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Mold Urban District Council.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

To the Chairman and Members of the
Mold Urban District Council.

Mrs. Roberts, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Report on the health of the Urban District of Mold for the year ended 31st December, 1950.

There are several satisfactory items in this Report to which I should like to direct your attention. The birth rate for the Urban District has increased as compared with the rate for the previous year and is now well in advance of the birth rate for England and Wales as a whole, which in contrast has continued to fall. The still-birth rate has been maintained at a satisfactorily low level. There has been a marked fall in the general death rate as compared with the year 1949, and this rate also compares favourably with the general death rate for England and Wales. There were during the year no deaths attributable to childbirth and the infantile death rate reached the remarkably low figure of 7.14 per 1,000 live births. It must, however, be noted that this rate is based on very small figures and is therefore subject to violent fluctuations.

During the year there was no serious outbreak of infectious illness and we were fortunate to have no cases of infantile paralysis. Notifications of new cases of pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis were the lowest recorded since 1934 with the exception of 1947.

Lack of sufficient housing accommodation continues to be one of the major problems of the district and although the authority has made good progress with its housing schemes we are at present only touching the fringe of the problem. In this connection I must again draw the attention of the



Council to their present method of allocating Council houses and respectfully suggest that possibly the best use might be made of the limited number of houses available by considering the housing needs of the town as a whole instead of, as at present, allocating houses on the basis of an equal proportion to each Ward.

In conclusion I wish to record my thanks to the Chairman of the Health Committee—Councillor F. H. Wright—for his continued support in the work of my Department. I should also like to thank you as a Council, and your officers, for the help given me so readily throughout the year.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge the help given by your Sanitary Inspector in the preparation of Section C. D. and E. of this Report.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Roberts, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) T. W. BRINDLE,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

Social conditions including chief industries.

During this year a small work for the manufacture of formaldehyde has been opened.

Area in acres—1160 Statutory Acres.

Population (Registrar General's Estimate) :—

Mid-year, 1950—6,409.

Mid-year, 1949—6,354.

Number of inhabited houses—1,804.

Rateable Value—£38,451.

Product of a Penny Rate—£151/7/11.

Vital Statistics—These are presented in tabular form. For purposes of comparison, figures for last year are given, and where appropriate the rates for England and Wales as a whole are given.

TABLE I. Births.

Live Births.

			Males.		Females.		Totals.
Legitimate	...	...	72	...	64	...	136
Illegitimate	...	...	3	...	1	...	4
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
Totals	...		75		65		140
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population :—

1950—21.84

1949—20.77

England and Wales—Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population :—

1950 (Provisional)—15.8

1949—16.7

These figures show that while the birth rate for England and Wales has continued to fall, there has been a rise in the birth rate for the Mold Urban District Area and that the rate is considerably in excess of that for the country as a whole.

TABLE II. Still Births.

			Males.		Females.		Total.
Legitimate	—	...	2	...	2
Illegitimate	—	...	—	...	—
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
Totals	...		—		2		2
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births :—

1950—14.08

1949—14.92

1948—26.85

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population :—

1950—0.31

1949—0.32

1948—0.64

England and Wales. Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population :—

1950 (Provisional)—0.37

1949—0.39

1948—0.42

The improvement in the still birth rate noted last year has been maintained and the rate still compares favourably with the national rate.

TABLE III. Death (General) Rate :—

All ages (all causes)—Males 32, Females 37, Total 69.

Death Rate per 1,000 population :—

1950—10.76

1949—13.38

1948—10.69

England and Wales. Death Rate per 1,000 population :—

1950 (Provisional)—11.6

1949—11.7

1948—10.8

* There has been an appreciable fall in the crude death rate for the Mold Urban Area as compared with the rate for the previous year. The death rate for England and Wales shows only a very slight improvement on the previous year.

TABLE IV. Deaths (General) Analysis.

			M.	F.	Total.	Rate per 1,000 Population.
Tuberculosis (all forms)	...	...	—	—	—	...
Cancer of Stomach	...	...	4	2	6	0.94
Cancer of Breast	...	...	—	2	2	0.31
Cancer Uterus	...	...	—	2	2	0.31
Cancer of all other sites	...	...	5	2	7	1.09
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	...	5	9	14	2.18
Coronary Disease, Angina	...	...	6	2	8	1.25
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	—	1	1	0.16
Other heart diseases	...	...	2	6	8	1.25
Other Circulatory Disease	...	...	—	2	2	0.31
Pneumonia	...	...	3	3	6	0.94
Bronchitis	...	...	—	1	1	0.16
Ulcer Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	1	—	1	0.16

			M.	F.	Total.	Rate per 1,000 Population.
Nephritis Nephrosis	...	...	—	2	2	0.31
Hyperlastic Prostate	...	...	1	—	1	0.16
Congenital Malformations	...	...	1	—	1	0.16
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	1	3	4	0.62
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	2	—	2	0.31
All other Accidents	...	...	1	—	1	0.16
Totals	...	...	32	37	69	

The leading causes of death during the year were thus :— Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System, 19 ; Cancer (all forms), 17 ; Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System, 14. There were no deaths during the year due to Tuberculosis. The corresponding figures for 1949 were :—Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System, 23 ; Cancer (all forms), 16 ; Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System, 13 ; Tuberculosis (Pulmonary), 2 ; Non-Pulmonary, 1.

TABLE V. Deaths (Childbirth)—Nil.

Once again it is very pleasing to record that there were no deaths during the year attributed to childbirth.

TABLE VI. Death Rate (Infantile), i.e., Infants under 1 year of age.

			Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	...	...	1	—	1
Illegitimate	...	...	—	—	—
Total	...	...	1	—	1

Infantile Death Rate of Legitimate babies per 1,000 Legitimate Births :—

1950—7.35

1949—39.68

Infantile Death Rate of Illegitimate babies per 1,000
Illegitimate Births :—

1950—Nil.

1949—Nil.

Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births (Legitimate
and Illegitimate) :—

1950—7.14

1949—37.87

1948—6.90

England and Wales. Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 live
births :—

1950 (Provisional)—29.8

1949—32.00

1948—34.00

The above figures show that there has been a very sharp decline in the infantile death rate for 1950 as compared with the previous year. However, as I pointed out last year, it is doubtful if reliable conclusions can be drawn from rates based on such small numbers. The single infantile death referred to in the above table occurred in an infant under the age of 4 weeks.

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Officers—The Officers serving the Urban District during the year were :—

Medical Officer of Health—T. W. Brindle, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor—G. Horn, Cert., R.S.I. and S.I.J.B., Cert. R.S.I. (Meat and other foods), M.S.I.A., etc.

Laboratory Facilities—Provided by the Public Health Laboratories at Conway and Birkenhead.

Ambulance Facilities—Provided by the Flintshire County Council. An ambulance is stationed within the Urban District and a 24-hour service is available. Sitting-case car transport is also available under arrangements made through the County Council Welfare Officer.

Nursing and Midwifery in the Home—The Local Health Authority (Flintshire County Council) are responsible for the provision of Home Nursing and Domiciliary Midwifery.

Home Help—A Home Help Service has been organised and is administered by the Local Health Authority (Flintshire County Council).

Treatment Clinics and Centres.

Tuberculosis :—

“Oaklands,” Chester Road, Queensferry—Every Wednesday at 9-30 a.m.

Tuberculosis :—

Wrexham—The Clinic, Grosvenor Road, Wrexham—Every Monday at 9-30 a.m.

Ante-Natal :—

The Clinic, King Street, Mold—1st and 3rd Monday in each month at 9-30 a.m.

Infant Welfare :—

The Clinic, King Street, Mold—Every Wednesday at 1-30 p.m.

School Clinic :—

The Clinic, King Street, Mold—Every Wednesday at 9-30 a.m.

Immunisation Clinic :—

The Clinic, King Street, Mold—once Monthly.

Orthopaedic Clinic :—

Shotton—New Clinic, Central School—1st and 3rd Friday in each month, 10-30 a.m.

Hospitals—The provision of hospital accommodation is the responsibility of the Clwyd and Deeside Hospital Management Committee. The Mold Cottage Hospital is still available for residents of the Urban District and in addition patients are admitted to hospitals in other areas.

SECTION C.

Water.

Proportion of dwellinghouses and also population supplied directly to houses ...	98 %
Temporary hardness	0.8
Permanent hardness	4.1
Total hardness	4.9

It is pleasing to report that there has been a marked improvement in the bacteriological quality of the water. During the year 57 samples of water were submitted for bacteriological analysis with the following results:—

Class I—50.
Class II—2.
Class III—1.
Class IV—4.

In the case of the samples falling in Class II, III and IV, further samples obtained a week later were found to be Class I.

It is still necessary that a close watch should be kept on the position with regard to the quantity of water available as the present storage reservoir is inadequate to meet the needs of the town and unless a supplementary supply is available a serious shortage of water may arise during dry periods.

Rivers and Streams—No complaints of pollution have been made.

Schools—All Schools are periodically visited.

House Refuse—The collection of house refuse continues to be satisfactory, and the salvage campaign continues.

Sewer—During the past year small extensions have taken place.

TABLE VII.

Number of visits paid re Public Health matters:—

Visits re complaints of defects	280
Re-visits to property under notice	296
Inspections under Building Bye-laws	112
To shops or foodstores	52
To slaughterhouse	184
Re refuse collection and disposal	28

Re issue of Building Licences	...	...	...	...	16
Re infectious diseases or disinfection	...	...	...	...	12
Re issue of petrol licences	...	...	...	...	12
Re the Factories Act	...	...	...	...	96
Interviews with Owners or Agents	...	...	...	...	46
Inspections under Housing Consolidation Regions	...	...	...	...	80
To dirty and verminous premises	...	...	...	...	15
To bakehouses	...	...	...	...	26
To Sewage Works	...	...	...	...	40
To Dairies	...	...	...	...	10
Re Water Sampling	...	...	...	...	59
					<hr/> 1364 <hr/>

TABLE VIII.

Notices Served :—

Informal under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	80
Formal under Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	5
Abatement under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	76

TABLE IX.

Work done :—

Sanitary Convenience repaired	...	...	...	...	10
Drain Obstruction removed	...	...	...	...	115
Dangerous floors repaired	...	...	...	...	6
Roofs and Gutters repaired	...	...	...	...	10
Plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	28
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	14
Cooking facilities repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Bakehouse walls cleansed	...	...	...	...	3
Dangerous structures made safe	...	...	...	...	—
Hedges lopped	...	...	...	...	30
Cesspools emptied	...	...	...	...	6
Plumbing repairs carried out	...	...	...	...	56
Dangerous walls repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Water supplies improved	...	...	...	...	5
Doors repaired	...	...	...	...	12
Yard floors repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Cesspools abolished—connected to sewer	...	...	...	...	—

SECTION D.

Housing.

During the year, 32 houses were completed under the Council's building schemes and in addition 7 houses for private owners were completed. The position as regards housing remains serious and there were at the end of the year some 400 applicants for houses remaining on the Council's waiting list. Of these, a large number are living in grossly overcrowded conditions, whilst others are living in dilapidated premises.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food—Inspections have been made of food premises and found satisfactory in regard to lighting, ventilation, drainage, and cleanliness.

TABLE X.

Foods—Number of animals inspected at the Slaughterhouse :—

Sheep	...	...	...	4693
Cattle	...	...	...	727
Calves	...	...	...	536
Pigs	...	...	...	72
				<hr/> 6028 <hr/>

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

TABLE XI.

	Cattle Excluding Cows.			Cows.			Calves.			Sheep and Lambs.		Pigs.	
Number Inspected	...	577	...	150	...	...	536	...	...	4693	...	...	72
All diseases except Tuberculosis :—													
Whose carcasses condemned	...	8	...	1	...	...	17	...	...	14	...	...	7
Carcases in which some part or organ was condemned	...	80	...	15	...	...	25	...	...	238	...	...	8

	Cattle Excluding Cows.			Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.		Pigs		
Percentage of No. inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	...	15.25	...	10.66	...	7.83	...	5.37	...	20.8
Tuberculosis only :—										
Whole carcasses condemned	...	18	...	14	...	1	...	—	...	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	260	...	106	...	—	...	—	...	40
Percentage of No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis	...	48.2	...	80	...	0.18	...	—	...	59.7

Carcases part Carcasses and Organs Condemned.

TABLE XII.

	Beasts.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Total.
Carcases	... 41	... 18	... 14	... 10	... 83
Forequarters	... 12	... —	... 8	... —	... 20
Hindquarters	... 6	... —	... —	... —	... 6
Heads	... 60	... —	... 60	... 20	... 140
Plucks	... —	... —	... 205	... 21	... 226
Lungs	... 306	... —	... —	... —	... 306
Livers	... 366	... —	... —	... —	... 366
Spleens	... 48	... —	... —	... —	... 48
Intestines	... 60	... —	... —	... 12	... 72
Stomachs	... 60	... —	... —	... —	... 60
Legs	... —	... —	... —	... 4	... 4

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Diseases.
TABLE XIII.

	Beasts.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Total.
Tuberculosis	... 398 ...	1 ...	— ...	3 ...	402
Actinomycosis	... 1 ...	— ...	— ...	— ...	1
Abscesses	... 5 ...	— ...	2 ...	— ...	7
Angioma	... — ...	— ...	— ...	— ...	—
Dropsy	... 1 ...	14 ...	10 ...	— ...	25
Parasitic	... 2 ...	— ...	230 ...	10 ...	242
Pericarditis	... 1 ...	— ...	— ...	— ...	1
Pleurisy	... 2 ...	2 ...	— ...	— ...	4
Peritonitis	... — ...	— ...	2 ...	— ...	2
Mammitis	... 6 ...	— ...	— ...	— ...	6
Bruised	... 4 ...	— ...	— ...	— ...	4
Johne's Disease	... 2 ...	— ...	— ...	— ...	2
Pneumonia	... 20 ...	22 ...	— ...	30 ...	72
Septicaemia	... 1 ...	— ...	— ...	— ...	1
Cirrhosis	... 60 ...	1 ...	— ...	— ...	61
Fever	... — ...	3 ...	— ...	— ...	3
Swine Erysipelas	... — ...	— ...	— ...	7 ...	7

The following were voluntarily surrendered being unfit for human consumption :—

TABLE XIV.

Evaporated Milk	... ..	120 tins
Skimmed Milk	... ..	20 tins
Baked Beans	... ..	15 tins
Stewed Steak	... ..	54 tins
Tinned Meat	... ..	11 tins
Peas	... ..	80 tins
Fish	... ..	10 tins
Plums	... ..	25 tins
Spaghetti	... ..	19 tins
Salmon	... ..	1 tin
Vegetable	... ..	40 tins
Nestles Milk	... ..	13 tins
Tomatoes	... ..	46 tins
Kippers	... ..	112 lbs.
Haddock	... ..	81 lbs.
Butter	... ..	28 lbs.
Chocolate Dates	... ..	Nil
Soup	... ..	15 tins
Eggs	... ..	150
Marmalade	... ..	9 tins
Fruit	... ..	16 tins
Sweets	... ..	Nil
Jam	... ..	26 tins

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

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2. 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.	Number of cases in which defects were found.							
	M/c. Line No.		To H.M. Inspected.		Referred By H.M. Inspector.		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	...	10	10	...	...	—	...	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	...	—	—	—	...	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	...	—	—	—	...	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	...	4	4	...	...	—	...	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	...	2	2	...	...	—	...	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :—								
(a) Insufficient	...	1	1	...	...	—	...	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	...	3	—	...	3	—	...	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	11
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to outwork)	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	12
TOTAL	60	20	17	—	3	—	—	60

PART VIII OF THE ACT.
OUTWORK.
(Sections 110 and 111).

Section 110.		Section 111.					
Nature of Work.	M/c. Line No.	No of out-workers in Aug. list required by Sec. 110(1)(c).	No. of Cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Wearing apparel (making, etc.)	13	...	—	...	—	...	—
Cleaning and Washing	14	3	—	...	—	...	—
Household Linen	15	—	—	...	—	...	—
TOTAL	...	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

SECTION F.
Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases
(excluding Tuberculosis).

TABLE XV.

Name of Disease.	No. of Cases Notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	7	4	—
Measles	24	—	—
Whooping Cough	24	1	—
Total	55	5	—

TABLE XVI.

Analysis of Notifiable Disease.

The figures shown in column 1 of the foregoing Table are analysed in age groups below.

Number of cases notified as having occurred among persons of the ages immediately below specified.

Disease.	0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	Total.
Scarlet													
Fever ...	—	—	—	2	—	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	7
Measles ...	—	2	5	1	2	11	3	—	—	—	—	—	24
Whooping													
Cough ...	3	1	2	4	2	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	24
	3	3	7	7	4	25	5	—	1	—	—	—	55

Tables XI and XVI show that there has been no serious outbreak of infectious illness during the year. There were no cases of Infantile Paralysis or Diphtheria. It is satisfactory to be able to record that there were no deaths from Measles or Whooping Cough. There was no outbreak of food-poisoning during the year.

Tuberculosis.
TABLE XVII.

New Cases Notified during the year 1950.						Deaths during the year 1950.				
Age Groups.	Res- piratory.	Non-Res- piratory.	Total Cases.			Res- piratory.	Non-Res- piratory.	Total Cases.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
0	—	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	1	1	...	—	—	—	—
15	—	1	1	—	2	...	—	—	—	—
25	—	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
35	—	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
55	1	—	—	—	1	...	—	—	—	—
65	—	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
All ages	1	1	1	1	4	...	—	—	—	—

It will be seen that notifications of new pulmonary cases during the year totalled 2. With the exception of the year 1947, when only one new case was notified, this total is the lowest in any year since 1934. Although the number of non-pulmonary cases notified totalled 2, showing an increase of 1 over the previous year, the combined total of pulmonary and non-pulmonary cases (4) is, with the exception of 1947 (2), the lowest recorded in any year since 1934.

Tuberculosis

TABLE XVII

Number of cases during the year 1950, by sex and age group, and by duration of disease

Age Group	Male		Female		Total	Total
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage		
0-4	1	100	1	100	2	100
5-9	1	100	1	100	2	100
10-14	1	100	1	100	2	100
15-19	1	100	1	100	2	100
20-24	1	100	1	100	2	100
25-29	1	100	1	100	2	100
30-34	1	100	1	100	2	100
35-39	1	100	1	100	2	100
40-44	1	100	1	100	2	100
45-49	1	100	1	100	2	100
50-54	1	100	1	100	2	100
55-59	1	100	1	100	2	100
60-64	1	100	1	100	2	100
65-69	1	100	1	100	2	100
70-74	1	100	1	100	2	100
75-79	1	100	1	100	2	100
80-84	1	100	1	100	2	100
85-89	1	100	1	100	2	100
90-94	1	100	1	100	2	100
95-99	1	100	1	100	2	100
100+	1	100	1	100	2	100

It will be seen that the number of new pulmonary cases during the year 1950 was 5. It is the highest of the year 1947, when only one new case was reported. This was the lowest in any year since 1934. Although the number of new pulmonary cases was not totalled, it showed an increase over the previous year. The highest total of pulmonary and non-pulmonary cases (16) is with the category of 1947. The total of 16 is also the highest since 1934.



