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Contributors

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BENFLEET, CANVEY ISLAND and RAYLEIGH URBAN DISTRICTS

and

ROCHFORD RURAL DISTRICT



HEALTH REPORT

for the year

1959



Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1959

Tel.: Hadleigh (Essex)

58154

Public Health Department, 49, London Road, Hadleigh, Essex.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Councils of Benfleet, Canvey Island and Rayleigh and the Rural District of Rochford.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your consideration the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of each of your Districts for the year ending 31st December, 1959. Although I have written or edited the report it is not, however, a record of work carried out under my direction. The late Dr. Moffat was Medical Officer of Health until 23rd October, 1959, and Dr. Daphne Sasieni acted capably as Medical Officer of Health thereafter for the rest of the year. It is obvious from the comments of those who knew him that the Districts lost a fine doctor, administrator and person in Dr. Moffat, and this Annual Report of the work done in the Public Health Departments, by him and under his direction, is a tribute to him. Dr. Moffat had worked very hard on the format of the 1958 Annual Report and the 1959 report has been presented in a very similar manner as I am sure he would have wished. A few comments follow on outstanding points.

During 1959 it is noted that there was no undue incidence of sickness. The measles epidemic which started at Canvey and Great Wakering in 1958 moved into Rochford, Rayleigh and Benfleet early in 1959.

As far as the diseases preventable by inoculation are concerned there were no cases of diphtheria, though events elsewhere in the present year should remind parents that there are no grounds for complacency; there were only four cases of poliomyelitis as compared with eight the previous year. All four cases were in unvaccinated persons as were the eight cases in 1958, and the lesson of these facts speaks for itself. Provision for the care of the aged continued to make progress and, as referred to in the report, an Old People's Welfare Committee was set up both in Rayleigh and in the Hockley and Hawkwell parishes of the Rochford Rural District.

At the other end of life the birth rate continues to rise, throwing a considerable strain both on the domiciliary and hospital midwifery services. Liaison between the general practitioners, hospital obstetricians and the local authority services was excellent and is reflected in the low rates of stillbirth and infant deaths. Discrepancies between the four Districts show, however, that there is room for improvement.

In conclusion, I should like to thank Dr. Sasieni and Mr. Stripp for their help in compiling this report and to the Chief Public Health Inspectors and other officers of the District Councils for their contributions and comments.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALFRED YARROW Medical Officer of Health.

September, 1960.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEES

Benfleet Urban District-

I. J. Smith (Chairman)

C. E. Adams

J. E. Daniels (Vice-Chairman of Council)

W. Dellow

C. S. Evans

G. H. FitzGerald

Mrs. M. Goodfellow, J.P. (Chairman of Council)

J. C. Holt

S. J. Kinnaird

J. Stevenson

R. A. Williams

Canvey Island Urban District-

D. G. Holdaway (Chairman)

G. W. Blackwell

L. G. Cook

Mrs. B. V. Littlewood

A. C. Mason (County Councillor)

G. A. Pickett (Vice-Chairman of Council)

H. C. Whitcomb, J.P., (Chairman of Council)

R. V. Wilson

Rayleigh Urban District-

E. Trippier (County Councillor) (Chairman)

Mrs. M. B. Blower, J.P., (Chairman of Council)

E. G. Collins

Mrs. F. M. Cottee, J.P.

C. B. Gowlett

T. Gunn

J. W. Holmes

E. H. Lane (Vice-Chairman of Council)

W. D. Watson

E. A. Wilding (Vice-Chairman)

Rochford Rural District-

Miss E. M. Leggatt (Chairman)

A. J. Belton (County Councillor) (Vice-Chairman)

J. S. Dobson

R. M. Fryer, J.P. (Chairman of Council)

E. Gregory

A. Harrison (Vice-Chairman of Council)

A. A. Hilditch

C. E. O'Leary

G. F. Perry

W. J. Rodwell

D. K. Rollitt, O.B.E.

H. E. Smith

C. M. Wall

W. J. Wall

F. H. Wheeler

COMPOSITE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Benfleet Urban District— J. E. Daniels, G. H. FitzGerald, I. J. Smith.

Canvey Island Urban District— L. G. Cook, C. G. FitzPatrick, Mrs. B. V. Littlewood.

Rayleigh Urban District—
Mrs. F. M. Cottee, J.P., E. H. Lane, E. Trippier (County Councillor)
(Chairman)

Rochford Rural District—
A. J. Belton (County Councillor), Miss E. M. Leggatt, F. H. Wheeler.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFFS

Medical Officer of Health W. J. Moffat, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.R.S.H. (until decease 23rd October, 1959) (also Area Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer, South East Essex).

Deputy Medical Officer of Daphne Sasieni, M.B., Ch.B.,
Health D.(Obst.)R.C.O.G., D.P.H. (appointed 1st April, 1959) (appointed Acting Medical Officer of Health as from 23rd October, 1959) (also Assistant Medical Officer, Essex County Council).

Locum to Medical Officer P. George C. Jones, J.P., M.R.C.S., of Health L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (until 30th May, 1959)

Secretary to Medical Officer R. F. Stripp. of Health

Public Health Inspectors: J. E. Gilbert, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Senior).

Benfleet U.D. P. Sanders, M.A.P.H.I.

L. G. James, M.A.P.H.I.

Canvey Island U.D. Donald J. Legg, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Senior).
A. P. J. Cook, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Rayleigh U.D. E. H. Lloyd, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Senior). D. Cotgrove, M.A.P.H.I.

Rochford R.D. H. Jepson, M.A.P.H.I. (Chief) F. J. Orrigan, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerical Assistants

A. J. Hart, A.C.C.S., Benfleet U.D.
Miss P. G. Solomons, Canvey Island U.D. (resigned 30th June, 1959)
Mrs. D. H. Terry, Canvey Island U.D. (appointed 1st July, 1959)
Miss G. Ward, Rayleigh U.D. (part-time)
Mrs. Z. Sargent, Rochford R.D

LOCAL STATISTICS

	Benfleet	Canvey Is.	Rayleigh	Rochford
Area (in acres)	6,360	6,350	5,732	36,080
*Number of habitable				
houses	10,389	5,454	5,884	9,409
Population (1951 Census)	19,881	11,255	9,388	19,609
Population (Registrar- General's estimate				
for mid-year 1959)	28,250	13,170	17,700	26,930
Rateable Value *Sum represented by a	£349,257	£160,222	£217,781	£296,757
Penny Rate * As at 31st March, 1960.	£1,428	£635	£860	£1,199

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF AREA

The four Districts form the south-east corner of the administrative County of Essex and have an area of approximately 55,000 acres. The northern boundary is the River Crouch and the eastern the North Sea. On the south (from east to west) the area is bounded by the County Borough of Southend-on-Sea and the River Thames, and on the west by the Urban Districts of Basildon and Thurrock. Running from west to east there are two elevated ridges which gradually fade into the flat lands of the eastern half of the area—Hadleigh and Thundersley in the one case and Rayleigh and Hockley in the other, are the places situated on these higher parts. The eastern and southern parts of the area are intersected by creeks.

The development of South East Essex, as noted in previous Annual Reports, continued during 1959. Electrification of the railway line to London continued and will continue to act as a factor in the increase of the population of the four Districts. The considerable increase of population in 1959 was due partly to immigration and partly to the fact that the immigrant population over the past few years has been of the younger age groups, so that the birth rate is high as compared with the country as a whole. The further development of the area would appear to depend largely on the availability of water supplies, and this is referred to later in the Report.

VITAL STATISTICS

			Ben	fleet U	J.D.	Can	vey Is	. U.D.	Ray	leigh	U.D.	Rock	hford	R.D.
			Μ.	F.	Total	Μ.	F.	Total	Μ.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Tota
Births:														
Total			245	224	469	128	121	249	156	176	332	276	259	535
Illegitimate			9	6	15	10	9	19	3	6	9	11	7	18
Stillbirths:														
Total			5	7	12	4	4	8	_	2	2	1	3	
Illegitimate			-	_	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-		-
Deaths:					200								120	7
Total			172	143	315	89	97	186	85	87	172	198	204	40
Infants unde	r 1	year	3	6	9	1	4	5	4	1	5	5	4	
,, ,,	4	wks.	2	5	7	1	2	3	4	1	5	4	2	
,, ,,	1	week	2	5	7	1	2	3	3	1	4	4	2	

		Birth Rate	Illegitimate Birth Rate	Stillbirth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Neonatal Mortality Rate
England & Wales		16.5	51.0	21.0	11.6	22.2	15.8
Benfleet U.D.		16.6 (16.1)	32.0	24.9	11.2 (11.0)	19.2	15.0
Canvey Island U.D.		18.9 (19.7)	76.3	31.1	14.1 (13.8)	20.1	12.0
Rayleigh U.D.		18.8 (16.5)	27.1	6.0	9.7 (11.5)	15.1	15.0
Rochford R.D.		19.9 (19.1)	33.6	7.4	14.9 (12.3)	16.8	11.2
Combined rates for t four Districts	he 	18.4 (17.7)	38.5	16.1	12.5 (11.9)	17.7	13.2

N.B.—Figures in brackets show the corrected rates following application of the Comparability Factor.

COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

Births

The total births for the four Districts during the year was 1,585, an increase of 152 over the previous year. The birth rate, as corrected, rose from 17.5 to 17.7 per 1,000 of the total population. The increase was greatest in the Rochford Rural District; in Benfleet the number of births fell slightly. By comparison, the national average is 16.5. Births exceeded deaths by 510, the ratio being three births for every two deaths.

Illegitimacy in the four Districts (3.8% of the total births) was less than England and Wales as a whole, although the above table indicates a considerable variation.

Deaths

There was a total of 1,075 deaths in the four Districts during 1959, representing an increase of 96 over the previous year. The death rate, after correction, was a little higher than last year and was still just above that for the Country as a whole. As could be expected, Rayleigh had the lowest rate at 9.7. The high rate at Rochford, as explained last year, was chiefly attributable to the Institution which accommodates aged persons from another area.

The usual summary of causes of death of residents in these Districts during 1959 is shown as Table 1 of the Appendix. From this it can be seen that deaths from diseases of the heart and blood vessels again accounted for a little over half of all deaths. The next highest mortality group was cancer, which claimed almost 20% of the total. Respiratory diseases, excluding lung cancer, accounted for 12.5% of all deaths.

Of the total number of deaths, excluding the 28 infants who died in the first year of life, 76 were under the age of 50 years.

There was one maternal death at Canvey Island during the year.

Infant deaths

Now that the maternal mortality rate is, very fortunately, so low it is no longer a good index of the functioning of the maternity medical services. A better way of studying these is to consider the stillbirth rate and the infant death rate. Of recent years it has become common practice to group together stillbirths and deaths in the first week of life as an index of obstetric wastage—the perinatal mortality rate.

Statistics for the four Districts are difficult of study because of low numbers, but by grouping births and deaths for the past five years (1955-1959) a rough and ready result is obtainable which shows that Benfleet and Canvey do not have as good vital statistics in this respect as Rochford and Rayleigh. Further study will be given to this matter in the coming years. The perinatal mortality for the Districts as a whole at about 32 per 1,000 births for the 5 year period is, however, very satisfactory and compares very favourably with the Country as a whole.

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1959

- 2	Age G	roup		Benfle	eet U.D.	Canvey	$Is.\ U.D.$	Raylei	gh U.D.	Rochfo	rd R.D.
				Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Un	der :	l yea	r	3	6	1	4	4	1	5	4
1		und		1	1	1	_	1	_	_	1
5	,,	,,	15	_	1	_	_	_	_	_	_
15	,,	,,	25	1	-	-	2	-	-	2	2
25	,,	,,	45	6	6	4	2	3	6	6	5
45	,,	,,	65	34	27	21	18	19	19	36	21
65	,,	,,	75	46	30	25	27	20	18	58	47
75	and		ards	81	72	37	44	38	44	91	124
	To	tals		172	143	89	97	85	88	198	204 -

Population

The overall increase of population in the four Districts during the year was 5,650, the official estimate of the Registrar-General being 86,050. The respective increases were, Benfleet U.D. 1,910; Canvey Island U.D. 680; Rayleigh U.D. 1,410; and Rochford R.D. 1,650.

The age structure of the local population runs close to the national average in Benfleet, Canvey Island and Rochford Districts, but in Rayleigh there is now a marked above average proportion of young married people. In order to relate local birth and death rates to the national rate, the Registrar General provides a Comparability Factor and the resultant differences will have been noted in the Vital Statistics table.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Public Health Officers

The staffs of the respective Health Departments of the four Districts will be found on pages 4 and 5.

The Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959, which came into force on the 15th June, 1959, repeat, with certain amendments, previous legislation relating to the appointment, duties and conditions of service of Mcdical Officers of Health and Public Health Inspectors.

The Chief or Senior Public Health Inspectors are responsible to their respective Councils for the Public Cleansing Services and they also act as Petroleum Inspectors in their Districts.

Local Health Authority Services

In the area of the four Districts, together with that of the Urban District of Basildon, the Essex County Council have for the day-to-day administration of most of their services under the National Health Service Act, 1946, formed the South-East Essex Health Area Sub-Committee. This Sub-Committee is formed by members of the County Council, the five District Councils concerned and other bodies interested in the Health Service. The administrative headquarters are at the Area Health Office, 153, High Street, Rayleigh (Tel: Rayleigh 831/2).

The services which come under this head include measures for the care of mothers and young children which are in part fulfilled by the provision of modern well-equipped Health Service Clinic buildings in the more populated parts of the Districts. In these are held clinics for Child Welfare, Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Care, and such other services as Dentistry, Health Education, Eye Clinics and Vaccination and Immunisation, together with Minor Ailment Clinics which are the responsibility of the School Health Service. The building of clinic premises in the more rapidly developing parts has not kept pace with the rate of immigration, e.g. Hockley, where a permanent clinic building is urgently required to replace the hired premises.

Details of the services available at the various clinics in the four Districts will be found in Table 2 of the Appendix.

In addition to the services provided in clinics, the County Council also provide the services of Health Visitors, whose duty it is to advise persons in their own homes on health matters. The Health Visitors, who combine these duties with those of School Nurse, are based at each Health Services Clinic in the Districts. Whilst the services of these Officers are yet still largely confined to the care of mothers, young children, school children and persons suffering from tuberculosis, the sphere of their activities is gradually expanding, e.g. care of the aged and the mental health of the family.

The Home Nursing and Midwifery Service in the area is another of the Local Health Authority Services. The District Councils have been generally helpful in the recruitment of staff for these very necessary duties by making housing accommodation available when required.

The Home Help Service continues to be of immense value to all classes of the community, particularly the elderly and the lonely. Without such a service the present heavy demand on the hospital and institutional services for this section of the community would be greatly increased. The Night Attendant Service as mentioned in last year's Annual Report has not been used to the extent expected, but, nevertheless, provides valuable relief to those relatives who use it.

The Local Health Authority also arranges convalescence for patients not requiring medical or nursing care, loans sick room equipment for the home nursing of patients and provides additional nourishment and garden shelters where required, for persons suffering from tuberculosis.

The Ambulance Service is centrally administered by the County Council, as is also the County Council's Mental Health Service.

Laboratory Services

The Pathology Laboratory Service is provided at the Southend and Rochford General Hospitals.

Bacteriological examination of water supplies, milk, ice cream and other foodstuffs, as well as other specimens, is undertaken at the local laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service at the Westcliff Hospital, Balmoral Road, Westcliff-on-Sea. The Public Health staffs are indebted to the Director, Dr. J. A. Rycroft and the Laboratory Staff for their valuable co-operation and assistance to them during the year.

The facilities of the Counties Public Health Laboratories at Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. are used when chemical reports on water supplies are required and for the analysis of atmospheric pollution.

Hospital Services

Normally, local residents are admitted to either the Southend or Rochford General Hospitals by direct arrangement between the private doctor and the hospital concerned. Where out-patient treatment only is required, both hospitals have facilities. The specialist hospitals in the Metropolitan area are easy of access to patients from these Districts.

Cases of infectious disease, except tuberculosis, usually go to Westcliff Hospital, but complicated cases of poliomyelitis can be sent to the Poliomeylitis Unit at Rush Green Hospital, Romford. There is a special wing for tuberculous patients at the Rochford General Hospital.

Out-patient investigations and treatment for persons suspected of, or suffering from, tuberculosis and other respiratory conditions, is provided at Lancaster House Chest Clinic, Southchurch Road, Southend-on-Sea, by the Consultant Chest Physician, Dr. E. G. Sita-Lumsden.

Confidential out-patient treatment for persons suffering from venereal disease is provided for both men and women at Westcliff Hospital. The hospitals serving this area are grouped under the Southendon-Sea Hospital Management Committee (Secretary, J. C. Field, F.H.A.) with offices at the General Hospital, Rochford (Tel.: Rochford 56471/5).

The Public Health Department is indebted to Dr. H. D. Crosswell, M.D., M.R.C.P., Physician Superintendent of Westcliff Hospital, and Dr. E. G. Sita-Lumsden, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.P., Physician at Lancaster House Chest Clinic, and their respective staffs, for their help and cooperation throughout the year.

WELFARE OF THE AGED

There are numerous agencies operating for the care and welfare of the elderly but it often happens that through ignorance, or mental or physical deterioration, full use is not made of these.

Statutory services in general provide the more essential and urgent services, most of which have been mentioned in the preceding section. Under the National Health Service hospital accommodation is provided for geriatric cases needing urgent medical or surgical treatment, normally at Rochford General Hospital. Medical Practitioners under the National Health Service give free medical care to old people. Welfare Homes are provided by the Essex County Council, the nearest being Grosvenor House on the sea front at Westcliff-on-Sea. There are, however, over 30 similar Homes or Hostels throughout the County, and at 31st December, 1959 21 men and 41 women were accommodated from these four Districts. A further eight men and 14 women were accommodated in voluntary establishments. Negotiations were also proceeding for the purchase of land in Rayleigh for the erection of a new County Council Welfare Home.

As Local Health Authority under the National Health Service Act, the County Council provide Home Nurses, Health Visitors and Home Helps, all of whom are readily available for elderly people. Sick room equipment is also available for loan to old people being nursed at home. The County Council provide for the domiciliary care and after care of aged persons suffering from mental ill-health.

Considerable assistance to old people is rendered by the various voluntary organisations, some of which are financially aided by the District and County Councils. Old People's Welfare Committees are now functioning in the Benfleet Urban District, the Rayleigh Urban District and the Hockley and Hawkwell areas of the Rochford Rural District. The Rayleigh and the Hockley and Hawkwell Committees were formed during 1959. These Committees co-ordinate the activities of the various voluntary bodies and encourage the development of such services as are lacking. They also provide a visiting service for old persons living alone. Meals on Wheels are provided in the Benfleet Urban District, the Rayleigh Urban District and the Hockley and Hawkwell areas of the Rochford Rural District by the Women's Voluntary Services in conjunction with the Old People's Welfare Committees. The W.V.S. also provide and maintain a Daily Club House for old people at South Benfleet.

Numerous Old Age Pensioner groups, Darby and Joan clubs, British Red Cross branches, etc. are functioning in one or more of the Districts, and each is doing a good job. In some cases Chiropody facilities have been provided with the financial help of the County Council. Outings and holiday schemes are also encouraged, including special provision at Christmastime.

Housing accommodation for old people is provided by the District Councils, generally in the form of one-bedroomed bungalows, but community areas are also provided as follows:—

Solby's, Hadleigh (7 units)
Little Gypps, Canvey Island (20 units)
Finchfield, Rayleigh (12 units)
Castle Bank, Rayleigh (18 units under construction at end of year).

National Assistance Act. 1948

Under section 47 of this Act as amended 1951, an aged person living in insanitary conditions and unable to look after himself/herself or is not being looked after by others, can be removed to a suitable institution on application by the Local Authority to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction or to a single Justice. Despite the many agencies acting in the interests of the elderly, there are still occasions when old people refuse all outside help and action under the Act has to be considered. However, with the assistance of the domiciliary services and in some cases tactful persuasion, recourse to compulsory removal was avoided in the several cases which were brought to the notice of the Department and investigated during the year.

WATER SUPPLY

The statutory water undertakers for the area of all four Districts are the Southend Waterworks Company whose head office is at 13, Cambridge Road, Southend-on-Sea (Tel.: Southend 44424).

The Company's area of supply includes the Basildon Urban District and the County Borough of Southend-on-Sea as well as these four Districts. Approximately 87% of the main water supplied comes from the Rivers Chelmer, Ter and Blackwater, and is treated at the Company's main works at Langford near Maldon, or at the new works at Hanning-field Reservoir. Samples of the treated water going into supply are tested daily by resident chemists and bacteriologists. The remaining 13% of mains water is derived from the Company's wells and boreholes in various localities in their supply area. Water from these sources is also subjected to regular analysis.

Underground water from the wells and boreholes, which is pure and reasonably soft, receives no treatment other than precautionary sterilisation with chlorine. The raw river water, however, is hard, coloured and—like all river waters—subject to pollution. It is therefore treated by storage, softened by the excess lime process and filtered through rapid gravity filters, to produce a satisfactory water with a total hardness not exceeding 150 parts per million.

One problem in the supply area is the heavy incidence of external corrosion of iron pipes, caused by electrolytic action and sulphate reducing bacteria in the clays in which the pipes are laid.

All reports on laboratory tests during the year have shown that the water from the Company's mains is of normal chemical character and good, bacteriological quality, and consequently, pure and wholesome and suitable for public supply purposes. A copy of a typical report is shown on Table 3 of the Appendix. The waters in supply are not liable to have any plumbo-solvent action.

Concern about the future adequacy of water supplies in Essex, in view of the rapid development, both present and anticipated, was expressed in last year's report, and in November 1959 the County Council queried the sufficiency of supply by the mid 1960s if anticipated development was pursued. It was reported then that the total daily consumption in the County had risen from 41.568 million gallons in 1946 to 62.156 million gallons in 1958.

Apart from the fact that the natural increase in population has been augmented by much more immigration into the County, the growing demand for water is due to the modernisation of houses, the provision of piped water supplies to areas not previously supplied, and increased industrial demands by existing users as well as the establishment of new industries, and also its increased use for irrigation purposes.

The County Planning Adviser has estimated that the assured dry weather supplies in central, southern and south eastern parts of Essex will be fully taken up by about 1963.

Negotiations between the County Council, the Water Undertakers concerned and the Metropolitan Water Board were continuing at the close of the year.

Benfleet U.D.

It is now estimated that 10,374 or 99.86% of all dwelling houses in the District have a main water supply. In each case the supply is direct to the houses and there are no stand-pipes. The premises which are not connected to the main rely on supplies from rain water tanks or shallow wells. Extensions to the water mains in the District during the year including service and truck mains, totalled 44 miles, and 521 new houses and one existing house were connected to the supply.

Canvey Island U.D.

A total of 1,875 yards of new mains was laid during the year, partly for new housing development and partly for areas where this amenity had been lacking. In view of the few properties in many of the roads at Canvey it is necessary for the Council, in many cases, to guarantee the Waterworks Company against loss where the potential revenue would be insufficient.

It is estimated that 5,172 or 95% of all dwellings are served direct by the main water supply with a further 81 or 1.5% supplied by means of stand-pipes. 322 new properties and 101 existing properties were connected to the main supply during the year. Of the few remaining properties on the Island still without a main supply, all rely on rain water overground tanks, and are mostly in the outlying areas.

Rayleigh U.D.

Water mains were extended by 4,522 yards and 379 new properties and one existing property were connected to the main supply during the year. The number of properties in the Urban District now served by the main water supply is 5,840 or 99.28% of the total. Also four older properties are served by standpipe. The few remaining houses without a main supply are mostly situated well beyond the existing mains.

Rochford R.D.

Details of main water supplies in each parish at the 31st December, 1959 will be found in Table 4 of the Appendix. Water main extensions during the year totalled 5,926 yards and 577 properties were connected to the main supply. All but eight of these were new dwellings.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The rapid rate of development, which all areas are experiencing, has thrown a heavy strain on the sewage disposal plants and in some instances these are becoming incapable of dealing adequately with a normal flow and so fail, on occasions, to yield a passable effluent. Surcharging of sewers also occurs at times of heavy rain. Steps are in hand to remedy this situation in the Districts concerned, and the position in the individual areas is shown below. I am indebted to the Engineer and Surveyor of each District for most of the information on these matters.

Benfleet U.D.

The District is divided roughly into eastern and western areas for the purposes of sewage disposal. The eastern area is further divided into a smaller north-eastern section draining by gravity to the Rayleigh Urban District, and a south-eastern section by gravity to the County Borough of Southend-on-Sea. The western area is also sub-divided into a north-western section which gravitates to a pumping station in Ruhsbottom Lane at Great Tarpots, and a south-western which flows to the pumping station in South Benfleet. This latter pumping station also receives the sewage which is pumped from the Rushbottom Lane pumping station. Sewage is pumped from the South Benfleet

pumping station to the Sewage Disposal Works in the extreme southwest corner of the District where it undergoes treatment. The works comprise a balancing tank, two continuous flow settlement tanks, and two percolating filters. There is one storm overflow tank to deal with over six times the Dry Weather Flow. The effluent, after treatment, flows into the Benfleet Creek. Samples are taken from time to time by the Port of London Health Authority to ensure that the requisite standard is maintained.

During 1958 the sewers in various parts of the District were surcharged during periods of heavy rain. No such surcharging occurred during 1959 when the rainfall was slight. The first instalment of works by the Consulting Engineers to relieve the existing sewers was carried out in Hadleigh by the provision of a relief sewer from Meadow Road through The Avenue and part of The Crescent to Woodfield Road.

The main sewers were extended by 2,200 yards and 521 new properties and 33 existing properties were connected during the year. Two of the connections to existing properties were undertaken by the Council on the owners' behalf. Extensions or improvements were also carried out to the drainage of eight other premises. Approximately 4% of properties in the District are not connected to the main drainage system. Of these, 104 are served by cesspools and 323 by chemical closets.

Canvey Island U.D.

Sewage is disposed of by means of a gravity system with pumping stations sited at appropriate points to raise the sewage and produce the necessary head. On reaching the main pumping station at Southwick Farm, the sewage is pumped direct into tidal waters by means of an 18 inch cast iron pumping main and a 24 inch outfall. In design, provision was made for the addition of a second 18 inch pumping main from Southwick Farm to link up with the outfall pipe at the sea wall. Subsidiary pumping stations serve The Point area, Leigh Beck area and the Maisonwyck and Labworth Estates.

It is estimated that 3,867 or 70.7% of all properties on the Island are provided with main drainage; two thirds of this figure having been provided since the end of the War. During 1959 a total of 3,361 yards of new sewers was laid and 322 new properties and 159 existing properties were connected. Those properties not served by the main sewer have earth or chemical closets apart from a very small number which have cesspools. The heavy clay nature of the subsoil however, make the latter generally impracticable at Canvey Island.

Rayleigh U.D.

The District is divided into eastern and western areas for sewage disposal purposes. Effluent, after treatment, is discharged from the Eastern Works into a stream which flows eastward into the Rochford Rural District. The Western Works discharge effluent into the tidal waters of the River Crouch.

The present system was first brought into use in 1932 when the population of the Urban District was below 7,000. Since the War, through extensive building development, particularly in the area of the District served by the Eastern Works, the number of habitable houses has risen from 2,670 to 5,884 and the population of the whole District has risen to well over 19,000. The Eastern Works were designed to treat a Dry Weather Flow of 112,500 gallons per day and the Western Works 62,500 gallons. Additionally, the Eastern Works receives sewage from over 300 properties in the Benfleet Urban District and the Western Works deals with sewage from about 300 properties in the Hullbridge area of the Rochford Rural District. The urgent need for enlargement of both sewage disposal works has, therefore been apparent for some time past, both on the above theoretical grounds and also in the unsatisfactory effluents.

The Council first asked their Consulting Engineers to submit details of an enlargement scheme in 1953 but owing to the rapid rate of development this scheme proved inadequate. Subsequently, various schemes came under consideration and at the close of the year a revised scheme, covering both Eastern and Western Works, submitted by the Consulting Engineers in 1957, was submitted to the Ministry for approval.

A total of 1,150 yards of main sewer was laid during the year and 379 new properties and 18 existing properties were connected thereto. It is estimated that 7% of all dwelling houses in the District are not connected to the main drainage system. Of these, 224 are provided with cesspools and 190 with chemical closets.

In the Rawreth and Eastwood areas 91 properties have a pail closet collection. This service is under the control of the Senior Public Health Inspector.

Rochford R.D.

There are two sewage disposal works in the Rural District, one being at Stambridge, serving the greater part of the District provided with main sewers. The other is at Great Wakering.

The Stambridge Works are designed to deal with a maximum of 20,000 persons at 25 gallons per head per day. The present population served by these Works is estimated to be 18,700. Sewage is fed from the main pumping station at Rochford and the outfall enters the tidal waters of the River Roach. During 1959 the standard of effluent was uniformly high and well within the limits of purity required on the standard adopted by the Essex County Council for inland waterways.

The works at Great Wakering are designed for a population of 2,500 persons and at present are estimated to be serving a population of 2,900. These works are also fed from a pumping station and the out fall is again to tidal waters of Havengore Creek. Except for periods of heavy rains, the standard of this effluent has also been uniformly high.

The excess flows due to storm and subsoil water which affect both works is by-passed at the rate of three times the Dry Weather Flow, for appropriate partial treatment.

During 1959 the main sewers were extended by 1,463 yards and 569 new properties and 371 existing properties were connected. Of those properties in the Rural District not served by the main drainage system approximately 650 are provided with cesspools and the remainder have earth or chemical closets. Night soil is collected twice weekly from 350 properties and once weekly from 97 properties: the Chief Public Health Inspector is responsible for this.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

With the continual development of the area—over 1,800 new properties built during 1959 being added for refuse collection purposes—the expansion of the service continued with the attendant staffing problems. However, a regular service was generally maintained and the following details are given for each of the four Districts:—

Benfleet U.D.

Three modern vehicles, each with a crew of five men, and one vehicle with two men, undertake the collection of refuse and salvage. Collection is made weekly, and includes a number of unmade roads, but there are a few unmade roads in the more remote parts of the area where it is not possible to collect. Disposal is by means of controlled tipping on the Benfleet Marshes and two men and a bulldozer are permanently employed on this. Efforts to salvage all materials of value continued, and the sale of such material realised 4945.

Canvey Island U.D.

Regular fortnightly collections of refuse have been maintained throughout the year, both from unmade as well as made roads. Trade refuse is collected free on a normal house basis of one dustbin per property, but charges are made for removal and disposal of trade refuse in excess of this quantity. Collection is made with two vehicles, one with a crew of three men and the other with a crew of two. Additional temporary labour is usually engaged during the summer Two men are regularly employed in disposal, which continues very satisfactorily in the excavated "borrow pits" at Newlands. The tip is open free of charge to receive refuse, rubbish, unwanted materials, old furniture, earth or building materials provided same is transported to the tip during normal working hours. This is a service which is helping to "Keep Canvey Tidy" as traders and the general public are beginning to realise that they can take unwanted articles and materials to the free tip and dispose of them in a proper manner.

Rayleigh U.D.

A regular weekly collection of house refuse was maintained from properties on made roads and a fortnightly collection on unmade roads, but the condition of the latter in wet weather made it difficult to work to a schedule on a number of occasions. Collection was made by two vehicles, each with a crew of five men. One man and a bulldozer were employed on the refuse tip at Hambro Hill. 175 tons of material was salvaged and realised the sum of £1,450.

Rochford R.D.

The scattered nature of the Rural District, covering an area of approximately twice the size of the three Urban Districts put together, presents greater difficulty in maintaining a service of this nature. Six vehicles with 19 men are used on refuse collection from approximately 10,000 properties. One man is engaged part-time in sorting and baling. Altogether 113½ tons of various materials were salvaged. The sale of this produced £961. One man is employed part-time on the refuse tip at Romney Marsh Sand Pit, Rochford where a Chaseside vehicle is used. The refuse tip at Creeksea was brought into use during the summer months.

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERS

Atmospheric Pollution

The nuisance caused by malodorous emissions from the Thamesside Oil Refineries, and carried by the prevailing south westerly winds affecting in particular the Canvey Island and South Benfleet areas, was less noticeable during the year. Records maintained by the Canvey Island U.D.C. reveal that the "smell" was only reported on 17 days during 1959, a considerable improvement on the previous year.

Building Byelaws under Section 24 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, whereby all new property erected must be provided with heating appliances capable of burning smokeless fuel, were approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for the Canvey Island U.D.C. on 7th January and came into operation in that area on 1st March, 1959.

An analysis of reports on samples collected at the Atmospheric Pollution Recording Station at Rochford Secondary School will be found in Table 5 of the Appendix.

Factories Acts, 1937 to 1959

The following details have been taken from the records of the Public Health Inspectors :—

	Benfleet U.D.	Canvey Is. U.D.	Rayleigh U.D.	Rochford R.D.
Number of Premises registered	84	26	59	77
Number using mechanical power	82	26	56	68
Number of Inspections made	79	13	75	53
Defects found	20	2	_	2
Number of Outworkers	20	9	19	91

Information required in accordance with Section 128(3) of the Factories Act, 1937 will be found in Tables 6 to 9 of the Appendix.

Petroleum Storage

Routine inspections were made in each of the four Districts respecting applications to store petroleum spirit and other inflammable substances coming within the regulations. Licences issued and inspections made are summarised as follows:—

	Benfleet U.D.	Canvey Is. U.D.	Rayleigh U.D.	Rochford R.D.
Petrol Licences	43	13	22	51
Carbide of Calcium licences	1	_	_	1
Cellulose Lacquer licences	10	_	2	_
Inspections	47	121	33	53

Two of the petrol licences issued by the Canvey Island Council provided for bulk storage: one being for 120,000 tons and the other for 18,128,000 gallons. The same Authority also issued a licence to the North Thames Gas Board for the storage of 1,140,000 gallons of liquid methane.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

Licences respecting the keeping of pets for sale under the above Act were issued during the year as follows—Benfleet U.D. 4, Rayleigh U.D. 2, and Rochford R.D. 3.

Public Health Inspections

A summary of all inspections and visits carried out by the Public Health Inspectors of the four Districts will be found in Table 10 of the Appendix.

Public Conveniences

Benfleet Urban District. Four are provided by the Council, as follows:—Rectory Road, Hadleigh; Victoria House Corner, Hadleigh; Rushbottom Lane, Great Tarpots; and, School Lane, South Benfleet.

Canvey Island Urban District. Five are provided by the Council, as follows:—Long Road (near Haystack Corner); High Street; Seaview Road (Promenade East); Labworth (Promenade Central); and, Thorney Bay (Promenade West). Washing facilities are also provided at the three Conveniences serving the sea front area.

Rayleigh Urban District. One only at the top of Crown Hill adjacent to the High Street.

Rochford Rural District. Three are provided by the Council as follows:—Southend Road, Hockley (close to Spa Hotel); High Street, Great Wakering; and, Old Ship Lane, Rochford.

Pest Control

(a) Rats and Mice

In the Benfleet Urban District 163 complaints concerning rats and mice were received and 571 visits and inspections were made. Infestations reported at Canvey Island necessitated 92 visits and inspections. In the Rayleigh Urban District 158 trade and private premises were treated on account of rats and mice infestations during the year. 59 minor infestations of rats and mice were found in the Rochford Rural District, involving 111 inspections.

(b) Brown-tail Moth

This caterpillar was the source of renewed nuisance during the year, and the Canvey Island Council carried out remote control work and issued over 1,100 packets of D.D.T. to householders, without charge, in an effort to control the pest.

Unless householders exercise diligence in removing and burning the webs during the winter and carefully spraying the caterpillars as they appear in the spring and early summer (material supplied free of charge by the Council), this pest will again become in future years the serious nuisance it was prior to 1949.

(c) General

In the Benfleet Urban District 162 visits and inspections were made in respect of various other pests. Similarly there were 73 visits made at Canvey Island and 11 at Rayleigh.

Mosquito Nuisance

A conference was held at Colchester in May, called by the Medical Officer of Health of the Lexden and Winstree Rural District Council, to discuss the mosquito nuisance which affects all areas near the coast in Essex. 16 Local Authorities were represented in addition to the Essex Rivers Board and the War Department.

The problem was outlined by Mr. H. D. Womack of Shell Chemicals Ltd. who suggested that a survey should be carried out to locate breeding grounds and to identify the species breeding. It was decided that a pilot survey, covering about 10,000 acres, should be undertaken in the first instance, but because of the lateness of the season, this could not be undertaken until the following year.

HOUSING

Information relating to new house building demolitions, and the repair or improvement of dwelling houses in all four Districts, will be found in Table 11 of the Appendix.

Improvement Grants

Under the provisions of the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, it became the duty of Local Authorities, as from 14th June, 1959, to make Improvement Grants, where the requisite conditions were fulfilled, for the provision of the following, where such amenities were lacking.

- (a) fixed bath or shower in a bathroom
- (b) wash-hand basin
- (c) hot water supply
- (d) water closet for the exclusive use of the occupants of the dwelling
- (e) satisfactory facilities for the storage of food

It will be seen from the table on Housing Statistics in the Appendix that 97 Improvement Grants were authorised up to the end of the year.

Joint Town Development Scheme, Canvey Island

The first phase of the above Scheme, comprising 224 dwellings and ancillary works, was completed during the year, and all properties were let and occupied by 2nd November, 1959.

Housing of Old People at Canvey Island

The Community Centre to serve the Old People's Dwellings at Little Gypps Close (converted Army huts at the former Furtherwick Camp), referred to in the Annual Report for 1958, was completed during the year. Official Opening took place on 19th December, 1959; the Ceremony being performed by Alderman Wilson, Chairman of the County Welfare Committee. The Centre has been named the "George Pickett Hall" in recognition of Councillor George Pickett who sponsored the pioneer fund for this project. Valuable assistance was given by the County Welfare Officer in arranging visits to similar County Establishments in order to gain ideas for layout and furnishing, etc. The County Supplies Officer also co-operated in respect of the supply of equipment required. Numerous items were freely given by local residents and trading concerns.

Housing for Old People at Rayleigh

On the site of a property known as "Castlebank," Crown Hill, Rayleigh, recently acquired by the District Council, contractors are building 18 dwellings for old people. There is one block of six flats comprising upper and lower storey, two blocks of four flats each, also upper and lower storey, and two pairs of bungalows. The contract, costing approximately £26,000, was almost half completed at the end of the year. In order to make the best use of the site, and after very careful consideration, the Council previously decided that the best course was to demolish the original building and re-develop.

Houseboats

Under Section 110 of the Essex County Council Act, 1952 the mooring of houseboats on the foreshores and in the creeks, saltings and watercourses in specified areas of the County, embracing these four Districts is prohibited unless written consent is given by the Local Authority concerned.

Of houseboats in Benfleet Creek, 23 consents to moor were given by the Local Authority. During the year 15 houseboats were removed or demolished. On the 1st April, 1953 there were 105 houseboats moored in the Benfleet Creek, but only 31 remained at the end of 1959.

Of the few remaining houseboats at Small Gains Creek and Tewkes Creek, Canvey Island, and along the River Crouch affecting both the Rayleigh and Rochford Districts, there has been little change in the position as reported in 1958.

Caravan and Camping Sites

The residential Caravan Park at Thundersley, providing planned pitches for 204 caravans, with electric light, main sanitation, bathrooms, and Community Hall has remained full for some years, with a constant waiting list. Four licences were issued during the year for the stationing of other caravans in various parts of the District.

There are six privately owned caravan sites at Canvey Island licensed with the Local Authority for approximately 2,000 caravans and chalets. In addition there is a site at Newlands, originally operated by the District Council but leased during the year to a private company. This site makes specific provision for tents as well as caravans and holiday chalets. One of the sites is residential and is in use all the year round.

There are no licensed caravan sites in the Rayleigh Urban District.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Slaughterhouses

In accordance with the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, a conference was held in July of all interested persons and associations to consider the slaughterhouse facilities available in the Benfleet Urban District. All concerned were agreed that the present facilities at Cross Farm Slaughterhouse at Hadleigh were sufficient for the present and the foreseeable future. The required report was ready for submission to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food at the end of the year.

Meat Inspection

A detailed record, according to official requirements, of the 27,922 food animals killed and examined in slaughterhouses within the Urban Districts of Benfleet and Rayleigh and the Rural District of Rochford will be found in Table 12 of the Appendix. There are no slaughterhouses at Canvey Island.

It will be noted that 100% inspection of food animals at the slaughterhouses has been maintained. This reflects credit to the Meat Inspectors who are often required to carry out the work after normal office hours, including week-ends.

Samples of meat and offal from 14 animals slaughtered at Cross Farm Slaughterhouse, Hadleigh were submitted for bacteriological examination. Also, three samples from English boneless beef and two samples of washing water were sent to the Public Health Laboratory.

Milk

During 1959 licences were issued by all four District Councils as follows, under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949 to 1953.

	Benfleet U.D.	Canvey Is. U.D.	Rayleigh U.D.	Rochford R.D.
Pasteurised milk	19	20	6	15
Sterilized milk	53	29	15	27
Tuberculin tested milk	8	3	2	8

All 12 samples of milk submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination during the year proved to be satisfactory. Eight bottles from a dairy were also submitted, and found to be clean.

Food Inspection

A summary of the 715 food premises in the four Districts at 31st December, 1959, and of the various foodstuffs comdemned during the year as unfit for human consumption, will be found in Tables 13 and 14 of the Appendix.

All unsound food is disposed of at the refuse tips of the various Authorities, apart from condemned meat from slaughterhouses which is dyed before disposal to processors for animal food. Local Authorities in which areas such firms operate are advised.

Under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 a total of 75 premises in the four Districts are registered for the manufacture of sausages and preserved foods.

Ice Cream

The following retailers of ice cream are registered with the Local Authorities under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 :—

Benfleet Urban District	88
Canvey Island Urban District	57
Rayleigh Urban District	37
Rochford Rural District	81

One manufacturer at Canvey Island was also registered. Cinemas, schools, clubs and premises used wholly or mainly for catering purposes are exempt from registration under the Act.

16 samples of ice cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination during the year. Results showed that 15 were placed in Grades I and II and were considered to be satisfactory. One sample was unsatisfactory, being placed in Grade IV.

Shellfish

Four samples of cockles were sent to the Public Health Laboratory from the Benfleet Urban District during the year and all were placed in Grade II.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

A summary of notifiable diseases occurring within the four Districts during 1959 will be found in Table 15 of the Appendix.

Measles

It is interesting to notice the sequence of measles cases notified in 1958 and 1959. The incidence commenced at Great Wakering in 1958, died down in that area during the year and became prevalent throughout the rest of the Rochford Rural District in 1959 with 493 notified cases.

At the other end of the Districts the seasonal incidence commenced at Canvey Island in October, 1958, ending there three months later, but appearing in Benfleet early in 1959 and later that year in Rayleigh, involving 542 cases in the two areas.

Whooping Cough

The 27 cases of Whooping Cough notified in the four Districts represented an exceedingly low incidence, with no complicated cases reported.

Poliomyelitis

Four cases of Poliomyelitis occurred in the Districts during the year—one at Canewdon, one at Rayleigh, one at Thundersley and one at South Benfleet. Three were children and the other was a man aged 28 years. None had been vaccinated against the disease. The little girl from South Benfleet has been receiving orthopaedic treatment for a drop foot following partial paralysis of the left leg.

Meningococcal Meningitis

Only one case occurred—at Canvey Island—and concerned a little girl aged one year. Notification was made by the hospital to the Southend County Borough so that the case is not shown in the table of infectious diseases.

Dysentery

Of the 19 cases of Dysentery notified in the Rochford Rural District, three were notified from the Rochford General Hospital and 15 of the remainder were unconfirmed after laboratory investigation.

In the other areas only two cases were reported—one from Hadleigh and one from Canvey Island. Both cases were notified by the hospital concerned to the Southend County Borough. No food involvement could be ascertained following enquiry at the respective homes.

Food Poisoning

No food involvement could be traced in the two cases of food poisoning notified at Canvey Island. Another case arose in which bananas were suspected but not proven. In this case Paratyphoid Fever was considered, but laboratory reports revealed the infection to be Salmonella Potsdam.

An infant from Rayleigh was found on admission to hospital to be suffering from Salmonella Typhimurium. Specimens sent to the laboratory from parents, dog and sewers all proved negative and no food involvement could be ascertained.

A group of business men became ill after lunching at a Hotel in Rayleigh. The possible source of infection may have been a meat pie, but again, could not be proved. All concerned made an uneventful recovery.

Apart from the two cases notified from the Rochford General Hospital, all cases of food poisoning notified in the Rochford Rural District were found not proven on investigation and were deleted from statistical returns.

Puerperal Pyrexia

There were 101 notified cases during the year and all but four of these were notified from the Maternity Department of the General Hospital at Rochford.

Tuberculosis

A summary of the 456 notified cases of tuberculosis shown on the tuberculosis registers of the four District Councils will be found in Table 16 of the Appendix.

The number of new cases, including transfers into the Districts, added to the Registers during the year was six fewer than the previous year. Of the total additions, 64% were among new comers into the area, previously notified. A summary of the 80 cases added to the Registers is given as follows:—

	Resp	iratory	Non-Re	spiratory	Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Benfleet Urban District					
New notifications	5	2	_	-	7
Transfers into District	6	4	_	2	12
Canvey Island Urban Distr	ict				
New notifications	3	1	_		4
Transfers into District	8	4	1	1	14
Rayleigh Urban District					
New notifications	4	1	1	_	6
Transfers into District	5	4	-	-	9
Rochford Rural District					
New notifications	3	6	1	2	12
Transfers into District	11	5	-	_	16

A total of 69 names were removed from the tuberculosis registers of the four Districts during the year. Of these 46 were shown as recovered, 13 moved from the area, eight died with tuberculosis as a contributory cause, and two died from causes other than tuberculosis.

APPENDIX

TABLE 1. CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1959

	Benj	fleet U.D.	J.D.		Canv	Canvey Is.	U.D.		Rayl	Rayleigh U.D.	J.D.		Rock	Rochford R.D.	r.D.
	Male	Female	le Total		Male	Female	: Total		Male	Female	Total		Male	Female	: Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	2		2	-	3		1	1	1		-	1	-
Tuberculosis, other	1	1	1		1	1	I	:	1	1	1		-	1	-
Syphilitic disease	1	1	1		-	1	-		1	-	-		1	1	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1	1	:	1	1	1	:	1	1	1	:	1	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	9 .	4	10	:	5	9	00		4	7	9		=	2	91
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	91 .	-	17		3	-	4		00	5	2		=	4	15
Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	13	13		1	2	2	:	I	-	-	:	1	00	00
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1	5	2		1	-	-		1	1	1		1	1	1
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	= -	10	21		10	6	19	:	6	9	15		13	=	24
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	1	:	2	-	3	:	1	1	1	:	5	-	3
Diabetes	-	1	-		1	-	-	:	I	1	1		-	2	9
Vascular lesions of nervous system	. 25	26	51		=	=	22	:	13	16	53	:	20	37	57
Coronary disease, angina	. 40	53	69	:	23	17	40	:	18	6	27		51	39	90
Hypertension with heart disease	. 3	4	7		1	-	-	:	3	1	3	:	5	1	6
Other heart disease	22	22	44		00	12	20		2	17	22		17	23	40
Other circulatory disease	. 5	67	7		2	0	7		67	4	9	:	œ	=	19
Influenza	1	3	3		-	3	4		-	-	5	:	0	-	9
Pneumonia	8	3	=		4	12	16		9	4	10		15	22	37
Bronchitis	7	3	10		2	-	9	:	7	5	4		10	9	91
Other diseases of respiratory system	. 5	-	3	:	1	I	1	:	4	1	4		61	-	0
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	. 5	1	2		4	1	4	:	-	-	-		67	1	21
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	-	:	5	-	3		÷1	1	7	:	-	-	67
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	2	:	-	1	-	:	1	1	1	:	67	1	27
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	1	4		-	I	-	:	4	1	4	:	8	I	00
Congenital malformations	1	7	2	:	1	1	1		-	-	7	:	1	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6 .	13	22	:	9	10	16		1	17	24	:	16	15	31
Motor vehicle accidents	-	5	က	:	1	I	1	:	-	-	5		-	-	5
All other accidents		1	8	:	-	5	3	:	1	1	1	:	5	0	0
Suicide apining	4	-	9		1	1	1	:	1	-	-	:	-	-	7
Totals	. 172	143	315	:	68	97	186	:	85	87	172	:	198	204	405

TABLE 2.

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES CLINICS

Location

Services provided

Child Welfare, Ante-Natal (hospital cases only), Minor Ailments, Vaccination & Immunisation, Dentistry, Mothercraft Classes, Speech Therapy, Eye Clinics, Play Therapy,	Child Welfare, Ante-Natal, Minor Ailments, Vaccination & Immunisation, Dentistry, Speech Therapy, Relaxation and Mothercraft Classes, Welfare Foods.	Child Welfare, Ante-Natal, Minor Ailments, Vaccination & Immunisation, Speech Therapy, Relaxation and Mothercraft Classes, Chiropody, Welfare Foods.	Child Welfare, Ante-Natal (including hospital cases), Minor Ailments, Vaccination & Immunisation, Dentistry, Eye Clinics, Speech Therapy, Relaxation and Mothercraft Classes, Chiropody, Welfare Foods.	Child Welfare, Ante-Natal, Minor Ailments, Women's Welfare, Vaccination & Immunisation, Dentistry, Eye Clinics, Speech Therapy, Chiropody (Old Age Pensioners),		Child Welfare, Minor Ailments, Vaccination & Immunisation, Welfare Foods.	Child Welfare, Vaccination & Immunisation, Welfare Foods. Child Welfare, Ante-Natal (including hospital cases), Minor Ailments, Vaccination &	Immunisation, Dentistry, Speech Therapy, Eye Chincs, Chiropody, Welfare Foods. Child Welfare, Ante-Natal, Minor Ailments, Vaccination & Immunisation, Dentistry, Speech Therapy, Welfare Foods, Chiropody (Old Age Pensioners)	Child Welfare, Vaccination & Immunisation, Welfare Foods. Child Welfare, Welfare Foods.	Months Parish of the state of t
<i>ict</i> —	enfleet	ersiey	m District— ey Island	<i>п</i>	: :	· · · · · · ·	::	ring	pu	The state of the state of the state of
BENFLEET Urban District †49, London Road, Hadleigh	†513, High Road, South Benfleet	75, Kenneth Koad, Inundersiey	CANVEY ISLAND Urban District †Furtherwick Road, Canvey Island	RAYLEIGH Urban District †Eastwood Road, Rayleigh	Parish Hall, Rawreth	Village Hall, Hockley	Village Hall, Hullbridge †The Rocheway, Rochford	†High Street, Great Wakering	Social Hut, Foulness Island Village Hall, Canewdon	NOTE . Describe of the times of the

NOTE: Details of the times of the various sessions can be obtained from the Health Visitors at the Health Services. Clinics. Hearing Aid batteries are issued from most of the Health Services Clinics.

TABLE 3

WATER ANALYSIS

Report by the Counties Public Health Laboratories on a sample of water taken from tap in garage at the Head Office of the Southend Waterworks Company on 23rd March, 1959.

Chemical results in parts per million

Appearance	Bright and clear	Alkalinity as Calcium
Turbidity	Nil	Carbonate 55
Colour	6	Nitrate Nitrogen 6.4
Odour	Slightly earthy	Nitrite Nitrogen less than 0.01
Reaction of pH		Ammoniacal Nitrogen 0.091
Free Carbon Dioxide	Absent	Albuminoid Nitrogen 0.046
Electric Conductivity	670	Chlorine present as
Dissolved solids dried		Chloride 88
at 180°C	445	Residual Chlorine at
Hardness—		time of sampling 0.20
Total	115	Oxygen absorbed 0.60
Carbonate	55	Metals-iron, zinc,
Non-carbonate	60	copper and lead Absent

Bacteriological Results

Number of co	lonies develo	ming	1 day at 37°C	. 2 days at 37	°C. 3 days at 37°C.
		-	1 per ml	1 per ml.	1 par ml
on Agai			i pei iii.	i per ini.	i per iii.
			Present in	Absent from	Probable number
Presumptive	Coliform	Re-			
action			— ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. (T	ype I)		— ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Re	action		— ml.	100 ml.	

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals. The hardness of the water is very moderate and it contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. Its organic quality and bacteriological purity are of a high standard.

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

2nd April, 1959.

(Sgd.) ROY C. HOATHER

TABLE 4.

MAIN WATER SUPPLIES — ROCHFORD RURAL DISTRICT

Houses and population in each Parish on main supply at 31st December, 1959

Parish	Acreage	No. of houses	Estimated	Houses on main supply	Estimated population on main supply	Houses supplied by stand-pipe	Estimated population supplied by stand-pipe
Ashingdon (including South Fambridge)	2,503	750	2,145	724	2,071	4 + 2 *.	12 + 6
Barling Magna (including Little Wakering)	2,747	373	1,134	357	1,085	3	6
Canewdon	6,845	256	962	255	793	8	6
Foulness †	7,235	105	338	105	338	I	Ī
Great Wakering	3,314	1,025	3,147	1,018	3,125	1	1
Hawkwell	1,408	1,830	5,325	1,827	5,317	1	3
Hockley (including Hullbridge)	3,631	2,463	6,231	2,456	6,214	13	40
Paglesham	1,687	103	300	95	276	3	6
Rochford	2,988	2,222	7,777	2,210	7,735	1	8
Stambridge	2,202	164	510	156	485	1	
Sutton	1,520	99	261	99	261		-
TOTALS	36,080	9,357	27,964	9,269	27,700	28 + 2	85 + 6

* The Council has two standpipes on the roadside. Other standpipes are in curtilage of private properties.
 † The water mains on Foulness Island are owned by the War Department. In March 1959, a connection was made with the Southend Waterworks Company main at Landwick, to supply the Island in lieu of the W.D. boreholes previously used.

TABLE 5.

MEASUREMENT OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

ROCHFORD RURAL DISTRICT

					Tons per square mile	are mile		Milligrammes per 100 sq. cm.	Inches
				Water Inso	Insoluble Matter	Water Soluble Matter	Matter		
				Ash	Other combustible matter	Sulphate Ion	Other	Sulphur Dioxide	Rainfall
January	:	:	:	0.71	0.47	0.95	2.43	1.6	1.10
February	:	:		0.54	0.24	0.74	1.52	1.8	80.0
March	-:	:		1.49	1.01	1.22	3.38	0.95	1.02
April	:	:		2.03	0.74	1.22	3.44	0.87	1.46
May		:	:	2.33	1.05	0.81	2.33	0.42	0.83
Inne		:	:	3.68	1.62	1.15	3.38	0.52	0.59
July	:	:		2.47	1.25	0.74	1.62	0.39	86.0
August		:		3.07	1.35	0.71	1.69	0.43	0.67
September	:	:		3.95	6.02	0.30	3.28	0.31	80.0
October				2.60	1.29	1.05	8.78	0.49	1.73
November		:		0.37	0.95	1.01	7.85	06.0	2.36
December				0.57	86.0	1.52	5.68	1.2	2.40

N.B.—Measurements are taken at intervals of approximately 30 days.

TABLE 6.

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

BENFLEET URBAN DISTRICT

Part I of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health:

		Number		Number of	
	Premises	on Register	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i)	Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	2		
(ii)	Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by	-			
iii)	Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-	82	77	3	7
	workers' premises)	183	32	-	-
	Total	267	111	3	

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

		Number of cases			
Particulars -			Referre	d	in which prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	were
Overcrowding Sanitary conveniences—	1	_	-	_	_
Unsuitable or defective Other offences against the Act (not	15	13	-	9	-
including offences relating to Outwork)	4	3	1	_	_
Total	20	16	1	9	_

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork

of We	ork	Number of Out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)
		 15
		 5
		 20
	::	:: :: ::

No contraventions of this Part of the Act were reported.

TABLE 7

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

CANVEY ISLAND URBAN DISTRICT

Part I of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health:

		Number		Number of	
-	Premises	on Register	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i)	Factories in which Sections 1,2 3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	_	_	_	
(ii)	Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	26	13		
iii)	Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-				
	workers' premises)			_	
	Total	26	13	_	_

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

Post/orden			Number	of cases		Number of cases
Particulars			1	Refe	rred	in which prosecutions
		Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	 	1	1	_	1	_
Inadequate ventilation	 	1	1	-	1	_
Total	 	2	2	-	2	-

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork

Nature of Work	Number of Out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)
Wearing apparel The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made	8
wholly or partially of paper	1
Total	9

No contraventions of this Part of the Act were reported.

TABLE 8

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

RAYLEIGH URBAN DISTRICT

Part I of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health:

		Number		Number of	
	Premises	on Register	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i)	Factories in which Sections 1,2, 3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	4	_	_
(ii)	Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	56	71	_	_
(iii)	Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers' premises)				
	Total	59	75	_	_

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

Particulars		Number	of cases		Number of cases
2 tirricaniers			Refe	rred	in which prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	were

No defects were found or reported

Part VIII of the Act Outwork

Nature of Work

Number of Out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)

Wearing apparel

19

No contraventions of this Part of the Act were reported.

TABLE 9

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

ROCHFORD RURAL DISTRICT

Part I of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health:

Number		Number of	
on Register	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
9	8	_	_
68	39	_	_
23	6		
100	53		
	9 68 23	9 8 68 39 23 6	9 8 — 68 39 — 23 6 —

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

Part and an		Numbe	er of cases		Number of cases
Particulars	-		Refe	rred	in which prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences—				301	
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-		-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-		
(c) Not separated for sexes	1	1	-	_	_
Other offences against the Act (not					
including offences relating to					
Outwork)	-	-	1	-	-
Total	2	2	1		_

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork

Nature of Work	Number of Out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)
Wearing apparel	82
Furniture and upholstery	1
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made	
wholly or partially of paper	4
Brush making	1
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc.	2
Textile weaving	1
Total	91

No contraventions of this Part of the Act were reported.

TABLE 10.
SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

	$\begin{array}{c} \textit{Benfleet} \\ \textit{U.D.} \end{array}$	Canvey Is. U.D.	Rayleigh U.D.	Rockford R.D.
Atmospheric pollution :				
Clean Air Act & Smoke Abate- ment	75	7	94	7
"Smell" nuisance	-	12	-	
Caravan and Camping Sites	176	45	9	26
Food Premises : Cafés	59	32	40)
Canteens	12	9	14	>143
General	502	26	211)
Factories	79	13	75	53
Flooding, land drainage, water-				
courses, etc	324	100	208	16
Housing: Demolition Order				
Procedure	4	124	355)
Repairs	276	115		>496
Improvement Grants Rehousing	159 17	32 123	81 52	
Renousing Rent Act	24	10	3	3
Houseboats	32		22	7
Ice Cream	50	42	-	5
Infectious Disease, etc	45	48	21	272
Nuisances	111	127	173	74
Drainage and Sewerage	319	1,481	398	265
Pest Control:				
Mosquitoes, flies,				
beetles	162	73	11	_
Brown-tail Moth	-	545	-	-
*Petroleum Storage	47	121	33	117
Rats and Mice	571	92	89	111
Refuse Collection and Disposal	285	682	516	124
Slaughterhouse & Meat inspection	727	53	84	353
Water Supplies	48	122	31	62
Unclassified	323	113	392	462

^{*}Includes Liquid Methane as far as Canvey Island is concerned.

TABLE 11
HOUSING STATISTICS

	Benflect U.D.	Canvey Is. U.D.	Rayleigh U.D.	Rochford R.D.
Council-owned dwellings at end of year	590	†694	410	1,204
New Council Houses built during year	-	†158	13	45
New Council Houses under con- struction at end of year	_	†35	18	22
New private houses built during year	521	164	366	527
New private houses under con- struction at end of year	516	133	246	483
Demolition Orders made	1	2	4	22
Unfit houses demolished	3	12	1	31
Closing Orders made		2	_	3
Unfit houses repaired	24	13	21	28
Undertakings accepted under Housing Act	_		3	1
Applications for Improvement Grants	70	32	23	26
Improvement Grants approved	42	27	9	19
Improvements carried out thereunder	5	5	1	33
Certificates of Disrepair under Rent Act issued	1	2	-	1
Undertakings accepted under Rent Act	3	-	-	
Total number on Housing List at end of year	311	183	192)
Old People on Housing List at end of year	156	41	139	396

[†]Joint Town Development Scheme properties included.

TABLE 12.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

			A	All diseases (except tuberculosis and cysticerci)	ccept rsticerci)		Tuberculosis only	only		Cysticercosis	rcosis
	Number killed	Number	Whole carcases condemned	Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Percentage affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticerci	Whole carcases condemned	Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Percentage affected with tuberculosis	Carcases of which some part or organ was	Carcases submitted to treat- ment by re- frigeration	Generalised and totally condemned
Benfleet Urban District: Cattle (excluding cows) Cows Calves Sheep & Lambs	1,973 475 1,044 9,501 5,891	1,973 475 1,044 9,501 5,891	12 30 10 57 39	662 154 2 161 184	34.16 38.66 1.15 2.29 3.79	99- 10	99 17 3	5.32 4.54 0.38 2.49	9 6	61 6	11111
Rayleigh Urban District: Cattle (excluding cows) Cows Calves Sheep & Lambs	337 79 177 1,702 5,214	337 79 1,702 5,214	21 20 20	97 7 1 15 149	29.4 8.9 0.6 1.3 3.0	-111-	21 8 8	0.9	w	w	11111
Rochford Rural District: Cattle (excluding cows) Cows Calves Sheep & Lambs	439 22 233 853	439 2 2 2 853 853	11111	37	8.42 	11111	r- -	1.59 50.0 	-1111	-1111	11111

No horse slaughtering took place during the year in any of the Districts. Rochford Cattle Market ceased to operate during late 1959.

FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS

TABLE 13.

		Benfleet U.D.	Canvey Is. U.D.	Rayleigh U.D.	Rochford R.D.
Bakers		 3	2	3	8
Butchers		 18	12	13	16
Cafés and Restaurants		 26	43	14	23
Canteens—Industrial		 5	2	7	_
Schools		 3	5	5	15
Confectioners		 27	11	16	24
Cooked Meat Manufactu	irers	 1	2	2	_
Fishmongers—Wet		 10	5	3	1 -
Fried		 3	4	1	> 5
General Provisions		 75	35	33	75
Greengrocers		24	18	9	15
Licensed Premises		 20	11	11	33
Poultry Packing Station	n			_	1
Pickle Factory			-		1
Unclassified		 12	-	3	2

TABLE 14.

CONDEMNED FOOD

	Benfleet U.D.	Canvey Is. U.D.	Rayleigh U.D.	Rochford R.D.
Cakes & Confectionery	_	50	_	
Cereals	_	6 pkts.	-	1 pkt.
Flour	_	57 Îbs.	_	
Bacon	3 lbs.		_	_
Cooked ham		140 lbs.		-
Meat—fresh	533 lbs.	55 lbs.	118 lbs.	137 lbs.
tinned	276 tins	100 lbs.	1,178 lbs.	25 tins
Sausages	4 lbs.	_	44 lbs.	_
Fish—fresh	126 lbs.	54 lbs.	17 lbs.	56 lbs.
tinned	235 tins	19 tins	18 lbs.	16 tins
Fruit—preserved		159 tins	108 lbs.	57 tins
Vegetables—preserved	365 tins	88 tins	128 lbs.	50 tins
Milk and milk products	175 tins	15 tins	16 tins	15 tins
Soup		7 tins	_	
Unclassified	94 tins	5 tins	38 lbs.	1 bottle

TABLE 15.

SUMMARY OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) OCCURRING DURING 1959

1			81 313	MAT .	1
Totals		332 1 2 2 50 7	10 77 77	13 210 11 3	01 01 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1
	65 & over	411111	-1111	4	-01-01
1 1	45-64	-11111	66	4-111	861 -
1 1	35-44	-11111	ω	2	0 -0 - 0
1 1	20-34	61-	-1111	21-	24 2 2
0	15-19	1-1111	111-1	11111	- - 24 24 75
	10-14	42	-	8-1	8 22 - 8
	5—9	173 1 1 1 1 1 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	01 00 4 01	105	2 1 2 4 4 4
	1-4	149 	2 1 2 5	999	205 4 11 1 6
	Under 1		101	4	101 10 10 1 1 1
'		::::::	:::::	:::::	
		::::::	:::::	:::::	::::::::::
Disease		BENFLEET U.D. Acute Primary Pneumonia Measles Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) Puerperal Pyrexia Scarlet Fever Whooping Cough	CANVEY ISLAND U.D. Acute Primary Pneumonia Food Poisoning Measles Scarlet Fever Whooping Cough	RAYLEIGH U.D. Acute Primary Pneumonia Erysipelas Measles Scarlet Fever Whooping Cough	Acute Primary Pneumonia †Dysentery Erysipelas †Food Poisoning Infectious Hepatitis Measles Poliomyelitis (paralytic) Poliomyelitis (non-paralytic) Puerperal Pyrexia Scarlet Fever Whooping Cough

†15 cases of Dysentery and 16 cases of Food Poisoning were unconfirmed at Laboratory investigation.

TABLE 16.

SUMMARY OF CASES ON TUBERCULOSIS REGISTERS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1959

					Age Groups	roups						
	0-4	5-15	91	3-25	26-45	45	-94	-65	Over 65	65	Totals	Is
	Male Female	Male Female		Male Female	Male	Male Female	Male F	Male Female	Male	Female	Male	Male Female
BENFLEET U.D.												
Respiratory	1 1	4 3	7	9	34	32	14	10	9	-	99	53
Non-Respiratory	1	1 3	1	4	2	9	2	2	1	1	9	15
Totals	1 1	5 6	8	10	36	38	16	12	9	1	72	89
CANVEY IS. U.D.												
Respiratory	- 1	3 1	9	3	21	18	=	9	5	4	46	33
Non-Respiratory	1	_ 1	1	1	5	3	2	1	1	1	8	2
Totals	_ 1	3 2	9	4	26	21	13	9	9	4	54	38
RAYLEIGH U.D.												
Respiratory	1	- 1	9	3	18	25	10	5	4	1	38	31
Non-Kespiratory		1	7	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	4	3
Totals	1 -	1 1	∞	3	18	25	10	. 2	4	1	45	34
ROCHFORD R.D.												
Respiratory	1	1 2	11	12	39	27	22	9	œ	4	81	51
Non-Respiratory	1	2 3	1	2	7	9	1	1	1	1	4	12
Totals	1	3 5	111	14	41	33	22	7	∞	4	85	63

TABLE 17.

ROAD CASUALTIES DURING 1959

	Benf	Benfleet U.D.	D.	Canvey	Canvey Island U.D.	U.D.	Ray	Rayleigh U.D.	.D.	Roc	Rochford R.D.	.D.
Group of Road User	Killed	Killed Seriously Injured	, Slightly Injured	Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Killed	Killed Seriously Slightly Injured Injured	Slightly Injured	Kille	d Serious Injured	Killed Seriously Slightly Injured Injured
Under 15 years of age: Pedestrians Pedal Cyclists Passengers—Pillion Passengers—Public Service Vehicle Passengers—Other Vehicles	11111	& 61 61	7 Z Z 4	11111	e- -	27 1	11111	-61 -	3 1 2	11111	88111	44 61
Pedestrians Pedal Cyclists Moped & Scooter Riders Motor Cyclists Passengers—Sidecar Passengers—Pillion Passengers—Other Vehicle Passengers—Other Vehicles Drivers—Car or Taxi Drivers—Other Vehicles	-11-11111	9 10 10 11 13 4	15 27 28 27 29 4 4	1111111111	w 4 m -	01000101 -01444	1111111111	@ 1	8084-100077		8795-498 -	27729
Totals	2	66	150	1	20	42	1	55	96	2	90	98
Totals for preceding year	2	81	164	1	11	47	1	40	98	3	48	92

NOTE: There was a total of 1,250 road accidents during 1959, 63% of which did not involve injury or fatality. The highest proportion of accidents occurred in the Benfleet Urban District (38%), possibly due to the through traffic.







