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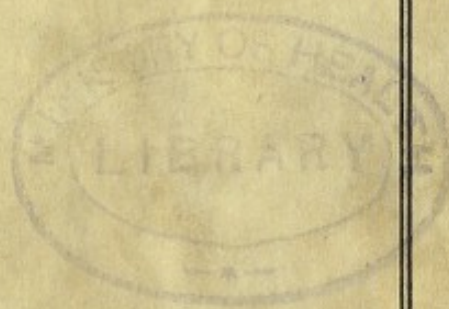
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HEALTH
24 OCT 56

Urban District of Brentwood



Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Sanitary Inspector

for

1955



Urban District of Brentwood

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:

(as at 31.12.55)

Chairman: G. A. D. McTurk, J.P. (1)

Vice-Chairman: P. W. Duck. (1)

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(1)	Member of Public Health Committee.		
(2)	Chairman of Public Health Committee.		
(3)	Vice-Chairman of Public Health Committee.		

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

B. Fraser Beatson, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.
(Retired 5.5.55).

Stanley R. Warren, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (commenced duty 1.6.55).

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

F. G. Spencer, C.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector, Meat and Food Inspector and Smoke Inspector, Royal Sanitary Institute's Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.

First Additional Sanitary Inspector:

P. T. Shelton, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector, Meat and Food Inspector, Royal Sanitary Institute's Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.

Second Additional Sanitary Inspector:

E. A. Sheppard, C.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector, Meat and Food Inspector, Royal Sanitary Institute's Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.

Clerical Staff:

Mrs. M. Davidson (Part-time).
Miss A. M. Y. Froud.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my first annual report for the Urban District of Brentwood jointly with the Chief Sanitary Inspector, with whom the closest co-operation exists. I would like to acknowledge the able and willing assistance received from his department, not only in the preparation of this report, but in all routine matters throughout the year.

Members will note that my section of the report will occupy fewer pages than hitherto. This is due to the omission or abbreviation of some of the statistical tables which I consider rather cumbersome and difficult to read in their previous state.

It is inevitable that in a growing area such as Brentwood, which is rapidly changing its character, there should be a shift of emphasis from certain aspects of public health to others. One has, I think, to face the oft-repeated fact that Brentwood is changing from a quiet country town to a dormitory cum overspill area with ever increasing problems of a primarily urban character. This will be reflected in a certain overall lower average of social standards and possibly to a rise in the mortality rate and increase in the birth rate such as has taken place during the year under review to quote two simple examples. It is somewhat difficult for me to discuss from personal experience the general health of Brentwood for a twelve months period in which I took up my appointment approximately half way. I hope in my next report to be able to give a more adequate comparative picture. Comments on individual aspects have been made in the body of the report.

There is a rise in the number of deaths from malignant diseases which reflects the general rise throughout the country. About this and on the subject of tobacco smoking, I shall have something to say in my report and during the year 1956.

I should like to thank members of the Council and in particular members of the Health Committee for the very cordial welcome extended to me on taking up my duties in Brentwood and for the help received from them in Committee and in routine work.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

STANLEY R. WARREN.

SECTION A.
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	18,166
Estimated Resident Population (Registrar General's figures)					38,040
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...		10,869
Rateable Value	...	...	...		£341,836
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...			£1,906

VITAL STATISTICS:

Live Births.	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	557	283	274
Illegitimate	20	11	9
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	15.17
Area Comparability Factor	...	...	1.01
Corrected Birth Rate	...	...	15.32
Table showing comparisons with England and Wales:			
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population for 1955:			

England and Wales	Brentwood U.D.	
	1955	1954
15.0	15.32	13.37

Still Births.	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	14	8	6
Illegitimate	1	1	—
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	25.34
Rate for England and Wales	...	...	23.1

Deaths.	Total	M.	F.
	492	229	263
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	12.93
Area Comparability Factor	...	...	.90
Corrected Death Rate	...	...	11.64
Table showing comparisons with England and Wales:			
Death Rate per 1,000 population for 1955:			

England and Wales	Brentwood U.D.	
	1955	1954
11.7	11.64	10.51

Infant Mortality Rate:	1954	1955
All Infants per 1,000 live births	19.61	24.26
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	77.00	100.00

Causes of Death:					1954	1955
Malignant Diseases	...	...	...	...	57	80
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	166	204
Violence	...	...	...	...	15	18
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	5	3
Other infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	26	41
Other diseases	...	...	...	...	136	146
					405	492

This Table includes a death from Poliomyelitis. There were no deaths from Puerperal Pyrexia, Measles or Whooping Cough during the year under review.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

National Health Service Act, 1946—Local Health Authority Services under Part III.

The following is a list of the Clinical Sessions provided by the South Essex Area Health Committee under this heading:—

Brentwood Combined Treatment Centre:

Day	Clinic
Monday morning (2nd and 4th)	Ante Natal—9.30 to 12 noon.
Monday afternoon.	Child Welfare—2 to 4.30 p.m.
Monday afternoon (1st)	Immunisation and Vaccination.
Monday afternoon (1st)	Dental Inspection.
Tuesday morning.	Speech Therapy—9 to 12 noon.
Wednesday morning.	Minor Ailments and Special Inspections—9.30 to 12 noon.
Thursday morning.	Ophthalmic—9 to 12 noon.
Friday morning (2nd and 4th)	Speech Therapy—9 to 12 noon.
Friday morning (1st, 3rd and 5th)	Speech Therapy—9 to 11 a.m.
Friday morning (1st, 3rd and 5th)	Women's Welfare—11 to 12 noon.
Friday afternoon (2nd and 4th)	Child Welfare (Health Visitors Clinic)—1.45 to 4.30 p.m.
Daily.	Dental treatment.
Daily.	Chiropody—9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with extension to 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. (Thursday 12.30 to 6.30 p.m. only).

Subsidiary Centres:

Hutton Child Welfare.	1st and 3rd Wednesday after- noons.
Herongate Health Visitors Clinic.	4th Thursday afternoon.
Bentley Child Welfare Health Visitors' Session.	1st, 3rd and 5th Thursday afternoons.

As a result of the increased amount of clinical work performed in Brentwood consequent upon the re-allocation of time as between the Brentwood U.D.C. and the Essex County Council, the above list of Clinics has undergone modification. It is to be expected that with the growth of population, these services will expand, and further clinical sessions will take place in new premises which are in course of erection on the Thrift Park Estate and which, it is hoped, will be completed during the year 1956.

Chiropody Statistics:

	Number of sessions	...	475
New Patients—			
	Adults	...	167
	Children	...	41
Attendances—			
	New Patients	...	208
	Old Patients	...	4,106

This service is found particularly valuable to elderly people who form naturally quite a large percentage of patients treated.

Ambulances Services:

Patients Conveyed	...	24,197
Total Mileage	...	115,043
Average Mile per Patient	...	5.23
Stretcher Cases	...	2,206
Emergency Cases	...	1,049

There is no significant statistical change from 1954.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following are comparative tables of infectious diseases:

	1955	1954
Scarlet Fever	6	11
Pneumonia	22	17
Poliomyelitis	16	—
Whooping Cough	38	90
Measles	581	67
Jaundice	7	7
Food Poisoning	21	1
Totals	691	193

Poliomyelitis:

In the year under review, 16 cases were reported with one death, 14 of these occurring during the summer period. This was considerably higher than the general average for a town of this size, but did not rise to epidemic proportions and gave no undue cause for alarm. The spread was even throughout the whole district, with the exception that three cases did occur in one household, a circumstance which is somewhat unusual. All cases were visited and careful enquiries were made as to any possible source of infection and methods of prevention of spread. No measures, such as closure of swimming baths, were in any way indicated for such a mirror outbreak.

Measles:

The large figure for measles is not noteworthy as it formed part of the normal periodic fluctuation in this disease throughout the country.

Food Poisoning:

Three incidents were brought to my notice. One concerned two members of one family and considered to be due to an infected ham. The second was a rather extensive outbreak following upon a Wedding Breakfast in which there were 19 cases notified. Upon investigation a similar number were discovered to have had symptoms, making the total of persons affected approximately 40. The third incident was a single case of salmonella infection, presumably due to consumption of infected meat in the City of London.

Other outbreaks reported were investigated but were considered not to be food poisoning.

Epidemic Vertigo:

A number of cases of this uncommon condition were reported as occurring in a Brentwood School. After consultation with the Practitioner concerned, no action was considered necessary and all the children fully recovered.

Influenza:

A sharp outbreak occurred at the end of the year in the Hutton area, in which there was a high incidence of Bronchitis in infants. After consultation with the Practitioner concerned, a Consultant from the Virus Reference Laboratory visited the area. Nothing of note was found and the cases were discovered to be due to Influenza Virus Type B which was prevalent in East Anglia at that time.

Tuberculosis:

The following are figures relating to Tuberculosis for 1955:

	Respiratory			Non-respiratory		
	M.	F.	Children.	M.	F.	Children
Cases on register 1.1.55 ...	136	131	25	3	12	17
New notifications ...	4	4	1	0	0	1
Transfers in ...	12	19	1	1	0	2
Transfers out ...	6	5	1	0	0	1
Deaths ...	3	3	0	0	0	1
Lost sight of ...	3	2	0	0	0	0

	Respiratory			Non-respiratory		
	M.	F.	Children.	M.	F.	Children
Gone abroad	1	1	0	0	0	0
Recovered	7	11	0	1	0	0
Total removed from register	20	22	1	1	0	2
Cases on register 31.12.55	132	132	26	3	12	18

The number of new notifications was 10 which reflects the pleasing general decline in this disease. I am grateful to Dr. E. Woolf for these figures.

Tuberculosis After-Care Association:

This Association has in the past done a considerable amount of useful work in filling the gaps in the social services relative to this disease and in individual case work. With the reduction of incidence of Tuberculosis, the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, to whom this After-Care Committee is affiliated, has suggested that its sphere might be enlarged to include chronic diseases of the chest and this principle was agreed on by the Committee. All Brentwood Practitioners have been circularised with a view to obtaining information on the extent of this problem.

Mass Radiography:

A private survey was conducted at Warley Mental Hospital. No public general survey was held in Brentwood in 1955.

Vaccination and Immunisation:

The following figures show the number of Brentwood children immunised or vaccinated in 1955. With regard to Diphtheria Immunisation the 1954 figures are also shown.

	1955	1954
Diphtheria Immunisation: Primary:	443	348
Booster:	1,080	383
Whooping Cough Immunisation: Primary:		302
Booster:		4
Vaccination against Smallpox: Vaccinated:		343
Re-Vaccinated:		165
B.C.G. Vaccination: Tuberculin tested:	122	
No. received B.C.G:	89	

This vaccination against Tuberculosis was given to consenting children of the 13 year age group at Brentwood Secondary Modern School. It is considered that this procedure is of great value in the prevention of the disease at this very susceptible age. Sufficient time is left during school life to enable a watch on progress to be kept.

MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC HEALTH DUTIES

National Assistance Act, 1946. Section 47.

An elderly person was removed to Hospital under this Section of the Act. Although she derived considerable physical benefit from her stay in Hospital, this procedure is distasteful to all parties concerned in it and is never lightly undertaken. She was still detained in Hospital on December 31st, 1955.

TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES

Year	Population	Births	Rate per 1,000 Population	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 population	Infant Mortality:	
						Deaths	Rate per 1,000 live births
1950	29,880	400	13.38	329	11.01	27	35
1951	30,380	421	16.20	304	9.00	23	34.20
1952	31,690	403	14.87	335	9.51	16	27.29
1953	33,410	448	13.53	455	13.61	14	20.09
1954	34,670	459	13.37	405	10.51	15	19.61
1955	38,040	577	15.32	492	11.64	23	24.26

ANALYSIS OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES UNDER AGE GROUPS

	Age Groups										TOTAL
	Under 1	1--2	3--4	5--9	10--14	15--24	25--44	45--64	65 & over		
Scarlet Fever	—	—	2	2	1	—	1	—	—	6	
Pneumonia	1	1	—	5	—	1	5	6	3	22	
Polio-myelitis	—	2	—	9	1	1	3	—	—	16	
Whooping Cough	1	15	9	13	—	—	—	—	—	38	
Measles	10	110	143	301	9	4	4	—	—	581	
Jaundice	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	1	1	7	
Food Poisoning	2	—	—	1	1	2	11	4	—	21	
TOTALS	14	128	154	332	13	10	25	11	4	691	

SECTION B.

DEPARTMENT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

Sanitary Inspection of Area.

	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Re-Inspections</i>
Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954		
(a) Preliminary Survey	21	4
(b) Houses Inspected	83	123
Housing Act, 1936—Inspections	24	258
Housing Act (Overcrowding) ...	6	3
Sanitary Defects	210	913
Verminous Premises	5	3
Dirty Premises	12	30
Infectious Diseases	27	13
Water Supply	6	35
Drains (Inspected)	128	336
Drains Tested	4	—
Sewers	6	12
Cesspools and Pail Closets ...	32	54
Moveable Dwellings	50	59
Factories (Power)	111	15
Factories (Non-Power)	17	17
Outworkers' Premises	19	2
Ponds, Ditches and Watercourses	31	66
Swine, fowls, etc.	12	45
Accumulations of Refuse ...	12	5
Refuse Tips	11	—
Rats and Mice (General) ...	124	180
Rats and Mice (Sewers) ...	26	2
Miscellaneous Visits	346	9
Miscellaneous Interviews ...	45	—
Licensed Premises (San. Convs.)	10	7
T.B. After-Care	19	—
Hairdressers' Premises	20	—
Swimming Baths	13	—
Shops Act	1	—
Pet Shops	3	—
Food Poisoning Investigations ...	48	—
Council Houses	6	—
Massage Establishments ...	8	—
Improvement Grants	76	94
Bath Samples	11	—
	1,583	2,285

Number of Complaints received ...	...	...	318
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INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGNS

1.	(1)	Number of Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	22
	(2)	Number of Bakers' Shops only	...	...	...	...	6
	(3)	Number of Bakers' Shops with Bakehouses attached					5
	(4)	Number of Bakehouses only	...	...	...	...	5
	(5)	Number of Grocers' Shops	...	...	...	...	82
	(6)	Number of Greengrocers' Shops	...	...	...	...	19
	(7)	Number of Fish Shops (Wet)	...	...	...	...	9
		Number of Fish Shops (Fried)	...	...	...	...	4
		Number of Fish Shops (Wet and Fried)	...	...	...	...	2
	(8)	Number of Dairies	...	...	...	...	9
	(9)	Number of Milk Shops and Grocers	...	...	...	...	12
	(10)	Number of Pasteurising Establishments	...	...	...	...	1
	(11)	Number of Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	50
	(12)	Number of Public Houses supplying meals	...	...	...	...	26
	(13)	Number of School Canteens	...	...	...	...	6
	(14)	Number of Factory Canteens	...	...	...	...	8
	(15)	Number of premises registered for sale of Ice-Cream					97
	(16)	Number of Public Houses	...	...	...	...	50
	(17)	Number of Knackers' Yards	...	...	...	...	1
2.	(a)	Number of Premises registered under Essex County Council Act for sale of Ice-Cream	...	...	...	...	97
	(b)	Number of Dairies registered under Milk and Dairies Regulations	...	...	...	...	24
	(c)	Number of Registered Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	9
3.		Number of inspections of registered Food Premises:—					
	(1)	Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	26
	(2)	Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	30
	(3)	Ice-Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	130
4.		All condemned food, other than meat was despatched to the Council's refuse tip, under the supervision of the Public Health Department. Meat condemned at the slaughterhouses in the district was also disposed of in this way, except in some cases it was allowed to be collected by recognised merchants.					

Food Inspection. Number of visits made:

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	221
Meat Shops	...	...	...	...	23
Other Food Shops	...	...	...	...	189
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	30
Knacker's Yards	...	...	...	...	31
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	26
Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	96
Ice-Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	130
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	8
School Canteens	...	...	...	...	15
Factory Canteens	...	...	...	...	7
					776 visits

Food Sampling:

Samples of Milk	...	...	...	...	84
Samples of Water	...	...	...	...	12
Samples of Ice-Cream	...	...	...	...	83
					179

Milk Supply:

There is now only one dairy in the district which pasteurises milk; the remaining supplies are obtained by dairymen from establishments outside the area. The milk is pasteurised and bottled and supplied direct to the dairymen.

The following licences to retail designated milks were issued during the year:—

- 9 Dealers' Licences to sell milk as Pasteurised.
- 11 Dealers' Licences to sell milk as Sterilised.
- 5 Supplementary Licences to sell milk as Pasteurised.
- 4 Supplementary Licences to sell milk as Sterilised.
- 11 Dealers' Licences to sell milk as Tuberculin tested.
- 3 Supplementary Licences to sell milk as Tuberculin tested.

During the year 84 samples of milk were obtained and submitted to the Counties Public Health Laboratories at 66 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1., for bacteriological examination.

This service is arranged through the Essex County Council Laboratory Service and the results were as follows:—

Pasteurised Milk:

No. of samples taken	...	...	...	62
No. of samples satisfactory	...	...	...	60
No. of samples unsatisfactory	...	...	...	2

Sterilised Milk:

No. of samples taken	...	...	...	5
No. of samples satisfactory	...	...	...	5

Tuberculin Tested Milk:

No. of samples taken	...	...	...	17
No. of samples satisfactory	...	...	...	16
No. of samples unsatisfactory	...	...	...	1

Ice Cream Sampling:

During the year, 80 samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination; 3 samples of Fruit lolly were also sent. The results as given below showed that a high standard was being maintained.

Grade I.	Grade II.	Grade III.	Grade IV.
76	4	—	—

The reports on the samples of Fruit lolly showed they were satisfactory.

It is interesting to note that there are now only two manufacturers of ice cream in the district. The bulk of the supply consumed comes from the large manufacturing companies.

Meat and Other Foods:

No. of Inspections made	...	...	...	776
Total amount of meat and other foods condemned:—				
Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	
1	6	3	6	

MEAT INSPECTION**Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.**

		<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed	...	310	Nil	25	159	321	Nil
Number inspected	...	310	Nil	25	159	321	Nil

All diseases except**Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:**

Whole carcase condemned:	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	58	Nil	Nil	55	6	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis or Cysticerci	18.71	Nil	4	34.59	1.84	Nil

Tuberculosis only:

Whole carcase condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	12	Nil	Nil	Nil	5	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	3.87	Nil	Nil	Nil	1.56	Nil

Cysticercosis:

Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalized and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Slaughterhouses:

There are five slaughterhouses licenced to slaughter in the area and during the year only two of these were used. In both cases supplies were for their own shops only.

There has not been any demand by other butchers for slaughtering facilities and it would appear that owing to our proximity to London, the requirements of the trade can be readily obtained from wholesale suppliers.

As shown on the above chart the class of animals slaughtered has been good.

HOUSING ACTS. IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

During the year the Council decided to accept applications for grants in respect of improvements to properties as provided for in the Acts.

The response for the period under review—approximately six months—was good. In the initial stages some applications were received for assistance to undertake works of improvement which upon investigation were found to be works of repair. The applicants were informed that it was not possible to grant financial assistance for such works as they were not considered to be improvements within the meaning of the Acts.

The position at the end of the year was as follows:—

Number of applications received	35
Number of properties to be improved	44
Number of applications approved	29
Number of properties improved	30

The total cost to the owners of these works without grants would have been £11,862 and it was towards this total that the Council granted financial assistance. The Council are permitted to make a grant of up to 50% with a maximum of £400 in respect of any one property towards the costs of the work and they used their discretionary power in all cases and varied the amount of grant as considered necessary, bearing in mind the nature and extent of the improvements.

It is interesting to note that there are many well maintained terraced houses in Brentwood which lack such amenities as constant hot water, baths, indoor sanitation, suitable food stores or fuel accommodation. During the year, a number of these properties were provided with small additions which incorporated these essentials and the results were very satisfactory and much appreciated by the occupants.

The Council, encouraged by the response and results, decided to continue to accept applications for grants.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The duties of Local Authorities in the main under this Act relate to the destruction of rats and mice. A total of 78 visits were made to private and business premises, but no evidence of any major infestation was found.

The Council do not employ a full time operator for this work, but if any work is carried out by their workmen a charge is made to cover this, plus the cost of any materials used. In cases where occupants are prepared to carry out the necessary work, advice is given by the department.

The Council's refuse tip, providing as it does food and warmth—forms a perfect breeding ground for rats. This has therefore required constant attention in order to prevent a major infestation. It is hoped that with the purchase of more equipment a greater endeavour will be made to cover the tipping surface and so reduce this happy breeding ground.

The Council's sewers throughout the districts were treated and the result of the work undertaken was very satisfactory.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1. Inspections:

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Number of Notices Served</i>	<i>Number of Notices Complied</i>
Factories (Power) ...	147	6	6
Factories (Non-Power)	34	1	1

2. Defects Found:

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>
Lack of Cleanliness	5	6
Defective Sanitary Accommodation	2	1
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation	—	—

3. Outworkers:

Number of Outworkers	...	...	...	14
Number of Inspections	...	...	...	19

SWIMMING POOLS

Council Open Air Swimming Pool.

The bath was opened on the 25th May and closed on the 20th September. During this period seven samples were taken from the bath, particular attention being given to week-end periods and Bank Holidays when the bath was being used at its maximum capacity.

The samples were submitted to the Counties Public Health Laboratories and the results in all cases were found to be satisfactory. Copies of all reports were sent to the Council's Engineer and Surveyor who is responsible for the management of the bath.

School Baths.

There are three baths attached to schools in the area and during the season, samples were taken from these baths. In all cases the reports were satisfactory.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT 1954

This Act required Local Authorities to survey their areas for the clearance and replacement of slum houses and to submit their proposals to the Minister on or before the 30th August 1955. The survey in Brentwood was commenced during 1954 and the final report submitted to the Health Committee in February 1955. The survey showed that in this area, which is extensive and contains several rural communities, that there were many individual unfit houses but no clearance areas. The total figure submitted was 77 unfit houses and it is proposed to deal with these during the next five years.

It is evident that each year will see added to the list a number of properties which through disrepair have become so unfit that they cannot be repaired at a reasonable cost.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENT ACT 1954

Certificates of Disrepair.

During the year two applications were received from tenants for certificates of disrepair and after inspections of the properties were issued in both cases.

HOUSING

Clearance Areas.

No clearance orders were made or areas dealt with during the year.

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during year.

- | | |
|--|-------|
| (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 293 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... | 1,611 |

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

- | | |
|---|----|
| Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers | 52 |
|---|----|

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

3(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | 21 |
| 2. Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:— | |
| (a) By Owners | 11 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... | Nil |

3(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.

- | | |
|---|----|
| 1. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 4 |
| 2. Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:— | |
| (a) By Owners | 12 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | 2 |

3(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 2 |
| 2. Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 2 |

(As a result of representations made, 12 properties were demolished without the necessity of formal demolition orders being made during the course of the year).

3(d) Proceedings under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, and Section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Number of houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made | 3 |
| 2. Number of houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | 1 |