

**[Report 1971] / Medical Officer of Health, Wrexham R.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Wrexham (Wales). Rural District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1971

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/f5xdf9rp>

**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>

5  
**WREXHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**OF THE**

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

**AND THE**

**CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

**FOR THE YEAR**

**1971**

**J. GARETH M. WILLIAMS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

**C. DAVIES, M.A.P.H.I.**

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 1894

WASHINGTON: 1895

**CYNGOR DOSBARTH GWLEDIG WRECSAM**

# **ADRODDIAD BLYNYDDOL**

**Y**

**SWYDDOG MEDDYGOL**

**A'R**

**PRIF AROLYGWR IECHYD**

**AM Y FLWYDDYN 1971.**

---

**J. GARETH M. WILLIAMS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

**C. DAVIES, M.A.P.H.I.**



STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

J. GARETH M. WILLIAMS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

---

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

C. DAVIES, M.A.P.H.I.

---

DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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

---

PUBLIC HEALTH, HOUSING AND PETROLEUM INSPECTORS

E. LLOYD, M.A.P.H.I.

O. C. R. ROBERTS, M.A.P.H.I.

W. J. WILLIAMS, M.A.P.H.I.

J. R. EVANS, D.P.H.I.E.B.

C. G. EDWARDS, M.A.P.H.I., D.P.H.I.E.B.

---

PUPIL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

P. A. JAMES

J. B. EVANS

---

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Miss O. M. DAVIES

---

SHORTHAND TYPIST/CLERKS

Miss SUSAN CHARLES

Mrs. ANN GRIFFITHS

---

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

TREVOR L. WILLIAMS, O.B.E., LL.M.

CHAIRMAN OF PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMITTEE

\*COUNCILLOR IVOR JONES

\*COUNCILLOR ARTHUR TAPP

THE PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

---

\*Part of Year.

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
**FOR THE YEAR 1971**

*To the Chairman and Members of the Public Amenities Committee.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1971.

My sincere thanks are due to Mr. Caleb Davies, Chief Public Health Inspector and his Deputy, Mr. Hywel Jones, the District Public Health Inspectors, Miss Olwen Davies and the office staff, who have continued to provide me with the highest standard of efficiency and loyalty throughout the year.

I am also most grateful to you and the Members of the Public Amenities Committee for your support and co-operation at all times.

Yours sincerely,

J. GARETH M. WILLIAMS,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



*I Gadeirydd ac Aelodau Pwyllgor Hynawsedd y Cyhoedd.*

MR. CADEIRYDD, FONEDDIGESAU A BONEDDIGION,

Mae'n anrhydedd gennyf gyflwyno fy Adroddiad Blynyddol am y flwyddyn 1971.

Mae fy niolch diffuant yn ddyledus i Mr. Caleb Davies, y Prif Arolygwr Iechyd a'i Ddirprwy, Mr. Hywel Jones; yr Arolygwyr Iechyd Dosbarthol, Miss Olwen Davies a staff y swyddfa. Maent i gyd wedi parhau i roddi i mi y safonau uchaf o effeithiolrwydd a ffyddlondeb drwy gydol y flwyddyn.

'Rwyf hefyd yn hynod ddiolchgar i chwi a holl Aelodau Pwyllgor Hynawsedd y Cyhoedd am eich cymorth a'ch cydweithrediad ar bob achlysur.

Yr eiddoch yn gywir,

J. GARETH M. WILLIAMS,

*Swyddog Meddygol.*

## 1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	72,370
Population, R.G.'s Estimate, Mid-Annual 1971,	63,430
Population, Density per acre	0.88
Number of Inhabited Houses	23,055
Number of Inhabited Council Houses	9,818
Sum represented by 1p. Rate,	£18,403.84p

## POPULATION

The estimated population for 1971 as given by the Registrar General was 63,430. This shows an increase of 1,170 on the 1970 figure, and this is the second year in succession to show an increase. This year's increase however, is far more pronounced.

## 2. VITAL STATISTICS.

Comparability Factor.			1.05 (Births).	1.08 (Deaths).	
BIRTHS.			M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	.....	.....	538	509	1047
Illegitimate	.....	.....	40	35	75
Totals			<u>578</u>	<u>544</u>	<u>1,122</u>
Birth Rate per 1000 population.			Crude	17.7	
			Adjusted	18.6	
			England and Wales	16.0	
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births			7.0		

The total of 1122 births shows a decrease of 12 on the 1970 figure. 970 births took place in hospital, giving a proportion of approximately 86%. In 1970 the proportion was 83% and in 1969 80%.

The 1971 Table is made up as follows :—

TABLE 1.

Hospitals	Total
Chirk	6
Llangollen	75
Wrexham	889



The following Table sub-divides the number of legitimate births according to parishes.

**TABLE 2.**

**BIRTHS.**

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Abenbury	5	3	8
Allington	11	13	24
Bersham	38	33	71
Bieston		1	1
Broughton	39	39	78
Brymbo	23	26	49
Burton	3	2	5
Cefn	92	94	186
Erbistock	3	1	4
Erddig			
Esclusham Above		8	8
Esclusham Below	11	14	25
Gresford	22	29	51
Gwersyllt	64	64	128
Holt	10	3	13
Isycoed	6	2	8
Llangollen Rural	10	12	22
Llantysilio	2	1	3
Llay	47	43	90
Marchwiell	10	7	17
Minera	11	7	18
Penycae	30	22	52
Rhos	53	53	106
Ruabon	40	37	77
Sesswick	2	1	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>1047</b>

In addition to the above, a total of 75 illegitimate births were recorded (a proportion of 7%) giving a corrected total of 1122.

**BIRTH RATE**

The crude birth rate per 1000 population was 17.7 as compared to 18.2 in 1970. This gives an adjusted birth rate of 18.6. The England and Wales figure of 16.0 is exactly the same as that for 1970, thus arresting the recent trend when the birth rate fell for six successive years.

**STILL BIRTHS.**

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	3	8	11
Illegitimate			
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>

Still Birth Rate per 1000 Live and Still Births 10

England and Wales Still Birth Rate per 1000 Live and Still Births 12

The total of 11 still births shows a decrease of 5 as compared with the 1970 figure and is the lowest total ever recorded in our district.

**STILL BIRTH RATE**

The still birth rate (per 1000 total live and still births) for the Wrexham Rural District is 10, the lowest ever recorded. The England and Wales figure of 12 is also the lowest ever.



**DEATHS.***M.*  
448*F.*  
383*Total.*  
831

Death Rate per 1000 population. Crude 13.1  
 Adjusted 14.1  
 England and Wales 11.6

The total of 831 deaths shows an increase of 17 on the 1970 total.

**DEATH RATE**

Both crude and adjusted rates are exactly the same as 1970 and the England and Wales rate is just 0.1 lower.

**TABLE 3. DEATHS.**

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Abenbury	1	3	4
Allington	14	23	37
Bersham	36	27	63
Bieston			
Broughton	43	42	85
Brymbo	28	22	50
Burton	4	1	5
Cefn	42	35	77
Erbistock	2		2
Erddig			
Esclusham Above		1	1
Esclusham Below	22	17	39
Gresford	14	22	36
Gwersyllt	38	35	73
Holt	11	2	13
Isycoed		3	3
Llangollen Rural	19	12	31
Llantysilio	2	4	6
Llay	21	19	40
Marchwiell	8	4	12
Minera	6	3	9
Penycae	16	9	25
Rhos	73	61	134
Ruabon	31	30	61
Sesswick		2	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>808</b>

In addition to the above 23 infant deaths must be added, giving a corrected total of 831.

## CAUSES OF DEATH

The following Tables gives more detailed information as to cause of death in the various age groups.

It will be seen that of the 831 deaths, half were due to diseases of the heart and circulatory system. Within this category, the largest single cause of death was ischaemic heart disease which accounted for 199 and the second largest category was cerebrovascular disease accounting for 134 deaths. Similar proportions to these are to be found in England and Wales generally.

The second largest cause of death was cancer, which accounted for a total of 162 deaths, an increase of 4 on 1970. It will be seen in Table 4 that cancer of the stomach was the largest single cause, followed by cancer of the lung and bronchus. This is in reverse to the situation in England and Wales generally in recent years where cancer of the lung has become the most frequent form.

The third largest category, as in most years, is due to diseases of the respiratory system, which accounted for 146 deaths in 1971. Most of these respiratory deaths were due to Pneumonia (61) and Bronchitis and Emphysema (64). Included in this total are 4 deaths attributed to Tuberculosis of the respiratory system. This compares with three deaths from this disease in 1970.



TABLE 4.

## DEATHS FROM MALIGNANT DISEASES

Cause of Death	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	Age in years						65 — 74	75 and over	
					1	5	15	25	35	45			55
B19(1) Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity	Male	3									1	2	
	Female	1											1
B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	Male	5									2	3	
	Female	5									2	1	2
B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	Male	15								1	4	7	2
	Female	14								1	1	4	8
B19(4) Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	Male	9									2	3	3
	Female	12									4	3	4
B19(5) Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	Male	1										1	
	Female	1											
B19(6) Malignant Neoplasm, Lung and Bronchus	Male	21									6	8	6
	Female	5									2	2	1
B19(7) Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	Male												
	Female	17								1	3	7	4
B19(8) Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	Female	9								1		3	3
B19(9) Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	Male	5											
	Male	4		1							1	2	2
B19(10) Leukaemia	Female	2											
B19(11) Other Malignant Neoplasms	Male	20			1						5	7	4
	Female	13									2	7	2

TABLE 5.  
CAUSE OF DEATH.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total all Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
					1—4	5—14	15—24	25—34	35—44	45—54	55—64	65—74	75 and over																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
B5 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	M	1											1																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														</



# AGE IN YEARS

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total all Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS										75 and over	
					1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74				
B21 Diabetes Mellitus	M	1									1				1	3
B46 (1) Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	F	4														1
B23 Anaemias	M	1		1												1
	F	1														1
B46 (3) Mental Disorders	M	3													1	1
	F															
B46 (5) Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	M	1														1
B26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	F	4														1
B27 Hypertensive Disease	M	5									1				2	2
	F	7													3	1
	M	7								1					4	2
	F	11									1				3	5
B28 Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	123								3					49	37
	F	76									4				20	43
B29 Other forms of Heart Disease	M	16									1				5	7
B30 Cerebrovascular Disease	F	17													3	14
	M	58									2				27	23
B46 (6) Other Diseases of Circulatory System	F	76									2				28	37
B31 Influenza	M	9													5	4
	F	11													3	6
B32 Pneumonia	M	2													2	
	F	28	2													
B33 (1) Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	33		1											11	12
B46 (7) Other Diseases of Respiratory System	F	48		1							1				5	21
	M	16									2				20	18
	F	8									2				9	4
	F	6									1				6	4





CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total all Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS									
					1—4	5—14	15—24	25—34	35—44	45—54	55—64	65—74	75 and over	
BE49 Suicide and self-inflicted Injuries	M	3	.....	.....	.....	I	.....	I	.....	.....	.....	I	.....	
	F	I	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	I	
BE50 All other external causes	M	I	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	I	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
	F	I	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	I	.....	
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	448	14	3	2	2	7	4	10	31	71	172	132	
	F	388	4	2	I	.....	2	3	8	21	57	105	180	

**INFANTILE MORTALITY.**

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	17	6	23
Illegitimate	—	—	—
<b>Totals</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>23</b>

**INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES.**

Total Infant Deaths per 1000 total Live Births	20.0
England and Wales	18.0
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1000 legitimate live births	22.0
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births	—
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 month) per 1000 total Live Births	16.0
England and Wales	12.0
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week) per 1000 total Live Births	14.0
England and Wales	10.0
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined) per 1000 total live and still births	24.0
England and Wales	22.0

The total number of deaths recorded under the age of one year was 23, of which 17 were males and 6 females. This shows an increase of 7 as compared with the previous year's total of 16. Of this total 18 occurred in the Neonatal period (first month of life). This gives a Neonatal Mortality Rate of 16.0 deaths per 1000 total live births.

The England and Wales figure is 12.0, which is exactly the same as that for 1970 and 1969. This England and Wales figure, which reached its lowest recorded point in 1969, has thus remained the same for three successive years.

Of the Neonatal deaths, 16 occurred in the first week of life giving an early Neonatal Mortality Rate of 14.0 as compared with the England and Wales figure of 10.0.

The Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births plus deaths under one week combined) per 1000 total live and still births for our district is 24.0 as compared to the England and Wales figure of 22.0.

**MATERNAL MORTALITY**

For the fourteenth successive year, no maternal deaths were recorded.



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The total number of Infectious Diseases notified during the year was 181. Figures for the previous three years were 160 in 1970; 186 in 1969 and 254 in 1968.

As in most years, the greatest number was due to Measles which, as can be seen, accounted for 136. This is slightly in excess of the 1970 total of 125, and it is still too early to gauge the effect of the Measles vaccination programme which it will be remembered was interrupted for a long period in 1969 and 1970.

It will be noted that there was no large outbreak of any other disease.

The number of Infective Jaundice notifications were double that for 1970 and 1969. It will be recalled that this disease became notifiable in 1968, as the incidence, though low, was thought to be on the increase.

Seven cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 4 cases of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified. This total of 11 exceeds the 1970 figure of six (which was the lowest ever recorded in our district), and is, in fact, back to the 1969 figure.

As I have stated before in both Annual and Monthly Reports, great progress has been made towards the eradication of Tuberculosis by the use of several factors, notably, better housing, better nutrition, tuberculin testing of herds, the Mass Radiography Service, vaccination of school children, and the specific use of anti-tuberculous drugs since the late 1940's. It will be seen from these figures, however, that a residual number of cases still occur in our society and the need for vigilance remains a high priority.

Given in the Tables below is the distribution of the infectious diseases according to parishes and ages.

TABLE 6.  
INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES ACCORDING TO PARISHES.

Parish	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Infective Jaundice	Pulmonary T.B.	Non-Pulmonary T.B.	Meningitis	Food Poisoning	Totals	Infective Jaundice	T.B. Pul'ary	Men'tis	Food Poisoning	Totals	Removed to Hospital or Sanatoria
Abenbury	1	2			1				1		1			1	
Allington						1			4						
Bersham															
Bieston															
Broughton	2														
Brymbo				1					2						
Burton		1	1					4	5				1	1	
Cefn	6		3			2		1	3						
Erbistock									11						
Erddig															
Esclusham Above															
Esclusham Below		1							1						
Gresford	62		3	1					66						
Gwersyllt	54		3	7	1				65	1				1	
Holt					1				1		1			1	
Isycoed															
Llangollen Rural	6		1						7						
Llantysilio	1								1						
Llay				1	1				2						
Marchwiel															
Minera															
Penycae	1				1		1		3		1	1		2	
Rhos	1				1		1		4		1	1		2	
Ruabon	2		1		1		1		5			1		1	
Sesswick															
Totals	136	4	12	10	7	4	3	5	181	1	4	3	1	9	



**TABLE 7.**  
**INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES ACCORDING TO AGES.**

Diseases	Under 1 year	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—9	10—14	15—24	25—	Age Un- known	Total
Measles	7	7	17	19	20	65	1				136
Scarlet Fever		2				2					4
Whooping Cough	3	1	2	2		2	2				12
Infective Jaundice						3		2	5		10
T.B. Respiratory				1				1	5		7
T.B. Other Forms					1				3		4
Meningitis	2	1									3
Food Poisoning			1			2			2		5
Total	12	11	20	22	21	74	3	3	15		181

## MASS RADIOGRAPHY

Following the extensive run-down of this Service, only one survey was carried out in our district in 1971, details of which are given in the Table below.

TABLE 8.

### WELSH REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

Details of Mass Radiography Surveys carried out during 1971.

<i>Place</i>	<i>Total number examined</i>
Monsanto Chemicals Ltd., Ruabon : Staff	511

## IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

The following Tables show the number of persons immunised during 1971.

### Triple Antigen

This consists of Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus immunisation and is administered as a routine at all Infant Welfare Clinics in three separate doses. These are usually given at the ages of 6 months, 8 months and 12 months, respectively.

TABLE 9.

	<i>Totals</i>
Primary Doses	702
Booster Doses	75

### Diphtheria and Tetanus

This is administered routinely as a booster to all children on attaining school age, but some primary doses are given to young infants who react adversely to the Whooping Cough element in the Triple Antigen.



**TABLE 10.**

				<i>Totals</i>
Primary Doses	.....	.....	.....	42
Booster Doses	.....	.....	.....	496

**Diphtheria only**

This form of immunisation used to be administered as a further booster to children in the senior classes of primary schools, who received their primary course prior to 1960 when the Triple Antigen first came into use. As all these children have now gone to secondary schools, this form of immunisation is no longer given. It will be seen, however, that four primary doses were given during the year, presumably to children whose parents had for some reason neglected to have them immunised in the past.

**TABLE 11.**

				<i>Totals</i>
Primary Doses	.....	.....	.....	4
Booster Doses	.....	.....	.....	—

**Tetanus**

Primary doses are given to children who have, for one reason or another, only been protected against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough in early childhood, and booster doses to those who have received an incomplete course of Tetanus previously, either by itself or in combined form with Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.

**TABLE 12.**

				<i>Totals</i>
Primary Doses	.....	.....	.....	5
Booster Doses	.....	.....	.....	4

**Poliomyelitis**

Poliomyelitis is administered routinely at Infant Welfare Clinics together with Triple Antigen, i.e. in three separate doses at the age of approximately 6, 8 and 12 months respectively.

The Poliomyelitis vaccine is administered by mouth. Booster doses are routinely administered upon attaining school age in combination with their Diphtheria and Tetanus booster and are also routinely administered to school leavers between the ages of 15 to 19 years.

**TABLE 13.**

				<i>Totals</i>
Primary Doses	.....	.....	.....	762
Booster Doses	.....	.....	.....	910

**Measles**

Measles vaccination is routinely administered in a single dose to all infants after they have attained the age of 1 year, i.e. after completion of their primary course of Triple Antigen and Poliomyelitis.

**TABLE 14.**

				<i>Totals</i>
Primary Doses	.....	.....	.....	419
Booster Doses	.....	.....	.....	—

**Rubella**

This figure appears for the second time as it was only commenced during 1970. This immunisation is offered to all secondary school girls between the ages of 11 and 13 years.

**TABLE 15.**

				<i>Totals</i>
Primary Doses	.....	.....	.....	333

**SMALLPOX**

The following Table gives the number of persons vaccinated in 1971, sub-divided in age groups. Given alongside in brackets are the corresponding figures for 1970 and it can be seen that the 1971 figures are substantially lower. This is because Smallpox vaccination ceased to be a routine measure during 1971 following a directive from the Ministry. The reason for this was that Smallpox had been largely eradicated by the World Health Organisation's extensive programme and was now endemic only in five regions of the world in the Asian and African continents. It was therefore concluded that the chances of contacting Smallpox in Britain had become so minute that the ever-present risk of serious re-action to vaccination was greater.

There are, however, certain categories of persons who still need to be vaccinated and these are mainly people who intend to travel to certain countries, either on holiday or business, where smallpox is still endemic and also other countries where a valid certificate of vaccination is a pre-requisite to travel there.



**TABLE 16.**

Number of persons immunised during 1971.

<i>Age yrs.</i>	1971	
	<i>Primary Vaccination</i>	<i>Re- Vaccination</i>
0—1	— (1)	— (—)
1 +	82 (270)	— (—)
2—4	76 (101)	4 (—)
5—15	8 (16)	11 (36)
16 +	25 (86)	36 (243)

**NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948**

Under Section 47 of the above Act, the Medical Officer of Health has the power to remove certain persons from their homes into a Hospital or Home, if he is satisfied that such persons are aged, infirm or living in insanitary conditions and are not receiving proper care and attention.

During the year, no such case occurred.

**DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE**

This service was transferred during 1971 from the County Health Department to the newly formed Department of Social Services and the figures given in the Table below were obtained from that Department.

**TABLE 17.****DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE**

(1970 figures are in brackets)

Aged 65 or over on first visit in 1971	.....	479	(431)
<b>Aged under 65 on first visit in 1971:</b>			
(1) Chronic Sick and Tuberculosis	.....	59	(53)
(2) Mentally Disordered	.....	2	(3)
(3) Maternity	.....	5	(13)
(4) Others	.....	23	(21)
<b>Totals</b>		<b>568</b>	<b>(521)</b>

## MEALS ON WHEELS

The only change to have taken place in this service since the last report is that the service was extended to cover Froncysyllte on a twice weekly basis.

## HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

TABLE 18.

### 1. GENERAL.

#### (a) Wrexham and East Denbighshire War Memorial Hospital :

General Medicine .....	86 Beds.
Trematic and Orthopaedic .....	67 Beds.
Unclassified .....	16 Beds.
	<hr/>
	169 Beds.
	<hr/>

#### (b) Maelor General Hospital :

Surgery Department .....	174 Beds.
Gynaecology Department .....	46 Beds.
Children's Department .....	55 Beds.
Obstetrics Department .....	66 Beds.
Special Care Baby Department .....	24 Beds.
Dermatology Department .....	6 Beds.
Ophthalmology Department .....	24 Beds.
Dental Department .....	4 Beds.
Chest Department .....	20 Beds.
Infectious Diseases Department .....	30 Beds.
Geriatric Department .....	76 Beds.
Ear, Nose and Throat Department .....	24 Beds.
Out of Use Beds .....	12 Beds.
	<hr/>
	561 Beds.
	<hr/>

	<i>Gen. Beds.</i>	<i>Mat. Beds.</i>
2. LLANGOLLEN HOSPITAL .....	11	9
3. CHIRK AND DISTRICT HOSPITAL .....	26	8
4. ORTHOPAEDIC. Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Gobowen .....		507 Beds.
5. TREVALYN HOSPITAL .....		51 Beds. Chronic Sick.



## CLINICS

Listed below are the clinics serving the various areas with the statistical information for 1971.

The highest number of total attendances were recorded at Cefn, where the total was considerably in excess of the 1970 figure. This is in all probability due to the extensive rehousing implemented on the Plas Madoc Estate.

Significantly higher figures than for 1970 were also recorded at Gwersyllt and Rhos.

TABLE 19.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Clinic	No. of Sessions held	Total Attendances		Total
		Under 1 yr.	1—5	
Brymbo	23	265	98	363
Brynteg	49	962	433	1395
Cefn	51	1791	818	2609
Coedpoeth	48	1097	381	1478
Gresford	25	471	222	693
Gwersyllt	51	1547	504	2051
Holt	26	246	133	379
Johnstown	24	387	131	518
Llay	51	1486	477	1963
Rhos	52	1642	630	2272
Rhostyllen	21	294	170	464
Rossett	40	522	322	844
Ruabon	51	1114	547	1661

TABLE 20.

### 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	1	Holt	1
Brymbo	2	Gwersyllt	2
Broughton	1	Llay	2
Coedpoeth	1	Rhos	2
Cefn	1	Rhostyllen	2
Gresford	1	Ruabon	2
Garth	1	Penycae	1

Seven full-time nurses are employed for relief purposes on the above areas.

#### 2. HEALTH VISITORS.

Eleven Health Visitors, who are also School Nurses, are employed in the Wrexham Rural District on Maternity and Child Welfare and School Medical Work.

## AMBULANCE SERVICE

No fundamental changes have taken place in this service since the last report.

## CHIROPODY SERVICE

The following Table summarises the service provided in the Wrexham Rural District during 1971.

TABLE 21.  
CHIROPODY SERVICE 1971

<i>Clinic</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>No. on Register</i>	<i>No. of Sessions</i>	<i>No. of New Cases</i>	<i>Total Attendances</i>	<i>No. of Patients Discharged from Treatment</i>
Brymbo	County Clinic	40	20	20	126	3
Brynteg	" "	155	80	37	466	11
Cefn	" "	63	47	15	255	—
Coedpoeth	9 High Street	138	70	18	452	1
Gresford	Constitutional Club	105	69	11	412	2
Gwersyllt	County Clinic	69	20	15	123	4
Holt	Kenyon Hall	22	11	7	65	2
Rhos	County Clinic	216	103	41	597	3
Rossett	" "	86	41	13	259	5
Ruabon	" "	50	19	10	113	1
Llay	" "	81	36	11	203	7
Total		1025	516	198	3071	39



## RAINFALL

Given below are the monthly figures for 1971. The total of 32.82" compares with figures of 35.71" for 1970 and 37.78" for 1969.

TABLE 22.

### RAINFALL FIGURES TAKEN AT PACKSADDLE FOR THE YEAR 1971.

<i>Month</i>	<i>Rainfall (inches)</i>
January	3.52
February	1.31
March	2.41
April	2.65
May	1.29
June	3.66
July	1.87
August	6.29
September	0.71
October	2.85
November	5.20
December	1.06
Total	<u>32.82</u>

## HOUSING

### Council Dwellings

The following Table summarises the Council House position in the district as at 31st December, 1971. The figures have been supplied by the Engineer and Surveyor.

### Private Dwellings

During the year, 250 dwellings were also erected, 39 less than in 1970.

TABLE 23.

#### COUNCIL HOUSES ERECTED DURING 1971.

Parish	No. of Council Dwellings completed during 1971			Total No. of Council Dwellings at 31.12.71	No. in course of Erection		
	Houses	Bungalows	Flats		Houses	Bungalows	Flats
Abenbury				102			
Allington			8	178			
Bersham	24		36	669			
Bieston				4			
Broughton	9	5	6	1044		5	
Brymbo				561	15	4	6
Burton				56			
Cefn				1186			
Erbistock				18			
Esclusham Above				97			
Esclusham Below				436		2	
Gresford			6	169			
Gwersyllt				1078	17	8	18
Holt				90		5	6
Isycoed				12			
Llangollen Rural				229		4	6
Llantysilio				8			
Llay				846			
Marchwiell				105			
Minera				110			
Penycae				656			
Rhos	1		6	999	5	10	3
Ruabon				1155			0
Sesswick				10			
Totals	34	5	62	9818	37	37	6

## DRAINAGE

The Engineer and Surveyor informs me that the position at the end of 1971 can be summarised as follows :—

“The arrangements for sewerage and sewage disposal in the district are reasonably adequate. During 1971, the Joint Sewerage Scheme was in hand together with the sewerage improvement scheme on the Wrexham Industrial Estate and the extensions to the Lavister Sewage Disposal Works”.



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**  
**FOR THE YEAR 1971**

*To the Chairman and Members of the Public Amenities Committee.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the work carried out in the Public Health Department during 1971.

As in former years, Housing and Meat and Food Inspection have made the heaviest demands on the Department. I am pleased to report that a 100% meat inspection has still been maintained. With regard to housing, the number of houses condemned shows an increase on the figure for 1970, and the Council have also resolved to implement their first General Improvement Area.

The duties of the Department cover many varying fields of environmental work which are analysed in this report.

The routine duties of the Department have again been satisfactorily carried out, and my thanks are due to my staff, both professional and clerical, for their continued loyalty and support during a busy year.

I would also express my appreciation of the co-operation received from the Medical Officer of Health and other Chief Officers at all times.

Finally, I would like to convey my thanks to you and the Members of the Public Amenities Committee for your support and encouragement on all occasions.

Yours sincerely,

C. DAVIES,

*Chief Public Health Inspector.*

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT

The following Tables gives a detailed list of visits and works carried out in all fields of Public Health Administration during the year.

TABLE 24.

### HOUSING:

No. of houses re-roofed	11
No. of houses repaired—Roofs	49
No. of houses repaired—Walls	60
No. of houses repaired—Doors	56
No. of houses repaired—Lighting	41
No. of houses otherwise treated to prevent dampness	60
No. of houses in which defective floors were renewed	55
No. of houses in which defective floors were repaired	14
No. of houses provided with pavements in back yards	14
No. of houses provided with baths	125
No. of houses provided with hot and cold water systems to baths	118
No. of houses provided with wash-hand basins	59
No. of houses provided with hot and cold water system to wash-hand basins	59

### DRAINAGE:

No. of new septic tanks constructed	12
No. of new cesspools provided	5
No. of kitchen sinks provided	64
No. of new drains laid to old premises	26
No. of drains repaired or improved	43
No. of Inspection Chambers constructed	33

### SANITARY CONVENIENCES:

No. of new water closets provided	108
No. of old water closets furnished with flushing cisterns	1
No. of old water closets repaired	6
No. of privies converted into water closets	4

### WATER SUPPLY:

No. of service pipes repaired	1
No. of service pipes renewed by Water Co.	38
No. of service pipes repaired by Water Co.	197

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955:

No. of visits to Canteens	23
No. of visits to Restaurants and Snack Bars	22
No. of visits to Fish and Chip Shops	36
No. of visits to Ice Cream Premises	35
No. of visits to Bakehouses	15

### LICENSED PREMISES:

No. of visits to Licensed Premises	29
No. of sanitary conveniences improved	1



**MEAT INSPECTION:**

No. of visits to Slaughterhouses	.....	.....	.....	.....	2765
No. of visits to Butchers' Shops and Stalls	.....	.....	.....	.....	33

**OFFENSIVE TRADES:**

No. of visits to Knackers Yards	.....	.....	.....	.....	100
---------------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-----

**FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1961:**

No. of visits and inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	132
No. of sanitary conveniences improved	.....	.....	.....	.....	2

**PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 - 1947:**

No. of visits and inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	141
-------------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-----

**OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963:**

No. of visits and inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	120
-------------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-----

**CLEAN AIR ACTS, 1956 - 1968:**

No. of observations taken	.....	.....	.....	.....	81
---------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	----

**NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960:**

No. of visits and inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
-------------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	----

**ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963**

No. of visits and inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	24
-------------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	----

**PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951:**

No. of visits and inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
-------------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	---

**CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960:**

No. of visits and inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	160
-------------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-----

**SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964:**

No. of visits and inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	18
-------------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	----

**PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949:**

No. of visits and inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	3352
-------------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	------

**CLERICAL WORK:**

No. of Intimatory Notices issued	.....	.....	.....	.....	90
No. of Intimatory Notices complied with	.....	.....	.....	.....	110
No. of Statutory Notices issued	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	.....	.....	.....	.....	—

Total number of visits and inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	14792
--	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------



## HOUSING ACTS

The need for improving housing conditions is still one of the most important problems facing most local authorities.

Although housing legislation for dealing with unfit houses has been in existence for some considerable time, it was only with the advent of the Housing Act, 1930, containing favourable financial provisions that local authorities seriously tackled the question of slum clearance on a wider scale.

In 1934, this Council declared its first Clearance Areas for action under the Act. The work progressed satisfactorily until early 1939, by which time 84 Clearance Areas comprising 532 houses were confirmed by the Minister of Health and 413 Individual Unfit Houses were dealt with by the Health (Unfit Houses) Sub-Committee of the Council. Due to the outbreak of war, this work ceased, leaving many occupied unfit houses in the area.

The Council's slum clearance programme was resumed in 1952, and from that date to the end of 1971, 179 Clearance Areas/Compulsory Purchase Orders, comprising 1176 houses have been confirmed, 19 houses purchased by the Council in lieu of making Clearance Orders/Compulsory Purchase Orders and 58 properties acquired as "Grey Land". In addition, 1417 houses were the subject of individual action.

Table 25 gives details of the slum clearance position during 1971. It will be noted that 19 Clearance Areas (16 Compulsory Purchase Orders) involving 138 houses were confirmed and 11 properties included as "Grey Land" have been acquired by the Council. Eleven houses which were intended to be dealt with in two Clearance Areas were purchased in lieu of the making of orders.

A further 20 houses were made the subjects of Demolition Orders and 8 of Closing Orders.

The Table also gives details of the number of houses represented to the Council during the year for action under both Parts 2 and 3 of the Housing Act, 1957. Most of these, under Part 3 especially, will not be confirmed until 1972.

Appeals were originally received against seven Compulsory Purchase Orders. Public Inquiries were held in respect of four Orders involving 94 houses. The owners in the other three cases withdrew their appeals.

There is still a large number of low graded properties in the District, especially in the parishes of Brymbo, Gwersyllt and Rhos. I feel quite confident that some acceleration can be made in dealing with these under Parts 2 and 3 of the Housing Act, 1957.



During the year, 200 houses have been demolished making a total of 2,372 demolished in the post-war period.

Under the Housing Act, 1969, the Council resolved to carry out their first General Improvement Area in Llay. This is certainly giving a face lift to this area and will result eventually in a very much improved environmental situation.

**TABLE 25.**

**IN OR ADJOINING CLEARANCE AREAS.**

1.	No. of areas confirmed during the year	.....	.....	19
2.	(a) No. of houses unfit for human habitation	.....	.....	138
	(b) No. of houses classed as 'grey land'	.....	.....	11
3.	Houses purchased in lieu of making C.P.Os.	.....	.....	11
4.	No. of people displaced :			
	(a) Individuals	.....	.....	20
	(b) Families	.....	.....	11
5.	No. of houses demolished :			
	(a) Unfit houses	.....	.....	72
	(b) Houses classed as 'grey land'	.....	.....	1

**REPRESENTED DURING THE YEAR.**

1.	No. of areas	.....	.....	10
2.	Houses unfit for human habitation	.....	.....	52
3.	No. of people to be displaced :			
	(a) Individuals	.....	.....	124
	(b) Families	.....	.....	54

**NOT IN OR ADJOINING CLEARANCE AREAS.**

No. of undertakings accepted (sec. 16)	.....	.....	.....	—
No. of undertakings complied with	.....	.....	.....	—
No. of closing orders made (sec. 17)	.....	.....	.....	8
No. of demolition orders made (sec. 17)	.....	.....	.....	20
No. of undertakings to demolish in lieu of making orders	.....	.....	.....	5
No. of closing orders made (sec. 18)	.....	.....	.....	.....
No. of closing orders determined (sec. 27)	.....	.....	.....	1
No. of closing orders revoked and demolition orders substituted (sec. 28)	.....	.....	.....	1
No. of demolition orders revoked (Sec. 24)	.....	.....	.....	6
No. of demolition orders determined and closing orders substituted (sec. 26)	.....	.....	.....	—
No. of people displaced. (Individual Unfit Houses) :				
(a) Individuals	.....	.....	.....	45
(b) Families	.....	.....	.....	17
No. of houses demolished following demolition orders	.....	.....	.....	50
No. of houses demolished following closing orders	.....	.....	.....	4
No. of other houses demolished	.....	.....	.....	73
No. of individual unfit houses represented during the year (sec. 16(1))	.....	.....	.....	41

## GRANTS

### Standard Grants

120 applications were received during the year. This shows an increase of 65 on 1970's figures. It is satisfying to report that 38 of the grants were in respect of tenanted houses, the highest figure recorded so far. Perhaps this is an indication that landlords are at last becoming aware of the assistance available to them for providing their properties with the standard amenities.

The total amount paid out in grants this year is practically three times that for 1970. The average grant per house improved was £306.93p as compared to £221.7½p for 1970.

**TABLE 26.**

Standard Grants:		Owner/ Occupier. Tenanted.	
Number of applications received	.....	82	38
Number of applications approved	.....	82	38
Number of applications refused	.....	.....	.....
Number of dwellings improved	.....	82	38
Amount paid in grants	.....	£36,831.60p.	
Average grant per house	.....	£306.93p.	
Total cost of work on properties	.....	£61,251.07p.	
Amenities provided:			
Fixed baths or showers	.....	86	
Hot and Cold Water supply at a fixed			
bath or shower	.....	100	
Wash hand basin	.....	89	
Hot and Cold Water supply to a wash			
hand basin	.....	101	
Sink	.....	5	
Hot and Cold Water supply at a sink	.....	89	
Water Closet	.....	113	
Septic Tanks	.....	5	



## Discretionary Grants

There was a total of 105 applications for Discretionary Grants during the year, more than double the 1970 figure. All these were approved. The applications received in respect of tenanted houses have increased here also, but can still be considered to be a relatively low proportion.

The total amount paid in grants shows an increase of nearly four times the 1970 figure and the average grant per house was £813.14p as compared to £563.27½p in 1970.

TABLE 27.

Discretionary Grants:		<i>Owner/ Occupier. Tenanted</i>	
Number of applications received	.....	97	8
Number of applications approved	.....	97	8
Number of applications refused	.....	.....	.....
Number of dwellings improved	.....	97	8
Amount paid in grants	.....	£85,379.50p.	
Average grant per house	.....	£813.14p.	
Total cost of work on properties	.....	£175,853.98p.	

There is an increase of 126 in the overall figure as compared with 1970; in fact this is the highest figure since grants first became available. Even so, there is still a long way to go, when one takes into account the number of sub-standard houses in the area which could benefit from these grants.

One would think that the financial provisions made available under the Housing Act, 1969, in regard to the issue of grants would have been so attractive that owners would find them hard to resist and would be eager to improve their properties while the provisions lasted. Certain items of repair and improvements qualify for a 75% grant and surely this would seem to be too good an offer to miss. What more could one ask for as far as substantially well-built houses, lacking in modern amenities, are concerned? Now is the time when such houses can be brought up to modern standard at the least possible expense to the owner, yet the situation to date is that landlords are not proving enthusiastic to avail themselves of this financial assistance as regards tenanted properties.

## **HOUSING ACT, 1969—Section 44**

### **QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATES**

This Act makes provision for owners to apply for Qualification Certificates in respect of their properties, resulting in a controlled tenancy becoming a regulated tenancy and a fair rent being obtained.

36 applications for Qualification Certificates were received during the year. The properties concerned were inspected and appropriate recommendations made. In 27 instances the issue of Certificates were approved; in 7 cases the granting of Certificates were with-held until certain works were carried out and in 2 cases the Certificates were refused.

### **WATER SUPPLY**

33 samples of water were taken during the year from properties situated within the Council's area; 32 from properties supplied by the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company and one from a property supplied by the Wrexham Rural District Council's Pentredwr supply.

All samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Chester, for bacteriological examination and the results were found to be satisfactory in each case.

Details are given in the following Table.



**TABLE 28.**  
**WATER SUPPLY**

Nature of sample and where taken	Date Sample Taken	Probable No. Coliform Bacilli per 1000 ml.	Probable No. Bact. Coli (Type 1) per 1000 ml.	Remarks
<b>Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Co.</b>				
Rhos	12-1-71	0		Satisfactory.
Rhos	12-1-71	0		Satisfactory.
Johnstown	12-1-71	0		Satisfactory.
Rhostyllen	12-1-71	0		Satisfactory.
Bwlchgywn	12-1-71	0		Satisfactory.
Llanypwll	12-1-71	0		Satisfactory.
Gwynfryn	12-1-71	0		Satisfactory.
Brymbo	16-3-71	0		Satisfactory.
Rossett	7-5-71	0		Satisfactory.
Cefnybedd	13-5-71	0		Satisfactory.
Marchwiell	13-5-71	0		Satisfactory.
Marchwiell	13-5-71	0		Satisfactory.
Gwersyllt	14-6-71	0		Satisfactory.
Gwersyllt	14-6-71	0		Satisfactory.
Cefn	15-6-71	0		Satisfactory.
Gresford	28-6-71	0		Satisfactory.
Johnstown	29-6-71	0		Satisfactory.
Rhos	29-6-71	0		Satisfactory.
Penycae	29-6-71	0		Satisfactory.
Bersham	29-6-71	0		Satisfactory.
Coedpoeth	29-6-71	0		Satisfactory.
Ruabon	21-7-71	0		Satisfactory.
Sun Bank	16-8-71	0		Satisfactory.
Acrefair	16-8-71	0		Satisfactory.
Cefn	6-9-71	0		Satisfactory.
Coedpoeth	23-9-71	0		Satisfactory.
Coedpoeth	29-9-71	0		Satisfactory.
Bwlchgywn	5-10-71	0		Satisfactory.
Rhos	10-10-71	0		Satisfactory.
Rhos	19-10-71	0		Satisfactory.
Ruabon	8-11-71	0		Satisfactory.
Coedpoeth	22-11-71	0		Satisfactory.
<b>Wrexham Rural District Council.</b>				
Llantysilio	15-6-71	0		Satisfactory.

In addition to the above, 38 samples of untreated water from private sources such as wells, springs, etc., supplying properties situated outside the area served by the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company have also been submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Chester, for analysis, to ascertain their suitability for domestic purposes. These supplies are periodically sampled and kept under strict observation.



Three samples of water from private supplies were also submitted to the Laboratory for chemical examination. All were found to be satisfactory.

## **FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 AND SLAUGHTER- HOUSES ACT, 1958**

At the beginning of 1971, there were 10 licensed slaughterhouses on the Council's register. At the end of the licensing year (September) however, one of the oldest slaughterhouses in the district ceased to operate, leaving 9 privately owned slaughterhouses in the Council's area.

Meat inspection is a vital public health service and has to be given priority over other duties to ensure that all animals slaughtered and intended for human consumption are examined. A 100% inspection has again been attained this year. This is accomplished by the fact that all the Inspectors are engaged in this work during and outside normal working hours. I think it is fitting here for me to express my own, and, no doubt, your appreciation of the excellent work carried out by them on this most essential service. The fact that over 51 tons of meat has been condemned as being unfit for human consumption surely emphasises the importance of this work.

All meat found to be unfit is dealt with strictly in accordance with the provisions of the Meat (Sterilization) Regulations, 1969.

The total number of animals slaughtered and inspected during 1971 was 72,047, showing a decrease of 12,081 on 1970's figure. This decrease was practically wholly accounted for in the number of sheep and lambs killed. This was due to the fact that one meat wholesaler who was slaughtering in this district transferred his business to the Liverpool area.

Even though the 'kill' is less, the hours of slaughter still, however, involve the Inspectors in overtime work.

Strict attention is given to the enforcement of the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958, and the Slaughterhouses (Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) Regulations, 1958, in all the registered premises. In this connection, periodic visits are paid by both the Public Health Inspectors and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Veterinary Officers. On the whole, the premises are found to be well conducted.

Although there are 9 licensed slaughterhouses in the area, a very high proportion of the animals are slaughtered in one slaughterhouse, which practically merits the service of a full-time Meat Inspector. Meat from this slaughterhouse is sent to Liverpool and other large towns, and until recently was also exported to the Continent.



This slaughterhouse receives a large number of casualty carcasses, the majority of which are condemned.

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

**TABLE 29**

<i>Year 1971</i>	<i>Cattle exclud- ing Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number killed (if known) .....	2627	436	106	31,449	37,429	72,047
Number inspected .....	2627	436	106	31,449	37,429	72,047
<b>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned	45	81	38	97	434	695
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	266	173	2	2326	5158	7925
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci .....	11.84	58.26	37.73	7.70	14.94	11.91
<b>Tuberculosis only.</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	.....	.....	.....	.....	538	538
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.44	0.74
<b>Cysticercosis.</b>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Generalised and totally condemned .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

## **SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958**

Under the provisions of the above Act, three persons received their first licence during the year and four discontinued slaughtering and their licences were cancelled accordingly. This brings the total licenced slaughtermen in the area to 36.

## **FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955**

### **Food Surrendered or Condemned**

The inspection and condemnation where necessary, of meat (other than at slaughterhouses) and other foods is a most important duty of the Public Health Inspector.



Food retailers often request the Public Health Inspectors to call at their premises to examine various articles of food about which they are doubtful.

All condemned food is destroyed and the retailer is issued with a 'Voluntary Surrender Certificate' which enables him to claim an allowance from the wholesaler concerned.

Table 30 gives a detailed account of the foodstuffs found to be unfit during the year.

Electricity breakdowns caused a large number of packets of frozen foods to become unfit for human consumption; in fact, the number condemned this year was five times that for 1970.

**TABLE 30.**  
**UN SOUND FOOD SURRENDERED OR CONDEMNED**

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrts.	Lbs.
1. (Meat at Slaughterhouses .....	51	10	2	1
2. (Meat .....	37	tins		
3. Chickens .....	12			
4. Swedish Bacon .....	5	lbs.		
5. Soup .....	114	tins.		
6. Fish .....	2	tins.		
7. Peas .....	6	tins.		
8. Beans .....	19	tins.		
9. Broad Beans .....	6	tins.		
10. Tomatoes .....	6	tins.		
11. Spaghetti .....	42	tins.		
12. Fruit .....	91	tins.		
13. Evaporated Milk .....	10	tins.		

In addition to the above, due to electricity breakdowns, 2721 packets of frozen foods were condemned.

## **SECTION 2, FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955**

It is obvious from the increase in the number of complaints received each year that the public are becoming increasingly conscious of the need to attain and preserve a high standard where food is concerned.

A total of 32 complaints were received of foodstuffs sold 'which were not of the nature, substance or quality demanded'. This total is practically double the figure for 1970.

Such complaints are reported to the Department by members of the public. The Public Health Inspectors investigate the complaints, interview the various persons concerned, and where necessary, carry out inspection of premises connected with the article of food complained of.



It is found frequently necessary to submit these foodstuffs to the Public Analyst for examination.

Most complaints are satisfactorily resolved by interview with representatives of firms concerned. In certain cases, warnings are issued and assurances of every co-operation and precautions against further complaints are readily given by the persons involved.

In other cases, however, a full report of the complaint and investigation is forwarded to the Council's Legal Section for any necessary action, and during 1971, it was decided that three such cases warranted legal action being instituted. These cases are due to be heard early in 1972.

One legal action under Section 2 in respect of a complaint received in 1970, was heard in early 1971, and a fine of £25 plus £5 advocates fee was imposed.

The public can play a very important part in this aspect of our work, and I am of the opinion that all suspect or unfit articles of food bought should be reported to the Public Health Department.

## FOOD PREMISES

There is only a slight variation on 1970's figures of Food Premises in the district, namely :—

Canteens	.....	.....	.....	46
Cafes	.....	.....	.....	12
Snack Bars	.....	.....	.....	3
Butchers Shops	.....	.....	.....	31
Licensed Premises	.....	.....	.....	159
Sausage Manufacturers	.....	.....	.....	9
Fish Frying Establishments	.....	.....	.....	32
Ice Cream Premises	.....	.....	.....	162

All the above are regularly inspected and in most cases the premises and equipment are generally found to be satisfactory.

The general standard of hygiene in food premises has improved considerably, food handlers are more aware of the importance of clean conditions and methods as laid down in the Regulations and are taking all possible steps to avoid food contamination. Many retailers have installed "Deep Freeze Cabinets" and "Refrigerated Display Counters" and other modern equipment in their premises. It is emphasised to these people that a satisfactory rotation of stock must be maintained.

In spite of all these improvements, however, constant vigilance on the part of the Public Health Inspectors is necessary to ensure a high percentage of protection for the health of the public.



7 samples of Ice Cream from well-known large manufacturers were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Chester, for bacteriological examination, with the following results :—

Grade 1	.....	5
Grade 2	.....	2

The manufacturers and retailers are informed of the results.

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970, came into operation on the 1st March, 1971. They consolidated and amended the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 and 1962. One important point is that any person handling open food must wear clean and washable overclothing except in certain circumstances. Some of these regulations now apply to the packing or storing of fruit and vegetables.

## FOOD SAMPLING

Once again, I would express my thanks to Mr. D. H. Owens, Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures, for the following information in respect of formal samples taken in our area and submitted for examination during 1971.

TABLE 31.

<i>Articles</i>	<i>No. Taken</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Not Genuine or Sub- standard</i>
Milk	105	104	1
Butter	3	3	
Margarine	1	1	
Lard	1	1	
Meat Pies	2	2	
Stewed Steak with gravy	1	1	
Savoury minced beef and onions	1	1	
Sausage Rolls	1	1	
Sausages	4	4	
Frankfurters	1	1	
Turkey Paysanne	1	1	
Beef Curry with rice	1	1	
Corned Beef	1	1	
Lamb tongues	1	1	
Chopped Pork with ham	1	1	
Baked beans with tomato sauce	1	1	
Sardines in tomato sauce	1	1	
Herring fillets in paprika sauce	1	1	
Shrimps	1	1	
Potato mash mix	1	1	
Plum peeled tomatoes	1	1	
Home made onions	1	1	
Cranberry Sauce	1	1	
Tartar sauce	1	1	



<i>Article</i>	<i>No. Taken</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Not Genuine or Sub- standard</i>
Ground rice	1	1	
Salt and vinegar crisps	1		1
Cheese with pineapple	1	1	
Egg custard with rice	1	1	
Honey	1	1	
Custard powder	1	1	
Crumpets	1		1
Shortbread biscuits	1	1	
Glace cherries	1	1	
Tinned fruit	7	6	1
Orange and lemon slices	1	1	
Granulated sugar	1		1
Caramel top desert	1	1	
Pineapple delight	1		1
Cultured buttermilk	1	1	
Instant non fat milk	1	1	
Dairy Cream	2	2	
Ice Cream	3	3	
Ice lollies	1	1	
Natural grapefruit juice	1	1	
Soft Drinks	8	7	1
Lager	1	1	
Slimming Diet	1	1	
Baby food	1	1	
Cough linctus	2	2	
Stomach tablets	1	1	
Jaket tablets	1	1	
Worm syrup	1	1	
Iodine	1	1	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>7</b>

As will be seen from the table, 104 samples of milk and 78 samples of other foods etc., were taken in the Wrexham Rural District during the year ended 31st December, 1971. Only one sample of milk was found to be below standard in that there was a marginal deficiency in the fat content; this matter was dealt with by advising the producer concerned. In addition to the usual tests for quality the Analyst carries out further tests for the presence of anti-biotics and 48 tests were made with a negative result in each instance.

With regard to the samples other than milk, adverse reports were received in six instances. All these issues were complaint samples brought to our notice by members of the public. In cases concerning allegedly mouldy crumpets, orange drink smelling of bleach, sugar containing salt and crisps containing a small piece of charred potato, the results indicated minor offences which have been dealt with by advice and caution. The other two issues concerned a spider in a tin of pears and mould in a tin of baby food. The tin of pears was an imported product



and the only action that could be taken was to advise the importer accordingly. The baby food issue was the result of a container being damaged in transit and was of such a nature that the retailer could not have detected this defect. Under the circumstances no legal proceedings were taken but lengthy discussions have been undertaken so as to prevent a re-occurrence of this nature.

Apart from the taking of samples for testing, a great deal of routine work on the examination of labelling, etc., is done by the Inspectors during routine inspection. This function is completed during the work involved under Weights and Measures, Trades Description etc., duties and is part of an Inspectors daily routine. It will be appreciated that samples of milk are taken from vending machines, schools, welfare homes, hospitals, etc., and tested within the department. During the year in question, 46 such samples were taken and no adverse tests were reported.

### **KNACKERS YARD**

Licences were renewed in respect of the two Knackers Yards in our area, namely :—

Ffrwd, Brymbo. (Bond)

Tyddyn Daniel, Marchwiel. (Clutton)

Regular visits are paid to both premises which are invariably found to be in a satisfactory condition.

In addition to other animals slaughtered at the Knackers Yards, 58 horses were slaughtered and 109 carcasses of horses were received at the premises during the year, a considerable increase on the figures for 1970.

### **FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1961**

The total number of factories on the Council's register at the end of 1971 was 213, 15 new factories were registered during the year and 22 ceased to operate and were removed from the register.

These factories are varied in nature and are situated over the whole of the rural district. Some are small, isolated factories, while others are situated on the large industrial estate at Marchwiel, and on smaller, but by no means less important, industrial estates recently opened in other parts of the district.

The premises are regularly inspected and are generally found to be in a satisfactory condition. In 2 cases only was it found necessary to serve notices upon the owners to carry out work of improvment or repair of buildings.

As is to be expected, however, when there are a large number of factories, some nuisance and annoyance to the public is bound



to occur, and during the year we have received complaints of smoke, grit and dust emission and noise nuisance.

Each complaint has been investigated and every effort made to minimise, if not eliminate, the nuisance.

I would acknowledge the co-operation of the Alkali Inspector in dealing with certain complaints.

The Alkali &c. Works Order, 1971, came into operation on the 1st July, 1971. This extended the works registrable under the Alkali Inspectorate and as a result of this two particular factories situated in the rural district are now registered under the Alkali &c. Works Orders, 1966 and 1971.

Table 32 gives the number and nature of factories on the Council's register.

**TABLE 32.**

<b>FACTORY.</b>	<b>No. on Register.</b>
Animal Food (Manufacture of)	1
Bakehouses	9
Boot Repairers	4
Brickworks	7
Cabin Cruiser Repairs	1
Chemical Works	3
Coach Builders and Body Repairs	3
Collieries	2
Cotton, Weaving and Spinning	3
Cycle Shops	1
Dairies	1
Dressmaking and Tailoring	9
Electrical Equipment	15
Engineering Repair Workshops	7
Garages	63
Gas Works	2
Hydraulic Equipment	1
Iron, Steel and Metal Manufacturers	12
Joinery (Upholstery and Undertaking, Builders' Shops etc.)	22
Life Saving Equipment	1
Millers	2
Plastic Coating	1
Plastic Manufactures	7
Pre-cast Concrete Units	5
Printers	4
Sawmills	4
Scrap Dealers	3
Slag Handling and Scrap Recovery	1
Slaughter Houses	9
Soft Furnishings	2
Stone Crushing	1
Stonemasons	1
Stone Quarrying	1
Tiled Fireplaces	1
Toy Manufacture	3
Tyre Manufacture	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>213</b>

**TABLE 33.****PART 1 OF THE 1961 ACT.**

INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .....	16	112	.....	.....
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	197	2930	2	.....
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals .....	*213	3042	2	.....

\*This figure includes bakehouses.



**TABLE 34**

Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Re-medied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Overcrowding (S.2.)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	.....	I	.....
(c) Not separate for sexes	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals	2	2	.....	I	.....

**TABLE 35.**  
**PART VIII OF THE ACT.**  
**Outwork**  
**(Sections 133 and 134)**

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel ) Making, etc. ....	2	—	—	—	—	—
) Cleaning and	—	—	—	—	—	—
) Washing ....	1	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture and Upholstery .....						
TOTALS .....	3	—	—	—	—	—



## **PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 - 1947**

Under the provisions of the above Act, the Council licences all premises where petroleum spirits and mixtures are stored.

The following figures relate to the position at the end of the year.

Number of Licenced premises at end of 1970	72
Number of Licenced premises discontinued during 1971	10
Number of new licences issued during 1971	2
Total number of Licenced premises at end of 1971	64

New tanks were installed in 6 premises and I am indebted to the Denbighshire and Montgomeryshire Joint Fire Service for their assistance in testing and supervising these installations.

One old tank was discontinued and rendered safe.

## **OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963**

36 premises were newly registered during the year, and 26 were removed from the register, bringing the total number of registered premises to 217. 14 premises received a general inspection.

The total number of visits of all kinds to registered premises was 120, an increase of 33 on 1970. As a result of such inspections, notices were served for the remedying of 32 contraventions under the Act. These contraventions are analysed according to the various sections under Table 38. The number of contraventions under Temperature is entirely due to the absence of thermometers and those classed under Other Matters are primarily in connection with the lack of provisions of Information to Employees as required under the Act.

These defects or contraventions are low when compared with the number of registered premises and one must admit that in the main, the requirements of the Act are being complied with satisfactorily.

Four accidents were reported this year, one less than in 1970. Each accident was investigated and all were found to be of a minor nature, and in no instance were they found to be due to faulty machinery or defective premises.

In no instance has it been found necessary to recommend the institution of legal proceedings under any part of the Act.

A return of the work carried out under this Act, is submitted annually to Her Majesty's Inspector of Factories, and I submit for your information statistical details as supplied.



TABLE 36

## A. REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTION.

<i>Class of Premises</i>	<i>No. of premises on Council's register at end of 1970</i>	<i>Premises cancelled during 1971</i>	<i>New registrations during 1971</i>	<i>Total No. on Council's register at end of 1971</i>	<i>No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during 1971</i>
Offices .....	66	4	5	67	—
Retail Shops .....	124	12	18	130	10
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses .....	3	1	1	3	—
Catering Establishments open to Public, Canteens .....	13	9	12	16	4
Fuel Storage Depots	1	—	—	1	—
<b>Totals</b> .....	<b>207</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>14</b>

No. of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises — 120

TABLE 37.

## B. ANALYSIS BY WORKPLACE OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES AT END OF YEAR, 1971.

<i>Class of workplace</i> (1)	<i>Number of persons employed</i> (2)
Offices .....	790
Retail Shops .....	489
Wholesale departments, warehouses .....	20
Catering establishments open to the public .....	94
Canteens .....	12
Fuel storage depots .....	4
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>1409</b>
<b>Total Males</b> .....	<b>670</b>
<b>Total Females</b> .....	<b>739</b>



**TABLE 38.**

**C. ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS.**

Section	Cases considered under :	No. of Contraven- tions found & Notices served during 1971	No. Com- pleted during 1971
4.	Cleanliness		
5.	Overcrowding		
6.	Temperature	8	7
7.	Ventilation	3	1
8.	Lighting	1	
9.	Sanitary Conveniences		
10.	Washing facilities	2	
11.	Supply of Drinking Water		
12.	Clothing Accommodation	1	
13.	Sitting Facilities	1	
14.	Seats (Sedentary Workers)		
15.	Eating Facilities		
16.	Floors, passage and stairs	5	3
17.	Fencing exposed parts machinery		
18.	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery		
19.	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery		
23.	Prohibition of heavy work		
24.	First Aid	1	
	Other matters	10	4
Totals		32	15

**D. EXEMPTIONS.**

No. of applications received

**E. PROSECUTIONS.**

No. instituted and completed during the year

**TABLE 39.**

**F. REPORTED ACCIDENTS.**

Workplace	No. Reported		Total No. Investigated.	Action Recommended			
	Fatal.	Non-Fatal.		Prosecution	Formal Warning.	Informal Advice.	No Action
Offices	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Retail Shops	.....	4	4	.....	.....	.....	4
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Catering Establishments open to public, canteens	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fuel Storage Depots	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals	.....	4	4	.....	.....	.....	4

**TABLE 40.**

**Analysis of reported accidents.**

Cause of Accident.	Offices.	Retail Shops.	Wholesale Warehouses.	Catering establishments open to public, canteens.	Fuel Storage Depots.
Machinery	.....	2	.....	.....	.....
Transport	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Falls of persons	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Stepping on or striking against object or person	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Handling goods	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Struck by falling object	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fires and Explosions	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Electricity	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Use of hand tools	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Not otherwise specified	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....



# CLEAN AIR ACTS 1956 AND 1968

We have 6 Standard Deposit Gauges and 2 Lead Peroxide Instruments sited in the area.

TABLE 41.

## STANDARD DEPOSIT GAUGES

Month	Acrefair	Cefn	Tons pollution per square mile			Minera
			Bwlch-gwyn 1	Bwlch-gwyn 2	Pentre Broughton	
January	5.64	5.74	7.23	10.02	11.30	8.37
February	3.00	5.68	8.25	2.74	9.32	6.01
March	5.94	5.67	Vandalised	3.11	10.30	26.65
April	7.08	5.91	6.03	5.99	7.85	13.28
May	3.13	2.04	5.58	3.80	3.39	24.25
June	4.67	3.71	7.54	3.80	7.55	7.63
July	Vandalised	15.74	5.75	1.57	4.90	4.53
August	2.40	5.40	11.60	1.46	3.39	13.48
September	0.84	2.92	15.75	4.89	4.87	7.27
October	1.80	2.79	3.63	3.04	3.76	8.44
November	0.60	0.27	80.30	0.79	5.90	9.84
December	1.90	2.21	Vandalised	0.86	2.95	4.56

**TABLE 42.****LEAD PEROXIDE INSTRUMENTS.**

<i>Month</i>	<i>Rhosycoed Site, Trevor</i>	<i>Pentre Broughton</i>
January	0.92	0.85
February	0.66	0.44
March	0.64	0.58
April	0.69	0.59
May	0.38	0.37
June	0.32	0.40
July	0.18	0.24
August	0.30	0.30
September	0.35	0.30
October	0.42	0.179
November	0.60	0.34
December	0.19	0.41

As will be seen from the Tables, the readings for both the Standard Deposit Gauges and Sulphur Dioxide Gauges are reasonably satisfactory, except in one instance where a gauge is sited to monitor a particular factory. This factory works intermittently and when it is in operation the Deposit Gauge results are very high but fall again to a reasonable level while the factory is closed.

Complaints are received from local people concerned about the heavy fall-out of dust, and the nuisance caused thereby. Many inspections have been carried out and observations made. Meetings with the Alkali Inspector, the owners or their representatives and ourselves have taken place, and efforts have been made by the firm concerned to minimise the dust emission, but I feel that it is going to prove a long term effort to bring it down to a reasonable standard.

Under the 1968 Act, three complaints of the emission of dark smoke and four complaints of grit or dust emissions were received. These were investigated and the owners contacted with a view to carrying out the improvements necessary to remedy the complaints.

The Council has not yet declared a Smoke Control Order but it is anticipated that our first Order will be submitted for the Council's consideration and implementation in 1972.

### **Chimney Heights**

Under Section 6 of the 1968 Act, four applications for approval of chimney heights were received. Approval was granted in all cases.



## **NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960**

A total of 7 complaints of nuisances from noise were received in 1971. These were investigated and 5 were found to be nuisances under the Act. Four were as a result of industrial machinery and the remaining one was from a Roadworks, Construction and Demolition Depot. Representatives of the firms concerned were interviewed and all nuisances were remedied informally.

## **ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963**

There are five Animal Boarding Establishments on the Council's register, licences being renewed annually. All establishments are kept under observation to ensure that no part of the Act is contravened. In all five cases the premises were found to be satisfactory and the businesses well conducted.

## **PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951**

One Pet Shop has been registered under the above Act, the first one in our district for many years.

The premises have been inspected and alterations carried out to comply with the requirements of the Act, and regular visits are paid to ensure that the animals are kept in accordance with the conditions laid down.

## **CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENTS ACT, 1960**

The number of licenced caravan sites remains as for 1970, the only addition being a supplementary licence to cover an increase of 12 caravans on one licenced residential site.

At the end of 1971, the position was as follows :—

10 Residential Caravan Sites — 102 Caravans

25 Holiday Caravan Sites — 205 Caravans

21 licences now operating are in respect of Individual Sites (1-3 caravans) and the remaining 14 in respect of Multiple Sites (more than 3 caravans).

Inspections of these sites are carried out periodically in an effort to ensure that all the conditions attached to the licences are fully complied with and the sites conducted in a satisfactory manner. On the whole, a fairly adequate standard is maintained.

There is one site, however, mentioned in previous years, which is still proving troublesome, and proceedings under Section 9 of the Act, for non-compliance with the conditions of the licence must yet again be taken against the owner.



During the year, the District was subjected to an invasion of gypsies on a number of occasions. This caused the usual inconvenience to the public and also involved the Council in cleaning up operations.

Further attempts were made to obtain a suitable site for a Gypsy Encampment but these did not prove successful. Various sites were inspected and considered by a joint delegation of Denbighshire County Council and the Wrexham Rural District Council officials and Councillors, but in each case they were abandoned and the search continues.

### **SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964**

Under the above Act, it is obligatory for the Council to register all persons in the area carrying on businesses as Scrap Metal Dealers. Five such persons were registered for the first time during the year and one Dealer ceased to operate. This brings the total registered Scrap Metal Dealers on the register to 24.

Constant supervision is kept on these Dealers in order to prevent any situation arising that may cause a nuisance to the public.

Registrations are renewable every three years and it is our custom to inform the Police Authority of the current situation.

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

Under this Act, Local Authorities are responsible for ensuring that their areas, as far as is possible, are kept free from rat and mice infestations.

To this end, the Council employs two full-time Operators, whose duties entail the treatment of all infested properties made known as a result of reported complaints, and carrying out block survey treatments in certain areas.

854 complaints were received, of which 784 warranted treatment; 653 for rat infestations and 131 for mice infestations.

All the Council's sewers, sewage disposal works and refuse tips are periodically visited and treated as found necessary. All these treatments involved 3352 visits.

Accompanied by the Field Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, a sewer survey was carried out in the parishes of Bersham, Broughton, Brymbo, Cefn, Gwersyllt and Rhos. Where infestations were encountered, follow-up treatments were carried out and the infestations cleared.



In October, a survey of sewage works was carried out. On the whole, these were found to be in quite a satisfactory condition, either clear, or only slight treatment necessary.

The Bradley refuse tip was, however, found to have a heavy infestation. This was treated and is checked at regular intervals to see that no further infestation takes place.

I would like to acknowledge the co-operation and advice received from the Field Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food whenever approached on a difficult problem.

## **INFESTATION BY VERMIN**

Our two Rodent Operators are also responsible for the disinfection of premises infested with vermin.

A total of 90 complaints were received in 1971, a considerable increase on last year's total of 56.

Exactly half the complaints were in respect of ants (23) and wasps (22), with the remaining complaints covering such insects as flies, beetles, earwigs, crickets, bees, hornets, etc. All were treated and satisfactorily cleared.

It is most pleasing to note that for the first time since 1962 no complaints of bug infestations were reported.





