

## **[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Feltham].**

### **Contributors**

Feltham (London, England). Urban District Council.

### **Publication/Creation**

1963.

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Urban District Council  
of  
**FELTHAM**

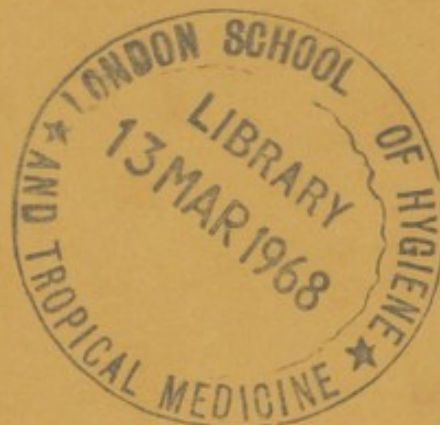


**Annual Report**

of the

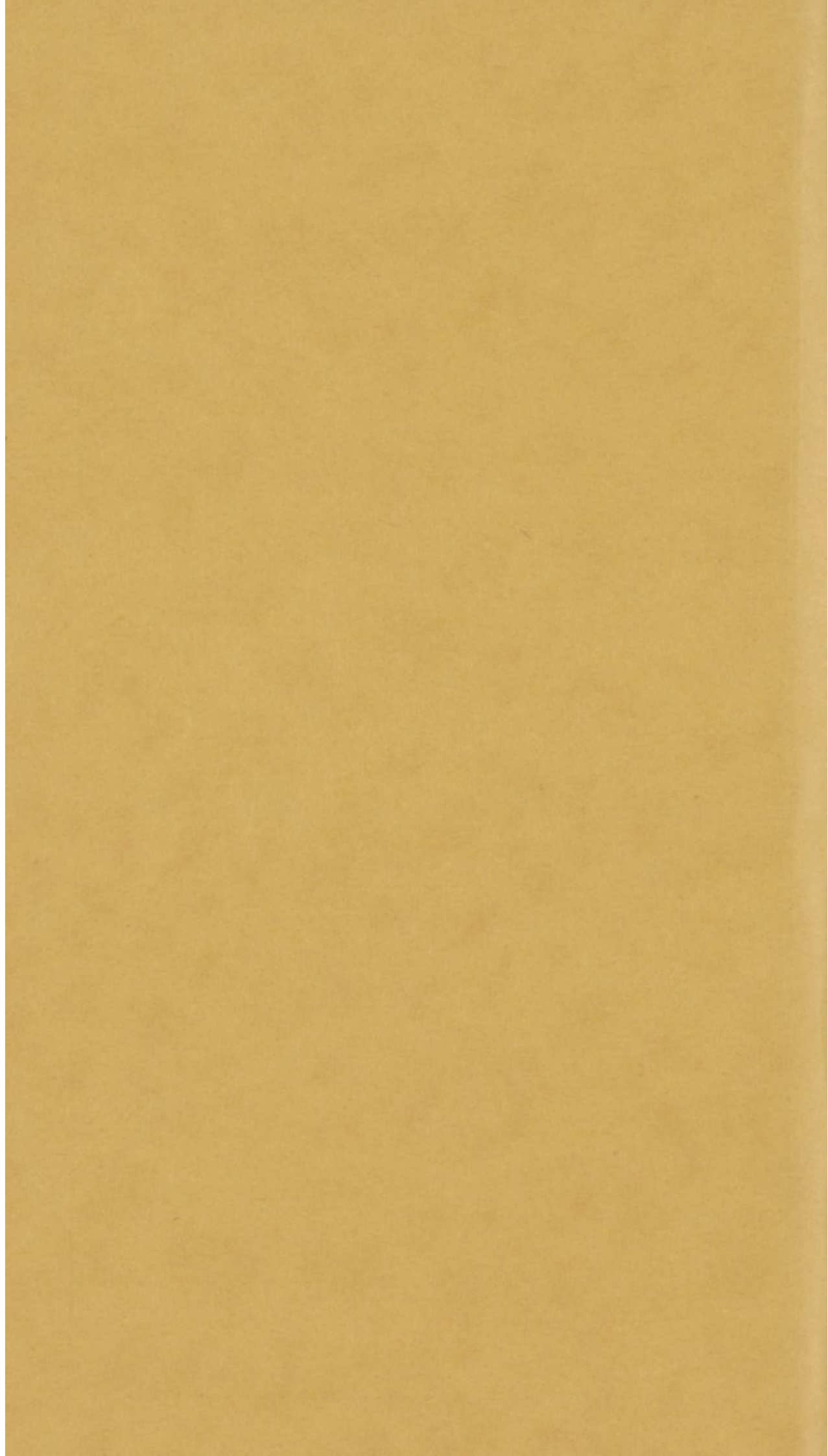
**Medical Officer of Health**

for the year ending 31st December  
1962



Feltham, Middx.

July, 1963



# FELTHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Mr. F. A. Watts

Councillors:

Mrs. W. E. Cox, Mr. G. A. Gatehouse (Chairman of the Council), Mrs. M. E. Nixon, Mr. T. W. McCarthy, Mr. A. J. Ogden, Mr. E. J. Pauling, Mr. W. R. Sands, Mr. F. N. Saunders, Mr. M. P. Slattery, Mr. D. L. Smith.

## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health (Part Time):

W. Cormack, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

(resigned November, 1962)

L. A. Matheson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.C.H., M.M.S.A.

(appointed November, 1962)

Chief Public Health Inspector:

F. V. Bell, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Public Health Inspectors:

G. H. Green, M.A.P.H.I.

J. W. PAINE

C. WILLARD, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(resigned 30th April, 1962)

D. M. Henderson (Appointed 1st November, 1962)

Student Public Health Inspector:

K. M. Down

Smoke Control Assistant

A. W. G. Wilcox

Senior Clerk:

Mrs. E. E. Hutchison

Clerical Staff:

Miss A. Isitt (Appointed 1st January 1962, Resigned

1st June, 1962)

Miss M. Snelling (Appointed 22nd July, 1962, Resigned

20th Nov. 1962)

Mrs. P. M. Mills (Appointed 3rd December, 1962)

Miss P. Deuchar (Resigned 16th April, 1962)

Miss J. Hodges (Appointed 24th April, 1962)

Rodent Operative:

A. E. Gearing

Telephone:  
Feltham 2281 and 2381

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
Feltham.

July, 1963.

**To: The Chairman and Members of the Feltham Urban District Council.**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitation of your district for the year 1962.

During the year there were nineteen infant deaths under one year of age of which sixteen occurred under four weeks of age. The greatest single cause, according to the death certificates, was prematurity where eight children died under one week old, four in the first day. Other causes were pneumonia, congenital malformations and pulmonary haemorrhage. The later cases in the first year were still attributable to congenital malformations but three children died of pneumonia and one of birth trauma. One baby died in the first day due to a rhesus incompatibility factor; this is now quite a rare cause. The infant mortality rate for this district is slightly less than that for England and Wales.

In April the attention of the Council was drawn by the then Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Cormack, to the relationship between smoking and health. He told the Council that the report published by the Royal College of Physicians entitled "Smoking and Health" stressed that cigarette smoking is a cause of lung cancer and bronchitis and probably contributes to the development of coronary heart disease and various other less common diseases. It also delays healing of gastric and duodenal ulcers. The chance of dying in the next ten years for a man aged thirty-five, who is a heavy cigarette smoker, is one in twenty-three, whereas the risk for a non-smoker is only one in ninety.

A careful examination has been made of the causes of death under the classification 'malignant diseases of the lungs' when it was found that twenty-eight males and one female died in 1962 of this cause. Five years ago there were twenty-five deaths from this cause, ten years ago there were ten only and even last year five fewer deaths from this cause were reported than for the period now under review.

Not only is it most desirable to decrease the amount of cigarette smoking by the population, most especially the younger section of the community, but the abolition of smoke in the air that we breath is of the very greatest importance. To this end the Council declared the third smoke control area during 1962. This is part of a well formulated policy whereby the whole of the Feltham Urban District will be entirely free from smoke by 1969.

It is gratifying to know that there were no deaths due to pregnancy, childbirth or abortion. An increasing cause of death is unfortunately attributable to suicide of which there were no less than six—this is more than has been reported for fifteen years except in 1957 when a similar number occurred. No cases of diphtheria occurred in the district during the year and it is now twelve years since a case was notified.

During 1962 Dr. Cormack was appointed as Medical Officer of Health to the district of Harrow and I succeeded him in November, 1962.

I should like to thank the Chairman and the members of the Public Health Committee and the staff of the Public Health Department, particularly Mr. F. V. Bell the Chief Public Health Inspector, for their welcome to me on the staff and the help I have had from the Council and the department.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

LOUISE A. MATHESON

Medical Officer of Health.

## STATISTICS FOR THE AREA

Area and Acreage (Bedfont, Feltham and Hanworth) .....	4,925 acres
Population .....	51,710
Number of inhabited dwellings .....	15,337
Number of new dwellings erected .....	484
The product of a penny rate .....	£5,034/10/-
The rateable value .....	£1,237,173

### VITAL STATISTICS

<i>LIVE BIRTHS</i>	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate ... ..	954	478	476
Illegitimate ... ..	40	22	18
Total ... ..	994	500	494

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated home population ... ..	19.22
Adjusted Live Birth Rate ... ..	18.83
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births ...	4.02

<i>STILL BIRTHS</i>	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate ... ..	14	9	5
Illegitimate ... ..	—	—	—
Total ... ..	14	9	5

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	13.88
Total Live and Still Births ... ..	1008

#### *INFANT DEATHS (under 1 year of age)*

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate ... ..	18	11	7
Illegitimate ... ..	1	1	0
Total ... ..	19	12	7

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ...	19.11
Legitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..	18.86
Illegitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	25.00

#### *NEO-NATAL DEATHS (under four weeks of age)*

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate ... ..	16	10	6
Illegitimate ... ..	—	—	—
Total ... ..	16	10	6

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ...	16.09
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (first week) per 1,000 live births ... ..	12.07
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births ... ..	25.79
Maternal Deaths (including abortion) ... ..	nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ... ..	nil

**DEATHS**

Male 232	Female 191	Total 423
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated home population—		
Crude Death Rate	...	8.18
Comparability Factor	...	1.61
Adjusted Death Rate	...	13.16
Death Rate from pulmonary tuberculosis	...	0.03
Death Rate from Cancer	...	1.7

**Birth and Death Rates for England and Wales, 1961**

Birth Rate	...	18.0
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still births)	...	18.1
Death Rate	...	11.9
Deaths under one year of age	...	21.4
Deaths under four weeks of age	...	15.1
Maternal causes, excluding abortion	...	0.28
Due to abortion	...	0.07
Total maternal mortality	...	0.35

**Table of Birth and Death Rates for previous 10 years**

Year	* Birth Rate		* Death Rate		† Still Birth Rate	† Maternal Deaths	‡ Infant Death Rate	
	Crude	Adjusted	Crude	Adjusted			Under 1 yr.	Under 4 wks.
1961	18.03	17.66	7.6	12.16	11.8	1.07	24.97	20.63
1960	17.9	17.2	7.2	11.5	18.9	nil	18.2	12.8
1959	15.6	15.0	8.6	13.5	11.05	nil	24.8	19.9
1958	16.6	16.1	7.4	11.7	10.55	nil	21.32	16.58
1957	16.3	15.81	7.0	11.13	23.95	nil	19.63	15.95
1956	16.7	16.19	6.6	10.5	14.38	nil	21.89	18.24
1955	16.0	15.84	7.1	10.5	13.87	nil	15.34	7.67
1954	15.76	15.60	5.87	8.68	15.54	1.29	17.10	13.15
1953	16.41	16.24	7.49	11.08	15.28	2.54	24.57	18.11
1952	16.98	16.47	6.22	8.77	18.61	nil	20.22	13.9

\* Rate per 1,000 estimated home population.

† Rate per 1,000 total births.

‡ Rate per 1,000 live births.

Table I

**Causes of Death**

	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis—Respiratory	1	1	2
2. Tuberculosis—Other	2	—	2
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infection	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	7	5	12
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	28	1	29
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	4	5
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	6	6



14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	23	16	39
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	3	—	3
16. Diabetes ... ..	—	3	3
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	14	30	44
18. Coronary disease, angina ... ..	49	32	81
19. Hypertension with heart disease	6	8	14
20. Other heart disease ... ..	12	26	38
21. Other circulatory disease ... ..	10	10	20
22. Influenza ... ..	—	2	2
23. Pneumonia ... ..	8	7	15
24. Bronchitis ... ..	26	8	34
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..	4	3	7
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	—	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	1	1	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	—	—	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion ... ..	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations ... ..	2	1	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	15	18	33
33. Motor vehicles, accidents ... ..	5	4	9
34. All other accidents ... ..	6	3	9
35. Suicide ... ..	5	1	6
36. Homicide and operation of war	—	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	232	191	423
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

### Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis

Table II

Disease	Corrected Notifications	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	25	3	—...
Whooping Cough ... ..	2	—	—
Acute Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia ... ..	4	3	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	22	2	—
Ac. Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	1	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	1	1	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) ... ..	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic) ... ..	—	—	—
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ... ..	—	—	—
Malaria ... ..	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	4	1	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	24	—	—
Meningococcal infection ... ..	1	1	—
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—

Table III

Age Periods	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis	
					Paralytic	Non-Paralytic
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-2 years	—	3	12	2	—	—
3-4 years	—	4	6	—	—	—
5-9 years	—	13	6	—	—	—
10-14 years	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-24 years	—	2	—	—	—	—
25 and over	—	—	1	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	—	22	25	2	—	—

Age Periods	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Meningococcal infection	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia
5-14 years	1	2	—	1	—	—
15-44 years	—	—	1	3	—	1
45-64 years	—	—	—	—	1	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	4	2	1	4	1	1

Table IV

Age Periods	Tuberculosis			
	New cases		Deaths	
	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
Under 5 years	—	—	—	—
5-14 years	1	—	—	—
15-24 years	—	—	—	—
25-44 years	2	—	—	—
45-64 years	4	2	1	2
Over 65 years	—	—	1	—
<b>Total</b>	7	2	2	2

## GENERAL HEALTH MATTERS, INCLUDING INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL

### Tuberculosis

Seven cases of respiratory tuberculosis and two cases of non-respiratory tuberculosis were notified during the year, one of the pulmonary cases being a child of under fourteen years of age. There were two deaths from respiratory tuberculosis, one of which was in the over 65 years age group.

### Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis

No cases of diphtheria occurred in the district during the year and it is now 12 years since a case was notified. There were no cases of paralytic poliomyelitis, and only two of whooping cough.

The three in one vaccine affording protection against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus in three injections is now in widespread use.

During 1962, the use of Salk type immunizing material was discontinued by the Health Authority. Instead Sabin type oral protection was substituted. This certainly won the approval of the younger patients and their mothers. A better protection is considered to be achieved in addition.

Through the Health Authority, constant vigilance is kept upon school children upon entry and subsequently, to ensure that they receive "booster" protection for Diphtheria, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis.

### **Maternal Mortality**

I am glad to say there were no maternal deaths this year.

### **Health Education**

During routine and other visits the public health inspectors endeavoured to further the cause of health education, particularly with food handlers. Posters and pamphlets are distributed to selected premises and publicly displayed from time to time and the department co-operated with any request from the Area Medical Officer to display health education material.

### **National Assistance Acts—Persons in Need of Care and**

#### **Attention.**

The living conditions of one or two elderly persons came to the attention of the department during the year. The services of the Area Health Authority were sought as required and it was not found necessary to take formal action.

### **Housing**

The Council's building programme continues apace and more dwellings were provided than in recent years. By the end of the year 2,877 post war houses had been completed.

More and more of the dwellings being built are flats and during the year the decision was taken to build the first multi-storey block.

It was noticeable that opinions were gradually changing and flats becoming more acceptable to a larger number of people.

## **Smallpox**

In January cases of smallpox occurred in persons arriving by air in this country from Pakistan. These cases arrived at London Airport, part of which is in this Urban District. A large number of families living in Feltham are employed in various capacities at the Airport and the local population became very smallpox vaccination minded. During the first six months of 1962 whilst the population was so alerted, 4,804 adults received primary vaccination and 12,909 were revaccinated, 3,377 children of school age were vaccinated 3,778 revaccinated and 3,313 pre-school age children were vaccinated and 423 revaccinated. Fortunately no case of smallpox actually occurred in this district.

## **Maternity and Child Welfare and School Health Services**

The District forms part of Middlesex County Council Health Area 10. The health authority provide numerous sessions for ante-natal and post-natal care, child welfare, immunisation and school health services at the following clinics:—

Cardinal Road, Feltham.

Grove Crescent, Hanworth.

Imperial Road, Bedfont.

In addition a mobile clinic providing child welfare services visits on the Sparrow Farm Estate, the Wigley Road Estate and in Lower Feltham.

## **Establishments for Massage and Special Treatment**

One establishment was licensed under Sections 355-357 of the Middlesex County Council Act, 1944.

The Middlesex County Council provide chiropody sessions at their three clinics in the district. In the first instance priority is being given to the elderly people, the physically handicapped and nursing and expectant mothers.

## **Medical Examination of Council Employees**

The total number of medical interviews and examinations carried out during the year was forty-seven. These consisted of twenty-seven for fitness for admissions to the Council's Sick Pay Scheme, fifteen for Superannuation purposes and five for aged employees' fitness to continue working.

## Sewerage

The vast majority of premises in the district are drained to the public sewers which in turn discharge to the deep sewers of the West Middlesex Main Drainage Department, the sewage being dealt with at the Mogden Works by that Department. During the year the Engineer and Surveyor constructed 750 yards of 9" sewer in Hatton Road, eliminating a small pumping station and providing main drainage for a number of premises served by cesspools. He now has in hand plans for a new sewer to serve the High Street area, at present being redeveloped.

## Water Analysis

The Bedfont and Feltham Wards of the District were supplied by the South-West Suburban Water Company and the Hanworth Ward by the Metropolitan Water Board and the water was derived from the River Thames. The South-West Suburban Water Company treated the water at their Staines works and 35 raw water and 614 treated water samples were taken for bacteriological and chemical analysis. A typical analysis is given in table I. Twenty-seven of the treated samples contained coliform bacteria in minimal numbers and two of these presumptive positive samples were found to contain E. Coli. As several of these samples were from service reservoirs, sterilisation was carried out as a precaution although actual contamination was thought to be extremely unlikely, and this sterilisation is now repeated at regular intervals.

The Metropolitan Water Board stored the raw water in their Thames Valley reservoirs and filtered and chlorinated it at the Hampton, Ashford Common, Hanworth Road and Kempton Park Works. Samples were taken at each of the works including 1,121 at Hampton. Details of the average results obtained are given in table II.

The water supply was satisfactory both as regards to quantity and quality and it had no plumbo-solvent action. Four check samples were taken by the department.

All houses in the area were supplied direct from the water mains.

### I Typical Analysis of South-West Suburban Water Company's Supply (Parts per million)

Appearance	...	...	...	...	...	Clear and bright
Turbidity	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Colour	...	...	...	...	...	4
Odour	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

pH	...	...	...	...	...	7.5
Free Carbon Dioxide	...	...	...	...	...	11
Electric Conductivity	...	...	...	...	...	580
Total Solids	...	...	...	...	...	400
Chlorine present as Chloride	...	...	...	...	...	36
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	...	...	...	...	...	190
Hardness: Total	...	...	...	...	...	285
(Carbonate 190; Non-Carbonate 95)						
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	5.9
Nitrite Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	0.000
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	0.060
Oxygen Absorbed	...	...	...	...	...	1.2
Residual Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	0.02
Metals	...	...	...	...	...	Iron, Zinc, Copper and Lead: absent

### Bacteriological

No. of Colonies developing on Agar	1 day at 37°C.	2 days at 37°C.	3 days at 20°C.
	0 per ml.	0 per ml.	1 per ml.
	Present in	Absent from	Probable number
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes Reaction	—ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli (type 1)	—ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl Welchii Reaction	100 ml.	10 ml.	

## II Average Results of Analyses of Metropolitan Water Board Supply (Hampton Works) (Milligrammes per litre)

### Chemical

Ammonia Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	0.040
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	0.078
Oxidised Nitrogen (Nitrate)	...	...	...	...	4.0
Chlorides as Cl	...	...	...	...	31
Oxygen abs. from Permanganate 4 hrs. at 27°C.	...	...	...	...	1.12
Turbidity units	...	...	...	...	0.3
Colour m.m. brown 2 ft. tube Burgess's Tintometer	...	...	...	...	12
Hardness (Total)	...	...	...	...	264
Hardness (non carbonate)	...	...	...	...	58
pH Value	...	...	...	...	7.8
Phosphate as PO <sub>4</sub>	...	...	...	...	1.2
Silicate as SiO <sub>2</sub>	...	...	...	...	9
Sulphate as SO <sub>4</sub>	...	...	...	...	61
Fluoride as F	...	...	...	...	0.25
Magnesium as Mg	...	...	...	...	6
Surface Active Material as Manoxol	...	...	...	...	0.12
Electrical Conductivity (micromhos)	...	...	...	...	550

### Bacteriological

Agar Plate Count (per ml.)	20-24 hrs. at 37°C.	11.9
Coliform count (percentage of samples negative in 100 ml.)	...	99.91
E.coli count (percentage of samples negative in 100 ml.)	...	100.0

## CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

### Housing—Demolition and Closure

The clearance of unfit houses continued and with the declaring as clearance areas of Railway Terrace, The Clumps and Sydney Road/Bedfont Lane, all the houses in the programme were being dealt with, although by the end of the year, many were still occupied. Consideration was given to the future programme, when it was decided that a further fifty houses, in addition, should be dealt with in the two years ending in December, 1964. Progress during the year is summarised as follows:

Houses reported to Public Health Committee as being unfit ... ..	69
Demolition Orders made ... ..	6
Closing Orders made ... ..	1
No. of houses in Clearance Areas declared ...	62
No. of houses in Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders ... ..	67
Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) ...	31
Houses in clearance areas demolished ... ..	6
Houses closed under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) ... ..	1
Houses closed under Sections 17(3) and 26 ...	—
Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 ...	—
Houses in respect of which agreements entered into with owners to repair or demolish ...	1
Total number of persons displaced ... ..	112

From 1946 until the end of 1962, 355 houses have been dealt with as follows:—

Demolition Orders made ... ..	254
Agreements entered into with owners to “close” or repair or Closing Orders made ... ..	39
Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal action including those in clearance area ... ..	312
Houses in four Clearance Areas declared ...	91
Persons who have been displaced ... ..	971

### Housing Repairs

House-to-house inspections of the older houses were continued as far as possible and action taken to remedy defects found. This work is not very satisfying on present standards; a fit house still falls far short of satisfactory accommodation. An increasing number of the older houses

are becoming owner/occupied and it is the Council's policy that these should not normally be inspected. There was still a shortage of builders and owners often had difficulty in finding one to enable them to comply with notices. Owner/occupiers waiting to carry out improvements also often experienced this difficulty.

#### *Informal Action*

Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action by the local Authority ... ..	113
---	-----

#### *Action under Statutory Powers*

Number of houses reported to Public Health Committee with a view to service of formal notices ... ..	16
Number of formal notices served ... ..	12

#### *Public Health Acts*

Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) by owners ... ..	—
(b) by local authority in default of owners ...	6

#### *Housing Act, 1957*

Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices (Sections 9 and 16):—	
(a) by owners ... ..	—
(b) by local authority in default of owners ...	—

### **Notices Served and Repairs or Improvements Effected**

	Informal	Statutory
Public Health and Housing Acts ... ..	156	26
Food and Drugs Act ... ..	129	—
Factories Act ... ..	18	—
Shop; Act ... ..	55	—
Middlesex County Council Acts ... ..	7	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act ... ..	6	—
Clean Air Act ... ..	56	73
Others ... ..	1	—
		Dwellings and
	Food Premises	Elsewhere
Rooms or contents cleansed ... ..	117	22
Sanitary accommodation cleansed ... ..	12	13
Walls or ceilings repaired ... ..	22	120
Floors repaired or improved ... ..	12	50
Windows, doors or woodwork repaired ...	1	184
Stoves, grates etc. repaired ... ..	—	14
Ventilation improved ... ..	5	2
Lighting improved ... ..	—	1
Food Stores provided or improved ... ..	—	32
Sanitary accommodation repaired or improved	27	82



Washing facilities provided or improved ...	37	18
Water Supply or Services improved or repaired	15	17
Dampness remedied ... ..	—	153
Damp-proof courses provided ... ..	—	1
Roofs repaired or renewed ... ..	2	49
Guttering and rain water pipes repaired or renewed ... ..	1	64
Paving repaired or renewed ... ..	—	15
Chimney stacks, sills, thresholds, brickwork, etc. repaired or renewed ... ..	—	116
Drainage repaired or renewed ... ..	2	44
Drains cleansed ... ..	—	425
Dustbins provided or renewed ... ..	12	3
Nuisances from accumulations abated ...	34	21
Nuisances from keeping of animals abated ...	—	—
Nuisances from smoke, dust or odours abated	4	37
Nuisances from noise abated ... ..	—	—
Defective equipment replaced ... ..	29	—
Handling or display of foodstuffs improved ...	121	5

### Standard Improvement Grants

The House Purchase and Housing Act, 1951, as amended by the Housing Act, 1961, provides for the payment of grants of half the cost of installing the standard amenities, subject to prescribed maxima and depending upon the amenities already existing.

The standard amenities are (a) a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom; (b) a wash-hand basin; (c) a hot water supply; (d) an internal water closet and (e) satisfactory facilities for storing food. During the year 25 applications were received and 24 were approved. In an effort to stimulate greater interest the Council authorised, as a pilot scheme, the circularising of the landlords, owner/occupiers and tenants of some three hundred of the older houses. This was at the end of the year. There was a little reaction, mostly favourable, from tenants and at the time of preparing this report, well into 1963, one or two landlords appeared to be preparing to undertake improvements, but progress is very slow.

### Rent Act, 1957—Certificates of Disrepair

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair and for the cancellation thereof were received and dealt with as set out below.

No. of applications for certificates ... ..	1
No. of decisions not to issue certificates ...	1
No. of certificates issued ... ..	—
No. of undertakings given by landlords to remedy defects ... ..	1

No. of undertakings refused by local authority	—
No. of applications for cancellation of certificates ... ..	4
No. of certificates cancelled ... ..	4

### Overcrowding

One case of overcrowding was found and reported to the Public Health Committee and five known cases of overcrowding were abated during the year.

### Moveable Dwellings

Since the operation of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, which is largely a planning measure and so far as the control of caravans is concerned supersedes the general public health control, the control of caravans has been exercised by the Engineer and Surveyor's Department. Two areas of land awaiting redevelopment were invaded by large colonies of caravan dwellers. The owners of the sites eventually had them evicted, but not before many complaints were made regarding the behaviour of the caravan dwellers. The sites were left in a deplorable condition, necessitating the removal of lorry loads of rubbish including several car bodies.

### Food Premises

Inspections of all types of food premises were continued as regularly as possible more particular attention being given to premises where food was prepared.

Constant vigilance is required in connection with food handling and display. The visits of the public health inspectors to individual premises had of necessity to be relatively short and infrequent and in so many cases the attitude of food handlers to the commodity they handled seemed careless, no doubt bred by familiarity. Display methods change and self service as applied to the smaller shops tended to bring less satisfactory methods of display. Action under food hygiene law is generally limited to those matters which are a risk to health, but surely the time has now come when it should be possible to deal with an aesthetically undesirable practice without having to prove an actual risk.

### Shops

The department administered the whole of the provisions of the Shops Act, 1950, and all shops in the area were

visited, the frequency of inspection depending upon the class of business carried on.

Two licences, both renewals, were issued to keep pet shops.

The occupiers of two shops were licensed to deal in game.

The "late day" for the general closing hours of shops in the area was Friday, but shopkeepers remained free to fix their own half-day closing, subject to the provisions of the Shops Act. Most shops closed for the half-day on Wednesdays.

There appeared to be no desire on the part of shopkeepers to open after the closing hours; generally, of course, shops were closed well before. A number of shops opened on Sundays and periodical inspections were made in connection with the limited range of articles permitted to be sold on that day with a view to ensuring so far as possible that the requirements of the Act were being observed.

Food premises in the district consist of the following:—

Catering establishments, including factory canteens and school kitchens ... ..	131
Grocery and provisions shops and "general stores" ... ..	70
Greengrocer's Shops ... ..	39
Butchers Shops ... ..	26
Bakers' Shops ... ..	18
Milk Shops ... ..	13
Fishmongers' Shops ... ..	11
Sweet Confectionery Shops ... ..	51

### Food Preparing Premises

There were no new registration during the year.

The register contained the addresses of thirty-seven premises registered under the Act for the preservations, etc. of food as follows:—

Premises used for the manufacture of sausages, pies etc. ... ..	16
Premises used for the cooking of fish ... ..	12
Premises used for the cooking of bacon ... ..	9



## Tinned Foodstuffs

Meat	...	...	...	...	...	371 lbs.
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	304 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	2 lbs.
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	94 lbs.
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	5 pints.
Jam	...	...	...	...	...	7 lbs.

Seven complaints were made with regard to foreign matter in food and after investigation warnings were given to the companies concerned.

Proceedings were taken under Section 8 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, with regard to unsound sausage rolls, when a conviction was obtained and a fine of £20 with 10 guineas costs imposed.

## Disposal of Condemned Food

Where possible condemned foodstuffs were sent to a waste products factory, where they were processed for non-edible purposes. Foodstuffs which were not suitable for such disposal were buried at the Council's refuse tip.

## Food and Drugs Act, 1955—Food and Drugs Authority.

The Middlesex County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the District and I am indebted to Mr. J. A. O'Keefe, O.B.E., the Chief Officer of the Public Control Department, for details of action taken in this district.

### Samples procured:—

Article	Total samples procured	Unsatisfactory
Milk (New)	72	2
Milk (Various)	8	2
Butter	23	
Margarine	3	
Cream	17	
Cheese	3	
Fish and Fish Products	5	
Fruit (fresh and canned)	18	1
Ice Cream	20	
Meat and Meat Products	25	
Sausages	6	
Soft drinks and fruit juices	2	
Spirits	7	
Preserves	5	
Vinegar	16	
Cakes and biscuits	4	
Jelly	3	
Liver	9	
Miscellaneous	11	
<b>Total</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>5</b>

The Officer comments on the unsatisfactory samples as follows:—

### **"Milk**

Two samples of new milk taken at a dairy in your area were found to be deficient in milk fat. The churns were part of a large consignment, the bulked quality of which was satisfactory. No action was therefore possible.

A verbal warning was given to the managers of two cafes who served milk deficient in milk fat, because it was found in each case that the milk was dispensed from a bottle which had not been shaken so as to mix the cream into the milk.

### **Fruit**

A letter of caution was sent to a greengrocer who sold "Guyot" pears as "Williams". The pears are quite similar, and it was thought that he had made a genuine mistake in labelling."

Examination of labelled displays of natural foods is made by experienced inspectors and formal samples are selectively procured, based on these examinations.

During 1962 new regulations were introduced dealing with emulsifiers and stabilisers in food and with preservatives in food. There was also an amended food standard relating to table jellies. In the first case food additives are defined and their number limited and in the second the range of foods to which preservatives in limited quantities may be added, is extended.

Inspections of 405 displays of food stuffs at 233 premises were made to ensure that the requirements of the Merchandise Marks Act, 1887 to 1953 were complied with. Minor infringements were dealt with by verbal warnings.

185 items of food stuffs were examined at 56 premises in connection with the labelling of Food Order 1953 which required pre-packed food to be marked with the name and address of the packer or labeller or to be bear the registered trade mark together with its common or usual name and a statement of the ingredients. It also controls the manner in which the presence of vitamins and minerals is disclosed.

In addition to the above details a considerable volume of work was carried out which did not arise from samples procured in Feltham but which had the effect of protecting the residents in each of the county districts in the county.

The matters dealt with were in respect of nationally retailed articles of food.

Action was taken with regard to the proper labelling of foods including pickles, canned peas and mixed vegetables and ice cream, also with regard to disclosing the foreign origin of honey and prepacked lamb chops. Other matters dealt with included the constituents and quality of so called cream cheese, and cake mixes, also meat products, breakfast cereals, cream, ice lollies and sweet confectionery. False or misleading labelling or advertising was challenged and alterations or withdrawals effected. Cautions were given with respect to preservatives in instant coffee and apricots.

Forty inspections of premises where milk is pasteurised or sold were carried out and thirty five samples of milk taken to ascertain whether or not pasteurisation or sterilisation had been correctly performed. There were no failures. Twelve samples of raw milk were procured and tested for the presence of tubercle bacilli. All were satisfactory.

### **The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959**

One new distributor was registered and at the end of the year the register contained details of thirty-three distributors of milk and one dairy.

Complaints were received in respect of two milk bottles which were not clean. A warning was given in each case.

### **Ice Cream**

Premises at which ice cream was sold continued to receive regular attention. There were no registered manufacturers of ice cream in this area.

There was one new registration under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the sale of ice cream and at the end of the year the register contained details of thirty-six premises.

### **Clean Air**

The Feltham Urban District (No. 2) Smoke Control Order came into operation on the 1st October, 1962. Under the two Orders, 2025 acres are now smoke controlled and include 3,105 dwellings and 215 other premises. The Feltham Urban District (No. 3) Order was confirmed at the end of the year to come into operation on the 1st October, 1963.

In approximately 60% of eligible cases, applications for

grant towards the cost of adaptations were made in the first smoke control area. This left some 400 houses and to ascertain the position a single visit was made to each. Access was obtained to 152 and in 150 of these it was found that some adaptation enabling the occupier to comply with the Order had been made, although no grant had been applied for. It was felt that this revealed a very satisfactory state of affairs.

Residents in the proposed Smoke Control Areas are kept fully informed by visits to each house, by letters and by the visits of the mobile exhibition of the Solid Smokeless Fuels Federation, whose continued assistance I am glad to acknowledge.

The smoke control programme was reviewed and accelerated so that approximately 1,500 dwellings will be included in areas each year and the whole district covered by 1969. The burning of waste materials at industrial premises can give rise to the production of a considerable amount of smoke and in order to control this the Council decided that Section 47 of the Middlesex County Council Act, 1961, should be operative in the district. It became available on the 1st day of December.

Pollution of the atmosphere by smoke from diesel-engined vehicles continues to increase, according to my observations. Very few of these vehicles, it would seem, are able to operate, particularly in the lower gears, without emitting some smoke. The activities of the Ministry of Transport Inspectors is very welcome, and it is hoped that this will be maintained and increased, but further steps are necessary to bring home to the operators of these vehicles their responsibilities to society. Neglect of these responsibilities should carry a far greater risk of punishment than it does today. Those who manufacture and service the fuel injection equipment for diesel engines in road vehicles should recognise their failings and try to do something about them.

### **Noise Abatement**

The Noise Abatement Act, 1960, came into operation on the 27th November, 1960. It provides that noise or vibration which is a nuisance shall be a statutory nuisance for the purposes of the Public Health Act, 1936, and restricts the operation on highways etc. of loudspeakers.

The use of loudspeakers by vendors of certain food-stuffs, for example, ice cream, is permitted, subject to condi-



tions, between the hours of noon and seven o'clock in the evening.

Various noise complaints were investigated and dealt with informally. Some of the plant used by public works contractors is very noisy and is often in use for several days at the same place in a road to the annoyance of surrounding residents, but statutory undertakers are exempt from the operation of the Act. From enquiries made it would seem that there is as yet no really satisfactory way of quietening that worst of offenders, the pneumatic drill.

### **Rodent Control**

The control of rat and mice infestations in accordance with the methods advocated by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was continued. The Council's refuse tip was kept under regular observation and any sign of rat activity dealt with immediately. It was not considered necessary to test bait the public sewers.

Complaints received of infestations numbered 160 and these, together with cases discovered by members of the staff, involved the inspection of 958 premises. Rat infestations were found at 188 premises and mice infestations at 32 premises. 205 treatments were undertaken by the department, a further 20 being carried out by the occupiers.

For treatments carried out by this Department on behalf of occupiers, a standard charge of five shillings was made in the case of private dwellings and the full cost of treatment was recovered in the case of business premises. In certain cases of hardship the standard charge was waived. Where the occupiers elected to carry out the treatment themselves, advice and supervision was given to ensure that the treatment was effective.

### **Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1961**

Two premises were registered under this Act at the beginning of the year and three inspections were made. Very little filling material was used at either of them.

### **Disinfestation**

No infestation of bed bugs came to the department's knowledge during the year but disinfestations for the eradication of other pests were carried out as follows:—

Wasps	18
Cockroaches	3
Ants	4
Clover Mites	1
Crickets	1
Flies	1

### Infectious Disease—Disinfection

The disinfection of one premises was carried out following a case of tuberculosis.

## Administration of the Factories Act, 1937 and 1959

### Part 1 of the Act

#### 1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Verbal Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	16	4	—	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sections 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	196	542	—	16	—
(iii) Other premises in which Sections 7 is enforced by the Local Authority excluding outworkers' premises. ...	5	8	—	1	—
... .. Total	217	554	—	18	—

#### 2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred	
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient ...	—	1	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	16	19	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—
	18	22	—	—

## Part VIII of the Act

### Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

No notifications were received of outworkers employed by local manufacturers but there were 43 persons doing outwork for employers outside the area. 116 visits were made to outworkers' homes.

### Summary of Inspections

Number of premises inspected on complaint ... ..	551
Number of inspections made:—	
Housing inspections (Housing Regulations) ... ..	117
Housing re-inspections ... ..	1,463
Other re-inspections ... ..	1,964
Infectious Diseases and food poisoning ... ..	411
Council Houses ... ..	41
Moveable Dwellings ... ..	72
Bakehouses ... ..	25
Dairies and Milk Shops ... ..	30
Pet Animal Shops ... ..	8
Shops (Shops Act) ... ..	858
Hawkers of Foodstuffs ... ..	148
Ice Cream Premises ... ..	65
Food Preparing Premises (excluding Catering Establishments) ... ..	33
Catering Establishments ... ..	499
Butchers' Shops ... ..	218
Fish Shops ... ..	43
Greengrocers' Shops ... ..	112
Grocery and Provision Shops ... ..	295
Sweet and Confectionery Shops ... ..	104
Bakers' Shops ... ..	50
Other Food Shops ... ..	16
Power Factories ... ..	542
Non-Power Factories ... ..	4
Other Factories ... ..	8
Outworkers' Premises ... ..	116
Workplaces and Offices ... ..	78
Piggeries ... ..	9
Licensed or Public Premises ... ..	174
Hairdressers' and Barbers' Establishments ... ..	49
Rodent Control ... ..	2,710
Housing Applications ... ..	598
Measurements under Housing Act ... ..	21
Smoke Observations ... ..	99
Food inspection—Meat ... ..	46
Food inspection—Fish ... ..	4
Food inspection—Other Commodities ... ..	47
Milk and Water sampling ... ..	9
Street Trading ... ..	21
Tipping of Refuse ... ..	29
Inspection of Food Vehicles ... ..	105
Inspection under Rag Flock Act ... ..	3
Re Disrepair Certificates ... ..	24
Miscellaneous ... ..	183
Smoke Control Areas ... ..	3,428

Clean Air Act 1956, Sections 3 and 10 ... ..	16
Standard Improvement Grants ... ..	160
Noise Abatement ... ..	108
Mortuary ... ..	26
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TOTAL	15,189
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The work of the department suffered to some extent by reason of a vacancy in the inspectorial staff. It took six months to obtain a replacement after one of the public health inspectors left and with a staff of three additional inspectors this represented one sixth of the total available time.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and Drs. W. Cormack and L. A. Matheson, the Medical Officers of Health, for the consideration shown to me and to express my thanks to the members of the staff for their able assistance in carrying out the work of the department.

FRANCIS V. BELL,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

