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Contributors

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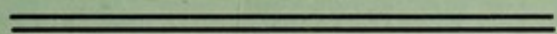


PUBLIC HEALTH

in

South East Essex

1967



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 1967.

C O R R E C T I O N .

Line four of the fifth paragraph of
the introduction should read -

"... has been based more on hope than on knowledge."

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR 1907

CORRECTION

Line four of the fifth paragraph of
the Introduction should read -
"... has been found more or less than on knowledge."

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1967

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 submit my report on the health of your Districts for the year 1967.

In 1967 births reached a new peak. To a population of 129,000 there were 2,668 births. The birth rate was just over 20 per 1,000 and 3 per 1000 above the national rate. Approximately 3,000 more people moved into the district than moved out, and most moved into new houses provided by private building firms.

Population increases of this order threw considerable strain on the County Council's Health and Education Services and also on water supplies. If babies are to remain healthy, a good deal of water is needed to wash them and their clothes.

There is also a considerable strain on the community's drains and sewers. Every new house built needs 100 gallons or so of water drawn from a reservoir or well each day. A little less drains from the house into the sewer each day. No acute shortage of water has yet been reported, but sewers were overloaded in South-East Essex on almost every wet day.

Planning permission for houses in South-East Essex has been given in the past without sufficient thought. The capacity of the community to provide essential services for the new houses has not been properly estimated, and the permission given has been passed more out of habit than of knowledge. The problems are now being looked at realistically and I do not foresee that planning permission can be easily obtained on the mainland of South-East Essex much before the end of 1969. The houses built in 1967 in fact, were built under planning permissions obtained before 1966.

I have to report that 1967 was on the whole a healthy year in South-East Essex. The death rates were below the national average and birth was relatively safe. The only serious epidemics were of measles and most of the children affected made an uneventful recovery.

It is, however, regrettably true that a substantial number of the deaths from lung cancer need not have occurred. This disease is very rare among those who do not smoke, but relatively common among those who do. A reduction in smoking would, in due course, be followed by a reduction in the death rate of lung cancer and of coronary heart disease. There might even be some slight reduction in the death rate from bronchitis - slow killer though this disease is.

We have sought to keep this problem in the minds of the citizens and their children. Talks on smoking and lung cancer and showing of the film "The Smoking Machine" continued in the Junior Schools. A general health education course for senior forms was held in the autumn term at the King John School,

Benfleet, which dealt with this subject among others. A short display on smoking and lung cancer was included in the 1967 edition of the Health Handbook for School Leavers, and reluctant smokers were catered for at Smokers' Advisory Clinics at Great Wakering Health Services Clinic in February and Rayleigh Health Services clinic in April. At the County Medical Officer's request, the Deputy Medical Officer of Health and I with the assistance of two of the County Council's Health Visitors, provided Smokers' Clinic Sessions at the Essex Show at Great Leighs, near Braintree, in June.

Further progress was made in other aspects of health education. The Home Safety Committee continued its meetings and work. There were demonstrations on home accidents and home safety at the Benfleet Civic Exhibition in April and at the Rayleigh Town Show on the 15th July.

An exhibit at the Rayleigh Town Show also included an item on water safety and the Health Education Officer carried out a programme of talks on water safety and water hazards in the Rochford Rural District area in the summer.

The Benfleet Division of St. John Ambulance Brigade kindly lent the Home Safety Committee their caravan which was temporarily converted into a mobile exhibition unit. The Exhibition was opened at Canvey Island by Mr. Bernard Braine, M.P. on the 15th September, and then toured South Benfleet, Great Tarpots, Hadleigh, Thundersley, Rayleigh, Hullbridge, Hockley, Ashington, Rochford and Great Wakering until the 13th October.

The Health Education Officer, Miss Clarke, worked hard and long throughout the year and to some effect. Most of the work for the revision of the Health Handbook for School Leavers was carried out by her and she put in a good deal of work in preparing for future programmes on health education in the Comprehensive Schools. She assisted at the Smokers' Clinics and gave throughout the year talks, sometimes illustrated by films, to various bodies and organisations in the area.

I have to report with some regret that the Southend Waterworks Company are still not in a position to add to the river water supplies they provide for most of South-East Essex suitable amounts of fluoride. The Company is reluctant to give those members of the community in South-East Essex (living for the most part in Canvey Island, South Benfleet and Great Wakering), who drink during part of the year adequately fluoridated water from wells, more fluoride than they need. Once the river water supply to South-East Essex, Basildon and Southend is adequate and abundant, they will close the wells and fluoridate the water as it leaves the reservoirs. Until that time comes there will continue to be a considerable amount of preventable dental decay in South-East Essex.

To sum up, there are a few blots on the bill of health, but it continues to be relatively clean. I have every hope that in future years it will become even cleaner.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. A. SMYTH

Medical Officer of Health.

May 1969

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1967

Tel: Rayleigh 6101

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134, HIGH STREET,
RAYLEIGH, ESSEX.

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Your obedient Servant,

D. A. SMYTH

May 1969

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

COMPOSITE PUBLIC HEALTH

Medical Officer of Health: D.A.Smyth, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.
(also Area Medical Officer and Divisional
School Medical Officer, South-East Essex)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health: R.G.A.Beaver, M.B., B.S., D.C.H., D.P.H.
(also Departmental Medical Officer, Essex
County Council) (Resigned 31st October 1967)

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

Clerical Staff: Mrs. B.M.Hillier (Resigned 11th August 1967)
Mrs. A.Linton (part-time)
Mrs. S.D.Bull (Appointed 11th September 1967)

Pupil Public Health Inspectors: P.Hodges (Resigned 7th August 1967)
D.Gander

BENFLEET U.D.

Chief Public Health Inspector: J.E.Gilbert, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Deputy Chief Public Health
Inspector: P.Sanders, M.A.P.H.I.

Public Health Inspectors: J.Griffin, M.A.P.H.I. (Appointed 1st Jan, 1967)
A.F.Knuckey, M.A.P.H.I.

Authorised Meat Inspector: R.Spellman (Commenced 19th June 1967)

Clerical Staff: V.G.Boulter
Miss L.Bannister

CANVEY ISLAND U.D.

Chief Public Health Inspector: A.P.J.Cook, M.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H.

Public Health Inspector: F.Ritson, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerical Staff: Mrs. D.H.Terry
Mrs. D.Rutter

RAYLEIGH U.D.

Senior Public Health Inspector: E.H.Lloyd, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
Public Health Inspector: E.D.Long, M.A.P.H.I.
Clerical Staff: Mrs. V.Lee (Resigned June 1967)
Mrs. C.Pedgrift (Part-time)
Mrs. M.Furness (Appointed August 1967)

ROCHFORD R.D.

Chief Public Health Inspector: H.Jepson, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
Public Health Inspector: J.R.Bullock, M.A.P.H.I.
Technical Assistant: D.Britt (Resigned 8th September 1967)
Clerical Staff: Mrs. Z.Sargent.

COMPOSITE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

BENFLEET U.D.C.

Councillor J.W. Pike
Councillor Mrs. M.E. Hutchinson
Councillor I.J. Smith

CANVEY ISLAND U.D.C.

Councillor A.P. Boss
Councillor G.A. Pickett
Councillor H.C. Whitcomb

RAYLEIGH U.D.C.

Councillor W.H. Bessant (Chairman)
Councillor G.A. Denton
Councillor H.E. Green

ROCHFORD R.D.C.

Councillor P.W. Ball
Councillor Mrs. D.M. Boothby
Councillor D.J. Twomey

BENFLEET URBAN DISTRICT
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

- J.W. Pike (Chairman)
J.W. Colverson
R. Hall
C.L.J. Hickey
Mrs. M.E. Hutchinson
F. Leigh
A.C. Partridge, J.P. (Chairman of Council)
E.F. Phillips
I.J. Smith
R.A. Williams
Mrs. M.E. Willis (Vice-Chairman of Council)

LOCAL STATISTICS	Area (in acres)	6,371
	Number of Habitable Houses	15,973
	Number of Inhabitated Houses	15,590
	Population (1961 Census)	32,372
	Population (mid-year estimate 1967)	43,890
	Rateable Value) as at	£1,567,379
	Sum represented by a Penny Rate) 31st March 1968	£6,216

VITAL STATISTICS	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000</u>	<u>Corrected Rate</u>
Total Live Births ..	456	467	923	21.0	20.4
Illegitimate Births	12	20	32	34.7	
Total Deaths	207	226	433	9.9	8.8
Deaths of Infants:					
Under 1 year of age	6	4	10	10.8	
Under 4 weeks " "	4	3	7	7.6	
Under 1 week " "	4	2	6	6.5	
Stillbirths	7	5	12	12.8	
Perinatal Mortality ..	11	7	18	19.3	
(Includes deaths under one week and stillbirths)					

Note:

The Area Comparability Factors, as applied for the Corrected Birth and Death Rates are - Births 0.97 and Deaths 0.89.

=====

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1967

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 1 year	6	4	10
1 and under 5	2	4	6
5 " " 15	2	-	2
15 " " 25	1	1	2
25 " " 35	1	-	1
35 " " 45	5	4	9
45 " " 55	9	13	22
55 " " 65	29	20	49
65 " " 75	64	68	132
75 and upwards	88	112	200
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	207	226	433

DEATHS BY CAUSE

<u>Cause</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Syphilitic Disease	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	4	8	12
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	17	5	22
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	11	11
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	5	5
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	22	15	37
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	1	2
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular Lesions of nervous system	35	54	89
Coronary Disease, angina	55	34	89
Hypertension with heart disease	2	6	8
Other heart disease	12	25	37
Other circulatory disease	5	12	17
Influenza	2	-	2
Pneumonia	6	16	22
Bronchitis	14	4	18
Other diseases of respiratory system	4	1	5
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
Gastritis, Enteritis and diarrhoea	-	3	3
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
Congenital Malformations	2	3	5
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	17	13	30
Motor vehicle accidents	1	2	3
All other accidents	3	1	4
Suicide	1	3	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	207	226	433

COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

1967 was a very healthy year. The ratio of the local adjusted death rate to the national scale was 0.79, so that if the death rate yardstick is used, the population of Benfleet was about a quarter healthier than the nation as a whole.

The infant mortality rate was unusually low, 10.8 per 1,000 live births. Despite the high birth rate, 21 per 1,000 live births, the perinatal death rate was only 19.3 per 1,000 births.

Deaths from lung cancer were running at about 10% above the national rate. Deaths from bronchitis were about the national rate and the same applied to deaths from coronary heart disease.

WELFARE OF AGED

Office records show that 34 elderly people were referred to the Department during the year. Additionally numerous enquiries were received from elderly people on matters within the province of the social departments, and were suitably directed. Most of the old people dealt with in the Department were in respect of their housing needs and these are summarised under the Housing Section of this Report.

One lady in her late 70's was removed to Hospital in December under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, as amended, as being in need of care and attention. I am pleased to say that she improved and was discharged after expiry of the three week Order.

The organiser of the Women's Royal Voluntary Service Centre in Benfleet has reported that 12,265 meals were served during 1967 to house-bound people. Meals are delivered mostly on three days a week and about 120 people benefit regularly from this service. Delivery arrangements are by private cars and the Council's mini-bus. Also, with the help of the mini-bus elderly people are taken to the Women's Royal Voluntary Service Luncheon Clubs at Hadleigh and Benfleet, whilst others make their own way to the clubs for the sake of companionship. During the year 8,792 meals were served at these two clubs. It is readily seen that the Council's contribution of £1,000 during the financial year 1967/68 and the provision of the mini-bus service was money well spent in the wider concept of prevention of mental and physical ill-health. Great credit is due to the team of voluntary workers.

The Area Welfare Officer informs me that 43 elderly people from the District were admitted to County Homes in 1967, and on 31st December 34 men and women were on the waiting list. The ratio of demand in Benfleet is about 1 male to 5 female.

A new purpose-built Old People's Home known as "Tyrells" in Seamore Avenue was opened on the 1st April. There is accommodation for 40 residents, plus staff quarters and every amenity.

81 elderly people in Benfleet are officially registered as Handicapped by the Welfare Department and 97 pensioners are registered as blind or partially sighted.

WATER SUPPLY

The bulk of the main water supply to the Urban District is drawn from river sources and the water is treated at Langford and Hanningfield. Samples of the treated water are examined daily by resident chemists and bacteriologists of the Southend Waterworks Company. All reports during the year have shown that the water is of normal chemical character and good bacteriological quality. The waters are not liable to have any plumbo solvent action. The fluoride content of the river water is around 0.25 ppm and that from the deep well at South Benfleet 2.3 ppm.

632 supplies were connected to the mains and 1,726 yards of main were laid during 1967.

There are 12 dwelling houses in the District (occupied by 28 persons) without a piped supply of water. These are situated in the 'Green Belt' parts of the District and rely upon shallow wells and rain water storage. No houses are served by stand-pipes. 25 visits in connection with water supplies were made during the year and one sample was taken. It was satisfactory.

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 sub-divided 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.

Work commenced in June 1966 on Phase 1 of the new third of a million pounds sewage treatment works (partially commissioned April 1968), to replace the existing out-dated and over-loaded works. The new works consists of the inlet installation with screens, grit channels and flow recorder, storm sewage retention tanks, settlement tanks, biological filters, humus tank, a re-circulation system and a sludge digester and drying beds. Provision has been made for future extensions to keep pace with the increase in population. The treated effluent is discharged into Benfleet Creek and samples are regularly analysed to ensure a suitable standard is maintained.

During the year 1967, a further four miles of main, foul and surface water sewers were provided by private developers and by the Council. 512 new properties were connected to the main sewers in addition to 20 dwellings previously draining to cesspools. There are 154 dwellings in the District without drainage systems connected to the public sewer. Of these, 80 have cesspools and the remainder, earth or chemical closets.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Seven refuse collecting vehicles, and 1 four-wheel drive vehicle are in service, the latter being used in connection with the collection of refuse sacks from dwellings on unmade roads. 38 men are engaged in the work. A weekly collection is made throughout the district.

Disposal is by means of controlled tipping on Benfleet marshes. 5 men are employed there. One bulldozer, a crawler shovel and a dumper are provided.

A free collection is made from dwellings within the District of all unwanted household rubbish and motor cars. One vehicle is used part time for this purpose, and 731 collections were made during the year.

The income from trade refuse collection and the disposal of spoil at the tip was £1,053.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The number of registered premises was 258 including 150 building sites. 106 of the factories use mechanical power, 131 inspections were made during the year; also 13 visits to building sites and 5 to workplaces. Particulars relevant to the prescribed table are shown as follows:-

Part I of the Act:

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors):

Premises	Number of Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices
(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	106	93	1
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	150	13	
TOTAL	258	108	1

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found		
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (Sec. 1):	1	4	
Sanitary Conveniences (Sec. 7) (b) Unsuitable or defective:		4	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work):	10	3	1
TOTAL	11	11	1

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork:

Nature of work	Number of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)
Wearing apparel	30
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	3
Stuffed toys	4
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc.	9

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 is a summary of action taken under the Petroleum Regulations Act:-

Petroleum Spirit Licences issued	50
Petroleum Mixture Licences issued	12
Inspection of premises and installations	51

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Equipment for the measurement of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere was set up at John Burrows Recreation Ground, Hadleigh in January and readings commenced in March.

This installation was arranged in collaboration with the National Survey of Air Pollution organised by the Ministry of Technology through Warren Spring Laboratory, Stevenage, Herts, and readings from March onward are shown below:-

	<u>Smoke Results</u>		<u>SO₂</u>		<u>Smoke/SO₂</u>
	<u>Average</u>	<u>Highest Day</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Highest Day</u>	<u>Ratio</u>
March	37	66	82	199	0.45
April	22	42	53	145	0.42
May	20	37	54	102	0.37
June	11	25	56	122	0.20
July	13	32	56	153	0.23
August	15	43	51	121	0.29
September	20	40	49	115	0.41
October	26	44	79	150	0.33
November	48	97	98	189	0.49
December	59	131	122	322	0.48

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Five licences were issued under the Act.

PEST CONTROL

There were 132 complaints about rats and mice and 166 inspections were made by Public Health Inspectors in connection with them. 117 visits regarding other pests were made. The work of disinfection is carried out by the Council's rodent operative.

SWIMMING POOLS

There are 3 school swimming pools in the district and suitable water-testing apparatus for residual and combined chlorine is provided at each school. One master carries out the necessary routine tests whilst the pools are in use. Tests carried out by the Public Health Inspectors gave satisfactory results.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

The following is a summary of the 6,243 visits and inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during the year:

Accumulations - Offensive	..	..	..	..	91
Animals, keeping of	..	..	..	..	25
Clean Air Act	..	..	..	..	395
Drainage - Foul water	..	..	..	..	480
Surface water	..	..	..	..	286
Ditches	..	..	..	..	139
Factories	..	..	..	..	171
Food Premises	..	..	..	..	831
Health Education	..	..	..	..	16
Houseboats	..	..	..	..	6
Housing repairs:					554
Demolition procedure	..	..	..	..	49
Rent Act	..	..	..	..	3
Improvement Grants	..	..	..	..	147
Council houses	..	..	..	..	308
Miscellaneous housing visits	..	..	..	..	51
Infectious diseases	..	..	..	..	132
Massage & special Treatment Premises	..	..	..	..	2
Meat Inspection - at Slaughterhouse	..	..	..	..	609
Moveable Dwellings	..	..	..	..	37
Noise Abatement	..	..	..	..	152
Nuisances - General	..	..	..	..	76
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	..	..	..	..	337
Petroleum Spirit	..	..	..	..	69
Pest Control	..	..	..	..	275
Public Conveniences	..	..	..	..	4
Refuse - Collection and disposal	..	..	..	..	281

Sampling - Water	3
Ice Cream	17
Slaughterhouse	32
Unclassified	640
Water Supply	25
	<hr/>
TOTAL	6,243

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Registrations under the Act are as follows:-

Offices	68
Retail Shops	193
Wholesale Shops	4
Catering Establishments	20
Fuel Storage Depots	1

337 inspections were made during the year.

ESTABLISHMENTS FOR MASSAGE AND SPECIAL TREATMENT

There are two premises in the District which are licensed by the Essex County Council under Part IV of the Essex County Council Act, 1933. One of these is at Thundersley and the other at South Benfleet.

HOUSING:

At the end of 1967 the Council owned and managed 849 houses, bungalows and flats, 71 of these having been completed during the year. 512 private dwellings were built during 1967 and a further 368 were under construction at the end of the year.

On the 31st December there were 474 applicants on the Council's Housing List and 205 of these were new applications during 1967.

The number of units of accommodation specially provided for old people total 270. Of these 31 are provided with the services of a Warden - the purpose built establishment "Gowan Court." 61 of the Housing Applicants are Pensioners.

41 housing applicants were referred for medical classification during the year, with the following results:-

Group 'A'	(9 points)	=	14
Group 'B'	(6 points)	=	12
Group 'C'	(3 points)	=	11
Group 'D'	(No points)	=	4

12 of the applicants placed in Group 'A' were pensioners. Nine families

who had been the subject of a previous medical recommendation were re-housed during 1967.

The following action was taken during the year:-

Demolition Orders made	14
Closing Orders made	4
Unfit Houses demolished	10
Unfit Houses repaired	19
Improvements carried out under Grant Schemes	20

No redevelopment schemes were carried out during the year.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses in this district.

Houseboats

There are 15 houseboats moored in Benfleet Creek. One is used for permanent occupation, the others for holiday purposes only.

Caravan Sites

The only site in the District is owned and managed by the Council and is situated in Hart Road, Thundersley. The present policy of the Council is to run down the site with a view to redevelopment with permanent housing, and by the end of the year there were 163 caravans remaining.

FOOD HYGIENE :

The following are the food premises within the Urban District:-

Bakers' Shops	14
Butchers'	23
Cafes	16
Canteens: Schools	14
Industrial	8
Confectioners	38
Dairies	3
Fishmongers	14
General Provisions	59
Greengrocers	30
Licensed Premises	22
Multiple Stores	6
Wholesale Stores	8

19 premises used for the preparation of meat and preserved foods are registered.

'Open' food is sold to some extent at all these premises and suitable sinks and wash hand basins with hot and cold water are provided. The requirements of the Regulations regarding towels, soap and nail brushes are complied with.

There are no poultry processing premises within the District, but a number of chickens are slaughtered by arrangement with the owners of the Abattoir in a room especially fitted out for this purpose. No birds are dressed there.

Meat Inspection

The following table gives details of the 26,717 carcasses of food animals examined at Cross Farm Abattoir, Hadleigh, during the year. 29 samples of tissues from diseased animals were submitted for laboratory examination.

	Cattle (excluding cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	4,135	397	408	10,247	11,530
Number inspected	4,135	397	408	10,247	11,530
All diseases (except tubercu- losis and Cysticerci):					
Whole carcasses condemned..	25	8	17	10	27
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.. ..	1,393	182	1	779	1,743
Percentage affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	32.4%	47.8%	4.4%	7.7%	14.4%
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	-	-	-	-	110
Percentage affected with tuberculosis	-%	-%	-%	-%	1%
Cysticerci only:					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	57	2	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ..	5	-	-	-	-

The Liquid Egg (Pasturisation) Regulations, 1963

There are no egg pasturisation plants in the District.

Ice Cream

Ten samples were taken which proved satisfactory and at the close of the year 102 premises were registered.

Condemned Food

During the year 22,155 tins, 679 lbs and 470 packets of various foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption and were disposed of at the refuse tip on Benfleet Marshes. Details as follows:-

Fish - tinned	379 tins
Fish - fresh	28 lbs.
Frozen Foods	470 packets
Fruit - tinned	210 tins
Meat - fresh	646 lbs.
Meat - tinned	705 tins
Milk - Milk products	50 tins
Poultry	5 lbs.
Soups - tinned	123 tins
Vegetables - tinned	1532 tins
Miscellaneous	156 tins

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Twenty-three complaints about unsound food were made, and legal proceedings were taken in respect of one of them. Full investigations were made into the circumstances of each case, and where appropriate, advice was given.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Measles

Whilst the number of cases of Measles in Benfleet was much the same as Canvey in relation to population, the incidence was half as much in Benfleet as Canvey Island. The previous highest incidence was in 1965 when there were 864 cases notified. 35 of the 1967 cases were under one year of age.

Dysentery and Diarrhoeal Diseases

Only one case of confirmed dysentery was notified, although a 3 year old child, visitor to the District, was found to be infected. Very few cases of diarrhoea were reported and no specific disease was found in the 20 specimens submitted to the Public Health Laboratory.

Food Poisoning

Four cases of food poisoning were notified and two further cases came to the notice of the Department. The following salmonellaes were isolated:-

Salmonella St. Paul	(boy aged 4 years)
Salmonella Bredeney	(boy aged 6 years)
Salmonella Virchow	(man aged 50 years)
Salmonella Typhimurium	(girl aged 7 years)

Tuberculosis

The following table shows the position for the year 1967:-

Number of cases on register at 1st January	181
New cases notified during year	9
Transfers into area during year	8
	<hr/>
	198
Number recovered during year	9
Number moved away in year	7
Died	1
	<hr/>
Number remaining on 31st December	181

Notification rate represented 2.05 per 10,000 population.

Lung cancer was the cause of death of the man who died, and not tuberculosis.

The intensive mass x-ray survey in 1966 has had considerable effect. The incidence of Tuberculosis has fallen from 4.13 per 10,000 in 1965 to 2.05 per 10,000 in 1967. It will be difficult to improve this rate, but further surveys and other measures will, I hope, keep it down to the present level.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

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

BENEFIT:

	Under 1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 & under	Totals
Acute Primary Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	3
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Food Poisoning	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	4
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	2	3	2	-	1	8
Measles	35	472	249	7	5	1	-	-	769
Scarlet Fever	-	10	27	-	-	-	-	-	37
Whooping Cough	1	9	12	-	-	-	-	-	22
	36	491	289	9	8	5	4	5	847

CANVEY ISLAND URBAN DISTRICT

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

H.C. Whitcomb (Chairman)
 G. Blackwell, J.P., (Chairman of Council)
 A.P. Boss
 C.G. Fitzpatrick
 R.H. Jones
 C.A. Morgan
 G.A. Pickett
 G.H. Prince

LOCAL

STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	4,421
Number of Habitable Houses	8,177
Number of Inhabited Houses	8,036
Population (1961 Census)	15,599
Population (mid-year estimate 1967)	22,170
Rateable Value	} as at 31 Mar 1968
Sum represented by a Penny Rate		£734,221 £2,906

VITAL

STATISTICS

	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1,000	Corrected Rate
Total Live Births ..	257	203	460	20.7	24.0
Illegitimate Births ..	12	11	23	50.0	
Total Deaths	131	99	230	10.4	8.7
Deaths of Infants:					
Under 1 year of age:					
" 4 weeks " " :	6	3	9	19.5	
" 1 week " " :	5	2	7	15.2	
" 1 week " " :	3	2	5	10.9	
Stillbirths	3	-	3	6.5	
Perinatal Mortality	6	2	8	23.8	
(Deaths under 1 week and stillbirths)					

Note: The Area Comparability Factors, as applied for the Corrected Birth and Death Rates are: Births 1.16 and Deaths 0.84.

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1967

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 1 year	6	3	9
1 and under 5	-	1	1
5 " " 15	-	1	1
15 " " 25	2	1	3
25 " " 35	-	-	-
35 " " 45	3	1	4
45 " " 55	8	9	17
55 " " 65	16	8	24
65 " " 75	47	33	80
75 and upwards	49	42	91
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	131	99	230

DEATHS BY CAUSE:

<u>Cause</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	3	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	15	2	17
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	5	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	1	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	14	12	26
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	2	2
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	13	18	31
Coronary Disease, Angina	37	22	59
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	6	6
Other Heart Disease	8	7	15
Other Circulatory Disease	5	6	11
Pneumonia	4	1	5
Bronchitis	12	4	16
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	1	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-	2
Congenital Malformations	2	2	4
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	10	6	16
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	2	4
All Other Accidents	2	-	2
Suicide	-	1	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	131	99	230

COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

The ratio of the adjusted death rate to the national rate was 0.78, this means in effect that if the population of Canvey Island was comparable in structure and nature directly to the population of England and Wales, the Canvey death rate would be 78% of the national death rate. The general health of the community, therefore, was good. There were, however, areas where prevention and treatment could improve matters further.

The lung cancer rate is about one and a half times the national rate and the same is true of the death rate for bronchitis.

The infant mortality rate at 19.5 per 1,000 live births was a little above the national rate of 18.3 and the neonatal mortality rate of 15.2 likewise, rather higher than the national rate of 12.5. The perinatal mortality rate was a little below national level, 23.8 as against 25.4.

There were too many deaths from coronary heart disease, 40 occurred under the age of 65, but the coronary disease death rate of Canvey Island is about the same as the national rate.

WELFARE OF THE AGED

Eighteen elderly people were referred to the Medical Department during the year. Most of these were in respect of rehousing on medical grounds and details will be found under the Housing Section. Also, a number, first brought to notice of the Department in previous years, remained under observation and supervision. Three were accommodated in County Council Homes and one was admitted to Hospital. The domiciliary services of the County Council (District Nurses and Home Helps) were a great help in a number of cases, and I am indebted to the help and cooperation of the Public Health Inspectors and County Council Health Visitors from time to time.

No action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1948 for compulsory removal was necessary during the year.

The Welfare Department has informed me that 32 elderly people were admitted to their establishments from Canvey Island during 1967, and a further 27 were on the waiting list. The new Home at Canvey, "Long View," was formally opened on the 1st February providing accommodation for 44 people with appropriate staff. There is now a total of 203 beds in four Homes in South East Essex.

The Welfare Department have 129 Canvey pensioners registered as Handicapped and a further 72 elderly people registered as blind or partially sighted.

Meals on Wheels are provided by the Women's Royal Voluntary Service on two days a week - 3,830 meals were served to elderly residents during the year.

WATER SUPPLY

The main water supply is derived from river sources and the water is treated and softened and purified from the plants at Langford and Hanningfield. The supply is supplemented when necessary from water pumped from the two bore holes on the Island situated at Hole Haven and Leigh Beck. Samples of the treated water going into supply are tested daily by the Southend Waterworks Company's resident chemists and bacteriologists. Their reports show the water to be of normal chemical character and good bacteriological quality. The water has no plumbo solvent action.

The fluoride content of the river water is 0.25 ppm and the waters from Hole Haven and Leigh Beck bore holes are 2.1 and 1.7 ppm respectively.

388 supplies were connected to the mains and 2,426 yards of new mains were laid in 1967.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Canvey Island is divided into a number of drainage areas. Within each area there is a gravity system with the sewers discharging at a Pumping Station where the sewage is pumped into a trunk sewer system which discharges at the Southwick Pumping Station.

From this main Pumping Station the sewage is pumped to the Treatment Plant some 1,000 yards to the South. After progressing through the plant, the effluent is discharged by gravity into the River Thames. The Treatment Plant came into operation in 1966 and the required standard of 100 ppm suspended solids and 100 Biological Oxygen Demand set by the Port of London Authority is regularly obtained. Although the surface water system for the District is separate, surface water infiltration into the foul drainage system does occur and arrangements are made at the Works for the excess flow over three times dry weather flow to receive partial treatment.

The most recent development undertaken has been the construction of a new pumping main from the High Street Pumping Station to provide a direct link to the main Pumping Station, to relieve surcharging which was resulting from increased development in the Eastern part of the District. A new Pumping Station is under construction at the Winter Gardens to deal with that area and new development to the South. Within the District there are seven Pumping Stations and a further one yet to be built.

Except for the Harvest Road area, Winter Gardens and Sixty Acres, the District is almost completely sewered and all but a very few properties are connected to the system. The three areas mentioned above will be largely re-developed and the new development resulting, together with those existing properties which will remain, will be progressively connected to the system. No extensions to the main sewer have been carried out during the year except to deal with new development.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Domestic and trade refuse continues to increase and during 1967, approximately 7,894 tons of refuse was collected. Additional tipping space was provided by mechanical means and low-lying areas were reclaimed by controlled infilling. Drastic changes are taking place in the character of refuse; bulk is growing and weight is decreasing, this being illustrated in the tonnage produced this year in comparison with 1966 (9,000 tons).

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

The following is a summary of the 4,066 visits and inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1967:

Aged Persons	14
Atmospheric pollution	124
Caravan and camping sites	85
Drainage and sewerage	67
Factories	59
Flooding and watercourses	84
Food premises	170
Houseboats	2
Housing:	
Demolition Order procedure	362
Repairs	730
Re-housing	124
Overcrowding	41
Infectious Diseases and Food Poisoning	253
Noise abatement	21
Nuisances	142
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	303
Oil pollution	4
Pest control	181
Petroleum and methane storage	124
Rats and mice	76
Refuse collection and disposal	475
Slaughterhouses and meat inspection	32
Swimming pools	30
Unclassified	545
Water supply	18
	<hr/>
	4,066
	<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.

PETROLEUM STORAGE

Fifteen licences to store petroleum spirit were issued during the year and 75 inspections made. Two of these licences provide for bulk storage.

A further 49 visits were made under the Methane Order to the liquid Methane installation of the North Thames Gas Board. This installation continues to expand and works to underground storage units continued during the year, using advanced cryogenic engineering techniques.

PEST CONTROL

Seventy-six inspections and visits were made in respect of rats and mice, a slight increase in complaints is mainly due to rodents being disturbed by works to dykes and waterways.

As regards the Brown-tail Moth (*Euproctis Crysorrhoea*), 180 visits were made, in addition to the Council-maintained service of spraying heavily infested and less accessible areas. Also 1,130 packets of DDT (8 ozs each) were issued to the public for spraying private gardens.

The Essex County Council (Canvey Island Approaches) Act 1967 came into force during the year, enabling notices to be served on those premises where Brown-tail Moth infestations were found to be excessive. The experimental work with the use of Polyhedral viruses continued and up to 60% "kills" were recorded in the selected areas.

SWIMMING POOLS

Breakpoint chlorination continues to be extremely effective a method of sterilisation and 30 inspections were made to the 3 swimming pools during the season. Two of these are at schools of the Local Education Authority and one at a Holiday Camp.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

A total of 166 premises were registered with the Council at the end of the year, as follows:-

		<u>Numbers employed</u>	
Offices	37	182	}
Retail shops	111	491	
Wholesale Shops, warehouses	3	39	} Males 285
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	13	71	
Fuel Storage Depots	2	8	} Females 506

A total of 303 visits were made to registered premises during the year.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Twenty-two complaints of atmospheric pollution were dealt with and were in the main concerned with emissions from sources outside the District.

Smoke and sulphur-dioxide recordings are taken within the Urban District as part of the National Survey, with readings taken daily and submitted monthly to the Ministry of Technology at Warren Spring Laboratory.

The following is a summary of these readings:-

	<u>Smoke Results</u>		<u>SO₂</u>		<u>Smoke/SO₂</u>
	<u>Average</u>	<u>Highest Day</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Highest Day</u>	<u>Ratio</u>
January	75	157	168	631	0.45
February	63	239	150	500	0.42
March	35	72	151	342	0.23
April	28	41	73	188	0.38
May	20	56	61	150	0.33
June	14	26	58	235	0.24
July	N	31	N	218	N
August	13	42	49	162	0.27
September	22	47	72	173	0.31
October	22	42	71	133	0.31
November	61	136	111	231	0.55
December	N	174	N	404	N

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

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

There are 54 premises registered and all use mechanical power. A total of 59 inspections were made. The number of outworkers recorded is 21. Particulars relevant to the prescribed table are shown as follows:-

Part I of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors):

Premises	Number of Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	54	59	1
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ..	-	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found		
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)			
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	1	2	1
TOTAL	1	2	1

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork

Nature of work	Number of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(I)(c)
Wearing apparel	20
Handbag making	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.

Group	Points	Number of workers
Group "A"	21 points	21
Group "B"	44 points	44
Group "C"	71 points	71
Group "D"	100 points	100

Eighteen families, the subject of a medical recommendation, either during 1961 or previously, were reported during the year. The following is a summary of action taken by the Health Inspectors during 1961 in respect of housing matters:-

Closing Order, 1	1
Demolition Order, 2	2
Demolition and Rebuilding, 2	2
Improvement Order, 2	2
Rebuilding Order, 2	2
Overcrowding Order, 1	1

Housesboats

There are seven housesboats within the Urban District, which were listed in the tidal area of the River Great Ouse, two of which are permanently occupied. There are four licensed sites in the District, both residential sites holiday or seasonal. One site was used during the year in accordance with a discontinuance Order. This site has received planning approval for the development of residential properties. Approximately 1500 caravans are stationed on these sites and 65 inspections were made during the year.

HOUSING

During 1967 the Council erected and brought into use 106 new dwellings, bringing the total of houses, bungalows and flats managed by the Council to 1,182 at the end of the year. A further 116 units of accommodation were under construction on the 31st December 1967; 391 private dwellings were completed during the year.

There was a total of 400 families on the Housing Waiting List at the end of the year. 180 of these were new applications during 1967.

In connection with the housing of old people, 83 of the applicants on the waiting list were pensioners. There are 150 units of accommodation specially provided for old people - 53 of these have Warden services.

In addition to the 116 dwellings under construction in the New Road area at the end of the year, another 15 three-bedroomed dwellings in that area are anticipated. Planned development to cater for the needs of the elderly include 20 one-bedroomed dwellings in Gafzelle Drive and a Sheltered Establishment providing 29 units of accommodation with resident warden, laundry and communal rooms and a warning bell system.

Twenty-eight housing applicants were referred for medical classification during the year with the following results:-

Group "A" (7 points)	=	6
Group "B" (4 points)	=	11
Group "C" (2 points)	=	4
Group "D" (No points)	=	7

Eighteen families, the subject of a medical recommendation, either during 1967 or previously, were rehoused during the year.

The following is a summary of action taken by the Public Health Inspectors during 1967 in respect of housing matters:-

Closing Orders	5
Demolition Order procedure	28
Demolition and redevelopment ..	29
Improvement Grants	22
Rehousing	33
Overcrowding	41

Houseboats

There are seven houseboats within the Urban District, these being sited in the tidal area of Small Gains Creek, two of which are permanently occupied.

Caravan Sites

There are four licensed sites in the District, both residential and holiday or seasonal. One site was run down during the year in accordance with a Discontinuance Order. This site has received planning approval for the development of residential properties. Approximately 1900 caravans are stationed on these sites and 85 inspections were made during the year.

FOOD HYGIENE

Inspection and Supervision of Food

There are 169 food establishments at Canvey Island and these are summarised below in connection with the requirements of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960:-

Trades	No.	Food Hygiene (General) 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	17	14	17	17
Cafes & Restaurants ..	32	28	32	32
Canteens:				
Industrial	10	10	10	10
School	6	6	6	6
Confectioners	16	14	16	16
Cooked Meat Manufacturers	6	5	6	6
Fishmongers	12	12	12	12
General Provisions	34	32	34	34
Greengrocers	17	14	17	15
Licensed Premises	17	17	17	17

Condemned Food

During the year the Public Health Inspectors condemned the following foodstuffs, all of which were disposed of at the Council's refuse tip at Newlands:-

Tinned Fruit	32 $\frac{1}{8}$ lbs.
Tinned Meats	78 lbs.
Tinned Fish	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Fresh Meat	327 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Assorted Frozen Foods (Refrigerator breakdowns)	398 pkts
Cakes	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Mousse	68

Preserved Foods

The number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 for the manufacture of sausages and preserved foods is 26.

Ice Cream

There are 27 retailers and one manufacturer registered under the Ice Cream Regulations.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Measles:

The highest number of cases of Measles (801) ever recorded at Canvey occurred in 1967. This was an expected year of high incidence, there having been 579 cases in 1965 and 614 in 1963.

Whooping Cough

As in 1966, there were more cases of Whooping Cough in Canvey Island than in the other 3 districts put together (71 as compared to 54). Of the 9 Canvey cases occurring under one year, the age incidence was as follows:-

2 months	=	1
3 months	=	1
4 months	=	2
5 months	=	1
6 months	=	3
11 months	=	1

Infective Hepatitis

Of the eight cases notified, three were school children, three others under 25 and two over 30. One child, aged 8 was staying at Canvey on holiday and her brother was a case in his home area. Three family contacts in one case were given gamma globulin by the General Practitioner.

Food Poisoning

Only two cases of Food Poisoning were notified during the year. The incident involved a tin of pink salmon. Onset of symptoms was some 3-4 hours after consumption and the Public Health Laboratory reported that Staphylococcal Aureus was isolated from the remains of the opened tin submitted for bacteriological examination.

Another family was also brought to notice who had been ill whilst visiting relatives on Boxing Day at Walthamstow. The suspected food was boiled beef and bacon, but on enquiry this could not be firmly established.

Dysentery, and Gastro Enteritis

Of the six cases of Dysentery that were notified during the year, Shigella Sonnei was isolated from only two cases.

Approximately 50 school children were affected by diarrhoea and vomiting during the year, all of which were checked by the submission of faecal specimens to the Public Health Laboratory. One of the confirmed cases of dysentery came to light in this way. A number of staff were also reported and as a result all the kitchen staff at two of the schools on the Island were checked with negative results. Investigations for the above cases had considerable involvements for the Public Health Inspectors and it necessitated examination of over 120 faecal specimens by the Public Health Laboratory.

Tuberculosis

The following table shows the position for the year 1967:-

Number of cases on register at 1st January	-	127
New cases notified during year	-	6
Transfers into area during year	-	2
		<u>135</u>
Number recovered during year	-	9
Number moved away in year	-	4
Died	-	<u>1</u>
Number remaining on register at 31st December		<u>121</u>

Notification rate represented 2.8 per 10,000 population.

The person who died was an elderly man whose death was not associated with tuberculosis.

The incidence of Tuberculosis in England and Wales in 1967 was 2.7 per 10,000 population. The incidence of Tuberculosis in Canvey Island were similar and I think we can say that the disease is being pushed back at least as fast in Canvey Island as in the country at large.

	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1,000	Corrected Rate
Total Live Births	223	215	438	17.6	15.8
Illegitimate Births	10	8	18	4.1	2
Total Deaths (I.S.S.)	25	27	52	7.4	9.1
Deaths of Infants:					
Under 1 year of age	5	1	6	13.7	
Under 4 weeks	4	1	5	11.4	
Under 14 days	4	1	5	11.4	
Stillbirths	2	3	5	11.3	
Perinatal Mortality	6	4	10	22.6	
(Deaths under 1 week and stillbirths)	4	4	8		

Note: The Area Comparability Factors, as applied for the Corrected Birth and Death Rates are - Births 2.90 and Deaths 1.25.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

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

<u>CANVEY ISLAND</u>	<u>Under 1</u>							<u>Totals</u>	
	<u>1-4</u>	<u>5-9</u>	<u>10-14</u>	<u>15-24</u>	<u>25-44</u>	<u>45-64</u>	<u>65 & Over</u>		
Acute Primary Pneumonia	-	1	1	-	2	2	3	9	
Dysentery	-	3	1	1	-	1	-	6	
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	2	
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	1	2	2	1	-	8	
Measles	26	429	335	7	2	2	-	801	
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	4	
Scarlet Fever	-	2	7	-	1	-	-	11	
Whooping Cough	9	28	30	2	-	-	-	71	
	35	463	375	12	11	12	4	1	913

RAYLEIGH URBAN DISTRICT

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

- W.H. Bessant (Chairman)
- G.H. Denton (Vice-Chairman)
- R.G.J. Foley
- F.A. Grant
- A.W. Green, J.P. (Chairman of Council)
- H.E. Green
- A.W. Hardwick (Vice-Chairman of Council)
- G.St.J. Higgins
- D.A. Ives
- C.B. Wastell

LOCAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	..	..	..	..	5,758
Number of Habitable Houses	..	..	..	..	8,151
Number of Inhabited Houses	..	..	..	..	8,028
Population (1961 Census)	..	..	..	..	19,032
Population (mid-year estimate 1967)	..	..	..	..	24,850
Rateable Value	) as at 31st				£974,641
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	) March 1968				£4,095

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000</u>	<u>Corrected Rate</u>
Total Live Births	223	215	438	17.6	15.8
Illegitimate Births	10	8	18	41.1	
Total Deaths	86	97	183	7.4	9.1
Deaths of Infants:					
Under 1 year of age	5	1	6	13.7	
Under 4 weeks " "	4	1	5	11.4	
Under 1 " " "	4	1	5	11.4	
Stillbirths	2	3	5	11.3	
Perinatal Mortality	6	4	10	22.6	
(Deaths under 1 week and stillbirths)					

Note: The Area Comparability Factors, as applied for the Corrected Birth and Death Rates are - Births 0.90 and Deaths 1.23.

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1967

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 1 year	5	1	6
1 and under 5	1	-	1
5 " " 15	1	-	1
15 " " 25	-	-	-
25 " " 35	-	-	-
35 " " 45	2	4	6
45 " " 55	8	4	12
55 " " 65	12	8	20
65 " " 75	29	23	52
75 and upwards	28	57	85
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	86	97	183
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DEATHS BY CAUSE

<u>Cause</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1
Syphilitic Disease	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	11	1	12
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	1	2	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	1	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	10	12	22
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	-	1
Diabetes	1	-	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	11	22	33
Coronary Disease, Angina	21	24	45
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	1	2
Other Heart Disease	2	8	10
Other Circulatory Disease	-	2	2
Pneumonia	1	5	6
Bronchitis	5	3	8
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	-	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	2	3
Congenital Malformations	1	1	2
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	11	10	21
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	-	2
All Other Accidents	1	2	3
Suicide	1	-	1
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Totals	86	97	183
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Rayleigh had on the whole a healthy year. The lung cancer death rate was about 86% of the national rate, the coronary heart disease about 80% of the national rate, and the bronchitis death rate about 77% of the national rate.

The infant mortality rate was lower than last year and at 13.7 per 1,000 live births remained below the national rate. The perinatal mortality rate, perhaps too high at 22.6 was still below the national rate at 25.4 and the neonatal death rate 11.4 was also below the national rate (12.5).

One of the reasons for Rayleigh's good health statistics is that the population is a little younger than the national average, and the correction factor applied to the crude death rate is, therefore, greater than one. Nevertheless, the corrected death rate is only 8.7 (national rate 12) and the ratio of the local adjusted death rate to the national rate is 0.81.

Broadly speaking, the Rayleigh dweller is about 20% healthier than the inhabitant of an area where the mortality statistics correspond to the national average.

WELFARE OF THE AGED

Elderly people referred to the Department during the year were assisted in the following manner:-

Rehousing on medical grounds	16
Admitted to Welfare and private homes	4
Provision of County Home Help	6
Admitted to Hospital	3

Enquiries are continually being received involving other Departments of the Health and Social Services for the elderly and these are referred direct and no record made.

One lady of 80 years of age, known to the Department for about 2 years, was admitted to Hospital under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1948, as amended because she was in need of care and attention and refused the help of the County Council domiciliary services.

The Organiser for the Women's Royal Voluntary Service informs me that a total of 8,566 meals were served during 1967. Recipients receive these on 4 days per week. The Council's contribution to the Service for 1967 was £777.

An experimental Luncheon Club for old people was commenced at Eastwood Lodge (a private old people's home run by the Field Lane Institution of East London), in November 1966, and in March 1967, the Council accepted responsibility for the costs involved. The Club meets occasionally and about a dozen elderly people are transported by private cars. The social contact with other old people, together with the meal, has proved a really worthwhile venture. 178 meals shown in the total were served at this Club during the year.

The Area Welfare Officer reports that 15 elderly people in Rayleigh were admitted to County Homes during the year and a further 25 were on the waiting

list at the end of the year. I understand that 43 Rayleigh Pensioners are officially registered as handicapped persons and another 42 are registered as blind or partially sighted. There is one County Welfare Home in Rayleigh which accommodates 41 ladies and 21 gentlemen.

WATER SUPPLY

No wells from which a public supply is drawn are located in the Rayleigh Urban District, but it is probable that water from wells in adjoining areas may find its way into the district. The main source of supply is derived from rivers and the water is purified and softened at the Southend Waterworks Company's treatment plant at Langford and from the jointly-owned plant at Hanningfield.

Samples of the water going into supply are examined daily by resident chemists and bacteriologists, and all reports show the water is of normal chemical character and of good bacteriological quality. The water is not likely to have any plumbo-solvent action.

The fluoride content of river water is generally about 0.25 parts per million, and the average for the well water is approximately 2.7 ppm.

420 supplies were connected to the mains, and 2,647 yards of main were laid in 1967.

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 development of the District 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 1963 the extension and modernisation of both the Western and Eastern Sewage Disposal Works were substantially complete and the new works were in operation. The provision of new trunk sewers to serve both drainage areas has progressed satisfactorily so that the whole of the District is now drained by trunk sewers.

Further consideration has been given to the flows passing to the two Sewage Disposal Works and a scheme for the enlargement of the Eastern Works has been approved and the acquisition of the necessary land to accommodate this project is proceeding. Further design work on the scheme for the enlargement of the Western Sewage Disposal Works has been held over pending a decision on the flows that the new works will have to finally accept. It is hoped that construction work on enlargement of both the Sewage Works will be carried out during the next 5 years. Work on the construction of a soil sewerage scheme for Battlesbridge (Rawreth Sewerage Scheme B) commenced in the last month of the year and a new scheme for the soil drainage of Rawreth Village (Rawreth Sewerage Scheme A) is being designed and it is hoped that details regarding this project will be quickly settled.

During 1967, 161 new properties were connected to main drainage and approximately 562 lin. yards of main sewer were constructed. It is now estimated that 96% of all premises in the Urban District are served by the main drainage system. Cesspool drainage is provided to 229 properties and a further 114 properties have earth or chemical closets. 50 of the latter have 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 275 tons and realised on sale £2,330. Refuse was disposed of at Leigh Marshes by arrangement with the Southend Corporation. 6,122 tons of refuse was collected during 1967.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Seventy-two premises are registered and 71 use mechanical power. Seven inspections were made but no defects found or reported. There were 8 outworkers in the August List and the nature of the work undertaken was wearing apparel. In all other respects there is a nil return under the prescribed table.

PETROLEUM STORAGE

Under the Petroleum Regulation Act, 31 licences to store petroleum spirit and petroleum mixtures were issued. Twenty-two inspections were made.

PET ANIMALS ACT

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

PEST CONTROL

176 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.

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.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Daily readings of air pollution are taken both as regards smoke and the presence of sulphur dioxide and these indicate that the degree of pollution is low. 148 visits were made during the year regarding bonfires, smoke from factories and domestic chimneys and the installation of new industrial furnaces.

The following is the summary of smoke and sulphur dioxide readings from the Atmospheric Pollution Recording Unit in Rayleigh during 1967:

	Smoke Results		SO ₂		Smoke/SO ₂ Ratio
	Average	Highest Day	Average	Highest Day	
January	70	151	126	382	.56
February	37	120	71	243	.52
March	24	51	76	202	.32
April	22	38	55	87	.40
May	17	42	62	114	.28
June	10	28	52	111	.19
July	N	23	N	85	N
August	14	37	64	112	.22
September	22	49	57	100	.39
October	20	44	73	137	.27
November	51	88	105	216	.49
December	59	133	133	302	.44

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

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

The following is a summary of the 2,538 visits and inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1967:

Atmospheric Pollution	148
Caravans and Camping Sites	45
Drainage and Sewerage	80
Factories and Outworkers	7
Watercourses	16
Food Premises	240
Houseboats	3
Housing:	
Demolition Order Procedure	5
Repairs	142
Improvement Grants	112
Rehousing	159
Overcrowding	Nil
Infectious Disease and Food	
Poisoning	237
Noise Abatement	64
Nuisances	346
Offices and Shops	198
Pest Control	176
Petroleum Storage	22
Litter	20
Public Conveniences	30
Refuse Collection and Disposal	213
Swimming Pools	71
Water Supplies	32
Unclassified	180

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

During 1967 four offices and thirteen retail shops were registered and general inspections were carried out at twelve offices and 186 retail shops, the total inspections being 198.

At 31st December the following premises were registered:-

Offices	42
Retail Shops	124
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	5
Catering Establishments	11
Fuel Storage Depot	1

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

Offices	252
Retail Shops	622
Wholesale Depts, Warehouses	31
Catering Establishments open to the Public	61
Canteens	1
Fuel Storage Depot	4

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

NOISE

It was found that most of the contractors working on roads now fitted mufflers to their road machines and where in a few instances these were found not to be fitted a warning had the desired result.

HOUSING

A total of 571 houses, bungalows and flats are either owned or managed by the Council. 90 of these have been completed during 1967, and included 8 one-bedroomed bungalows in Sir. Walter Raleigh Drive.

Of private dwellings, 161 were completed during the year and a further 212 were under construction on 31st December 1967. Restriction on development because of drainage problems and the economic situation, explains these lower figures.

There were 263 applicants on the Council's Housing Waiting List at the end of the year, 139 of which were new applications during 1967.

Rehousing on Medical Grounds

16 cases referred to me during the year for recommendation on medical grounds; following investigation, the recommendations reported were:-

- "A" = 7 (For consideration for over-riding priority)
- "B" = 6 (A medical priority does exist)
- "C" = 3 (No real medical indication)

Further, I recommended the transfer of three existing tenants on medical grounds. Eight families who had at any time been the subject of a medical recommendation were rehoused during the year.

Housing for the Aged

There are 89 units of accommodation provided specially for old people and 32 of these have a warden and ancillary services. Building work for a further proposed purpose-built establishment to accommodate 36 units had not commenced during the year. There were 163 pensioners on the waiting list at 31st December.

Housing Improvements and Slum Clearance

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

Unfit Houses demolished	4
Unfit Houses repaired	8
Closing Orders	Nil
Improvement Grants approved	13
Improvements carried out	5

Since 1956 demolition order procedure under the slum clearance programme has resulted in 47 properties being demolished.

Caravan Sites

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

Houseboats

There is one registered houseboat moored within the district.

FOOD HYGIENE

Inspection and Supervision of Food:

There are 115 food establishments in the Rayleigh Urban District, all of which are fitted with wash hand basins, hot and cold water, etc., to comply with Regulations 16 of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1960. All to some extent sell open food and have sinks, etc for the washing of equipment to comply with Section 19 of the Regulations.

The premises are summarised as follows:-

Bakers	3
Butchers	12
Cafes and Restaurants	11
Canteens:	
Industrial	8
School	7
Confectioners	14
Cooked Meat Manufacturers	1
Fishmongers:	
Wet, Fried and Shell	5
General Provisions	32
Greengrocers	7

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Licensed Premises	12
Clubs	2
Potato Washing Factory	1

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

Preserved Foods

There are 11 premises registered for the manufacture of sausages and preserved foods under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955.

Ice Cream

32 retailers and one manufacturer in Rayleigh are registered under the Ice Cream Regulations.

Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963

There are no pasteurisation plants in the District and no instances of unpasteurised liquid egg being used came to the notice of the Department.

Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry dressing stations within the District.

Unsound Food

4,460 lbs. of food was voluntarily surrendered and condemned as unfit for human consumption, and disposed of at the refuse tip.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Measles

Although there were nearly twice as many cases of measles in Rayleigh in 1967 as in 1966, the incidence was not heavy for an epidemic year, representing 1.7% of the population. 16 cases occurred under one year of age.

Infective Hepatitis

There was a sharp rise in cases of infective jaundice in Rayleigh during 1967. 8 of the cases were under 25 years of age and the other three in their early thirties. The mother of one young man was a waitress in the City and had to be excluded from her work.

Food Poisoning

One of the three cases notified *Clostridium Welchii* was isolated from a stool specimen on one lady who had eaten sardines some 10 hours before onset of symptoms. One man who returned by air from Venezuela was reported to have had symptoms after arrival in this country. Shellfish was suspected but not confirmed.

Dysentery and Diarrhoeal Disease

The 7 confirmed cases of dysentery occurring during the year involved two families only. A further 16 cases of gastro-enteritis were reported, mainly by the schools, but investigations proved negative. Altogether, these involvements necessitated 85 specimens being sent to the Public Health Laboratory.

Tuberculosis

The following table shows the position for the year 1967:-

Number of cases on register at 1st January	99
New cases notified during year	9
Transfers into Area during year	2
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	110
Number recovered during year	10
Number moved away in year	2
Died	2
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Number remaining on register at 31st Dec.	96

Notification rate represented 3.6 per 10,000 of the population.

Of the two persons who died, the cause in one case was tuberculosis and in the other it was a malignant growth.

The 1967 figures are relatively bad despite a notable turn out at the mass x-ray survey in 1966. There is a deduction in the number of cases in the register, but the notification is about one third above the national rate. Obviously, the pool of infection in Rayleigh has by no means yet been drained.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

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

	RAVLEIGH								Totals
	Under 1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 & Over	
Acute Primary Pneumonia	4	13	12	1	2	10	8	10	60
Dysentery	-	2	2	1	1	1	-	-	7
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	3
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	1	2	5	3	-	-	11
Measles	16	241	158	-	1	1	-	-	417
Meningococcal Meningitis	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	-	8	2	1	-	-	-	-	11
Whooping Cough	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	5
	21	267	177	5	10	16	9	11	516

ROCHFORD RURAL DISTRICT
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

D.J. Twomey (Chairman)
P.W. Ball (Vice-Chairman)
P.S. Belton
Mrs. D.M. Boothby
B. Harwood
B.A. Hubble
G.W. Lester
E.W. Mumford, B.E.M.
C.E. O'Leary
S.G. Robson, J.P. (Chairman of Council)
G.W.R. Snow
R.J. Yeo (Vice-Chairman of Council)

LOCAL
STATISTICS

Area (in acres) .. ..	..	..	..	36,220
Number of Habitable Houses	..	..	..	13,403
Number of Inhabited Houses	..	..	..	13,098
Population (1961 Census)	..	..	..	30,258
Population (mid-year estimate 1967)	..	..	..	38,140
Rateable Value	)as at 31st		£1,390,791	
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	)March, 1968		£5,712	

VITAL
STATISTICS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate per</u> <u>1,000</u>	<u>Corrected</u> <u>Rate</u>
Total Live Births ..	435	412	847	22.2	21.1
Illegitimate Births	15	18	33	38.6	
Total Deaths	255	272	527	13.8	10.6
Deaths of Infants:					
Under 1 year of age	10	5	15	17.5	
Under 4 weeks " "	10	4	14	16.4	
Under 1 week " "	9	3	12	14.0	
Stillbirths	4	8	12	13.8	
Perinatal Mortality	13	11	24	27.7	
(Includes deaths under one week and stillbirths)					

Note: The Area Comparability Factors, as applied for the Corrected Birth and Death Rates are - Births 0.95 and Deaths 0.77.

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1967

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 1 year	10	5	15
1 and under 5	2	1	3
5 " " 15	-	-	-
15 " " 25	3	3	6
25 " " 35	2	1	3
35 " " 45	6	2	8
45 " " 55	14	15	29
55 " " 65	35	22	57
65 " " 75	81	45	126
75 and upwards	102	178	280
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	255	272	527

DEATHS BY CAUSE

<u>Cause</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Syphilitic Disease	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	6	2	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	23	4	27
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	6	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	3	3
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	18	17	35
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	2	1	3
Diabetes	2	3	5
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	56	120	176
Coronary Disease, Angina	71	32	103
Hypertension with Heart Disease	3	7	10
Other Heart Disease	9	18	27
Other Circulatory Disease	8	6	14
Pneumonia	8	11	19
Bronchitis	12	7	19
Other Diseases of Respiratory System.. .. .	4	2	6
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	2	3
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	2	1	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-	2
Congenital Malformations	3	1	4
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	15	20	35
Motor Vehicle Accidents	4	-	4
All Other Accidents	2	6	8
Suicide	2	1	3
Homicide and Operations of War	1	-	1
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Totals	255	272	527

COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

The Rochford birth rate continues to be somewhat above the national rate even after applying the necessary correction factor, and in fact the ratio of the local adjusted birth rate to the national rate is 1.23. The perinatal mortality was 28 per 1,000 total births, a little above the national rate of 25.4, but the infant mortality of 18 per 1,000 live births is near to the national rate of 18.3.

The death rate is also near to the national average, the ratio of the local adjusted death rate to the national rate being 0.95. The lung cancer death rate is about 20% above the national rate, the coronary heart disease death rate about 20% above the national rate and the death rate from bronchitis above the level of the national rate.

WELFARE OF THE AGED

During 1967, 23 elderly people were referred to the Department, although there were numerous instances when elderly enquirers were referred to the appropriate section of the health or welfare services. The above referrals included 12 who were the subject of a recommendation on medical grounds, and these are dealt with in detail under the Housing Section of the Report. Of the remaining 11, eight were females and the outcome was as follows:

Admitted to Welfare Homes	2
Admitted to Hospital	3
Gone away with relatives	2
Referred to Mental Health Dept	1
Transferred to alternative accommodation	1
Died	2

One elderly lady from Rochford was admitted to Rochford Hospital under a justices' order under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, as amended, as she was needing hospital care but refused to go voluntarily.

The organiser of the Meals on Wheels Service in the Rochford Rural District reported that 9570 meals were served in 1967. The frequency was two days a week in Ashington, Barling, Great Wakering, Little Wakering and Rochford, and three days a week in Hockley, Hawkwell and Hullbridge. Delivery is by private volunteer cars except in the Hockley, Hawkwell and Hullbridge areas, where this is augmented by an Austin mini-van which was purchased by voluntary contributions. The value of this service in a Rural District cannot be over estimated.

The Area Welfare Officer has informed me that 24 elderly people from the Rural District were admitted to County Homes during the year and a further 36 were on the waiting list at the end of 1967. He also reports that 61 pensioners were in his Department's register as being physically handicapped. A further 66 pensioners were listed blind or partially sighted. There are no County Council Welfare Homes in the Rural District, but the Homes at Canvey Island, Benfleet, Rayleigh and Westcliff are available.

WATER SUPPLY

The bulk of the main water supply to the Rural District is derived from river sources and the water is treated and softened at the Southend Waterworks Company's plant at Langford and at the jointly-owned plant at Hanningfield. Water is drawn during certain seasons of the year from wells at Wakering Wick, Great Wakering, Barling and South Fambridge. Samples of treated water are examined daily by resident chemists and bacteriologists, and these showed the water to be of normal chemical character and good bacteriological quality. The water is not likely to have any plumbo-solvent action. The fluoride content of the river water is about .25 ppm, and of the well water, between 2.0 and 4.0 p.p.m.

506 supplies were connected to the mains and 4,920 yards of main were laid in 1967.

To supply eight properties and a brickfield, Cherry Orchard Lane, Rochford, the Council agreed with the Water Company for 650 yards of main to be laid, at a non-returnable contribution of £2,162, plus wayleaves, of this a private contribution of £1,000 was received by the Council and it was completed in October, 1967.

The following table shows the houses on main supply, with estimated population for each Parish of the Rural District as at 31st December, 1967:-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Houses on main supply</u>	<u>Estimated population on main supply</u>
*Ashingdon (including South Fambridge)	2,503	899	2,578
Barling Magna (including Little Wakering)	2,747	436	1,179
Canewdon	6,845	362	1,030
Foulness Island **	7,235	82	294
Great Wakering	3,314	1,296	3,886
Hawkwell	1,408	3,049	8,889
Hockley	1,578	2,621	7,867 + 47
Hullbridge	2,193	1,710	5,084 +945
Paglesham	1,687	106	317
*Rochford	2,988	2,401	* 8,232 + 67
Stambridge	2,202	202	628
Sutton	1,520	64	199
Totals	36,220	13,244	40,183 + 1,059

*Three premises, involving 10 persons are served by a standpipe provided by the Council.

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

* This figure includes 478 residents of Hospital and Welfare Institutions.

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

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Approximately 90 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. The Stambridge works serves the parishes of Ashingdon, Canewdon, Hawkwell, Hockley, Rochford and Stambridge. This is the largest of the four works and serves about 8,200 properties. The Havengore sewage disposal works serves about 1,200 properties in the Parishes of Barling and Great and Little Wakering. Associated with these works are 11 pumping stations for lifting sewage.

Main drainage facilities are provided for approximately 1,250 properties and 300 caravans in the parish of Hullbridge all of which drain by agreement to the Rayleigh Urban Council's sewer for treatment at their Western Works. The provision of a sewerage system at Churchend Village Foulness was commenced in October 1966 and this scheme is expected to be complete by early 1968. It comprises 493 yards of sewers, a pumping station and small sewage treatment works. In August 1967 a sewerage system for the village of East End Paglesham was commenced comprising 693 yards of sewer, a pumping station and a small sewage treatment works. It is expected that this will be in operation by the middle of 1968.

The Council has an extensive programme for extending their sewerage systems to cope with the increase of population in the District and have engaged consulting engineers to assist in the preparation of the necessary schemes - these include the repair and extensions of the existing sewage treatment works at Havengore, (sewering Great Wakering), a new sewage treatment works at Great Stambridge to replace the existing works, new trunk relief foul sewers to improve sewerage facilities in the parishes of Hockley, Ashingdon, Hawkwell and Rochford, additional sewers and pumping station in Hullbridge, a new pumping station at Stambridge, re-equipment of the existing pumping station at Rochford, a new sewer extension with two pumping stations for the parish of Sutton. The Council are also looking into the possibility of providing surface water sewerage systems in the parishes of Hullbridge, Hockley, Hawkwell, Ashingdon and Great Wakering.

341 properties were connected to the sewer during the year, whilst 7 properties were built with cesspools and 2 with septic tanks. The lengths of sewer extensions vested in the Council during the year was 685 yards.

Night soil collection is made from 122 properties twice weekly and 72 once weekly.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

A weekly collection of house refuse is maintained throughout the Rural District. Since January 1964, properties on unmade roads have been served by a paper sack system, using a four-wheel drive vehicle. In 1967, approximately 1,200 were served by this system.

Modern rear-loading vehicles are mainly used, and 35 men and a foreman are engaged. During the year, 71 tons of various materials, value £604 were salvaged. One man is engaged on baling. Disposal is by tipping arrangement with a neighbouring authority. The quantity collected during the year was 8,648.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Sevety-seven premises are registered and seventy-five use mechanical power. A total of 33 inspections were made and one defect was found. Sixty outworkers were registered. Full particulars under the Act are shown in the following table:-

Part 1 of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health:

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of written notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	75	33	1
(iii) Other premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excloding outworkers' premises)	15	5	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases		
	Found	Remedied	Referred
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Other offences against the Act	1	1	

Part VIII of the Act

OUTWORK

Nature of Work	Number of Outworkers in August list required by Sect. 133(1)(c)
Wearing apparel	43
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	7
Furniture and Upholstery	2
Umbrellas, etc.	2
Artificial Flowers	2
Feather Sorting	1
Basket-making	1
Cosaques, Christmas Stockings etc.	2

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, 54 petrol licences were issued, one for Carbide of Calcium and five for petroleum mixtures. A total of 76 inspections were carried out.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

The following is a summary of the 2,735 visits and inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1967:-

Animal Boarding Establishments Act	4
Camping and Caravan Sites	139
Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order	16
Drainage and Sewerage	129
Factories and Outworkers	38
Food Premises	172
Houseboats	1
Housing:	
Demolition Order Procedure	4
Repairs	321
Overcrowding	1
Rent Act, 1957	2

Infectious Disease and Food Poisoning	.. ..	234
Noise Abatement Act	.. ..	19
Nuisances	.. ..	191
Offices and Shops	.. ..	112
Rats and Mice	.. ..	238
Pet Animals Act	.. ..	3
Petroleum Storage	.. ..	76
Public Conveniences	.. ..	152
Refuse Collection and Disposal	.. ..	192
Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspection	.. ..	254
Swimming Pools	.. ..	3
Verminous Premises	.. ..	7
Water Supplies	.. ..	6
Hairdressing Establishments	.. ..	24
Shellfish Samples	.. ..	18
Ships Regulations	.. ..	2
Unclassified	.. ..	377

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The following is an abstract from the annual report sent to the Ministry of Labour by the Chief Public Health Inspector:-

<u>Class of Premises</u>	<u>Registered during year</u>	<u>Registered at end of yr</u>	<u>Inspected</u>
Offices	2	69	4
Retail Shops	2	137	25
Wholesale Shops & Warehouses	-	5	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	1	11	2
Fuel Storage Depots	-	2	-

The number of employees were:-

Offices	524
Retail Shops	464
Wholesale Shops & warehouses	50
Catering establishments open to the public	27
Canteens	6
Fuel Storage Depots	9
Total:	1,080

In the above total, 492 males and 588 females were employed.

There were 112 visits made to registered premises during 1967. No accidents were reported.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

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

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Five licences were issued under this Act, for the boarding of animals.

PEST CONTROL

There were notifications of 172 infestations of rats and mice during the year, and 275 inspections were made.

SWIMMING POOLS

Five of the Local Authority schools in the Rural District have their own swimming pools, and a suitable outfit for chlorination purposes is provided by the Education Authority. Regular tests are carried out by a master at each school 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.

HOUSING

On 31st December 1967, a total of 1,369 houses, bungalows and flats were owned and managed by the Council. Only 3 one-bedroomed bungalows were built during the year and a further two were under construction at the close of the year. Private developers completed 363 dwellings during the year and a further 387 were still under construction at the end of the year.

The number of applicants on the Council's Housing Waiting List was 689, and 152 of these were new applications during the year. 102 applications on the list were in respect of pensioners. 150 units of accommodation are provided specially for elderly people - 18 of these have warden services.

23 Housing applicants were referred to the Department for a special recommendation on medical grounds, with the following results:-

Group "A" (priority on medical grounds)	5
Group "B" (a medical need exists)	11
Group "C" (no medical need)	3

Two referrals were already living in Council accommodation and a transfer to a ground-floor property was recommended on medical grounds. A further applicant was seeking a 100% mortgage from the Council, and assistance for medical support was requested and given. One referral moved away before a medical grading could be given. Four families who had been the subject of a medical recommendation were rehoused during the year.

Action taken under the Housing Acts during 1967 is summarised as follows:

Demolition Orders Made	7
Closing Orders Made	1
Unfit Houses demolished (informal)	18
(formal)	7
Unfit Houses repaired	7
Improvements carried out under Grant Schemes	24

FOOD HYGIENE

Meat Inspection

The following is a summary of the 796 food animals killed and inspected at the Rochford Slaughterhouse:-

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle excluding Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	193	-	187	416
All diseases (except tuberculosis and cysticerci)				
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	27	-	-	8
Percentage affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	14%	-	-	1.92%
Tuberculosis only:				
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	4
Percentage affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	0.96%
Cystercosis:				
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	-	-	-

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960

There are 236 food establishments in the Rural District, and these are summarised below in connection with the requirements of the above Regulations:

<u>Trades</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Food Hygiene General Regulations, 1960</u>		
		Number of premises complying with Reg.16	Number of premises to which Reg.19 applies	Number of premises complying with Reg.19
Bakers	8	8	8	8
Butchers	19	19	19	19
Cafes and Restaurants ..	13	13	13	13
Canteens:				
Industrial	8	8	8	8
School	17	17	17	17
Confectioners	33	33	27	27
Fishmongers	7	7	7	7
General Provisions	63	63	63	63
Greengrocers	14	14	14	14
Licensed Premises/Clubs ..	48	48	48	48
Pickle Factories	2	2	2	2
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 areas where such firms operate are advised.

During 1967, 2,261 lbs. of meat and other foods, excluding meat at slaughterhouses, 95 tins and 535 packets of various foodstuffs were condemned.

Preserved Food

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

Hawkers of Food

Twelve persons are registered under the Essex County Council Act, 1952 Section 103, for the sale of food from a vehicle in the Rural District.

Ice Cream

There are 86 retailers of ice cream in the District, and six samples were taken during the year. All were of satisfactory bacteriological standard.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Measles

There were 649 cases notified during 1967, representing 17 cases per 1,000 population. All but 5 occurred in children under 15 years, and 26 children under one year were affected. The previous highest incidence was in 1963 when 632 cases were notified.

Infective Hepatitis

The 8 cases notified in 1967 occurred in the first five months of the year and included a husband and wife. The increased incidence in the years 1963 and 1964 (88 cases) appears to have ceased as only 28 cases have been reported in the past three years.

Dysentery and Gastro Enteritis

Of the 22 cases notified, 18 were confirmed by bacteriological examination as suffering from Shigella Sonnei. Arising from these cases and a few other cases of unexplained gastro enteritis, 109 faecal specimens were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory.

Food Poisoning

Four cases of food poisoning were formally notified. One young man became ill following a meal at a Chinese Restaurant but no organism was isolated. A five year old child was admitted to Hospital with complications following Mumps and Salmonella Brandenburg was isolated from a stool specimen in Hospital, although this was somewhat coincidental as no food involvement could be ascertained. A three year old child was investigated following notification with negative results apart from the initial symptoms.

The remaining case was a middle aged man who was reported by the Hospital where treatment was being given. Salmonella Virchow was isolated from stool specimens but no food was incriminated.

An outbreak of gastro enteritis associated with a school meal was reported.

Sixty-one children attending an Infants School were taken ill with vomiting and/or diarrhoea during the early hours of the 26th October. Two other children suffered from gastric discomfort. The 61 children had all had a meal at the school on the previous day consisting of toad-in-the-hole and fruit with hot chocolate sauce. Bowel specimens taken from the children and from the canteen staff showed no specific pathogenic organism. A non-pathogenic organism was present in a minority in each group and this organism was also present in the chocolate sauce. The Canteen Assistant who prepared the chocolate sauce had a cold at the time and it seems possible that she might have contaminated the chocolate sauce with staphylococci. This organism is destroyed by heat but certain strains produce a toxin which is not destroyed by heat. It is, therefore, possible that the chocolate sauce contained an irritant toxin, although pathogenic staphylococci were not subsequently isolated. All the children were able to return to school after the weekend and this relatively rapid recovery is consistent with food poisoning due to toxin.

Tuberculosis

The following table shows the position for the year 1967:-

Number of cases on register at 1st January	165
New cases notified during year	13
Transfers into area during year	8
	<u>186</u>
Number recovered during year	10
Number moved away in year	4
Died	<u>4</u>
Number remaining on register at 31st Dec.	<u>168</u>

Of the four persons who died, the cause of death was not directly attributed to tuberculosis.

Notification rate represented 3.4 per 10,000 of the population.

The Tuberculosis rate remains high, about 25% above the national rate. The incidence of Tuberculosis has risen during 1967. Nine cases were notified in 1965, four in 1966 and thirteen in 1967. The number on the register has slightly increased.

PORT HEALTH

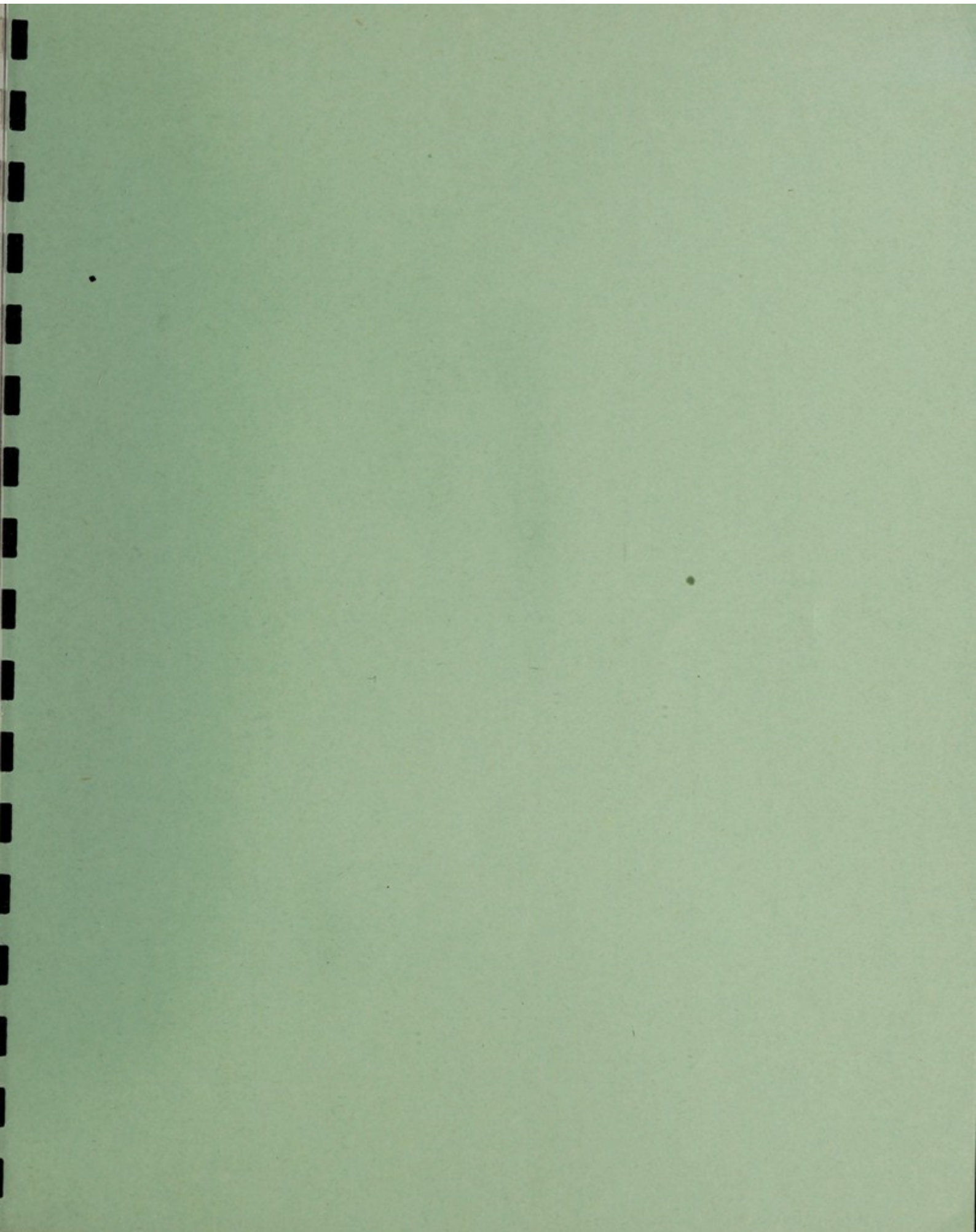
Fifty Maritime Declarations of Health were received during 1967 from the Masters of Ships arriving at Creeksea (i.e. Wallasea Island). No health or quarantine problems arose from any of these ships.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

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

ROCHFORD

	Under 1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 & over	Totals
Acute Primary Pneumonia	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	2	6
Dysentery	8	-	3	1	1	8	1	-	22
Food Poisoning	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	4
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	1	7	-	-	8
Measles	26	390	224	4	3	2	-	-	649
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	33	33	-	-	66
Scarlet Fever	-	9	8	-	1	-	-	-	18
Whooping Cough	2	18	7	-	-	-	-	-	27
	38	419	243	5	40	52	2	2	801



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