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BOROUGH OF OSWESTRY

Annual Report

ON THE WORK OF THE

Public Health Department

FOR THE YEAR



1960

BOROUGH OF OSWESTRY.

*With the Compliments of the
Public Health Inspector.*

Health Department,
8, Oswald Road,
Oswestry.


Telephone 2588.

OSWESTRY BOROUGH AND RURAL HEALTH DISTRICTS.

*With the Compliments of
the Medical Officer of Health.*

Health Department,
8, Oswald Road,
Oswestry.

Telephone 2588.



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OSWESTRY - SHROPSHIRE

Situated close to the Welsh Border, Oswestry is predominantly a market town and agricultural centre, largely bilingual and with many activities and interests. The Smithfield is one of the leading markets, whilst the Agricultural Show is one of the biggest one-day events of its kind. Apart from the shops which serve a population of 40-50,000, the Railway repair sheds and maintenance services are the biggest employers, although light industries are being attracted by the surroundings and the adaptability and availability of local labour. Oswestry is a pleasant town in which to live, where strangers quickly find a sense of belonging.

Area (acres)	2,180
Population	11,270
Inhabited Houses (Rate Book)	3,556
Rateable Value	£163,094
Product of Penny Rate	£665.0.0

OSWESTRY BOROUGH COUNCIL
(As at December, 1960)

MAYOR:

Councillor W. Watkin, J.P.

ALDERMEN:

Barlow, J., M.B.E., J.P.

Bristow, C.

Hundley, E.M.

Campbell, S. G. D., B.E.M., J.P.

Morley, F. A.

Fritchard, H. E.

COUNCILLORS:

Cherrington, W. J.

Davies, G. A.

Davies, J. W. T.

Edwards, S. H.

Francis, T. M.

Howells, D. J.

Jackson, C. V.

Llewellyn, H. C. H.

Nicholls, H. W.

Roberts, J. E.

Roberts, R.

Roberts, W. J.

Symon, Mrs. P. C. M.

Turner, L. D. E.

Williams, C. G.

Wilkes, G. H.

TOWN CLERK:

Jones Bird, H. (Retired March, 1960).

Cubitt, R. S. (Appointed April, 1960).

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN:

Councillor T. M. Francis

MAYOR:

Councillor W. Watkin, J.P.

ALDERMEN:

Barlow, J., M.B.E., J.P.

Campbell, S.G.D., B.E.M., J.P.

Hundley, E. M.

Morley, F. A.

COUNCILLORS:

Beauclerk, De Vere A.A.

Cherrington, W. J.

Davies, J. W. T.

Edwards, S. H.

Howells, D. J.

Llewellyn, H. C. H.

Roberts, J. E.

Roberts, R.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

C. B. McARTHUR, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
(Retired August, 1960).

PHILIP C. MOORE, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.Obst. R.C.O.G., D.P.H.
(Commenced duties September, 1960).

Public Health Department, 8, Oswald Road, Oswestry.

Tel: Oswestry 2588

Public Health Inspector:

R. J. LEWIS, F.A.P.H.I., CERT. MEAT INSP., DIP. R.I.P.H.H.

Pupil to the Public Health Inspector:

D. BOWES

Clerk to the Department:

MISS L. WILLIAMS

INDEX

	Page
Foreword by Medical Officer of Health	5
Vital Statistics	8
Table - Births, Deaths, Still Births, Infant Mortality & Maternal Mortality	10
Table - Causes of Death	11
Table - Cancer, Infant Mortality & Neo-Mortality	13
Table - Infectious Disease	14
Table - Vaccination & Immunisation	16
Table - Tuberculosis	19
Clinics & Hospitals	20
Ambulance Service, Laboratory Facilities & National Blood Transfusion Service	23
Meat Inspection	24
Water Supply & Analysis	25
Drainage & Sewerage, Refuse Disposal	30
Foreword by Chief Public Health Inspector	31
Food Hygiene & Food Standards	33
Meat Inspection	34
Atmospheric Pollution, Shops Acts, Rodent Control	37
Verminous Premises, Cinemas	38
Housing	39
Factories Acts	41

CORRECTIONS

Page 13. Neo-Mortality should read Neo-natal Mortality.
Page 18. B.B.G. should read B.C.G.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
OSWESTRY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen, Councillors,

I beg to present for your perusal the Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Department for the year 1960.

The Public Health Officers' Regulations, 1959, 5 (3) and 15 (5) define the scope of the Annual Report. The Minister of Health regards the report as an essential and valuable appraisal of the state of the public health in each area throughout the country. The information requested by the Minister includes the Vital Statistics of the area. The Live Birth Rate (16.23 per 1,000 population) compared with (16.38) in 1959, shows a very slight decrease - 183 babies being born in 1960. Still Births amounted to 4; they were all legitimate births, a fact worth noting as illegitimate births are known to sustain a high percentage of still births. The Infant Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 year) showed a sharp reduction to 10.92. There were no maternal deaths during the year. The Death Rate (all ages) from all causes was 10.56 per 1,000 of the population contrasted with 11.48 in 1959.

Immunisation and vaccination against many diseases - whooping cough, diphtheria, tetanus, poliomyelitis and tuberculosis continued on the same lines as before. The extent of these activities is revealed in the tables in the report dealing with these matters.

Health Education, problems connected with housing, the collection of vital statistics - especially those relating to infectious diseases - and the many and varied aspects of the duties of the Chief Public Health Inspector and his pupil colleague, were carried out successfully and faithfully again this year. The volume of such routine day to day work is increasing year by year and reference to the latter section of this report written by the Chief Public Health Inspector shows how well this work is being carried out.

It is interesting to note in the table of notifications of infectious disease that relatively few cases of measles were notified (25) compared with (165) the year before. This is explained by the fact that measles which although never absent from this country tends to show a biennial peak in urban areas which often occurs in March and April.

The decline in the national birth rate and the reduction in the national death rate have lead to a greater proportion of old people in the population. There have been important social and economic developments as a result. From 1841 to 1901, although the population increased from 16 to 32.5 million, the proportion of males over 60 years remained constant at about 4.6 per cent; by 1921 the percentage was 6.0 and became 10.9 in 1951; one estimate is that, with present trends, by 1971 the percentage of persons over 60 will be about 14.0, and the estimated population of 46 million will support 6.75 million old people. This marked increase in the older section of the community brings with it fresh public health problems. Problems of the housing of old folk,

their social and economic welfare, their physical and mental well-being are all things which will have to be given careful attention when planning any public health measures for the future. The housing requirements of the old folk stand out as a problem of first importance.

Since I commenced my duties as Medical Officer of Health in September, 1960, I can only write at first hand of the events of the latter portion of the year. During the first 8 months of the year the Public Health Department was ably lead by my predecessor Dr. C. B. McArthur.

I have experienced excellent co-operation from all general practitioners in the area. The local Press has also been most co-operative, especially in the field of health propaganda.

As this is my first report as Medical Officer of Health to Oswestry Borough Council I would like to express my appreciation to them for the way the members and officials of the Borough have helped me settle down in my new appointment. I would also like to thank the staff, the chief public health inspector, Mr. Lewis, the pupil David Bowes and the secretary to the department Miss Williams for their help in compiling this report.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

PHILIP C. MOORE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
8, Oswald Road,
OSWESTRY.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1960.

<u>Live Births.</u>	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	102	79	181
Illegitimate	2	-	2
	<hr/> 104	<hr/> 79	<hr/> 183

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population 16.23

Live Birth Rate after correction by comparability factor . . . 16.06

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births 1.09

<u>Still Births.</u>	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	-	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<hr/> 4	<hr/> -	<hr/> 4

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births 21.39

<u>Total Live and Still Births.</u>	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	106	79	185
Illegitimate	2	-	2
	<hr/> 108	<hr/> 79	<hr/> 187

<u>Infant Deaths (deaths under one year).</u>	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 2

Infant Mortality Rates.

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births 10.92

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births 11.00

Illegitimate deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births 0.00

Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks).

Total neo-natal deaths per 1,000 total live births 5.46

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week).

Total early neo-natal deaths per 1,000 live births 5.46

Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week).

Combined deaths per 1,000 total live and still births 26.72

Maternal Mortality (including abortion).

Number of deaths Nil

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births . . . 0.00

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	-	-	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	-	-	-
Deaths from Diarrhoea	-	1	1
Deaths from all other causes	73	46	119
Death Rate per 1,000 population			10.56
Death Rate after correction by comparability factor			10.56

BIRTHS, DEATHS, STILL BIRTHS, INFANT MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY

FOR THE YEAR 1960

	Live Births	Birth Rate per 1,000 Pop.	Total Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 Pop.	Still Births	Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Maternal Deaths	Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births
OSWESTRY M.B.	183	16.23	119	10.56	4	21.39	2	10.92	-	0.00
COUNTY OF SALOP (1959)	4,782	15.92	3,334	11.10	110	22.49	96	20.08	-	0.00
ENGLAND AND WALES	782,673	17.1	526,278	11.5	15,729	19.7	16,961	21.7	311	0.39

CAUSES OF DEATH

CAUSE	OSWESTRY M.B.	1960
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Measles	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	6	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	12	9
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1
Diabetes	1	-
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	29	18
Coronary disease, angina	16	22
Hypertension with heart disease	5	2
Other heart disease	17	22
Other circulatory disease	6	4
Influenza	-	7
Pneumonia	2	7
Bronchitis	5	7
Other diseases of the respiratory system	-	-
Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
Congenital malformations	-	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	7
Motor vehicle accidents	3	2
All other accidents	1	-
Suicide	1	2
Homicide and operations of war	-	-
All causes	119	129

CAUSES OF DEATH

The death rate (all ages) from all causes per 1,000 of the population was 10.56. In the Borough of Oswestry 24 people died from cancer in 1960. The crude death rate from cancer in this country has shown a steady rise over the last 50 years. It is difficult to assess the true extent of this rise because of the changing age incidence of the population and because of the revision of the International Classification of Diseases and Causes of Death. But it is apparent that in males there has been a steady increase in the cancer mortality rate over this century; in females a rise occurred during the first 3 decades and since then the rate has fallen. The increase in males has been largely due to lung cancer.

Cancer is not a single disease entity but all types have the general characteristics of causing a fatal outcome if untended. Whilst the aim of medicine is to find measures for preventing the diseases or to remove the growth and prevent recurrence, public health is more concerned with prevention of the condition. Health education is a most potent weapon here. There is a well known connection between smoking and cancer of the lung. It must be impressed upon all sections of the community - especially upon the school population - that the acquisition of the smoking habit is a danger to health.

CANCER

	Deaths		Total	Rate per 1,000 Population
	M.	F.		
OSWESTRY M.B.	15	9	24	2.13
COUNTY OF SALOP (1959)	298	254	552	1.838
ENGLAND & WALES	52,758	45,933	98,691	2.15

INFANT MORTALITY

OSWESTRY M.B.	Under 1 day	1 - 7 days	7 days - 1 month	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	Total	Combined total	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	M.	F.	
	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	10.92

NEO-MORTALITY

OSWESTRY M.B.	Deaths of infants under 1 month		Percentage of total infant deaths	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
	M.	F.		
	1	-	50	5.46

INFECTIOUS DISEASE TABLE

OSWESTRY M.B.	
Acute Encephalitis	1
Deaths	-
Dysentery	1
Deaths	-
Food Poisoning	2
Deaths	-
Measles	25
Deaths	-
Pneumonia	1
Deaths	2
Scarlet Fever	3
Deaths	-
Whooping Cough	1
Deaths	-

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Acute Encephalitis	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	20
Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Age	Acute Encephalitis		Dysentery		Food Poisoning		Measles		Pneumonia		Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
2-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
5-	-	-	1	-	-	-	7	13	-	-	-	-	-	1
10-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
15-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Not known	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	-	1	-	1	1	9	16	-	1	-	3	-	1

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The following received their second injection in 1960:-

OSWESTRY M.B.	Children born 1943/1960		Young Persons born 1933/1942		Persons born 1932/1920		Others	
	CC	GP	CC	GP	CC	GP	CC	GP
	36	131	49	13	205	45	12	44

The following received their third injection in 1960:-

OSWESTRY M.B.	Children born 1943/1960		Young Persons born 1933/1942		Persons born 1932/1920		Others	
	CC	GP	CC	GP	CC	GP	CC	GP
	153	286	222	30	108	18	40	37

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1960

OSWESTRY M.B.	Under 5	5-14	Total	Re-inforcing injections
	148	24	172	72

This was formerly a common disease of temperate climates but is now a rarity in many countries. The reduction in incidence in this country is entirely due to the programme of immunisation against the disease that has been carried out since the early years of the last war. There are some areas of the country where the causative organism is absent and where no case of the disease has occurred for some years. It is still a deadly disease however as is shown by the case fatality rate which shows no sign

of declining. One's chances of dying from the disease when contracted are as great as they were years ago despite modern medical advances. We cannot sufficiently urge parents and all those in charge of young children to be aware of their responsibility in this matter and see that their children are immunised against the disease.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION, 1960.

OSWESTRY M.B.	Percentage of children under the age of 1 year vaccinated	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	Over 14	Total	Re- vacci- nations
	47.5	88	3	3	-	17	111	29

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION, 1960.

OSWESTRY M.B.	Total Number of children immunised
	156

TETANUS IMMUNISATION, 1960.

OSWESTRY M.B.	Total Number of children immunised
	129

B.B.G. VACCINATION 1960

Schools	Consent Forms given out	Refusals	#No. of Consents received	#No. of Children skin tested	#Skin Test Readings		No. Vaccinated	Re-Mantoux	
					Pos.	Neg.		Pos.	Neg.
Oswestry Boys High School	210	18	171	152	19	125	122	116	5
Oswestry Girls High School	90	2	87	87	8	79	78	72	2
Oswestry College of Further Education	125	16	70	64	11	50	50	40	-
Oswestry Boys Modern School	324	24	262	242	21	206	205	175	4
Oswestry Girls Modern School	125	7	100	96	10	82	80	7	1
Oswestry Roman Catholic School	14	-	14	14	2	12	11	-	-
<u>Private Schools</u>									
Bellan House School	30	2	24	23	4	19	19	9	-
Oswestry Grammar School	220	17	162	157	26	127	126	88	-
Queens Park School	62	7	23	22	5	16	16	13	-

Discrepancies in figures are due to absentees.
A proportion of the pupils come from Oswestry Rural District.

TUBERCULOSIS

Notifications during 1960.

	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Civilian cases	3	1	1	1	4	2
Service cases	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	1	1	-	-	1	1
TOTAL	4	2	1	1	5	3
Cured	1	1	-	1	1	2
Left District	1	1	1	1	2	2
Deaths	-	-	-	-	-	-

2 cases (Female) removed from Register as being non-tuberculous,
1 case (Male) removed from Register having died from other causes.

Number of cases on Register at the end of the year :-

Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Total	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
51	33	4	9	55	42

Number of Primary Notifications during the year 6

Death Rate per 1,000 population Nil

Death Rate per 1,000 population (Respiratory Tuberculosis)

ENGLAND & WALES 0.067

LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY CLINICS

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946 the County Council, the local health authority, provide child welfare clinics. The clinic in Oswestry is held in Upper Brook Street every Wednesday from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.. Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus are provided, as well as vaccination against smallpox. Facilities are also available for immunisation against poliomyelitis.

Welfare Foods - orange juice, cod liver oil preparations, other vitamin preparations, powdered milk and cereals for babies - are all on sale at the clinics. These welfare foods are also on sale daily except Thursday.

The Clinic is staffed by experienced health visitors who can advise mothers on any problem connected with the rearing, feeding and management of babies and young children. A doctor is always in attendance.

DENTAL CLINICS

The Salop County Council provide a dental service for expectant and nursing mothers and for pre-school age and school age children. The aim of the School Dental Service is to ensure that, as far as is practicable, children will leave school without the loss of permanent teeth, free from dental disease and irregularity and trained in the care of their teeth. The dentist holds frequent weekly sessions in the clinic at Upper Brook Street, Oswestry.

CHILD GUIDANCE CLINICS

Two sessions weekly are held in Shrewsbury and two in Wellington. Sessions are also held in all parts of the County as the need arises. The staff includes a Psychiatrist, a Psychologist and a Psychiatric Social Worker.

HOME HELP SERVICE

This service is provided by Salop County Council as one of its functions under Part III of the National Health Service Act. It helps to maintain the aged and the sick in their homes. This excellent service is run in Oswestry and District by the supervisor Mrs. Williams who has 21 home helps under her control.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.

Acting under delegated powers (Section 47 of the Principal Act) the Medical Officer of Health applied to a single justice for an Order for removal of an elderly person to Part III accommodation under the National Assistance Act. This was for the purpose of securing necessary care and attention as she was suffering from grave chronic disease, was aged and infirm and was unable to devote to herself and was not receiving from other persons proper care and attention.

HOSPITAL FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT

TUBERCULOSIS: The Chest Physician attends at:-

The Clinic, Upper Brook Street, Oswestry,
every Friday from 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The Chest Clinic, Copthorne Hospital, Shrewsbury,
every Wednesday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

VENEREAL DISEASE: Facilities for treatment :-

No.1, Belmont, Shrewsbury, as follows:-

Females: Monday - 3.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.
Thursday - 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Males: Tuesday)
Friday) - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The aforementioned Clinics and the following Hospitals are administered by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board which was constituted in accordance with the National Health Service Act.

Oswestry and District Hospital. Copthorne Hospital, Shrewsbury, treats cases of Enteric Fever, Meningitis, Acute Poliomyelitis, or Acute Encephalitis.

Monkmoor Hospital, Shrewsbury, admits cases of other infectious diseases such as Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Measles, Whooping Cough, etc.

Other hospitals which provide accommodation are the County Council Hospital, Cross Houses, Shrewsbury. The Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury. The Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, Shrewsbury. The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, it became the duty of the County Council, the local health authority, to make provisions for securing that ambulances and other means of transport are available for the conveyance of persons suffering from illness or mental defectiveness and expectant mothers or nursing mothers, from places in their area to places in or outside their area.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Laboratory facilities are available at the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury. The Bacteriologist is Dr. A. C. Jones, the Pathologist, Dr. G. Grant.

This service undertakes work for local authorities free of charge in so far as it is relevant to diagnosis. It is invaluable particularly in the expeditious dealing with the bacteriological examination of food samples.

NATIONAL BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

The following figures, kindly supplied by Miss Beresford of the Shrewsbury office, include donors resident in the Oswestry Rural District.

<u>Attended</u>	<u>Bled</u>
264	250

Public spirited members of the community continue to support the twice yearly sessions but new volunteers are constantly needed to keep pace with the ever increasing demand for blood transfusion as a part of Hospital treatment.

MEAT INSPECTION

The inspection of meat at the Oswestry and District Wholesale Meat Supply Company Limited previously carried out on alternate weeks by the public health inspectors of Oswestry Borough and Oswestry Rural District, is now undertaken entirely by Mr. Lewis, Chief Public Health Inspector of the Borough.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to the Water Engineer for the following notes on water supply, etc.

Rainfall at the Penygwely Reservoirs for the year was 59.54 inches. This compares with an average of 38.00 inches during the Standard Period 1881 to 1915.

Consumption for the year was 153,859,500 gallons.

(1) Number of premises supplied from public water: 4,080

(2) Number of population supplied from public mains: 11,270

(a) direct to premises (1) 4,064

(2) 11,219

(b) by means of standpipes (1) 17

(2) 51

Nature of supplies to remaining houses:

13 houses supplied by private systems

8 houses supplied by wells

4 houses supplied by Liverpool supply

1 house supplied by Rural District supply.

The houses supplied by wells are isolated dwellings on the outskirts of the town some considerable distance from the mains.

The water has been satisfactory both in quality and in quantity. The Corporation gathering grounds and impounding reservoir at Penygwely, together with the storage reservoirs at Mount Road do not normally provide a sufficient supply for the requirements of the town, but it is possible to augment this by drawing 250,000 gallons per day from the Liverpool Corporation Lake Vyrnwy Aqueduct, this latter supply being obtained under powers granted by an Act of Parliament.

The treatment given consists of an average period of seven days storage followed by rapid filtration with the prior addition of lime and coagulant, lime and calgon after filtration, and chlorination by the Chloramine system.

The water supply to all parts of the town is constant and more than 99% of all dwelling-houses have direct supplies or standpipes within easy distance.

REPORTS OF ANALYSIS

Ref.P/YA/93 (Raw Water).

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Appearance: Faint opalescence with a slight flocculent deposit.

Microscopical examination: Mainly mineral matter and organic debris
with diatoms.

Turbidity: Less than 3

Colour: 15

Odour: Nil

pH: 7.0

Free Carbon Dioxide: 4

Electric Conductivity: 76

Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C: 55

Chlorine present as Chloride: 7

Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate: 19

Hardness: Total: 29

Carbonate: 19

Non-carbonate: 10

Nitrate Nitrogen: 0.0

Nitrite Nitrogen: Absent

Ammoniacal Nitrogen: 0.017

Oxygen Absorbed: 1.1

Albuminoid Nitrogen: 0.085

Residual Chlorine: ...

Metals: Iron: 0.05, Zinc, Copper, Lead & Manganese: Absent

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of colonies	{ 1 day at 37°C. 2 days at 37°C 3 days at 20-22°C.		
developing on Agar	{ 7 per ml. 9 per ml. 78 per ml.		
Presumptive Coli-	{ Present in Absent from Probable number		
form reaction	{ 50 ml. 20 ml. 3 per 100 ml.		
Bact. coli. (Type I)	-	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii reaction	-	100 ml.	

/ Intermediate Type II

This sample shows only slight opalescence and carries only a trace of matter in suspension. The water is neutral in reaction, very soft in character, has a comparatively low content of mineral constituents and it is free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. It shows only a trace of colour and is of satisfactory organic quality. Bacterial impurity is limited to coliform organisms in very small number. No unusual difficulty would be expected in the treatment of this water for the production of a public supply.

Ref. P/YA/94 (Tap Water)

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Appearance: Clear and bright.

Turbidity: Nil

Colour: 8

Odour: Nil

pH: 7.4

Free Carbon Dioxide: Absent

Electric Conductivity: 73

Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C: 50

Chlorine present as Chloride: 7

Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate: 11

Hardness: Total: 25

Carbonate: 11

Non-carbonate: 14

Nitrate Nitrogen: 0.2

Nitrite Nitrogen: Less than 0.01

Ammoniacal Nitrogen: 0.010

Oxygen Absorbed: 0.60

Albuminoid Nitrogen: 0.035

Residual Chlorine: Absent

Metals: Iron: 0.06, Zinc, Copper, Lead & Manganese: Absent.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of colonies developing on Agar	{ 1 day at 37°C.	2 days at 37°C.	3 days at 20-22°C.
	{ 0 per ml.	1 per ml.	17 per ml.
Presumptive Coli-form reaction	{ Present in	Absent from	Probable number
	{ - ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. (Type I)	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii reaction	- ml.	100 ml.	

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, just on the alkaline side of neutrality and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is very soft in character and has a comparatively low content of mineral constituents. It is free from noticeable colour, of very satisfactory organic quality and of the highest standard of bacterial purity.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

11th August, 1960.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Number of premises connected to public sewers	4,043
Number of premises connected to satisfactory private sewage disposal or treatment works	43
Number of premises without satisfactory means of sewage disposal	11

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Number of Wards in the town	6
Number of Wards where refuse is collected	6

Method of collection: By direct labour.

Method of disposal: Controlled tipping.

R E P O R T

O F

C H I E F P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

It is impossible to give a true picture of the years results of public health inspection, as so much time is spent in maintaining standards achieved in the past and improving them for the future, in 1,001 small ways, whilst major routine duties, such as meat inspection, appear only as a page of statistics. The real assessment of public health inspection is gained by the gradual improvement in the health of the population as a result of slum clearance, vermin control, cleaner food, improved working conditions and general environmental conditions, all of which are part of the normal pattern of "civilisation". This is indicated by the fact that in "underdeveloped countries" one of the first steps in any modernisation programme is the provision of an adequately trained health inspectorate, quite often through training facilities in this country.

In my report for 1959, I summarised the results of my first 7 years work in the Borough. This report will be briefer, as the ever increasing range of responsibility means that looking backwards to 1960 can only be done at the expense of devoting time to the problems of 1961 and the plans for 1962. My main comment for 1960 is that it saw an organised rehousing of the occupants of part of Clearance Area No.1.

My work is only a part of the multifarious duties of the Oswestry Borough Council, and I must pay tribute to the co-operation of my

colleagues in this and other Departments, especially Miss Williams for her untiring work and consistent courtesy to the public whom we serve.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

R. J. LEWIS,

Public Health Inspector.

FOOD HYGIENE AND FOOD STANDARDS

Routine inspections were carried out, of food premises, improvements made and planned. The retail markets received weekly attention, as is necessary to maintain standards amongst a certain changing of traders. No prosecutions were taken, although two bakery firms were reported to the public health committee for the sale of food containing 'foreign bodies'.

Bakehouses.

Bread and Confectionery - 4
Confectionery only - 4

Catering premises.

(incl. hotels and canteens) - 33

Fish Friers - 8

Wet Fish Shops - 4

Butchers - 18

Greengrocers - 17

Sweet Shops - 28

Inns - 39

Milk & Dairies.

Oswestry is a specially designated area; the bulk of milk being processed outside the town and distributed by local dealers. No complaints were received of lack of keeping quality or otherwise failures to maintain the high standard of dairy hygiene which is now a normal feature of urban life.

Ice Cream.

Producers - Nil. Retailers - 62.

Frequent checks are carried out on mobile retailers to ensure the

provision of hand washing facilities and where necessary, sterilising facilities for serving equipment.

Mobile Shops.

Grocery - 3. Greengrocery - 3.

The grocers have refrigerators and hand washing facilities fitted.

MEAT INSPECTION

All animals slaughtered in the Borough for human consumption are inspected by myself. The statistics on page 36 show the continued fall in M. tuberculosis in cattle and pigs. A feature of 1960 was the high rate of condemnation of bovine livers because of fascioliasis (fluke). I have interested to notice that the wet season of 1958 caused a high rate of condemnation of fluked sheep livers (yearlings) in 1959 and a similar high rate of bovine (2 year old) livers in 1960. The wholesale price value of the bovine livers condemned in 1960 was about £500.

Animals slaughtered and inspected.

<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
1,852	122	12,209	4,358

Details of Condemnation.

1. <u>Tuberculosis.</u>	<u>Heads</u>	<u>Livers</u>	<u>Lungs</u>	<u>Other Offal</u>	<u>Weight lbs.</u>
(a) Cattle	9	-	-	-	225
(b) Pigs	214	-	2	-	3,337
2. <u>Fascioliasis (fluke).</u>					
(a) Cattle	-	Part/366 Whole/168	4	-	3,701

<u>Fascioliasis (fluke).</u>	<u>Heads</u>	<u>Livers</u>	<u>Lungs</u>	<u>Other Offal</u>	<u>Weight lbs.</u>
<u>continued.</u>					
(b) Pigs	-	30	-	-	98
3. <u>Cysticercus Bovis.</u>					
Generalised C.B. - One carcass and organs.					
4. <u>Hydatid Cysts.</u>					
(a) Cattle	-	12	9	1	252
(b) Pigs	-	2	1	-	26
5. <u>Abcesses.</u>					
(a) Cattle	-	10	-	-	130
(b) Pigs	4	-	-	-	42
6. <u>Nechrosis.</u>					
(a) Cattle	-	4	-	-	56
7. <u>Pericarditis.</u>					
(a) Cattle	-	-	4	-	47
8. <u>Ascaris Lumb.</u>					
(a) Cattle	-	29	-	-	126
9. <u>Adhesion.</u>					
(a) Pigs	-	13	16	-	103
10. <u>Pneumonia.</u>					
(a) Pigs	-	-	5	-	16
11. <u>Fevered Conditions.</u> - One sheep - Carcass and organs					28
12. Jaundice and Immaturity - 4 Calf carcasses and organs					132

MEAT INSPECTION

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1,852	-	122	12,209	4,358
Number inspected	1,852	-	122	12,209	4,358
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	4	1	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	581	-	-	30	270
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	31.4	-	3.3	0.3	6.2
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	9	-	-	-	214
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0.6	-	-	-	4.9

Cysticercus Bovis generalised (carcase and offal condemned) - 1
 " " localised (carcases frozen) - 8

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The air filter testing equipment was moved to school premises on the south west side of the town during the year, in order to obtain a comparison between the fringe of the town and the town centre. It is too early to make comment.

SHOPS ACTS

Shops not handling food - 170.

Enforcement of whole of provision of Shops Acts legislation and certain legislation concerning the employment of young persons.

RODENT CONTROL

The control of rodent pests continues to be through a scheme jointly operated by the Rural District and Borough Councils, one operative only now being employed. The main achievement was the very satisfactory results of the sewer treatments, being the culmination of a planned four year campaign against the "black areas" in the sewers, which were the old sewers in the town centre. The records show

	Spring	Autumn
1957 - Manholes treated . . .	52	74
Manholes infested . .	35	34
1960 - Manholes treated . . .	60	42
Manholes infested . .	5	14 (minor)

This decrease in sewer infestation has been reflected in fewer surface infestations.

VERMINOUS PREMISES

Cimex lectularius (bed-bug) Nil.

Blatta (cockroach) 15

The cockroach infestations have mainly occurred in pre-war council houses. and the treatment of blocks of houses has continued.

CINEMAS

The two Cinemas in the town are inspected annually and a Certificate issued which is submitted to the Magistrates.

HOUSING

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1960.

A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
In Clearance Areas			
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	-	100	29
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc. ...	-	5	2
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
Not in Clearance Areas			
(4) As a result of formal or in- formal procedure under Section 17 (1) Housing Act, 1957 ...	5	-	-
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	-	-	-
(6) Houses unfit for human habit- ation where action has been taken under local Acts ...	-	-	-
(7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	-	-	-
B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED	Number		
(8) Under Sections 16 (4), 17 (1- and 35 (1), Housing Act, 1957	2	6	2
(9) Under Sections 17 (3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
(10) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-

C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(11) After informal action by local authority	28	////
(12) After formal notice under (a) Public Health Acts	-	-
(b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957	-	-
(13) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957	-	////

D. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act, 1957)

Position at end of year	Number of houses (1)	Number of separate dwellings contained in column (1) (2)
(14) Retained for temporary accommodation		
(a) under Section 48	9	9
(b) under Section 17 (2)... ..	-	-
(c) under Section 46	-	-
(15) Licensed for temporary occupa- tion under Sections 34 or 53 ...	-	////

E. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

	Number of houses (1)	Number of occupants of houses in column (1) (2)
(16) Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased in the year	-	-

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959.

PART I OF THE ACT

1.- 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 ..	14	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	94	25	2	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-worker' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	108	27	2	-

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 (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (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)	-	-	-	-	-

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	2	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT
Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of Out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (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 unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel) Making etc.,	-	-	-	-	-	-
) Cleaning and	-	-	-	-	-	-
) Washing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Household linen	-	-	-	-	-	-

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to The Council (3)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prose- cutions (7)
Lace, lace cur- tains and nets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings	-	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture and upholstery	-	-	-	-	-	-
Electro-plate	-	-	-	-	-	-
File making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brass and brass articles	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fur pulling	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and Steel cables and chains	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and Steel anchors and grapnels	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cart gear	-	-	-	-	-	-
Locks, latches and keys	-	-	-	-	-	-
Umbrellas, etc	-	-	-	-	-	-
Artificial flowers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nets, other than wire nets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tents	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sacks	-	-	-	-	-	-

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prose- cutions (7)
Racquet and tennis balls	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paper bags	-	-	-	-	-	-
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brush making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pea picking	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feather sorting	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carding, etc., of buttons etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed toys	-	-	-	-	-	-
Basket making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chocolates and Sweetmeats	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cosaques, Christmas stock- ings, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Textile weaving	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lampshades	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-

