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**Bishop's Stortford Urban District  
Council**



**ANNUAL REPORT**

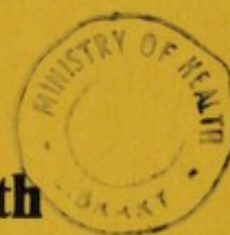
of the

**Medical Officer of Health**

and the

**Chief Public Health Inspector**

for the Year 1962





**Bishop's Stortford Urban District  
Council**



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**Chief Public Health Inspector**

**for the Year 1962**

*Printed by Ellis & Phillips Ltd., Spellbrook, Bishop's Stortford*



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**Public Health Department**

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**EIRWEN M. HARRISON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

**Medical Officer of Health**

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**A. L. GOOD, F.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I., A.M.I.P.H.E., A.I.Hsg.**

**Chief Public Health Inspector**

**Inspector of Meat and Other Foods**

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**H. W. CHILDS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.**

**Additional Public Health Inspector**

**Inspector of Meat and Other Foods**

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**R. C. BROWN,**

**Pupil Public Health Inspector**

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**MRS. S. DREW,**

**Clerk/Typist**

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**A. TURNER,**

**Rodent Operator**

## **Bishop's Stortford Urban District Council**

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Public Health Department,  
The Council House,  
Bishop's Stortford,  
July, 1963

*To the Chairman and Members,  
Bishop's Stortford Urban District Council*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour to submit the following Report for the year 1962, on the health of the Bishop's Stortford Urban District which has been drawn up on the lines indicated in the Circular issued by the Ministry of Health.

The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population of 19,590 shows an increase of 640 over last year. This compares with an increase of 720 during 1961.

There was a very small rise in the birth rate and an equally small increase in the death rate. The infantile mortality rate was higher than the previous year and is a little in excess of the average for England and Wales as a whole. Further detailed comment about deaths of infants under one year of age is made later in the report.

Statistics, it is often said, can be used to prove anything, but this is a sweeping generalisation which can never be true in all circumstances. Conversely, however, it might be stated that the lack of certain statistics, could be used to prove something specific. 1962 was truly a year of excellent health in Bishop's Stortford, only 86 notifications of infectious diseases were received, 75 of these being in respect of measles. Poliomyelitis was absent for the fifth successive year and there were no recorded cases of food poisoning. The total figure of 86 notifiable diseases is the lowest in any year since 1947 when the population was 12,070.



The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register fell from 108 to 49 by the end of the year. Sixty-six cases were removed from the register during the year, the majority of these being written off as cured. The long fight against Tuberculosis—until a decade ago, a dreaded scourge—is possibly drawing to a successful conclusion and we hope the next decade will see the elimination of Tuberculosis in all its forms. This may well be an over-optimistic view.

It had been hoped that the first Diabetic detection survey in Hertfordshire would have been carried out during the past year, and it was disappointing that the Ministry of Health refused to sanction the Urban District Council to spend money on such a survey, and also in this connection the County Council did not feel able to use their powers to finance this proposed campaign.

Mr. R. C. Brown, a pupil in the department, was successful in qualifying as a Public Health Inspector during the year and we extend to him congratulations and good wishes.

This is the thirteenth joint report which we have submitted to the Council and it is with mixed feelings and some regrets that we record it will be our last together, owing to one of us having decided to enter Manchester University to study for a further Diploma. The partnership has been a happy one and we can only express the hope that our small contribution over the years, has helped towards promoting the health of the people of Bishop's Stortford.

In conclusion we desire to express to the Chairman and Members of the Council and to our colleagues in all departments, our grateful thanks for all the encouragement, and friendly help which we have at all times received.

We are,

Your obedient Servants.

EIRWEN M. HARRISON,

*Medical Officer of Health*

A. L. GOOD,

*Chief Public Health Inspector*



## **SECTION A**

### **Provision of Medical Services**

#### **General Practitioner Services**

These are provided by three practices, one being a large practice involving seven practitioners in one central premises, another with three practitioners partly working in a central surgery and also in two more outlying surgeries, and a third single practitioner practice based in a central surgery.

Five Dental practices exist in the town and on the whole it appears that the demands for treatment are being satisfactorily met.

Pharmaceutical services are adequate and the more outlying housing areas now have an accessible pharmaceutical chemist.

#### **Hospital Services**

These are provided at the Bishop's Stortford and District Hospital (68 beds) and the Herts and Essex General Hospital (393 beds). The former is staffed by General Practitioners, consultants and a Resident Medical Officer and is a training school for Assistant Nurses. Facilities are available for treatment of medical, surgical, ear, nose and throat diseases, obstetrical and gynaecological, orthopaedic and paediatric illnesses. In addition there is a Physical Medicine and Radiology department.

The Herts and Essex General Hospital has steadily continued to expand and improve its facilities and much progress has been made in the past few years in creating new departments and modernising the buildings. The hospital is a training school for Nurses and Midwives and is medically staffed by Consultants, Registrars and House Officers. There are specialist departments in medicine, surgery, obstetrics and gynaecology, paediatrics, physical medicine, dentistry, orthopaedics, ear, nose and throat diseases, dermatology, tuberculosis, ophthalmology, psychiatry and venereal diseases. There is also an excellent pathological service.

Of particular interest has been the establishment of an ophthalmic unit in this hospital to serve the Hertford and Bishop's Stortford districts in addition to a large surrounding rural area. A new psychiatric unit (23 beds) was established and brought into use during 1962 and this has, without doubt, been extremely popular with the public. An interesting development has been the number of day patients attending this unit.

A pilot scheme for private wards has also proved very successful.

### **Hertfordshire County Council Health Services**

The Home Nursing and Midwifery services were fully occupied and with a growing population the demands made on them continued to increase. The Health Visitors continued to supervise the health of children under 5 in the homes and also school children at school medical inspections in conjunction with the School Medical Officer.

Clinics are held regularly at the Health Centre, Market Square and again these premises proved to be an unqualified success and were well used. Clinic facilities are provided for ante-natal care, infant welfare, child guidance, speech, dental and orthodontic care, minor ailments and chiropody. The chiropody clinic which started late in the year has grown steadily.

Home Help facilities are also available for those needing them on the advice of a Doctor or Health Visitor.

### **Voluntary Organisations**

The Family Planning Association hold clinics regularly at the Herts and Essex General Hospital.

The W.V.S. provide a Meals-on-Wheels Service to house-bound elderly people and this service is generously subsidised by the Council.

The Old People's Welfare Committee do much towards alleviating the problems of the elderly people in the town.



## **SECTION B**

### **Statistics**

#### **(1) General**

Area (acres) ... ..	3,826
Population ... ..	19,590
Rateable Value ... ..	£289,051
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ...	£1,117
Number of Inhabited Houses ... ..	6,116
Density of Persons per Acre ... ..	5.12
„ Houses „ ... ..	1.59
Average Number of Occupants per House ... ..	3.2

#### **(2) Vital**

	Birth Rate per 1,000 population	Death Rate per 1,000 population	Infantile Mortality Rate Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Births
England and Wales ... ..	18.0	11.9	21.4
Bishop's Stortford ... ..	21.89	11.33	23.31

#### **BIRTHS**

Number of Legitimate Births ... ..	418
„ Illegitimate Births ... ..	11
Percentage of Illegitimate Births to Total Births ... ..	2.56
Total Number of Births, <i>Males</i> 215	
<i>Females</i> 214	429

#### **DEATHS**

Total Number of Deaths ... ..	222
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### (3) Mortality Table

Causes of Death		Males	Females	Total
	All Causes ... ..	101	121	222
1	Tuberculosis, Respiratory ... ..	—	1	1
2	Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	—	—	—
3	Syphilitic Disease ... ..	—	—	—
4	Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
5	Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal Infections ... ..	—	—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—
8	Measles ... ..	—	—	—
9	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ... ..	—	—	—
10	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ... ..	2	3	5
11	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ... ..	5	—	5
12	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ... ..	—	3	3
13	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ... ..	—	1	1
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ... ..	7	4	11
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ... ..	—	—	—
16	Diabetes ... ..	2	2	4
17	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ... ..	14	24	38
18	Coronary Disease, Angina ... ..	22	14	36
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease ... ..	3	2	5
20	Other Heart Disease ... ..	7	13	20
21	Other Circulatory Disease ... ..	3	8	11
22	Influenza ... ..	—	2	2
23	Pneumonia ... ..	9	17	26
24	Bronchitis ... ..	12	10	22
25	Other Diseases of Respiratory System ... ..	—	—	—
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	3	1	4
27	Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea ... ..	—	1	1
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ..	—	1	1
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate ... ..	3	—	3
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion ... ..	—	—	—
31	Congenital Malformations ... ..	—	1	1
32	Other defined and ill defined Diseases ... ..	3	10	13
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ..	2	1	3
34	All other Accidents ... ..	3	1	4
35	Suicide ... ..	1	1	2
36	Homicide and Operations of War ... ..	—	—	—
	Still Births ... ..	3	5	8
	Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age (SEVEN under 1 week of age)	3	7	10

#### MORTALITY TABLE—MAIN CAUSES OF DEATH

Out of a total of 222 deaths which occurred during 1961, 122 were due to four main causes ; vascular diseases of the nervous system, coronary disease, pneumonia and bronchitis, while 25 were due to malignant diseases of various kinds.

These figures at first appeared to be of significance and merited a detailed scrutiny of the Registrar's death returns. These showed that the lowest age at which death occurred from coronary thrombosis was 59 years, and only two others occurred before the age of 70 years.

With one exception only, all deaths from pneumonia and bronchitis were in people well past 70 years of age. From the returns it was obvious that these were terminal conditions occurring with old age.

Deaths from neoplasms showed a slight increase, lung neoplasms occurring in males only. Efforts were made towards the end of the year through the School Health Service to bring the dangers of cigarette smoking to the attention of school children.

#### INFANTILE MORTALITY

The infant mortality rate was slightly above the national figure but this has to be considered in relation to the overall rate from year to year. In 1961 it was considerably below the national rate and when this is taken into consideration and particularly in relation to the higher than national average birth rate for 1962, it does not give cause for anxiety.

Eight infants died within the first month of life, five of these were premature and survived for a few hours only, two had congenital defects and a third suffered from a blood disease. Two infants suffered accidental deaths from asphyxia.



## SECTION C

### Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases

#### (1) Notifiable Diseases

*Notifications of the following infectious diseases were received during the year:*

Disease	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 60	Over Sixty
Dysentery ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Infective Hepatitis ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	75	2	12	18	41	1	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis ... ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Whooping Cough ... ..	4	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Dysentery ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	1	24	43
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—

The past year was exceptional in the low number of infectious diseases which were notified. Poliomyelitis was again entirely absent and there were no cases of food poisoning.

Measles appeared towards the end of the year but the attacks were mild and complications apart from some otitis



media were not prevalent. Whooping cough notifications amounted to four only and this reflects the routine acceptance of whooping cough inoculation. It was gratifying to see that one child only contracted whooping cough in the recognised danger period preceding the age of 5 years.

## (2) Tuberculosis

	MALES		FEMALES		Totals
	Pul.	Non-P	Pul.	Non-P	
Cases on Register at 31.12.61..	47	5	46	10	108
Number of Cases Notified during Year .. ..	2	—	1	—	3
Inward Transfer .. ..	2	—	2	—	4
Cases Removed .. ..	28	2	31	5	66
Cases on Register at 31.12.62..	23	3	18	5	49

## (3) National Assistance Act, 1948. Section 47

It is pleasing to be able to report that it was found to be unnecessary to take action under the above section during the year. Power is given for the removal to suitable premises of persons suffering from grave chronic disease, or being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in unhealthy conditions and are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

Elderly folk are nearly always reluctant to leave their homes and the words of the famous song are almost as true today as when they were first written, "There's no place like home, be it ever so humble" or untidy.

## (4) Prophylactic Measures

As in previous years Triple Antigen was made available free to all children at the Infant Welfare Centres and from General Practitioners. This vaccine is offered routinely unless there are contra-indications to the use of the whooping cough factor in which case Diphtheria and Tetanus vaccine is offered.

From February 1961, the oral Sabin vaccine came into use routinely at the Health Centre and was also made available to General Practitioners. It has proved popular with parents and particularly so with young recipients.

Protection against Tuberculosis was offered to all 13 year old school children as in previous years.

## (5) Refuse Collection and Disposal

The available space for the disposal of refuse by means of controlled tipping in the town, was decreasing rapidly towards



the end of the year. The Health Committee gave very careful consideration to this problem and recommended the Council to enter into an agreement with Braughing Rural District Council for tipping facilities at Hadham Towers for an initial period of five years. It was anticipated that tipping at Hadham Towers would begin early in April, 1963, after which time the Council would cease to tip refuse within the Urban District area.

#### (6) Water Supply

*The report of the Public Analyst in respect of a sample of drinking water taken from a house in the town is given below.*

##### CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Physical Characters ...	Good
Reaction ... ..	pH 7.0
THE SAMPLE CONTAINED:-	parts per 100,000
Chloride ... ..	2.45
Ammonia (Free and Saline) ... ..	absent
Ammonia (Albuminoid) ... ..	absent
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs at 37°C ... ..	0.0264
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen) ... ..	0.25
Nitrites ... ..	absent
Poisonous Metals ... ..	absent
Total Hardness ... ..	26.9

##### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.

Number of micro-organisms per ml  
developing at 37°C= nil

Number of micro-organisms per ml  
developing at 21°C= nil

##### MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION OF DEPOSIT

None

##### INFERENCE

The results obtained on the analysis of this sample do not show any evidences of pollution with harmful organic or inorganic matter.

I am of the opinion that this water is fit for drinking purposes.

S. GREENBURGH,

21st December, 1962

*Public Analyst.*

36 samples of drinking water were submitted to the Cambridge Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. Four samples of drinking water were also submitted to the Public Analyst at Cambridge for chemical and bacteriological examination. All samples were reported upon as satisfactory.

**(7) Drainage and Sewerage**

Having successfully completed the construction of the new sewer from the Regent Cinema in South Street to the new pumping station at Southmill, the Council did not lose any time in proceeding towards the construction of a new gravity sewer from Southmill to a discharge point at the Rye Meads Disposal Works. A formal application was submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for approval of the scheme.

**(8) Swimming Pools**

Ninety-one samples of water were taken from the five swimming pools in the district and submitted for bacteriological examination.

Details of the results of all samples, are given in the table below.

<i>Situation of Pool</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Results of Samples</i>	
		<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Council Pool, The Causeway ..	55	53	2
Chantry Mount School, Whitehall	15	15	-
Thorley Hill Junior and Infants School	3	3	-
College — Indoor Pool, Maze Green Road .. ..	15	15	-
College — Outdoor Pool, Maze Green Road .. ..	3	3	-
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>2</b>

The two unsatisfactory samples reported in respect of the Council's swimming pool were failures of a minor nature only and were found to be due to a small defect in the circulation pump. This defect was remedied without delay and follow-up samples were all satisfactory.

There are now five swimming pools in the town and it is absolutely essential to ensure that the purity of the water is of a high standard. In addition to bacteriological sampling, routine spot checks are taken in order to determine the residual chlorine level and the pH value of the water. These instantaneous on-the-site results are most valuable.



## **SECTION D**

### **Public Health Administration**

#### **(1) Inspection of the District**

8,208 visits to all types of premises were carried out during the year, the details of which are given below.

This routine work which is never spectacular is fundamental and should not be under-estimated. Here, golden opportunities occur for the correction of the type of unhygienic fault, which if not nipped in the bud, might produce more serious consequences. There is no substitute to these important duties.

Total number of Visits	...	...	...	...	8,208
Dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	416
Revisits to houses for housing defects	...	...	...	...	3,378
Council House Applications	...	...	...	...	154
Premises inspected on Complaint or Nuisance	...	...	...	...	167
Drainage and Drain Tests	...	...	...	...	580
Stables and Piggeries...	...	...	...	...	18
Markets	...	...	...	...	160
Factories (Power and Non-Power)	...	...	...	...	47
Factories Act—Building Sites	...	...	...	...	3
Factories Act—Outworkers	...	...	...	...	1
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	4
Workplaces, Offices and Shops	...	...	...	...	130
Schools	...	...	...	...	30
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	39
Water Supply and Sampling	...	...	...	...	86
Swimming Pools and Sampling	...	...	...	...	55
Places of Entertainment	...	...	...	...	26
Infectious Diseases and Disinfection	...	...	...	...	16
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	31
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	27
Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	...	...	284
Vermin and Insect Pests	...	...	...	...	20
Petroleum	...	...	...	...	56
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	...	115
Interviews with Owners, Builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	987
Meat and Food Inspection—Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	66
Shops and Stalls	...	...	...	...	146
Wholesalers, Canteens, etc.	...	...	...	...	68
Butchers	...	...	...	...	127
Dairies and Milk Distributors	...	...	...	...	28

Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	37
Cafés, Restaurants and Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	93
Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	36
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	236
Ice Cream Premises and Vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	3
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	24
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	46
Street Markets	...	...	...	...	...	343
Food Preparing Premises and Wholesalers	...	...	...	...	...	25
Sugar Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	16
Other Food Premises and Vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	1
Milk Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	32
Ice Cream Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	18
Other Foods Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	32
Miscellaneous Food Visits	...	...	...	...	...	1

## (2) Special Premises

Particulars of the number and type of all the special premises on the register at the end of 1962 are given below:—

### *Factories*

(a) With Mechanical Power	...	...	...	107
(b) Without Mechanical Power	...	...	...	5

### *Food Premises*

Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	5
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	15
Canteens						
(a) Schools	...	...	...	...	...	18
(b) Factories	...	...	...	...	...	5
(c) Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	2
Clubs						
(a) Non-Licensed	...	...	...	...	...	9
(b) Licensed	...	...	...	...	...	13
Dairymen and Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	4
Fishmongers						
(a) Wet and Fried Fish	...	...	...	...	...	2
(b) Wet Fish	...	...	...	...	...	2
(c) Fried Fish	...	...	...	...	...	1
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	12
Grocers						
(a) Non-Licensed	...	...	...	...	...	35
(b) Licensed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	33
Restaurants						
(a) Non-Licensed	...	...	...	...	...	15
(b) Licensed	...	...	...	...	...	5
Sugar Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	14



### *Non Food Shops*

Antiques ... ..	2
Boots and Shoes ... ..	7
Chemists ... ..	7
Clothiers ... ..	20
Electrical Goods ... ..	5
Florists ... ..	3
Furnishers ... ..	8
Hairdressers ... ..	12
Ironmongers ... ..	6
Jewellers ... ..	5
Leather Goods ... ..	2
Milliners ... ..	5
Newsagents ... ..	3
Opticians ... ..	3
Pet Shops and Seed Merchants ... ..	4
Radio and Television ... ..	8
Stationers ... ..	4
Toys ... ..	4
Wall Paper ... ..	5
<i>Workplaces</i> ... ..	40

### **(3) Complaints and Matters Referred**

Complaints received ... ..	637
Complaints investigated ... ..	611
Complaints referred to other Departments and Authorities ... ..	26
Other matters referred to other Departments and Authorities ... ..	23

### **(4) Testing of Drains and Sanitary Fittings**

Drains tested with water ... ..	12
Drains tested with other means ... ..	90

### **(5) Notices Served and the Results of the Service of such Notices**

<i>(a) Preliminary Notices</i>	No. Served	No. Com- plied with
(i) Dwelling Houses for Housing Defects	67	99
(ii) Special Premises (shops, factories, etc.)	39	11
<i>(b) Statutory Notices</i>		

See Housing Section for Details.

*N.B.—The number of notices complied with includes notices outstanding from the previous year.*



# (6) Summary of Improvements Effected

	At Dwelling Houses	At Food Premises	At Shops, Offices, Hotels, etc.
Accumulations removed ...	2	1	—
Ceilings repaired ...	29	—	—
Chimney stacks repaired or renewed	17	—	—
Dampness remedied ...	9	—	—
Disinfections and Disinfestations ...	28	3	49
Doorsteps provided or improved ...	10	—	—
Doors repaired or renewed ...	33	—	—
Drains cleared or repaired ...	34	1	1
Drain inspection chambers provided, renewed or improved ...	11	—	1
Drains laid or Drains relaid ...	11	—	3
Drain ventilation provided or improved ...	5	—	1
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed ...	45	—	1
External decoration ...	6	—	—
Fireplaces repaired or renewed ...	13	—	—
Floors repaired or renewed ...	45	1	2
Food stores provided or improved ...	15	—	—
Garden walls or fences provided or improved ...	5	—	—
Gas pipes renewed ...	1	—	—
Gulleys provided ...	4	—	—
Handrails provided to stairs ...	4	—	—
Outbuildings or other structures demolished ...	2	—	—
Roofs repaired ...	77	2	3
Rooms decorated and cleansed ...	13	2	5
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	22	—	1
Staircases repaired or renewed ...	5	—	—
Sub-floor ventilation improved ...	1	—	—
Ventilation improved (air brick) ...	7	—	—
Wall plaster repaired ...	51	1	3
Walls repaired or renewed (Internal)	54	1	—
Walls repaired or renewed (External)	39	—	—
Washing coppers provided or im- proved ...	1	—	—
Windows provided or improved ...	115	1	—
Yard paving provided or improved...	14	1	1
<b>WATER CLOSETS</b>			
Artificial lighting provided ...	2	—	—
Cisterns repaired ...	13	—	1
Compartments provided/rebuilt ...	4	—	1
Flushpipe joints repaired ...	6	—	—
Improved ...	7	—	—
Pedestals provided ...	11	—	1
Seats repaired or renewed ...	14	1	1

*Summary of Improvements Effected—contd.*

	At Dwelling Houses	At Food Premises	At Shops, Offices, Hotels, etc.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>			
Hot water supply provided or improved ... ..	15	2	3
Internal water supply provided ... ..	4	—	—
Sinks, baths or basins provided ... ..	30	1	6
Water tank renewed ... ..	1	—	—
Waste pipes repaired or renewed ... ..	21	—	3
Water butts provided ... ..	2	—	—
Water supply pipes repaired or renewed ... ..	31	—	2
<b>FOOD PREMISES</b>			
Clothing lockers provided ... ..	—	1	—
Equipment provided or improved ... ..	—	3	—
First Aid kit provided ... ..	—	1	—
Food display improved ... ..	—	2	—
Food handling improved ... ..	—	4	—
Refrigerator provided ... ..	—	1	—
Soap, towels, etc. provided ... ..	—	2	1
Smoking—cautions given ... ..	—	6	—
Name and Address Board (Street Markets) ... ..	—	47	—
Open Food Displayed on the Ground ... ..	—	5	—
Wearing of Protective Clothing ... ..	—	2	—

**(7) Disinfection and Disinfestation**

80 properties were disinfested and 54 wasp's nests were destroyed during the year.

**(8) Atmospheric Pollution**

The study of air pollution in the town was extended during 1962, to include an investigation into air pollution from road vehicles. The Director of the Warren Spring Laboratory very kindly agreed to loan to the Council a volumetric smoke and sulphur dioxide recording apparatus and a third station was set up at the rear of the Council House, on the 7th March, 1962. The machine was loaned for a period of one year in order to make a balanced study and a full report will be submitted to the Council in due course.

Table I gives details of the average concentrations of smoke and sulphur dioxide recorded at No. 1 station for the three years 1960, 1961 and 1962. These figures can be compared with those for the six worst sites, the six best sites and



the average for the whole country (Co-operating Authorities only). It is interesting to note that the average concentrations for smoke and sulphur dioxide for the year 1962 are below the overall average for the three years in question. The concentrations are of course on the low side and the recorded reduction in pollution is small, but the trend appears to be in the right direction.

Table II shows the average monthly and yearly concentrations recorded at the three stations in the town.

It will be noted in Table II that the pollution at the rear of the Council House (Station 3) is much less than the pollution recorded at the Causeway side of the Council House (Station 1). The difference may be due to pollution from road vehicles but as Station 3 was not in operation until March, 1962, it is perhaps a little early to try and draw any definite conclusions.

**Table I**

**Department of Scientific and Industrial Research  
Warren Spring Laboratory**

**Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution  
31st Report—Year ending 31st March, 1958**

	SMOKE			SULPHUR DIOXIDE		
	Winter	Summer	Yearly Average	Winter	Summer	Yearly Average
Average for six worst sites	710	380	550	486	257	372
Average for whole country (Co-operating Authorities only) ... ..	270	120	200	257	143	200
Average for six best sites...	20	10	20	57	29	57
Average for Bishop's Stortford No. 1 Station						
1960	177	42	79	98	42	70
1961	120	35	78	110	47	78
1962	119	31	75	90	36	63
Average for above 3 years	139	36	77	99	42	70

CONCENTRATIONS EXPRESSED IN MICROGRAMMES PER CUBIC METRE

**Table II**  
**Atmospheric Pollution**  
**Average Monthly Concentration Figures—Bishop's Stortford**

	COUNCIL HOUSE STATION No. 1						CEMETERY STATION No. 2						COUNCIL HOUSE STATION No. 3					
	SMOKE			SULPHUR DIOXIDE			SMOKE			SULPHUR DIOXIDE			SMOKE			SULPHUR DIOXIDE		
	Average Value	Highest Value	Lowest Value	Average Value	Highest Value	Lowest Value	Average Value	Highest Value	Lowest Value	Average Value	Highest Value	Lowest Value	Average Value	Highest Value	Lowest Value	Average Value	Highest Value	Lowest Value
1962																		
JANUARY	142	420	40	117	386	34	122	448	16	110	405	31	—	—	—	—	—	—
FEBRUARY	106	352	8	81	186	26	90	340	12	74	197	29	—	—	—	—	—	—
MARCH	91	352	4	76	204	25	89	376	4	70	144	28	78	172	12	72	176	21
APRIL	38	104	10	52	105	16	39	72	4	45	93	15	35	84	10	48	123	11
MAY	37	119	13	43	100	21	32	92	4	31	84	13	25	87	10	41	114	19
JUNE	24	48	11	34	67	12	12	32	0	24	49	7	17	39	4	26	62	0
JULY	23	48	11	29	72	7	14	38	6	19	60	7	17	37	6	26	69	6
AUGUST	21	51	11	26	46	7	13	31	4	12	34	5	13	47	4	20	41	0
SEPTEMBER	40	92	15	37	90	13	30	71	4	26	68	7	27	59	5	36	100	0
OCTOBER	88	180	32	52	136	14	88	236	25	50	128	14	77	172	28	52	155	15
NOVEMBER	116	420	28	93	223	30	123	472	24	86	246	27	107	364	32	95	238	25
DECEMBER	172	608	44	120	742	39	199	888	40	144	867	23	145	496	48	120	804	51
AVERAGES	75	233	19	63	196	20	71	258	12	58	198	17	54	156	16	54	188	15

CONCENTRATIONS EXPRESSED IN MICROGRAMMES PER CUBIC METRE



## **(9) Inspection and Supervision of Food**

### **(a) FOOD HYGIENE**

The promotion of good food hygiene continues to play an ever increasing part in the work of the department and rightly so. Constancy and perseverance have gained the goodwill and co-operation of the food trader and the standard of hygiene continues to improve. A discerning public—in particular the housewife—has played a major part in the shopping revolution which has taken place during the last ten years. The successful food trader of today must store, handle and display his goods in a way that contamination is reduced to the absolute minimum—in short—good food hygiene is essentially and simply good business.

### **(b) MARKETS**

The regular routine inspection of the street and covered markets and the cattle, rabbit and poultry markets was continued throughout the year. Here again a high standard has been maintained.

### **(c) MILK SUPPLY**

Ninety-five samples of bottled milk and 43 samples of cream were taken in course of delivery to the consumer during the year and submitted to the Cambridge Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. All the samples were reported upon as satisfactory, details of which are shown in the table.

Statistics like these really speak for themselves and further comment is perhaps superfluous. However it is an achievement which has become regular but which is none the less outstanding.

Designation	No. of Samples Taken	No. Satis- factory	No. Unsatis- factory
Pasteurised Milk ... ..	24	24	—
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk ...	45	45	—
Sterilised Milk ... ..	26	26	—
Cream ... ..	43	43	—

### **(d) MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ICE-CREAM**

Sixty-six premises are registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream and this represents an increase of one over the previous year.

### *Bacteriological Examination*

22 samples of ice cream were submitted to the Cambridge Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. The results of samples are detailed in the table below. Grade 4 samples are regarded as unsatisfactory.

	No. of Samples	Results of Samples			
		Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Ice Cream ...	22	18	2	2	—

22 samples of ice lollies were also taken and all were reported upon as satisfactory by the laboratory.

### (e) MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION

Ten premises are registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 for the preparation and manufacture of preserved food as follows:—

Sausages ...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Sausages and Brawn	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sausages and Cooked Meats	...	...	...	...	...	1
Meat Pickling	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cooked Hams	...	...	...	...	...	1

Following a request from the Dunmow Rural District Council for assistance, meat inspection duties were taken over at the private slaughterhouse, Little Jenkins, Great Hallingbury, as from the 1st October, 1962. Details of the carcasses inspected and condemned are given in the table overleaf. The cost of this service was defrayed by the Dunmow Rural District Council on the basis of the actual time spent on the work, including travelling time.

### (f) MISCELLANEOUS FOOD SAMPLING

Fifty-three samples of various foods were submitted for bacteriological examination to the Cambridge Public Health Laboratory and all were reported upon as satisfactory.

The types of food sampled were chocolate flavoured drink, orange drink, tinned dressed crab and yoghurt.

### (g) DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

The total amount of food condemned during the year was 1.7933 tons compared with 3.8674 tons in the previous year. All unsound food was disposed of under supervision on the Council's controlled tip and full details are shown in the appropriate tables.



# CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed ... ..	84	—	19	203	186
Number Inspected ... ..	84	—	19	203	186
All Diseases except Tubercu- losis and Cysticercosis:					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Weight in lb. condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	19	—	1	13	59
Weight in lb. condemned ...	196	—	3	16	104
Percentage affected ... ..	22.619	—	5.263	6.404	31.7204
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Weight in lb. condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	3
Weight in lb. condemned ...	—	—	—	—	27
Percentage affected ... ..	—	—	—	—	1.613
Cysticercosis only:					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	—	—	—	—
Weight in lb. condemned ...	12	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ...	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Weight in lb. condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage affected ... ..	1.1904	—	—	—	—

## TOTAL AMOUNT OF CONDEMNED MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

### *At Slaughterhouse*

Meat... .. 358 lb. or 0.1598 tons

### *At Food Shops and Wholesale Premises*

Tinned Meat and Other Foods 2,889 lb. or 1.2897 tons

Meat and Other Foods ... 542 lb. or 0.2420 tons

Frozen Meat and Other Foods 228 lb. or 0.1018 tons

Total 4,017 lb. or 1.7933 tons

# DETAILS OF MEAT CONDEMNED

	Beasts	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Totals
Heads and Tongues	—	—	—	27 lb.	27 lb.
Lungs .. ..	82 lb.	—	12 lb.	57 lb.	151 lb.
Hearts .. ..	8 lb.	—	—	4 lb.	12 lb.
Livers .. ..	116 lb.	3 lb.	4 lb.	14 lb.	137 lb.
Kidneys .. ..	—	—	—	6 lb.	6 lb.
Mesenterys ..	—	—	—	1 lb.	1 lb.
Udders .. ..	—	—	—	18 lb.	18 lb.
Legs .. ..	—	—	—	4 lb.	4 lb.
Carcase Meat ..	2 lb.	—	—	—	2 lb.
<b>Totals .. ..</b>	<b>208 lb.</b>	<b>3 lb.</b>	<b>16 lb.</b>	<b>131 lb.</b>	<b>358 lb.</b>

# UNSOUND TINNED FOODS

Description	Weight		No of Tins	Description	Weight		No of Tins
	lb.	oz.			lb.	oz.	
Apples ..	18	12	5	Mutton ..	4	2	5
Apricots ..	68	15½	43	Oranges ..	157	2	214
Asparagus ..	—	7	1	Peaches ..	180	14½	118
Baby Foods ..	1	11½	6	Pears ..	87	1	67
Beans ..	119	13½	119	Peas ..	220	5	222
Beef .. ..	15	—	6	Peppers ..	3	7½	7
Beetroot ..	8	10	8	Pepsi-Cola ..	2	14	5
Blackberries	6	13½	8	Pilchards ..	23	9½	32
Blackcurrants	—	13½	1	Pineapple ..	155	7½	141
Cabbage ..	5	4	6	Plums ..	27	½	19
Carrots ..	32	5	19	Pork ..	75	10	21
Cherries ..	92	10	181	Potatoes (New)	1	4	1
Chicken ..	—	5	1	Prunes ..	14	8	21
Coke Drink ..	—	12	1	Raspberries	5	11	8
Corn (Sweet)	4	11	5	Rhubarb ..	11	11	10
Corned Beef	251	10	91	Rice ..	33	4	34
Corned Mutton	114	—	6	Roes ..	—	14½	3
Crab ..	1	6½	5	Salmon ..	8	10½	18
Cream ..	4	10	13	Sardines ..	4	5½	15
Fish ..	3	9½	9	Sausages ..	—	13	1
Fruit Salad ..	183	9	111	Semolina ..	1	—	1
Gherkins ..	1	—	1	Shrimps ..	—	15	4
Ginger Beer	—	15	1	Soup ..	22	8½	28
Gooseberries	4	11	5	Spaghetti ..	3	7½	5
Grapefruit ..	102	7	90	Sponge Pudding	—	10½	1
Greengages ..	1	4	1	Steak ..	53	4¾	60
Ham ..	111	9	16	Steak & Kidney	3	7	5
Jam ..	2	—	1	Stew ..	10	7½	11
Loganberries	14	11½	15	Strawberries	8	11½	9
Luncheon Meat	36	12	40	Tomatoes ..	401	7	472
Macaroni ..	—	15½	1	Tuna ..	2	13¾	7
Marmalade ..	20	12	11	Tongue ..	14	4	19
Meat ..	7	15	5	Veal ..	10	—	2
Milk ..	57	—	66	Vegetables ..	38	11	12
Mushrooms ..	—	7½	1	<b>Total ..</b>	<b>2888</b>	<b>10½</b>	<b>2497</b>



### UNSOOUND OTHER FOODS

Description	Weight		Description	Weight	
	lb.	oz.		lb.	oz.
Butter (74 pkts.) ..	37	—	Kidneys .. ..	29	8
Beef .. ..	146	7	Jam (19 jars) ..	23	—
Cheese .. ..	22	—	Marmalade (1 jar) ..	1	—
Chicken (1) .. ..	7	4	Mince meat (1 jar) ..	1	—
Crab Paste (1 jar) ..	—	1	Pickled Onions (1 jar)	1	—
Figs (12 pkts.) ..	6	—	Peanut Butter (1 jar)	—	8
Flour (36 bags) ..	36	—	Pork .. ..	8	15
Fruit .. ..	21	8	Sausages (56 pkts.)	56	—
Ham .. ..	27	4	Sugar .. ..	86	8
Honey (1 jar) ..	—	8	Turkey (2) .. ..	30	2
Horse Radish (3 jars)	—	12	Total .. ..	542	5

### UNSOOUND FROZEN FOODS

Description	Weight		No. of Packets
	lb.	oz.	
Confectionery .. ..	58	10½	158
Fruit .. ..	18	—	32
Ice Cream .. ..	74	12	101
Meat .. ..	36	6	83
Poultry .. ..	40	3½	75
Total ..	228	—	449

### (10) Rodent Control

#### (i) Disinfestation of Sewers

The sewers in the district have not revealed any evidence of serious rat infestation over a period of some years and it has not been found to be necessary to carry out test baiting and treatment.

#### (ii) Disinfestation of Surface Properties

Number of Dwelling Houses treated	...	...	118
„ Business Premises treated	...	...	89
„ Council Premises treated	...	...	13
„ Agricultural Premises treated	...	...	10
„ Poison Baits laid	...	...	2,394
„ „ partly taken	...	...	855
„ „ completely taken	...	...	380
„ Bodies recovered (a) rats	...	...	303
„ „ (b) mice	...	...	52
Total number of visits made by the operator			1,288

The fight against the rat continued unrelentingly throughout the year in surface properties but the intensity of the infestations showed a marked decline over the 1961 peak year of something of the order of 25 per cent. This is encouraging and would seem to suggest that our control methods are sound.

#### **(11) The Storage of Petroleum Spirit**

Sixty-two premises were licensed by the Council for the storage of petroleum spirit and the fees received in respect of these licences amounted to £46 10s. 0d.

#### **(12) The Provision of Dustbins**

405 dustbins were provided by the Council during the year, making a total of 5,810 dustbins supplied since the scheme was put into operation in July, 1954.

The second stage of the Paper Sack System of refuse collection and disposal was introduced during the year in the area bounded by Maze Green Road, Hadham Road, Rye Street, The Grange, Barrells Down Road and Cricketfield Lane. Unlike the first stage introduced in 1961 on the Havers Lane Council House Estate the second area of some 800 properties consisted of business premises and a large number of privately-owned houses. The Council decided to issue concrete stands for the sack holders without making a direct charge and this very wise move eliminated the problems that may have arisen in fixing the sack holders to walls on private property.

Undoubtedly the second stage has been launched as smoothly as the first, only one or two minor objections to the scheme being made.

These bold and forthright moves by the Health Committee towards promoting good health in the town are manifestly sound.

#### **(13) Pet Animals Act, 1951**

Three licences were renewed by the Council during the year in respect of the keeping of pet shops.



**(14) Factories Act, 1937**

Fifty visits were made to the factories on the register and it was found necessary in one instance to serve an informal notice where contraventions existed.

Thirty-three outworkers were employed during the year by the various factories in the district, a decrease of 4 over the previous year.

*Part I of the Act***1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health**

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	5	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	107	47	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	10	3	1	—
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>

**2. CASES in which defects were found**

Particulars	No. of Cases in which Defects were found				No of Cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (s 1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (s 2)...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (s 3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (s 4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (s 6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (s 7):					
(a) insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	—	—	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	1	1	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

**(15) Housing**

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(a) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	Nil
(b) By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	145

Number of houses made available by conversion or adaptation of existing buildings	...	...	...	4
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**HOUSES DEMOLISHED**

The houses listed below were demolished during the year and were in fact removed to make way for other development.

Little Havers, Havers Lane.  
The Round House, Bells Hill.  
249 Stansted Road.

**HOUSES CLOSED**

The following unfit houses were closed during the year.

The Bungalow, New Farm, Gypsy Lane.  
24 Firlands.

**HOUSES MADE FIT AFTER FORMAL ACTION BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY**

HOUSING ACT, 1957, SECTION 16  
9 Newtown Road.

**PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 93**

59 Apton Road.

**HOUSES MADE FIT AFTER INFORMAL ACTION**

Ninety-nine houses were rendered fit by the owners during the year, following informal action by the Local Authority. Property owners generally respond very well to the receipt of informal notices and invariably, orders to carry out the necessary repairs are given promptly to the builders. It is at this stage that the bottle-neck occurs, many builders being loath to take orders for jobbing work. The effect of this is to put greater pressure on the already limited labour force available for housing repairs, the inevitable result being one of delay. However, it is to be hoped that this situation will prove to be temporary only.

889 housing defects of varying degree were remedied as a result of informal action and this can be regarded as a creditable achievement.



#### **(16) The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960**

A site licence was issued by the Council during the year in respect of a site at Start Hill Farm, planning permission having been granted by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on appeal. The site is well maintained and the four-berth caravan is stationed on a hard concrete standing, main water supply, electricity and Calor gas being laid on. Main drainage is provided to a cesspool and a pedestal wash down water closet is readily accessible in a separate compartment adjoining a nearby storage shed.

However, it was found subsequently that a second caravan was being occupied without a site licence at Start Hill Farm and legal proceedings were taken against the occupier under Section 1, of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. The defendant pleaded guilty and a fine of seven pounds was imposed together with an Advocate's fee of three guineas.