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PUBLIC HEALTH

in

South East Essex

1965



**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Urban
Districts of Benfleet, Canvey Island and Rayleigh and the
Rural District of Rochford**

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1965

Tel. Rayleigh 6101

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.
134, HIGH STREET,
RAYLEIGH, 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 now present the Annual Report on the health and hygiene of your Districts for the year ended 31st December, 1965. I write and report as an observer. Dr. Yarrow was the Medical Officer of Health to the four districts for the first 11 months of the year, and Dr. Batham, Deputy Medical Officer of Health, acted as Medical Officer of Health for most of December. Dr. Beaver became Deputy Medical Officer of Health on the 29th December, and I became Medical Officer of Health on 1st January, 1966.

The health of South-East Essex during 1965 was fairly good. It was marred by a measles epidemic in the first half of the year, but only in the Rochford Rural District was the death rate above the national average. In Rochford, a substantial portion of the population is found in Roche Close, which is an old people's home under the control of the Southend Borough Authority, and the Geriatric wards of the Rochford Hospital. Allowing for this, the corrected death rate for Rochford is much below the national rate. At the other end of life, the infant mortality rate is extremely low for all four districts—about two-thirds of the national rate.

The health of your districts has created problems, firstly, because there is a considerable gap between death and birth rates, and secondly, because many "outsiders" are attracted in. The population of South-East Essex, as a whole, rose from 86,050 in 1959, to 120,580 in 1965. There appeared to be no undue strain on food supplies, but the Southend Waterworks Company was only just keeping up with the demands for water, and the drainage and sewerage of your districts, as you are aware, was inadequate for this large population.

Although Benfleet had the lowest corrected death rate, the incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis was higher here than elsewhere. It is in Benfleet that the greatest pressure of immigration has been felt, and case discovery and contact follow-up may be a little difficult here. Control and eradication should be easier in future years.

Deaths from cancer of the lung are unnecessarily high in all areas. It is interesting to see that there are almost twice as many deaths in Canvey Island as in Rayleigh, and no more deaths in Rochford than in Canvey Island. Not all those who died in South-East Essex were bred and born there, and it may be that past exposure to foul air has played a part,

both in the deaths from lung cancer and in those from bronchitis. I strongly suspect, however, that the main precipitating factor or principal cause, in both diseases, has been cigarette smoking. Your Councils have adequate powers to prevent pollution of the air by domestic and factory chimneys, but the decision to spray one's lungs with ash, tar, and smoke from cigarettes, is a personal one, and all the health departments can do is to erect warning signs at strategic points.

You will note that the Canvey water supply has a good natural fluoride content and will assume that the strength and caries resistance of Canvey children's teeth, is greater than those of the children on the mainland (in South-East Essex). On the whole, this is so, although the Great Wakering area of Rochford has a similar advantage, and tooth decay here is not a serious problem.

Mosquitoes present a minor problem, particularly in Canvey Island and Benfleet. South-East Essex was, at one time, a malarial area, and could become so again given a succession of ill chances. During 1965, the main trouble to residents appeared to be the bites themselves, rather than transmission of infection carried by mosquitoes. The main infestation is on Canvey Island and it is here that anti-mosquito measures are actively carried out. Mr. Shute, from the Malaria Reference Laboratory, visited the area in May, and his report is given in full later.

The most serious outbreak of infectious disease was the epidemic of measles which, as usual, occurred mainly in children under the age of ten. In every area, most of the cases were between the ages of one and five years, though not all the younger children (under 1 year) were spared. Until recently, our weapons against this disease have been relatively blunt. The disease is controlled mainly by nursing, nourishment, and the use of sulphonamides and antibiotics against secondary infection. Now, however, prevention is possible by both live and dead vaccines, and it is open to any parent to seek this prevention for his or her child. It is not yet possible to say how long this protection will last, but it seems probable that immunity will be present for three to four years.

Infective hepatitis continued to occur. The number of cases in South-East Essex was about the same as in Harlow. In 1965 the disease was obvious mainly in Harwich, Harlow, Epping and Ongar, Maldon, Rochford, and Canvey Island. The spread of this disease appears to be personal, but it is not usually possible to trace every link in the chain. Gamma Globulin appears to be useful both for preventing infection in contacts and reducing further spread.

On the whole the bill of health for 1965 in South-East Essex was fairly clean. This reflects great credit on Dr. Yarrow and the staff, and also on the County staff working in the area. Good work will continue I am sure, and the risks to health in your districts will be further reduced in the future.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. A. SMYTH,

Medical Officer of Health

May, 1967.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

<i>Medical Officer of Health:</i>	Alfred Yarrow, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (also Area Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer, South East Essex) (resigned 30.11.65).
<i>Deputy Medical Officer of Health:</i>	W. H. G. Batham, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (also Departmental Medical Officer, Essex County Council) (resigned 28.12.65). R. G. A. Beaver, M.B., B.S., D.C.H., D.P.H. (Appointed jointly with the Essex County Council 29.12.65).
<i>Secretary to Medical Officer of Health:</i>	R. F. Stripp.
<i>Public Health Inspectors:</i>	
<i>Benfleet U.D.</i>	J. E. Gilbert, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.(Chief). P. Sanders, M.A.P.H.I. D. F. Edge, M.A.P.H.I. J. Griffin, M.A.P.H.I.
<i>Canvey Island U.D.</i>	Donald J. Legg, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Senior) (retired 30.6.65). A. P. J. Cook, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (appointed Senior 31.5.65). F. Ritson (commenced 17.6.65).
<i>Rayleigh U.D.</i>	E. H. Lloyd, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.(Senior). D. R. Cotgrove, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (resigned 8.10.65).
<i>Rochford R.D.</i>	H. Jepson, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.(Chief). J. R. Bullock, M.A.P.H.I.
<i>Technical Assistant Rochford R.D.:</i>	D. Britt (appointed 1.7.65).
<i>Pupil Public Health Inspectors</i>	D. Britt (resigned 30.6.65). P. Hodges. D. Gander (commenced 31.8.65).
<i>Clerical Assistants:</i>	
<i>Benfleet U.D.</i>	A. J. Hart, A.C.C.S. Miss L. Bannister (commenced 6.9.65).
<i>Canvey Island U.D.</i>	Mrs. D. H. Terry Miss D. Lock
<i>Rayleigh U.D.</i>	Mrs. V. Lee
<i>Rochford R.D.</i>	Mrs. Z. Sargent
<i>M.O.H. Dept.</i>	Mrs. S. Clarke (part-time) (resigned 12.7.65). Mrs. B. Day (commenced 26.7.65).

COMPOSITE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Benfleet U.D.C.

Councillor Dr. D. I. Acres, J.P., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Councillor Mrs. C. J. Evans (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor I. J. Smith.

Canvey Island U.D.C.

Councillor Mrs. A. R. Blackwell
Councillor Mrs. B. V. Littlewood
Councillor Mrs. E. A. White

Rayleigh U.D.C.

Councillor Miss E. C. Flack
Councillor F. A. Grant
Councillor Mrs. D. S. Hawtree

Rochford R.D.C.

Councillor Mrs. R. L. P. Fox
Councillor Miss E. M. Leggatt (Chairman)
Councillor Miss D. M. Stow

CANVEY ISLAND URBAN DISTRICT

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

H. C. Whitcomb (Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Council)
Mrs. A. R. Blackwell
Mrs. C. M. Davis
Lt.-Col. H. P. Fielder, T.D.
C. G. FitzPatrick
Mrs. B. V. Littlewood
G. A. Pickett, J.P. (Chairman of Council)
Mrs. E. A. White

LOCAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,421
Number of Habitable Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,365
Number of Inhabited Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,284
Population (1961 Census)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15,599
Population (mid-year estimate 1965)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20,400
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£622,658
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£2,518

VITAL STATISTICS

		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000</i>	<i>Corrected Rate</i>
Live Births		228	206	434	21.3	23.2
						(CF=1.09)
Illegitimate Births ..		11	9	20	46.1	
Deaths		127	89	216	10.6	10.4
						(CF=0.98)
Stillbirths		1	3	4	9.1	
Deaths of Infants:						
Under 1 year ..		3	—	3	7.0	
Under 4 weeks ..		2	—	2	4.6	
Under 1 week ..		2	—	2	4.6	
*Perinatal Mortality		3	3	6	13.7	

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1965

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under 1 year	3	—	3
1 and under 5	1	1	2
5 " " 15	—	—	—
15 " " 25	1	1	2
25 " " 35	4	1	5
35 " " 45	5	1	6
45 " " 55	9	5	14
55 " " 65	16	10	26
65 " " 75	47	30	77
75 and upwards	41	40	81
Totals	127	89	216

* Deaths under 1 week and stillbirths

DEATHS BY CAUSE

<i>Cause</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	3	5
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ..	9	4	13
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	3	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	18	14	32
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	15	19	34
Coronary disease, angina	47	12	59
Other heart disease	7	7	14
Other circulatory disease	2	2	4
Pneumonia	5	4	9
Bronchitis	9	3	12
Other diseases of respiratory system ..	2	1	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	3	4
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	2	3
Congenital malformations	—	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	7	7	14
Motor vehicle accidents	2	—	2
All other accidents	—	3	3
Suicide	—	1	1
	127	89	216

Infant Deaths

Male, 3 months. Cause: Broncho-pneumonia, agammaglobulinaemia.
Male, 1 hour. Cause: Cerebral haemorrhage, precipitate labour.
Male, 1 hour. Cause: Extreme prematurity.

Stillbirths

Female—Hydrops Foetalis, Rhesus incompatibility.
Male—Second twin, intra-uterine anoxia.
Male—Second twin.
Male—Atelectasis; prematurity.

Lung Cancer

Nine men and four women died.

Fatal Accidents

Of the five fatal accidents which occurred, two were road accidents involving young men. One was caused by drowning and two old ladies died following falls at home.

WELFARE OF THE AGED

A number of old people in different forms of need came to the notice of the Department during the year, and most were assessed and referred to the appropriate authority. Eight aged persons were among the housing applicants referred on medical grounds, but these will be dealt with under the Housing Section of the Report. Of the four cases recorded, one was a lady of 91 waiting to go into a special old peoples' home for the mentally senile, referred by the M.P., two were husband and wife, both aged 87, staying temporarily in a London Rest Home who were unhappy, wanting to return home to Canvey Island (the husband died shortly after) and the other a lady of 92 who insisted on living alone.

Two cases which first came to notice in 1963 and one in 1964 are still under observation, the latter presenting difficulties for which patience and tact seem the only answer.

Welfare Homes

During the year, 11 old people were admitted to County Council Welfare Homes, and there were a further 11 on the waiting list at 31st December. A new Home, to accommodate 44 persons, located in the Little Gypps area at Canvey Island, was in course of construction at the end of the year.

WATER SUPPLY

The main water supply to Canvey Island comes from the two bore holes on the Island at Holehaven and Leigh Beck and from river water pumped from Hanningfield and Langford. Water from the Holehaven well contains 2.1 ppm. fluoride and produces 4,440 gallons hourly from June to September. The Leigh Beck well has a fluoride content of 1.7 ppm. and produces 9,400 gallons hourly from January to September. Samples of the treated river water going into supply are tested daily by the Southend Waterworks Company's chemists and bacteriologists and all reports during the year have shown that the water from the Company's mains is of normal chemical character and good bacteriological quality. The waters in supply are not liable to have any plumbo-solvent action.

Aproximately 98 per cent of properties on Canvey Island now have a main water supply and with continual redevelopment the sub-standard properties which often rely on rain water from roofs are rapidly disappearing. There are three standpipes still in use.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Sewage is disposed of at Canvey Island 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 sewage is pumped direct into tidal waters via two pumping mains, the original 18 in. main and the new 24 in. main which was installed in 1962, together with new storm pumps. This new work, representing the first phase of the Council's new Sewage Disposal Works proposal, has been designed by their Consulting Engineers, Messrs. Sandford, Fawcett & Partners. Construction work on the new sewage works which commenced in 1963 proceeded through 1964 and it is anticipated that the new works will come into operation early in 1966. At the main pumping station two variable speed pumps have been installed to pump sewage at the required velocity to the Sewage Works.

The Council have instructed their Consulting Engineers to prepare a scheme involving a relief sewer from the High Street Pumping Station (which deals with the eastern part of the district) linking to the main pumping station at Southwick Farm, this scheme to include provision for the future sewerage of Harvest Road area, the Winter Gardens and Sixty Acres areas, and the vacant land to the south which is likely to be incorporated for residential use at the forthcoming Town Planning Review. The scheme will include the provision of three pumping stations to deal with some parts of the area referred to above which fall in the First Phase of the Development Schemes or provision of the Private Street Works Code.

All but a very few of the properties in the area are connected to the main sewer. Outstanding properties are mostly old and likely to be demolished for minor redevelopment in the near future. No extensions to the main sewer have been carried out during the year except by developers and this to deal with new properties.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

The following is a summary of the 2,866 visits and inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1965:

Atmospheric pollution	13
Caravan and camping sites	68
Drainage and sewerage	43
Factories and outworkers	24
Flooding and watercourses	21
Food premises	271
Houseboats	3
Housing:	
Demolition order procedure	220
Repairs	506
Improvement grants	25
Rehousing	19
Overcrowding	28
Ice cream	21
Infectious disease and food poisoning	241
Noise abatement	2
Nuisances	47
Offices and shops	118
Pest control	58
Petroleum storage	89
Rats and mice	44
Refuse collection and disposal	505
Slaughterhouse and meat inspection	125
Swimming pools	22
Water supplies	7
Unclassified	346
	<hr/>
	2,866
	<hr/>

ESTABLISHMENTS FOR MASSAGE OR SPECIAL TREATMENT

The premises of one chiropodist at Canvey Island are licensed by the Essex County Council under Part IV of the Essex County Council Act 1933.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

There are 47 premises registered and all use mechanical power. A total of 24 inspections were made, but no defects were found. The number of out-workers recorded is 24. Of the prescribed table under the Act, the above information answers Question 1 (ii). Out-workers registered under Section 133 (i) (c) of the Act were engaged in the following occupations:

Wearing Apparel	22
Lamp shades	1
Christmas Crackers	1

In all other respects there is a nil return.

PETROLEUM STORAGE

Fourteen licences to store petroleum spirit were issued during the year and 49 inspections were made. Two of these licences provide for bulk storage, one for 170,400 tons and the other for 18,128,000 gallons.

The storage of liquid methane at Canvey Island by the North Thames Gas Board continues to expand, the current licence under the Methane Order is limited to a maximum capacity of 23,000 tons. Forty visits were made during the year to ensure that the conditions of licences were being met.

By the end of the year, it was understood that Canvey Island would be the first area of the United Kingdom for conversion to natural gas for domestic purposes.

PEST CONTROL

In respect of rats and mice, 44 visits and inspections were made.

Regarding the Brown Tail Moth, 58 visits and inspections were made, and a total of 1,457 packets of DDT water miscible powder was issued to residents, each packet containing precise instructions. During the height of the season the Council provided a spraying service for the more heavily infested and less accessible areas. This pest has been persistent on Canvey Island for a number of years, and since 1948 has been subject to regular control measures at the appropriate period of the year.

Mosquitoes also present a problem, owing to the many attractive breeding grounds, e.g., the dykes and the saltings. Dykes, main and subsidiary inland waterways are treated with buoyant DDT and Shelltox during the season; the DDT being applied to the water by portable powder blower; the Shelltox dispersed by scoop, being a "spreader" liquid.

At the request of Dr. Yarrow, Mr. P. G. Shute, M.B.E., F.R.E.S., Assistant Director the Malaria Reference Laboratory, Epsom, Surrey, visited South-East Essex at the beginning of May and then gave his advice.

He recalled his previous visit in 1937, and although visiting likely breeding grounds in the four areas, found that Canvey Island was the area where the mosquito nuisance was the greatest. He went so far as to say that he had found nowhere along the coast, from Lincolnshire in the north to Devon in the south, where the potential breeding grounds are so extensive or so difficult to control as at Canvey Island and its neighbouring areas. He advocated that there should be careful searching for active breeding grounds before proceeding with control measures. To treat water with larvicides just because they look to be suitable breeding grounds would be extremely wasteful and in the end would not be likely to contribute much to a solution of the problem. It should be remembered that usually it is not the large expanses of water which are the favoured breeding grounds, and that quite often larvae are found in enormous numbers in collections of water consisting of only about a gallon or so. Furthermore these infected breeding grounds are often obscured by coarse vegetation. But *always* they are beyond the reach of average tides. This is important to remember when searching for larvae—any collections of

water which come into contact with tidal water more than once a fortnight can be ignored. As regards treatment, he suggested that for the control of the common mosquito concerned (*Aedes detritus*), BHC (gammexane benzene hexachloride) might be used at the rate of 0.6 lb. per acre. The reason for choosing gammexane rather than DDT is not because it is more effective, but because it is less toxic to bird and other wild life. He strongly recommended that dieldrin should not be used. He could not advocate spraying by helicopter, as is so often suggested these days, and because of the density of larvae in small, often isolated collections of water, it would be extremely wasteful and many vital breeding grounds would be missed.

As regards drainage, although this may not be possible on a large scale because of expense and the fact that much of the land-locked collections are at low level, where drainage can be carried out it is, of course, the best of all control measures. However, expert engineering advice is necessary if this method of control was contemplated. He suggested that larviciding the active breeding grounds should be begun in late June and if at all possible, repeated at not less than three week intervals until the end of August. The search for and recording of breeding grounds containing larvae should be made during the latter part of the month of June.

Lastly, there was, he thought, a case to be made out for repellents for individual use. Whatever measures are carried out, within the limits of the Local Authority, the degree of control will be limited and the mosquito nuisance, even though much reduced by any measures taken, will continue, at least to some extent and especially in late summer and early autumn when the greatest density occurs. Local inhabitants working in their gardens and allotments, holiday visitors and infants in prams in the open air, particularly after sunset and in sultry weather, may find much help by smearing the exposed parts of the skin, arms, neck, forearm and legs and ankles, with a repellent such as DMP (dimethyl phthalate). This may be applied as a liquid or a cream and is usually effective for about five hours. Infants in prams could be protected by a mosquito net, especially after sunset.

SWIMMING POOLS

Two County Council schools on the Island now have their own swimming pools, and 22 inspections were made during the year. The break-point method of chlorination is now generally in force and is proving to be very satisfactory.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

During the year a number of inspections were carried out at the 156 premises now registered with the Council, and there has been ready co-operation by informal notice with regard to the various provision of the Act. A summary of the various premises follows:

Offices	..	..	..	36
Retail Shops	..	..	..	105
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses				3
Catering Establishments		..		10
Fuel Storage Depots	..	..		2

HOUSING

At the end of the year, the Council owned and managed 1021 houses and bungalows. Twenty-two were constructed during the year, and a further 85 were under construction.

Of the 409 families on the Housing List, 231 were on the Active List, 75 on the Supplementary List (during the one year waiting period for all applicants). Thirty-five were new applications and 68 were on the deferred list as they did not have five years residence on the Island.

With regard to housing for old people, 118 units are specially provided for old people, 24 of which have Warden Services. It is estimated that the total number of pensioners, accommodated as tenants in Council dwellings, is 180. Some 86 pensioners included in the total list shown above, are on the Council's Housing List for rehousing.

The conversion of Seaview Court proceeded during the year. This provides for two one-bedroomed flats, 13 two-bedroomed flats, two three-bedroomed flats and five one-roomed flatlets for old people, the latter with Warden services. These flatlets are equipped with under floor electric heating. With the exception of the latter, all flats were occupied by the end of the year.

Twenty housing cases were referred for medical classification. Of these, nine were placed in Group B (4 points), eight in Group C (2 points) and one in Group D (no points). One application was withdrawn (an aged person who had the promise of supervisory care in her existing accommodation), and one case was recommended for urgent consideration for a property which could be suitably adapted on account of her disablement (paralysis from the hips down). A total of seven "medical" cases (six from previous years) were rehoused during the year.

The following is a summary of action taken during 1965 in respect of housing matters:

Closing Orders	..	..	..	..	3
Demolition Order procedure	..	..			13
Demolition on account of Redevelopment					22
Repairs	..	..	..	..	15
Improvement Grants	..	..	..		25
Rehousing	..	..	..	..	19
Overcrowding	..	..	..	..	28

The following information is as provided to the Minister of Housing and Local Government in accordance with Circular 11/65, dated 10.2.65

1. Total number of permanent dwellings	..	..	7,143
2. Estimated number of permanent houses unfit for human habitation in the first quarter of 1965	..		369
3. Estimated number of separate dwellings in (2)	..		369

Owing to complaints of dampness (caused by condensation), arising in post-war properties on the Dagenham/Walthamstow Development Estate, experimental work was carried out during May to 15 properties by Thermalon Ltd. This involved drilling holes in the external brickwork at 3 ft. centres and pressure pumping of Thermalon (rigid formaldehyde foam impervious to moisture) at a pressure of 40 lbs. to the square inch into the cavity walls. Ceilings were also treated with "Cosy-Wrap" insulation.

Houseboats

The mooring of houseboats on the foreshores and in the creeks, saltings and water courses in this area, as in other parts of the county, is prohibited under the Essex County Council Act, 1952 (Section 110), unless written consent is given by the Local Authority concerned.

The present position at Canvey Island is that there are two houseboats in Benfleet Creek (Canvey side), seven in Small Gains Creek (tidal section) and four in the non-tidal section. Of this total, there are four which are permanently occupied.

Caravan Sites

There are five private sites licensed by the District Council providing for 1,800 caravans and chalets, with amenities. Most of these are seasonal. One of these sites (Newlands Caravan and Camping Park) is owned by the Council and leased to a private company. This site accommodates 345 caravans and chalets, besides a tenting area.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The year 1965 was the first full year of weekly collection at Canvey Island, and approximately 3,600 tons of domestic refuse was collected. Six vehicles were in regular use, each with a crew of three men. Additionally, there is a foreman and a chargehand, and on average, three men employed at the tip.

Disposal is by means of controlled tipping at the Newlands Site, and as the "borrow pits" (excavated by the Essex River Authority for clay to repair the sea walls, following the 1953 flood disaster) have been virtually infilled, additional tipping space by excavation has been necessary.

Trade refuse is collected twice weekly and the majority of traders take advantage of this.

FOOD HYGIENE

Inspection and Supervision of Food

There are no slaughterhouses at Canvey Island but butchers' shops, in common with other food premises, are subject to regular inspection.

On Canvey Island there are 166 food establishments and these are summarised below in connection with the requirements of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960:

<i>Trades</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960</i>		
		<i>Number of Premises complying with Regulation 16</i>	<i>Number of Premises to which Regulation 19 applies</i>	<i>Number of Premises complying with Regulation 19</i>
Bakers	2	2	2	2
Butchers	17	14	17	17
Cafes and Restaurants ..	31	27	31	31
Canteens:				
Industrial	10	10	10	10
School	5	5	5	5
Confectioners	15	13	15	15
Cooked Meat Manufacturers	6	4	6	6
Fishmongers:				
Wet/Fried	6	6	6	5
Fried	3	3	3	3
Shell	3	3	3	3
General Provisions	34	32	34	34
Greengrocers	17	14	17	15
Licensed Premises:				
Public Houses	5	5	5	5
Off-Licences	7	7	7	7
Clubs	5	5	5	5

Condemned Food

During the year the Public Health Inspectors condemned 1,197 tins, 778 lbs. and 1,505 packets of various foodstuffs, all of which were disposed of at the Council's refuse tip at Newlands.

Preserved Food

Under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 there are 26 premises registered for the manufacture of sausages and preserved foods.

Ice Cream

Routine sampling of Ice Cream was carried out during the year, and three samples were reported as Grade 1.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is a summary of notifiable diseases (excluding tuberculosis) occurring at Canvey Island in 1965.

	<i>AGES</i>								<i>Totals</i>
	<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1-4</i>	<i>5-9</i>	<i>10-14</i>	<i>15-24</i>	<i>25-44</i>	<i>45-64</i>	<i>65 and over</i>	
Dysentery	3	8	2	1	1	1	—	—	16
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Infective Hepatitis	—	1	7	8	9	1	1	—	27
Measles	31	316	230	—	1	1	—	—	579
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Scarlet Fever	—	25	58	15	1	2	—	—	101
Whooping Cough	3	17	7	1	—	—	—	—	28
	37	367	304	25	13	7	2	1	756

Dysentery

Of the 16 cases of dysentery notified, only five were confirmed by laboratory investigation isolating shigella sonnei. Fifty-six faecal specimens from cases, suspected cases and contacts were examined by the Public Health Laboratory.

Infective Hepatitis

During 1961 and 1962 there were no cases of infective hepatitis notified, during 1963 only two, but in 1964 and 1965 there were 26 and 27 respectively. Sixty contacts of the 1965 cases were given gamma globulin by family doctors in co-operation with this Department, to prevent the spread of infection.

Measles

Over the past five years the incidence of measles has been as follows:

1961	211	(epidemic commenced during October, 1960 and ended March 1961)
1962	53	
1963	614	(epidemic commenced February 1963 and ended April 1963)
1964	74	
1965	579	(epidemic commenced January 1965 and ended April 1965)

Sixty per cent of all the cases in 1965 were under school age and five per cent were under one year.

Scarlet Fever

Although the number of cases notified as suffering from scarlet fever was almost four times the usual average, and more than the total for Benfleet, Rayleigh and Rochford, the pattern of the disease in most cases was very mild. Approximately a quarter of the cases were children of pre-school age. All the cases were nursed at home.

Tuberculosis

Register changes during 1965 were as follows:

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. on register at 31.12.64	68	52	120
Notified during year ..	2	3	5
Inward transfers ..	7	5	12
Cases recovered ..	—	2	2
Cases removed	2	3	5
Died	—	—	—
Remaining at 31.12.65 ..	75	55	130

The age, sex and site of disease of the 130 registered cases at the end of the year were as follows:

	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
0 to 4 years . .	1	1	1	—
5 to 14 years . .	2	4	—	1
15 to 24 years	7	7	—	—
25 to 44 years	26	24	—	3
45 to 64 years	22	7	2	2
65 years and over	11	4	3	2

The tuberculosis rate was 2.45 per 10,000 (five cases), is a rate both lower than the 1965 rate for England and Wales and the 1964 rate for Canvey Island (5.17). The 1964 mass x-ray survey certainly played a part in shrinking the pool of infection.

BENFLEET URBAN DISTRICT

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

I. J. Smith (Chairman)
 Dr. D. I. Acres, J.P., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
 Mrs. C. J. Evans
 C. L. Evans
 Mrs. M. E. Hutchinson
 F. Leigh
 W. R. Marrison
 E. F. Phillips
 J. W. Pike
 R. M. Williams, J.P. (Chairman of Council)
 Mrs. M. E. Willis (Vice-Chairman of Council)

LOCAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	6,371
Number of Habitable Houses	14,423
Number of Inhabited Houses	14,378
Population (1961 Census)	32,372
Population (mid-year estimate 1965)	40,890
Rateable Value	£1,390,924
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£5,582

VITAL STATISTICS

			<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rate per</i> 1,000	<i>Corrected</i> <i>Rate</i>
Live Births	..	..	497	412	909	22.2	21.1 (CF=0.95)
Illegitimate Births			17	13	30	33.0	
Deaths	..	..	187	206	393	9.6	9.3 (CF=0.97)
Stillbirths	..	..	2	4	6	6.6	
Deaths of Infants:							
Under 1 year	..		7	6	13	14.3	
Under 4 weeks	..		5	3	8	8.8	
Under 1 week	..		4	2	6	6.6	
*Perinatal Mortality			6	6	12	13.1	

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1965

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under 1 year	7	6	13
1 and under 5	1	—	1
5 „ „ 15	1	1	2
15 „ „ 25	4	3	7
25 „ „ 35	2	4	6
35 „ „ 45	5	5	10
45 „ „ 55	18	11	29
55 „ „ 65	25	23	48
65 „ „ 75	59	39	98
75 and upwards	65	114	179
Totals	187	206	393

* Deaths under 1 week and stillbirths

DEATHS BY CAUSE

<i>Cause</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—	1
Tuberculosis, other	—	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	7	12
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	18	2	20
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	11	11
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	4	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	20	21	41
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	1	3
Diabetes	1	3	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system	26	40	66
Coronary disease, angina	42	29	71
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
Other heart disease	15	22	37
Other circulatory disease	6	14	20
Pneumonia	4	11	15
Bronchitis	12	6	18
Other diseases of respiratory system	3	3	6
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	—	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	3	—	3
Congenital malformations	4	2	6
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	17	27
Motor vehicle accidents	2	3	5
All other accidents	5	2	7
Suicide	3	5	8
Totals ..	187	206	393

Infant Deaths

Male, 11 months	Cause: Massive pulmonary collapse; inhalation of gastric contents, fibro elastosis.
Male, 7 months	Cause: Endo myocardial necrosis.
Female, 5 months	Cause: Bronchopneumonia; benign hypertonia; arthrogryphosis.
Female, 6 months	Cause: Gastro-enteritis.
Male, 1 month	Cause: Marasmus; pyloric stenosis.
Male, 5 days	Cause: Duodenal atresia; mongolism.
Male, 11 days	Cause: Bronchopneumonia; meningomyelocele.
Female, 2 days	Cause: Extreme prematurity. accidental haemorrhage.
Male, 2 days	Cause: Asphyxia neonatorum; prematurity.
Male, 1 day	Cause: Neonatal asphyxia.
Male, 17 hours	Cause: Prematurity.
Female, 1 hour	Cause: Inanition; prematurity.
Female, 3 weeks	Cause: Gastro-enteritis.

Stillbirths

Male—Hydrocephalus; multiple pregnancy (twins).

Female—Haemolytic disease; hydrops foetalis.

Male—Placental insufficiency (intra-uterine death before labour).

Female—Placental insufficiency.

Female—Asphyxia and multiple defects.

Female—Prematurity.

Lung Cancer

Of the 20 deaths recorded, 19 were men, with one only 40 years of age.

Cervical Cancer

Four women died from cervical cancer, two of whom were in the 50 age group.

Fatal Accidents

Of the 12 recorded, four were road accidents involving three teenagers (one girl) and a middle-aged woman. One was an industrial accident involving a circular saw. Another concerned a boy of 12 who was electrocuted whilst climbing a tree. The other six were old ladies who died following falls.

WELFARE OF THE AGED

A number of old people in different forms of need came to the notice of the Department during the year, and most were assessed and referred to the appropriate authority, as follows:

Female 91—finally admitted to hospital.

Male 82—rehoused in new flat by Benfleet U.D.C.

Female 81 and daughter 64—case maintained with the aid of Home Help and W.R.V.S. meals.

Female 88—admitted to hospital.

Female 80—case maintained with aid of Home Help and District Nurse.

Female 77—admitted to a private home.

Male 75—admitted to County Welfare Home.

Female 68—Recluse—observation only.

One outstanding case from 1963 (female aged 77) died in hospital during the year. One case from 1964 was still under observation at the end of the year.

A further ten aged persons were among housing applicants referred on medical grounds but these will be dealt with under the Housing Section of the Report.

Welfare Homes

During the year, 30 old people were admitted to County Council Welfare Homes and a further 18 were on the waiting list on the 31st December. A new Home, to accommodate 40 persons, located at New Thundersley, was in course of construction at the end of the year.

Heating for the Elderly

This matter was first raised in February but the Council decided to take no action at that time as far as its own properties were concerned, and referred the matter to the Benfleet Old People's Welfare Council in connection with properties privately owned.

Provision has since been made by the Council for warm air heating to be provided in new properties to be erected for old people.

WATER SUPPLY

The bulk of the main water supply to the Urban District is derived from river sources through the Southend Waterworks Company's treatment plant at Langford and Hanningfield. Samples of the treated water are taken daily by the Company's chemists and bacteriologists and all reports during the year have shown that the water from the Company's mains is of normal chemical character and good bacteriological quality. The waters are not liable to have any plumbo-solvent action. There are two bore holes in the District, one at South Benfleet and one at Daws Heath. The former is pumped for 820 hours between June and September, producing 4,430 gallons per hour. The latter is pumped for 360 hours between June and July and produces 7,550 gallons hourly. The fluoride content of the South Benfleet bore hole is 2.3 ppm and for Daws Heath 1.8 ppm. River water is said to contain .25 ppm.

By the end of the year only about 12 properties (mainly in the undeveloped parts of the District) remained without a main water supply.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The Benfleet Urban 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 subdivided into a north-western section which gravitates to a pumping station in Rushbottom Lane at Great Tarpots, and a south-western section 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 south-west 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 Benfleet Creek. Samples are taken from time to time by the Port of London Health Authority to ensure that the requisite standard is maintained.

No trunk sewers were constructed during the year, but approximately two miles of foul and surface water sewers (built by developers under Private Street Works procedure) were adopted. During the year plans were finalised for the New Benfleet Sewage Disposal Works.

Ninety-eight per cent of properties in the district are now connected to the main sewer and during 1965, 915 new properties and 10 existing properties were connected. Latest figures show that there are 81 cesspools in the district and 187 properties are served by earth or chemical closets.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Six modern refuse collection vehicles are in regular service in the collection of refuse and salvage, which is on a weekly basis. In addition, a four-wheel drive vehicle is used for collecting paper sacks from premises on unmade roads. Disposal is by means of controlled tipping on the Benfleet Marshes and three men and a bulldozer are regularly employed on this. Materials salvaged during the year were sold and realised the sum of £893.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

There are 109 premises registered and 107 use mechanical power. A total of 208 inspections were made. Twenty-seven visits were made to building sites, 11 to workplaces and seven to outworkers premises. Full particulars under the Act are shown in the table below:

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health:

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of Inspections</i>	<i>Number of Written Notices</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities:	2	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority:	107	206	5
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises):	110	27	1

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases</i>			
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred</i>	
			<i>To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>
Sanitary conveniences: (Sec. 7)				
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	12	8	—	2
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers)	14	1	—	—

Outwork

<i>Nature of work</i>	<i>Number of Out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)</i>
Wearing apparel	52
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper: ..	3
Artificial Flowers	3
Electrical Goods	1

No contraventions of this Part of the Act were reported.

Headings that would normally show a Nil return have been omitted from the table.

PETROLEUM STORAGE

The following action was taken by the Department under the Petroleum Regulations Act:

Licences issued:

Petroleum Spirit ..	51
Carbide of Calcium ..	1
Petroleum Mixture ..	5
Inspections carried out ..	85

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

Four licences were issued to traders in the district under this Act.

PEST CONTROL

Local complaints about rats and mice totalled 170 during the year, necessitating 255 inspections. A further 149 visits were made in connection with complaints relating to other pests.

In respect of mosquitoes, the species that is such a nuisance is *Aedes detritus* and a number of complaints were received during the year. The Public Health Inspectors make an annual survey of potential breeding grounds and treatment is carried out as necessary.

SWIMMING POOLS

Two of the maintained schools in the Urban District now have their own swimming pools, and a suitable outfit for chlorinating purposes is provided by the Education Authority. One master in each school carries out the necessary tests whilst the pools are in use.

ESTABLISHMENTS FOR MASSAGE OR SPECIAL TREATMENT

The premises of two chiropodists at Benfleet are licensed by the Essex County Council under Part 4 of the Essex County Council Act 1933.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

The following is a summary of the 5,322 visits and inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1965:

Accumulations	95
Agricultural Safety and Welfare ..	2
Animals, keeping of	37
Clean Air Act	117
Drainage:	
Foul water	630
Surface water	398
Ditches	263

Factories	253
Food Premises	658
Hairdressers' Premises	9
Health Education	33
Houseboats	7
Housing Repairs	474
Demolition Procedure	14
Rent Act	13
Improvement Grants	231
Council Houses	39
Miscellaneous Housing visits	88
Infectious Diseases	70
Massage and Special Treatment Premises	4
Meat Inspection at Slaughterhouse	789
Miscellaneous Visits	120
Moveable Dwellings	28
Noise Abatement	95
Nuisances	54
Petroleum Spirit	85
Pest Control	404
Public Conveniences	10
Refuse Collection and Disposal	146
Samplings:	
Water	1
Ice Cream	46
Others	3
Schools	30
Slaughterhouse	52
Swimming Pools	3
Water Supply	21
	<hr/>
	5,322
	<hr/>

OFFICES SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

During the year 41 letters were sent to the occupiers of registered premises, drawing their attention to contraventions of the Act. One bad case of overcrowding was found, and this was abated. Discussions took place with the Factory Inspectorate about the dangers associated with the use of power-operated conveyors used in two large provision shops. As a result, modifications of the machines were made.

Lighting

During the last three months of the year, special attention was paid to the sufficiency of lighting in registered premises, with the following observations:

- (a) The impression was gained that lighting generally was fair, and that no extensive alterations would be needed to bring the standard to that recommended by the Illuminating Engineering Society.

- (b) Lighting on cutting surfaces and slicing machines was found to be inadequate, in some instances, and improvements were asked for.
- (c) It is considered that the code suggested by the Illuminating Engineering Society is reasonable, and advice on these lines is being given to occupiers.
- (d) No excessive glare was noticed.

The following information was collected during inspections carried out in the month of November:

- (1) The number of office premises found where lighting, either natural or artificial, in lumens per square feet, measured at the working place (or working plane), where work is done, e.g. desk, filing cabinet, etc., was:

(a) less than 5	=	0
(b) more than 5 but less than 10	=	2
(c) more than 10 but less than 15	=	5
(d) more than 15 but less than 25	=	6
(e) more than 25	=	3
- (2) The intensity of lighting in selling areas of the 33 shops visited during November, varied from 20 to 100 lumens, but only nine were below 30. In working areas and stockrooms, the intensity varied from six to 60 lumens, and 17 were above 20 lumens. A disturbing feature was the low level of lighting on cutting surfaces in butchers' and grocers' shops. A local light source is needed at these points.

Registrations were as follows:

	<i>Registered during year</i>	<i>Registered at end of year</i>	<i>Inspected</i>
Offices	3	65	48
Retail shops	22	185	145
Wholesale shops and warehouses ..	1	4	5
Catering establishments and canteens	2	20	15

The number of employees were:

Offices	385
Retail Shops	824
Wholesale shops and warehouses ..	77
Catering establishments open to public ..	97
Canteens	5
Fuel storage depots	1
	<hr/>
	1,389 (589 males, 800 females)

There were 324 visits made to registered premises during 1965.

HOUSING

At the end of the year, the Council owned and managed 755 dwellings. No new Council houses were completed during the year, but 20 units for old people were under construction.

Of the 685 families on the Housing List, 228 were pensioners.

A total of 178 pensioners are housed by the Council as tenants; 113 of these being in accommodation specially provided for the aged without warden services, 32 in "sheltered accommodation" with warden services, and the remainder in ordinary municipal dwellings.

Eighteen housing cases were referred for medical classification during the year. Following investigation and assessment, two were placed in Group A, six in Group B and eight in Group C. One received recommendation because of overcrowding of sexes in a caravan and one failed to warrant recommendation. Five applicants previously referred for medical classification were rehoused during the year.

The following is a summary of action taken on housing matters by the Public Health Inspectors during the year:

Closing Orders made	..	..	..	1
Demolition Orders made	..	..	..	5
Unfit houses demolished	..	..	..	20
Unfit houses repaired	..	..	..	29
Improvements carried out under Grant Schemes				41

Since the original return required by the Minister in 1956, a total of 85 properties have been demolished under the Housing Act, and at the end of the year, a further 46 were on the Council's programme for consideration.

Houseboats

The Council issued permits to moor in respect of 18 houseboats in Benfleet Creek. All are used for holiday purposes except one which is permanently inhabited.

Caravan Sites

The only caravan site in the Benfleet Urban District is owned and managed by the Council. This is in Hart Road, Thundersley, and accommodates over 200 residential caravans, with all necessary amenities, roadways and community hall.

FOOD HYGIENE

Inspection and Supervision of Food

There are 227 food establishments in the Benfleet Urban District, all of which are fitted to comply with Regulation 16 of the Food Hygiene

Regulations 1960. All these premises sell open food to some extent, comply with Regulation 19, and are summarised as follows:

Bakers	..	..	..	3
Butchers	..	..	..	24
Cafes	..	..	..	20
Canteens:				
Schools	..	..	..	8
Industrial	..	..	..	8
Confectioners	..	..	..	39
Dairies	..	..	..	3
Fishmongers	..	..	..	10
General Provisions			..	62
Greengrocers	..	..	..	22
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	22
Wholesale Stores	..	..	..	6

Meat Inspection

The following table gives details of the 22,403 food animals killed and examined at Cross Farm Slaughterhouse, Hadleigh during the year. Meat Inspectors submitted 23 samples to the Public Health Laboratory for investigation:

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	<i>Cattle (excluding cows)</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed and inspected ..	3,314	181	351	7,920	10,637
All diseases (except tuberculosis and cysticerci):					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	4	18	6	34	24
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,247	81	—	945	2,168
Percentage affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	37.74	44.75	1.714	12.36	20.60
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	—	—	—	292
Percentage affected with tuberculosis	0.03	—	—	—	2.78
Cysticercosis*					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	41	1	—	—	—

No horse slaughtering took place during the year.

*No carcasses were submitted to treatment by refrigeration.

Condemned Food

During the year 3,357 tins, 1,643 lbs. and 584 packets of various foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption and were disposed of at the refuse tip on Benfleet Marshes.

Preserved Foods

Under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 there are 18 premises registered for the manufacture of sausages and preserved foods.

Ice Cream

At the close of the year 62 premises were registered for the retail sale of ice cream. Forty-one samples were taken with the following results:

Grade I	..	19	} Satisfactory
II	..	12	
III	..	2	} Unsatisfactory
IV	..	8	

Also 28 swabs from soft ice cream machines were taken.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is a summary of notifiable diseases (excluding tuberculosis), occurring in the Benfleet Urban District during 1965:

	<i>Ages</i>								<i>Totals</i>
	<i>Under</i> 1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over	
Acute Primary Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Erysipelas	..	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	4
Infective Hepatitis	..	—	—	—	2	2	—	1	5
Measles	..	21	492	342	4	5	—	—	864
Scarlet Fever	..	—	2	11	4	1	—	—	18
Whooping Cough	..	2	2	3	—	—	—	—	7
	23	496	356	8	8	4	—	4	899

Measles

The incidence for the past five years is as follows:

1961	632	(epidemic commenced February 1961 and ended July 1961)
1962	111	
1963	397	(epidemic commenced December 1962 and ended April 1963)
1964	96	
1965	864	(epidemic commenced January 1965 and ended June 1965)

Fifty-nine per cent of the 1965 cases were under school age and 21 were under one year.

Tuberculosis

Register changes during 1965 were as follows:

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. on register at 31.12.64	94	78	172
Notified during year	.. 12	5	17
Inward Transfers	.. 4	6	10
Cases recovered	.. 4	3	7
Cases removed	.. 4	4	8
Died	.. 1	1	2
Remaining at 31.12.65	.. 101	81	182

The age, sex and site of disease of the 182 registered cases at the end of the year were as follows:

	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
0 to 4 years	1	1	1	—
5 to 14 years	3	1	—	1
15 to 24 years	2	5	—	2
25 to 44 years	45	50	3	7
45 to 64 years	26	9	—	—
65 years and over	19	3	1	2

The tuberculosis rate was 4.13 per 10,000 (17 cases).

Of the 17 new cases, ten were under 45, two were teenage sisters, two were father and adult married daughter, and one (a baby of 19 months) was diagnosed at post mortem. This baby, after being fostered until five months old, was adopted. The cause of death was finally confirmed as tuberculous meningitis, with a large primary tuberculous focus of the left lung and miliary tubercles in the spleen. Subsequent enquiries revealed that on both sides of the adoptive parents' families there was a considerable history of tuberculosis, but extensive searching covering almost six months failed to reveal the actual source of infection.

One man worked in a large factory in Metropolitan Essex, and of the 1,850 work-people subsequently X-rayed in a special survey, 13 were referred for further investigation. Results showed one case requiring immediate treatment, one case requiring supervision, five healed cases of tuberculosis and five cases with respiratory abnormality.

RAYLEIGH URBAN DISTRICT

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Mrs. D. S. Hawtree (Chairman)
 Mrs. M. B. Blower (Vice-Chairman of Council)
 Miss E. C. Flack
 R. G. J. Foley, J.P. (Chairman of Council)
 F. A. Grant
 A. W. Green
 H. E. Green
 G. St. J. Higgins
 L. E. Streak
 R. H. Thomas

LOCAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	5,758
Number of Habitable Houses	7,366
Number of Inhabited Houses	7,166
Population (1961 Census)	19,032
Population (mid-year estimate 1965)	23,030
Rateable Value	£850,661
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£3,560

VITAL STATISTICS

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000</i>	<i>Corrected Rate</i>
Live Births	229	201	430	18.7	16.8 (CF=0.90)
Illegitimate Births	6	5	11	25.6	
Deaths	99	104	203	8.8	10.6 (CF=1.20)
Stillbirths	4	4	8	18.3	
Deaths of Infants:					
Under 1 year	2	4	6	14.0	
Under 4 weeks	1	3	4	9.3	
Under 1 week	1	2	3	7.0	
*Perinatal Mortality	5	6	11	25.1	

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1965

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under 1 year	2	4	6
1 and under 5	1	1	2
5 „ „ 15	2	—	2
15 „ „ 25	—	1	1
25 „ „ 35	—	—	—
35 „ „ 45	1	1	2
45 „ „ 55	9	3	12
55 „ „ 65	21	10	31
65 „ „ 75	30	28	58
75 and upwards	33	56	89
	99	104	203

*Deaths under 1 week and stillbirths

DEATHS BY CAUSE

<i>Cause</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	2	7
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ..	7	—	7
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	4	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	7	18
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2
Diabetes	—	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	16	22	38
Coronary disease, angina	30	19	49
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
Other heart disease	3	11	14
Other circulatory disease	4	5	9
Influenza	—	3	3
Pneumonia	5	4	9
Bronchitis	7	5	12
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	2	2
Congenital malformations	—	2	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	6	7	13
Motor vehicle accidents	1	2	3
All other accidents	1	2	3
Suicide	—	1	1
	99	104	203

Infant Deaths

Female, 3 months	Cause: Broncho-pneumonia, secondary to myotoma congenita.
Male, 1 month	Cause: Hypokalkaemia associated with pyloric stenosis, intravenous therapy and surgical intervention.
Female, 3 weeks	Cause: Gastro-enteritis.
Female, 2 days	Cause: Neonatal asphyxia, haemorrhagic diathesis.
Male, 1 day	Cause: Neonatal asphyxia.
Female, 10 minutes	Cause: Prematurity, spina bifida, hydrocephalus.

Stillbirths

Male	—Prematurity (maternal hypertension).
Female	—Intra uterine death, placental insufficiency.
Female	—Placental dysfunction, maternal essential hypertension.
Female	—Intra-uterine asphyxia.
Male	—Accidental ante-partum haemorrhage. Maternal hypertension.
Male	—Pre-eclamptic toxæmia.
Male	—Nephro-blastoma, intra-uterine asphyxia.
Female	—Ante-partum accidental haemorrhage, placental separation.

Lung Cancer

Seven men died from lung cancer. This is a considerable improvement on the previous year.

Fatal Accidents

Of the nine recorded, two were road accidents involving a young boy and a middle-aged woman. One was an old lady who died from accidental coal gas poisoning, and the remaining six were old ladies who died following falls.

WELFARE OF THE AGED

A number of aged folk come to the notice of the Department informally every year, and most are referred direct to the Social Service appropriate to their need. Records show that 11 aged persons were assisted—six in connection with their housing needs and five for their general needs.

Welfare Homes

I have been advised by the County Welfare Department that 31 persons from Rayleigh were admitted to their Welfare Homes, and a further 12 were on the waiting list at the end of the year. Although a further two homes were under construction during the year, the only Welfare Homes managed by the Essex County Council in these parts are at Sweyne Court, Rayleigh, and Grosvenor House, Westcliff-on-Sea.

Heating for the Elderly

This matter was considered by the Council, but no action was finalised during the year.

WATER SUPPLY

There are no bore holes actually located in the Rayleigh Urban District, but water from neighbouring bore holes is bound to supplement in a small measure the main source of supply derived from river sources through the Southend Waterworks Company's treatment plant at Langford and Hanningfield. Samples of the treated water are taken daily by the Company's chemists and bacteriologists, and all reports during the year showed that the water from the Company's mains are of normal chemical character and good bacteriological quality. The waters are not liable to have any plumbo-solvent action. Fluoride content of river water is generally about 0.25 parts per million, whereas the average for the 20 boreholes in the area of supply is 2.7 ppm.

During the year 515 new properties were connected to the mains supply and a further 4,400 yards of mains were laid.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Rayleigh being sited on a ridge of high ground (which generally follows the line of the High Street) is divided into two areas, namely the Eastern and Western areas for sewage disposal purposes. The original drainage system first brought into use in 1932 with the continued development proved incapable of coping with the flows in recent years, and since 1960 a comprehensive programme of work in respect of the renewal and enlargement of all the main sewers and the modernisation and enlargement of the two Sewage Disposal Works has been proceeding. By December, 1962, the extension and the modernisation of the Western Area Sewage Disposal Works were substantially complete and early in 1963 the new treatment plant at the Eastern Area Sewage Disposal Works was also in operation. The provision of new trunk sewers to serve both drainage areas has progressed satisfactorily, such that the whole of the Eastern drainage area is now drained by trunk sewers, whilst in the Western drainage area the main trunk sewer leading from London Road to the Sewage Disposal Works is complete and it is anticipated early in 1966 that construction work will start on the extension of this sewer towards the centre of the town.

The design work on the Rawreth Sewerage Scheme has been completed and preparation of detailed drawings has been commenced. Having regard to the continued growth of the town, further consideration has had to be given to the flows being dealt with by the two Sewage Disposal Works. The Council has therefore appointed Consultants to prepare schemes for the enlargement of these works and it is anticipated that further modernisation and enlargement of the works will be carried out during the next five years.

It is estimated that 95 per cent of all premises in the Urban District are served by the main drainage system. During 1965, 513 new properties were connected, involving approximately 4,400 yards of additional sewers. Cesspool drainage is provided to 230 properties and 116 premises have earth or chemical closets. Fifty of the latter are provided with a night soil collection.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The Rayleigh Urban District is served with a regular weekly collection of house refuse with the exception of premises on unmade roads, when the collection is fortnightly. Three vehicles and 16 men are used for this purpose. Materials salvaged during the year amounted to some 219 tons and realised on sale £1,914. Refuse was disposed of at the tip at Hambro Hill, Rayleigh.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Sixty-nine premises are registered and 68 use mechanical power. Twelve inspections were made but no defects found. There are 21 out-workers listed. The usual table follows, as prescribed under the Act:

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health:

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of Inspections</i>	<i>Number of Written Notices</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	68	12	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found: Nil

<i>Outwork</i>	
<i>Nature of work</i>	<i>Number of Out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)</i>
Wearing apparel	18
Pre-packing screws, etc.	3

No contraventions of this part of the Act were reported.

Headings that would normally show a Nil return have been omitted from the above table.

PETROLEUM STORAGE

Under the Petroleum Regulation Act, 24 licences to store petroleum spirit were issued, and a further six for petroleum mixtures. Seventy-two inspections were made.

PET ANIMALS ACT

Two licences for the keeping of pets for sale were issued during the year.

PEST CONTROL

One-hundred-and-sixty-nine premises were inspected and treated during the year for rats and mice infestation.

ESTABLISHMENTS FOR MASSAGE OR SPECIAL TREATMENT

Only one chiropodist in Rayleigh is licensed under Part IV of the Essex County Council Act, 1933.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The following is the summary of smoke and sulphur dioxide readings from the Atmospheric Pollution Recording Unit in Rayleigh during 1965:

	<i>Smoke Results</i>		<i>SO₂</i>		<i>Smoke/SO₂</i>
	<i>Average</i>	<i>Highest Day</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Highest Day</i>	<i>Ratio</i>
January	58	203	78	213	.74
February	75	187	73	172	1.03
March	54	109	92	176	.59
April	30	69	68	93	.44
May	18	44	59	125	.31
June	10	20	N	76	N
July	8	17	44	86	.18
August	13	36	48	106	.27
September	23	67	65	136	.36
October	N	157	N	127	N
November	58	163	80	146	.73
December	62	193	124	371	.50

N Indicates that the absence of a figure is accounted for by insufficient readings associated with technical difficulties with the apparatus.

SWIMMING POOLS

Four of the maintained schools in the Urban District now have their own swimming pools, and a suitable outfit for chlorinating purposes is provided by the Education Authority. One master in each school carries out the necessary tests whilst the pools are in use.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

The following is a summary of the 2,007 visits and inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1965:

Atmospheric Pollution	..	..	..	156
Caravans and Camping Sites	..	..	..	54
Drainage and Sewerage	..	..	..	203
Factories and Outworkers	..	..	..	12
Flooding and Watercourses	..	..	..	6
Food Premises	..	..	..	147
Houseboats	..	..	..	1
Housing:				
Demolition Order Procedure	..	..	..	15
Repairs	..	..	..	96
Improvement Grants	..	..	..	165
Rehousing	..	..	..	44
Overcrowding	..	..	..	Nil
Ice Cream	..	..	..	Nil
Infectious Disease and Food Poisoning	..	..	..	41
Noise Abatement	..	..	..	13
Nuisances	..	..	..	126
Offices and Shops	..	..	..	41
Pest Control	..	..	..	69
Petroleum Storage	..	..	..	22

Public Conveniences	..	..	..	1
Rats and Mice	..	..	..	100
Refuse Collection and Disposal	..	..	..	290
Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspection	..	..	..	67
Swimming Pools	..	..	..	46
Water Supplies	..	..	..	5
Unclassified	..	..	..	287

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

During 1965 three offices and seven retail shops were registered and general inspections were carried out at two offices and 20 retail shops, the total inspections being 41.

At 31st December, 1965, the following premises were registered:

Offices	..	..	..	..	41
Retail Shops	..	..	..	..	116
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	..	..	..	..	5
Catering Establishments	..	..	..	..	11
Fuel Storage Depot	..	..	..	..	1

The following is a summary of persons employed at registered premises, by workplace:

Offices	..	..	..	..	..	253
Retail Shops	..	..	..	..	..	596
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	..	..	..	..	..	31
Catering establishments open to the public	..	..	..	..	..	61
Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	1
Fuel Storage Depot	..	..	..	..	..	4
Males:	376	Females:	570			

The number of inspectors appointed under Section 52 of the Act is two.

HOUSING

A total of 517 units of residential accommodation are owned and managed by the Council, an increase of 32 during the year. Although there were no Council dwellings under construction at the end of the year, schemes under consideration would provide for approximately 87 units of accommodation at four different sites. During 1965 a total of 483 dwellings were built by private developers and a further 312 were under construction at the end of the year.

There are 316 applicants on the Council's Housing Waiting List.

Rehousing on Medical Grounds

Thirteen cases were referred to me, including one previous case for reconsideration in the light of changed circumstances. These were classified as follows:

"A"	=	3	(For consideration for over-riding priority)
"B"	=	6	(A medical priority does exist)
"C"	=	3	(No real medical indication)
		1	(Unclassified)

During the year four applicants were actually rehoused who had previously been referred on medical grounds.

Housing for the Aged

There are 38 units of accommodation provided in the form of bungalows and flats. Also, Frances Cottee Lodge, which was completed and opened during the year, has 32 units. Named after a previous Chairman of the Council and a Councillor of long standing, this purpose-built attractive building has a resident warden, communal room and every facility, including a bell warning system in all the flatlets.

Housing Improvements and Slum Clearance

Action under the Housing Acts undertaken by the Public Health Inspectors was as follows:

Unfit houses demolished	..	..	..	1
Unfit houses repaired	..	..	..	8
Closing Orders	..	..	..	1
Improvement Grants approved	..	..	..	18
Improvements carried out	..	..	..	19

Since 1956 demolition order procedure under the slum clearance programme has resulted in 42 properties being demolished.

Caravan Sites

There are no licensed caravan sites in the Rayleigh Urban District, but licences were issued during the year for four individual caravans.

FOOD HYGIENE

Meat Inspection

There were 4,167 food animals killed and inspected at the Rayleigh Slaughterhouse during 1965. Only four carcasses were totally condemned and the following table gives the usual details:

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	<i>Cattle (excluding cows)</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed and inspected	440	135	33	869	2,690
All diseases (except tuberculosis and cysticerci):					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	1	—	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	70	23	1	2	147
Percentage affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	16.0	17.0	6.0	0.23	5.72
Tuberculosis only:					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	21
Percentage affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	0.78

Food Hygiene Regulations 1960

In the Urban District of Rayleigh there are 111 food establishments and these are summarised below in connection with the requirements of the above Regulations:

Trades	No.	Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960		
		Number of Premises complying with Regulation 16	Number of Premises to which Regulation 19 applies	Number of Premises complying with Regulation 19
Bakers	2	2	2	2
Butchers	12	12	12	12
Cafes and Restaurants ..	12	12	12	12
Canteens:				
Industrial	7	7	7	7
School	5	5	5	5
Confectioners	14	14	14	14
Cooked Meat Manufacturers	1	1	1	1
Fishmongers:				
Wet, Fried and Shell ..	4	4	4	4
General Provisions	33	33	33	33
Greengrocers	9	9	9	9
Licensed Premises	12	12	12	12

N.B. A number of Supermarkets in the District operate a variety of food trades. Such premises are only shown once in the above Table.

Unsound Food

There were 2,634 lbs., 119 tins and 1,451 packets of food condemned as unfit for human consumption, and disposed of at the refuse tip in Hambro Hill.

Preserved Foods

Under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, there are 12 premises registered for the manufacture of sausages and preserved foods.

Ice Cream

There are 30 retailers and one manufacturer registered in Rayleigh under the Ice Cream Regulations. No sampling was undertaken during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is a summary of notifiable diseases (excluding tuberculosis) occurring at Rayleigh in 1965.

	Ages									Totals
	Under 1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-34	35-44	45-64	65 and over	
Acute Pneumonia	2	8	11	2	—	4	1	7	20	55
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Food Poisoning	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Infective Hepatitis	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	1	—	6
Measles ..	6	156	103	2	2	1	—	—	—	270
Scarlet Fever	—	8	16	1	—	—	—	—	—	25
Whooping Cough	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
	8	174	132	6	3	9	1	9	21	363

Measles

The incidence for the past five years was as follows:

1961	567	(epidemic commenced early February and ended middle of April)
1962	166	(practically all from last quarter)
1963	147	(mostly in last quarter)
1964	169	(mostly first two months)
1965	270	(mostly March and April)

Sixty per cent of all the 1965 cases were under school age and there were six cases in babies under one year.

Tuberculosis

Register changes during 1965 were as follows:

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. on register at 31.12.64	52	38	90
Notified during year ..	1	2	3
Inward transfers ..	5	2	7
Cases recovered ..	—	—	—
Cases removed	5	—	5
Died	1	2	3
Remaining at 31.12.65	52	40	92

The age, sex and site of disease of the 92 registered cases at the end of the year were as follows:

	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
0 to 4 years	—	—	—	—
5 to 14 years	2	—	1	2
15 to 24 years	2	3	1	—
25 to 44 years	23	17	1	3
45 to 64 years	15	10	1	1
65 years and over	6	4	—	—

The tuberculosis rate was 1.30 per 10,000 (3 cases).

ROCHFORD RURAL DISTRICT

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Miss E. M. Leggatt (Chairman)
 P. W. Ball
 A. B. Barren (Vice-Chairman of Council)
 P. Belton
 C. A. H. Blundell
 Mrs. M. Chaplin
 Mrs. R. L. P. Fox (Vice-Chairman)
 A. G. Gardner
 E. W. Mumford, B.E.M.
 C. E. O'Leary
 W. J. Rodwell
 D. K. Rollit, O.B.E., J.P. (Chairman of Council)
 H. E. Smith
 Miss D. M. Stow
 W. J. Tracey
 D. J. Twomey
 R. M. Warren
 D. C. Wood

LOCAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	36,220
Number of Habitable Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	12,212
Number of Inhabited Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	11,960
Population (1961 Census)	..	..	..	..	..	..	30,258
Population (mid-year estimate 1965)	..	..	..	..	..	..	36,260
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	..	£1,236,129
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	£4,190

VITAL STATISTICS

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000</i>	<i>Corrected Rate</i>
Live Births	442	429	871	24.0	21.8 (CF=0.91)
Illegitimate Births	23	22	45	51.7	
Deaths	186	251	437	12.1	9.8 (CF=0.81)
Stillbirths	8	6	14	15.8	
Deaths of Infants:					
Under 1 year	6	4	10	11.5	
Under 4 weeks	6	3	9	10.3	
Under 1 week	5	3	8	9.2	
*Perinatal Mortality	13	9	22	24.9	

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1965

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under 1 year	6	4	10
1 and under 5	1	1	2
5 " " 15	—	—	—
15 " " 25	—	—	—
25 " " 35	—	2	2
35 " " 45	7	7	14
45 " " 55	6	6	12
55 " " 65	26	15	41
65 " " 75	57	48	105
75 and upwards	83	168	251
	186	251	437

* Deaths under 1 week and stillbirths

DEATHS BY CAUSE

<i>Cause</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	2	3
Tuberculosis, other	1	—	1
Syphilitic disease	—	1	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	—	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	3	7
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ..	8	5	13
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	5	5
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	3	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	27	22	49
Diabetes	1	2	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	32	92	124
Coronary disease, angina	52	44	96
Hypertension with heart disease	2	1	3
Other heart disease	6	15	21
Other circulatory disease	3	6	9
Pneumonia	5	20	25
Bronchitis	14	4	18
Other diseases of respiratory system ..	3	—	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	2	4
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	2
Congenital malformations	2	1	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	16	17	33
Motor vehicle accidents	—	1	1
All other accidents	3	2	5
Suicide	1	—	1
Totals	186	251	437

Infant Deaths

Female, 2 months	Cause: Broncho-pneumonia, mongolism.
Male, 2 weeks	Cause: Meningitis, meningomyelocele hydrocephalus.
Male, 6 days	Cause: Broncho-pneumonia.
Female, 3 days	Cause: Prematurity, spina bifida, hydrocephalus.
Male, 2 days	Cause: Asphyxia neonatorum.
Male, 12 hours	Cause: Prematurity.
Female, 8 hours	Cause: Pulmonary haemorrhage, haemolytic disease of newborn.
Male, 3 hours	Cause: Neonatal asphyxia.
Male, 1 hour	Cause: Prematurity.
Female, 1 hour	Cause: Prematurity.

Stillbirths

Male—Ruptured uterus.
Male—Intra-uterine infection.
Male—Macerated foetus, placental insufficiency.
Male—Accidental Haemorrhage, placental separation.
Male—Foetal malformation (hydrocephalus).
Male—Macerated foetus. Query fall down bus stairs at about 18 weeks of pregnancy.
Male—Prolapsed cord.
Male—Rhesus negative with antibodies.
Female—Multiple foetal malformation, hydrocephalus, spina bifida.
Female—Unknown.
Female—Respiratory failure, post maturity.
Female—Anencephaly.
Female—Foetal asphyxia, ante-partum haemorrhage.
Female—Anencephaly.

Lung Cancer

Of the 13 deaths recorded nine were men and five were under the age of 65.

Cervical Cancer

Two women died from cervical cancer, aged 43 and 40 respectively.

Fatal Accidents

Of the nine recorded, a man of 24 was killed in a car accident, a woman of 35 sustained a fatal fall from a bus platform, an old man died from coal gas poisoning and six old people died following falls.

WELFARE OF THE AGED

During 1965 25 old people were referred to the Department, including 17 who were for medical assessment in connection with their housing needs, and are dealt with under the Housing Section. Of the remainder, two died, two were admitted to County Welfare Homes, one went to live

with her daughter, and three remained at home under supervision and assistance from the domiciliary services. Among those remaining under observation from previous years, one was admitted to a mental hospital and one to a Welfare home.

The County Welfare Officer reports that 25 old people were admitted to County Welfare Homes from the Rural District during 1965 and 13 were on the waiting list at the end of the year.

Heating for the Elderly

The Council agreed to instal storage heaters in three new bungalows to be built for the elderly as a pilot scheme, but building operations have only recently been commenced. The Old People's Welfare Committee have also been provided with details of suitable storage heaters, and have been giving consideration to the matter.

WATER SUPPLY

The bulk of the main water supply to the Rural District is derived from river sources through the Southend Waterworks Company's treatment plant at Langford and Hanningfield. Samples of the treated water are taken daily by the Company's chemists and bacteriologists and all reports during the year have shown that the water from the Company's mains is of normal chemical character and good bacteriological quality. The waters are not liable to have any plumbo-solvent action. There are boreholes at Barling, Great Wakering, South Fambridge and Wakering Wick. The fluoride content from these sources is 2.6; 2.0; 4.0 and 2.0 ppm., whereas that from river sources is only 0.25 ppm.

Apart from the 602 new properties erected in the Rural District during the year, seven existing properties at Stambridge were connected to the water main.

The following table shows the houses on main supply with estimated population for each Parish of the Rural District as at 31st December, 1965.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Acreage</i>	<i>Houses on main supply</i>	<i>Estimated population on main supply</i>
*Ashingdon (including South Fambridge)	2,503	886	2,543
Barling Magna (including Little Wakering)	2,747	423	1,143
Canewdon	6,845	301	864
Foulness Island**	7,235	98	294
Great Wakering	3,314	1,187	3,559
Hawkwell	1,408	2,855	8,337
Hockley	1,558	2,340	7,023 + 36
Hullbridge	2,193	1,332	3,963 + 1,046
Paglesham	1,687	103	318
*Rochford	2,988	2,334	¶7,937 + 119
Stambridge	2,202	174	541
Sutton	1,520	64	199
Totals	36,220	12,097	38,420

* Three premises are served by stand-pipes involving ten persons.

** Water mains on Foulness Island are owned by the War Department although water is supplied by the Southend Waterworks Company.

¶ This figure includes 498 residents of Hospital and Welfare Institution.

The added figures against Hockley, Hullbridge and Rochford are in respect of residential caravan dwellers.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Approximately 92 per cent of the population of the Rochford Rural District is served with main drainage. Four sewage treatment works are provided at Stambridge, Havengore, Barling and Paglesham. Approximately 8,000 properties in the Parishes of Hockley, Hawkwell, Ashingdon and Rochford are served by the Council's largest sewage treatment works at Stambridge. In recent years additional pumping stations have been constructed to drain a further 290 properties in the Parishes of Canewdon and Stambridge. The Havengore sewage disposal works serves approximately 1,000 properties in the Parishes of Great Wakering and Barling.

A new sewage treatment works was completed in Barling in 1964 serving a further 100 properties in this Parish and by agreement with the County Borough of Southend-on-Sea, 45 properties were drained to their gravity sewers. Also completed in 1964 was a small treatment works in Paglesham to serve some 12 properties and a village school. Main drainage facilities are provided for 1,200 properties and approximately 300 caravans in the Parish of Hullbridge which drain by agreement to the Rayleigh Urban District Council's sewer for treatment at their Western Works. In the past year the Council have completed the sewer extension in Greensward Lane, Hockley to serve nine properties. Work has commenced on two sewer extensions in Barling and Stambridge which it is hoped will come into operation in 1966.

The Council has an extensive programme for extending their sewerage system to cope with the increase of population in the District. Within the next few years, a new sewage treatment works is to be constructed at Rochford, and the works at Havengore is to be extended. Relief sewers are to be provided for Hockley, Hawkwell and Ashingdon. Sewer extensions to serve Sutton; Mill Lane, Stambridge; Ashingdon Park Estate; Seaview Estate, Great Wakering, and new sewage treatment works with gravity sewers are to be provided in the villages of East End, Paglesham and Churchend, Foulness Island. The Council have proposals to provide main drainage to the Kingsmans Farm area of Hullbridge.

The number of properties connected to the main drainage system during the year is 674.

Night soil collection is made from 162 properties twice weekly and 69 once weekly.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

There is a weekly collection of house refuse in the Rural District. On unmade roads a paper sack system, which commenced in January 1964, is provided and at the end of the year over 7,000 properties were involved. During 1965 nine vehicles and 34 men were regularly engaged in collecting, and one man on salvage baling. One hundred and ten tons of various materials were salvaged during the year and realised the sum of £972. Disposal is by arrangement with a neighbouring Authority.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Seventy-nine premises are registered and 77 use mechanical power. A total of 47 inspections were made and four defects were found. 70 outworkers were registered. Full particulars under the Act are shown in the following table:

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health:

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of Inspections</i>	<i>Number of Written Notices</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	77	45	4
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	19	5	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases</i>			
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred</i>	
			<i>To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>
Sanitary conveniences: (Sec. 7)				
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	4	4	—	—

Outwork

<i>Nature of work</i>	<i>Number of Out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)</i>
Wearing apparel	48
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper ..	4
Carding of Buttons	3
Basket Making	1
Artificial Flowers	1
Electrical Goods	13

No contraventions of this part of the Act were reported.

Headings that would normally show a Nil return have been omitted from the table.

PETROLEUM STORAGE

Under the Petroleum Regulations 58 petrol licences were issued, one for Carbide of Calcium and four for petroleum mixtures. A total of 41 inspections were carried out.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

Three licences were issued for the keeping of pets for sale under the above Act.

PEST CONTROL

There were notifications of 133 infestations of rats and mice during the year, necessitating 442 inspections.

SWIMMING POOLS

Four of the Local Authority schools in the Rural District now have their own swimming pools and a suitable outfit for chlorinating purposes is provided by the Education Authority. Regular tests are carried out whilst the pools are in seasonal use.

ESTABLISHMENTS FOR MASSAGE OR SPECIAL TREATMENT

One chiropodist is licensed by the Essex County Council to practise from premises in the Rural District.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

The following is the summary of the 2,717 visits and inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1965:

Atmosphere Pollution	2
Camping and Caravan Sites	74
Drainage and Sewerage	205
Factories and Outworkers	45
Flooding and Watercourses	8
Food Premises	217
Houseboats	1
Housing:	
Demolition Order Procedure	3
Repairs	160
Overcrowding	10
Infectious Disease and Food Poisoning	107
Nuisances	198
Offices and Shops	466
Rats and Mice	130
Petroleum Storage	41
Public Conveniences	167
Refuse Collection and Disposal	141
Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspection	274
Swimming Pools	8
Water Supplies	16
Unclassified	444

HOUSING

At the end of the year there were 1,370 dwellings owned and managed by the Council. Fifty-nine new Council properties were erected during the year.

There were 566 applicants on the Housing Waiting List, of whom 98 were pensioners.

One hundred and forty-one units of accommodation are provided specially for old age pensioners, without warden services, and a further 18 with warden services.

Twenty-three cases were referred to the Department for medical classification in relation to their housing need, with the following result:

Group "A" (Priority on medical grounds)	..	6
Group "B" (a medical need exists)	.. ..	11
Group "C" (no medical need)	.. ..	4

Two cases were recommended for a transfer on medical grounds, eight families where medical recommendation had been made, including three from previous years, were rehoused by the Council.

Action under the Housing Acts taken during the year is summarised as follows:

Demolition Orders made	.. ..	3
Closing Orders made	.. ..	2
Unfit houses demolished	.. ..	15
Unfit houses repaired	.. ..	12
Improvements carried out under Grant Schemes		21

Caravan Sites

There are nine licensed caravan sites in the Rural District, one of which has recently been purchased by the Council for future re-development. Five of the sites are residential and provide for 565 caravans. The other four sites are seasonal and provide for 284 caravans.

FOOD HYGIENE

Meat Inspection

The following is a summary of the 1,002 food animals killed and inspected at the Rochford Slaughterhouses:

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART				
	<i>Cattle</i> (excluding cows)	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i> and <i>Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed and inspected ..	199	3	200	600
All diseases (except tuberculosis and cysticerci):				
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	21	—	1	36
Percentage affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	10.55	—	0.02	6.0
Tuberculosis only:				
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	5
Percentage affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	0.83
Cysticercosis:				
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	—	—	—

Food Hygiene Regulations 1960

There are 231 food establishments in the Rural District and these are summarised below in connection with the requirements of the above Regulations:

<i>Trades</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960</i>		
		<i>Number of Premises complying with Regulation 16</i>	<i>Number of Premises to which Regulation 19 applies</i>	<i>Number of Premises complying with Regulation 19</i>
Bakers	8	8	8	8
Butchers	20	20	20	20
Cafes and Restaurants ..	12	12	12	12
Canteens:				
Industrial	7	7	7	7
School	17	17	17	17
Confectioners	32	32	26	26
Fishmongers	7	7	7	7
General Provisions	63	63	63	63
Greengrocers	13	13	13	13
Licensed Premises	47	47	47	47
Pickle Factories	1	1	1	1
Unclassified	4	4	1	1

Condemned Food

All unsound food officially reported is disposed of at the Council's refuse tip, except condemned meat and offal from the slaughterhouse, which is dyed for disposal to processors for animal food. Local authorities in the areas where such firms operate are advised. During the year 156 lbs., 346 tins and 557 packets of various foodstuffs were condemned.

Preserved Food

Thirty-one premises are registered under section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act 1955, for the manufacture of sausages and preserved foods.

Ice Cream

There are 83 retailers of ice cream in the District but no sampling was carried out during the year.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The checking of all premises and occupiers regarding the need to register, which commenced after the Act became operative on 1st August, 1964, was completed early in 1965. Arising from follow-up visits and informal procedure, compliance with the operative provisions of the Act were obtained in 70 cases and 20 remained outstanding at 31st December, 1965. Two hundred and ten premises were registered during the year, making a total of 333.

The following is an extract from the annual return sent to the Ministry of Labour:

	<i>Registered during year</i>	<i>Registered at end of year</i>	<i>Inspected</i>
Offices	41	65	22
Retail Shops	40	128	93
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses ..	2	5	5
Catering Establishments open to public, Canteens	4	10	8
Fuel Storage Depots	—	2	2

The number of employees were:

Offices	473
Retail Shops	425
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses ..	30
Catering Establishments open to public..	24
Canteens	6
Fuel Storage Depots	9

967 (455 males, 512 females)

There were 466 visits made to registered premises during 1965.

The Chief Public Health Inspector reports that in general, occupiers have been very co-operative in complying with the current requirements.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is a summary of notifiable diseases (excluding tuberculosis) occurring during the year.

	<i>Ages</i>								
	<i>Under</i>							<i>65 and</i>	
	1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	over	<i>Totals</i>
Acute Primary Pneumonia	—	1	—	—	—	1	4	2	8
Dysentery	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	3
Food Poisoning	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	4
Infective Hepatitis	—	—	5	3	3	4	—	—	15
Measles	8	210	146	1	4	—	1	—	370
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	45	59	—	—	104
Scarlet Fever	—	9	14	4	—	1	—	—	28
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
	9	222	165	8	54	66	8	2	534

Infective Hepatitis

The incidence of infective hepatitis showed a sharp decline from the previous two years following the outbreak at Stambridge School in 1963, but one lady aged 47 years died from virus hepatitis some six weeks after onset.

Measles

The incidence for the past five years was as follows:

1961	559	(middle of March to end of May)
1962	90	(mostly in last quarter)
1963	632	(January to July)
1964	188	(mostly June and July)
1965	370	(mostly January to April)

Fifty-nine per cent of all cases in 1965 were under school age and there were eight cases in babies under one year.

Tuberculosis

Register changes during 1965 were as follows:

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. on register at 31.12.64	101	65	166
Notified during year ..	3	6	9
Inward Transfers ..	8	4	12
Cases recovered ..	5	7	12
Cases removed	2	3	5
Died	2	3	5
Remaining at 31.12.65 ..	103	62	165

The age, sex and site of disease of the 165 registered cases at the end of the year were as follows:

	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
0 to 4 years	—	2	—	—
5 to 14 years	5	2	2	—
15 to 24 years	5	3	—	3
25 to 44 years	40	36	2	4
45 to 64 years	30	8	1	—
65 years and over	17	4	1	—

The incidence of tuberculosis in Rochford for 1965 is 2.48 per 10,000 population as compared with the average of 2.59 for South East Essex.

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