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Contributors

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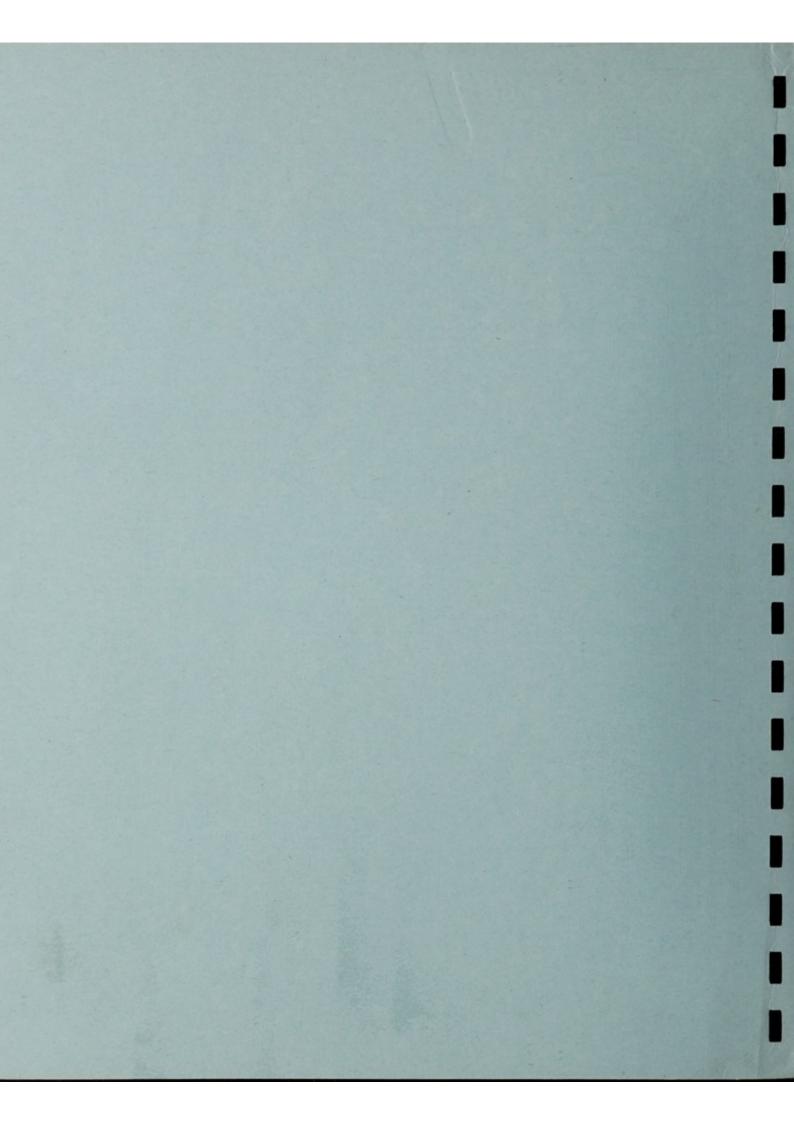
PUBLIC HEALTH

in

South East Essex

1971

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 1971

Telephone: RAYLEIGH 6101

Public Health Department, 134 High Street, Rayleigh, Essex, SS6 7BX.

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Public Health has been defined by the World Health Organisation as the science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life, and promoting health and efficiency through organised community efforts for the sanitation of the environment, the control of communicable infections, the education of the individual in personal hygiene, and the organisation of medical and nursing services for the early diagnosis and preventive treatment of disease, and the development of social machinery to ensure for every individual a standard of living adequate for the maintenance of health, so organising these benefits as to enable every citizen to realise his birthright of health and longevity.

The organisation of the medical and nursing services referred to and part of the education of the individual in personal hygiene and the development of social machinery are responsibilities of the County Council. Most of the rest is the province of the Composite Public Health Committee and the Public Health Departments of the four District Councils and this is the record of how we have carried out these tasks during 1971.

The vital statistics are both a guide to the future and a measure of achievement in the past. The most noteworthy item of the 1971 vital statistics is the number of births on Canvey Island. They are almost three-quarters of the births in Benfleet, and the crude birth rate of 23.4% per thousand is the highest ever for Canvey Island. In all four districts the death rate is reasonable. Since the death rate is obviously affected by population structure, the best measure is the standardised death rate and this is throughout the area below that for England and Wales, being 10.4 in Rayleigh, 8.7 in Rochford, 8.4 in Benfleet and 7.6 in Canvey Island.

The other significant index on community health, infant mortality, is less accurate since numbers of deaths, fortunately, are now small. Rayleigh, following an apparent favourable figure of 5.2 in 1970, has an apparent unfavourable figure of 21.7 in 1971. In the other three Districts the figures are low, 11.8 in Benfleet, 9.5 in Canvey Island and 7.2 in Rochford.

Health Education carried out during the year included the 5 Day Stop Smoking Course at Benfleet 24th-28th May, a Water Safety Display at the Rayleigh Town Show in July, a Water Safety Float which won the second prize at Southend Carnival in August, the 7th Food Hygiene Course for food handlers at Southend College of Technology (Certificate of the Royal Society of Health)

September to November, and a further 5 day Stop Smoking Course at Rayleigh September 27th-October 1st.

The Report of the Secretary of the Home Safety Committee on the useful year's work forms Appendix 'B'.

The last Report of the Mass Radiography Unit is given as Appendix 'C'. It is a matter of considerable regret that this very useful monitoring device will be so severely restricted in the future. Mobile Mass Radiography Units continue to be available in Essex but the opportunities for screening of the general public by this means are now becoming very limited. I would have preferred a reasonable fleet of units to be available until Pulmonary Tuberculosis was completely eradicated in South East Essex.

The changes in the provision of free school milk, cheap welfare milk and cheap school dinners were announced in October 1970, but largely came into effect in 1971. I think it is true to say that they came as a shock to the Public Health Service in general and to the Medical Officers of the Public Health Service in particular. This is not to say that the changes were wrong, ill-judged or unnecessary. They came as a shock because they were unexpected.

It had become something of a tradition in the Public Health Service that the measures introduced to improve general child nutrition in the late thirties and during World War II - cheap or free school meals, free school milk, welfare milk, orange juice and cod liver oil - vastly improved child health and nutrition and had, over the years, produced a much healthier adult population. Study of the child death rates during the War years and since has seemed to support this view. Rickets and scurvy have disappeared and there seems some evidence to suggest that the health of British children is, on average, better than that of children in the United States of America.

However, when one studies the available figures carefully, it becomes clear that there is not a cast-iron case for providing free school milk for children in the Junior Departments of Primary Schools. It is possible that if one were given a limited amount of money to maintain and improve the nutrition of children in this age group, one would choose some other means of providing nutritional supplement. A portion of cheese and a glass of orange juice for example, might be as effective as one third of a pint of milk as nutritional supplement.

Sir George Godber, Chief Medical Officer of the Department of Health & Social Security, in his report for the year 1970, says "It is, however, appropriate to ask Nutritionists two questions: a) Does any general surplus of nutrients above individual requirements exist at present in the nation's diet? The records of the National Food Survey show that between 1954-58, following the lifting of rationing and price controls, there was a reduction in the consumption of some nutrients and a rise in the consumption of energy giving foods. During that time, sugar, which supplies only energy, and fat which supplies mainly energy, displaced other foods which, together with energy, supply protein, minerals and water soluble vitamins. This, however, was not associated with demonstrable harm and in the years subsequent to 1959 the general quality of the national diet rose to a level above that of 1954, this being due to increased consumption of foods of animal origin. This is

reassuring but it does not justify the conclusion that a surplus of all nutrients now exists for all who might be affected by the policy changes.

b) Are there means by which any adverse effects which might arise from food policy changes, can be detected at a stage when they are both mild and reversible? To answer this question a Sub-Committee on Nutritional Surveyance (Chairman Professor F.G. Young F.R.S.) has been set up to report to the Committee on Medical Aspects of Food Policy. The issues relate to the very frontiers of nutritional knowledge where there is little or no previous experience".

Moves which will in the future change arrangements and conditions in South East Essex began in 1971. The Foulness area was selected for the next London Airport. This will, at the very least, lead to considerable increase of population in South East Essex.

The Secretary of State for Health & Social Security has set up Working Parties to consider the organisation and management of a possible re-organised National Health Service and collaboration between Local Authorities and the Social Services. A Bill for the re-organisation of local government in England and Wales began its passage through Parliament. Legislation to integrate the United Kingdom to the European Economic Community was also outlined.

1971, therefore, was an interesting and eventful year.

From the community's point of view it was a healthy year. Much still remains to be done in Community Health and Community Medicine and it is possible that the amputation of certain Community Health Services from the body of Local Government and their grafting on to the National Health Service trunk may, after a time, speed and ease the necessary improvements.

I look forward to the future with cautious hope.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D.A. SMYTH

Medical Officer of Health

November, 1972

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

COMPOSITE PUBLIC HEALTH

Medical Officer of Health:

D.A. Smyth, M.B., M.F.C.M., F.R.S.H. (Also Area Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer, South-East Essex).

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

E. Eileen Hodgson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Also Departmental Medical Officer,

Essex County Council).

Health Education Officer:

Miss E. Stevenson, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., F.W.I., M.G.H.E., M.I.H.E. (Appointed 12th January, 1971).

Administrative Assistant:

Clerical Staff:

R.F. Stripp

Mrs. P.A. Hase Mrs. P. Thomas

CANVEY ISLAND U.D.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

A.P.J. Cook, M.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.H. & H.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

Public Health Inspector:

F. Ritson, M.A.P.H.I.

P. Hilton, M.A.P.H.I.

(Appointed 1st September 1971).

Pupil Public Health Inspectors:

P. Hilton (Jointly with Rayleigh U.D.C.).

(Resigned 31st August 1971).

T.P. Quinn

(Transferred from Technical Assistant to Pupil Public Health Inspector as from

23rd September 1971).

Clerical Staff:

Mrs. W. Edwards Mrs. E. Stratford

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:

A.F. Knuckey, M.A.P.H.I. N. Pantling, M.A.P.H.I.

Authorised Meat Inspector:

Pupil Public Health Inspectors:

R. Spellman

Miss L. Watson Miss D. Drury

(Appointed 6th September 1971).

Clerical Staff:

P. Fowles

RAYLEIGH U.D.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

Public Health Inspector:

Pupil Public Health Inspector:

Technical Assistant:

Clerical Staff:

ROCHFORD R.D.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

Public Health Inspectors:

Clerical Staff:

E.H. Lloyd, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

E.D. Long, M.A.P.H.I.

P. Hilton (Jointly with Canvey Island

U.D.C.)

(Resigned 31st August 1971).

D. Britt

(Appointed 15th November 1971).

Mrs. M. Furness

Mrs. C. Pedgrift (Part-time).

H. Jepson, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

J.R. Bullock, M.A.P.H.I. D.I. Gander, M.A.P.H.I.

(Resigned 31st August 1971).

Mrs. Z. Sargent

COMPOSITE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

CANVEY ISLAND U.D.C.

Councillor R.S. Ives Councillor M.F. Luker Councillor F.P. Wood

BENFLEET U.D.C.

Councillor Mrs. E.D. Gallienne Councillor Mrs. M.E. Willis Councillor L.A. Laffan

RAYLEIGH U.D.C.

Councillor Mrs. D.S. Hawtree

Councillor W.H. Bessant (Chairman)

Councillor L.K. Cope

ROCHFORD R.D.C.

Councillor Miss E.M. Leggatt Councillor Mrs. J. Robson Councillor G.W.R. Snow

CANVEY ISLAND URBAN DISTRICT

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

R.S. Ives, (Chairman)

W.H. Ashworth, (Chairman of Council)

G.W. Blackwell,

J.E. Collison,

M.F. Luker,

W.R. MacDonell,

H.A. Tibbles,

F.P. Wood.

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| TOOUT | | | |
|------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| STATISTICS | Area (in acres) | | 4,421 |
| | Number of habitable houses | | 9,978 |
| | Number of inhabited houses | | 9,851 |
| | Population (1971 Census) | | 26,462 |
| | Population (mid-year estimate 1971) |) | 26,920 |
| | Rateable Value | as at 31st | £1,026,895 |
| | Sum represented by a Penny Rate |) March 1972 | £10,100 |
| | | | |

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| STATISTICS | | | | Pata non 1 000 | Standardised |
|--|--------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| | Male | Female | Total | Rate per 1,000 Population | Rate |
| Total live births Total deaths | 353 135 | 278 118 | 631 253 | 23.4 9.4 | 27.8 7.6 |
| | | | | Rate per 1,000 live births | |
| Illegitimate births Infant deaths Neonatal deaths | 20 4 2 | 15 2 1 | 35 6 3 | 55.5 9.5 4.8 | |
| | | | | Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths | |
| Stillbirths Perinatal mortalit (Includes stillbir | | 3 4 deaths in | 5 8 first | 7.9 12.6 week of life) | |

Note:

The Area Comparability Factors, as applied for the Standardised Birth and Death Rates are - Births 1.19 and Deaths 0.81.

DEATHS BY CAUSE

| Cause | Male | Female | Total |
|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------|-------|
| Other infective and parasitic disease | es 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus | - | 1 | 1 |
| Malignant neoplasm, stomach | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Malignant neoplasm, intestine | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| Malignant neoplasm, larynx | 1 | U 5 - | 1 |
| Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus | 20 | -71) | 20 |
| Malignant neoplasm, breast | The state of the s | 3 | 3 |
| Malignant neoplasm, uterus | The state of the s | 1 | 1 |
| Malignant neoplasm, prostate | 1 | W. House and and The | 1 |
| Leukaemia | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Other malignant neoplasms | 10 | 9 | 19 |
| Diabetes mellitus | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Mental disorders | | 1 | 1 |
| Multiple sclerosis | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Chronic rheumatic heart disease | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Hypertensive disease | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Ischaemic heart disease | 34 | 19 | 53 |
| Other forms of heart disease | 3. | 10 | 13 |
| Cerebrovascular disease | 18 | 27 | 45 |
| Other diseases of circulatory system | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Influenza | and the last of th | 1 | 1 |
| Pneumonia | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| Bronchitis and emphysema | 10 | 6 | 16 |
| Other diseases of respiratory system | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Peptic ulcer | rea are | 2 | 2 |
| Appendicitis | Tene ar | 1 | 1 |
| Intestinal obstruction and hernia | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Other diseases of digestive system | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Other diseases, genito-urinary system | n 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Diseases of musculo-skeletal system | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Congenital anomalies | 70 25 | 1 | 1 |
| Birth injury, difficult labour, etc. | Silve Carrie-new | 1 | 1 |
| Other causes of perinatal mortality | 2 | | 2 |
| Symptoms and ill defined conditions | 1 | - | 1 |
| Motor vehicle accidents | 3 | - | 3 4 |
| All other accidents | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Suicide and self-inflicted injuries | - | 1 | 1 |
| | Totals 135 | 118 | 253 |

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1971

| AGE GROUP | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL |
|---|---------------|----------|----------------|
| Under 1 year 1 and under 5 | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| 5 and under 15 15 and under 25 | 1 5 | 1 1 | 2 6 |
| 25 and under 35 35 and under 45 | 1 | 2 | 1 2 |
| 45 and under 55 55 and under 65 65 and under 75 | 8 23 41 | 15 29 | 12 38 70 |
| 75 and upwards | 51 | 64 | 115 |
| | 135 | 118 | 253 |

COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

Deaths are less than 1% of the population. Reducation in deaths for lung cancer and heart disease would reduce it further. One fifth of deaths occurred between the ages of 1 and 65, and a large proportion of these ought to be preventable.

DEATHS AT VIRDAUGHTON BRANISW1971

Fortycsix elderly prophetwere referred to the Department during the Uyear EDA as being in need of assistance of one form or another. The majority of these were referrals associated with housing problems. Details of recommendations but made will be found on page-15. Of other cases dealt with, one was admitted a to a County Welfare Home and another was admitted to the new purpose builtons a unit for the elderly at Poplar Road. The Housing Manager referred two nof behalf elderly people, involving two different sheltered units, to the Department but a because they were creatings problem beyond the scope of the facilities approvided but by the end of the year, in both cases, the situations were still contained to the part in both cases, the situations were still contained to the part in both cases, the situations were still contained to the part in both cases, the situations were still contained to the part in both cases, the situations were still contained to the part in both cases, the situations were still contained to the part in both cases, the situations were still contained to the part in both cases, the situations were still contained to the part in both cases, the situations were still contained to the part in both cases, the situations were still contained to the part in both cases, the situations were still contained to the part in both cases, the situations were still contained to the part in both cases, the situations were still contained to the part in both cases, the situation were still contained to the part in both cases, the situation was admitted to the part in the part in

In July it became necessary to seek a Justice's Order to removerable dynfrom her home for the second time. The first occasion was in June 1969 when it was necessary to seek a Justice's Order to secure her admission to hospital where she remained at that time for six weeks, on account of her chronic ulcerated legs. The situation was hindered by the unhygienic conditions in her home with a large number of dogs. The second Order in July was required because hospital treatment was again necessary for her legs and she was still in hospital (voluntarily) at the end of the year.

The South East Essex Home Safety Committee investigated and provided assistance in the bathroom for 13 elderly people on Canvey Island during 1971, details of equipment supplied being as follows:

BOITSITATE LATIV NO STUBBINOO

Meals on Wheels

The organiser of the meals on wheels service at Canvey Island, Mrs. E.A. White of the W.R.V.S., has kindly furnished me with the following details for 1971:

"A total of 5,990 meals were provided for the elderly of the district and all were delivered to private homes. Delivery was on two days per week (Tuesdays and Thursdays). A charge of 9p per meal was made and a grant of £475 was received from the Local Authority (shared by District and County) to cover the difference between charge and cost. The average number of people who benefited from this very valuable service was eighty. Delivery of the meals, in proper containers to ensure retention of heat, was made by private cars with the help of a number of volunteers and one car provided by the local Authority. Meals were provided through school kitchens, and with the co-operation of the Divisional Executive and Staff of Furtherwick Park School, meals are now being served throughout the school holidays and this accounts for the increase in number of meals provided during the year (839 more than in 1970). We are still needing volunteers to act as mates. The majority of helpers are themselves pensioners."

Canvey Council of Social Services

The Secretary, Mrs. E. Rendall, has kindly provided me with details as follows of her Council's activities for the elderly during 1971:-

"We held a concert at Furtherwick Park School in December, and thanks to the loan of the Blue Peter Bus we were able to transport many housebound and elderly folk along for the evening, we also had voluntary drivers to bring pensioners from Amelia Blackwell House, Beatrice Littlewood House, "Willalla" and Long View.

We carried out the Canvey Island Council Chairman's Christmas Appeal and raised over £800. We were able to distribute (again with the help of 80 voluntary car drivers) 823 parcels, each to the retail value of £1, we also delivered chocolates, sweets and cigars to all the residents of Long View.

We have a visiting scheme for the elderly, and we have now started a "Volunteers Bureau", which is held at the W.R.V.S. House, High Street, Canvey Island, every Wednesday afternoon. We have the names of over 600 pensioners who would like someone to call and visit them, and hope with the help of the Liaison Officer from the Social Services Department (Mr. D. Smith) that we can set up a good visiting service, which will eventually lead to a Good Neighbour Scheme throughout the whole Island".

Essex County Council Social Services Department

Under the requirements of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970 the County Council inaugurated the new Social Services Department on 1st January, 1971 although full implementation in South East Essex did not take effect until 1st September, 1971.

The new department now embraces the previous Welfare and Childrens' Departments of the County Council and Mental Health, Home Helps and certain other functions previously under the Health Department of the County.

South-East Essex is now divided into two areas under Area Social Work Organisers - Benfleet and Canvey Island - Miss D.M. Stammers, and Rayleigh and Rochford - Mr. A.C. Scott.

There is one Home for the Elderly on Canvey Island with accommodation for 32 females and 12 males. 21 elderly people from Canvey were admitted to County Homes during 1971, and 33 were on the waiting list at the end of the year. The Social Services Department also advise me there are 67 Pensioners who are officially registered as Handicapped Persons, and 65 Pensioners who are on the Blind Register either wholly blind or partially sighted.

Private Accommodation for the Elderly

The Abbeyfield Society have one establishment on Canvey Island providing eight flatlets to elderly people, with a resident house keeper.

WATER SUPPLY

The main water supply is lime softened river water from the Hanningfield Works of the Essex Water Company but this is supplemented when necessary from boreholes at Leighbeck and Holehaven.

The Hanningfield supply is of moderate hardness (140 parts per million) but the boreholes yield soft water (30 parts per million) with a moderately high fluoride content of 1.5 to 2.0 parts per million. There is no evidence of plumbo solvency.

361 additional supplies were connected, 3,323 yards of new main were laid and 712 yards abandoned during 1971.

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 progessing 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 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 first phase of the scheme for sewering the Winter Gardens area has been completed which provides sewers in Champlain Avenue, Central Avenue, Church Parade and Tabora Avenue. These provide facilities for the majority of existing properties in the area and will allow for new development. It is anticipated that phase two of the scheme will be constructed in 1972. Completion of these schemes will leave the Sixty Acre Area, which is sparsely developed, as the only area without sewerage facilities. The Sixty Acre Area is scheduled for development not earlier than 1975 and will involve some re-development and variation of the present pattern of layout. Drainage of this area will require the construction of a new pumping station.

Arrangements have been agreed with the Essex River Authority for certain limited storm water overflows to be constructed and this work will be put in hand in 1972.

Apart from the Sixty Acre Area, drainage arrangements at Canvey Island are considered to be reasonably satisfactory.

A night soil collection service is undertaken in the Winter Gardens and Sixty Acres area, which remain unsewered to date. The service is carried out under Contract, and is on a weekly basis.

The Essex River Authority report that no serious drainage difficulties were experienced on Canvey Island during the year apart from occasional surcharging of soil sewers during heavy storms.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Domestic and trade refuse continues to increase, and during 1971 approximately 73,035 cubic yards of refuse was collected; the Special Purpose Bulk Refuse Vehicle has shown its worth in clearing larger household furniture, a service run free of charge.

DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD

There is only one burial ground at Canvey Island located at St. Katherine's Churchyard. In the five years 1967-1971 there was an average of 94 interments annually and an average of 62 new graves. On this basis and allowing for the continued growth of population, the Vicar, Rev. J.A. Fleetwood, estimates there is room for new burials for another five years.

Over the past five years there have been an average of 252 deaths annually. Cremation, therefore, would appear to account for a little over 60% of all deaths. From 1945-1969 the number of Crematoria in Great Britain increased from 58 to 200. The proportion of burials among total deaths is therefore likely to decrease but this could well be offset by the rapid development at Canvey Island. 40% of all new houses built in South East Essex in 1970 and 1971 have been on Canvey.

I understand no provision is contemplated by the Council for new burial grounds.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

The following is a summary of the 5,100 visits and inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1971:-

| Atmospheric Pollution Aged Persons Caravan Sites, etc. Cleansing Services Drainage and Sewerage Food Premises Flooding and Watercourses Factories Housing: Demolition Procedure Repairs Improvement Grants/Housing Act '69 Re-housing Rent Act Overcrowding Houseboats Icecream Infectious Disease and food poisoning Methane/Petroleum Meat and Food Inspection Noise Abatement Nuisances Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act Oil Pollution Pest Control Pet Animals Rats and Mice Swimming Pools Unclassified Water Supplies Shops Act Civic Amenities Act | 147 31 138 440 98 258 67 74 298 770 55 179 10 16 6 10 355 192 85 27 160 275 10 120 20 199 24 936 77 914 |
|--|--|
| Total: 5, | ,100 |

ESTABLISHMENTS FOR MASSAGE OR SPECIAL TREATMENT

The premises of the following chiropodist are licensed by the Essex County Council under Part IV of the Essex County Council Act 1933:-

P.H. Owens, 82 High Street, Canvey Island

FACTORIES ACT 1961

There are 89 premises registered and all use mechanical power. 74 inspections were made arising from which one defective sanitary convenience was found and remedied. The number of outworkers recorded is 24 all being engaged in manufacture of wearing apparel, apart from one worker on pot scourers and cork extractors. In all other respects there is a nil return under the prescribed table.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

147 visits and inspections were made during the year, a number of these arising from complaints which concerned emissions from outside the District. Where Refineries were concerned, excellent liaison arrangements already existing continue to operate well.

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 observations:-

| | Smoke (micogram cubic me | | SO ₂ (microgradus cubic me | rams per etre) | Smoke/SO ₂ |
|-----------|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| | Average | Highest Day | Average | Highest Day | Ratio |
| January | 59 | 166 | 110 | 481 | 0.54 |
| February | 52 | 146 | 97 | 310 | 0.54 |
| March | 28 | 54 | 69 | 156 | 0.41 |
| April | 25 | 67 | 53 | 140 | 0.47 |
| May | 16 | 38 | 43 | 103 | 0.37 |
| June | 13 | 28 | 39 | 67 | 0.33 |
| July | 13 | 29 | 33 | 71 | 0.39 |
| August | 14 | 25 | 31 | 57 | 0.45 |
| September | 26 | 54 | 54 | 125 | 0.48 |
| October | 27 | 70 | 59 | 157 | 0.46 |
| November | 41 | 93 | 84 | 225 | 0.49 |
| December | N | 112 | N | 273 | - |

PETROLEUM AND METHANE STORAGE

Fourteen licences to store petroleum spirit were issued during the year and a total of 192 inspections were made. The inground storage of liquid methane continued using advanced cryogenic engineering techniques. Three of the licences issued concerned three major installations.

The Gas Council/North Thames Gas Board Methane Terminal imports into this country Algerian natural gas in liquid form by two special methane tankers,

the "Methane Princess" and the "Methane Progress". Each of these tankers carries 12,000 tons, discharging at the Terminal Jetty approximately every six days, making an annual imput to the storage units of 700,000 tons. At any one time the licensed storage of liquid natural gas is a maximum 110,000 tons, contained in eight specially constructed insulated overground tanks and four underground storage units, liquid temperature being -258F, above which "boil-off" to gaseous state occurs, for which purpose a "boil-off" Compressor House is in construction. This extensive terminal is located adjacent to the main deep water channel on the western section of the Thames Estuary foreshore. Road tanker access is to Thames Road and the main Canvey Road leading off Canvey, across the Benfleet Creek.

To the west of the Methane Terminal is situated the older established London and Coastal Oil Wharves, a private Company storing products for various companies with their own tanker and barge jetties to receive the product into overground tankage. Currently the petroleum licence permits maximum storage of 186,845 tons of petroleum spirit and oils.

The third major installation is the Texaco Oil Company's Terminal, with their own deep water tanker jetty and overground oil storage tanks west of the Methane Terminal and north of the London and Coastal Depot. The 1970 Petroleum Licence permits a maximum storage of 60,000 tons of petroleum spirit and oil products. Road Tankers leave both these latter installations by Haven Road, joining the main Canvey Road some quarter-mile west of the point where tankers, from the Methane Terminal join this main road off Canvey Island. A fire occurred at the Terminal on 20th April, 1971 involving a road tanker which had just completed filling. The driver received out-patient treatment for burns of face and arms which were not serious. A report was submitted to the Home Office.

This complex of three major installations, as will be seen, occupy adjacent sites on the south-west deep water foreshore of Canvey, which is the least populated area of the southern foreshore of the District.

Further westwards is farmland extending to the most westerly point of Canvey, and part of this area has been proposed for an oil refinery for which an Industrial Development Certificate has been issued by the Government and in respect of which a Local Public Enquiry was held in November 1970. Prior to this in 1965, a Public Enquiry was held in respect of proposals for an Oil Refinery on land north of this site, west of Canvey Road, on appeal by another Oil Company. At the time of going to press, the reports of the Government Inspectors conducting these Public Enquiries rest with the Government Minister concerned whose decision is awaited.

West of Canvey Island and on a peninsular of land separated from it by a tidal creek some quarter-mile wide, stand two large Oil Refineries at Coryton and Shell Haven within the Urban District of Thurrock.

Over the past years local residents have been concerned by reason of the malodours of an oily nature being carried by the prevailing south-westerly winds from the oil refineries west and south of Canvey Island. To some degree parts of Benfleet and Southend-on-Sea are affected, but Canvey Island is the area chiefly affected.

However, the refineries have fully co-operated with the Government Alkali Inspectorate, Factories Inspectorate and the Licensing Local Authorities over the years. These bodies, together with a special Sub-Committee set up through the Local Authorities' Association, meet annually at the Refineries to discuss complaints, proposals and new techniques to combat atmospheric pollution. To date these activities have met with marked success, a judgement being made by the number of complaints received over the years. From the records concerning Canvey Island over the past sixteen years, the largest number of complaints received was 73 in 1958 and the smallest number was 3 in 1963.

The table below shows complaints received in each of the 16 years:-

| 1955 | - | 63 | 1961 | - | 30 | 1967 | - | 22 |
|------|---|----|------|---|----|------|---|----|
| 1956 | - | 45 | 1962 | - | 8 | 1968 | - | 8 |
| 1957 | - | 46 | 1963 | - | 3 | 1969 | - | 9 |
| 1958 | - | 73 | 1964 | - | 10 | 1970 | | 9 |
| 1959 | - | 17 | 1965 | - | 7 | 1971 | - | 7 |
| 1960 | - | 18 | 1966 | - | 8 | | | |

Bearing in mind the Refineries are constantly expanding, it is hoped this very encouraging aspect will continue, especially noting the low figure of complaints over the last three years.

PEST CONTROL

339 inspections were made during the year 199 being in respect of rats and mice.

In view of the persistent nature of D.D.T. an alternative chemical insecticide of the organo-phosphorus group was used for the control of the Brown Tail Moth (euproctis chrysorrhoea). The base is Trichlorphon and it has proved to be extremely effective, but of limited application. In view of the resistance to Warfarin being met in the control of mice the use of this pesticide has been discontinued, and replaced by alpha chloralose.

SWIMMING POOLS

Breakpoint chlorination continues to be an extremely effective method of sterilisation and 27 inspections were made during the season to the four swimming pools in the District, as follows:-

Newlands Holiday Camp Leigh Beck County Junior School St. Joseph's R.C. Primary School Furtherwick Park School

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

A total of 182 premises were registered with the Council at the end of the year, as follows:-

| | | Number Employed | |
|--|-----|--|--|
| Offices | 34 | 154) | |
| Retail Shops | 132 | 458) 247 mole | |
| Wholesale Shops, warehouses Catering Establishments | 2 | 99 247 male 546 fems | |
| open to the public, canteens | 12 | 76) | |
| Fuel Storage Depots | 2 | 6) | |
| | 182 | 793 | |
| | | The same of the sa | |

A total of 275 visits were made to registered premises during the year.

HOUSING

At the end of 1971 the Council owned and managed 1,518 units of accommodation, 123 of which were flats. 42 Council dwellings were completed during the year and a further 18 were in course of construction on 31st December, 1971.

In respect of private development, 406 dwellings were completed and a further 424 properties were still under construction at the end of the year.

In respect of the Council's housing list, there were 601 applicants awaiting rehousing at the end of the year. During the year 83 applicants had been rehoused, 10 had been removed from the list for various reasons and 130 had been accepted onto the housing list during the year. Of this number of applicants, 250 might be considered in need of urgent rehousing. 150 applications on the housing list are in respect of pensioners.

Of a total number of Council dwellings mentioned above, 238 are specially provided for old people, although some of this accommodation could equally be tenanted by young couples. Included in this number are 110 units of accommodation where the service of a Warden, communal facilities and bell warning system are provided. One new purpose built 'sheltered' complex was erected during 1971, the details being as follows:-

Willalla House, Poplar Road, Canvey Island
Cost of Contract: £60,332 - opened 16th August, 1971.
Contractor: A Prowting Ltd., Ruislip
Accommodation: 22 single units plus Warden's flat and communal
facilities

Name of Warden: Mrs. K. Wild

61 families or individuals were referred for medical classification during the year. Awards of medical points were made as follows:

The remainder involved a variety of housing needs or situations where a medical opinion was sought. In 23 cases there was no relevant medical need for rehousing. Of the remaining 9 cases 2 were rehoused by the Council before a recommendation could be made, 2 found alternative accommodation themselves, one was passed for the attention of the Social Services Department and a decision on the four remaining cases was pending at the end of the year. 7 cases which had been dealt with by the Department in previous years were brought forward for further consideration during the year, 5 of which were placed on the Council's allocation list.

The following is a summary of action taken by the Public Health Inspectors during 1971, in respect of housing matters:-

| Closing Orders . | | | 2 |
|--------------------|-------------|---------|-----|
| Demolition Order p | | | 8 |
| Demolition and Red | evelopment | | 278 |
| Improvement Grants | /Housing Ad | et 1969 | 55 |
| | | | 179 |
| Overcrowding . | | | 16 |
| Rent Act | | | 10 |

Houseboats

There are four houseboats within the Urban District, two are sited in the tidal area of Small Gains Creek, one of which is permanently occupied. The remaining two houseboats are on the south side of Benfleet Creek, of which one is occupied.

Caravan Sites

During the year a complete review of the Site Licence Conditions on the holiday caravan sites has taken place and consideration will be given to the variation of some site licence conditions. 138 inspections were made during the year.

FOOD HYGIENCE

Inspection and Supervision of Food

There are 179 food establishments at Canvey Island; these are summarised below in connection with the requirements of the Food Hygience (General) Regulations 1960:-

| to I bear to manual to be described to the Council to | tow street was placed to the p | 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 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 |
| Cafes and Restaurants Canteens: | 26 | 26 | 26 | 26 |
| Industrial | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| School | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Confectioners Cooked Meat | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 |
| Manufacturers | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Fishmongers | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 |
| General Provisions | 51 | 51 | 51 | 51 |
| Greengrocers | 18 | 15 | 18 | 18 |
| Licenced Premises | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 |

Condemned Food

During the year the Public Health Inspectors condemned 3,664 lbs. of various foods, all of which were disposed of at the Council's refuse tip at Newlands.

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 20.

Ice Cream

There are 34 retailers and 4 manufacturers registered under the Ice Cream Regulations.

Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing establishments within the Urban District.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The general incidence of infectious disease during 1971 was remarkably low, with only 24 cases of measles and 73 of mild scarlet fever. There were 31 cases of whooping cough but no cases of complications came to notice. Only one case of confirmed dysentery was discovered, although there were 104 cases of diarrhoea and vomiting brought to notice, mainly involving school children. There were a few cases of chicken pox, german measles and mumps in the schools. Only one case of acute meningitis was notified.

Measles

Only 24 cases of measles were notified from Canvey Island during 1971 as compared with 402 cases the previous year. Separate figures for measles vaccination are not available for Canvey Island but in the whole area of South East Essex there were 2,130 vaccinations in 1971 and 2,516 in 1970.

Infective Jaundice

There were 4 cases of infective jaundice during the year. One was a male aged 33 and three were females aged 14, 19 and 79. A further case came to light involving a girl aged 17 years who was notified outside the area.

Cholera

In the Autumn of 1971 49 residents of Canvey Island returning from holidays in Spain and Portugal were reported by the Health Authorities for the purpose of supervision as they had returned from epidemic areas. One family (parents and three children) who returned from Spain on the 8th October were reported to be ill with diarrhoea and vomiting (excepting the eldest child of 13). Stool specimens submitted from the whole family proved to be negative.

Food Poisoning

Of the 11 cases of food poisoning notified, four were not confirmed as on enquiry there was insufficient information to suggest that the persons concerned were suffering from food poisoning or suspected food poisoning. remaining seven cases the following Salmonellae were isolated:-

> Female (18), baby boy (5 months) Salmonella indiana

(Mother and son)

Female (26), baby girl (7 months) Salmonella panama

(Mother and daughter - chicken suspected)

Male (23) Salmonella typhimurium (re-heated mince suspected)

Unconfirmed Female (24) (Hamburgers suspected)

Female (66) (Cream sandwich suspected)

The baby infected with Salmonella indiana had previously been diagnosed in hospital in another area. Following discharge (the child being still positive to infection) the family moved to Canvey Island without my knowledge. Followup was not therefore possible until the child again became ill with symptoms and the parents sought medical advice. The investigations carried out revealed that the mother was a carrier of an earlier infection and had obviously infected her baby.

One lady who worked in the School Meals Service was reported as being ill following eating bread which was stated to be "off". A sample of bread, on submission to the Laboratory was reported as being stale and mouldy and unsuitable for bacteriological examination. The lady's stool specimen was negative.

Tuberculosis

The following table shows the position for the year 1971:

| Number of cases on r | egiste | r at | lst | Janua | ary | | 92 |
|---|--------|------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-----|
| New cases notified Transfers into area | ••• | | | | | | 3 |
| 110001010 | STATE | | year | ano ta | 807 F | eld se | 96 |
| Number recovered | | | | ••• | ••• | | 1 |
| Cases lost sight of Died | | | | ••• | | | 4 2 |
| Drea | | ••• | ••• | | ••• | | - |
| Number remaining on | Regist | er a | t 318 | st De | c. 19 | 71. | 89 |

Of the two persons who died, the causes of death were (a) myocardial infarction and old pulmonary tuberculosis and (b) carcinoma of the bronchus.

During the year a careful check was made by comparing the tuberculosis register with the Electoral Roll and the four persons removed from the register as 'lost sight of' were found to have moved from the last known address but, of course, they could either have moved out of the area or to a new address in the area, but in each case they have not been known to the Chest Clinic for some years.

From the following summary of new cases of tuberculosis notified over the past ten years, it will be observed that there has been a very marked improvement:-

| | Site | e of Dise | ease | Se | x | Line Dod Dool | Age Gro | ups |
|------|-------|-----------|------|-----------|--------|-------------------|----------|-----------|
| | Lungs | Other | | | Female | Under 15 | 16-64 | Over 65 |
| 1962 | 8 | 2 | 10 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 3 |
| 1963 | 14 | 4 | 18 | 8 | 10 | 7 | 11 | - |
| 1964 | 8 | 2 | 10 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 1 |
| 1965 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 3 | Tild telibric er | 4 | 1 |
| 1966 | 2 | - | 2 | 2 | | | 2 | - |
| 1967 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 4 | - |
| 1968 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 1969 | 6 | - | 6 | 3 | 3 | Ales (ASA) (Here) | 5 | bear loom |
| 1970 | 1 | - | 1 | equer-di | 1 | ale (55) (Ores | my - | - |
| 1971 | 1 | eed Tire | by l | or ortice | 1 | ted with Salmo | 000 1 vo | ad edit |

The population in 1962 was 16,890, and in 1971 it was 26,920. The number of notifications may rise in future but the rate per 10,000 population may continue to fall.

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

| | Under | 1-4 | 5-9 | 10-14 | 15-25 | 25-44 | 45-64 | 65 & Over | Totals |
|--------------------|-------|-----|-----|-------|-------|---------|-------|--------------|--------|
| Acute Meningitis | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 100 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Dysentery | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| Food Poisoning | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 11 |
| Infective Jaundice | 1 | 1 | 1, | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| Measles | 5 | 16 | 2 | 1 | (ata | TEL . | 1 | 200 | 24 |
| Scarlet Fever | 1 | 5 | 7 | 1 | S V | I Total | tado) | | 13 |
| Whooping Cough | 2 | 12 | 14 | 1 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 31 |
| | | | | | | | - | 1000 | |

CZI

M

BENFLEET URBAN DISTRICT

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

L.A. Laffan, (Chairman)

N.J. Crabb,

E.A. Hunt, (Vice-Chairman)

A.C. Partridge,

O.P.A. Sanderson,

P.S. Saunders,

Mrs. J.A. Selby (Chairman of Council)

A.N. Wright

| N N P P R | rea (in acres) tumber of habit tumber of inhab copulation (197 copulation (mid ateable Value um represented | able houses ited houses 1 Census) -year estin | mate 1971) as a | at 31st | 6,371 16,735 16,416 47,924 48,140 £1,781,346 £17,301 |
|--|---|--|------------------|---|--|
| VITAL STATISTICS | <u>Male</u> | Female | Total | Rate per 1,000 Population | Standardised Rate |
| Total live birth | | 413 233 | 850 461 | 17.7 9.6 | 17.2 8.4 |
| | | | | Rate per 1,000 live births | |
| Illegitimate bir Infant deaths Neonatal deaths | ths 17 7 6 | 18 3 3 | 35 10 9 | 41.2 11.8 10.6 | |
| | | | | Rate per 1,000 live & stillbirths | |
| Stillbirths Perinatal mortal (includes stillb | | 3 6 | 7 16 | 8.2 18.7 | |

NOTE:

LOCAL

The Area Comparability Factors, as applied for the Standardised Birth and Death Rates are - Births 0.97 and Deaths 0.88.

DEATHS BY CAUSE

| Cause | Male | Female | Total |
|---|--------------|--|--------------|
| Debenitie and atheritations at | ELIAN, L | | |
| Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases | A CONTRACT | - | - |
| Tuberculosis of respiratory system | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity etc. | 1 7 | in Nella - | 1 |
| Malignant neoplasm, cesophagus | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Malignant neoplasm, stomach Malignant neoplasm, intestine | 5 11 | | 11 |
| Malignant neoplasm, larynx | 2 | 11 | 22 |
| Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus | | 7 | 2 28 |
| Malignant neoplasm, breast | 25 | 3 | |
| Malignant neoplasm, uterus | 38 | 8 3 | 8 |
| Malignant neoplasm, prostate | 7 | 2 | 2 |
| Other malignant neoplasms | 3 15 | 18 | 3 3 33 |
| Diabetes mellitus | 1 | 2 | 22 |
| Avitaminoses, etc. | 100 | 1 | 1 |
| Other endocrine etc. diseases | 1 | The little I | 1 |
| Anaemias | 1 | - | 1 |
| Other diseases of blood etc. | Kentige 10 | 1 | 1 |
| Other diseases of nervous system | T. AD STREET | 2 | 2 |
| Chronic rheumatic heart disease | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| Hypertensive disease | BOOK TO THE | United to the State - Bed | 2 |
| Ischaemic heart disease | 58 | 53 | 111 |
| Other forms of heart disease | 9 | 17 | 26 |
| Cerebrovascular disease | 38 | | 82 |
| Other diseases of circulatory system | 8 | 44 | 18 |
| Influenza | 1 | 10 | 10 |
| Pneumonia | 6 | 16 | 22 |
| Bronchitis and emphysema | 0 | | 14 |
| Asthma | 7 | 5 | 2 |
| Other diseases of respiratory system | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Peptic ulcer | 5 | 2 2 | 8 |
| Intestinal obstruction and hernia | _ | í | 1 |
| Cirrhosis of liver | 1 | | 1 |
| Other diseases of digestive system | İ | 1 | 1 |
| Nephritis and nephrosis | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Hyperplasia of prostate | 1 | - | ī |
| Other diseases, genito-urinary system | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Diseases of musculo-skeletal system | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Congenital anomalies | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Birth injury, difficult labour, etc. | 4 | two Luncips of Land | 5 |
| Other causes of perinatal mortality | 1 | one have at the th | í |
| Symptoms and ill defined conditions | 1 | chiga acuzet. | 1 |
| Motor vehicle accidents | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| All other accidents | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| Suicide and self-inflicted injuries | í | í | 2 |
| | - | | |
| Totals | 229 | 233 | 462 |
| Administration of Colonian 1975 (1975) | | The same of the sa | |

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1971

| AGE GROUP | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL |
|--|--|---|---|
| Under 1 year 1 and under 5 5 and under 15 15 and under 25 25 and under 35 35 and under 45 45 and under 55 55 and under 65 65 and under 75 75 and upwards | 7 - 1 5 3 3 11 32 71 96 | 3 1 3 2 2 2 10 17 43 152 | 10 - 2 8 5 5 21 49 114 248 |
| | 229 | 233 | 462 |

COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

About one third of deaths - those due to lung cancer, ischaemic heart disease, birth injury and accidents - will be regarded as preventable. Most cases of lung cancer occur in drug addicts who smoke their drug in paper, leaf or pipe, the usual drug being tobacco. Ischaemia of the heart occurs both in smokers and non-smokers, but is more frequent and more lethal among smokers.

WELFARE OF THE AGED

Between 40 and 50 elderly people sought the assistance of the Department during the year. In addition to this figure there were casual enquiries as well as those under supervision on account of infectious disease.

Some of the referrals were finally accommodated in Welfare Homes but most were in respect of housing needs and assistance in the bathroom to guard against falls.

No action was necessary during the year for the removal of persons in need of care and attention to suitable premises (Homes or Hospitals) under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1948.

The two Old People's Welfare Committees in Benfleet - one covering Hadleigh and Thundersley and the other covering South Benfleet - co-ordinate with the Benfleet Old People's Welfare Council (backed by the District Council) in the provision of services and facilities to assist the elderly of the Urban District. The Secretary of the Hadleigh and Thundersley Committee (Mrs. C.E. Chapman) has provided me with a report on the activities of her Committee and the Chairman of the South Benfleet Committee has done likewise for his area. The main activities appear to be (a) twice yearly parties for the elderly and housebound at Runneymede Hall when transport is arranged through volunteers (b) the distribution of Christmas parcels (c) financial assistance for holidays (d) help towards cost of decorating a room.

Bath Safety Aids for the Elderly

The Secretary of the Home Safety Committee reports that the following equipment was provided to Benfleet residents who needed assistance in the bathroom.

Economic Bath Safety Rail 13
Economic Bath Safety Seat 4
Homecraft Bath Board 1
Grab Rail 2
No Slip Discs (sets) 5

Meals on Wheels

The W.R.V.S. Organiser for Benfleet has sent me the following details regarding Meals on Wheels and allied activities.

19,126 meals were served to old people in their homes on 4 days a week and this means that approximately 100 elderly people in Benfleet are cared for in this way. A further 10,126 meals are served at the two Luncheon Glubs - one in Green Road, Benfleet and the new one in John Burrows Recreation Ground in Hadleigh. Here again the lunches are provided on 4 days a week. This means a further 50 or more old people are provided for.

The service, both in delivery of the meals and in conveyance of old people to the Clubs, has been greatly helped by the availability of the Council's minibus.

Since opening in October 1970 the Hadleigh W.R.V.S. Club has been a great success, now having 170 members, with a Hairdresser in attendance. Library facilities are also provided.

23

Essex County Council Social Service Department

A brief note on the establishment of this new Department as set up under the Local Authorities Social Services Act 1970, is given in the Canvey Island Section of the Report.

There is one Home for the Elderly in Benfleet provided by the County Council. This is Tyrrells in Seamore Avenue and accommodates 29 females and 11 males. During 1971, 32 Benfleet residents were admitted to County Homes and a further 59 were on the waiting list at the end of the year. The Area Social work Organiser (Miss D.M. Stammers) has also advised me that 134 Pensioners were on the register of Handicapped Persons and a further 94 Pensioners were registered as blind or partially sighted.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply is mainly lime softened river water from the Hanningfield Works of the Essex Water Company but in addition there is one well at South Benfleet.

The hardness of the Hanningfield Supply is 140-150 parts per million and that of the borehole 32 parts per million. The fluoride content of the river water is negligible but of the well water about 2.5 parts per million. There is no evidence of plumbo solvency.

250 additional supplies were connected, 2,757 yards of main were laid and 2,206 yeards abandoned during 1971.

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 drained by gravity to the Rayleigh Urban District, and the 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 near Great Tarpots, and a south western section which flows to the pumping station at South Benfleet.

As anticipated in my last report, the inadequate pumping station at Benfleet Marsh has now been replaced by a new station with modern, highly automated pumping equipment. A similar new station has also been commissioned, at Old House Farm, to transfer the sewage from the south west area of the district, together with that received from Rushbottom Lane, to the new Sewage Works.

The pumping capacity of the Rushbottom Lane Station is also being increased to cope with the surcharging of foul sewers during periods of sustained heavy rainfall and also the increase in flows due to the steady influx of new residents into this developing area.

Although working at capacity, the new Sewage Disposal Works is producing a good quality effluent and the discharge to the tidal waters of Benfleet Creek is to a satisfactory standard. Phase II of the new Sewage Works is nearing completion and this will ensure adequate treatment capacity to meet future residential development within the Urban District.

During the year nearly 2 miles of surface water sewers were constructed by the Council and private developers, as well as $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile of foul sewers.

The re-arrangement of existing drainage around the periphery of the South Benfleet Playing Fields was completed and the works of diverting the water courses in the playing field area and provision of flood embankment, for the protection of the area, are well under way. These works are being carried out in conjunction with the Essex River Authority for the improvement to drainage, flood protection, and provision of an improved capacity for the wash land area. Three new surface water pumping stations and rising mains are almost completed.

A total of 283 new dwellings were connected to both the foul and surface water sewerage systems.

The separation of surface water from foul sewers within the Urban District is continuing and a further 238 properties have been dealt with this year bringing the total to 828.

There are 152 dwellings in the District without drainage systems connected to the public sewer; of these, 70 have cesspools and the remainder earth or chemical closets. There is no night soil collection within the Urban District.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

7 refuse collection vehicles and 1 four-wheel drive vehicle are in service, the latter being used in connection with the collection of refuse in paper sacks from dwellings on unmade roads. 38 men are engaged in this work and a weekly collection is made throughout the district. 89 containers each of $1\frac{1}{4}$ cubic yards capacity are now hired by the Council for use at business premises and schools. An additional 8 of these bins have been provided privately for this purpose also. One of the refuse vehicles is equipped to empty them.

A free collection of all unwanted household rubbish and motorcars is made from dwellings within the district. One ordinary refuse collection vehicle and one three ton lorry are used part-time for this purpose. 1,140 collections were made during the year.

The income from trade refuse collection for the year was £1,355.

Disposal of refuse was carried out for the greater part of the year at the Basildon Urban District Council refuse tip at Pitsea, but a return has now been made to our own tip on Benfleet Marsh.

CEMETERY ARRANGEMENTS

With the exception of burials in family graves where there is room, the Churchyard at St. James the Less, Hadleigh has been formally closed. During the year I recommended that the Churchyard at St. Marys Church, South Benfleet should be formally closed, on public health grounds, except for the reopening of family graves where there is room. By the end of the year the statutory order from her Majesty was still awaited.

The South Benfleet Cemetery (Council Owned) was opened in 1915 but has no further grave spaces. However, it is anticipated it will continue to be used for a further 25 years as family graves are reopened.

The Woodside Cemetery, (Council owned), was opened in September 1966 with an anticipated life of 100 years. It is a Lawn type cemetery and has a purpose-built chapel.

25

FACTORIES ACT 1961

The number of registered premises was 119 and in addition there were 101 building sites. 118 of the factories use mechanical power; 80 inspections were made during the year.

Particulars relevant to the prescribed table are shown below:

Part 1 of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health:

| 100 | Premises | Number on | Number of | Number of |
|----------|---|--------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| | Fremises | Register | Inspections | Written Notices |
| (i) | Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 | naviaki ani | ne egallied Sci Lapin Libra com | one whall |
| | are to be enforced by | | | |
| (::) | Local Authorities | 1 | 1 | - |
| (ii) | Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 | | | |
| | is enforced by the Local | | | |
| /\ | Authority | 118 | 74 | 3 |
| (iii) | Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the | | | |
| | Local Authority (excluding | | | |
| LINES I | outworkers' premises) | 101 | 5 | 1-13 |
| hraniqu | Totals | 220 | 80 | 3 |
| para on | which gravitates to a purpley | itation in R | made to large | |
| 2. | Cases in which DEFECTS were f | ound: | with almy work | smont ent |
| edt d | Particulars | Number of c | ases in which de | fects were fou |
| | | Found Re | medied To H.M | Referred by H.M. |
| | | | Inspec | |
| and a sa | Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) | rings for on | tree the less | E to busydown |
| | Unsuitable or defective | 5 | 4 - | 2 |
| | | | | |

PART VIII of the Act

Outwork

| Nature of Work | ditty exek | Number of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (C) |
|--|---------------|---|
| Wearing Apparel | | 26 |
| Curtains and Furniture Hangings Artificial Flowers, | ••• | sloot animates look 2 over one exect, |
| Christmas stockings etc | ••• | The balance retains 1 and loodes does |
| T | otal: | 29 |

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 ... 44
Petroleum Mixture Licences issued ... 10
Inspection of premises and installations ... 46

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Equipment for the measurement of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere is located in the John Burrows Recreation Ground, Hadleigh, and readings (micrograms per cubic metre) during 1971 are shown below:

| | Smoke Results | | S0 ₂ | Smoke/SO2 | |
|-----------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-------|
| | Average | Highest Day | Average | Highest Day | Ratio |
| January | 52 | 51 | 22 | 102 | 2.36 |
| February | 29 | 86 | 84 | 280 | 0.35 |
| March | 19 | 36 | 72 | 148 | 0.26 |
| April | N | 60 | N | 132 | N |
| May | 10 | 33 | 36 | 86 | 0.28 |
| June | N | 22 | N | 96 | 0.11 |
| July | 10 | 16 | 39 | 70 | 0.26 |
| August | 9 | 32 | 35 | 70 | N |
| September | 18 | 29 | N | 124 | N |
| October | 19 | 35 | 83 | 133 | 0.23 |
| November | 34 | 48 | 84 | 175 | 0.40 |
| December | 29 | 70 | 87 | 139 | 0.33 |

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

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

Four licences were issued under the Act.

PEST CONTROL

There were 210 complaints about rats and mice and 132 inspections were made by Public Health Inspectors in connection with them. 110 visits regarding other pests were made. All infestations were dealt with by the Pest Officer.

SWIMMING POOLS

There are five school swimming pools in the District (listed below) 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.

Kents Hill County Junior School The King John School Woodham Ley County Junior School Kents Hill Holy Family School Westwood Junior School

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

The following is a summary of the 4,393 visits and inspections made by Public Health Inspectors during the year:

| Accumulations - Offensive | 46 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Animals, keeping of | 33 |
| Clean Air Act | 367 |
| Drainage: Foul Water | 186 |
| Surface Water | 161 |
| Ditches | 42 |
| Factories | 80 |
| Food Premises | 388 |
| Miscellaneous food visits | 291 |
| Housing: Repairs | 430 |
| Demolition Procedure | 13 |
| Rent Act | 5 |
| Improvement Grants | 234 |
| Miscellaneous Housing visits | 5 |
| Infectious diseases | 387 |
| Massage or special treatment premises | 4 |
| Meat Inspection (Slaughterhouse) | 41 |
| Moveable dwellings | 31 |
| Noise Abatement | 127 |
| Offices, Shops & Railway Premises | 137 |
| Petroleum Spirit | 46 |
| Pest Control | 320 |
| Refuse - Collection and Disposal | 576 |
| Sampling - Water | 25 |
| Slaughterhouse | 7 |
| Unclassified | 387 24 |
| Water Supply Total | 4,393 |
| Total | 4,777 |

28

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Registrations under the Act are as follows:

| Offices | 66 |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Retail Shops | 180 |
| Wholesale Shops | 8 |
| Catering Establishments | 12 |
| Fuel Storage Depots | 1 |

137 inspections were made during the year.

ESTABLISHMENTS FOR MASSAGE OR SPECIAL TREATMENT

There are three premises in the District which are licenced by the Essex County Council under Part IV of the Essex County Council Act 1933, as follows:-

B. Abraham, 303 Kiln Road, Thundersley.
A. Nelson, 28 Shipwrights Drive, Thundersley.
D.G. Salisbury, 44 Linden Road, Benfleet.

All were inspected and conditions found to be satisfactory.

HOUSING

At the end of 1971 the Council owned and managed 963 units of accommodation 243 of which were flats. No council dwellings were completed during the year and none were in course of construction on 31st December, 1971.

In respect of private development 293 dwellings were completed including 10 flats and a further 447 properties were still under construction at the end of the year.

In respect of the Council's housing list, there were 393 applicants awaiting rehousing at the end of the year. During the year 49 applicants had been rehoused, 87 had been removed from the list for various reasons and 206 had been accepted on to the housing list. Of this number of applicants 129 might be considered to be in urgent need of rehousing. Ill applications on the housing list are in respect of pensioners.

Of the total number of Council dwellings mentioned above, 328 are specially provided for old people, although some of this accommodation could equally be tenanted by young couples. Included in this number are 32 units of accommodation where the service of a Warden, communal facilities and bell warning system are provided. Also a sheltered unit, sponsored by a private Housing Association was opened in April, 1969 known as Meadowside, Uplands Road, Benfleet. Here there are 14 single units and 10 double units. The Warden is Mrs. J. Thomas.

27 Housing applicants were referred for medical classification during the year and four previous cases came up for revised assessment. Recommendations for these 31 cases were as follows:

Group "A" (9 points) - 5 Group "B" (6 points) - 9 Group "C" (3 points) - 2 Group "D" (0 points) - 8 Of the remaining seven cases, 3 moved of their own accord, 2 were rehoused by the Council and action on the other 2 was deferred.

Action under the Housing Acts taken during the year was as follows:

Demolition Orders made - 6
Unfit Houses demolished - 6
Unfit Houses repaired - 22
Improvements carried out
under Grant Schemes - 38

No redevelopment schemes were carried out during the year.

Common Lodging Houses:

There are no Common Lodging Houses in this district.

Houseboats:

There is only one houseboat moored in Benfleet Creek, within the Urban District, which is used for permanent occupation.

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 72 caravans remaining.

FOOD HYGIENE

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

| Bakers' Shops | | | 0 | 12 |
|--------------------|----|---------|-----|--------|
| Butchers! Shops | | | | 20 |
| Cafes | | | 0 | 24 |
| Contone Cobest | | | | 0.0000 |
| Canteens: Schools | | | | 21 |
| Industri | al | | | 5 |
| Confectioners | | | | 28 |
| | | ••• | ••• | |
| Dairies | | | | 2 |
| Fishmongers | | | | 9 |
| General Provisions | | | | - |
| General Provisions | | | | 49 |
| Greengrocers | | | | 20 |
| Licenced Premises | | | | 25 |
| | - | ••• | | |
| Multiple Stores | | | | 4 |
| Wholesale Stores | | | | 2 |
| | | | | |

Nineteen 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 specially fitted for this purpose. No birds are dressed there.

Meat Inspection

Cross Farm Abattoir in Benfleet Road, Hadleigh, occupies a site of 2,074 acres, a large part of which is grazing land and the sizes of the various buildings are as follows:- Slaughter Hall - 1,650 sq.ft., Storage Room - 1,097 sq.ft., Chill Room - 1,167 sq. ft., Work Room - 1,233 sq. ft., and Covered Lairage - 5,567 sq. ft.

Large animals are confined in a stunning pen and are stunned by a captive bolt pistol. Small animals are stunned by electricity. A casting pen is provided for use during Kosher slaughter. Animals are bought from local and distant markets and meat is supplied to many butchers' shops in South-East Essex.

Slaughtering usually takes place every day of the week except Thursdays and Saturdays with five slaughtermen engaged full time.

The following table gives details of the 23,458 carcases of food animals examined during the year. 29 samples of tissues from diseased animals were submitted for laboratory examination.

Table....page 32

| perolition drags at | Cattle (Excluding Cows) | Cows | Calves | Sheep & Lambs | Pigs |
|--|-------------------------------|------------|--------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Number killed Number Inspected All diseases (except tuberculosis and cysticerci):- | 3,409 3,409 | 76 76 | 254 254 | | 13,726 13,726 |
| Whole carcases condemned Carcases of which some parts or organ was | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 17 |
| condemned Percentage affected | 947 27•5 | 37 52.6 | 5 3•5 | 254 4•2 | 2,309 |
| Tuberculosis only: Whole carcases condemned Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | one of the to | | a none of hi | Dozed to al local to | 280 |
| Percentage affected | 0.02 | 4.4999 | 48(2904 30) | treses seeding | 2.04 |
| Cysticerci only: Carcases of which some | | | | | eretary exclusive 1 |
| part or organ was condemned Carcases submitted to | 34 | - | - | on free | onnot ten |
| treatment by refrigeration | 7 | - | - | - | - |

Food and Drugs Act 1955

Benfleet Urban District Council became a Food and Drugs Authority in April 1971.

- (a) Food Sampling 84 samples were taken during the year, and one was found to be unsatisfactory. The necessary action was taken.
- (b) Milk (Special Designations) Regulations There is one milk sterilization plant in the District. 25 Samples were taken and all were satisfactory.
- (c) Brucella Abortus No samples of raw milk were taken for this purpose.
- (d) Poultry Inspection There are no poultry processing premises in the District but inspection of poultry is carried out during routine inspection of butchers shops and supermarkets. No carcases were condemned during the year as being unfit for human consumption.

(e) <u>Unsound Food</u> 50 complaints about unsound food were made and legal proceedings were taken in respect of 6 of them, the details being as follows:

| Date of Hearing | Complaints | Result | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|--|--|--|
| March, 1971 | Magot in loaf of bread | £20 fine and £3 costs | | | |
| May, 1971 | Metal object in savaloy | £10 fine and £2 costs | | | |
| June, 1971 | Mouldy pork pie | £10 fine and £2 costs | | | |
| September, 1971 | Metal top in bottle of milk | £10 fine and £5 costs | | | |
| September, 1971 | Mouldy cake | £20 fine and £5 costs | | | |
| September, 1971 | Cockroach in meat pie | £25 fine and £10 costs | | | |

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the District.

Ice Cream

At the close of the year, 102 premises were registered for the retail sale of ice cream. 7 bacteriological samples were taken of which 2 were Grade I, 1 Grade 2, 1 Grade 3 and 3 Grade 4. There are 16 hawkers of ice cream within the District. No action was taken during the year under current legislation.

Condemned Food

During the year 7,527 packets, tins and jars of various food-stuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption and were disposed of at the refuse tip on Benfleet Marshes. Also 1,925 lbs. of meat and fish were surrendered as unfit.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Dysentery

All the 14 cases of dysentery formally notified were unconfirmed by bacteriological examination, but 13 of the cases were notified in May by one family doctor in the Tarpots area who was concerned about the cause of the symptoms in the patients involved. Three other family doctors covering the Hadleigh and South Benfleet area also reported they had had a number of patients with similar symptoms (headache, abdominal pain and slight diarrhoea) one doctor being personally affected. It would appear that there were very many more persons affected than those coming to light officially, although not of dysenteric origin.

Additionally approximately 120 children and adults were bacteriologically examined on account of symptoms which might have been of dysenteric origin but no organisms were isolated.

Cholera

Over 60 Benfleet residents returned from continental holidays in the autumn, having been in areas where cases of Cholera were occurring. All were free from symptoms of the disease and I am glad to say there were no developments.

Food Poisoning

Of the 13 cases notified all except one were found to be suffering from salmonella infection. An additional case occurred in one family but laboratory investigation was negative and formal notification was not made.

Nine of the total of 14 cases occurred in three families and had all returned from holidays in Spain. All had the same strain of Salmonella typhimurium (Ul29) and two patients had additional strains, Salmonella enteritidis and Salmonella typhimurium 4.12d. The full summary of the Salmonellaes isolated was as follows:

| Salmonella | typhimurium | U129 | 7 |
|------------|-------------|--------|-------|
| Salmonella | typhimurium | U71 | 2 |
| Salmonella | typhimurium | 4.12d. | 1 |
| Salmonella | typhimurium | la | 1 |
| Salmonella | agona | | 1 |
| Salmonella | enteritidis | | 1 |
| Salmonella | panama | | 1 |

One of the cases of Salmonella typhimurium U71 was thought to have been infected by infected raw meat. He was a butcher.

The case of Salmonella typhimurium la was a 10 year old girl who had purchased a parrot from a seaman.

The patient infected by Salmonella panama was an expectant mother. The food responsible may have been chicken. This patient became seriously ill for a time.

Two adult patients were admitted to hospital for appendicectomy but the cause of both illnesses would appear to have been food poisoning.

One of the patients returning from Spain with her parents was a four year old girl who had two strains of Salmonella typhimurium.

Five other cases of suspected food poisoning came to light:

- (a) Father and child became ill with diarrhoea and headache after eating cold pork. Haemolytic heat sensitive clostridium Welchii was isolated from both patients but the Bacteriologist thought this may not have been significant. The mother and other child were not affected and their specimens were clear.
- (b) A young man employed as a butcher was ill six hours after drinking beer at a local Public House. Liver was shown on the enquiry form as eaten 14 hours before onset. The causal agent was not determined.
- (c) A local young woman, employed as a Secretary in the City suffered acute symptons of pain, fever, diarrhoea and sickness approximately 14 hours after eating a lunch meal of Spaghetti Bolognaise in a London restaurant. Her two colleagues were similarly affected. Information was received from the London Borough of Camden in this case. Laboratory investigations of the Benfleet lady were negative.

Infectious Jaundice

The number of cases of infectious jaundice in 1971 in Benfleet was slightly above average, there being 10 males and 3 females. The youngest case was 18, the eldest 39. 2 cases were husband and wife. The occupation of 3 of the cases might have had some significance - male (21 years) a laboratory technician, male (20 years) a probation officer student and a male (31 years) a furrier.

Measles

76 cases of measles is a disappointingly large number; notifications however were higher in 1970. Measles will be with us for some time yet both as an inconvenience and as a cause of physical and mental handicap.

Tuberculosis

The following table shows the position for the year 1971:

| Number of cases on register at 1st January New cases notified Transfers into area | 170 3 1 |
|---|-------------------|
| | 174 |
| Number recovered Number moved away Number died Lost sight of | 5 3 1 15 |
| Number remaining on register at 31st December 1971. | 150 |

The one death was an elderly lady directly caused by tuberculosis and discovered at post mortem.

Careful checking with the Electoral Roll and the Chest Clinic revealed that a number of persons on the register had moved without trace. Most of these are likely to be persons who disease was largely arrested and found the annual check at the Chest Clinic unacceptable. The liability of break-down under stress is therefore a possibility.

The following is a summary of cases of tuberculosis (respiratory and non-respiratory) over the past ten years:

| | Sit | e of Dise | ase total | | ex Female | under 15 | Age Gro | |
|-------|-------|-----------|--------------|-------|---------------|--|---------|-----------|
| | Tungs | Offier | 00001 | Ticon | T G III G T G | direct 1) | 20 07 | 0.02 0 |
| 1962 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 2 | one llean | 20700 | expent -t |
| 1963 | 9 | 3 | 12 | 8 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 2 |
| 1964. | 9 | 2 | 11 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 2 |
| 1965 | 14 | 3 | 17 | 12 | 5 | 1 | 15 | 1 |
| 1966 | 10 | 1 | 11 | 6 | 5 | The state of the s | 10 | 1 |
| 1967 | 8 | .2. | 10 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 7 | - |
| 1968 | 16 | 1 | 17 | 15 | 2 | 2 | 11 | 4 |
| 1969 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| 1970 | 8 | 2 | 10 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 1 |
| 1971 | 3 | and the s | 3 | 2 | 1 | - | 2 | 1 |

Recoveries are now outnumbering new cases discovered and we can therefore expect the pool of infection to diminish. It is not possible to guess when it will be completely drained.

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

BENFLEET

| | 10000 | The second second | Contract of the last | Control of the last | | | | | 1 |
|--------------------|--|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|--------|
| | Under | 1-4 | 5-9 | 10-14 | 15-24 | 25-44 | 45-64 | 65 & Over | Totals |
| Acute Encephalitis | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | l be | | 1 | 1 |
| Dysentery | in I | 2 | 1 | in the | 2 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 14 |
| Food Poisoning | - | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 13 |
| Infective Jaundice | | 1 | 1 | t di | 9 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 13 |
| Measles | 3 | 28 | 42 | - I | 3 | | - | 1 | 92 |
| Scarlet Fever | A B B B | 4 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | · (| | 18 |
| Whooping Cough | 1 | 8 | 14 | 3 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 56 |
| | 5. | 44 | 69 | 7 | 13 | 16 | 7 | 2 | 191 |
| | The state of the s | | | | | | | | |

Regulation (1971 Com

RAYLEIGH URBAN DISTRICT

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

| C.B. | Gowlett, | (Chairman) |
|------|----------|------------|
|------|----------|------------|

W.H. Bessant

F.G. Brookman

L.K. Cope (Vice Chairman)

P.R. Elliott

R.G.J. Foley (Vice-Chairman of Council)

H.E. Green

Mrs. D.S. Hawtree

R. McCamley

R.W.C. Offwood (Chairman of Council)

R.W.J. Uden C.B. Wastell

LOCAL

| STATISTICS | Area in acres | | | 5,7 | 58 |
|------------|--|------|-------|----------|----|
| | Number of habitable houses | | | 8,8 | 73 |
| | Number of inhabited houses | | | 8,7 | 17 |
| | | | | 26,2 | |
| | Population (mid-year estimate 1971) | | 0 . 0 | 26,3 | 90 |
| | Rateable Value) as at | 31st | | £1,130,5 | 86 |
| | Sum represented by a Penny Rate) March | 1972 | • • • | £11,0 | 44 |

| VITAL STATISTICS | Male | Female | Total | Rate per 1,000 Population | Standardised |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--|--------------|
| Total live births Total deaths | 193 123 | 176 107 | 369 230 | 14.0 | 12.6 10.4 |
| | | | | Rate per 1,000 live births | |
| Illegitimate births Infant deaths Neonatal deaths | 4 3 3 | 7 5 3 | 11 8 6 | 29.8 21.7 16.3 | |
| | | | | Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirth | ns. |
| Stillbirths Perinatal mortality (Includes stillbirths | 2 5 and deaths | 4 7 s in firs | 6 12 t week of | 16.0 32.0 life) | |

NOTE:

The Area Comparability Factors, as applied for the Standardised Birth and Death Rates are - Births 0.90 and Deaths 1.19.

DEATHS BY CAUSE

| Cause | Male | <u>Female</u> | Total |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|------------|
| Malignant neoplasm, stomach | 2 | termina A member w | 2 |
| Malignant neoplasm, intestine | 2 | 5 | 7 |
| Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus | 10 | 1 | 11 |
| Malignant neoplasm, breast | NO PROPERTY | 6 | 6 |
| Malignant neoplasm, uterus | mag- | 1 | 1 |
| Malignant neoplasm, prostate | 1 | - | 1 |
| Leukaemia | 1 | agia tou 20-olderige | 1 |
| Other malignant neoplasms | 6 | 3 | 9 |
| Diabetes mellitus | 84 | 3 | 3 |
| Other diseases of blood, etc. | y 184 | 1 | ebuny 1 ba |
| Mental disorders | - | 1 | 1 |
| Other diseases of nervous system | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| Chronic rheumatic heart disease | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Hypertensive disease | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Ischaemic heart disease | 32 | 20 | 52 |
| Other forms of heart disease | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| Cerebrovascular disease | 25 | 29 | 54 |
| Other diseases of circulatory system | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| Influenza | 1 | oresanetpu-resantes | 1 |
| Pneumonia | 8 | 6 10 000 | 14 |
| Bronchitis and emphysema | 5 | os was 7-b. | 5 |
| Asthma | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Other diseases of respiratory system | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Peptic ulcer | of see law | ing affects 1 a seed | 1 |
| Intestinal obstruction and hernia | ing GE has | 2 | 2 |
| Other diseases of digestive system | 2 | secontedired the nor | 2 |
| Nephritis and nephrosis | 2 | ribent And-it was r | 2 |
| Diseases of musculo-skeletal system | 2 | ointeent Arcept | 2 |
| Congenital anomalies | the Bestal | 2 | 2 |
| Birth injury, difficult labour etc. | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Other causes of perinatal mortality | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Symptoms and ill defined conditions | 1 | - | 1 |
| Motor vehicle accidents | C | 2 | 2 |
| All other accidents | 3 2 | 1 | 4 |
| Suicide and self-inflicted injuries | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Totals | 123 | 107 | 230 |
| | | | |

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1971

| AGE GROUP | | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| Under 1 year 1 and under 5 5 and under 15 15 and under 25 25 and under 35 35 and under 45 45 and under 55 55 and under 65 65 and under 75 75 and upwards | S.S. Gowlett, S. C. S. Chemant S.K. I Cope (Vice P. R Sillott R.G. J. Refer (V: R. S. Cheman) Res & R. C. S. Barter B. Richarley B. Richarley B. Richarley | 3 2 2 - 2 - 11 16 38 49 | 5 - - 2 2 2 4 10 21 63 | 8 2 2 - 4 2 15 26 59 112 |
| | | 123 | 107 | 230 |

COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

The main group of diseases causing death were those of the heart and arteries. Respiratory disease other than cancers accounted for about 1% of deaths, cancer of the lung and bronchus for about 5%. The ratio of male to female deaths was 7:6.

WELFARE OF THE AGED

Over 50 elderly people were referred to the Department during the year who needed assistance in health and ancillary matters. A number were in association with their housing needs and details will be found under the Housing Section of the Report. Some cases were referred to the Social Services Department for admission to Homes for the Elderly. Others were contained in their homes with the aid of Home Helps, Home Nurses and the Meals on Wheels Service.

The South East Essex Home Safety Committee assisted 20 elderly people with bath safety equipment for the bathroom, as follows:-

| Economic Bath Safety Rail | 7 |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Carter Safety Rail | 1 |
| Grab Rails | 4 |
| Economic Bath Safety Seat | 9 |
| Homecraft Bath Seat | 2 |
| Wooden Bath Seat | 1 |
| No Slip Discs (sets) | 7 |

I am pleased to say that no action was necessary during the year for the compulsory removal of persons in need of care and attention under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1948.

The circumstances of one elderly gentleman are noted for interest and record.

The daughter of a man of 93 years of age living alone in a remote part of Rawreth wrote from London in April asking if her father could be transported to a dentist as he was in need of treatment. I ascertained the needed help could not be provided by the Social Services Department and it was not possible to find a dentist who could give him an early appointment. Arrangements were, therefore, made for him to be taken to the Dental Department of the Southend General Hospital by the Hospital Car Service two days after the request was made.

Meals on Wheels

The Organiser for Meals on Wheels Service in Rayleigh, Mrs. J. Horrex of the W.R.V.S. has informed me that a total of 9,012 meals were served during the year, for five days each week. Included in this number were 922 light diets and 283 diabetic diets. Four drivers and four escorts are regularly employed in the delivery of meals. Additionally, meals were served at the Old People's Day Centre in Castle Road. Recipients were charged 9p per meal and the contribution to the service to bridge the gap between charge and cost is provided jointly by the District Council and the County Council. The grant amounted to £1,053 for the financial year 1971/72.

All meals are obtained from the industrial canteen of Messrs, Hermann Ltd., of Rayleigh, amounting to an average of 60 daily (Monday to Friday). Tribute is paid to the great help and co-operation received from the firm.

Essex County Council Social Services Department

A brief note on the establishment of this new Department as set up under the Local Authorities Social Services Act 1970, is given in the Canvey Island section of the Report. The advantage to Rayleigh residents is that the local office for Rayleigh is located in the Library building in the High Street. The Area Social Work Organiser, Mr. A.C. Scott, has kindly provided me with the following details covering 1971:

Three Old Peoples Homes are administered by the Rayleigh Office of the Social Services Department as follows:

Sweyne Court, Rayleigh
Albert Jones Court, Rochford
Grosvenor House, Westcliff
(20 males and 42 females)
(16 males and 30 females)

As far as Sweyne Court is concerned 25 elderly people were admitted in 1971 and a further 10 were on the waiting list at the end of the year. I also understand there are 78 pensioners on the register of physically handicapped persons and 79 pensioners registered as blind or partially sighted.

Rayleigh Old People's Welfare Association

Concert

Night Storage

Heaters

I have received a very interesting report from the Secretary of the above Association (Mrs. E.O. O'Donaghue) on the activities for 1971. Briefly these include:

Outing by O.A.P. Groups and in particular the Annual Outing provided by the Rayleigh Rotary and Round Table organised by Mr. W.H. Bessant.

Christmas Dinner This is held every year at the Day Centre in Castle Road, Similar facilities are provided by political and religious organisations.

Christmas Parcels

Various local organisations arrange for Christmas
food parcels for the elderly and an endeavour is being
made to co-ordinate to spread the help fairly and
consistently.

A successful Concert was arranged in Mill Hall with over 400 people attending, with transport provided.

These are provided as an insurance against accidental hypothermia. Seven were provided in 1971 at a cost of £200, making a total of 55 persons assisted in this way since the scheme commenced in 1966.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply is entirely lime softened river water from either the Hanningfield or the Langford works of the Essex Water Company. The hardness of the water is normally 140-150 parts per million; there is no evidence of plumbo solvency and the fluoride content is negligible.

175 additional supplies were connected, 3,991 yards of mains were laid, and 196 yards abandoned during 1971.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Rayleigh being sited across a ridge of land (which generally follows the line of the High Street) is divided into two areas, namely the Eastern and Western areas, for sewage disposal purposes.

With the upsurge of new development in the District which commenced during the mid-1950's considerable works have been carried out involving the enlargement of the two Sewage Disposal Works and the provision of a trunk soil drainage system. Having regard to the continued expansion of development it has become necessary for further extensions to be made at both Sewage Disposal Works. The first phase of the extensions to the Eastern Sewage Disposal Works were completed early in 1971 and the second phase, being the main extensions costing over £3000,000 were commenced shortly afterwards. The design of the extensions for the Western Sewage Works, it is anticipated, will be complete by the end of the year and construction works will commence during 1972.

The Council have also in recent years been looking at the problems of surface water flooding and design works have been completed, tenders being invited for the provision of a trunk surface water sewer for the Bull Lane area. This sewer will take the surface water from the town centre through the residential area in the eastern part of the town, taking the flows away from existing overloaded ditches and out of date pipe systems.

During 1971, 154 new properties and 8 existing properties were connected to main drainage. The length of soil sewers constructed during the year was 85 yards and 900 yards of surface water sewer were also constructed. It is now estimated that 97.5% of all premises in the Urban District are served by the main drainage system. Cesspool drainage is provided to 152 properties and a further 74 properties have earth or chemical closets. 18 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, where the collection is fortnightly. Four vehicles and 16 men are used for this purpose. Materials salvaged during the year amounted to some 243 tons and realised on sale £2,510. Refuse was disposed of at Leigh Marshes by arrangement with the Southend Corporation. 6,352 tons of refuse was collected during 1971.

THE FACTORIES ACT 1961

85 premises are registered and 84 use mechanical power. 20 inspections were made but no defects found or reported. There were 26 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.

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PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

The following is a summary of the 2486 visits and inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1971:-

| Atmospheric Polluti | on | | | | 67 |
|---------------------|-------|----------|--|-------------------|-----------|
| | | | | ••• | |
| Caravans and Campin | | | | | 19 |
| Drainage and Sewera | | | | | 74 |
| Factories and Outwo | rkers | 3 | | | 20 |
| Food and Food Premi | | | | | 238 |
| Housing:- | .000 | | | ••• | 2,0 |
| | _ | Dittal 3 | | | sed agree |
| Demolition Order | | edure | | | 1 |
| Repairs | | | | | 99 |
| Improvement Grant | s | | | | 208 |
| Rehousing | | | | 17 17 17 17 17 17 | 45 |
| | | | STATE OF THE PARTY | ••• | |
| Rent Act | | | | ••• | 188 |
| Infectious Disease | | ood Po | pisonir | ıg | 497 |
| Noise Abatement | | | | | 44 |
| Nuisances | | | 10000 | | 283 |
| | | AL WEST | | | 160 |
| Offices and Shops | | ••• | ••• | ••• | |
| Pest Control | | | | | 85 |
| Petroleum Storage | | | | | 6 |
| Litter | | | | | 50 |
| Refuse Collection a | nd Di | sposal | | | |
| | | g salv | | | 272 |
| | | - | | | 232 |
| | | | | | 12 |
| | | | | | 9 |
| Unclassified | | | | | 149 |
| | | | | | |

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

During 1971 7 offices and 2 retail shops were newly registered, and 82 inspections were made.

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

| Offices | 51 |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Retail Shops | 123 |
| Wholesale Shops and Warehouses | 5 |
| Catering Establishments | 14 |

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

| Offices | | | | | | 289 |
|-----------|-----------|-------|------|--------|--------|-----|
| Retail Sh | nops | | | | | 671 |
| | e Depts., | | | | | 31 |
| Catering | Establish | ments | open | to the | public | 81 |
| Canteen | | | | | | 1 |

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

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. 67 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 (micrograms per cubic metre) from the Atmospheric Pollution Recording Unit in Rayleigh during 1971:

| | Smoke | Results | S0 ₂ | Results | Smoke/SO2 |
|-----------|----------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------|------------|
| | Average | Highest Day | Average | Highest Day | Ratio |
| January | 40 | 84 | 92 | 149 | 0.43 |
| February | 42 | 88 | 122 | 231 | 0.34 |
| March | Total we would | nt gerest end | App in-situation | not remainded and | is periods |
| April | 18 | 62 | 55 | 247 | 0.33 |
| May | 14 | 35 | 52 | 102 | 0.27 |
| June | 11 | 27 | 45 | 97 | 0.24 |
| July | 11 | 30 | 47 | 101 | 0.23 |
| August | 11 | 25 | 47 | 85 | 0.23 |
| September | 25 | 45 | 81 | 181 | 0.31 |
| October | 23 | 61 | 93 | 206 | 0.25 |
| November | 38 | 61 | 99 | 194 | 0.38 |
| December | 35 | 89 | 106 | 258 | 0.33 |

NOISE

Contractors working on roads as well as building contractors now fit mufflers to their pneumatic picks and similar tools.

PETROLEUM STORAGE

Under the Petroleum Regulation Act, 27 Licences to store petroleum spirit and petroleum mixture were issued. 6 inspections were made.

PET ANIMALS ACT

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

PEST CONTROL

136 premises were inspected and treated during the year for rats and mice.

ESTABLISHMENTS FOR MASSAGE OR SPECIAL TREATMENT

The one Chiropodist in Rayleigh, licenced under Part IV of the Essex County Council Act 1933, is Mr. L.R. Wheeler, M.Ch.S. of 98 High Street.

SWIMMING POOLS

Of the maintained schools in the Urban District, six as listed below, 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:

Bownhall County Primary School Glebe County Junior School Grove County Junior School Our Lady of Ransom R.C. Primary School Rayleigh County Junior School The Sweyne School (Comprehensive)

By mutual arrangement between the Essex Education Committee and the District Council, the Swimming Pool at Sweyne School was made available to local residents for the summer season (April-October), with three-hourly sessions on Saturdays and five-hourly sessions on Sundays and also during the main school holiday, with four-hourly sessions on Mondays to Fridays (afternoons and evenings).

BURIAL FACILITIES

The Churchyards at Holy Trinity Church and the Baptist Church have been formally closed for many years. Interments are still carried out at St. Nicholas Church, Rawreth.

The Council's cemetery in Hockley Road was first brought into use in 1884 and based on the existing usage, there appears to be sufficient burial space for a further four years. The section set aside for Roman Catholics would probably meet the need for a further 40 years. Over the past five years there has been a total of 535 burials in this cemetery, although a number of these would have been in existing grave spaces. The average number of deaths in Rayleigh over the past 5 years has been 225 annually.

It is understood the Council are investigating the possibility of a new cemetery in the Rawreth area.

HOUSING

At the end of 1971 the Council owned and managed 623 units of accommodation, 154 of which were flats. Six Council dwellings were completed during the year at Rawreth as an extension of the Bedloes Estate. No further council development was undertaken during the year but plans for the erection of 34 general units of accommodation have been prepared.

In respect of private development, 151 dwellings were completed including 2 flats and a further 315 properties were still under construction at the end of the year. The development is mainly an estate off Grove Road, Rayleigh.

In respect of the Council's housing list, there were 348 applicants awaiting rehousing at the end of the year. During the year 40 applicants had been rehoused, 38 had been removed from the list for various reasons and 126 had been accepted on to the housing list. Of this number of applicants 10 might be considered in urgent need of rehousing. 176 applications on the housing list are in respect of pensioners.

Of the total number of Council dwellings mentioned above, 142 are specially provided for old people, although some of this accommodation could equally be tenanted by young couples. Included in this number are 78 units of accommodation where the service of a Warden, communal facilities and bell-warning system are provided. No new special purpose built accommodation was completed in 1971.

21 housing applicants were referred to me during the year for recommendation on medical grounds. The following recommendations were made:

| "A" | - | (For consideration for over-riding priority) | 1. |
|--------|---|--|----|
| "B" | - | (A medical priority does exist) | 5 |
| 11 C11 | - | (No real medical indication) | 9 |

Of the remaining six, two were supported for rehousing but no medical grading given, one was rehoused by the Council, one placed on the Council's allocation List, and two were still held pending. Additionally four previous cases were reviewed.

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 or improved | 37 |
| Improvement Grants approved | 40 |
| Improvements carried out | 31 |

Since 1956 demolition order procedure under the slum clearance programme has resulted in 56 properties being demolished.

Caravan Sites There are no licensed caravan sites in the Urban District.

Houseboats There are no houseboats in the Urban District.

FOOD HYGIENE

Inspection and Supervision of Food

There are 128 food establishments in the Urban District, all of which are fitted with wash hand-basins, hot and cold water, etc. to comply with Regulation 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 | 7 |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Butchers | 11 |
| Cafes and Restaurants | 17 |
| Take Away Food Shops | 4 |
| Canteens: Industrial | 7 |
| School | 8 |
| Confectioners | 13 |
| Cooked Meat Manufacturers | 1 |
| Fishmongers - Wet, Fried and Shell | 6 |
| General Provisions | 26 |
| Greengrocers | 8 |
| Licensed Premises and Off-Licences | 15 |
| Clubs | 4 |
| 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 and Drugs Act, 1955.

Ice Cream

32 Retailers in Rayleigh are registered under the Ice Cream Regulations. There are no manufacturers.

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

 $\frac{31}{2}$ tons of food was voluntarily surrendered and condemned as unfit for human consumption, and disposed of at the refuse tip.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Measles and sales are an amanganged the sales and better the sales are and or sales

Although the 94 cases notified in 1971 represented half the incidence of the previous year, the trend has been disappointing. It is evident that far too many parents are neglecting to have their children vaccinated which is free for the asking.

Dysentery and Diarrhoeal Disease

The 13 cases of dysentery notified were all school children and were confirmed by the Public Health Laboratory as cases of shigella sonnei dysentery.

In addition 119 cases of diarrhoea or diarrhoea and sickness were investigated. Most of the cases came from 3 schools (one infants, one junior and one secondary). In two schools a disinfectant procedure was introduced for hand rinsing after use of the toilet. This was maintained for some weeks as 9 of the cases of some dysentery were found in these two schools.

Food Poisoning

The following are the results of the bacteriological investigations on the 12 cases of food poisoning and suspected food poisoning notified during the year:

| Clostridium Welchii | 6 |
|------------------------|---|
| Salmonella typhimurium | 1 |
| Salmonella bredeney | 2 |
| Salmonella panama | 2 |
| Unconfirmed | 1 |

The two patients infected with Salmonella bredeney were acutely ill for two days before leaving Spain and symptoms persisted for several days. Another member of the family party, from Wickford (Basildon) was also ill but his stool specimen was negative on checking.

The patient infected with Salmonella typhimurium (6 year old girl) was ill with symptoms before proceeding on holiday, but only came to light when the family were checked bacteriologically on returning to U.K. as they had come from an area where cholera was present.

One of the two persons infected by Salmonella panama was an 11 year old boy who was admitted to hospital by his family doctor as a suspected case of Appendicitis. However, measles developed in hospital and symptoms included vomiting and diarrhoea with high temperature and body ache. No other member of the family had symptoms and the only food which came under suspicion was the school meals. Beefburgers eaten on the Wednesday was the only likely food which could have been responsible, but no further cases of illness from the School concerned came to notice. A period of nine weeks elapsed before the child was clear.

The other person infected by Salmonella panama was a woman who was referred by her family doctor on account of intermittent diarrhoea over a period. She worked in another area for a large food multiple who required three consecutive negative stool specimens before permitting her to return to duty. Fortunately these were obtained fairly quickly.

The six infected with Clostridium welchii were in two related families who had eaten veal, both hot and cold. A specimen of the shoulder of veal was positive to heat resistant Clostridium welchii. Symptoms were acute but brief; four adults and two children were affected.

A young family with two children attended a wedding reception at Dagenham after which seven people from two London Boroughs became ill. Salmonella enteriditis was subsequently isolated. The local family were found to be clear on bacteriological examination.

Cholera

Approximately 30 Rayleigh residents were kept under observation on their return from holiday in Spain on account of an outbreak of Cholera in that country. I am pleased to say there were no developments.

Paint Allergy

In the autumn of 1970 a number of the domestic staff of a local Old Peoples Home had been affected with a rash following the painting of the premises. A sample of the paint was submitted to the Public Analyst but his own arm was unaffected after a three inch square of paint had remained on the flesh for 72 hours.

Specifications from the manufacturers of various detergents were obtained, but nothing that would cause a skin rash could be found.

Whilst the Public Analyst regretted it was not possible to draw a firm conclusion, there was a suspicion that the paint, assisted by chemicals in the detergents etc. might have been responsible.

Tuberculosis

The following table shows the position for the year 1971:-

| | on register at 1st January of new cases | 82 |
|--------|---|----|
| | A) and amount of the same of the task | 86 |
| Number | recovered | 1 |
| Number | lost sight of | 2 |
| Number | remaining at 31st December, 1971 | 83 |

As in 1970 the four new cases in 1971 involved 3 cases of respiratory tuberculosis and one case of renal tuberculosis; the ages were respectively 7, 32, 34 and 46.

The following is a summary of the 51 newly notified cases of tuberculosis over the past ten years.

| | Si | te of Dis | ease | S | ex | Aé | ge Group | none all |
|--------------|-------|-------------|-------|----------|--------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| (0) | Lungs | Other | Total | Male | Female | Under 15 | 16-64 | Over 65 |
| 1962 1963 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 2 | of omos-hale | 6 | 2 |
| | 5 | - | 5 | 4 | 1 | - | 2 | 3 |
| 1964 1965 | 3 | | 3 | 2 | 1 | | 3 | |
| | 7 | IN DEPOSIT | 3 | 1 | 2 | geoldi tarr | 5 | 5 |
| 1966 1967 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 4 3 | 6 | None on soco | 6 | 3 |
| 1968 | 1 | and Bearing | í | drawin p | 1 | a rol agen o | n enf the | I best ow |
| 1969 | 7 | * Kur 01 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| 1970 1971 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | p virish bed | 4 | ow seeds |
| 1711 |) | 1 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | - 91 |
| | | | | 50 | | | | |

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

RAYLEIGH

| | | | | 0 0 m | 四十年 中日 | N. S. S. S. S. S. | K K K K K | 1 | | 1 |
|--------------------|--------|-----|-----|---------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------|--------|---|
| r exte | Under | 1-4 | 5-9 | 10-14 | 15-24 | 25-44 | 45-64 | 65 & Over | Totals | 1 |
| Acute Meningitis | I ACOU | 1 | 3 | - | 15. | 1 | 1 | | П | |
| Dysentery | r | T | 5 | 80 | in a constant | | 7 | 1 | 13 | |
| Food Poisoning | - | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 12 | |
| Infective Jaundice | 1 | 1 | 1 | A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A | 177 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | |
| Measles | 2 | 45 | 44 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 94 | |
| Scarlet Fever | 95, | 1 | 10 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 810 | 16 | |
| v to | 3 | 48 | 62 | 14 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 138 | 1 |

ROCHFORD RURAL DISTRICT

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Miss E.M. Leggatt (Chairman)

R. Blackburn

M.J.L. Ketteridge

J.W. King

A.G. Oldbury

J.C. Rayment

Mrs. J.K. Robson

S.G. Robson (Chairman of the Council)

D.L. Sowray

W.J. Tracey

J.R. Warner (Vice Chairman)

R.M. Warren (Vice Chairman of the Council)

| N N I I I F | Area (in acres) Number of habit Number of inhale Population (197 Population (mic Rateable Value Sum represented | table house pited house 71 Census) d-year esti | es es mate 1971) | As at 31st March 1972 | 14,504 14,209 42,002 |
|----------------------------|---|---|------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| VITAL STATISTICS | Male | Female | Total | Rate per 1,000 Population | Standardised Rate |
| Total live birth | ns 455 233 | 378 252 | 833 485 | 20.1 | 19.1 8.7 |
| | | | | Rate per 1,000 live births | |

28

33.6

| Infant deaths | 4 | 2 | 6 | 7.2 |
|---------------------|-------|---|----|-----------------------------------|
| Neonatal deaths | 4 | 2 | 6 | 7.2 |
| over the past ten y | onto, | | | Rate per 1,000 live & stillbirths |
| Stillhirths | 6 | Λ | 10 | 11.9 |

13

Perinatal mortality 10 6 16 19.0 (includes stillbirths and deaths in first week of life)

15

NOTE:

Illegitimate births

The Area Comparability Factors, as applied for the Standardised Birth and Death Rates are - Births 0.95 and Deaths 0.74.

DEATHS BY CAUSE

| Cause | Male | Female | Total |
|--|--------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity etc. | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus | otherw_th We | 1 | 1 |
| Malignant neoplasm, stomach | 9 | 4 | 13 |
| Malignant neoplasm, intestine | 6 | 11 | 17 |
| Malignant neoplasm, larynx | 1 | Sec 10 S | i |
| Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus | 17 | 7 | 24 |
| Malignant neoplasm, breast | | 6 | 6 |
| Malignant neoplasm, uterus | - 5 | 4 | 4 |
| Malignant neoplasm, prostate | 3 | operal Lean 9 | 3 |
| Leukaemia | 1 | , the full on S. | 1 |
| Other malignant neoplasms | 10 | 13 | 23 |
| Diabetes mellitus | 1 | 2 | |
| Other endocrine etc. diseases | Many Deat | 2 | 3 2 1 |
| Anaemias | 1 | _ | 1 |
| Other diseases of nervous system | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Chronic rheumatic heart disease | 5 | enter la | 6 |
| Hypertensive disease | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| Ischaemic heart disease | 63 | 43 | 106 |
| Other forms of heart disease | 1 | 7 | 8 |
| Cerebrovascular disease | 48 | 101 | 149 |
| Other diseases of circulatory system | 7 | 5 | 12 |
| Pneumonia | 12 | 12 | 24 |
| Bronchitis and emphysema | 16 | 2 | 18 |
| Asthma | resident -ell stor | (amplione b | 1 |
| Other diseases of respiratory system | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Intestinal obstruction and hernia | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Cirrhosis of liver | - | 1 | 1 |
| Other diseases of digestive system | 2 | 1 | 3 2 |
| Hyperplasia of Prostate | 2 | - | 2 |
| Other diseases, genito-urinary system | all dellivery | 4 | 4 |
| Diseases of musculo-skeletal system | The Store of | 2 | 2 |
| Congenital anomalies | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Other causes of perinatal mortality | 1 | 30.79) - | 1 |
| Motor vehicle accidents | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| All other accidents | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| Suicide and self-inflicted injuries | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| All other external causes | - | 1 | 1 |
| Totals | 231 | 251 | 482 |
| | | | |

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1971

| AGE GROUP | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL |
|--|---|--|---|
| Under 1 year 1 and under 5 5 and under 15 15 and under 25 25 and under 35 35 and under 45 45 and under 55 55 and under 65 65 and under 75 75 and upwards | 4 - 2 2 2 2 4 9 47 59 102 | 2 1 - - 3 13 23 39 170 | 6 1 2 2 2 7 22 70 98 272 |
| | 231 | 251 | 482 |

COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

56% of deaths were at ages over 75. Deaths under 45 years amounted to 4.5% of the total. Deaths between 45 and 65 were 17%.

About twice as many woman as men died from disease of the cerebral arteries, but 3 men to every 2 woman died from ischaemic heart disease. The commonest fatal cancer was in the lung, but pneumonia was an equal cause of death, with bronchitis (and emphysema) not far behind. Accidents killed as many as cancer of the stomach.

WELFARE OF THE AGED

Around 80 elderly people came to the attention of the Department during 1971 as being in need of assistance. Housing needs accounted for over 30 of these, 20 required the help of bath safety equipment and the remainder had a variety of needs. Some were admitted to hospital, others to Welfare Homes, some were rehoused by the Council, others were contained in their own homes with the help of the domicilary services.

Whilst no action was taken during the year under Section 47 of the National Assitance Act 1948 a number of difficult cases were coped with without recourse to compulsory action.

The South East Essex Home Safety Committee gave useful assistance to the elderly of the Rural District who needed help in the bathroom, the following equipment being provided:-

| Economic Bath Safety Rail | 11 |
|---------------------------|----|
| Economic Bath Safety Seat | 6 |
| Homecraft Bath Board | 2 |
| Wooden Bath Seat | 1 |
| No Slip Discs (sets) | 8 |

Meals on Wheels

The Honorary Organiser of the Meals-on-Wheels Service for the Rochford Rural District, Mr. Rupert C. Jarvis of the Hockley and Hawkwell Old People's Welfare Council, has kindly supplied me with the following information about meals provided for the elderly during 1971.

A total of 16,975 meals were delivered to private homes and a further 1,418 were provided 'on tables' at the Hockley Meals Centre. This compares with an overall total of 15,121 in 1970 and 13,383 in 1969. The 1971 total is summarised as follows in parishes, showing frequency of delivery:

| Ashingdon | Twice a week delivery by volunteers' private cars (Tuesdays and Thursdays) | 558 |
|--|--|--------|
| Hockley/Hawkwell | Three times a week delivery by volunteers' private cars and van provided by Hockley & Hawkwell Old People's Welfare Council. (Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays) | 9,916 |
| Hullbridge | Three times a week delivery by volunteers' private cars and van provided by Hullbridge Senior Citizens Welfare Council. (Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays) | 3,464 |
| Rochford | Twice a week delivery by volunteers' private cars (Tuesdays and Thursdays) | 2,966 |
| Great and Little Wakering and Barling | Twice a week delivery by volunteers' private cars (Tuesdays and Thursdays) | 1,489 |
| | | 18,393 |

In Ashingdon and Rochford the meals were received from schools during the school term and Rochford Hospital during school holidays. At Hullbridge they were received from school during term and from Hockley (ex Hospital) during the holidays. In Hockley and Hawkwell meals were received from Rochford Hospital throughout the year. In Great and Little Wakering and Barling they were received from school during term, supplemented somewhat during the holidays.

Charges to recipients varied from 10p to 15p and a grant of £1,612 was received from the Local Authority, through the precept of the Old People's Welfare Committee for the Rural District to cover the difference between the charge made and the prime and delivery costs. The average number of people who benefited in their own homes each week from this very valuable service was 127. Delivery of the meals, from proper containers to ensure the retention of heat, was made by van and private cars, in general by the ad hoc service organised by the Old People's Welfare Organisations, but in Rochford in co-operation with the local W.R.V.S. In Hockley and Hawkwell personal diet meals were provided throughout the year for diabetics and others by special arrangements with the Hospital and the family doctors.

The valuable help of the Chief Catering Officer and his Chef and general staff at Rochford General Hospital, the staff at Ashingdon Primary School, Hullbridge Primary School, the King Edmund School Rochford, and Great Wakering Junior Schools, and the assistance at Rochford of the W.R.V.S. is very much appreciated.

Essex County Council Social Services Department

A brief note on the establishment of the new Department set up under the Local Authorities Social Services Act 1970 is given in the Canvey Island section of the Report.

The one Home for the Elderly in the Rural District (the newest in S.E. Essex) is Albert Jones Court at Rochford and accommodates 16 males and 30 females. 28 old people were admitted during the year and a further 17 were on the waiting list on 31st December. The Area Social Work Organiser (Mr. A.C. Scott) has also advised me that 110 elderly people are registered as physically handicapped and a further 83 pensioners are registered as blind or partially sighted.

Voluntary Organisations

A considerable amount of good work for the elderly is undertaken by the Churches and the various organisations throughout the Rural District. These include the

Hockley & Hawkwell Old Peoples Welfare Council Hullbridge Senior Citizens Welfare Council Rochford Old Peoples Welfare Committee Rochford W.R.V.S. Darby & Joan Clubs and Old Age Pensioner Groups

WATER SUPPLY

The bulk of the water supply is derived from river sources, lime softened at either the Langford or the Hanningfield Works of the Essex Water Company. Water is drawn during certain seasons of the year from Wells at Wakering Wick, Great Wakering, Barling, South Fambridge and Nobles Green. The river derived supplies are moderately hard (140 parts per million) but the boreholes yield soft water with a fairly high fluoride content ranging from 2.0 to 4.0 parts per million. There is no evidence of plumbo solvency. The borehole waters are also saline and contain a moderate amount of sodium bicarbonate which modifies the taste of the water and also of tea made from it. This can cause complaints from consumers when boreholes are brought into use.

308 additional supplies were connected, 2,234 yards of new mains were laid and 1,419 yards abandoned during 1971.

The following table shows the houses on main supply, with estimated population for each Parish of the rural District, as at 31st December, 1971:

| militar Site | <u>P</u> 8 | arish | EDO REALE OF | restruction of the second | Acreage | Houses on main supply | Estimated population on main supply |
|-----------------|-------------|---------|--------------|------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| * | Ashingdon | (includ | ling South | Fambridge) | 2,503 | 915 | 2,670 |
| | Barling Mag | gna (ir | nc. Little | Wakering) | 2,747 | 495 | 1,433 |
| | Canewdon | | | ••• | 6,845 | 499 | 1,445 |
| ** | Foulness Is | sland | | | 7,235 | 93 | 260 |
| | Great Waker | ring | | | 3,314 | 1,566 | 4,694 |
| | Hawkwell | | | | 1,408 | 3,175 | 8,885 |
| | Hockley | • • • | | | 1,578 | 2,852 | 7,981 + 20 |
| | Hullbridge | | | | 2,193 | 2,187 | 6,556 + 945 |
| | Paglesham | | | | 1,687 | 102 | 285 + 67 |
| × | Rochford | | ••• | ••• | 2,988 | 2,346 | 7,033 |
| | Stambridge | | ••• | self andres | 2,202 | 201 | 562 |
| | Sutton | | | | 1,520 | 60 | 168 |
| - | pared the | | 24 BC 34/1 | Totals | 36,220 | 14,491 | 41,972 1032 |

^{*} One premises involving two persons is 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 Essex Water Company.

^{*} This figure includes residents of Hospital and Welfare Institutions.

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

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Main drainage in the Rural District is available to more than 90% of the population. There are six Sewage Treatment Works as follows: Stambridge, Havengore, Barling, Paglesham (Jubilee Cottages), Paglesham (East End), Foulness (Church End).

The largest Sewage Treatment Works is at Stambridge and serves the Parishes of Ashingdon, Canewdon, Hawkwell, Hockley, Rochford, Stambridge and Sutton. The Havengore Works is the next largest serving the Parishes of Barling, Great Wakering and Little Wakering and has recently been extended. The remaining four Sewage Treatment Works serve only the villages etc. in which they are constructed.

Work is well under way on a large Capital Works Programme which includes:-

- (i) the reconstruction of the Stambridge Sewage Treatment Works.
- (ii) the provision of a new trunk foul sewer from Hockley to Stambridge.
- (iii) a new main foul sewerage system to serve Hullbridge which comprises new main sewers, pumping station and rising main discharging into the trunk sewers referred to in (ii).
 - (iv) new trunk surface water sewers to serve Hockley and Hullbridge.

In view of the districts main sewage treatment works at Stambridge being overloaded and a similar state of affairs existing at the Rayleigh Western Works which at present serves Hullbridge, the embargo on new planning applications since 1965 in the areas served by the Works has continued through the year. New building has, therefore, been confined to outstanding planning consents and redevelopment where simple replacement takes place. Applications for new development to be served by privately installed treatment plants have been rejected.

Twelve properties were connected to the sewer during the year whilst 2 were built with cesspools and 1 with a septic tank. The lengths of sewer extensions vested in the Council were: Soil sewer - 127 yards, surface water - 75 yards.

A night soil collection is made by Contractor from 58 properties once weekly at a cost of 43p per pail.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

A weekly collection is made throughout the District. The plastic bin liner system, introduced in April 1970, has continued, with success.

Following a Work Study survey in 1970, a bonus scheme was adopted and put into operation during May 1971. Five refuse vehicles and one four-wheel drive vehicle for unmade roads, are in service and 26 men are engaged.

Disposal is by contract for 7 years at a sandpit at Barling, which commenced 1/7/70, at a charge of 72p per ton. The weight of refuse disposed of during 1971 was 10,413 tons.

Bulky household articles are collected free of charge, and residents can bring any refuse to the Council Depot, or take it direct to tip for disposal, free of charge. Unwanted, or abandoned vehicles are removed, free of charge, by a local scrap merchant.

County Council roadside verges are regularly cleared of dumped rubbish, most of which, it is believed, is dumped by residents from outside the District.

When the bonus scheme commenced, the collection of waste paper for salvage was ceased by the collectors. The part-time baling man finished in July, 1971. During 1971, 77 tons of various materials were salvaged, value £286.

The Working Party, comprising nine local authorities in South Essex was continued, and it was decided to terminate the services of the Local Government Operational Research Unit on refuse disposal. It was decided in view of the local government re-organisation in 1974 to continue the officer working party on a County basis.

BURIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Through the co-operation of the Engineer and Surveyor the Incumbents responsible for Churchyards in the Rural District have sent me some details of existing facilities.

Interments continue at the Parish Churches in Ashingdon, Canewdon, Barling, Foulness Island, Hawkwell, Hockley, Little Wakering, Paglesham and Sutton. Most of these Churchyards have space for new interments for many years to come.

The Churchyard at St. Andrews, Rochford has been closed for some years except for the reopening of family graves and the interment of cremated remains.

St. Nicholas Churchyard at Great Wakering is still open for new interments and interments in existing family graves, but the Parish Council is negotiating to take over the management of this Churchyard under the Open Spaces Act 1906, when the new Local Authority Cemetery is opened in 1972.

Although the Parish Church at Shopland has been demolished there is still consecrated ground on the site available for burials, but none have in fact taken place for several years.

The only Local Authority burial ground in the Rural District is the Rochford Lawn Cemetery in Hall Road managed by the Rochford Parish Council, officially opened on 1st May, 1971; the first burial took place on 7th May, 1971. It is anticipated that this new cemetery will cover the local need for the next 20-30 years.

One Incombent in his reply stressed that Churchyards in country areas should be taken over by the Local Authority owing to the difficulties of maintaining the Churchyard for a population which largely fails to support the Church.

PETROLEUM STORAGE

Under the Petroleum Regulations, 57 petroleum storage licences were in force in 1971, one for carbide of calcium, and ten for petroleum mixtures. A total of 106 inspections were carried out.

PEST CONTROL

There were 158 notifications of rats and mice infestations during 1971, and 127 inspections were carried out.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

The following is a summary of the 2,653 visits and inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1971:

| Abandoned cars and disposal | 21 |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Aerial Spraying of Crops | 2 |
| Animal Boarding | 9 |
| Camping and Caravan sites | 150 |
| Civic Amenities | 37 |
| Clean Air | 62 |
| Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) | 13 |
| Drainage and Sewerage | 193 |
| Factories and Outworkers | 169 |
| Food: Premises | 9 |
| Hawkers of | 53 |
| Imported Food | 85 |
| Unsound Food Sampling | 3 |
| Hairdressing Establishments | 2 |
| Houseboats | 91 |
| Improvement Grants | 12 |
| Repairs | 295 |
| Infectious Disease and Food Poisoning | 260 |
| Licensing | 2 |
| Litter | 21 |
| Miscellaneous Visits | 188 |
| Noise Abatement | 40 |
| Nuisances | 209 |
| Offices and Shops | 84 |
| Pet Animals | 5 |
| Petroleum Storage | 106 |
| Port Health | 1 |
| Public Entertainment Licensing | 127 |
| Rats and Mice | 130 |
| Refuse Collection and Disposal | 5 |
| Scrap Metal Dealers | 197 |
| Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspection | 6 |
| Swimming Pools | 12 |
| Verminous Premises | 25 |
| Other Pests | 9 |
| Water Supplies and Sampling | Leugha. |

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Ninety-two premises are registered and ninety use mechanical power. A total of eighteen inspections were made, and fifty-six outworkers were registered. Full particulars under the Act are shown in the following tables:-

Part 1 of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health:

| of sec | Premises | Number on 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 | DE LEVEL PROPERTY OF | ivolich edr edly to model to |
| (ii) | Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 90 | 17 | |
| (iii) | Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises) | | 1 | Andreade Store Catalogic Store Park Store to Dep |

Part VIII of the Act

OUTWORK

| Nature of work | | | | | Number of Outworkers in August lis- required by Section 133 (1) (c) | | |
|--------------------|--|--|--|-----|--|--|--|
| Toys | | | | 000 | 5 | | |
| Household Linen | | | | | la l | | |
| Wearing apparel | | | | | 34 | | |
| Umbrellas etc. | | | | | 1 | | |
| Plastic Packaging | | | | | 6 | | |
| Basket Making | | | | | 1 | | |
| Light Engineering | | | | | 5 | | |
| Carding and boxing | | | | | 3 | | |

No contraventions of this part of the Act were reported

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

There are four industrial estates in the District as follows:-

One in Hockley - 12 factories One in Great Wakering - 14 factories

Two in Rochford - 11 factories

During the year, further complaints of noise from factories on the Hockley Estate were received, due to the installation of cyclones. These were resolved to an acceptable level per B.S.4142.

CLEAN AIR ACT

During the year it was necessary to keep observations, and approach the owners on a number of occasions, re dark smoke emission.

To date, the Council has not introduced any smokeless zones. New housing estates have central heating, mainly gas, electricity or oil, and during the past few years there has been a general conversion of coal burning appliances to smokeless fuel by householders.

OFFICES, SHOPS & 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:-

| Class of Premises | Registered during year | Registered end of year | Inspected |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Offices Retail shops Wholesale Shops and Warehouses Catering Establishments open to the | 1 3 - | 71 156 5 | 6 68 1 |
| public, canteens Fuel Storage Depots | Tit-sheeps | 11 2 | 9 |
| The number of employees were:- | | | |
| Offices 533 Retail shops 568 | | | |
| Wholesale Shops and Warehouses 50 Catering Establishments open to the public 27 | | ou do "enter" of no | |
| Canteens 6 Fuel Storage Depots 9 Total 1,193 | | | |

In the above total, 533 males and 660 females were employed. There were 84 visits made to registered premises during 1971. Two accidents were reported and investigated.

PET ANNIMALS ACT, 1951

During 1971, four licences were issued for the keeping of pets for sale under the above act.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

Six licences were issued under the above Act, for the boarding of animals.

ESTABLISHMENT FOR MASSAGE OR SPECIAL TREATMENT

One Chiropodist, Mr. L.R. Wheeler, 4 Somerset Avenue, Rochford, is licenced by the Essex County Council to practice from premises in the Rural District.

SWIMMING POOLS

Nine of the schools in the Rural District have their own swimming pool, and a suitable outfit for chlorination purposes is provided by the Educational Authority. Regular tests are carried out by a master at each school wilst the pools are in seasonal use.

Ashingdon County Primary School, Main Road, Ashingdon.
Canewdon Endowed Primary School, Anchor Lane, Canewdon.
Doggetts County Primary School, The Boulevard, Rochford.
Holt Farm County Junior School, Ashingdon Road, Rochford.
Hullbridge County Primary School, Ferry Road, Hullbridge.
Plumberow County Primary School, Hamilton Gardens, Hockley.
Great Wakering County Primary School, High Street, Great
Wakering.

Greensward School, Greensward Lane, Hockley. King Edmund School, Vaughan Close, Rochford.

HOUSING

At the end of 1971 the Council owned and managed 1,519 units of accommodation, 146 of which were flats. There were no Council dwellings completed during the year but 42 properties were in course of construction on 31st December. These consisted of a complex of 31 Old Peoples Flatlets and 1 warden's 2 bedroomed flat at Sutton Court Drive, Rochford and 2 projects each of 4 Old Aged Persons flats with 1, 3 bedroom unit.

In respect of private development, 111 dwellings were completed and a further 389 properties were still under construction at the end of the year.

In respect of the Council's housing list, there were 876 applicants awaiting rehousing at the end of the year. During the year 42 applicants had been rehoused, 12 had been removed from the list for various reasons and 121 had been accepted on to the housing list. Of this number of applicants 81 might be considered in urgent need of rehousing. 212 applications on the housing list are in respect of pensioners.

Of the total number of Council dwellings mentioned above, 200 are specially provided for old people, although some of this accommodation could equally be tenanted by young couples. Included in this number are 41 units of accommodation where the service of a Warden, communal facilities and bell warning system are provided.

The Council's Housing Department referred 52 applicants for medical assessment during 1971, with the following results:

Group "A" - 6 (50 points)
Group "B" - 11 (25 points)
Group "C" - 8 (10 points)
Group "D" - 12 (nil)

Of the remaining 15 cases, five moved away under private arrangements, four were still pending and the remainder disposed of in various ways.

14 cases from previous years came up for review, six being regraded to Group "A", one to Group "C", 4 remained unchanged, one was rehoused, one made private arrangements and one was still pending.

63

Action under the Housing Acts taken during 1971 is summarised as follows:

| 6 |
|---------------|
| 8 |
|) 1 |
| 9 |
| 4 |
| THE STREET |
| 19 |
| 31 |
|) 1 9 4 |

Qualification Certificates

| Applications received | 58 |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Number refused | 15 |
| Certificates issued: | confide the |
| Full Certificates (dwellings | |
| satisfying conditions) | 18 |
| Provisional certificates | 2 |

Common Lodging Houses:

There are none in the District.

Caravan Sites

There are four privately owned residential sites in the District, providing for 530 caravans. These now have drainage and water laid to standings. Two are served by Council sewers and two by private installations. In addition, the Council owns two sites - one in Rochford and one in Hockley. The one at Hockley has been run down, and was cleared by the end of the year for redevelopment to provide accommodation for old people. The one in Rochford is gradually being run down, and at the end of the year there were 31 caravans on this site, a few having been transferred from the Hockley site.

There are five privately owned sites for seasonal use, providing for 324 caravans.

During the year, thirteen licences were granted for individual residential caravans, following Town Planning consent.

FOOD HYGIENE

Meat Inspection

The following is a summary of 675 food animals killed and inspected at the Rochford slaughterhouse during 1971:-

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

| of London (southern share with the long of the land of the long of the long of the land of the long of the land of | Cattle excluding cows | Calves | Sheep and lambs | Pigs |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Number killed and inspected All diseases (except tuberculosis and cysticerci):- | 157 | Alogah Sepa | 205 | 313 |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned Percentage affected | 30 19.1 | - | - 1015 | 14 4•5 |
| Tuberculosis only: Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned Percentage affected | o to otak out-toker | or the Gan | ed matricus p = al ribacio | 5 1.6 |
| Cysticercosis: Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 1 | t ships it was | or soldyla | manuliselm eprintermiel progi Lanem emeconynaer |

Slaughterhouse

One was licensed for the year and has continued in use by one butcher. There has not been any change in circumstances, and practically all slaughtering is done after 6 p.m.

Imported Food Regulations, 1968 (Rochford Airport)

The salary paid to the retired Public Health Inspector who does out of office hours duty inspection, was reviewed during June 1971. The original payment from October, 1970 was £250 per annum, plus £3 per visit. During six months, only six visits were necessary, and the salary was increased from 1st July, 1971 to £350 per annum, plus £0.50 per visit, including travelling. A 50% grant is made by the Department of Health and Social Security.

There is no regular pattern, the food consists mainly of lettuce, grapes, chicory, tomatoes and meat products from the Continent, with a build-up just before Christmas. Samples of meat products taken for bacteriological examination were found to be satisfactory.

It has been necessary for the Chief Public Health Inspector to remind agents to notify imports, and to seek the co-operation of H.M. Customs & Excise to hold any meat and meat products until inspected.

Unfit Food

During the year, sixteen complaints of unfit food were received from residents, and investigated. Food handlers are constantly being reminded of

the necessity for strict stock rotation. Proceedings were taken in the following cases, under Section 2. Food & Drugs Act, 1955:-

Unfit apple tart - £20 plus £4 costs
Unfit marble sponge - £20 plus £4 costs
Unfit cheese - £15 plus £2 costs
Unfit fruit pie - £25 plus £5 costs

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970

There are 228 food establishments in the Rural District, and these are summarised below in connection with the requirements of the above Regulations:-

| Trade | No. | No. of premises complying with Reg. 16 | No. of premises to which Reg.21 applies | No. of premises complying with Reg. 21 |
|-------------------------|-----|--|---|--|
| Bakers | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| Butchers | 17 | 17 | 17 | 17 |
| Cafes & Restaurants | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| Canteens: Industrial | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| School | 17 | 17 | 17 | 17 |
| Confectioners | 29 | 29 | 28 | 28 |
| Fishmongers | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| General Provisions | 59 | 59 | 59 | 59 |
| Greengrocers | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 |
| Licensed premises/clubs | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 |
| Pickle Factories | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Unclassified | 5 | 5 | 2 | 2 |

Unsound 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 disposed of to processors of animal food.

During 1971, 1,840 lbs. and 99 tins of meat and other foods, 1,131 packets of frozen food were condemned, the former excluding meat at slaughterhouses.

Preserved Food

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

Hawkers of Food

Nineteen 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 eighty premises registered for the sale of ice cream in the District, but there are no manufacturers. There are nine hawkers from outside the District, and during the year it was necessary to advise some van salesmen regarding compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations, particularly the absence of overalls, provision of hot water, and smoking. No samples were taken during 1971.

Poultry Dressing Premises

There are none in the District.

PORT HEALTH

The Rochford Rural District Council is responsible as a Riparian Authority under the Public Health (Ships) Regulations 1970 for Port Health matters on the River Crouch (southern shore within the Rural District), as the area of the Port of London Health Authority terminates at Foulness Point at the mouth of the River. Baltic Wharf on Wallasea Island is the only Port concerned. The Port of London Health Authority is however responsible for the River Roach which whilst a tributary of the River Crouch within the Rural District has outlets through various creeks to the Thames Estuary/North Sea.

Shipping movements continued to increase during 1971 and a reprint of the Maritime Declaration of Health became necessary. However, this was held in abeyance due to negotiation with the Department of Health & Social Security on approval of its content.

In November I recommended to the Clerk of the Council that application be made for membership of the Association of Sea and Air Port Health Authorities and this was done.

I give below a copy of the Annual Report which I was required to submit to the Department of Health & Social Security in respect of the year 1971 and is followed by a Summary of Shipping details for the year.

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR ROCHFORD RURAL DISTRICT AS A RIPARIAN AUTHORITY FOR THE YEAR 1971

Compiled in accordance with Form Port 20 issued by the Ministry of Health, dated October, 1952

SECTION I - Staff

TABLE A

| Name of Officer | Nature of Appointment | Date of Appointment | Qualifications | Any other Appointments Held |
|---------------------|---|------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Dr. D.A. Smyth | Medical Officer of Health | 3rd January, 1966 | M.B., M.F.C.M., F.R.S.H. | Also Medical Officer of Health for the Urban Districts of Benfleet, Canvey Island and Rayleigh and Area Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer for the South East Area of Essex County |
| Dr. E.E. Hodgson | Deputy Medical Officer of Health | 28th April, 1968 | M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.R.S.H. | Council. Also Deputy Medical Officer of Health for the Urban Districts of Benfleet, Canvey Island and Rayleigh and Departmental Medical Officer for the South East Area of Essex County Council. |
| H. Jepson | Chief Public Health Inspector | January 1947 | M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. | Character setter |
| J.R. Bullock | Public Health Inspector | October 1961 | M.A.P.H.I. | |

Office Address and Telephone Number of Medical Officer of Health:-

Telegraphic Address

Public Health Department, 134 High Street, Rayleigh, Essex. Telephone Rayleigh 6101.

SECTION II - Amount of Shipping Entering District during the year

ROCHELTH RAYLEIGH

71 ships involving 125 trips docked at Baltic Wharf, Wallasea Island, from foreign ports during 1971. The recorded dead weight tonnage was 51,748. According to the Shipping Agents at least another 15 ships arrived from foreign ports which had first docked at another British port so that the submission of a Maritime Declaration of Health at Baltic Wharf was unnecessary.

Approximately two-thirds of the ships came from Dutch, German and Danish 52 ships were less than 500 tons dead weight and 19 were over that 5 ships were inspected by the Medical Officer of Health or his Deputy and two ships were inspected by the Public Health Inspector. No ships were reported as having any infectious disease on board during the voyage.

SECTION III - Character of Shipping and Trade during the year

TABLE C

Passenger Traffic:-

Maritime Declarations of Health submitted from 27 ships revealed that 55 passengers were carried during the year.

Cargo Traffic:-

According to the shipping agents, imports arriving at Baltic Wharf totalled 88,625 tons, all of which was timber and timber products with the exception of 49 tons of steel. However, Maritime Declarations of Health revealed 12 ships were carrying general cargo and one Liberian ship was carrying ground nuts.

Principal Ports from which ships arrive.

Galatz, Lisbon, Kotka, Kasko, Lulea, Leningrad, Blankaholm, Rauma, Skutskaer, Szezcin, Leixoes.

SECTION IV - Inland Barge Traffic

None

SECTION V - Water Supply

(1) Source of supply for (a) district: - Essex Water Company Mains water via a 2,000 gallon totally (b) shipping:-

enclosed storage tank piped to the jetty. 50% of ships arriving take on water. Water in storage tank is kept 'moving' by being linked with a small 100 gallon tank serving the offices of the Shipping Agents.

- (2) Reports of tests for contamination: Daily tests of water going into supply
 - taken by resident Chemist of the Essex Water Company - all satisfactory.
- (3) Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes:-
- Two samples of tap water were taken from ships in port on 14th September, one of which was found to be unsatisfactory and was reported to the Shipping Agents with a request that the Master be informed when next in port.
- (4) Number and sanitary condition of water boats and powers of control by the Authority:-

None

SECTION VI - Public Health (Ships) Regulations 1970

(1) List of Infected Areas

Lists of Infected Areas received, as issued by the World Health Organisation, are scrutinized in the office of the Medical Officer of Health and instructions issued as necessary to the Shipping Agents to hold any crew until medical clearance can be given. One ship involving two arrivals came from Brazil and another ship involving four arrivals came from Lisbon.

- (2) Radio messages:-
 - (a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for Nil ships to enter the district:-
 - (b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for acting thereon:-

Arrangements in force for Ships' Masters to send radio message to North Foreland or Humber Radio Stations with answers to questions 1-6 on page 1 of the Maritime Declaration of Health and such messages to be telephoned by North Foreland or Humber to Rayleigh 6101, Southend-on-Sea 77913 or Southend-on-Sea 557252.

(3) Notifications otherwise than by radio:-

Instructions to Shipping Agents to notify by telephone the arrival of any ship which has not previously sent a radio message via North Foreland.

(4) Mooring Stations:-

By arrangements with the Port of London Health Authority.

- (5) Arrangements for:-
 - (a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases:-

Westcliff Ward, Rochford General Hospital.

(b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts:-

By Public Health Staff as and when required.

(c) Cleansing and disfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles:-

Local arrangements as and when required with use of power vaporizing spray. Facilities for steam disinfection if required.

SECTION VII - Smallpox

(1) Name of Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent from the district:-

Joyce Green Hospital, Dartford.

(2) Arrangements for transport of such cases to that hospital by ambulance giving the name of Authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews:-

By special ambulance provided by the Greater London Council through the Essex County Ambulance Service. Essex County crews vaccinated every three years.

- (3) Smallpox Consultants available:- Dr. W.T.G. Boul, Dr. G.D.W. MacKendrick and Dr. J.D. Kershaw.
- (4) Facilities for laboratory diagnosis Official smallpox outfits despatched by of smallpox:
 express post to the Virus Reference
 Laboratory, Colindale Avenue, London, NW9.

SECTION VIII - Venereal Disease

Venereal Disease Clinics at Out-patient Department of Southend General Hospital. Times of Clinics issued to Shipping Agents.

SECTION IX - Cases of Notifiable and other Infectious Diseases on Ships

None

SECTION X - Observations on the occurrence of malaria in Ships

None

SECTION XI - Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected for plague

None

SECTION XII - Measures against rodents in ships from Foreign ports

This is not a Deratting Authority.

SECTION XIII - Inspection of ships for nuisances

None

SECTION XIV - Public Health (Shell-fish Regulations) 1934 & 1948

The River Crouch, on which Baltic Wharf is sited (on South bank towards the mouth), forms the northern boundary of the Rochford Rural District. This same river forms the southern boundary of the Burnham-on-Crouch Urban District and Maldon Rural District. In 1936 the Burnham-on-Crouch U.D.C. made an Order making it an offence to sell oysters for human consumption taken from their side of the river between Lyon Creek and Coleward Flat, unless they had first been subjected to processing or re-laid in clean water. This Order remains in force. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, Fisheries Laboratory at Burnham-on-Crouch, have confirmed to me that as is known, no cultivation of oysters takes place in the Crouch in an area south of that specified in the Order, or indeed along the remaining length of the south shore abutting the Rochford R.D.

However dredging for shellfish may be carried on virtually along the whole length of the River Crouch, the area extending land miles eastward from Hullbridge and any catches invariably being re-laid before sale. Shellfish beds are also in use adjacent to the north bank of the Crouch, west of Lyon Creek including Bridgemarsh Creek and the south shore of Bridgemarsh Island and between the west

end of Bridgemarsh Island and Fambridge. Notices warning the public that untreated shellfish found on the south bank of the river are unfit for human consumption are currently displayed at selected points by the Rochford Rural District Council.

Diluted untreated sewage from the main sewer at Hullbridge is discharged into the River Crouch from the Pumping Station there, during times of prolonged heavy rain. Treated effluent is also discharged as a routine procedure into the Crouch west of Hullbridge from the Rayleigh Western Sewage Works which abut the south bank of the river. At present this effluent is below standard but enlarged and improved works are now in the planning stage and tenders have been invited (1972).

SECTION XV - Medical Inspection of Aliens

On 11th December the German ship "Heinrich Schmidt" (928 tons) which was en route from Porto Alegre, Brazil to Baltic Wharf, radioed in reporting that there were five West African stowaways on board. The Medical Officer of Health boarded the ship as soon as it docked and certified that the stowaways were medically fit, the matter being left for the Immigration Authorities to handle.

On the same day, the Medical Officer of Health medically examined a member of the crew of the "Leningrad Partisan" (U.S.S.R.) and arranged for his admission to Rochford General Hospital.

SECTION XVI - Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from Infectious Disease

Nil

SUMMARY OF SHIPPING, CARGOES AND COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN OF SHIPS USING BALTIC WHARF, WALLASEA ISLAND IN 1971

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The incidence of infectious disease within the Rural District during 1971 was low but there were a number of cases of food poisoning.

Cholera

Approximately 35 persons who had been on holiday in Spain in the Autumn were kept under observation owing to the presence of cholera in that country at that time. One family of four had suspicious symptoms by bacteriological investigations proved negative.

Acute Meningitis

Of the three cases notified, one was a child of five years with Acute Influenzal Meningitis and the other two were mother and son aged 15, with Acute Meningococcal Meningitis. All three were hospitalised and the latter two were extremely ill, being unconscious on admission to hospital on successive days in early January. The local family attended a Christmas family gathering in the London area and a large number of contacts were involved over a wide area of Greater London. However, there were no developments and the local cases fully recovered.

Food Poisoning

Of the 33 cases of food poisoning or suspected food poisoning notified during 1971, 18 cases were confirmed, 5 of whom had just returned from holiday abroad. 14 were unconfirmed and one was denotified. Three other members of a family where there was an unconfirmed case had similar symptoms and the husband of one of the confirmed cases who had been abroad had symptoms, but bacteriological examination was not possible. Two of the unconfirmed cases were due to lack of co-operation from the individuals concerned. Bacteriological results were as follows:

Salmonella agona

Salmonella enteritidis
Salmonella ibadan
Salmonella indiana
Salmonella java
Salmonella pava
Salmonella newport
Salmonella typhimurium
Salmonella thompson
Salmonella 4.12d

1 (from Spain)
(from Spain)
(from Spain)
(from Spain)
(from Spain)
(from Spain)

The patient suffering from Salmonella java infection was first diagnosed as Paratyphoid fever. He was ill on arrival at Southend Airport and was admitted to hospital. His home was in Surrey. Laboratory investigation which continued by his home Local Authority also isolated Salmonella saint paul and two other Salmonella strains which were not identified.

The young man infected by Salmonella agona was a student at Loughborough College and he attended a social function in that area following which some 40 people were ill, although he was symptom free. His home is in the Rural District.

The patient from whom Salmonella newport was isolated had just been discharged from hospital following appendicectomy and from the enquiries made this was not considered to be food borne.

Tuberculosis

The following table shows the position for the year 1971:

| Number of cases on register at 1st January New cases notified | 148 |
|---|-----|
| Number recovered | 153 |
| Number moved away Died | 3 |
| Lost Sight of Number remaining on register as at 31st December. | 123 |

The deaths noted above were not caused by tuberculosis. One was a lady aged 91 from natural causes and the other two, both men, died from lung cancer.

A summary of new notifications of tuberculosis over the past ten years is shown below:

| BIIOWII | OCIOW. | | | | | | | |
|--------------|--------|-------|-------|------------|-----|----------|-------|---------|
| Year | Lungs | Other | Total | Se Male | | Under 15 | 16-64 | Over 65 |
| 1962 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 7 | - |
| 1963 1964 | 9 | 2 | 11 | 7 | 4 2 | 1 6 | 7 | 3 |
| 1965 1966 | 6 | 3 - | 9 | 3 | 6 | - | 5 | 4 |
| 1967 1968 | 9 | 4 | 13 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 6 2 | 5 |
| 1969 1970 | 3 7 | 4 | 7 8 | 3 7 | 4 | 7: - | 6 | 1 2 |
| 1971 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |

Over the ten years the population has risen considerably and the notification rate is falling, though unsteadily. The notification of two childhood cases, after a gap of three years is disappointing, but there seems hope now of a decline in adult tuberculosis.

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

| | | Whooping Cough | Scarlet Fever | Measles | Infective Jaundice | Food Poisoning | Dysentery | Acute Meningitis | Acute Encephalitis | |
|----------|-----|----------------|-------------------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|-----------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| 1 | 6 | 1 | i ta a | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 80 | 1 | 1811 | Under |
| | 43 | 2 | 4 | 34 | ı | S | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1-4 |
| 3 D | 35 | 2 | 12 | 16 | P | 3 | Lato | 1 | Zd og | 5-9 |
| | 6 | 1 | 2 | 2 | | 1 | 18 | 1 | 1 | 10-14 |
| | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | ٦ | 15-24 |
| 10 10 10 | 20 | 1 | 0 103 0 103 0 103 | e P. | 2 | 16 | alug | 1 | | 25-44 |
| | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | W | 1 | 1 | 1 | 45-64 |
| | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 20 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 65 & Over |
| | 124 | 5 | 18 | 57 76 | 6 | 33 | 1 | 3 | 1 | Totals |

Appendix "A"

SUMMARY OF ACCIDENTIAL DEATHS IN 1971

| | Benfleet Urban District | Canvey Island Urban District | Rayleigh Urban District | Rochford Rural <u>District</u> |
|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Road Deaths | 10 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| Home Accidents | | | | |
| Falls | 5 | 2 | 3 | 9 |
| Slimming Machine | a Kera ara | A SHEET SHEET | 1 | 1 |
| Burns | - | - | - | 1 |
| Hanging | | - | birota detai | 1 |
| Cot Death | - | 1 | - | - |
| Poisoning | 2 | - | - | 1 |
| Other Accidents: | | | | |
| Railway | 2 | tend begreed t | frodo_execute | in the select to |
| Water | bear the Leaving | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Falls | 1 | | Apple - This t | 1 |
| | 20 | 8 | 7 | 18 |

N.B. The eleven suicides which appeared on death returns covering the four areas in 1971 are not shown in the above table.

Appendix "B"

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF THE SOUTH EAST ESSEX HOME SAFETY COMMITTEE FOR 1971

Committee Officers

The Chairman, Miss E.M. Leggatt, who had so acted very successfully for four years did not seek re-election at the Annual General Meeting in October. The new Chairman, who was unanimously elected, was Mrs. E.D. Gallienne of Benfleet. The Vice-Chairman, Mrs. E. White of Canvey Island was re-elected as was the Hon. Secretary, Mr. R.F. Stripp.

Slippery Floors

A film of slip retardant floor finishes was shown to the Committee in January by the local representative of a well known floor and furniture polish firm. The advice given is summarised as follows:

- (a) Manufacturers: instructions for the precise flooring should be carefully followed.
- (b) Correct floor finish should be used.
- (c) Quantities recommended should be exactly followed.
- (d) Floor finishes should not be allowed to build up and should be removed regularly.
- (e) Spirit based cleansers should be used to remove spirit based polishes and water based cleansers should be used to remove water based polishes.
- (f) Shininess should not be equated with cleanliness and floor polishing should be kept to a minimum where elderly people are involved.

Newly Patented Door Hinge

A resident from Benfleet demonstrated his newly patented door hinge which would enable a locked door to open outwards or inwards in an emergency. At that time he was still seeking a manufacturer who would take up his patent.

Rubber Ferrules for Walking Sticks

Owing to pensioners finding difficulty in purchasing ferrules for their walking sticks locally a small stock of these were purchased for issue to all Old People's Organisations.

Safe Wiring Campaign

In the Autumn of 1970, the representative of the Eastern Electricity Board on the Committee drew the Committee's attention to the Parker-Morris Report of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government 1961, which recommended a minimum of 15 power sockets for the average three bedroomed dwelling. Such provision was obviously aimed at preventing sockets being over-loaded with adaptors and the added danger of trailing flexes. He also emphasised that it was the older houses that were generally deficient of power sockets where there could be the added danger of the need for rewiring. As far back as April, 1968 the Committee, at the suggestion of the Electricity Board, gave similar advice emphasising that

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installations put in during the war years 1939-46, as well as installations prior to that period, should be suspect for renewal. At that time a member drew attention to the fact that Improvement Grants under the Housing Act did not provide for rewiring as a single item and subsequently the Rayleigh U.D.C. supported the Committee's recommendation that a grant towards rewiring of older type houses be included in the Improvement Grant Scheme. The matter was further discussed at the meeting of the Committee in April when the Chief Public Health Inspector at Benfleet, addressed the Committee on the subject of Improvement Grants. He pointed out that a grant towards electrical rewiring could be made by a Local Authority where this was necessary, in conjunction with other related Improvement Grant work, provided the total cost of the work exceeding the figure of £100 for Grant purposes. Generally, the normal interpretation of the word improvement did not include such items as rewiring.

In the discussion that followed, the Area Nursing Officer pointed out that in Rayleigh where the Old People's Welfare Committee provided and installed night storage heaters, many Nurses had commented on the appalling state of the wiring in some of the premises assisted. The Fire Officer telephoned his headquarters during the meeting and obtained a summary of over 500 fires in Essex during 1970, over 300 of which were caused by defective wiring.

In March 1971 the Local Government Information Office for England and Wales sent a circular to the Clerks of all Local Authorities, drawing attention to a safe wiring campaign which was being organised in conjunction with the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents and the National Inspection Council for Electrical Installation and Contracting, and on further consultation with the latter, a questionnaire was drawn up in an attempt to obtain some local statistics relating to the need for rewiring in older houses. Up to the October meeting approximately 20 questionnaires had been completed and it was found that 50% of installations were over 30 years old and some were over 40. One elderly widow in Benfleet said she had been a tenant in her premises for 36 years and two years ago an electrician told her that the wiring was in a very bad state, but when she reported it to her landlady, the latter said she could not afford to have the work done.

Following the representations made by Rayleigh Council, the Department of the Environment replied to the effect that repairs and replacements on their own have never been eligible for Grant aid but Section 74 of the Housing Acts, 1969 empowered Local Authorities to make a maturity loan for the repair or improvement of any dwelling. This loan was intended to help old age pensioners who could not afford to carry out such works without financial assistance. This piece of legislation however is of little comfort to the old person who is satisfied with his lot and cannot be bothered to have improvements carried out and yet needs the premises re-wired on safety grounds.

Cooker Safety Guards

Two cooker safety guards were purchased during the year and were issued on loan to two young mothers for a trial period, who subsequently reported their experiences. Both reported that they found these guards to be most useful but there were certain practical difficulties and it would appear that an ideal safety guard has not yet found its way on to the market.

Climbing Frame Accidents

An investigation was carried out during the year at the request of the East Anglian Home Safety Council on the incidence of climbing frame accidents in the area. The Rayleigh, Rochford and Benfleet Councils reported on the climbing frames used in their playing fields but no accidents had been reported. Divisional Education Officer kindly reported on the situation in maintained schools, of which 25 out of 36 junior and primary schools had climbing frames installed, 16 being on grass and 9 on playground surfaces. These frames were only used under supervision and in the past 6 years, only minor accidents had been reported, plus 3 moderately serious and 3 major. He stated that Head Teachers regarded the frames as valuable pieces of equipment in their contribution to the physical development and well being of the child and satisfies his sense of adventure, which in turn helps to develop a feeling of confidence in his own ability. The Committee was satisfied that these climbing frames were not an undue hazard. The Divisional Education Officer stressed that hundreds of children used the frames and every precaution is taken, as being set against a very minimal accident rate.

Christmas Home Fire Safety

Illuminated Christmas trees were displayed in the foyers of the Libraries at Hadleigh, Canvey Island and Hockley suitably decorated with Home Safety slogans. Attractive posters, prepared by the Fire Protection Association warning against Christmas fire accidents were displayed in the Clinics. (These posters were produced following representations from this Committee).

Visit to Natural Gas Terminal at Bacton, Norfolk

The Committee was fortunate in securing a visit allocation to the above Terminal on 25th May, when a party of members and friends were quests of the Gas Council, visiting the AMOCO Terminal in the first instance and then latterly the Gas Council's Terminal adjacent. In the former, natural gas is received from the rig 30 miles off-shore, cooled and monitored by computer to the adjacent Gas Council's Terminal and from thence released directly into the nation's supply. On the day of the visit £250,000 worth of gas was monitored from the AMOCO Terminal to the Gas Council's Terminal.

Medicine Safety Containers

The dangers of accidental poisoning caused by the carelessness of adults leaving tablets and other medicaments as well as other poisonous substances available to small children has been one of the main pre-occupations of the Home Safety Committee, and a member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain on the Committee, urged that the Committee give support to the Private Member's Bill passing through Parliament by Mr. G. Jenner, M.P. Whilst the Committee supported this endeavour to legislate on the proper use of medicine safety containers, it was ascertained that the Bill failed to secure a second reading. It is obvious that this is a matter which will attract the attention of Parliament on some future occasion.

Home Safety Week

Through arrangements initiated by the Essex Home Safety Liaison Committee, this Committee co-operated with a number of other Home Safety Committees in Essex to stage a Home Safety Week from 6th-11th September. This was a new venture but the general opinion was that it was a great success. Basildon and Southend-on-Sea linked with this Committee to make a joint impact on this corner of Essex with Day Glow Panel Posters, Home Safety films in cinemas, Home Safety displays in large multiples, special press features in the main evening paper and a Home Safety Competition for which the winning prize was a Mediterranean Holiday for two. The winner was a resident of Southend-on-Sea.

R.F. STRIPP

Hon. Secretary

Appendix "C"

NORTH EAST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

MASS RADIOGRAPHY UNIT 6C, BROOMFIELD HOSPITAL, CHELMSFORD

ANNUAL REPORT 1971

This Unit terminated its 22 years of uninterrupted work on 31st March, 1972 having carried out well over a million examinations.

Details of the work done in 1971 can be obtained from the accompanying tables completed to the uniform pattern for ready comparison with earlier years. It can be seen that the pick-up rate for tuberculosis was much the same as in 1970, i.e. 0.4 cases per 1,000. The findings for bronchial carcinoma ran very close to those for tuberculosis, i.e. 0.4 per 1,000 for men and 0.3 per 1,000 for women who rather ominously are gradually approaching the level for men.

Also appended is a supplementary table summarising the work done in the first quarter of 1972. This period, being short, cannot be taken as statistically significant but may be noted that the rates for both tuberculosis and cancer are higher than those for 1971.

After many years of work with the Mass Radiography Service most of our staff have been redeployed in useful alternative work within the Chelmsford Group of Hospitals. Our thanks go out to them all for their devoted work over many years and our best wishes for their future.

E.G. PYNE

M. DUFFY

Medical Directors

LIST OF 1971 SURVEYS

| DATE | LOCATION | GROUPS EXAMINED | Number of Male | persons Female | examined Total |
|---------|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1,1,71 | Ruston Paxman Diesels, Colchester | Employees | 58 | 14 | 72 |
| 8,1,71 | Severalls Hospital, Colchester | Patients Staff | 375 | 357 | 732 306 |
| 18,1,71 | Hig Mason Ltd., Colchester | Employees | 292 | 130 | 422 |
| 25.1.71 | Area Health Office, Colchester | E.C.C. staff Play-groups Schoolchildren General public | 334 | 644 155 251 2 | 978 155 646 2 |
| 4.2.71 | Industrial Estate West, Witham | Crittall-Hope Ltd. Organised groups | 247 | 53 | 300 |
| 8,2,71 | Industrial Estate East, Witham | G.E.C. Semiconductors Ltd. | 162 | 158 | 320 |
| 10.2.71 | Industrial Estate East, Witham | Crompton Parkinson Ltd. Organised groups | 207 | 190 216 | 397 641 |
| 17.2.71 | Crittall-Hope Ltd., Witham | Employees | 386 | 35 | 421 |
| 18.2.71 | Crittall-Hope Ltd., Silver End | Employees Others | 389 | 89 | 457 |
| 26.1.71 | Samuel Courtauld Ltd., Bocking | Employees Others | 370 87 | 218 | 588 |
| 2.3.71 | Crittall-Hope Ltd., Braintree | Employees Others | 618 | 131 62 | 749 |
| 9.3.71 | New Hall Convent, Boreham | Staff Pupils | 9 . | 76 | 82 107 |
| 10.3.71 | H.M. Prison, Chelmsford | Prisoners Staff | 227 | . 8 | 227 |
| 12.3.71 | Brentwood College of Education | Students Staff E.C.C. staff | 44 4 4 | 203 25 11 | 247 50 15 |
| - | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | and the same |
|----------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 11,6,71 | 4.6.71 | 2,6,71 | 1.6.71 | 26.5.71 | 24.5.71 | 13.5.71 | 6.5.71 | 29.4.71 | 22.4.71 | 20.4.71 | 13.4.71 | 31.3.71 | 30.3.71 | 23.3.71 | 201 | 15.3.71 | DATE |
| Tunnel Cement Co., West Thurrock | Parkeston Quay | Brooks Vitovis Ltd., Mistley | C.H. Bernard & Sons, Harwich | Vacuumatic Ltd., Harwich | Harwich County High School | St. Osyth's College, Clacton-on-Sea | Greensward School, Hockley | Car Park, Welfare Dept., Thundersley | West Thurrock Power Station | Procter & Gamble Ltd., West Thurrock | Tilbury Power Station | Woodlands School, Basildon | Beauchamps School, Wickford | County Health Services Clinic, Corringham | | Car Park, Thurrock Swimming Pool, | LOCATION |
| Employees Others | Dock employees | Employees Others | Employees | Employees Others | Schoolchildren E.C.C. staff | Students Staff E.C.C. staff | E.C.C. staff Play-groups | E.C.C. staff Play-group | Employees | Employees | Contacts | E.C.C. staff | E.C.C. staff | Flay-groups | Others | E.C.C. staff | GROUPS EXAMINED |
| 412 26 | 677 | 55 172 | 47 | 254 128 | 163 59 | 38 7 64 | - 38 | 110 | 339 | 400 | 487 | 270 | 53 | 47 | 104 | 169 | Number of Male |
| 56 24 | 102 | 19 43 | 145 | 73 95 | 168 123 | 187 2 179 | 213 | 411 | 23 | 84 | 26 | 910 | 198 | 134 | 64 | 567 | persons Female |
| 468 50 | 779 | 74 215 | 192 | 327 223 | 331 182 | 225 9 243 | 251 5 | 521 | 362 | 484 | 513 | 1,180 | 248 | 181 | 168 | 736 | examined Total |

| Blat | | the second secon | | | |
|------------|---|--|-------|--------|--------|
| | Van Den Burghs & Jurgens, Purfleet | Employees Others | 601 | 324 | 925 |
| 18.6.71 | Thames Board Mills, Purfleet | Employees Others | 1,140 | 289 26 | 1,429 |
| 28.6.71 B: | Brentwood School | Contacts (pupils) Contacts (staff) | 76 | 29 | 76 |
| 5.7.71 T | Teleflex Ltd., Basildon | Employees Others | 115 | 29 | 174 |
| 7.7.71 M | Marconi Ltd., Basildon | Contacts Others | 1,034 | 367 | 1,401 |
| 17.8.71 B: | Bridge Hospital, Witham | Patients Staff | 248 | 25 | 248 57 |
| 23.8.71 Ya | Yardleys of London Ltd., Basildon | Employees | 368 | 894 | 1,262 |
| 27.8.71 S | Standard Telephones & Cables, Basildon | Employees Others | 685 | 536 | 1,221 |
| 8.9.71 B | British Bata Shoe Co., East Tilbury | Employees Others | 676 | 691 | 1,367 |
| 17.9.71 M | Mobil Oil Co. Coryton | Employees | 630 | 58 | 688 |
| 21.9.71 SI | Shell Refining Co. Shell Haven | Employees | 804 | 99 | 098 |
| 29.9.71 W: | Wilkin & Sons, Tiptree | Employees Others | 63 | 99 | 129 |
| 30.9.71 At | Anchor Press, Tiptree | Employees | 268 | 193 | 461 |
| 1.10.71 E. | E.H. Bentall & Co. Heybridge | Employees | 150 | 33 | 183 |
| 4.10.71 E | Ever Ready Co. Heybridge | Employees Others | 61 | 161 | 222 26 |
| 5.10.71 Jo | John Sadd & Sons, Maldon | Employees Others | 369 | 241 | 610 |

| DAILY DAIL |
|--|
| Chartents Chartents Chartents Chartents Chartents Chartents Contacts Con |
| Number of persons Male Female F |
| Persons Pemale 37 113 12 164 42 302 8 18 9 19 23 83 83 83 15 217 217 217 219 128 40 381 128 94 94 94 94 |
| Persons Pemale 37 113 12 164 42 302 8 18 9 19 23 83 83 83 15 217 217 217 219 128 40 381 128 94 94 94 94 |
| Total 147 55 362 164 44 31 48 386 11 197 27 23 307 176 177 539 539 539 539 539 539 539 5 |
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|---|---|---------------------|----------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| OI sold market and the | LOCATION | GROUPS EXAMINED | Number o | Number of persons examined | examined Total |
| Eastern National Omnibus Co. Chelmsford | 1 Omnibus Co., | Employees | 911 | 46 | 162 |
| Marconi Internat Chelmsford | Marconi International Marine Co., Chelmsford | Employees Others | 293 | . 97 | 390 |
| English Electric Valve Co. Chelmsford | Valve Co. | Employees Others | 702 | 251 | 953 |
| Buxted Chicken Co., Boreham | ., Boreham | Employees | 53 | 83 | 136 |
| H.M. Stationery Office, Basildon (Completed 5.1.72) | office, Basildon | Employees Others | 59 42 | 228 | 287 103 |
| | | | 22,311 | 15,491 37,802 | 37,802 |
| | | | | | |

AGE-GROUP CLASSIFICATION OF EXAMINEES AND OF CASES WITH SIGNIFICANT TUBERCULOUS LESIONS (Signficant cases: Those needing treatment or close clinic supervision) TABLE II

| | No. with significant tuberculous lesions Rate per 1,000 examinations | TOTAL No. examined on miniature film | No. with significant tuberculous lesions Rate per 1,000 examinations | FEMALES No. examined on miniature film | No. with significant tuberculous lesions Rate per 1,000 examinations | MALES No. examined on miniature film | ONIT 6C |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | 15 | 37,802 | 0.26 | 15,491 | 0.49 | 22,311 | All Ages |
| | - 0.22 | 3,664 4,557 8.221 | 1 1 | 1,893 2,044 | - 1 - 0:39 | 1,771 2,513 | 15-19 20-24 |
| | 0.26 | 7,754 | 0.4 | 2,625 | 0.19 | 5,129 | 25-34 |
| | 0.35 | 8,621 | 0.78 | 3,836 | Total Paris | 4,785 | 35-44 |
| | 0.36 | 8,201 | l i | 3,342 | 3 | 4,859 | 45-54 |
| - | 1.0 | 2,799 | 1 1 | 1,000 | 3 | 1,799 1,092 | 55-59 |
| - | 1 1 | 799 1,489 | 65 8 | 7 397 | T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T | 1,092 | 60-64 |
| | 4.2 | 717 | Ca S | 354 88 | 8.2 | 363 | 45-54 55-59 60-64 65+ years |

NUMBERS EXAMINED AND RECALLED

| UNIT 6C | MALES | FEMALES | TOT Numbers | ALS Rate per 1,000 examinations |
|---|--------|---------|----------------|---------------------------------|
| X-rayed on miniature film | 22,311 | 15,491 | 37,802 | Diskuberenics |
| Miniatures considered normal or requiring no further action | 21,681 | 15,118 | 36,799 | of Tongestalist |
| Requiring further investigation with large films | 630 | 373 | 1,003 | 26.5 |

TABLE IV

CASE RATE OF EXAMINATION GROUPS

| Groups examined | Number X-rayed | | | No. with significant tuberculous lesions | | | Rate per | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|--------|-------|--|--------|-------|----------|--|
| | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total | | |
| Schoolchildren | 558 | 526 | 1084 | - | - | - | 100 | |
| Students | 485 | 491 | 976 | - | - | - | | |
| Contacts | 1696 | 662 | 2358 | - | - | - | | |
| Factory, shop & Office | | | | | | | | |
| Staff (inc. E.C.C.) | 18159 | 12932 | 31091 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 0.29 | |
| H.M. Prison | 227 | | 227 | - | - | - | | |
| St. Faith's Hospital patients | 78 | 94 | 172 | _ | _ | - | | |
| Mental Deficiency patients | 733 | 429 | 1162 | 3 | 2002 | 3 | 2.6 | |
| Mental Hospital patients | 375 | 357 | 732 | 3 | - | 3 | 4.1 | |

TABLE V

SIGNIFICANT TUBERCULOUS LESIONS IN GROUPS PREVIOUSLY AND NOT PREVIOUSLY EXAMINED

| UNIT 6C | Numbers examined | No. with significant tuberculous lesions | Case rate per 1,000 |
|--|---------------------|--|------------------------|
| Persons not previously examined by mass radiography | 9,611 | 8 | 0.83 |
| Persons who had previously been examined by mass radiography | 28,191 | 7 | 0.25 |
| Total examined during the year on miniature film | 37,802 | 15 | 0.4 |

Significant lesions: Those needing treatment or close clinic supervision.

DISPOSAL OF PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS CASES DISCOVERED

| UNI | T 6C | MALES | FEMALES | TOTALS |
|-----|--|-------|--------------|--------------------|
| Dl | Tuberculosis - presumed healed requiring no further action | 45 | 39 | 84 |
| D2 | Suspect tuberculosis (not confirmed) | - | on horethand | Distriction of the |
| D3 | Tuberculosis - occasional supervision only needed | 12 | 7 | 19 |
| D4 | Tuberculosis - close clinical supervision needed | 7 | 1 | 8 |
| D5 | Tuberculosis - requiring immediate treatment | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| | Number of cases notified | 7 | z | 10 |

TABLE VII

NUMBER OF EXAMINATIONS FOR EACH CASE REQUIRING TREATMENT

| Year | No. of examinations per case of D5 Tuberculosis discovered |
|------|---|
| 1963 | 1,613 |
| 1965 | 2,087 |
| 1967 | 2,721 |
| 1969 | 3,502 |
| 1971 | 5,400 |

CLASSIFICATION OF NON-TUBERCULOUS ABNORMALITIES DETECTED DURING THE YEAR

| Classifi- | Abnormality | Numb | ers detec | ted | Ra | te |
|------------|---|------|-----------|----------|-------------|-----|
| cation No. | tion No. | | Female | Total | pe: 10,0 | 000 |
| | | | - OFFER | | M | F |
| 4 | Congenital malformation of lungs | 3 | - | 3 | | |
| 5 | Bacterial and virus infections of lungs | 19 | 8 | 27 | | |
| 7 | Bronchiectasis | 3 | 3 | 6 | | |
| 8 | Honeycomb lung | 1 | - | 1 | | |
| 10 | (Pulmonary fibrosis (non- tuberculous) (Fibrosing alveolitis | 11 1 | 8 | 19 2 | | |
| 11 | (Pneumoconiosis (Asbestosis | 5 3 | Jun-Film | 5 3 | double. | |
| 12 | Spontaneous pneumothorax | 2 | - | 2 | | |
| 13 | Benign tumours of the lungs and mediastinum | 1 | 5 | 6 | | |
| 14 | Carcinoma of the lungs and mediastinum | 9 | 4 | 13 | 4.0 | 2.6 |
| 15 | Metases in the lung and mediastinum | 1 | - | 1 | | |
| 17 | Sarcoidosis | 7 | 2 | 9 | | |
| 19 | (Abnormalities of the diaphragm and oesophagus (Hiatus hernia | 8 7 | 4 7 | 12 14 | | |
| 20 | Congenital abnormalities of heart and vessels | -6 | 4 | 10 | | |
| 21 | Acquired abnormalities of heart and vessels | 5 | 8 | 13 | | |
| | | | | | | |

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT 1972

| | Males | Females | Total | Rate per 1,000 |
|--|-------|--------------|----------|----------------|
| X-rayed on miniature film | 5,909 | 3,159 | 9,068 | |
| Requiring further investigation with large films | 131 | 69 | 200 | 22.0 |
| Students | 80 | 369 | 449 | |
| Factory, shop & office staff | 5,570 | 2,639 | 8,209 | |
| H.M. Prison | 161 | 4-1 | 161 | |
| Homes for Aged | 98 | 151 | 249 | |
| e - e | | stee | hooomer | |
| Number of significant cases of tuberculosis | 4 | 3 | 7 | |
| Number of cases of bronchial carcinoma | 6 | 4 | 10 | |
| | bna s | of this lung | aconious | 11 |
| | | | | |

