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**Braintree & Bocking  
URBAN DISTRICT**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

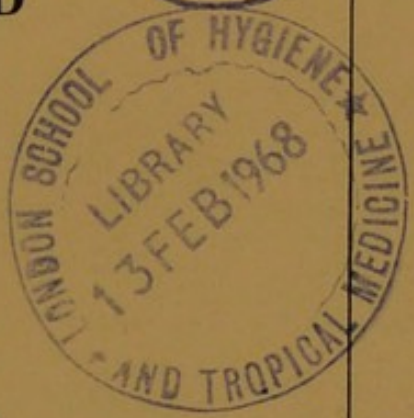
**Medical Officer of Health**

**C. R. C. RAINSFORD**

M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M.

FOR THE YEAR

**1962**



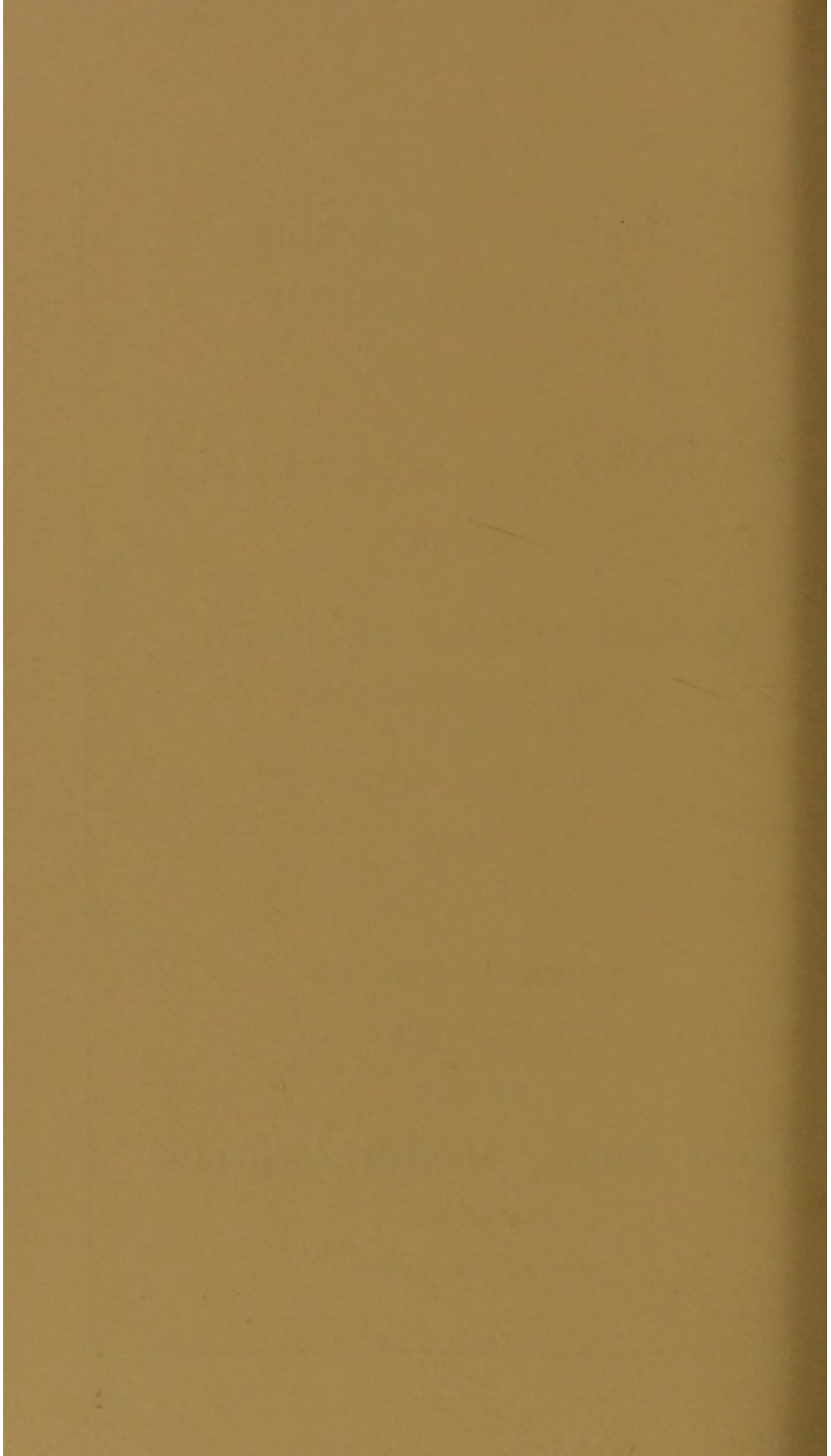
TOGETHER WITH THE

**REPORT**

OF THE

**Chief Public Health Inspector**

W. H. Root, Printer, Halstead





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**URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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N. D. GAYLER, M.A.P.H.I.

**Junior Clerk**

Miss C. M. RATHE

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,  
Town Hall, Braintree.  
August, 1963.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again the time has come for me to present to you my annual report on the health, vital statistics and sanitary circumstances of the district. I have to thank Dr. Miller Wood for providing information with regard to clinics and personal health services run by the Essex County Council.

### Vital Statistics

The steady rise in population continued and the Registrar General's figure for 1962 was 20,760 compared with 20,510 in 1961.

The birth rate and death rate have remained fairly constant over the past few years as shown in the following table.

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Population	19,230	19,580	19,830	20,510	20,760
Birth rate per 1,000 population	18.2	18.7	18.5	18.1	17.7
Death rate per 1,000 population	10.1	9.5	10.2	10.2	11.1

The Infantile Mortality rate of 10.6 per 1,000 population represented 4 infant deaths. It was lower than for some years.

We like to see a low figure, but we are dealing with small numbers and it would be unwise to draw conclusions.

Two of the infant deaths were due to asphyxia, one to prematurity and one to anencephaly.

From the table giving deaths from all causes we find that 146 can be grouped under diseases of the heart or blood vessels and 39 from malignant disease.

There were 18 deaths from bronchitis, 12 from pneumonia and one from influenza.

### Notifiable Infectious Disease

Only 151 cases were notified throughout the year compared with 338 in 1961. Of these 133 were measles with 108 cases in December. Diphtheria, dysentery, food poisoning and poliomyelitis all showed nil returns. I was particularly glad to see a nil return also for whooping cough. Figures vary, last year there were 16 cases but the disease is less prevalent and probably less severe than in previous years. This must be due to a large extent to the large number of children who have been immunised.



## **Immunisation and Vaccination**

Immunisation sessions were held as in previous years at the Essex County Council clinics in Braintree and Bocking and at the surgeries of the general practitioners.

An innovation at the County Council clinics was the use of the triple vaccine which protects against tetanus as well as diphtheria and whooping cough. Some practitioners have been using this vaccine for a number of years. A start too was made to immunise against tetanus school children who had already had their whooping cough and diphtheria injections. Vaccination against poliomyelitis was continued, the oral or Sabin vaccine being used in the great majority of cases.

Full details can be seen in the statistics given later in this report.

## **Environmental Hygiene**

### **WATER**

There was no shortage of water during the year and at all times the water was of a high standard bacteriologically, i.e., free from disease germs. The unpleasant odours experienced at times is due to lack of oxygen in the water coming direct from the Codham supply. It will be removed when the aeration and softening plants are completed, possibly towards the end of 1963.

### **Housing**

Only 25 Council houses were completed during 1962, a disappointingly low figure because the need is still great especially for old people's bungalows and flats.

Private enterprise built 66 houses, and would have done better but for the ban on building in the area served by the Braintree sewage works. It is expected that this ban will be lifted early in 1963.

Slum clearance gets a good deal of publicity one way and another. I would like the emphasis placed more on building new houses. Clearance or demolition is a negative achievement if I may use an Irishism, building is something positive. For every house demolished a new one has to be built.

We still have a slum clearance problem in Braintree, but it is only part of the general housing problem. As soon as more new houses become available we can accelerate the clearance of the slums—(unfit houses is a better description for Braintree).

Throughout the year help was given to the Housing Committee in assessing the special needs of applicants with medical certificates.

All such applicants are referred to me and after a visit and full investigation of all the medical factors involved I report back to the Committee on the relative urgency of each case. In this connection 35 houses were visited.

As always, I have had full support from the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee and for this I record my thanks.

I am grateful to Mr. Bayley and his staff for their help in preparing this report and for their good work throughout the year, and to other officers of the Council for their unfailing courtesy and co-operation.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

C. R. C. RAINSFORD,

Medical Officer of Health.



PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,  
Town Hall, Braintree,  
August, 1963.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BRAINTREE AND BOCKING  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting in conjunction with the report of the Medical Officer of Health, my report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors for the year 1962.

Work on the Slum Clearance Programme continued very slowly. Seven demolition orders were made and eight families rehoused, leaving approximately eighty properties outstanding. The majority of those remaining are in small groups and will be dealt with individually as distinct from clearance areas. The rate of slum clearance has been influenced by several factors, not the least of which has been the number of new houses constructed. The speed with which the programme can be completed will also be influenced by the type of house being built. Many of the remaining houses are occupied by elderly people and their needs will have to be considered.

The improvement and repair of houses has been maintained at a reasonable level.

Duties in connection with the inspection and supervision of food supplies accounted for the major portion of the departments work. The standard of hygiene in food premises is quite good and no serious breach of the regulations was observed during the year. We have, in common with other authorities, had our problems concerning foreign bodies in food. These offences are often associated with low standards of hygiene, but this has not been the case in Braintree.

The results of ice cream samples manufactured in the area show a slight deterioration when compared with those of 1961 but do not give cause for alarm. The manufacture of soft ice cream in small plants, generally considered to present a greater risk of unsatisfactory samples, has been consistently good in Braintree.

In conclusion I wish to thank you for your continued interest and support and to acknowledge the help and co-operation of my staff and fellow officers.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

S. F. BAYLEY,

Chief Public Health Inspector



## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres) ... ..	6,811
Population (Registrar General's estimate) ... ..	20,760
Number of inhabited houses according to rate books ... ..	6,868
Rateable value ... ..	£316,827
Sum represented by a penny rate ... ..	£1,283

### VITAL STATISTICS

#### LIVE BIRTHS:

	Total	Male	Female			
Legitimate	350	178	172			
Illegitimate	26	15	11			
Total live births	376					
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population ... ..						18.1
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births ... ..						6.9
Birth rate corrected by comparability figure of 0.98 ... ..						17.7
Birth rate for England and Wales per 1,000 population ... ..						18.0

#### STILL-BIRTHS:

	Total	Male	Female			
Legitimate	3	1	2			
Illegitimate	1	1	—			
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ... ..						10.5
Rate per 1,000 total births England and Wales ... ..						18.1
Total live and still births—380.						

#### INFANT DEATHS:

Deaths of infants under 1 year—

	Total	Male	Female			
Legitimate	3	1	2			
Illegitimate	1	1	—			
Total infant deaths—4						
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births ... ..						10.6
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..						8.6
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..						38.4
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) ... ..						5.3
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) ... ..						13.2
Infantile mortality for England and Wales per 1,000 live births ... ..						21.4

#### MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)

Number of deaths ... ..	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ... ..	Nil

#### DEATHS:

	Total	Male	Female			
	268	127	141			
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population ... ..						12.9
Death rate corrected by comparability figure of 0.86 ... ..						11.1
Death rate per 1,000 population England and Wales ... ..						11.9



### DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, 1962

The table below was compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar General and the classification is given under the thirty-six headings based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948.

	Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	—	—
2. Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	1
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 ... ..	3	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..	6	—
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	14	7
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	2	—
16. Diabetes ... ..	1	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	23	38
18. Coronary disease, angina ... ..	21	20
19. Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	1	1
20. Other heart disease ... ..	7	14
21. Other circulatory disease ... ..	9	12
22. Influenza ... ..	1	—
23. Pneumonia ... ..	5	7
24. Bronchitis ... ..	14	4
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..	—	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	2	4
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	—	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	—	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	3	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	—
31. Congenital malformations ... ..	—	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	8	16
33. Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	2	—
34. All other accidents ... ..	5	4
35. Suicide ... ..	—	—
36. Homicide and operations of war ... ..	—	—
All Causes	127	141



## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

(a) Under the control of the Essex County Council:—

(i) **Braintree**—Essex County Health Services Clinic, Coggeshall Road:—

			Attendances
Speech Therapy (No Speech Therapist between 28.2.62 & 21.9.62)	Every Monday	10 a.m.	170
Child Welfare Ante-Natal and Women's Welfare	Every Tuesday	2 p.m.	2,309
	Every Wednesday	10 a.m. (By Appt.)	168
School Clinic	Every Tuesday	10 a.m.	189
Poliomyelitis Vaccination	Every Tuesday and 1st Friday	(By Appt.)	
Dental	Monday, Wednesday and Friday	10 a.m.	1,736
Diphtheria & Whooping Cough Immunisation	1st Friday	3 p.m.	

**Bocking**—Village Hall.

Child Welfare	4th Thursday	2 p.m.	168
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(ii) **Home Help Service**:—

This useful service is administered from the Area Health Office, 75, Springfield Road, Chelmsford.

(iii) **Ambulance Service**:—

The Ambulance Station is situated in Cressing Road, Braintree. A full 24 hour cover is provided.

(iv) **Laboratory Services**:—

The Essex County Council provide a laboratory service which includes the bacteriological and chemical analysis of water samples, the chemical analysis of sewage effluents and the bacteriological examination of ice cream, and the examination of other foods for pathogenic organisms. These examinations are carried out by either the Counties Public Health Laboratories, Grays Inn Road, London, W.C.1., or the Public Health Laboratory, Chelmsford and Essex Hospital, New London Road, Chelmsford.

(b) Under the control of the North-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board:—

(i) **Chest Clinics**:—

These are held twice weekly at St. Michael's Hospital, Braintree.

**PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

Diseases	Total Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—
Encephalitis ...	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis ...	—	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—
Measles ...	133	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	8	—	—
Tuberculosis, pulmonary	9	7	1
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—
<b>Totals ...</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>



**INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED MONTH BY MONTH**

Diseases	Total												
	Notified	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Diphtheria .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria .....	2	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	2	14	108	—
Measles .....	133	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	8	1	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	9	2	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	1	—	2	—
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Totals</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>—</b>

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE**

Diseases	At all Ages	under 1 Year	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-34	35-44	45-64	65 and Over	Age unknown
Diphtheria .....														
Dysentery .....														
Encephalitis .....														
Enteric Fever .....														
Erysipelas .....														
Food Poisoning .....														
Infective Hepatitis .....														
Malaria .....														
Measles .....	133	4	11	10	19	11	72	4	1					1
Meningococcal Infection .....														
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....														
Paralytic Poliomyelitis .....														
Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis .....														
Pneumonia .....														
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	1										1			
Scarlet Fever .....	8					1	7							
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary .....	9									3	1	2	3	
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary .....														
Whooping Cough .....														
<b>Totals</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>



## TUBERCULOSIS

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 - 9 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 - 14 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 - 19 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 - 34 .....	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 - 44 .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 - 64 .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over .....	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

Of these 2 were cases re-notified on taking up residence in the District during 1962.

## VACCINATION & IMMUNISATION

PRIMARY COURSES	BY GENERAL PRACTITIONERS		BY COUNTY STAFF		TOTALS
	...	...	...	...	
Diphtheria, Pertussis & Tetanus	98		7		105
Diphtheria & Tetanus	1		3		4
Diphtheria					
Pertussis	72		—		72
Diphtheria	15		6		21
Pertussis	—		1		1
Tetanus	—		8		8
Poliomyelitis	139		226		365
Smallpox	1432		1		1433
<b>RE-INFORCING DOSES</b>					
Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus	17		6		23
Diphtheria & Tetanus	11		19		30
Diphtheria	15		13		28
Pertussis	—		—		—
Tetanus	1		—		1
Poliomyelitis	140		694		834
Smallpox	1443		11		1454



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER

The Council's deep wells at the Notley Road Waterworks and the Bocking Waterworks were the main source of supply used. The supply from Codham Borehole contributed a further 83 million gallons and the small remainder was water obtained from the High Garrett Borehole and Braintree Rural District Council. All water was chlorinated before passing into the mains. None of the water supplied is liable to have a plumbo-solvent action. Work on the Codham waterworks proceeded during the year. When this is completed, it is hoped in 1963, it is anticipated that the majority of the water used will be obtained from this source and most of the remainder from the Notley Road Works.

The number of samples submitted during the year for bacteriological examination was as follows:—

		Raw Water	Water in supply	Total
Notley Road Waterworks	...	1	5	6
Bocking Waterworks	...	2	1	3
High Garrett	...	—	1	1
Other Supplies	...	—	1	1
Private Wells	...	4	—	4
Codham Borehole	...	1	3	4

All samples from public supplies were reported upon as being satisfactory. Of the samples from private supplies one was reported as satisfactory. In the other cases samples were taken by request of the owner and moderate surface contamination found. Advice was given to the owner, the supply chlorinated and follow-up samples found to be satisfactory.

Samples were also submitted for chemical analysis and the result of three samples are given as follows:—

Sample from Braintree Waterworks: 3.7.62.

### CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Appearance	...	Clear and bright	Turbidity	...	Less than 3
Colour	...	Nil	Odour	...	Nil
pH	...	7.3	Free Carbon Dioxide	...	25
Electric Conductivity	...	975	Dissolved Solids dried at	...	650
Chlorine present as Chloride	136		180°C	...	
Hardness: Total	...	345	Alkalinity as Calcium	...	285
			Carbonate	...	285
			Non-Carbonate	...	60
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	0.3	Nitrite Nitrogen	...	absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	0.12	Oxygen Absorbed	...	0.2
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	0.00	Residual Chlorine	...	absent
Metals: Iron	...	0.10	Zinc, Copper & Lead	...	absent

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a minute trace of iron. The water is very hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. Its organic quality and bacterial purity are of a high standard.

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



Sample from Bocking Waterworks: 20.2.62

**CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION**

Appearance: Bright with a very slight deposit. Microscopical examination: Traces of mineral matter.	Turbidity ... ..	Less than 3
Colour ... .. Nil	Odour ... ..	Nil
pH ... .. 7.4	Free Carbon Dioxide ... ..	20
Electric Conductivity ... 1000	Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C ... ..	665
Chlorine present as Chloride 128	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate ... ..	290
Hardness: Total ... .. 320	Carbonate ... ..	290
Nitrate Nitrogen ... .. 0.0	Non-Carbonate ... ..	30
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ... .. 0.25	Nitrite Nitrogen ... ..	Less than 0.01
Albuminoid Nitrogen ... .. 0.00	Oxygen Absorbed ... ..	0.20
Metals: Iron ... .. 0.10	Residual Chlorine ... ..	Absent
	Zinc, Copper and Lead	Absent

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals apart from a very minute trace of iron. The water is very hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents are not considered excessive. Its organic quality and bacterial purity are of a high standard.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

Sample from Codham borehole: 26.3.62.

**CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION**

Appearance: Bright with few particles. After keeping very slight opalescence with few particles.	Turbidity ... ..	Less than 3
Colour ... .. Nil	Odour ... ..	Nil
pH ... .. 7.3	Free Carbon Dioxide ... ..	28
Electric Conductivity ... 1000	Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C ... ..	665
Chlorine present as Chloride 128	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate ... ..	295
Hardness: Total ... .. 360	Carbonate ... ..	295
Nitrate Nitrogen ... .. 0.0	Non-Carbonate ... ..	65
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ... .. 0.22	Nitrite Nitrogen ... ..	Absent
Albuminoid Nitrogen ... .. 0.00	Oxygen Absorbed ... ..	0.15
Metals: Iron ... .. 0.48	Residual Chlorine ... ..	Absent
	Zinc, Copper and Lead	Absent

This sample was practically clear and bright in appearance but developed slight opalescence on keeping, due to the trace of iron which is present. The water is neutral in reaction and is free from other metals. It is very hard in character but contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It conforms to the highest standard of organic quality and is also of very satisfactory bacterial purity.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water. The trace of iron present is however greater than is considered desirable for a public supply from the aspect of maintaining satisfactory clarity of the water in supply.



### Water Consumption in the District.

The amount of water pumped during 1962:—

Notley Road Waterworks	...	...	173,006,200
Bocking Waterworks	...	...	51,389,450
Codham Borehole	...	...	83,415,700
By Meter from Braintree R.D.C.	...	...	2,669,364
Borehole, High Garrett	...	...	3,064,250

Total 313,544,964

I am indebted to the Council's Surveyor and Water Engineer for the above figures.

Based on the total population of 20,760, and allowing for 130 persons occupying 47 houses who do not obtain a supply from the public mains these figures represent an overall consumption of 41.6 gallons per head per day. The amount of water supplied through meters for trade and agricultural purposes was 58,891,350 gallons which is equivalent to 7.8 gallons per head per day leaving a net consumption per head per day of 33.8 gallons for domestic purposes.

The total amount of water distributed was 3 per cent less than 1961 but an adequate supply was maintained in all areas throughout the year. Although the overall consumption is the lowest for seven years the domestic consumption has remained fairly steady during that time varying from 32.7 to 36.7 gallons per head per day but the water supplied through meters has shown a considerable drop during the year amounting to a fall in total consumption of almost 15 million gallons.

It is estimated that 20,630 persons who occupy 6,803 houses are served by public mains. Of these, 17 houses with an estimated population of 52 are served by 11 standpipes, 10 of which are situated in the open.

There are 47 houses with private supplies, 32 of which are piped inside.

### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

During the year the technical details of the improvements to both the sewage works were completed, tenders received and contracts placed. Work commenced at the Braintree Works in September and at Bocking in October. Considerable progress was made to the Braintree improvements, which it is hoped will be completed in 1963. It was, therefore, agreed to lift the ban on building in the area served by this works from the 1st January, 1963. The scheme for the Bocking works is phased to be completed in 1965.

Results of samples taken by the Essex River Board showed a generally unsatisfactory picture emphasising the need for these improvements. Of nine samples taken from the Braintree Works only one was satisfactory. Of seven samples taken from the Bocking works three were regarded as satisfactory although with insufficient nitrification, one further sample of effluent which was not to be discharged to the river was reported as poor with little nitrification.

A revising survey of premises not connected to the sewer showed that 92 premises were still without main drainage. In most of these cases a sewer is not available but where a sewer has become available, efforts are being made to abolish the cesspools and connect up to the sewer. This survey also revealed 61 houses sharing 31 waterclosets. Of these houses six are subject to demolition orders, sixteen are included in the clearance programme and two are in an area subject to re-development. This is a great improvement on the past, the contributing factors being, the demolition of unfit properties, the provision of additional watercloset accommodation with the aid of improvement grants and by other means.

Following a series of complaints, a sample of water from a prepared hole in the ground was submitted to ascertain sewage contamination. The result indicated ground water with no undue degree of organic impurity.



## INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

### (1) Number and Nature of Inspections.

During the year 1962, the following inspections were made by the Public Health Inspectors to the premises detailed:—

Nature of Inspections	Primary Inspections	Revisits	Total Visits
Housing—Housing Act ... ..	39	67	106
Housing—Public Health Act ... ..	44	131	175
Other Visits—Housing Act ... ..	85	19	104
Other Visits—Public Health Act ... ..	420	231	651
Notifiable Diseases ... ..	11	1	12
Water Supply and Sampling ... ..	33	11	44
Dairies and Milk Distributors ... ..	7	4	11
Improvement Grants ... ..	59	192	251
Hairdressers ... ..	2	—	2
Food Hygiene Regulations ... ..	37	39	76
Other Visits—Food and Drugs Act ... ..	43	52	95
Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956 ... ..	—	1	1
Ice Cream Premises ... ..	8	4	12
Ice Cream Sampling ... ..	35	—	35
Meat and Food Inspection:—			
(a) Slaughterhouses ... ..	2867	8	2875
(b) Shops ... ..	77	1	78
(c) Markets ... ..	29	—	29
Factories Act (Power) ... ..	5	9	14
Factories Act (Building Sites) ... ..	16	7	23
Pet Shops ... ..	2	—	2
Shops Act ... ..	9	1	10
Drainage ... ..	65	105	170
Atmospheric Pollution ... ..	80	9	89
Overcrowding ... ..	3	2	5
Moveable and Temporary Dwellings ... ..	15	12	27
Vermin and Insect Pests ... ..	25	13	38
Rat Infestations ... ..	23	2	25
Interviews Owners/Builders ... ..	39	—	39
Knackers Yard ... ..	4	—	4
Swimming Baths and Sampling ... ..	32	7	39
Miscellaneous ... ..	100	9	109
	4214	937	5151

### (ii) Notices Served, Etc.

Number of Informal Notices served ... ..	73
Number of Informal Notices complied with ... ..	74
Number of Statutory Notices Served ... ..	10
Number of Statutory Notices complied with ... ..	11



		Defects Etc., Found	Work Done or Abated
<b>Sanitary Defects and Nuisances</b>			
(a)	<b>HOUSING</b>		
	Defective roofs, rainwater pipes, etc.	20	13
	Other external defects	2	1
	Damp walls	9	4
	Internal defects	6	6
	Defective yard paving	1	2
(b)	<b>GENERAL</b>		
	Defective W.C.'s and W.C. structures	6	6
	Houses with defective dustbins	45	36
	Vermin infested houses	1	1
	Contraventions of Factories Act	4	3
	Defects, etc., in food premises	2	9
	Other nuisances	2	1
(c)	<b>DRAINAGE</b>		
	Choked drains and W.C.'s	57	57
	Defective drains	5	7
	New drains tested and passed	—	3
	Old drains tested	—	3

### HOUSING

Twenty-five houses were completed by the Council during 1962, and a further sixty-six privately.

#### Clearance Areas

Twenty houses from the Manor Street and Church Street clearance areas were demolished during the year.

#### Individual Unfit Houses

Demolition Orders in respect of seven dwellings were made under Section 17 and fifteen houses subjects of Demolition Orders were demolished during the year.

Two houses which were the subjects of undertakings not to re-let have been rendered fit and improved, and the undertakings were cancelled during the year.

#### Re-housing

One family was re-housed from a clearance area and seven families from houses subject to Demolition Orders and Undertakings in 1962.

#### Repair of Houses

Two houses were made fit following formal action under the Public Health Act and a further eighteen houses made fit as a result of informal action under the Housing Act and the Public Health Act.

Two additional waterclosets were required in a house let in several flats.

#### Improvement Grants

At the beginning of 1962 the Council decided that your Chief Public Health Inspector should deal with all aspects of Improvement Grants.

During the year there were fifty applications for improvement grants, including one supplementary grant. Twenty-seven Discretionary Grants were made for improving houses and four for improving and converting two houses into four flats. Five applications were refused and sixteen Standard Grants were made.

In eight cases further repairs were required and were made a condition of grant.

The Council approved a total of £6,025 for Discretionary Grants and a maximum of £2,165 for Standard Grants. This amounted to an annual charge on the rates of £135 for discretionary grants and a maximum of £45 for Standard Grants.



## FACTORIES ACTS, 1961

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

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 the Local Authorities	9	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	95	14	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	35	28	4	—
<b>Total</b> ...	139	42	5	—

### 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)</b>	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7.)	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	4	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b> ...	5	4	—	2	—

#### Outworkers

There are eighteen outworkers in the District, all engaged in the making of wearing apparel. No contraventions of Sections 133 and 134 were observed.

## **Atmospheric Pollution**

The daily volumetric smoke and sulphur instrument continued to operate as part of the National Survey.

No decision has yet been made with regard to the formation of a Smoke Control Area. Further investigation is being made into the use of smokeless fuels where difficulty is experienced in burning coal.

Complaints were received with regard to smoke and soot from a local firm burning waste oil. The manufacturers of the burner were consulted and a solution effected.

Complaints were made with regard to smoke and grit from cupolas. This was referred to the Alkali Inspector as being within his jurisdiction and he is dealing with this matter.

## **Moveable Dwellings**

Two permanent sites and one holiday site were licensed during the year together with a single caravan on Council owned land, which does not require a licence.

## **Common Lodging Houses**

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

## **Swimming Pools**

The two open air swimming pools continued in operation during the year.

Strict control is maintained during the season and thirty-nine visits were made to the pools when field tests for available chlorine were made and samples taken.

Three samples for bacteriological examination and one for chemical examination were taken from the privately owned pool in each case with satisfactory results.

Six samples for bacteriological examination were taken from the Council owned pool with satisfactory results.

Alterations were made which improved the circulation and increased the turn-over in the children's pool.

## **Insect Pests**

The occupiers of private slaughterhouses were advised and assisted regarding fly control and the premises were kept under surveillance.

Advice and assistance were also given to occupiers regarding ants, crickets, cockroaches, wasps and other pests in respect of 47 premises.



### **Disease of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957**

The licence for one plant for the sterilisation of waste foods operating in the area was renewed during the year.

### **Steam Disinfector**

This apparatus was not used during the year

### **Pet Animals Act, 1951**

Three licences to keep pet shops were renewed during the year.

### **Rodent Control**

The services of a full time rodent operator were again shared with neighbouring authorities

The work done during the year ended 31st December, 1962, was as follows:-

Total number of inspections and re-inspections	...	911
Number of properties found to be infested and treated:—		
Major	... ..	14
Minor	... ..	247
Mice	... ..	18
Number of "block" control schemes carried out	...	2

During the period covered by this report, your Council continued the free treatment of domestic premises and the treatment of business premises upon a chargeable basis

### **Legal Proceedings**

There was no recourse to court action during the year

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

During the year two cases of dirty milk bottles and two cases of foreign bodies in food were dealt with.

### Ice Cream

Two local manufacturers and their premises were registered for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream. The premises were kept under surveillance and at one of the factories certain contraventions of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1959 were found. This accounted for the majority of local results in Provisional Grades III and IV which occurred in the early part of the season. When these contraventions were remedied the results of this particular manufacturer resumed their normal high grades.

In addition two premises were registered for the manufacture and sale of soft ice cream. If the wholesalers' cleansing routine is followed it would appear to be easy for the manufacturer to attain sample results almost consistently in Provisional Grade I.

Ninety-three certificates of registration were in force covering vendors of ice cream retailing from shops and mobile vans in the area. A few vendors registered elsewhere in the County of Essex also operated in the Council's district.

Thirty-four samples of ice cream were submitted for the methylene blue reduction test with the following results:—

Manufactured in District		Manufactured outside District	
Fifteen in Provisional Grade	I	Seven in Provisional Grade	I
One in Provisional Grade	II	Two in Provisional Grade	II
Five in Provisional Grade	III	Nil in Provisional Grade	III
Two in Provisional Grade	IV	Two in Provisional Grade	IV

In addition one ice lolly manufactured in the District was submitted for examination and reported upon as being satisfactory.

### Meat

All animals, including horses, slaughtered in the Council's area were inspected.

The Government continued the scheme for payment of a grant to local authorities who are carrying a heavy burden in connection with meat inspection and the Council qualified for a grant of £327 in respect of the financial year 1961-62.

Horseflesh slaughtered for human consumption in the Urban District is sold outside the Council's area.



The following sets out the particulars of animals slaughtered and of inspections and condemnations during the year:-

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed .....	3524	442	176	5455	19864	1146
Number inspected .....	3524	442	176	5455	19864	1146
<b>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis:—</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned	3	8	3	5	5	—
Weight in lb. condemned	1505	4061	94	224	505	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned .....	115	27	—	8	442	50
Weight in lb. condemned	1297	509	—	27	1710	924
Percentage affected .....	3.3	7.9	1.7	0.2	2.2	4.3
<b>Tuberculosis only:—</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Weight in lb. condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned .....	—	—	—	—	178	—
Weight in lb. condemned	—	—	—	—	753	—
Percentage affected .....	—	—	—	—	0.9	—
<b>Cysticercosis:—</b>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned .....	2	—	—	—	—	—
Weight in lb. condemned	31	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage affected .....	0.06	—	—	—	—	—

All condemned meat and offals were collected on behalf of the Council by a private contractor and, after treatment, used for animal feeding. This system provides adequate safeguards to public health.

### Other Foods

As a result of inspections carried out at food shops, and food preparing premises in the district, the following items were surrendered as unfit for human consumption during the year:—

	lb.		lb.
Frozen Meat ... ..	90	Frozen Fruit ... ..	6
Frozen Chicken ... ..	14	Ice Cream ... ..	2
Rabbits ... ..	194	Frozen Vegetables ... ..	89
Pork Sausages ... ..	214	Tinned Fish ... ..	64
Smoked Haddock ... ..	98	Tinned Beans ... ..	6
Fish Cakes ... ..	4	Tinned Fruit ... ..	256
Corned Beef ... ..	91	Tinned Milk ... ..	2
Tinned Ham ... ..	143	Tinned Peas ... ..	57
Tinned Meat ... ..	249	Tinned Soup ... ..	65
Jellied Veal ... ..	75	Tinned Tomatoes ... ..	27
Tinned Pork ... ..	80	Tinned Rice ... ..	13
Cheese ... ..	17	Tinned Vegetables ... ..	17
Tapioca ... ..	49	Tinned Syrup ... ..	4
Frozen Peas ... ..	1	Miscellaneous ... ..	136
Total — 2,063 lb.			

### Food Preparing Premises

The number of premises totalling 184 where food is prepared, stored or retailed is as follows:—

Hotels and Licensed Premises ... ..	39
Restaurants (including snack bars) ... ..	16
Works Canteens ... ..	10
School Canteens ... ..	9
Butchers ... ..	14
Food Manufacturing Premises ... ..	1
Wet and Dried Fish Shops ... ..	8
Bakehouses ... ..	8
Bread and Cake Confectioners ... ..	5
Grocers ... ..	43
Greengrocers ... ..	11
Other Food Shops ... ..	20

Of these numbers, shops dealing with more than one of these items are classified once

### Food Hygiene Regulations

Seventy-six visits were made to food shops during the year under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Details of the various contraventions found and remedied are given below:—

	Regulations	Contraventions	
		Found	Remedied
6	Cleanliness of equipment, etc. ... ..	—	1
14	Sanitary conveniences ... ..	—	1
16	Wash hand basins ... ..	—	1
17	First aid materials ... ..	—	1
19	Provision of sinks ... ..	2	1
23	Cleanliness and repair etc. of food rooms ... ..	—	1

Where there is more than one contravention of a regulation in respect of any premises it is recorded once only in the above table.



## Sampling of Food and Drugs

The provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, relating to the sampling of food and drugs are administered by the Weights and Measures Department of the Essex County Council. The Chief Inspector of that Department has kindly supplied the following details of the samples taken during the year:—

Butter ... ..	5	Preserves ... ..	1
Coffee ... ..	1	Sausages ... ..	1
Plain Flour ... ..	1	Ground Almonds ... ..	1
Self raising flour ... ..	1	Tea ... ..	1
Margarine ... ..	3	Rice Pudding ... ..	1
Mayonnaise ... ..	1	Tinned Fish ... ..	1
Marmalade ... ..	2	Tinned Meat ... ..	1
Mince-meat ... ..	1	Milk ... ..	53

Total — 75 samples

In addition to the above, the following samples were taken at the premises of wholesalers outside the Urban District who supply shops within the District:—

Butter ... ..	3	Sausages ... ..	2
Coffee ... ..	2	Tea ... ..	1
Self raising flour ... ..	1	Canned Fruit ... ..	1
Mayonnaise ... ..	1	Cooked Meat ... ..	2
Soft Drinks ... ..	1	Meat Pudding ... ..	2
Marmalade ... ..	1	Tinned Vegetables ... ..	1
Preserves ... ..	3	Milk ... ..	2
Evaporated Milk ... ..	3		

Total — 26 samples

All the above samples were found, on analysis, to be satisfactory.

Of the milk samples, four were taken at schools and thirteen at hospitals.