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A 2441 (1) CHELMSFORD

Borough of Chelmsford.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health for 1927.

RICHARD H. VERCOE, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

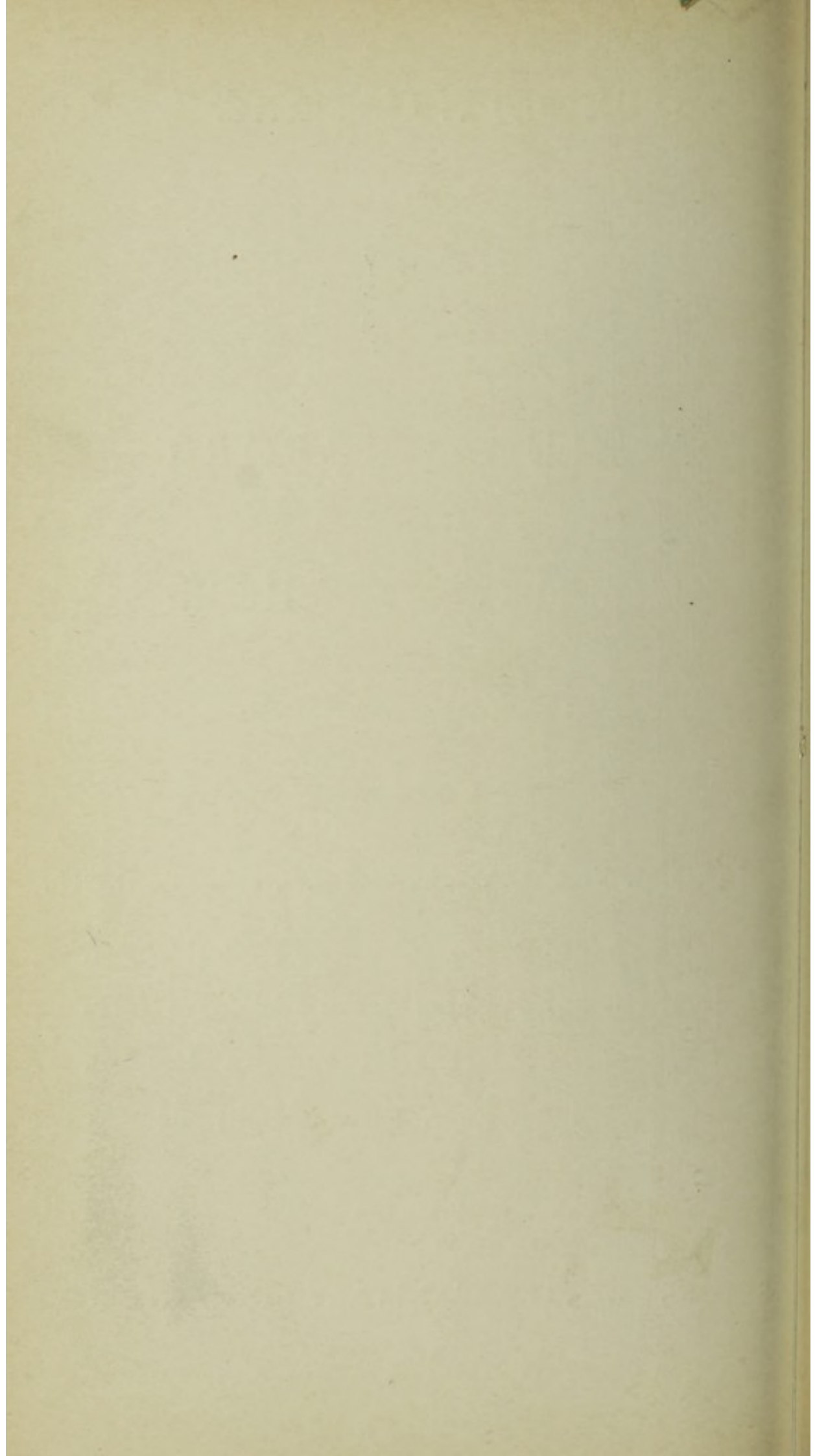
Medical Officer Maternity and Child Welfare.

Medical Superintendent Joint Isolation Hospital.

School Medical Inspector, Essex County Council.

INCLUDING THE

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.



STAFF.

RICHARD H. VERCOE	...	...	Medical Officer of Health.
WALTER BROWN	...	...	Sanitary Inspector.
SARAH G. LANGFORD	...	...	Health Visitor.
H. COZENS	...	...	Clerk.
J. S. ASHMEAD	...	...	Junior Clerk.

(1) General Statistics.

AREA	...	...	3,112 acres, including Inland Water (Census 1921).
POPULATION, 1927	...	...	23,450, Registrar General's figure, 20,761 (Census 1921).
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES			5,567 (Census 1921).
RATEABLE VALUE	...	...	£168,050 12s. 6d.
AMOUNT PRODUCED BY 1D. RATE			£680.

(2) Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

		Total.	Male.	Female.	
BIRTHS	...				
	{ Legitimate ...	351	183	168	} Birth Rate 15.52.
	{ Illegitimate ...	13	6	7	

DEATHS :—

Total uncorrected, 345 : rate 14.71 per 1,000 living.

Total corrected, 267 : rate 11.38 per 1,000 living.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, Child-birth :—

From Sepsis	...	...	...	2
Other Causes	...	...	...	0

Deaths of infants under one year :—

Legitimate, 18 ; illegitimate, 1. Total, 19.

INFANT DEATH-RATE 52.19 per 1,000 births.

Death from Measles (all ages)	...	...	0
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)		...	0
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years)		...	1

(3) Vital Statistics.

The following table gives the chief vital statistics of the Borough of Chelmsford and also of London, the groups of 107 Great Towns and 155 Smaller Towns, and of the country as a whole.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH-RATES AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, 1927.

	BIRTH-RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULA- TION.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.										RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.		
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two years).	Total Deaths under One year.	Causes of Death certi- fied by Registered Practitioners.	Inquest Cases.	Uncertified Causes of Death.	
England and Wales	16.7	12.3	0.01	0.00	0.09	0.01	0.09	0.07	0.57	0.51	6.5	69	91.7	6.6	1.0	
107 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.	17.1	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.12	0.01	0.10	0.08	0.49	0.46	8.3	71	91.9	6.6	0.6	
155 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000-50,000).	16.4	11.3	0.01	0.00	0.07	0.01	0.08	0.05	0.58	0.41	5.0	68	92.7	5.8	1.2	
London	16.1	11.9	0.01	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.12	0.09	0.39	0.51	7.5	59	90.3	7.9	0.0	
Chelmsford M.B.	15.52	11.38	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.60	0.00	0.38	0.34	2.75	52	95.1	4.6	0.0	

BIRTHS. Three hundred and fifty one births (R.G.) were registered as occurring in the Borough.

Ten still births were notified. These cases of still births were investigated by the Health Visitor to ascertain, as far as possible, the cause of death.

BIRTH RATE. The birth rate of Chelmsford for 1927 was 15.5 as compared with 15.44 in 1926, 15.16 in 1925 and 15.72 in 1924. This is a low rate compared with that of England and Wales, as a whole, which was 16.7 in 1927, 17.8 in 1926, and 18.3 in 1925.

The following tabular statement gives details of the number of deaths classified according to cause and sex (R.G.) :--

Cause of Death.	Males.	Females	Total.
Enteric Fever .. .. .	..	1	1
Small-pox .. .. .	..	..	..
Measles .. .. .	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	..	..	..
Whooping Cough .. .. .	..	..	..
Diphtheria .. .. .	..	..	..
Influenza	4	5	9
Encephalitis Lethargica .. .. .	..	1	1
Meningococcal Meningitis .. .. .	..	..	..
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	9	3	12
Other Tuberculous Diseases	2	1	3
Cancer, Malignant Disease	8	17	25
Rheumatic Fever .. .. .	..	..	..
Diabetes	1	1	2
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	2	10	12
Heart Disease	14	39	53
Arterio-sclerosis	6	..	6
Bronchitis	7	11	18
Pneumonia (all forms)	8	2	10
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	2	..	2
Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	1	..	1
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	1	1	2
Cirrhosis of Liver .. .. .	..	..	..
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	3	3	6
Puerperal Sepsis .. .. .	..	2	2
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition .. .. .	..	..	..
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	9	4	13
Suicide	3	1	4
Other deaths from Violence	2	2	4
Other defined Diseases	31	47	78
Causes ill-defined or unknown .. .. .	..	1	1
Total	114	153	267

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1927.

AGES.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and over.	Total Deaths.
	19	1	2	4	8	20	65	148	267

DEATH RATE. The number of deaths registered in the Borough was 345. Of this number 101 were deaths of persons who were not inhabitants of Chelmsford.

In addition, 23 deaths were accepted as deaths of Chelmsford residents occurring in other districts.

Subtracting 101 "outward transfers" from the figure of 345, and adding 23 "inward transfers," the net number of deaths is 267, which agrees with the figure supplied by the Registrar General. This gives a corrected death rate of 11.38 per 1,000 for the year 1927. This is a low death rate as compared with that of the whole country, which is 12.3 per 1,000.

INFANTILE MORTALITY. It is a satisfactory fact that out of 351 births there were only 19 deaths of infants under the age of 12 months. This gives an Infantile Death Rate of 52.19 per 1,000 births, as compared with 68.18 per 1,000 births in 1926.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases.

The number of cases of infectious disease notified was as follows:—Diphtheria 12, Scarlet Fever 89, Pneumonia 6, Erysipelas 0, Paratyphoid 3, Typhoid 3, Ophthalmia Neonatorum 2, Puerperal Pyrexia 1, Encephalitis Lethargica 1, Enteric Fever 2, Influenza 2, Anterior Poliomyelitis 0. Of these cases the following number were admitted to Hospital:—Diphtheria 11, Scarlet Fever 82, Paratyphoid 2, Typhoid 3. (See also Appendix on Infectious Diseases on page 12 of this Report).

The usual methods of disinfection and of dealing with contacts have been followed throughout the year. Diphtheria Antitoxin has been provided to practitioners free of charge.

TUBERCULOSIS. See figures in Appendix on page 12 of this Report. The Chelmsford Tuberculosis Dispensary is under the control of the County Council. One case of Tuberculosis died before notification and the practitioner who certified the death was sent a letter of enquiry.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

WATER SUPPLY. The present sources of supply are the same as in past years, but the quantity is limited and it is only possible to supply water to the Town between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. throughout the year, although the pumps are working all night. Every three months samples are taken from the various supplies and forwarded to Drs. Thresh and Beale for analysis, and the reports throughout the last year have been satisfactory.

RIVERS AND STREAMS. The condition of the Chelmer and its tributaries which flow through Chelmsford remains much the same as in past years.

SCAVENGING. The disposal of refuse is being economically carried out by tipping on the low lying land in the Recreation Ground, men being constantly employed in covering the refuse as it is tipped daily and no nuisance has in any way occurred.

The number of tons of refuse tipped during the year was 6,200. The work is being done by five carts and a central tip is being used.

This number also includes the scavenging of Springfield Ward, which has been taken over by the Corporation; this Ward was previously worked by contract.

FOOD SUPPLY AND INSPECTION. For particulars under this head reference should be made to the reports of the Sanitary and Veterinary Inspectors.

Summary of Nursing Arrangements, Clinics, Hospitals, etc.

DISTRICT NURSING ASSOCIATION. There is one District Nurse in each of the three wards of the town. In the Springfield Ward the District Nurse undertakes midwifery cases, but the other two do not.

MIDWIVES. There are six fully qualified midwives in the Borough; 3 in the North Ward, 2 in the South Ward, and 1 in the Springfield Ward.

CLINICS, &c. The School Clinics and two Infant Welfare Centres in the town are municipal, whilst the Tuberculosis and Venereal Clinics are provided by the County Council.

HOSPITALS are the Chelmsford and Essex General Hospital, the Poor Law Infirmary and the Isolation Hospital for Infectious Diseases. There is also a Small-pox Hospital at Galleywood.

Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme.

The work under this Scheme has been carried on much in the same way as in the previous year.

HOME VISITS BY HEALTH VISITOR. Mrs. Langford continues to do much good work in visiting mothers and their infants in their homes. The following is the record of her work during the year :—

		1st Visits.	Total Visits.
To expectant mothers	...	148	189
To infants under 1	...	376	1,836
To children aged 1—5	...	—	786

All Maternity and Child Welfare visits totalled 2,811

The first visit follows notification of birth, and is with the object of advising the mother on infant care, and also about her own health.

Later visits are paid, varying in number and frequency according to the requirements of each case.

In addition to her work in the homes, the Health Visitor attends with the Medical Officer of Health at the Centres. There are two Centres where mothers may obtain advice about the health of their infants, these being held at the Friends' Meeting House and at the Orchard Street Hall. Judging by the attendance at the Centres, the mothers appreciate them. The attendance has been well sustained at both the Centres throughout the year as follows :—

		No. of Infants.	No. of Attendances Made.
Friends' Meeting House	...	449	3,255
Orchard Street Hall	...	124	1,756
		573	5,011

Altogether 573 infants were brought to the Centres by their mothers throughout the year, making in all 5,011 attendances.

The ANTE-NATAL CLINIC is held once a month (except August), for Expectant Mothers at the Chelmsford Hospital and the attendances have been as follows :—

1927 Attendances	...	41	...	Individual Mothers	...	26
1926	"	31	...	"	"	28

The voluntary workers have continued to give their services as previously and their assistance has contributed very materially to the success of the work. They have rendered the usual services of recording the attendances, weighing the infants and providing refreshments for the mothers.

THE MILK (MOTHERS AND CHILDREN) ORDER. During the year free milk has been supplied for the use of *necessitous* mothers and their infants, the amount has been restricted to one pint daily for each family supplied. Altogether 86 families have been relieved.

The expenditure sanctioned by the Ministry was £200 per annum.

The actual amount spent during the *financial* year ended March 31st, 1928, was £161 15s.

BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD—INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1927.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes { Certified ...	8	1	1	3	13	1	3	—	1	19
{ Uncertified ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis not Tuberculous ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions ...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1
Laryngitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformation ...	2	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	1	4
Premature Birth ...	4	1	1	...	6	...	...	...	...	6
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...	2	...	...	1	3	...	1	...	...	4
Other Causes ...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1
TOTALS ...	8	1	1	3	13	1	3	—	1	19

Nett Births in { Legitimate, 351.
the Year 1927. { Illegitimate, 13.

Nett Deaths in { Legitimate, 18.
the Year 1927. { Illegitimate, 1.





CRETIN, aged 18 months.

—Photo taken January 25th, 1927.

This child was an Imbecile Dwarf (as this left-hand photo shows) when it first came to the Welfare Centre at Chelmsford, having moved here from South Wales. The condition was here at once recognised as due to the condition known as Cretinism which is caused by deficiency of the Thyroid gland in the neck and is curable if taken early enough by giving tablets of this gland to the child to eat, prepared from sheeps' thyroid gland.



Same child, formerly Cretin, cured by 2 months'
Thyroid gr. $\frac{1}{2}$ die, now aged 20 months.

—Photo taken March 21st, 1927.

The result of giving $\frac{1}{2}$ grain a day of this thyroid gland is shown in this righthand photo. After two months' treatment the child's behaviour and intelligence and body has now remarkably changed for the better as may be partly realised from its marked change in facial expression in these two photos. The child's brain and body are converted from that of an Imbecile Dwarf into that of an average human being as long as the Thyroid gland is kept up, but if this is discontinued there is a relapse.



CAUSES OF THE INFANT DEATHS. On summarising the above table it will be seen that 8 of the 19 deaths (42 per cent.) occurred in the first week of life, and were due to Premature Birth (4), Congenital Malformations (2), Marasmus (2), which are three causes of death which are extremely difficult, if not impossible, to prevent by any Public Health efforts. 13 of the 19 deaths (62 per cent.) occurred in the first month of life from similar causes.

By contrast to these there were no deaths at all from Measles, Whooping Cough, Diarrhoea or Enteritis, or Rickets, which all come much more under the group of preventible Deaths. This may be considered a very satisfactory contrast.

School Medical Inspection in the Rural District of Chelmsford.

(Work done for the Essex County Council).

	1927.
Number of visits to Schools	49
„ children medically examined	1,367
„ Eye Clinics held in Chelmsford	10
„ children refracted (glasses ordered for 44)	57
„ Gas Clinics for Dentist	11
„ children to whom Gas was administered	219
„ children specially tested for Physical Deficiency	5
„ Scholarship Boys medically examined	11
„ Boys examined and certified for work	10
„ Special visits to homes	8
„ Lectures :—	
Children and Parents ... 1	3
Midwives ... 1	
Teachers ... 1	

Bacteriological Examinations.

Number of specimens submitted to the County Public Health Laboratory from the Borough of Chelmsford during the year ended 31st December, 1927.

Specimen.	No. Examined.
Diphtheria	239
Sputa	115
Typhoid	23
Ringworm	15
Miscellaneous	9
Total	401

INFECTIOUS DISEASES APPENDIX.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR, 1928.

NOTIFICATIONS AT AGES.											Total Cases notified in each Locality. (<i>e.g.</i>) Parish or Ward of the District.				
Notifiable Disease.	Total cases.	NOTIFICATIONS AT AGES.								Total Deaths.	North Ward.	South Ward.	Springfield Wd.		
		Under 1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	Over 45					Cases admitted to hospital	
Diphtheria	12	—	3	6	2	—	1	—	—	11	—	—	3	8	1
Scarlet Fever	89	—	13	47	20	6	2	1	1	82	—	—	66	17	6
Pneumonia	6	2	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	2	4	—
Erysipelas	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Paratyphoid Fever	3	—	—	—	3	2	1	—	—	3	1	—	2	3	—
Typhoid...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	117	4	16	55	25	8	5	2	2	100	2	73	36	—	8
TUBERCULOSIS.															
Pulmonary.	10	—	—	—	1	—	3	2	4	6	9	3	3	6	2
Females	11	—	—	—	—	3	5	2	1	5	3	6	2	2	2
Totals	21	—	—	—	1	3	8	4	5	11	12	9	8	—	4
Non Pulmonary.															
Males	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—
Females	3	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	2	—	1	—
Totals	4	—	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	2	3	2	2	2	—
Grand Totals	142	4	17	57	26	11	14	6	7	113	17	84	46	—	12

Annual Report of the Joint Hospital Board for the Year 1927.

Cases admitted during each month were as follows :—

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid.	Other Diseases.	
January ...	9	1	0	2	Pneumonia (1 died).
February ...	2	2	0	0	
March ...	10	1	0	0	
April ...	6	4	0	0	
May ...	18	0	0	0	
June ...	2	1	0	2	Tonsillitis.
July ...	29	0	1	1	„
August ...	11	0	0	0	„
September ...	10	1	0	0	
October ...	9	3	0	0	
November...	23	1	2	1	Uræmia.
December ...	12	4	0	1	Tonsillitis.
Total ...	141	18	3	7	= 169 total.

Patients

remaining

from 1926 13 ... 2 ... 0 ... 1 Neuritis.

Including 16 patients remaining from 1926, the total number of patients in the Hospital for the year was 185.

Total deaths were 2. These were 1 Pneumonia, 1 Uræmia.

Total death-rate for All diseases = 1·1 per cent. of All diseases admitted.

„	Typhoid	= 0	„	Typhoid Fever cases	„
„	Scarlet Fever	= 0	„	Scarlet Fever	„
„	Diphtheria	= 0	„	Diphtheria	„

Of 19 cases admitted as Diphtheria 4 proved to be Tonsillitis.

HOUSING.

GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS. The number of dwelling-houses in the Borough is 5,902. Of these, about 4,596 may be considered working-class houses.

The population of the Borough is 23,450 (R.G. Estimate).

„ „ (Census 1921) 20,761.

During the year considerable progress was made with the housing scheme on the Boarded Barns Estate.

Number of houses contracted for	...	...	...	—
„ „ completed and inhabited	...	...	...	210

The number of houses erected in the Borough to December 31st, 1927, was 141, by private enterprise, of which 111 may be considered working class houses.

UNFIT HOUSES. In a town like Chelmsford there is a large number of houses which are constantly requiring repairs if they are to be kept in a condition fit for human habitation. Owners of property of this type naturally demur to expending large sums of money in repairs each year in cases where the property is so dilapidated that it is incapable of being put in a state of repair without some amount of reconstruction. In many cases demolition is the only satisfactory remedy for this state of affairs.

At the present time there are about 70 houses in the Borough which are only fit for demolition. These houses are unfit for human habitation for various reasons. In some cases, houses are permanently damp from the fact that they are built on damp sites adjoining the river. In other cases, general dilapidation is the cause of unfitness. In a few cases the houses are in danger of falling down from this cause. In addition to the 70 houses which need demolition, there are 300 more houses which are not entirely satisfactory as dwellings, but which may be considered reasonably fit for habitation in time of shortage, if repairs are attended to regularly.

HOUSING APPENDIX.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b) with State assistance under Housing Acts)—

(i) By the Local Authority	...	...	210
(ii) By other bodies or persons	...	...	141

1. *Unfit for dwelling houses.*

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	1,517
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925		152

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	28
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation...	31
2. <i>Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.</i>	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officer	22
3. <i>Action under Statutory Power.</i>	
A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit :—	
(a) By owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close...	—
B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	472
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied ;—	
(a) By owners	412
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
C.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.	
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	28
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	28
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	7
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	4

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	21	—	—
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	133	—	—
WORKPLACES (Other than Outworkers' premises)... ..	11	—	—
TOTAL	165	—	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness	1	1	—	—
Want of ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	1	1	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	7	7	—	—
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient	—	—	—	—
{ unsuitable or defective	3	3	—	—
{ not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921.)				
TOTAL	12	12	—	—

*Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901,
as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

Report of Sanitary Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
DUKE STREET, CHELMSFORD,

June, 1928.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting the following Report on sanitary work done during the year 1927, being my sixteenth Annual Report.

*Summary of Sanitary Work carried out as a result of Notice served or
recommendations made.*

Dilapidated water closets rebuilt	...	...	...	4
Additional water closets provided	...	...	...	5
Flushing apparatus and fittings of water closets repaired or new flushing cisterns provided	...	...	...	95
New pedestal basins provided in water closets in place of defective or obsolete basins...	...	...	...	28
Defective water closets repaired, cleansed, &c.	...	...	...	64
New branch drains laid	...	...	...	8
New drainage provided	...	...	...	3
Glazed gulley traps fixed	...	...	...	10
Drains properly intercepted or ventilated	...	...	...	3
Defective drains repaired	...	...	...	22
Inspection chambers provided to drains	...	...	...	2
Obstructed drains, water closets, &c., unstopped	...	...	...	29
Defective sink, bath and lavatory waste pipes properly disconnected, trapped or renewed	...	...	...	10
Smoke nuisances abated	...	...	...	9
Urinals provided or improved	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	...	...	...	29

Refuse Receptacles.

Galvanised iron sanitary dustbins provided in place of foul ashpits or where previous bins were dilapidated	131
--	-----	-----	-----	-----

Dwelling Houses.

Houses or parts thereof cleansed	...	...	...	8
Damp conditions prevented, damp courses inserted, walls rendered in impervious material, soil removed from walls, &c.	...	...	...	20
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	29
Floors relaid	...	...	...	19
Floors and stairs repaired	...	...	...	28
Coppers and stoves repaired or new ones provided	...	...	...	22
Windows and doors repaired	...	...	...	25
Roofs, ceilings and chimneys repaired	...	...	...	53
Walls and plastering repaired	...	...	...	107
Troughing and downpipes provided, disconnected, repaired or cleared from obstruction	...	...	...	84
Efficient ventilation provided, windows made to open, &c.	...	...	...	10
Sanitary sinks and water supplies provided in houses where no sink was previously provided and water supply was outside houses	...	...	...	1
Sanitary sinks provided in place of defective stone or other sinks	...	...	...	5
Yard paving laid, relaid or repaired	...	...	...	55
Houses closed as unfit for habitation	...	...	...	53
Houses demolished	...	...	...	23
Baths provided in houses where none were previously provided	...	...	...	1
Cellar dwellings closed	...	...	...	2

Factories and Workshops (including Bakehouses).

Factories, workshops, or parts thereof, limewashed or cleansed	1
Insufficient or defective closet accommodation	...	...	...	3
Other nuisances abated	...	...	...	8

Water Supply.

Houses provided with supplies of water directly from the main instead of from storage tanks	...	...	...	4
Samples of drinking water taken for analysis	...	...	...	1

Miscellaneous.

Dairies, cowsheds or milkshops cleansed or repaired or new dairy provided	...	...	...	6
Nuisances from keeping animals abated	...	...	...	6
Accumulations of manure and refuse removed, premises cleansed, &c.	...	...	...	34
Manure pits provided or improved	...	...	...	2
Common lodging houses cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	2

Drains, Water Closets, &c.

The usual attention has been given to these matters and considerable improvements have been made.

Five additional water closets have been provided where there was no accommodation or where the accommodation was insufficient ; 4 defective water closets have been entirely rebuilt and 28 pedestal basins provided in place of defective and obsolete basins.

Refuse Receptacles.

One hundred and thirty-one sanitary bins have been provided to replace dilapidated ones. There are practically no ashpits in the Borough and no midden privies ; there are about 40 pail closets, nearly all in unsewered areas.

Dwelling Houses.

Particulars of this work will be found in the summary at the beginning of this report.

Four houses have been closed under the Public Health Act, 2 of which have been demolished and 1 is occupied as a lock-up shop, in addition to those closed under the Housing Acts, altogether 53 houses were closed during the year.

Under the Housing Acts, 28 houses were represented to you with a view to the making of Closing Orders, and you decided to make the necessary Orders in each case. The problem of finding other accommodation for the tenants, however, has proved a most difficult one, but the following table shows that considerable headway has been made in getting the dwellings closed against which Closing Orders were made in 1925, 1926 and 1927 :—

Closing Orders made in 1925.		Condition at end of 1927.	
57, New Writtle Street	Demolished.
58	"	...	"
59	"	...	"
60	"	...	"
61	"	...	"
1, Baddley Square	"
2	"	...	"
3	"	...	"
4	"	...	"
5	"	...	"
6	"	...	"
7	"	...	"
10, Union Yard	"
11,	"	...	"
a12,	"	...	Occupied.
a13,	"	...	"
Angel Yard —			
Everitt	Used as store.
Green	"
Turner	Occupied.
Fisher	Used as store.
Lodge	"

a These houses have been closed and demolished since the end of the year 1927.

Closing Orders made in 1925.				Condition at end of 1927.	
Hindmarsh's Yard—					
Ridgewell	...	...	...	Empty.	
Tovee	...	...	...	"
Faiers	...	...	...	"
126, Rainsford Road...	...	...	...	Now lock-up shop.	
128,	"	...	...	Occupied.	
130,	"	...	...	Empty.	
132,	"	...	...	Occupied.	
c142,	"	...	...	Empty.	
a144,	"	...	...	"
c146,	"	...	...	"
c148,	"	...	...	"
b172,	"	...	...	"
b174 & 176	"	...	...	"
1, French's Square	...	...	...	"
b2,	"	...	...	"
3,	"	...	...	"
5,	"	...	...	"
6,	"	...	...	"
7,	"	...	...	"
8,	"	...	...	"
b9,	"	...	...	Occupied.	
10,	"	...	...	"
11,	"	...	...	Empty.	
12,	"	...	...	"
13,	"	...	...	"
14,	"	...	...	"
15,	"	...	...	"
16,	"	...	...	Occupied.	
17,	"	...	...	Empty.	
Closing Orders made in 1926.					
1 and 2, Grigg's Yard	...	...	...	Empty.	
3,	"	...	...	Demolished.	
4,	"	...	...	"
5,	"	...	...	"
6,	"	...	...	"
7,	"	...	...	Empty.	
9, Navigation Road	...	...	...	"
40, Orchard Street	...	...	...	Made fit by owner and Order cancelled.	
21, Baddow Road	...	...	...	Empty.	
1, St. Helen's Cottages, Baddow Road	...	...	...	"
2,	"	"	"	"	
20, New Street	...	...	...	Occupied.	

a These houses have been closed and demolished since the end of the year 1927.

b These houses have been closed since the end of 1927.

c These houses have been demolished since the end of 1927.

Closing Orders made in 1927.				Condition at end of 1927.	
1, Coppins Yard	...	...	...	Occupied.	
2, "	...	...	...	Empty.	
b5, "	...	...	...	Occupied.	
120, Rainsford Road...	...	...	...	Empty.	
122, " "	...	...	...	Occupied.	
14, Union Yard	...	...	...	Empty.	
29, Wood Street	...	...	...	"
30, "	...	...	...	"
31, "	...	...	...	"
b32, "	...	...	...	Occupied.	
18, Church Lane	...	...	...	Empty.	
1, Brown's Yard, Moulsham Street	...	...	...	"
2, " "	...	...	...	"
b3, " "	...	...	...	Occupied.	
b4, " "	...	...	...	"
1 back of 203, Moulsham Street...	...	...	...	"
2 " 203, "	...	...	...	"
1 " 31, "	...	...	...	"
2 " 31, "	...	...	...	"
b3 " 31, "	...	...	...	"
4 " 31, "	...	...	...	"
Baker's Yard, Moulsham Street (Cowell)	...	...	...	Empty.	
" " (Duce)	...	...	...	Occupied.	
Kings Arms Yard (Warner)	...	...	...	"
b " " (Cooper)	...	...	...	"
Springfield Green (Woodison)	...	...	...	Empty.	
" (Gurton)	...	...	...	Occupied.	
Coppins Yard (Marshall)	...	...	...	"

b These houses have been closed since the end of 1927.

Summarised, out of a total of 92 houses against which Closing Orders were made in 1925, 1926 and 1927, there were, at the time of writing this Report, 17 houses still occupied, in addition to the one case in which the Order was cancelled, 74 are closed as dwellings, 23 have been demolished, five are being used as stores and one has been converted into a lock-up shop, six other houses have been demolished where Closing Orders had not been made, making a total of 29 houses demolished.

In two instances where premises were found to be occupied as cellar dwellings, informal notice was sufficient to secure vacation of the premises.

No other cases of cellar dwellings being occupied in the Borough are known.

The last of the five Almshouses in Baddow Road became vacant during the year, and these are shortly to be demolished.

One house has been furnished with sink and water supplied indoors where no sink was previously fixed, and where the water supply was previously obtained from a distant tap in the yard, but as stated in previous Annual Reports, the dwelling-houses in the Borough where these conveniences do not exist are now very few, numbering only about 80, whereas a few years ago about a thousand houses were not so furnished.

In the few cases left, various difficulties exist; in some cases no water mains exist in the neighbourhood, in others no sewer is available, while in several cases difficulties in obtaining fall to the drains prevents the provision of the necessary branch drains.

I am hopeful, however, that in the near future the inevitable extension of the sewers and water mains will render it possible to still further reduce the number of houses lacking these conveniences.

Paving of Yards, Passages, &c.

The paving of 55 yards and passages has either been repaired or relaid in cement.

This makes for the comfort and health of the tenants by preventing, to a large extent, dirt and filth being carried into the houses, and is also a good investment for the property owner, tending to the preservation of his property.

Water Supply.

The whole of the houses in the Borough, with the exception of a few isolated houses at Galleywood, where no water mains are available, are supplied from the Corporation water mains. A few years ago great attention was given to the question of the storage of water in tanks which were often objectionable, and placed in situations where they could not be properly cleansed—sometimes within the water closet or in passages leading to or in direct communication with the water closet, and in one or two cases in situations directly over ashpits where all kinds of refuse were deposited.

Over 2,000 of these tanks were abolished in the space of a few years, and it is now somewhat rare to meet with one, only four such tanks were abolished during the year; practically all the houses are now supplied direct from the main.

One sample of water from a new house at Galleywood was submitted for analysis, and was approved for domestic use.

Common Lodging Houses.

The two common lodging houses have been well kept and improvements have been made during the year, and a good deal of the bedding renewed, &c. Further accommodation for an additional 22 lodgers has been provided at the "Kettle."

Slaughterhouses and Butchers' Shops.

These have been frequently inspected and are generally well and cleanly kept. Contravention of the Regulations are few, and the butchers are prompt to carry out suggestions made.

There are six slaughterhouses in the Borough :—

Registered.	Licensed.
H. Green & Son, Moulsham Street.	Archer & Finning, Viaduct
J. F. Banham, High Street.	Road.
Palmer & Rimmer, Mildmay Road.	W. T. Candler, Moulsham
H. Wright, Springfield Road.	Street.

The slaughter house at Hill Farm has not been used throughout the year, and the premises are now occupied for other purposes.

There are now 22 butchers' shops in the Borough, these and the slaughterhouses. and places where food is prepared have been frequently inspected.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

The alterations in the Register for the year are as follows :—

Transfer of registration of old premises within the Borough	2
Registration of retailers within the Borough of persons producing milk outside the Borough	3

At the end of the year the numbers registered were as follows :—

Producers within the Borough	7
Retailers from premises within the Borough	11
„ „ outside „	14

I am indebted to the officials of the Chelmsford Rural District Council for valuable information in respect of the supplies from premises outside the Borough.

In the case of two transfers of registration during the year arrangements were made for the milk to be bottled at the farm and sold as delivered.

It is pleasing to know that at least two of the producers in the Borough enter the Clean Milk Competition and are highly spoken of.

Generally speaking the conditions of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, are well observed.

The persons retailing milk in the Borough from premises outside are as follows :—

J. R. Magness & Sons, Bowers Farm, Springfield.
 R. Partridge, Patching Hall, Broomfield.
 J. N. Christy, Priors, Broomfield.
 Wm. McMillan, Brick House, Boreham.
 T. Chaplin & Sons, Galleywood.
 A. Bayliss, Jubilee Farm, Newney Green, Writtle.
 Wm. Goby, Writtle. (Purveyor only).
 Wm. Westwood, Roxwell.
 F. J. Carter, Great Baddow.
 H. J. J. Snelling, Writtle.
 A. W. Whiting, Great Baddow. (Purveyor only).
 P. W. Cleaver, Butt Hatch Farm, Roxwell.
 S. J. Garwood, Great Baddow.
 C. E. Cottey, Wood Farm, Galleywood.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923.

No certified milk has been sold in the Borough during the year.

Two firms are bottling and distributing Grade A (Tuberculin Tested) Milk produced outside the Borough.

One person is licensed as a distributor of Grade A in the Borough and two persons hold a supplementary licence to retail Grade A in the Borough.

Food Surrenders.

March 25th, 1927. 13 unsound rabbits.
 July 5th, „ 48 lbs. of strawberries.

Market.

I visit the Cattle Market each market day with your Veterinary Inspector, Major Mulvey, and the following is a list of the animals sent out of the market :—

Feb. 25th, 1927. Red and white cow, suspected to be tuberculous, sent out
 of market and reported to Police.
 Mar. 11th, 1927. Black and white do. do.
 do. White do. do.
 do. 16 store pigs, suspected to be suffering from swine fever,
 sent out of market and reported to Police.

- April 29th, 1927. White cow, suspected to be tuberculous, sent out of market and reported to Police.
- May 13th, 1927. 7 store pigs, suspected swine fever, sent out of market and reported to police.
- June 10th, 1927. 10 do. do. do.
- do. Red roan heifer, suspected to be tuberculous, sent out of market and reported to police.
- do. 1 pig, broken hind leg, sent straight to slaughter.
- July 15th, 1927. 9 pigs, suspected swine fever, suspected to be tuberculous, sent out of market and reported to Police.
- Oct. 21st, 1927. Red cow, suspected to be tuberculous, sent out of market and reported to Police.

Offensive Trades.

The offensive trades carried on in the Borough are :—

Tanners	...	1	Fish friers	...	5
---------	-----	---	-------------	-----	---

No complaint has been received and the businesses are generally well conducted.

Factories and Workshops.

The number on the Register is little changed from last year.

The bakehouses in use are as follows :—

Street.	...	Occupier.
Moulsham Street	...	W. T. Nickelson
Duke Street...	...	Shedd Bros.
"	...	Buxton & Sons
"	...	H. Cannon
Springfield Road	...	H. Nice
"	...	W. & O. Budd
Tindal Street	...	F. Poney
Broomfield Road	...	J. Thompson
High Street...	...	Hicks Bros.
Wells Street	...	Chelmsford Co-operative Society.
Anchor Street	...	A. E. Sansome
Rainsford Road	...	A. Brown
Legg Street ...	...	Marriage & Willis

Messrs. Budd have given up the use of the bakehouse in New Street and the one formerly occupied by Darby's, Ltd., in Moulsham Street.

There is no underground bakehouse in the Borough.

The regular limewashing of the bakehouses has been carried out twice yearly as required by the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, and in most cases more frequently.

The remaining workshops have, on the whole, been well kept.

Other work done is set forth in the summary of defects found on another page.

Elementary Schools.

Inspection of the sanitary conveniences at the Elementary Schools has been regularly carried out and monthly reports on their condition made to the Education and Sanitary Committees.

During the year new and up-to-date sanitary conveniences have been provided at Victoria Girls' School as a result of an arrangement between the Managers of this Schools and the Local Authority.

The table on page 28 shows the number and type of sanitary conveniences, &c., of each school in the Borough.

Disinfection, &c.

The number of cases removed to the Isolation Hospital was as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	82
Diphtheria	...	...	...	11
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	3
Paratyphoid	...	...	...	2

The number of disinfections done was as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	83
Diphtheria	...	...	...	10
Consumption	...	...	...	9
Cancer	...	...	...	5
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	...	...	...	5
Other Illness	...	...	...	2

The bedding and clothing, where necessary, were removed to the Joint Hospital Board disinfecting station for disinfection.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

Constant attention has been given throughout the year, this being most important, but special efforts—by circular, &c.—were made on the occasion of Rat Week to enlist the co-operation of occupiers and much good work was done in consequence.

Tips, farms, food stores, &c., received special attention, and I am indebted to Mr. Miles, the Borough Engineer, for his active and valuable co-operation.

Petroleum Acts.

During the year 67 licences to store petroleum and 14 to store carbide of calcium were granted, as against 70 and 15 respectively in the preceding year. Increased power has been given to Local Authorities relating to transport and storage of petrol. A new schedule of fees has come into operation under this legislation, which has resulted in a very large increase of revenue to the Corporation from this source. The bulk storage of petrol in underground tanks is largely taking the place of can storage. The Regulations have been very well observed, and little intervention has been necessary so far as contraventions are concerned.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WALTER BROWN, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

Sanitary Inspector.

Number and Type of Sanitary Conveniences in the Elementary Schools in the Borough.

School.	No. of Scholars, Accommo- dation pro- vided for.	Sanitary Conveniences.	Washing Accommodation.	Refuse Disposal.	Drainage,	Water Supply.
Trinity Road, Boys	352	6 Pedestal W.c.'s., 1 Urinal	14 Washing Bowls..	Collected by Council	Connected to Coun- cil's Sewer	From Boro' Mains
" Girls	370	16 " "	14 " "	" "	" "	" "
" Infants	100	2 " " 1 "	5 " "	" "	" "	" "
Friars, Junior Mixed	131	14 " " 1 " }	8 " "	" "	" "	" "
" Infants..	228		1 Sink in Cookery	" "	" "	" "
Roman Catholic	100	4 " " 1 "	2 Wash Bowls	" "	" "	" "
St. John's Boys	188	5 Trough Closets, 1 "	2 " "	" "	" "	" "
" Girls	264	12 " " 1 "	5 " "	" "	" "	" "
" Infants	159			" "	" "	" "
Victoria Boys	296	4 " " 1 "	2 " "	" "	" "	" "
" Girls ..	248	6 Pedestal W.c.'s.	5 " "	" "	" "	" "
" Infants	183	7 " " 1 "	1 " "	" "	" "	" "
St. Peter's Infants	104	7 Trough Closets, 1 "	2 " "	" "	" "	" "
Springfield Mixed	243	3 Pedestal Closets, 1 "	2 " "	" "	" "	" "
" Infants..		{ 4 " " 1 " }		" "	" "	" "
" " "		{ 2 " " 1 " }		" "	" "	" "
Kings Road Boys	320	8 Pedestal W.c.'s., 2 Urinals	17 " "	" "	" "	" "
" Girls	320	28 " " "	17 " "	" "	" "	" "
" Infants	250	16 " " "	22 " "	" "	" "	" "

Report of Veterinary Inspector, 1927.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD.

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in reporting that nothing of unusual nature has arisen in connection with my duties as Veterinary Inspector to the Borough during the year.

Cows and Cowsheds.

All cows and cowsheds are inspected and examined at least once in each two months, and samples of milk have been taken from cows and examined whenever considered advisable.

The number of cowsheds in the Borough is	...	...	11
" " cows " " approximately	...	...	271
" " cows excluded from cowsheds in the Borough during the year was	...	...	19
" " samples of milk examined during the year was	...	...	83
" " cows tested with the tuberculin test during the year was	...	...	16
" " visits paid to cowsheds during the year was	...	...	111

The Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act is now in force.

Samples are taken at intervals from all cowsheds, submitted for bacteriological examination, and in cases where they are adversely reported on, the Veterinary Inspector of the district is required to inspect the herd.

All milk traders selling milk in the Borough, although they live outside that area, have been required to register. This gives us a much better control of the supply to the town.

Milk Retailers in the Borough from Outside.

Bayliss, Jubilee Farm, Newney Green.
F. J. Carter, Gardiners Farm, Great Baddow.
A. W. Whiting, Baddow Road. (Purveyor only).
T. Chaplin & Sons, Galleywood.
R. Partridge, Patching Hall, Broomfield.
J. R. Magness & Sons, Bowers Farm.
W. McMillan, Boreham.
W. Westwood, Roxwell.

W. Goby, Writtle. (Purveyor only).

H. J. J. Snelling, Writtle.

J. N. Christy, Priors, Broomfield.

P. W. Cleaver, Butt Hatch Farm, Roxwell.

S. J. Garwood, Great Baddow.

E. C. Cottey, Wood Farm, Galleywood.

Slaughterhouses.

The number of animals slaughtered in the Borough for human food during the year 1927 was approximately :—

Beasts	...	...	...	...	2,334
Sheep	...	...	...	...	9,970
Calves	...	...	...	...	456
Pigs	...	...	...	...	5,997
Cows	...	...	...	...	36
Goats	...	...	...	...	60

About one-half of the beasts, sheep and calves and one-sixth of the pigs were slaughtered at Wright's slaughterhouse in Springfield Road.

Food Condemned and Surrendered.

Sheep	...	...	...	...	2
Cows	...	...	...	...	98
Lambs	...	...	...	...	3
Pigs	...	...	...	...	9
Rabbits	...	...	...	...	24
Bullocks	...	...	...	...	2

Hearts.	Lungs.	Livers.	Kidneys.	Spleen.	Heads.	Tongues.
12	30	60	4	3	6	8

In addition to these, a considerable quantity of various organs and flesh have been destroyed.

All slaughterhouses have been visited every day.

The number of butcher's shops in the town is 22.

Tuberculous carcasses condemned, 96.

There is a great improvement in the condition of the slaughterhouses.

HORSE FLESH. A large quantity is sent from this town to Rotterdam and Antwerp, and a considerable number of carcasses to Paris. Special certificates are required for these, copies of which were published in last year's report.

Borough of Chelmsford.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health for 1927.

RICHARD H. VERCOE, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

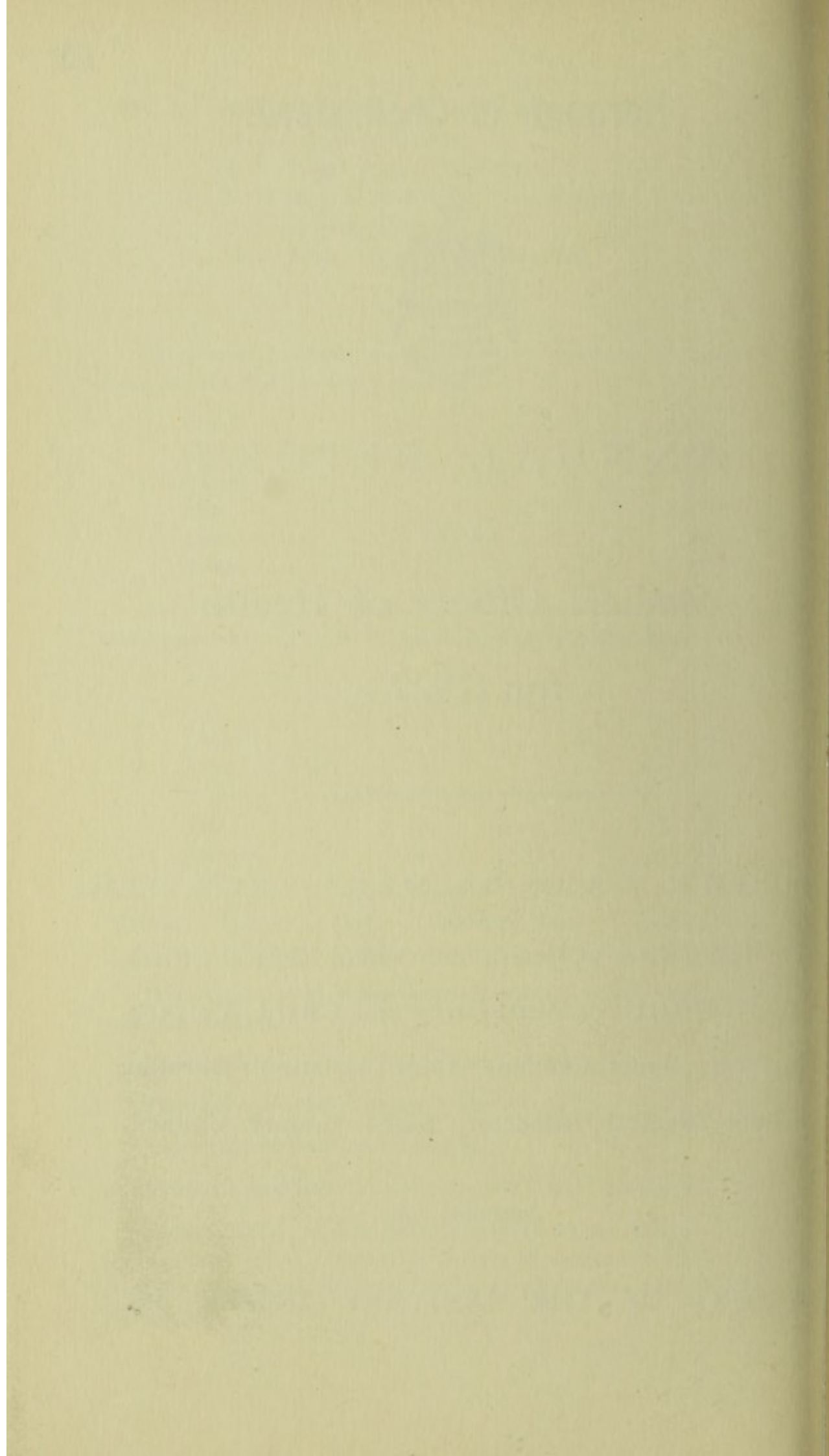
Medical Officer Maternity and Child Welfare.

Medical Superintendent Joint Isolation Hospital.

School Medical Inspector, Essex County Council.

INCLUDING THE

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.



GOAT FLESH. A large number of carcasses are sent to Belgium.

BOARS. A number are sent to Rotterdam.

Animals Slaughtered in the Town and sent abroad.

Horses	...	...	...	...	260
Boars	...	...	...	...	40
Goats	...	...	...	...	60

The horses are slaughtered at Moulsham, goats and boars at Mildmay Road.

CONDEMNED. Horses, 8 ; Boars, 2 ; Goats, nil.

Market.

The Corporation Market has been regularly attended on each market and fair day, and all animals deposited or exposed for sale have been examined.

The following is a list of all animals removed from the market during the last year :—

February 25th, 1927	Red and white cow, suspected tuberculosis
March 11th, „	Black and white cow „ „
„ „	White cow „ „
„ „	16 store pigs, suspected swine fever
April 29th, „	White cow, suspected tuberculosis
May 13th, „	7 store pigs, suspected swine fever
June 10th, „	10 „ „ „
„ „	Red roan heifer, suspected tuberculosis
„ „	1 pig broken hind leg, sent to slaughter
July 15th, „	9 pigs, suspected swine fever
October 10th, „	Red cow, suspected tuberculosis

Contagious Diseases.

				Chelmsford Division.		Chelmsford Borough.
Swine fever	...	...	...	8	...	1
Anthrax	...	...	...	5	...	Nil
Mange	...	...	...	3	...	Nil
Sheep scab	...	...	...	1	...	Nil
Foot & mouth disease	...	...	...	Nil	...	Nil
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	85	...	11

Animals exposed for sale in 1927.

Fat cattle	...	...	...	2,600
Store „	...	...	...	8,209
Dairy cows	...	...	...	2,225
Fat calves	...	...	...	82
Store „	...	...	...	4,249
Fat sheep and lambs	...	...	...	2,652
Store „	...	...	...	16,085
Fat pigs	...	...	...	15,160
Store „	...	...	...	10,161
Horses	...	...	...	679
Goats	...	...	...	20

Horses.

One has been disposed of as unfit for further service. Two new ones purchased. With the exception of temporary ailments the health and condition have been good.

I have the honour to be

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. S. MULVEY.

Veterinary Inspector.