	.....	.....	
26. Rhosymadoc (30.9.58)	13	11	.....	.....	
27. Brynteg (30.9.58)	5	17	.....	.....	
28. Rhosymedre (21.10.58)	8	.....	.....	.....	
29. Johnstown (21.10.58)	6	11	.....	.....	
30. Pentre Broughton (21.10.58)	5	13	.....	.....	
31. Tanyfron (18.11.58)	5	.....	.....	.....	Excellent.
32. Erbistock (18.11.58)	4	.....	.....	.....	Excellent.
33. New Broughton (18.11.58)	4	.....	.....	.....	Excellent.

TABLE 20. 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.
34. Rhostyllen (2.12.58) .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Excellent.
35. Coedpoeth (2.12.58)	7	.....	.....	.....	Excellent.
Wrexham Rural District Council Water Supplies.					
Froncysyllte Supply.					
1. Froncysyllte (31.7.58)	6	80	7	.....	Unsatisfactory.
2. Froncysyllte (26.8.58)	10	35	100	.....	Unsatisfactory.
3. Froncysyllte (4.9.58)	45	250	80	.....	Unsatisfactory.
4. Froncysyllte (16.9.58)	4	50	13	.....	Unsatisfactory.
Garth Supply.					
1. Garth (31.7.58)	1	13	.....	.....	Coliform count suspicious.
2. Garth (26.8.58)	1	2	100	.....	Unsatisfactory.
3. Garth (4.9.58)	25	25	.....	.....	Please repeat.

TABLE 20. 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.
4. Garth (4.9.58)	69	80	.....	.....	Please repeat.
5. Oerog (4.9.58)	49	130	2	.....	Unsatisfactory.
6. Garth (16.9.58)	10	40	.....	.....	Coliform count suspicious.
7. Oerog (30.9.58)	16	250	7	.....	Unsatisfactory.
8. Garth (30.9.58)	2	25	.....	.....	
Sun Bank Supply.					
1. Sun Bank (20.5.58)	37	12	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
2. Sun Bank (30.9.58)	2	130	35	.....	Unsatisfactory.

3 samples from properties outside the areas supplied by the Water Undertakers were also submitted for examination as to the suitability of the supply for domestic purposes.

MEAT INSPECTION.

As in former years, 11 premises were licenced for the slaughter of animals for human consumption. The premises, all privately owned, are generally well conducted.

The following Table gives details of the animals slaughtered and inspected during the year.

TABLE 21.

<i>Year 1958</i>	<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)	2206	1295	97	21,052	36,271	60,921
Number inspected	2206	1295	97	21,052	36,271	60,921
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.						
Whole carcasses condemned	28	276	40	51	404	799
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	106	192	3	644	3647	4592
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci	6.07	36.15	44.33	3.30	11.17	8.85
Tuberculosis only.						
Whole carcasses condemned	9	18	.....	.....	30	57
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	29	63	.....	.....	732	824
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	1.72	6.25	.....	.....	2.10	1.45
Cysticercosis.						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Generalised and totally condemned .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

The total weight of carcase meat condemned as being unfit for human consumption was 103 tons, 0 cwt., 0 qr., 20 lbs.

The number of animals slaughtered and inspected has increased each year since meat control ended. Although slaughtering of animals takes place throughout the week, every carcass has been inspected. This has necessitated all the Public Health Inspectors working overtime, but the fact that over 100 tons of meat has been condemned as being unfit for human consumption justifies the expense incurred in protecting the public.

All the meat found to be unfit is stained and is collected by contractors for disposal for purposes other than for human food.

POULTRY INSPECTION.

3,399 carcasses of dressed poultry were inspected. 2 carcasses only were found to be unfit for human consumption and these were destroyed.

INSPECTION OF OTHER FOODS.

179 visits have been made to Food Premises during the year. The general standard of hygiene in food premises has improved considerably in recent years. Food handlers are being made aware of the importance of taking all possible steps to avoid food contamination and most food retailers have now installed "Deep Freeze Cabinets" in their premises.

In spite of the improvement in the general standard, constant vigilance will be necessary to protect the health of the public.

The following Table gives details of the foodstuffs which have been condemned during the year.

TABLE 22.

Meat	.....	.....	.....	212 tins.
Bacon	.....	.....	.....	7 lbs.
Fish	.....	.....	.....	48 tins.
Carrots	.....	.....	.....	1 tin.
Beans	.....	.....	.....	60 tins.
Peas	.....	.....	.....	164 tins.
Potatoes	.....	.....	.....	7336 lbs.
Soup	.....	.....	.....	91 tins.
Spaghetti	.....	.....	.....	13 tins.
Tomatoes	.....	.....	.....	285 tins.
Fruit	.....	.....	.....	519 tins.
Grapes	.....	.....	.....	20 lbs.
Milk	.....	.....	.....	79 tins.
Milk	.....	.....	.....	100 galls.
Cream	.....	.....	.....	2 tins.
Rice Pudding	.....	.....	.....	38 tins.
Jam	.....	.....	.....	3 jars.

FOOD SAMPLING.

The following Table gives the number of formal samples of food and drugs taken by T. H. Evans, Esq., Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures of the Denbighshire County Council.

TABLE 23.

<i>Article</i>	<i>Number Taken.</i>	<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Not genuine or sub- standard.</i>
Milk	114	112	2
Butter	5	5	
Margarine	1	1	
Lard	1	1	
Cooking Fat	1	1	
Cheese	2	2	
Oatmeal	1	1	
Baking Powder	1	1	
Flour	2	2	
Cake Mixture	2	2	
Bread	2	2	
Buns	1	1	
Tinned Meat	1	1	
Sausages	6	6	
Suet	1	1	
Tinned Fish	1	1	
Pickled Onions	1	1	
Dried Mint	1	1	
Salt	1	1	
Tinned Tomatoes	1	1	
Jam	1	1	
Marmalade	1	1	
Sweets	1	1	
Sugar	1	1	
Honey	1	1	
Ice Cream	10	10	
Fresh Cream	2	2	
Condensed Milk	1	1	
Coffee	1	1	
Soft Drinks	2	2	
Beer	2	2	
Rum	1	1	
Borax	1	1	
Sweet Spirit of Nitre	1	1	
Sol. of Hydrogen Peroxide	1	1	
Totals	173	171	2

"Of the 173 samples shown in the Table as being submitted to the Public Analyst during the year only two were certified by him as being "Not Genuine." These were samples of bottled milk sold by producer retailers and in each instance there was a fat deficiency which, on investigation at the farms, proved to be due to failure to properly mix the milk before bottling. The

deficiency in each case was slight and the farmers concerned were visited by me and advised and cautioned.

In addition to the milk samples submitted to the Public Analyst during the year fifty-one samples of milk taken from Schools and 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 standard prescribed by the Sale of Milk Regulations.

FOOD PREMISES.

There are 75 premises in which food is prepared for human consumption on the Council's register. This is 5 less than in the previous year.

Regular visits are paid to these premises and in no case was any serious contravention of the Food Regulations observed.

FISH FRYING.

The present number of premises in which the trade of Fish Frying is carried on is 39, a reduction of 12 on the previous year. The premises and equipment are, in all cases, satisfactory.

ICE CREAM.

196 premises are registered to store and sell Ice Cream. All the retailers obtain their supplies from the large manufacturers and are equipped with refrigerators.

16 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and all except one were found to be satisfactory.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 21 bakehouses on the Council's register. There has been a change in the occupier of one premises.

It was not found necessary to serve notices in respect of any of the premises during the year.

MILK REGULATIONS.

48 Dealers' Licences and 5 Supplementary Dealers' Licences under the above regulations were issued by the Council during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The number of factories on the Council's register is 148. 7 new premises have been registered during 1958, and 6 have been removed from the register in the same period.

The following Table gives details of the nature of the factories.

TABLE 24.

FACTORY.	No. on Register.
Bacon Factory	1
Blacksmiths	5
Boot Repairers	14
Bottling Works	1
Brickworks	13
Chemical Works	5
Chocolate Manufacturers	1
Coach Builders	2
Coal Washing	1
Cotton, Weaving and Spinning	3
Cycle Shops	4
Dairies	2
Dressmaking and Tailoring	4
Electrical Equipment	7
Engineering Repairs Workshops	2
Garages	41
Gas Works	3
Grass Drying	
Iron, Steel and Metal Manufacturers	3
Joinery (Upholstery and Undertaking, Builders' Shops, etc.)	19
Laundries	3
Millers	3
Paint Manufacturers	
Printers	3
Sawmills	3
Stonemasons	2
Seed Dressing	1
Tiled Fireplaces	2
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PUBLIC CLEANSING.

During the year, for the first time, public cleansing has been carried out by the Council throughout the whole area, and the cost of the service made a general rate charge.

The importance of this service in relation to public health is not always fully appreciated. In pre-war days the work was carried out by contractors who were primarily engaged on other pursuits. The contracts were for a period of one year, tendered for doing the work at prices ranging from 3/6d. to 5/0d. per house per annum. The privies and ashpits were cleansed twice a year and in a very indifferent manner, which resulted in large accumulations of refuse being the general order.

In the post-war period, considerable progress has been made, although the lack of suitable vehicles and labour retarded progress.

At the present time practically all the properties in the area have been provided with ashbins by the owners, and these are emptied weekly.

The fleet of Refuse Collectors is such that by the annual replacement of one vehicle, it should be able to provide a regular and efficient service.

The disposal of refuse is by means of tipping, and the provision during the year, of the earth moving tractor, should be capable of maintaining all tips in a satisfactory condition.

As I have previously reported, the nature of house refuse has completely changed in recent years. Due to the changed methods of marketing food stuffs, a greater quantity of paper, cardboard, cartons, etc., finds its way into the ashbins. The cost of collection is increased due to the greater volume, necessitating more frequent visits to the tips. There is also a greater danger of tip fires with their resulting cost.

The past experience of the Council in connection with the collection of waste paper makes one hesitate in advocating the reintroduction of a salvage system, but one may point out the advantages which may accrue from such a service.

1. The Council has acquired premises, centrally situated, which could be used as a depot for the reception and baling of paper.
2. The demand for the material and the prices paid are more constant.
3. A further point worthy of consideration is the fact that many of the men who have been in the public cleansing service for many years and have given good service are feeling the work heavy, and could be given lighter work in connection with salvage. This matter might be considered by the Health Committee.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The Council's Housing activities and the formation of new townships necessitated the construction of sewers in practically all the urban parishes.

In 1919, the greater part of the district was unsewered, the drains from the houses discharging into badly constructed cess-pools, which generally were too near the houses and were a constant source of nuisance. The old privies and ashpits were generally defective and insanitary and created conditions which were a danger to health.

Since 1924 great progress has been made and with the completion of the Rossett and Burton Sewerage Scheme in 1948, the whole of the populous areas of the district have a satisfactory system of drainage.

In the purely rural areas, considerable progress has been made by the substitution of septic tanks for cesspools, and the replacement of the privies by pail chemical closets.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Under the provisions of the above Act, 397 premises were treated, necessitating 1,887 visits being paid.

The Council's sewers, sewerage works, and refuse tips have been regularly inspected and treated.

