

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

Contributors

Feltham (London, England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1964.

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/devw96vr>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution, Non-commercial license.

Non-commercial use includes private study, academic research, teaching, and other activities that are not primarily intended for, or directed towards, commercial advantage or private monetary compensation. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

K 439 (3)

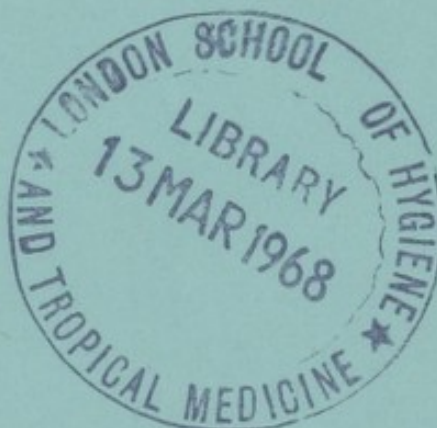


Library

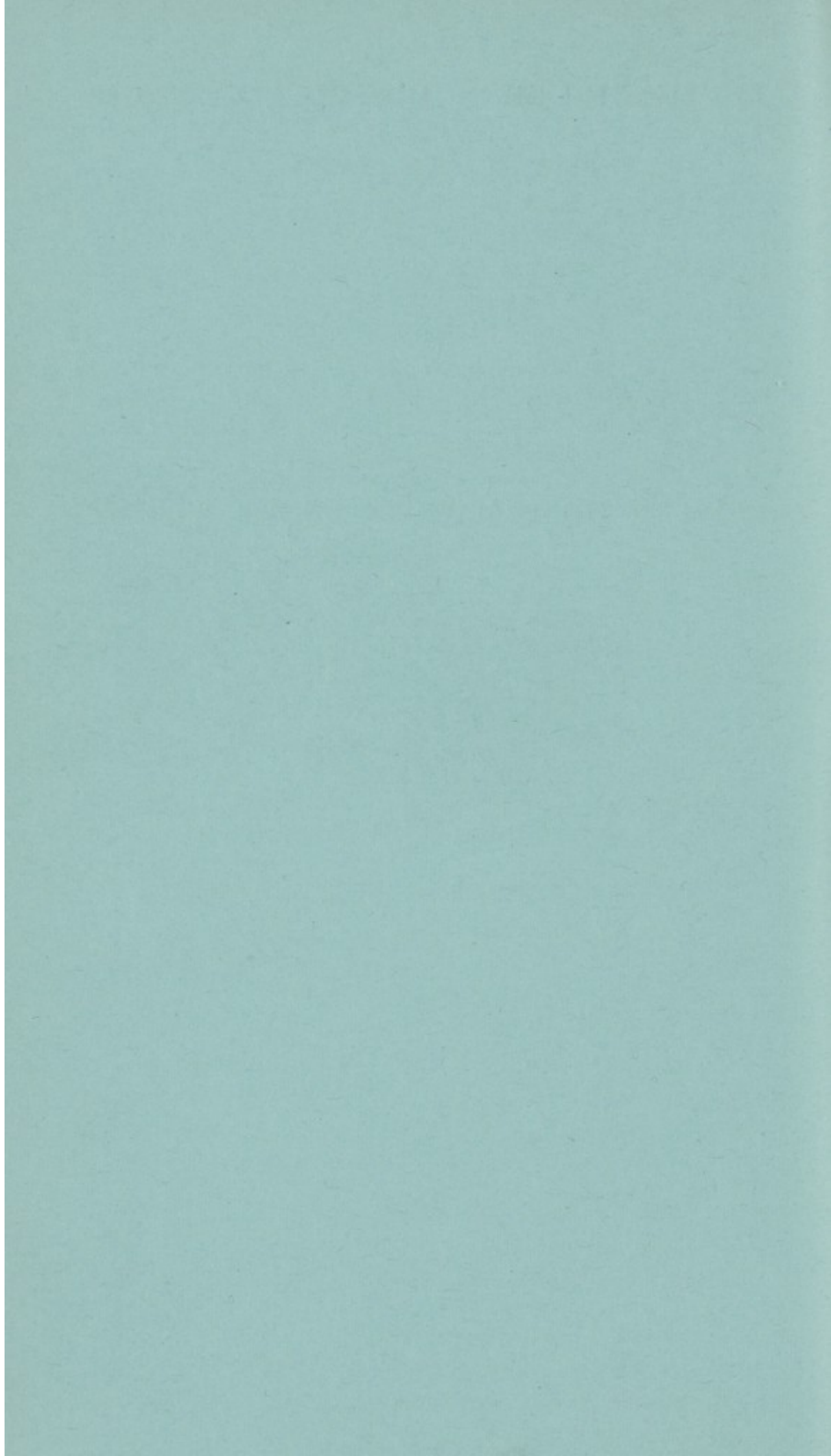
Urban District Council
of
FELTHAM



Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the year ending 31st December
1963



Feltham, Middx.
September, 1964



FELTHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Mr. F. A. Watts

Councillors:

Mrs. W. E. Cox, Mrs. D. E. Gatehouse, Mrs. M. E. Nixon,
Mr. T. W. McCarthy, Mr. A. J. Ogden, Mr. S. Peach,
Mr. W. R. Sands, Mr. A. J. Sheppard, Mr. M. P. Slattery
and the Chairman of the Council.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health (Part Time):

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

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

D. M. Henderson (Resigned 30.4.63, reappointed 4.7.63)

Student Public Health Inspector:

K. M. Down (Resigned 31.10.63)

Smoke Control Assistant:

A. W. G. Wilcox (resigned 1.3.63)

J. L. Tunnicliff (appointed 18.3.63)

Senior Clerk:

Mrs. E. E. Hutchison

Clerical Staff:

Mrs. P. M. Mills

Miss J. Hodges

Rodent Operative:

A. E. Gearing (resigned 22.3.63)

P. Voller (appointed 15.7.63)

Telephone:
Feltham 2281 and 3281

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Feltham.

August, 1964.

**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 1963.

A scheme for free laundry service for incontinent persons was inaugurated with also loan of draw sheets in homes where insufficient sheets for a weekly laundry service were found. This is not a costly scheme, it was used at once and is a form of practical help to a household in this difficulty. The W.V.S. are to be thanked for undertaking the hemming of the sheets.

The Council informed the Middlesex County Council that they would support proposals by the Middlesex County Council, that there should be addition of fluoride to water supplies in this district, after due consideration of the evidence.

There have been no deaths from infectious diseases, it is now 13 years since a case of diphtheria was notified here. There were some unusual cases of interest concerning notifiable diseases—one concerned a suspected but unproven case of "malignant pustule"—a form of anthrax—in a man: he rapidly recovered with treatment. Another, a proven case of a pig's death from anthrax in an extensive piggery. Fortunately there were no secondary cases. The well-publicised outbreak of typhoid fever in Zermatt, Switzerland, had a Feltham implication, as a shop owner, selling confectionery, contracted the disease there while on holiday. In spite of considerable delay in establishing the diagnosis, there were no secondary cases. This was certainly due to the high standard of hygiene conscientiously maintained in the toilet and hand washing facilities, and careful washing of utensils used for food and drink on these premises. This was all the more commendable in view of the very cramped quarters behind the shop. Later in the year school children and others travelling to the Continent on holiday were

advised to have prophylactic inoculation (T.A.B.). All school children in Middlesex schools going abroad were inoculated.

There were eight cases of death due to suicide, the numbers of men and women being driven to this desperate end being equal. This is far more for 1963 than all the fatal road accidents, of which unhappily there were five. Every year there are more cases of death due to suicide and we need to ask ourselves whether, in this era of increased affluence and creature comforts, there is not more that the community could do to help these unfortunate people in our midst deprived of hope. Neighbourliness and genuine concern for their welfare can make all the difference.

Detailed tables appear in this report concerning deaths from coronary disease and cancer of the lung, showing the age incidence and sex distribution. Also the causes of deaths of infants in the first year of life have been classified. Ten out of twenty such deaths occurred in the first 24 hours of life, and 16 before the end of the first week.

The Mass X-ray service carried out a survey of the district in 1963 and during their time here visited factories and other sites where the general public could make use of their services. Whilst they were here 1,779 members of the general public and 5,848 members of organised groups were X-rayed. The results reported from the chest clinics were ten active tuberculous cases found, five further cases under observation and one case of cancer of the lung found.

Once again, I have much pleasure in thanking the members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and enthusiasm. The staff of the department, particularly Mr. F. V. Bell, the Chief Public Health Inspector, have been most helpful.

I have the honour to be,

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	52,040
Number of inhabited dwellings	15,561
Number of new dwellings erected	331
The product of a penny rate	£15,200
The rateable value	£3,684,957

VITAL STATISTICS

<i>LIVE BIRTHS</i>					Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	1,001	513	488
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	44	27	17
Total	...	...	...	...	1,045	540	505

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated home population	...	...	...	...	...	20.08
Adjusted Live Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	...	18.27
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...	...	...	...	4.21

<i>STILL BIRTHS</i>					Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	11	3	8
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Total	...	...	...	...	12	4	8

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	...	11.35
Total Live and Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	1057

INFANT DEATHS (under 1 year of age)

					Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	21	12	9
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total	...	...	...	...	21	12	9

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	20.1
Legitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	20.97
Illegitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	nil

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	...	...	...	...	...	15.3
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (under one week) per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	15.3
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	26.5
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)	...	...	...	...	...	nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	nil

Infant Deaths

Age	Male	Female	Causes	Total
under 1 day	2	5	Prematurity	7
	1	—	Other Diseases	1
	1	—	Atelectasis	1
	1	—	Rhesus incompatibility	1
24 hours to under 1 week	1	1	Prematurity	2
	2	—	Congenital malformation heart	2
	1	—	Other diseases	1
	—	1	Mongol	1
1 week to 1 month	—	—		—
1 month to 2 months	1	—	Congenital malformation heart	1
2 months to 3 months	—	1	Congenital malformation heart	1
3 months to 6 months	—	1	Congenital malformation heart	1
	—	1	Blood disease	1
6 months to 9 months	—	—		—
9 months to 1 year	—	—		—
	10	10		20

DEATHS

Male 229	Female 210	Total 439
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated home population—		
Crude Death Rate	...	8.43
Comparability Factor	...	1.48
Adjusted Death Rate	...	12.47
Death Rate from pulmonary tuberculosis	...	0.1
Death Rate from cancer	...	1.79

Birth and Death Rates for England and Wales, 1963

Birth Rate	...	...	...	18.2
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still births)	...	...	...	17.3
Death Rate	...	...	...	12.2
Deaths under one year of age	...	...	...	20.9
Deaths under four weeks of age	...	...	...	14.2
Maternal causes, excluding abortion	...	...	...	0.22
Due to abortion	...	...	...	0.06
Total maternal mortality	...	...	...	0.28

Coronary Disease—1963

Age			Male	Female	Total
Under 30	...	...	—	—	—
30—35	...	...	—	—	—
36—40	...	...	1	1	2
41—45	...	...	2	—	2
46—50	...	...	—	—	—
51—55	...	...	1	—	1
56—60	...	...	12	—	12
61—65	...	...	11	3	14
66—70	...	...	9	5	14
71—75	...	...	5	6	11
76—80	...	...	4	6	10
81—85	...	...	3	5	8
86—90	...	...	2	1	3
			—	—	—
			50	27	77
			—	—	—

Malignant Disease of the Lung, 1963

Age			Male	Female	Total
Under 30	...	...	—	—	—
30—40	...	...	—	—	—
41—45	...	...	1	—	1
46—50	...	...	—	1	1
51—55	...	...	3	—	3
56—60	...	...	5	—	5
61—65	...	...	6	1	7
66—70	...	...	4	—	4
71—75	...	...	4	1	5
76—80	...	...	2	—	2
over 80	...	...	1	—	1
			—	—	—
			26	3	29
			—	—	—

Table of Birth and Death Rates for previous 10 years

	*		*		†	†	‡	
	Birth Rate		Death Rate		Still Birth	Maternal	Infant Death Rate	
Year	Crude	Adjusted	Crude	Adjusted	Rate	Deaths	Under 1 yr.	Under 4 wks.
1962	19.22	18.83	8.18	13.16	13.88	nil	19.11	16.09
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	12.15
1953	16.41	16.24	7.49	11.08	15.28	2.54	24.57	18.11

* 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. Tuberculosis—Other ...	—	—	—
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 ...	4	4	8
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	27	2	29
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	8	8
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	5	5
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	21	22	43
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	2	4	6
16. Diabetes ...	—	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	27	24	51
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	52	28	80
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	2	5	7
20. Other heart disease ...	21	35	56
21. Other circulatory disease ...	5	10	15
22. Influenza ...	—	1	1
23. Pneumonia ...	14	19	33
24. Bronchitis ...	18	4	22
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	3	1	4
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	4	5
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	—	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...	1	1	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	2	—	2
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion ...	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations ...	3	4	7
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	16	17	33
33. Motor vehicles, accidents ...	4	1	5
34. All other accidents ...	—	6	6
35. Suicide ...	4	4	8
36. Homicide and operation of war ...	—	—	—
	229	210	439

Table II

Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis

Disease	Corrected Notifications	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—
Measles ...	783	11	—
Whooping Cough ...	15	2	—
Acute Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia ...	2	7	33

Table II—continued

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	11	—	—
Ac. Encephalitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	3	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	—	—	—
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	...	...	...	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	...	...	...	—	—	—
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	...	...	...	—	—	—
Malaria	...	...	...	—	—	—
Dysentery	...	...	...	5	1	—
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection	...	...	...	—	—	—
Smallpox	...	...	...	—	—	—

Table III

Age Periods		Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis	
						Paralytic	Non-Paralytic
Under 1 year	...	—	—	30	1	—	—
1-2 years	...	—	—	175	1	—	—
3-4 years	...	—	5	196	4	—	—
5-9 years	...	—	6	372	8	—	—
10-14 years	...	—	—	5	1	—	—
15-24 years	...	—	—	3	—	—	—
25 and over	...	—	—	2	—	—	—
Age unknown	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	...	—	11	783	15	—	—

		Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Meningococcal infection	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia
Under 5 years	...	1	—	—	1	—	—
5-14 years	...	2	—	—	—	—	—
15-44 years	...	2	—	—	—	—	3
45-64 years	...	—	—	—	—	1	—
65 and over	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	...	5	—	—	1	1	3

Table IV

Tuberculosis

Age Periods		New cases		Deaths	
		Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
Under 5 years	...	1	—	—	—
5-14 years	...	1	—	—	—
15-24 years	...	1	1	—	—
25-44 years	...	6	1	—	—
45-64 years	...	5	1	1	—
Over 65 years	...	2	—	—	—
Total	...	16	3	1	—

GENERAL HEALTH MATTERS, INCLUDING INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL

Tuberculosis

Sixteen cases of respiratory tuberculosis and three cases of non-respiratory tuberculosis were notified during the year; one of the pulmonary cases being a child of under five years of age. There was one death from respiratory tuberculosis which was in the 45 to 64 age group.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis

No cases of diphtheria occurred in the district during the year and it is now 13 years since a case was notified. There were no cases of paralytic poliomyelitis, and fifteen cases of whooping cough.

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

Maternal Mortality

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

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 seventy-eight. These consisted of thirty-seven for fitness for admission to the Council's Sick Pay Scheme, fifteen for Superannuation purposes and twenty-three for aged employees' fitness to continue working.

Sewerage

The vast majority of premises in the district are drained to 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.

In connection with the High Street redevelopment now in progress provision has been made for an additional sewer and it is anticipated that this will be laid in 1964. This sewer will be capable of extension to meet the future requirements of the central area of Feltham.

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 60 raw water and 832 treated water samples were taken for bacteriological examination. The latter number includes 12 check samples examined by the Counties Public Health Laboratories. A report on a typical sample is given in Table I. Fifty-one of the treated samples contained coliform bacteria but in the absence of *E. coli*, all were considered consistent with a wholesome supply.

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 of the treated water were taken at each of the works, 2,715 in all. 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.

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—Faint opalescence with a very slight deposit
 Turbidity—Microscopical examination—mineral matter less than 3

Colour	...	...	...	...	7
Odour	...	...	...	...	nil
pH	...	...	...	...	7.4
Free Carbon Dioxide	...	...	...	...	16
Electric Conductivity	...	...	...	...	560
Total Solids	...	...	...	...	390
Chlorine present as Chloride	...	...	...	...	34
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	...	...	...	...	205
Hardness: Total	...	...	...	...	290
(Carbonate 205: Non-Carbonate 85)					
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	5.6
Nitrite Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	0.005
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	0.072
Oxygen Absorbed	...	...	...	...	0.80
Residual Chlorine	...	...	...	...	0.05
Metals—Iron, Zinc, Lead	...	...	...	...	absent
Copper	...	...	...	...	0.08
Anionic Synthetic Detergents as manoxol O.T.	...	...	...	...	0.4

Bacteriological

No. of Colonies developing on Agar	1 day at 37°C 4 per ml. Present in	2 days at 37°C 6 per ml. Absent from	3 days at 20°C 7 per ml. 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 (52 samples)					
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	0.165
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	0.076
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	3.9
Chlorides as Cl	...	...	...	...	32
Oxygen abs. from KMnO ₄ 4 hrs. at 27°C	...	...	...	...	1.22
Turbidity Units	...	...	...	...	0.3
Colour (Burgess) Scale	...	...	...	...	11
Hardness (total)	...	...	...	...	276
Hardness (non-carbonate)	...	...	...	...	68
pH value	...	...	...	...	7.8
Phosphate as PO ₄	...	...	...	...	1.3
Silicate as SiO ₂	...	...	...	...	12
Sulphate as SO ₄	...	...	...	...	60
Magnesium as Mg	...	...	...	...	5
Natural Fluoride as F	...	...	...	...	0.25
Surface active material as Manoxol OT	...	...	...	...	0.08

II—continued

Sodium as Na	...	...	...	...	...	25
Potassium as K	...	...	...	...	...	5.2
Electrical Conductivity (micromhos)	...	...	...	...	...	560
Bacteriological (1,091 samples)						
Agar Plate Count per ml. 20 to 24 hours at 37°C	...	...	...	...	...	10.6
Coliform count (percentage of samples negative in 100 ml.)	...	...	...	...	...	100.0
E. Coli count (percentage of samples negative in 100 ml.)	...	...	...	...	...	100.0

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT**Housing—Demolition and Closure**

The rehousing of people living in unfit houses continued and as far as possible the empty houses were demolished. A number however remained because their demolition would adversely affect still occupied houses. The activities of vandals and youths rendered these houses a source of further nuisance and potential danger to adjoining occupiers. A feature of the later stages of the programme has been the acquisition by the Council of a number of unfit properties, for the purpose of redeveloping the sites, without going through the formal condemnation procedure. Confirmation of the Railway Terrace Clearance Order (21 houses) was received at the beginning of the year. Progress during the year is summarised as follows:

Houses reported to Public Health Committee as being unfit	...	...	...	...	...	8
Demolition Orders made	...	...	...	...	...	0
Closing Orders made	...	...	...	...	...	0
No. of houses in Clearance Areas declared	...	...	...	...	...	0
No. of houses in Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders	...	...	...	...	...	0
Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1)	...	...	...	...	...	35
Houses in clearance areas demolished	...	...	...	...	...	0
Houses closed under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1)	...	...	...	...	...	2
Houses closed under Sections 17(3) and 26	...	...	...	...	...	0
Parts of buildings closed under Section 18	...	...	...	...	...	0
Houses in respect of which agreements entered into with owners to repair or demolish	...	...	...	...	...	0
Total number of persons displaced	...	...	...	...	...	199

From 1946 until the end of 1963, 384 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 areas	...	...	...	347
Houses in four Clearance Areas declared	...	...	...	91
Persons who have been displaced	...	...	...	1,170

Housing Repairs

House-to-house inspections of the pre-1918 houses were continued as far as possible and action taken to remedy defects. It was found that increasing numbers of these houses were becoming owner/occupied and that some had been renovated to a very good standard. Owner/occupation is probably the best solution to the problem of these structurally sound but outdated dwellings. There was still a shortage of builders and owners often had difficulty in finding one to enable them to comply with notices, as did owners or occupiers wishing to carry out improvements.

Informal Action

Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action by the local Authority	...	...	...	...	85
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Action under Statutory Powers

Number of houses reported to Public Health Committee with a view to service of formal notices	...	...	...	25
Number of formal notices served	...	...	...	10

Public Health Acts

Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices (Sections 9 and 16):—				
(a) by owners	...	...	...	4
(b) by local authority in default of owners	...	...	...	0

Housing Act, 1957

Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices (Sections 9 and 16):—				
(a) by owners	...	...	...	3
(b) by local authority in default of owners	...	...	...	0

Notices Served and Repairs or Improvements Effected

	Informal	Statutory
Public Health and Housing Acts	271	14
Food and Drugs Act	299	—
Factories Act	42	—
Shops Act	71	—
Middlesex County Council Acts	18	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	11	—
Clean Air Act	55	38
Others	2	—

	Food Premises	Dwellings and Elsewhere
Rooms or contents cleansed	150	40
Sanitary accommodation cleansed	3	17
Walls or ceilings repaired	32	61
Floors repaired or improved	12	33
Windows, doors or woodwork repaired	3	136
Stoves, grates, etc., repaired	—	11
Ventilation improved	3	9
Lighting improved	3	3
Food Stores provided or improved	—	14
Sanitary accommodation repaired or improved	46	108
Washing facilities provided or improved ...	65	26
Water Supply or Services improved or repaired	34	42
Dampness remedied	1	171
Damp-proof courses provided	—	2
Roofs repaired or renewed	—	32
Guttering and rain water pipes repaired or renewed	3	46
Paving repaired or renewed	1	3
Chimney stacks, sills, thresholds, brickwork, etc., repaired or renewed	—	95
Drainage repaired or renewed	14	33
Drains cleansed	11	548
Dustbins provided or renewed	10	8
Nuisances from accumulations abated ...	35	62
Nuisances from keeping of animals abated ...	—	1
Nuisances from smoke, dust or odours abated	5	29
Nuisances from noise abated	—	1
Defective equipment replaced	41	—
Handling or display of foodstuffs improved ...	107	—

(Adaptations and replacements in smoke-control areas are not included in this list)

Standard Improvement Grants

The House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, 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 67 applications

were received, 59 were approved and works of improvement were completed at 15 premises. Most of the improvements continued to be carried out by owner/occupiers but in one notable instance an owner had twelve of his houses improved.

Following upon the pilot scheme, the circularising of details of the grants to owners and occupiers of the remaining older houses was authorised by the Council and commenced.

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	...	...	4
No. of decisions not to issue certificates	...	...	—
No. of certificates issued	...	...	2
No. of undertakings given by landlords to remedy defects	...	...	1
No. of undertakings refused by local authority	...	...	—
No. of applications for cancellation of certificates	...	...	—
No. of certificates cancelled	...	...	—

Overcrowding

Three new cases of overcrowding came to the notice of the Department during the year and three were abated.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

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 Public Health Act, the control of caravans has been exercised by the Engineer and Surveyor's Department. There appeared to be but little trouble from itinerant caravan dwellers, compared with past years, apart from one colony which was eventually evicted by the owner of the land.

Food Premises

Inspections of all types of food premises were continued as regularly as possible, more frequent visits being made to premises where food was prepared.

There is a need for constant vigilance on the part of the inspector and of course of the management and everyone connected with the food trade. Often through carelessness or apathy undesirable methods creep in and food is exposed to unnecessary risk of contamination. Too often food handlers take the easy, slipshod path; they are not alone in this, of course, but they have a special responsibility to the public and managements at all levels should be more alert to ensure the maintenance of the highest possible standards. Action by the inspector, other than admonition or advice, is often not possible because our legislation regarding food handling still largely relates malpractices to risk to health—something possibly suspected but impossible to prove.

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 usually shops were closed well before the permitted hours. Shopkeepers remained free to fix their own half-day closing, subject to the provisions of the Shops Act. Most shops close for the half-day on Wednesdays.

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 those days 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 canteen and school kitchens	...	...	...	137
Grocery and provisions shops and "general stores"	...	...	...	70
Greengrocers' 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 registrations during the year.

The register contained the addresses of thirty-seven premises registered under the Act for the preservation, 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

Hawkers of Foodstuffs

Under the provisions of Section 11 of the Middlesex County Council Act, 1950, persons selling foodstuffs from any vehicles, etc., who are not the occupiers of open shops for the sale of foodstuffs are required to be registered with the local authority and any foodstores at which the foodstuff intended for sale are stored, are also required to be registered, but there is no requirement that a hawker shall have a food store. Broadly the local authority may only refuse registration if the public health is likely to be endangered or the proposed storage premises are considered unsuitable.

Public Health control over hawkers' activities is not very effective but every endeavour is made to achieve and maintain a reasonable hygienic standard. A good deal of time is spent advising would-be new hawkers, who disappear from the scene within a month or two of registration. There is often a little crop of unregistered hawkers during the soft fruit and salad season. Eight new personal and one food-store registrations were approved and four personal registrations were refused during the year.

Street Traders

Persons wishing to trade from fixed sites in any public street are required to hold licences under Sections 320 and 321 of the Middlesex County Council Act, 1944. The licence of a street trader to sell fruit and vegetables in the district was renewed.

Slaughter-houses

There were no slaughter-houses or knackers yards in the district.

In July 1960 the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food accepted the Council's slaughterhouse report and The Slaughter-houses (Hygiene) Regulations (Appointed Day No.

2) Order, 1960, and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations (Appointed Day No. 2) Order, 1960, came into operation in the district on 1st October, 1960.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Carcase meat and offal was inspected at butchers' shop, catering establishments and elsewhere and 220 lbs. beef, 90 lbs. pork and 64 lbs. lamb was considered unfit for human consumption and surrendered.

In addition, the following amounts of other foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption:

Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	172 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	197 lbs.
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	83 lbs.
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	9 lbs.
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	367 packs
Ice "lollies"	...	...	...	...	...	137

Tinned Foodstuffs

Meat	...	...	...	...	...	433 lbs.
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	368 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	8 lbs.
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	170 lbs.
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	12 pt. tins
Jam	...	...	...	...	...	31 lbs.

Six complaints were made with regard to foreign matter in food and after investigation warnings were given in five cases. In the other proceedings under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, were taken against the bakers in respect of a piece of metal in a loaf. A fine of £10 with four guineas costs was imposed.

Proceedings were also taken against another company under Food Hygiene (General) Regulations Nos. 6, 8, 16 and 23 in respect of the conditions found at one of their bakehouses. The company was fined a total of £74 with five guineas costs.

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 the Chief Officer of the Public Control Department has issued a report upon the action

taken by his Department in the County as a whole but has been unable, this year, to break down the figures so as to show the action actually taken in Feltham.

The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

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

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 were no new registrations under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and at the end of the year the register contained details of thirty-six premises.

Twenty-two samples of ice cream were taken and submitted to the Public Health Service Laboratory at Epsom. Fourteen were placed in provision grade 1, two in grade 2 and six in grade 3. The poor results in the last group, all from mobile vendors, were followed up and were mostly isolated cases.

Proceedings were taken under Food Hygiene (General) Regulations Nos. 26 and 28 with respect to a mobile ice cream vendor and the operating company was fined a total of £60 and ten guineas costs.

Clean Air

The Feltham Urban District (No. 3) Smoke Control Order came into operation on 1st October, 1963. Under the three Orders, 2,305 acres are now smoke controlled and include 4,836 dwellings and 299 other premises. The Feltham Urban District (No. 4) Order was confirmed at the end of the year to come into operation on 1st October, 1964.

The programme provides for a new smoke control order each year, embracing approximately 1,500 dwellings and for the whole district to have been included by 1969.

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.

During the early part of the year, when solid fuel generally was difficult to obtain and there were delivery delays due to the severe weather conditions, there were many complaints of shortage of smokeless fuel. From investigations it appeared that some distributors were not offering

Gloco as an alternative to the almost unobtainable premium fuels, although customers were prepared to take any fuel and Gloco was available. In view of the fact that at that time the clean air programme for domestic premises basically depended upon Gloco and similar cokes for open fire fuel it is regrettable that some distributors were apparently so reluctant to handle these fuels. Since the cessation by the North Thames Gas Board of retail deliveries of Gloco more distributors took a little interest, but the position was not really satisfactory. Householders' difficulties, including higher expenditure on premium fuels, arising from the attitude of distributors towards Gloco, probably contributed in no small degree to the observable trend towards gas and electricity for heating.

The Council was concerned about the position and were considering ways and means of helping residents in smoke control areas, including increased grants for alternative means of heating to the open fire when the Ministry of Housing and Local Government circular was received announcing the new grants designed to encourage just this.

Pollution of the atmosphere by smoke from diesel engined vehicles continued and was a cause of increasing numbers of complaints from members of the public. Very few of these vehicles, it would seem, were able to operate, particularly in the lower gears, without emitting some smoke. The activities of the Ministry of Transport Inspectors were very welcome, as was the information that spot checks are to be increased, but this is still not sufficient. At any main road uphill section or at any urban traffic signal or obstruction, these vehicles could be seen emitting varying amounts of smoke. London Transport 'buses, too, were far from blameless. It is high time that engine and equipment manufacturers, servicing organisations and transport operators took effective steps to deal with this increasing nuisance.

Noise Abatement

The Noise Abatement Act, 1960, came into operation on 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 conditions, between the hours of noon and seven o'clock in the evening.

A few noise complaints were investigated and dealt with informally, among these figured pumping equipment used by public works contractors to statutory undertakers, who are exempt from the operation of the Act, but co-operation in securing a reduction in the noise was usually forthcoming.

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, in only one instance was there any suspicion of a sewer being involved and a section at a "dead end" was treated.

Complaints received of infestations numbered 224 and these, together with cases discovered by members of the staff, involved the inspection of 709 premises. Rat infestations were found at 206 premises and mice infestations at 58 premises, 222 treatments were undertaken by the department, a further 49 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 two inspections were made. Very little filling material was used at either of them.

Disinfection and Disinfestation

It was not found necessary to carry out disinfection after the occurrence of infectious disease.

Two infestations of bed bugs came to the department's knowledge during the year at a private and Council house and both were dealt with by contact insecticide. Disinfestations for the eradication of other pests were carried out as follows:—

Wasps	14
Cockroaches	1
Ants	1

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	Verbal Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	16	12	—	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	201	711	7	33	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority excluding outworkers' premises ...	3	15	—	1	—
Total ...	220	738	7	35	—

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 ...	2	1	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	34	37	—	1
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	—	—	—	—
	37	39	—	1

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

No notifications were received of outworkers employed by local manufacturers but there were 41 persons doing outwork for employers outside the area. 106 visits were made to outworkers' homes.

Summary of Inspections

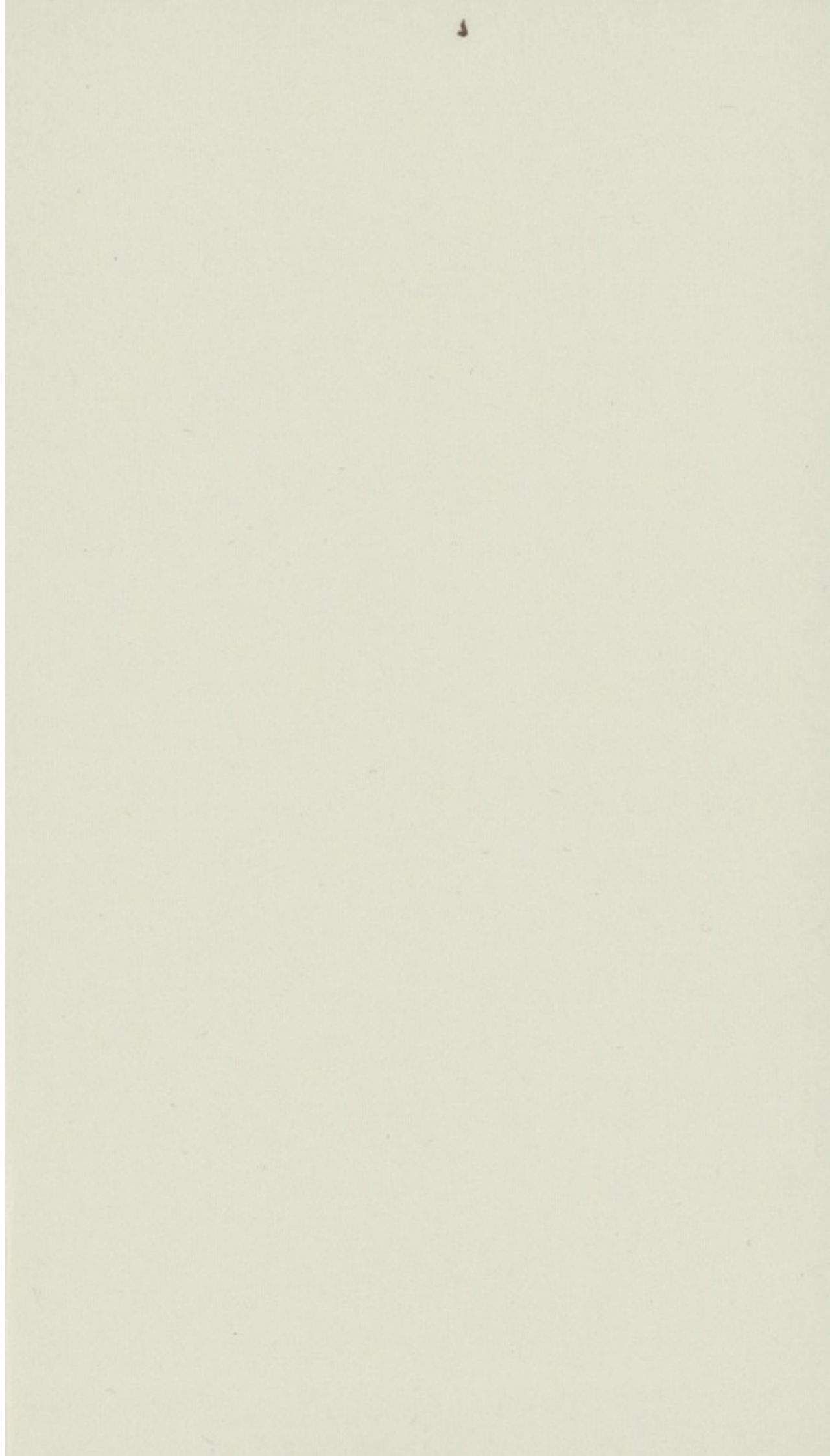
Number of premises inspected on complaint	...	355
Number of inspections made:—		
Housing inspections (Housing Regulations)	...	26
Housing re-inspections	...	556
Other re-inspections	...	2,295
Infectious Diseases and food poisoning	...	251
Council Offices	...	25
Moveable Dwellings	...	51
Bakehouses	...	38
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	40
Pet Animal Shops	...	14
Shops (Shops Act)	...	955
Hawkers of Foodstuffs	...	175
Ice Cream Premises	...	85
Food Preparing Premises (excluding Catering Establishments)	...	33
Catering Establishments	...	565
Butchers' Shops	...	217
Fish Shops	...	50
Greengrocers' Shops	...	133
Grocery and Provision Shops	...	300
Sweet and Confectionery Shops	...	96
Bakers' Shops	...	55
Other Food Shops	...	23
Power Factories	...	711
Non-Power Factories	...	12
Other Factories	...	15
Outworkers' Premises	...	106
Workplaces and Offices	...	9
Piggeries	...	7
Licensed or Public Premises	...	244
Hairdressers' and Barbers' Establishments	...	86
Rodent Control	...	2,376
Housing Applications	...	71
Measurements under Housing Act	...	4
Smoke Observations	...	408
Food inspection—Meat	...	35
Food inspection—Fish	...	8
Food inspection—Other Commodities	...	58
Milk and Water sampling	...	7
Street Trading	...	37
Tipping of Refuse	...	78
Inspection of Food Vehicles	...	163
Inspection under Rag Flock Act	...	2
Re Disrepair Certificates	...	21
Smoke Control Areas	...	2,894
Clean Air Act, 1956, Sections 3 and 10	...	8
Standard Improvement Grants	...	230
Noise Abatement	...	51
Mortuary	...	9
Laundry Service	...	18
Miscellaneous	...	492
Total		14,498

The work of the department suffered to some extent by reason of staff shortages involving a public health inspector, the smoke control assistant and the rodent operative.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and Dr. L. A. Matheson, the Medical Officer 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.





A4/74

