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Contributors

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*THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF MOLD*

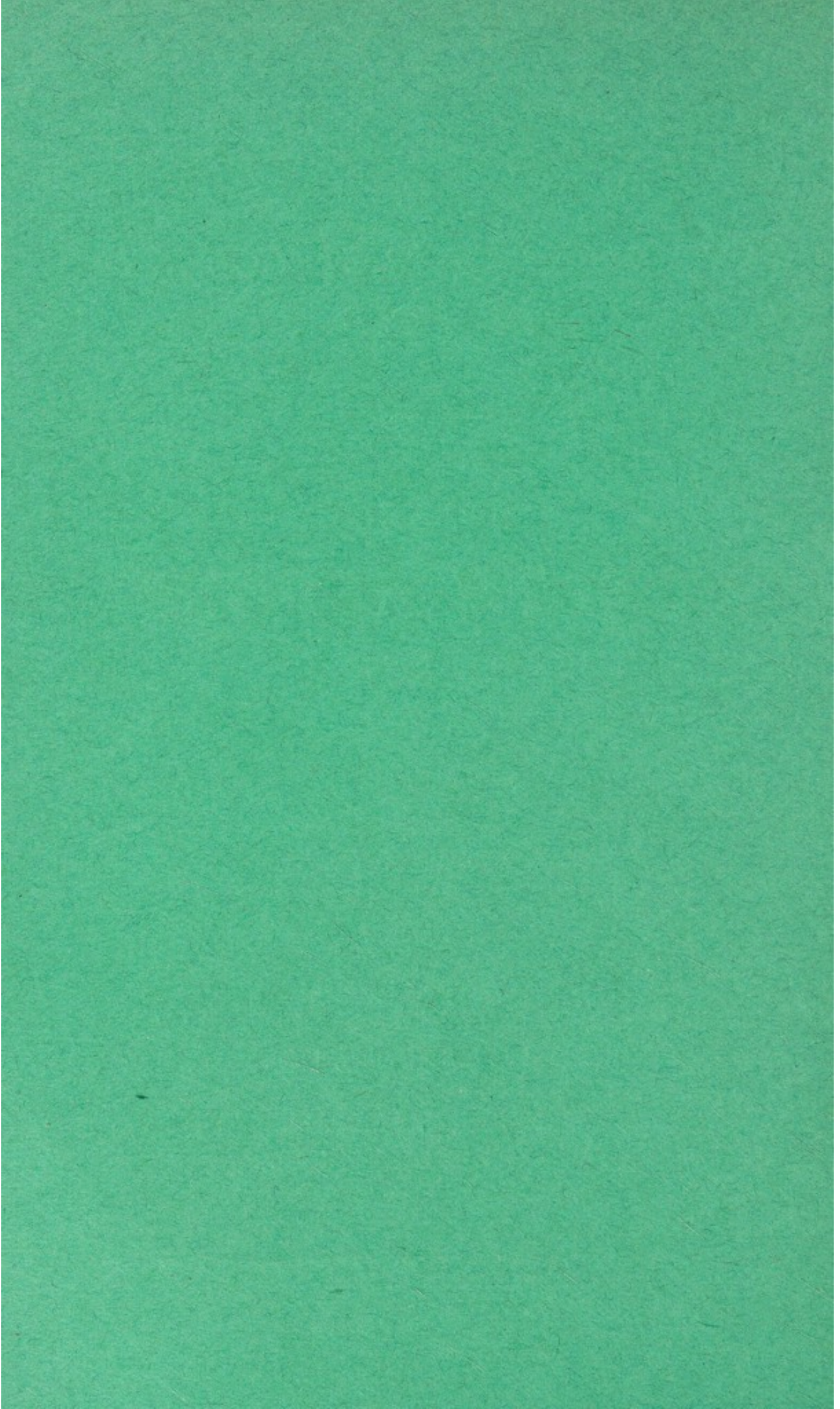
*ANNUAL
HEALTH REPORT
for 1966*

Medical Officer of Health :
D. J. FRASER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector :
C. R. CRESSWELL, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., A.I.H.E.
(Resigned 16th September, 1966).

R. GOUCHER, M.A.P.H.I.
(Appointed 1st October, 1966).

Edwards, Printers, Mold.



MOLD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the Chairman and Members.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Report on the health of the district, together with the Report of the Public Health Inspector, for the year ended 31st December, 1966.

There were 182 live births, 18 more than in 1965, giving a birth rate higher than that for England and Wales.

Still births totalled 3, compared with 5 in 1965. Deaths numbered 84. The leading causes of death were again circulatory diseases and cancer. Table IV gives an analysis of the causes of death. Once again there were no deaths associated with pregnancy and childbirth.

There was 1 death of an infant under a year old, compared with 2 in 1965, 4 in 1964, 7 in 1963, 6 in 1962 and 4 in 1961.

During the year there were 3 notifications of infectious disease (excluding tuberculosis). There were no cases of poliomyelitis or diphtheria. One new case of tuberculosis was reported. There were no deaths from this complaint.

One case of scarlet fever and two cases of measles were notified. There were no reports of dysentery or of food poisoning.

The Mass Radiography Unit continued to visit Mold every three weeks. 1,061 persons were examined during the year, compared with 942 in 1965 and 912 in 1964.

B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis continued in local schools.

Poliomyelitis vaccination continued, the local acceptance rate being high.

I commend to you the Report of the Public Health Inspector. This deals with the large mass of day to day work which is carried out in a Health Department.

Mr. Goucher took over as Public Health Inspector on 1st October, 1966. I am most grateful to him for his efficiency and his keen approach to the work of the department. "Taking over" is always a daunting experience, but Mr. Goucher has settled in very well.

I wish to thank the Council and the Officers for the help which has been freely given throughout the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. J. FRASER,

Medical Officer of Health.

Town Hall,

Earl Road, Mold.

Telephone—Mold 1129 or 176, Mold 316 (Home).

VITAL STATISTICS, 1966.

Population : Registrar General's estimate at mid-year	...	...	...	...	7,590
Census, 1961	...	...	...	...	6,894
Live Births :					
Number	...	...	...	...	182
Crude birth rate per 1000 population	...	...	...	...	23.97
Adjusted local birth rate	...	...	...	...	23.97
National birth rate	...	...	...	...	17.7
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	...	...	...	...	5.49
Illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	10
Still Births :					
Number	...	...	...	...	3
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	16.21
National still birth rate	...	...	...	...	15.4
Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	185
Infant deaths (under 1 year )	...	...	...	...	1
Infant Mortality Rates :					
Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births	...	...	...	...	5.49
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	5.81
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	Nil
National infant mortality rate per 1000 live births	...	...	...	...	19.0
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)	...	...	...	...	Nil
National early neo-natal mortality rate	...	...	...	...	11.1
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and still births)	...	...	...	...	16.21
National perinatal mortality rate	...	...	...	...	26.3
Maternal mortality (including abortion) :					
Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	Nil
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths (from all causes)	...	...	...	...	84
Crude death rate per 1000 population	...	...	...	...	11.06
Adjusted local death rate	...	...	...	...	13.38
National death rate per 1000 population	...	...	...	...	11.7

SOCIAL CONDITIONS INCLUDING CHIEF INDUSTRIES.

There has been no change in the area under this heading during the year under review.

Area in acres—1,160 statutory acres.

Population (Census 1961)—6,894.

Number of habitable houses—2,402.

Rateable Value—£232,139.

Product of a penny rate—£970.

The various vital statistics are listed below in tabular form. For the purposes of comparison, figures for last year are given and, where appropriate, the rates for England and Wales as a whole.

TABLE I. Live Births.

		Males.		Females.		Total.
Legitimate	...	86	...	86	...	172
Illegitimate	...	7	...	3	...	10
		93		89		182
Total	...	93		89		182

Live Birth Rate per 1000 Population :—

1957—14.65

1958—20.00

1959—17.51

1960—18.62

1961—19.29

1962—20.42

1963—22.50

1964—23.12

1965—20.65

1966—23.97

England and Wales : Live Birth Rate per 1000 Population :—

1957—16.1

1958—16.4

1959—16.5

1960—17.1

1961—17.4

1962—18.0

1963—18.2

1964—18.4

1965—18.1

1966—17.7

These figures show a slight rise in the local birth rate. There were 182 live births, compared with 164 in 1965, 170 in 1964, 160 in 1963, 143 in 1962 and 132 in 1961.

The Registrar General's "Comparability Factor" being 1.00, the corrected birth rate is 23.97 per 1000 population.

TABLE II. Still Births.

		Males.		Females.		Total.
Legitimate	...	1	...	1	...	2
Illegitimate	...	—	...	1	...	1
		—		—		—
Total	...	1		2		3
		—		—		—

Still Birth Rate per 1000 total Live and Still Births :—

1957—30.30
 1958—36.49
 1959—48.78
 1960—45.80
 1961—22.22
 1962—13.79
 1963—6.21
 1964—5.85
 1965—29.58
 1966—16.21

Still Birth Rate per 1000 Population :—

1957—0.45
 1958—0.75
 1959—0.89
 1960—0.89
 1961—0.43
 1962—0.28
 1963—0.14
 1964—0.13
 1965—0.66
 1966—0.39

England and Wales : Still Birth Rate per 1000**Live and Still Births :—**

1957—22.4
1958—16.4
1959—20.7
1960—19.7
1961—18.7
1962—18.1
1963—17.2
1964—16.4
1965—15.7
1966—15.4

There were 3 still births in 1966, compared with 6 in 1965, 1 in 1964, 1 in 1963, 2 in 1962, 3 in 1961, 6 in 1960, 6 in 1959 and 5 in 1958.

TABLE III. Death (General) Rate :—

All ages (all causes)—Males 36, Females 48, Total 84, compared with 71 in 1965, 80 in 1964, 83 in 1963, 75 in 1962, 99 in 1961, 84 in 1960 and 82 in 1959.

Crude Death Rate per 1000 Population :—

1957—10.22
1958—13.48
1959—12.27
1960—12.51
1961—14.47
1962—10.71
1963—11.67
1964—10.88
1965—9.47
1966—11.06

England and Wales : Death Rate per 1000 Population :—

1957—11.5
1958—11.7
1959—11.6
1960—11.5
1961—12.0
1962—11.9
1963—12.2
1964—11.3
1965—11.5
1966—11.7

There has been a rise in the crude death rate for the Mold Urban District. The rate for England and Wales was 11.7. The rate for Mold is lower than that for England and Wales as a whole. There were 84 deaths, compared with 71 in 1965.

TABLE IV. Deaths (General) Analysis.

Causes.		M.	F.	Total.	Rate per 1000 Population.	
Cancer of stomach	...	1	2	3	...	0.39
Cancer of lung, bronchus	...	2	2	4	...	0.52
Cancer of breast	...	—	2	2	...	0.26
Cancer of other organs	...	2	4	6	...	0.79
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	4	9	13	...	1.71
Coronary disease, angina	...	13	5	18	...	2.37
Other heart disease	...	1	3	4	...	0.52
Other circulatory disease	...	—	5	5	...	0.65
Bronchitis	...	3	3	6	...	0.79
Pneumonia	...	4	3	7	...	0.92
Other defined and ill-defined disease	...	1	7	8	...	1.08
Motor vehicle accidents	...	1	—	1	...	0.13
All other accidents	...	1	—	1	...	0.13
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	1	1	2	...	0.26
Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	...	—	1	1	...	0.13
Influenza	...	1	—	1	...	0.13
Leukaemia	...	—	1	1	...	0.13
Nephritis, nephrosis	...	1	—	1	...	0.13
Total		36	48	84		

From this table it is seen that the leading causes of death are circulatory diseases with 40 deaths and cancer in one form or another with 15 deaths. There were no deaths from tuberculosis. Bronchitis caused 6 deaths, pneumonia 7, motor accident 1, and influenza 1.

TABLE V. Deaths (Childbirth)—Nil.

There were no deaths attributable to pregnancy or child-birth.

TABLE VI. Death Rate (Infantile)—that is, infants under one year old :—

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

Infantile Death Rate of Legitimate babies per 1000

Legitimate Births :—

1957—	32.25
1958—	16.52
1959—	17.63
1960—	24.79
1961—	32.00
1962—	36.49
1963—	38.72
1964—	24.24
1965—	12.90
1966—	5.81

Infantile Death Rate of Illegitimate babies per 1000

Illegitimate Births :—

1957—	Nil
1958—	Nil
1959—	Nil
1960—	Nil
1961—	Nil
1962—	166.66
1963—	200.00
1964—	Nil
1965—	Nil
1966—	Nil

Infantile Death Rate per 1000 Live Births (Legitimate and Illegitimate) :—

1957—	31.25
1958—	15.15
1959—	17.09
1960—	24.00
1961—	30.30
1962—	41.95
1963—	43.75
1964—	23.52
1965—	12.19
1966—	5.49

England and Wales : Infantile Death Rate per 1000 Live Births :—

1957—	23.0
1958—	22.5
1959—	22.0
1960—	21.7
1961—	21.4
1962—	21.6
1963—	21.1
1964—	20.0
1965—	19.0
1966—	19.0

There was 1 death of an infant under one year old, compared with 2 in 1965, 4 in 1964 and 7 in 1963.

**GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE AREA.**

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

Clerk—E. H. Rees, A.I.M.T.A.

Treasurer—A. J. Hutchings.

Surveyor—E. J. Stokes, C. Eng., M.I. Mun. E.

Laboratory Facilities — Provided by the Public Health Laboratories at Conway and Chester, and the Public Analyst, Chester.

Ambulance Services — Provided by the Flintshire County Council. Ambulances are stationed within the Urban Area on a 24-hour service.

Midwifery and Home Nursing Services are provided by the County Council. Two District Nurse/Midwives reside in the area.

Home Help — This service is provided by the County Council. Persons requiring home help should get in touch with the Home Help Organiser at the County Health Department or with the Medical Officer of Health.

Tuberculosis.

Clinics—"Oaklands," Chester Road, Queensferry; Wednesdays at 9-30 a.m. The Clinic, Grosvenor Road, Wrexham; Mondays at 9-30 a.m.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

The Clinic, Mold. First and third Mondays of the month at 9-30 a.m.

School Clinic.

The Clinic, King Street, Mold. Wednesdays at 9-30 a.m.

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation.

The Clinic, King Street, Mold. First Friday of each month, 2 to 4 p.m.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

This is done in the schools and at Chest Clinics.

Dental Clinic.

School children and expectant mothers are treated at the Clinic, King Street, Mold, by appointment.

Orthopaedic Clinic.

Shotton—New Clinic, Central School. First and third Wednesdays of each month at 10 a.m., and at Wrexham and Holywell.

Infant Welfare.

The Clinic, King Street, Mold. Wednesdays at 1-30 p.m.

Ophthalmic Clinic.

The Clinic, King Street, Mold. The second and fourth Mondays of the month at 1-30 p.m. (by appointment).

Speech Therapy Clinic.

The Clinic, King Street, Mold. Second and fourth Tuesdays of the month.

Health Visiting.

Health Visitor/School Nurses are provided by the County Council. These Nurses visit children in their homes up to school age, and attend at the Infant Welfare Clinic sessions.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care.

This service is maintained by close liaison between the Medical Officer, Health Visitor/School Nurses, Tuberculosis Health Visitors, Home Help Organiser, the Welfare Department, the County Health Department, and voluntary bodies, including associations caring for the blind and deaf, and those otherwise handicapped.

Vaccination is carried out by general medical practitioners, but it may be done by the Medical Officer on request.

National Assistance Act, 1948 (Section 47). (Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention).

No cases were dealt with under this heading during the year, but several cases were visited in this connection.

Hospitals.

Hospital accommodation is provided by the Clwyd and Deeside Hospital Management Committee. Mold Cottage Hospital remains in use and provides services for local residents. Patients are admitted to other hospitals in the district, mainly in Wrexham and Chester. The provision of out-patient facilities at Mold is much appreciated by local residents.

**Prevalence and control of Notifiable Diseases
(excluding Tuberculosis), 1966.**

TABLE VII.

Diseases.	Cases notified.			Deaths notified.
Scarlet Fever	1 (0)	—
Whooping Cough	— (0)	—
Measles	2 (1)	—
Acute Pneumonia	— (0)	7
Meningitis	— (0)	—
Erysipelas	— (0)	—
Poliomyelitis	— (0)	—
Dysentery	— (9)	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	— (0)	—
Food Poisoning	— (1)	—
Paratyphoid Fever	— (0)	—
Total	3 (11)	7

Figures in brackets are those for 1965.

TABLE VIII.

Analysis of Notifiable Diseases. The figures shown in column 1 of the previous table are analysed in age groups below.

Disease.	Under 1.	1-4.	5-9.	10-14	15-44.
Measles	...	—	1	1	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	1	—	—

There were no cases of infantile paralysis (poliomyelitis). There were no cases of diphtheria during the year. Influenza of a mild type was prevalent in the spring causing one death. Combined vaccination against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus is now available. Most mothers now have their children protected. Chickenpox and mumps were prevalent amongst the younger children.

There were no notifications of dysentery or of food poisoning during the year, although both complaints were prevalent in the country as a whole.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases notified during 1966.

Age Groups.	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.	Total.
Under 5 years	—	—	—
5-14 years	—	—	—
15-24 „	—	—	—
25-44 „	—	—	—
45-64 „	—	—	—
65 and over	1	—	1
	—	—	—
All ages	1	—	1
	—	—	—

There was 1 notification of a new case of tuberculosis compared with 3 in 1965, none in 1964, 2 in 1963, 2 in 1962, and 6 in 1961.

There were no deaths from this complaint.

The case was an aged man living in poor housing due for clearance. He and his wife were moved to a Council house.

Mass X-Ray Surveys.

It was decided in 1957 to have regular visits by the Semi-Static Mass X-Ray Unit, the Unit being stationed at the County Hall Field for one whole day every three weeks. This new system began operating in July, 1957, and results have been satisfactory. Adults and children of thirteen years and over can attend, with or without a doctor's letter, and this procedure has continued since. 1,061 persons were examined during the year—an average of 66 persons per visit of the Unit.

In addition to the above programme, the Mass X-Ray Unit continues to visit schools, factories and other works in the County.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

This service continued during 1966. Vaccination is offered to all suitable secondary school pupils between 12 and 14 years. The children are "skin-tested" in school, and those with a negative reaction are given the necessary single injection.

Anti-Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

During 1966 vaccination against poliomyelitis continued.

In February, 1962, the Sabin vaccine—a live vaccine given by mouth—was introduced at Mold Clinic. This method is used at all Clinics and is well received. Three doses of three drops of vaccine are given at intervals of one month.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

During 1966, your Public Health Inspector for ten years, Mr. C. R. Cresswell, left the service of this Council to take up an appointment with the County Borough of West Bromwich. Consequently it will be readily understood that the statistics produced and progress made stem, in the main, from the work which he carried out or initiated before his resignation.

When taking up any new appointment, many months ensue before one begins to feel a grasp, not only of the district, but also of the problems associated with public health work in that area. This is particularly so in a sole appointment, there being no continuity of information available to the new officer.

This report is, therefore, perhaps rather more brief than in previous years, and may be said to reflect the impressions of a newcomer to the area.

Type and Number of Inspections.

Public Health Acts	...	...	...	165
Housing Acts	...	...	...	178
Food and Drugs Act and Hygiene Regulations	...	...	...	197
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	160
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	136
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	5
Meat Inspection (at slaughterhouses)	...	...	...	186
Meat Inspection (at butchers' shops)	...	...	...	1
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	4
National Assistance	...	...	...	1
Disinfestation	...	...	...	3
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	26
P.M. Room and Mortuary	...	...	...	67
Clean Air Act	...	...	...	943
Street Stalls	...	...	...	29
Litter	...	...	...	6
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	41

Improvement Loans	...	...	...	3
Water Supply	...	...	...	76
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	694
Street Scavenging	...	...	...	63
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	7
Petroleum Acts and Regulations	...	...	...	3
Factories	...	...	...	28
Milk and Dairies Regulations	...	...	...	12
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	27
Drainage	...	...	...	75
Market Hall	...	...	...	3
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	...	...	...	80
Drainage Trade Effluent	...	...	...	54
Total				3242

Notices Served :

Informal :

Public Health Act, 1936 :—

Section 45	...	...	...	2
Section 93	...	...	...	3
Clean Air Act, 1956	...	...	...	2
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960	...	...	...	1
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	...	...	...	40
Total				48

Housing Acts.

During the year six houses were dealt with as being unfit for habitation, by the making of Demolition or Closing Orders.

Whilst the improvement of properties is a contributory factor towards the provision of properly equipped homes, there is no doubt that in the main the future stock of satisfactory accommodation lies in the development of new estates, both private and Council.

In the long term it is certain that future generations will have little time for mere living quarters: environmen-

tal amenity will be of importance. As this desire for pleasant as well as functional surroundings develops, so will the clearance and redevelopment of low amenity areas become necessary. It cannot be accepted in the "swinging" sixties that what was good enough for our grandparents has to be good enough for the present and future generations.

If housing, and for that matter planning in its relationship to housing is looked at with a discerning eye to the future, in years to come we may possibly be considered wise rather than inward looking, the pleasing aspects of a town with a history blending with the demands of the future to give satisfaction to all.

Food and Drugs Administration.

The situation has changed little since the 1965 Annual Report, and the observations made then are still very pertinent. Much work remains to be done in the implimentation of Regulations affecting food premises. There is no doubt that only regular inspection and enforcement can bring about the many improvements needed. This, in a township with a large number of such premises relative to the population, is a burden of work which can receive only spasmodic attention with the present staffing of the Department and the pressure of other work.

The following foods were found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered :—

Fruit	103 tins
Meat	18 tins
Vegetables	159 tins
Fish	60 stone
Chickens	210 lbs.
Packets of Frozen Foods	2,340
Flour	178 lbs.
Soup	36 tins
Tea	42 lbs.
Currants	12 packets
Cereals	4 packets
Evaporated Milk	19 tins
Cauliflowers	14 dozen
Ovaltine	55 tins

Sauce	5 bottles
Salt	94 lbs.
Cake Mixture	138 packets
Salami	4 lbs.
Cream	12 tins
Sugar	56 lbs.
Custard Powder	26 packets
Cakes	16
Almonds	262 packets
Butter	17 lbs.
Margarine	94 lbs.
Turkey	161 lbs.

Food Prosecutions.

During the year, arising from complaints made, the following prosecutions were instituted :—

1. Piece of wood in jam—Fined £15 and 5 gns. costs.
2. Glass in bottle of school milk—Fined £20 and costs.
3. Glass in ice cream—Case dismissed.
4. Gorse in bottle of milk—Fined £15 and 5 gns. costs.
5. Blood in milk—Case dismissed.
6. Oil in bread (2 loaves)—Fined £15 plus advocate's fee of £10/10/0 plus Analyst's fee of £10/10/0.

Food Samples.

As the Flintshire County Council are the Food and Drugs Authority for this area, routine food samples are taken by Mr. E. Lewis, County Public Health Inspector, and I am indebted to him for the following information :—

Description of Article.	Nos. taken.	Genuine.	Not genuine or below standard.
Milk	... 8	... 8	... —
Dairy Products	... 3	... 3	... —
Ice Cream, etc.	... 4	... 4	... —
Fish and Meat Products	... 7	... 7	... —
Patent Medicines	... 4	... 4	... —
Miscellaneous Groceries	... 8	... 8	... —
Fruit and Vegetables	... 6	... 6	... —
Alcoholic Drinks	... 4	... 4	... —
	— 44	— 44	— —

Slaughterhouse and Slaughtering.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	... 181	... —	... 4	... 4974	... 388
Number inspected	... 181	... —	... 4	... 4974	... 388
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis :</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	... —	... —	... 1	... 47	... 2
Part of carcasses or offal condemned	... 17	... —	... —	... 735	... 7
Percentage affected with disease other than tuberculosis	... 9.33	... —	... 25.0	... 15.12	... 2.32
<u>Tuberculosis only :</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	... —	... —	... —	... —	... —
Part carcass or offal condemned	... —	... —	... —	... —	... 3
Percentage affected with tuberculosis	... —	... —	... —	... —	... 0.78
<u>Cysticercus Bovis :</u>					
Whole carcass condemned	... —	... —	... —	... —	... —
Part carcass or offal condemned	... 1	... —	... —	... —	... —
Percentage affected with cysticercus bovis	... 0.052	... —	... —	... —	... —

1 ton 10 cwt. 23 lbs. of meat and offal were found to be unfit for human consumption during the year.

Licences were granted to nine persons permitting them to slaughter animals in a slaughterhouse or knacker's yard.

Slaughtering has continued during the year in the one licensed slaughterhouse, and correspondence and inspection reveal a continuing dissatisfaction with both structural conditions and the failure to apply the necessary standards of hygiene.

Evening and weekend slaughtering continued, involving considerable overtime on inspection duties. The assistance given by the retired Public Health Inspector has been of great value, but even with this assistance inspection during normal working hours has, of necessity, been severely restricted in order that other work can receive attention. To

this extent, complete compliance with the Regulations has not been effected and gives rise to some concern.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

In October the new Junior Dual Tip vehicle was received and commenced operation, replacing the side-loader which had become uneconomical after many years service. Every effort is made to ensure a weekly collection of refuse from all properties, and this despite the ever recurring difficulty of obtaining suitable labour for the work of collection.

As with most Local Authorities, the majority of employees are reliable and work with the minimum of fuss or bother. In a small section, however, with no reserve of labour to fall back on when a man leaves or is off sick or on holiday, the impact on collection is felt immediately.

The paper sack holders (for trial installation in the Bryn Gwalia houses being erected) were received and, from past experience, I am confident that their use will prove beneficial. They will, if their use is further extended, assist in compensating for the continuing increase in properties from which collection has to be made.

The lease for the use of the Rhual gravel pit as a controlled tip remained under negotiation at the end of the year, it being anticipated that completion would ensue by early 1967.

Specifications, etc., have been drawn up for the piping of the brook course across the Bromfield Lane tip at present in use, and this should afford, together with the proposed acquisition of the railway line adjacent, further accommodation for tipping until mid-1968, by which time it will be imperative that the preparatory work at the Rhual be completed and the use of the land commenced.

Scavenging.

Street sweeping has been carried out by hand, the labour force varying from two to four men for a total of just over 13 miles of roads (26 sweeping miles).

The small pedestrian operated mechanical sweeper became completely inoperative by mid-1966, brushes, dust collector and engine being completely worn out through the attempt to do work beyond its ability to handle, and for which this type of machine was not designed.

This is the throw-away age, and in no other matter is this so clearly demonstrated as in the ability of the public to throw away at a higher rate than can be collected. From the smallest paper wrapping to the largest vehicle or piece of furniture, there is an apparent urge to dump, once useful life has ended, with little regard being paid to unsightliness or, in the case of vehicles, danger that may arise. It is desirable that legislation provide for heavier penalties and an overall power of local authorities to remove apparently abandoned vehicles with a minimum of formality rather than the protracted and frustrating procedure that has to be adopted at the present time.

Clean Air Act, 1956.

Daily recordings of the level of atmospheric pollution in the town are made by the use of the volumetric machine which was removed from a Council house in Cedar Grove and installed in the Town Hall in November. The level of pollution in Mold, due entirely to domestic coal burning, is clearly evidenced by the recordings and, aggravated no doubt by climatic conditions, is surprisingly high.

The No. 1 Smoke Control Order became operative on the 1st July, 1966, the area being of some 45 acres containing approximately 440 houses.

As is usual with a first Smoke Control Area, difficulties have been experienced, and much call has been made upon advice on fuels and appliances and their use. In the main the majority of house occupiers have accepted the situation and have been willing to accept that clean air is beneficial to all. Acceptance becomes greater when it is seen that it is the intention to further extend the application of the Act, and to this extent it is of importance that continued progress should be made with a gradual extension of the areas affected. It is also important that non-complying householders should be made aware of the intention to enforce the Act.

The No. 2 Smoke Control Order awaits confirmation, and 1967 should see necessary adaptations completed and the Order operative.

Water Supplies.

During the year twenty-five samples of mains water were

submitted for bacteriological analysis, all being reported as satisfactory.

It is anticipated that the acquisition of land for the erection of a pH rectifier will be concluded in the near future.

Post Mortem Room and Mortuary.

During the year eighty-four post mortems were carried out and the mortuary used sixteen times.

In October a three-rack cold chamber was installed, completing the work of providing a well equipped building.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

The statutory report required by the provision of the above Act is as follows :—

REGISTRATIONS AND INSPECTIONS.

			Premises Registered.		Premises Inspected.
Offices	...	...	58	...	6
Retail shops	...	...	114	...	34
Wholesale shops, warehouses	...	...	9	...	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	...	...	12	...	—
Fuel storage depots	...	...	4	...	—

In the premises inspected the following matters were found to contravene the Act or Regulations to some degree :

				Premises.
Inadequate lighting	...	...	...	19
Absence of or inadequate heating	...	...	...	20
Absence of or inadequate sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	4
Absence of or inadequate washing accommodation	...	...	...	8
Absence of or inadequate accommodation for out-door clothing	...	...	...	2
Dangerous or improperly guarded machinery	...	...	...	1
Absence of or inadequate first aid supplies	...	...	...	15
Absence of or inadequate facilities for eating meals	...	...	...	—
Absence of Abstract of Act	...	...	...	20
Overcrowding	...	...	...	1
Absence of hand rail	...	...	...	2

PERSONS EMPLOYED.

Class of workplace.	Number of persons employed.
Offices	243
Retail shops	428
Wholesale departments, warehouses ...	41
Catering establishments open to the public	29
Canteens	4
Fuel storage depots	10
	<hr/>
Total	755
	<hr/>
Total Males	262
	<hr/>
Total Females	493
	<hr/>

As in 1965, the number of inspections covered only about 20 % of premises and follow up of such inspections was, from an enforcement point of view, inadequate, due to the day to day demands preventing any opportunity of continued effort to enforce the provisions of the Act.

Street Market and Market Hall.

The increasing demand for stalls on the street market reflects public appreciation of this form of shopping and affords an interesting comparison with the rather impersonal marketing methods of self-service stores. The atmosphere of a street market is distinctive though difficult to describe ; although there is disagreement about its retention on a main thoroughfare, should the by-pass roads materialise and the High Street become a traffic free shopping area, the open market could well become a most pleasing and permanent feature, the attendant problem of traffic eliminated, and that of litter and refuse disposal more readily resolved than is possible at the present time.

The demand for stalls in the Market Hall is, on the other hand, very small, and it may be that the letting of the stalls will in future be more difficult. Modernisation has been indefinitely postponed, redecoration only to be carried out early in 1967.

Public Conveniences.

No complaints have been received, though some vandalism and disfigurement have occurred. Cleaning of the toilets is carried out daily and redecoration as necessary.

Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Treatments for rats and mice are carried out upon complaint, being usually commenced on the same day the complaint is received. There have been no major infestations during the year and this in itself speaks well for the diligence of the survey and treatment which the operator carries out.

Sewer manholes were treated during the year and indicated the sewers of the town to be virtually free from infestation.

The refuse tip is under constant examination and any treatment thought necessary is effected.

During the year 628 premises of all kinds were visited and inspected for rats and mice.

Insect Pests.

Complaints have been few and in the main relate to cockroaches or ants. Treatment carried out is by use of insecticidal liquid spraying or by the use of insecticidal powder according to the circumstances of the infestation.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

One shop is licensed under this Act and conditions were satisfactory throughout the year.

Petroleum (Consolidated) Act, 1928.

Twenty-one premises were licensed for the storage of petroleum, a total of 74,500 gallons being stored, and the fees paid amounted to £25/15/0.

Factories.

There is only one out-worker in the Mold Urban District and conditions are satisfactory.

Premises. (1)	Number of :			
	No. on Register. (2)	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	3	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) where Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	54	3	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	57	3	—	—

Particulars. (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found.					
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	To H.M. In- spectr. (4)	Referred By H.M. In- spectr. (5)	In which prosecutions were instituted. (6)	
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	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	—
Total	—

General.

I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the assistance and support given me by the Members of the Council and in particular by the Chairman of the Health Committee, Mrs. A. J. Snowden, whose unstinting help during my initial period of service with the Council was of great value in what is always a difficult and harassing time.

The willing and thoughtful advice of your Medical Officer of Health, Dr. D. J. Fraser, has also been greatly appreciated as has the friendly co-operation of all the officers of the Council.

I would like to take this opportunity of recording my thanks to the staff of the Health Department, and in particular the willing and dependable application to their work of Miss C. A. McManus and Mr. G. Bevan. The duties they perform are rarely obvious except to myself, and their unfailing loyalty has contributed immeasurably towards the smooth running of the Department.

R. GOUCHER,

Public Health Inspector.



