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**Contributors**

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AC 4411(1) CHELMSFORD

BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD.



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR

**1931,**

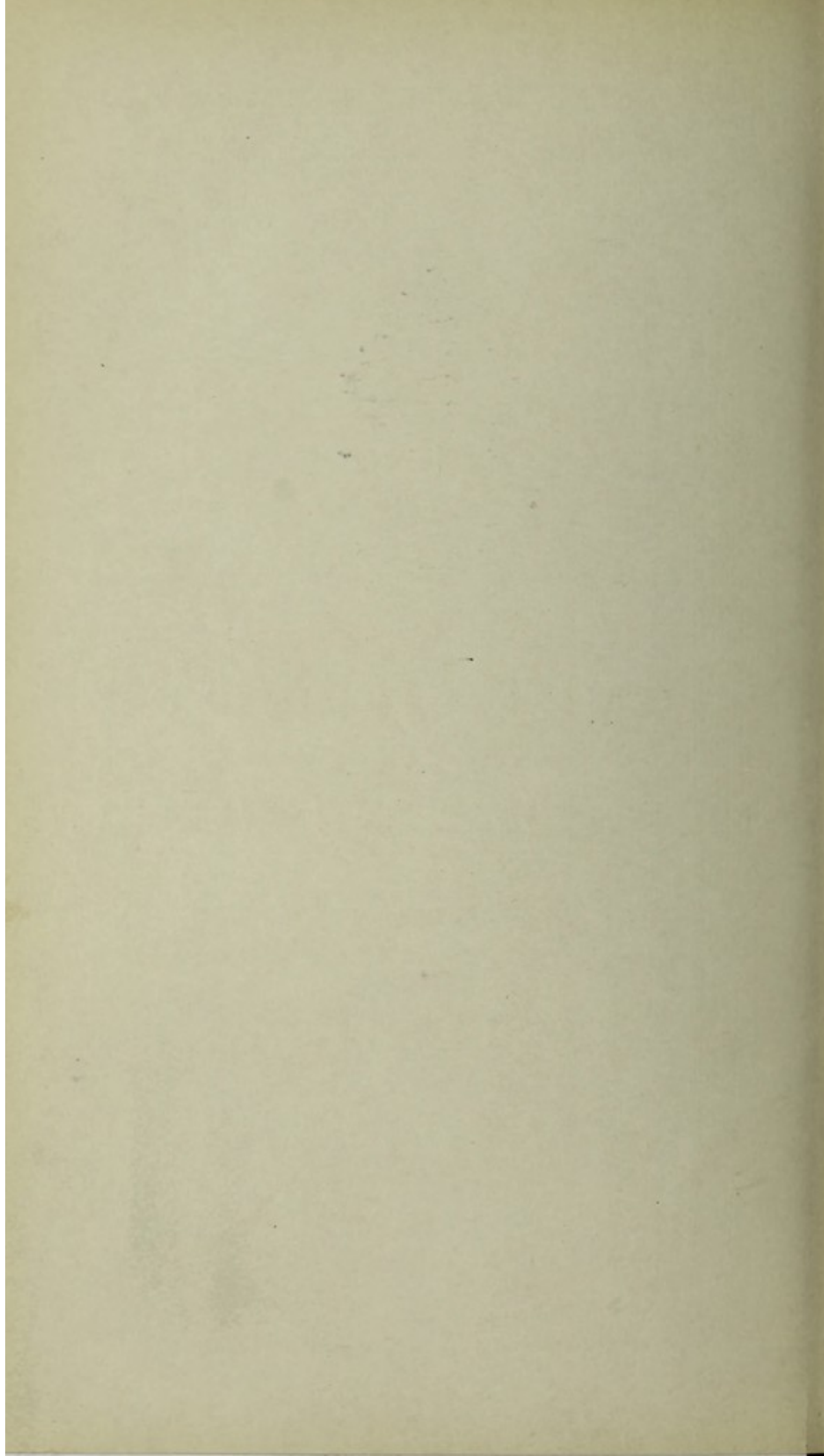
INCLUDING THE

REPORTS OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

AND THE

VETERINARY INSPECTOR.



BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD.



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OF THE  
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CHELMSFORD :

Printed by John Dutton, 8, Tindal Street and 91, High Street.

BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD.



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OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE  
YEAR 1931.

REPORTS OF THE  
SANITARY INSPECTOR  
AND  
VETERINARY INSPECTOR.

# Borough of Chelmsford.

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## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1931.

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The Mayor, Councillor L. F. CHRISTY.

Alderman J. O. THOMPSON, O.B.E., J.P. (*Chairman*).

Alderman W. A. LEECH (*Deputy Chairman*).

Alderman H. CLARK.

„ W. COWELL.

„ J. GOWERS.

„ F. LUCKIN SMITH.

„ F. SPALDING, J.P.

Councillor A. W. ANDREWS.

„ S. L. BOLINGBROKE.

„ E. G. BROWN.

„ A. G. CARTER.

„ M. B. CLARKE.

„ H. T. COWELL.

„ E. DYER.

„ W. J. DYKE.

Councillor F. EVE.

„ C. E. GOSLING.

„ A. B. PARKER.

„ T. ROBERTS.

„ F. G. SMITH.

„ S. C. TAYLOR.

„ H. WRIGHT, M.B.E.

**PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH.**

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**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.**

J. R. TIBBLES, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

**SANITARY INSPECTOR.**

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

**HEALTH VISITOR.**

MISS D. A. JAPP, S.R.N., C.M.B., C.S.M. & M.G.

**SCHOOL NURSE.**

MISS E. M. LEVETT. (Four years' hospital trained at the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital and the Seamen's Hospital).

**CLERKS.**

F. ERIC YOUNG, Chief Clerk.

S. V. EDWARDS.

**PART-TIME OFFICERS.**

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**VETERINARY INSPECTOR.**

LT.-COL. W. S. MULVEY, O.B.E., T.D., F.R.C.V.S.

**DENTAL SURGEON.**

F. V. MAGUIRE, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.)

# BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD.

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Public Health Department,  
89, Duke Street,  
Chelmsford.

*July, 1932.*

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Chelmsford.*

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report upon the health and sanitary circumstances of the Borough for 1931.

This you will find to be almost entirely a bare statement of facts and figures.

Your late Medical Officer of Health, Dr. J. R. Tibbles, demitted office on the 31st March, 1932, before he was able to complete the annual report, and I consider it undesirable for me to make comments on circumstances over which I had no control.

You are already familiar with some of my views, through my interim reports on the reorganisation of the Public Health Department, and further reports will be submitted to you at an early date.

I am indebted to the Acting Borough Engineer, Mr. S. Easter, for so kindly supplying me with the information for the report on the water, sewage disposal, and refuse collection, and to the staff of my department for their unfailing help and loyalty.

I am specially indebted to my Chief Clerk, Mr. F. E. Young, upon whom has fallen almost entirely the burden of the annual report.

In conclusion I have much pleasure in recording my appreciation of the confidence and support extended to me by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. C. SLEIGH,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

### Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

AREA (in acres) .. ..	3,113 (Census 1931).
POPULATION .. ..	{ 26,720 (Registrar-General's estimate, mid-year 1931). 26,537 (Census 1931).
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (end of 1931) according to Rate Books .. ..	
	7,200
RATEABLE VALUE .. ..	£232,045.
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE .. ..	
	£910.

### Extracts from Vital Statistics.

#### BIRTHS.

		Total.	Male.	Female.	
Live Births	{ Legitimate ..	396	199	197	{ Birth Rate per 1,000 of the esti- mated resident population— 15.42
	{ Illegitimate ..	16	3	13	
		412	202	210	
Still Births	{ Legitimate ..	9	3	6	{ Rate per 1,000 total (live and still-births) births—23.70
	{ Illegitimate ..	1	1	0	
		10	4	6	

#### DEATHS.

All causes .. ..	261	125	136	..	Death Rate per 1,000 of the esti- mated resident population— 9.77
------------------	-----	-----	-----	----	---

#### Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and childbirth :—

From Sepsis .. ..	..	..	..	..	2
From other causes .. ..	..	..	..	..	1

#### Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births .. ..	..	..	..	48.54
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births .. ..	..	..	..	47.98
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births .. ..	..	..	..	62.50
Deaths from Measles (all ages) .. ..	..	..	..	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) .. ..	..	..	..	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) .. ..	..	..	..	Nil.

## Births and Deaths.

TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS.

Year.	Popu- lation.	Still Births.	Live Births.	BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.		DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.		Deaths under 1 Year.
				Chelms- ford Borough.	England and Wales.	Chelms- ford Borough.	England and Wales.	
1907-14 ..	17,920	—	—	20.7	—	10.1	—	—
1918-24 ..	20,940	—	—	17.7	—	10.3	—	—
1925 ..	21,900	6	331	15.2	18.3	9.2	12.2	9
1926 ..	22,800	6	343	15.4	17.8	10.2	11.6	24
1927 ..	23,450	10	364	15.5	16.7	11.4	12.3	19
1928 ..	23,680	12	372	15.7	16.7	9.5	11.7	18
1929 ..	23,930	17	388	16.2	16.3	11.5	13.4	27
1930 ..	25,760	18	431	16.7	16.3	9.7	11.4	18
1931 ..	26,720	10	412	15.4	15.8	9.8	12.3	20

## Deaths.

The following table shows the deaths from the principal groups of causes for the past five years :—

Disease Group.	1931.	1930.	1929.	1928.	1927.
Acute Infectious Diseases ..	6 ..	4 ..	14 ..	4 ..	11
Tuberculosis (all types) ..	21 ..	16 ..	12 ..	22 ..	15
Cancer * ..	35 ..	37 ..	36 ..	26 ..	25
Diseases of Heart and Arteries (including Rheumatic Fever)	44 ..	65 ..	64 ..	61 ..	71
Respiratory Diseases (not T.B.)	28 ..	22 ..	35 ..	25 ..	30
Abdominal Diseases (including Kidney Disease)	23 ..	8 ..	6 ..	11 ..	11
Child-birth and associated conditions	3 ..	3 ..	1 ..	4 ..	2
Congenital conditions ..	10 ..	14 ..	16 ..	12 ..	13
Violent deaths ..	11 ..	12 ..	18 ..	7 ..	8

## DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1931.

Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 35.	35 and under 45.	45 and under 55.	55 and under 65.	65 and under 75.	75 and upwards.
20	1	2	2	8	12	14	32	35	65	70

## DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, 1931.

Cause of Death.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers .. .. .	—	—	—
Measles .. .. .	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .. .. .	—	1	1
Diphtheria .. .. .	—	—	—
Influenza .. .. .	1	3	4
Encephalitis Lethargica .. .. .	—	1	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever .. .. .	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System .. .. .	8	7	15
Other Tuberculous Diseases .. .. .	4	2	6
Syphilis .. .. .	—	—	—
General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis .. .. .	—	—	—
Cancer, Malignant Disease .. .. .	18	17	35
Diabetes .. .. .	2	4	6
Cerebral Haemorrhage .. .. .	7	10	17
Heart Disease .. .. .	19	17	36
Aneurysm .. .. .	—	—	—
Other Circulatory Diseases .. .. .	1	7	8
Bronchitis .. .. .	7	7	14
Pneumonia .. .. .	6	3	9
Other Respiratory Diseases .. .. .	3	2	5
Peptic Ulcer .. .. .	2	1	3
Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years of age) .. .. .	—	—	—
Appendicitis .. .. .	3	1	4
Cirrhosis of Liver .. .. .	1	1	2
Other Diseases of Liver, &c. .. .. .	1	—	1
Other Digestive Diseases .. .. .	5	2	7
Acute and Chronic Nephritis .. .. .	2	4	6
Puerperal Sepsis .. .. .	—	2	2
Other Puerperal causes .. .. .	—	1	1
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, &c. .. .. .	8	2	10
Senility .. .. .	9	16	25
Suicide .. .. .	—	1	1
Other Violence .. .. .	5	5	10
Other Defined Diseases .. .. .	11	19	30
Causes Ill-defined or Unknown .. .. .	2	—	2
Special causes (included under "other Defined Diseases" above) .. .. .	—	—	—
Small-pox .. .. .	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis .. .. .	—	—	—
Polioencephalitis .. .. .	—	—	—
<b>TOTALS .. .. .</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>261</b>

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1931.

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 1 year.	
All Causes	Certified ..	8	2	—	—	10	3	2	1	2	18
	Uncertified ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Marasmus .. ..	2	2	—	—	4	1	1	—	1	7	
Infective conditions of the new-born .. ..	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3	
Prematurity .. ..	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	
Bronchitis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	
Tubercular Meningitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	
Cellulitis of Face ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	
Intersusception of caecum (post operative) ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	
Congenital disease of heart	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	
Want of attention at birth	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	
TOTALS ..	9	2	—	—	11	3	3	1	2	20	

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1931. (PROVISIONAL FIGURES).

(The mortality rates for England and Wales refer to the whole population, but for London and the towns to civilians only).

	BIRTH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.		ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.												RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.			PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.			
	Live Births.	Still Births.	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.	Certified by Registered Medical Practitioners.	Inquest Cases.	Certified by Coroner after P.M. No Inquest.	Uncertified Causes of Death.				
																		England and Wales.	Chelmsford Borough.	England and Wales.	Chelmsford Borough.
England and Wales	15.8	0.67	11.3	0.01	0.00	0.8	0.01	0.06	0.07	0.36	0.54	6.0	66	91.18	6.17	1.70	0.95				
167 County Boroughs & Great Towns, including London.	16.0	0.67	12.3	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.01	0.07	0.08	0.33	0.48	8.4	71	91.43	5.84	2.24	0.49				
169 Smaller Towns (1921 Ad. Justed Pop. 20,000-50,000).	15.6	0.73	11.3	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.01	0.05	0.05	0.36	0.43	4.0	62	92.17	5.49	1.25	1.09				
London	15.0	0.50	12.4	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.02	0.07	0.06	0.26	0.57	9.7	65	89.52	6.23	4.24	0.01				
<b>Chelmsford M. B.</b>	15.4	0.37	9.8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.15	0.41	0.0	49	90.04	4.08	1.15	3.83				

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

	PUERPERAL SEPSIS.		OTHERS.		TOTAL.
	England and Wales.	Chelmsford Borough.	England and Wales.	Chelmsford Borough.	
Per 1,000 Live Births	1.66	4.85	2.45	2.43	4.11
Per 1,000 Total Births	1.59	4.74	2.35	2.37	3.95

The Maternal Mortality Rates are as follows :—Per 1,000 Live Births  
Per 1,000 Total Births

N.B.—It must be realised that when dealing with very small figures, such as those for Chelmsford, the rate per 1,000 or the percentage is liable to very heavy fluctuation. The above Maternal Mortality Rates represent 2 deaths from Puerperal Sepsis and 1 death from Other Causes. The Chelmsford Maternal Mortality Rate, therefore, is not strictly comparable with that for England and Wales. The same applies to the special Death Rates when working with such small figures.

### Social Conditions.

The physical conditions remain unchanged from those reported last year.

The outstanding feature affecting the populace has been the increase in unemployment, as shown in the comparative figures given below.

No doubt, owing to this factor, a large number of houses on the Springfield Park Estate have become vacant and remain untenanted.

In spite, however, of these conditions, a considerable amount of building of villas—detached and semi-detached—has gone on, mainly a short distance outside the Borough Boundary, and these appear to be letting well.

Unemployment figures, separately for the Borough, are not available; but the following, which represent the percentage of unemployment in insured persons, are in respect of the Chelmsford District (including the Borough) :—

1931.	1930.	1929.	1928.
9.8 ..	4.7 ..	1.9 ..	2.1

The following table shows the numbers employed by the chief firms at the commencement and end of the year 1931, and the alterations necessitated during the year :—

Firm.	Number of hands employed on the 1st January, 1931.	Number of hands discharged during the year 1931.	Number of hands placed on short time during 1931.	Number of hands employed December, 1931.
Brown & Son, Ltd. .. ..	57	4	*	54
Christy Bros. & Co., Ltd. ..	59	0	6 (approx.)	68
Christy & Norris, Ltd. ..	134	9	†	125
Crompton Parkinson, Ltd. ..	1,015	172	379	1,142
The Hoffmann Manufacturing Co., Ltd. .. ..	2,456	—	—	2,143
Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd. .. ..	1,043	185	482	914

\*The whole staff has been on short time at one time or another during the year.

†The office staff has worked full time, the works were only working five days per week, and of the total number in the works all but seven have stood off in turn for longer or shorter periods, averaging about 20 per cent. of their time.

## RELIEF OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

The average number of men employed on the construction of the Chelmsford By-pass Road during 1931 was :—

Local unemployed .. .. .	154
“ Distressed Area ” men .. .. .	61
Staff .. .. .	29
	<hr/>
Total .. .. .	244
	<hr/>

## PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

*Medical Relief.*

Number of persons in the Borough who were admitted to Institution and Hospitals during 1931 .. .. .	93
Average weekly number of persons in receipt of medical out-relief during 1931 .. .. .	35

*Other relief.*

Number of persons in the Borough in receipt of assistance on :—

	Persons.	Cases.
1st January, 1931 .. .. .	201	103
1st July, 1931 .. .. .	179	92
31st December, 1931 .. .. .	167	90

Total amount of domiciliary assistance afforded during the year ended 31st December, 1931 .. .. . £2,327 1s. 11½d.

**General Provision of Health Services.**

## 1. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

See page 2.

## 2. NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) *General.*

No provision is made by the Chelmsford Corporation. The District Nursing Association maintains a District Nurse in each of the three Wards in the Borough.

(b) *Infectious Diseases.*

The Authority has no arrangements for the home nursing of these cases.

## 3. MIDWIVES.

The eight Midwives practising in the Borough during 1931, all of whom possess the Certificate of the Central Midwives' Board, are as follows :—

Name.	Address.
Bloomfield, Miss A.	.. " Quetta," Rainsford Lane.
Brown, Miss D. ..	.. 38, Park Avenue.
Carter, Mrs. A. M.	.. 17, Railway Street.
Chapman, Miss I. K.	.. " Aberfeldy," Lady Lane.
Jackson, Miss E. T.	.. 29, Braemar Avenue.
Langford, Mrs. S. G.	.. 2, Christy Avenue.
Luck, Mrs. M. ..	.. 54a, Hill Road, Springfield.
(District Nurse-Midwife)	
*Munns, Miss M. M.	.. 86, New London Road.

\*Ceased to practice upon leaving the district.

The Essex County Council is the Authority for the Supervision of Midwives.

## 4. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations, and analyses of water, milk, food, &c., are made by the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 91, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4.

During the year the following pathological materials have been submitted for examination :—

Specimen.	Number examined.
Diphtheria .. ..	.. 516
Sputa .. ..	.. 164
Typhoid .. ..	.. 11
Ringworm .. ..	.. 11
Miscellaneous .. ..	.. 25
	—
Total .. ..	.. 727
	—

## 5. LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

See Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health, 1930.

There are no Local Acts, Special Orders, General Adoptive Acts and Byelaws relating to Public Health which came into force during 1931.

## 6. HOSPITALS.

*The Chelmsford Joint Isolation Hospital and the Smallpox Hospital.*

See Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health, 1930.

No changes were made in 1931.

*The Chelmsford and Essex Hospital and Dispensary. (Voluntary).*

The accommodation has been increased by the addition of 44 beds, making a total of 114 ; which are apportioned as follows :—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
General Medical .. ..	16	13	29
General Surgical .. ..	31	24	55
Children, Medical and Surgical	—	—	20
Private Wards .. ..	—	—	10
			—
			114
			—

Details of the Out-Patient Departments are as follows :—

Dental Department ..	Patients attend at 9 a.m. on Tuesdays.
Massage, Electrical and Sunlight Departments .. ..	These departments are open daily.
Ophthalmic Department ..	Patients attend at 3 p.m. on Fridays.
X-ray Department ..	The Radiologist attends at the Hospital on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons.
Casualty Department ..	This department is open daily.

The arrangement, between the Chelmsford Corporation and this Hospital, for the admission of cases of Puerperal Fever, Puerperal Pyrexia and Ophthalmia Neonatorum, has been continued on a basis of 8s. per day per patient maintenance charge.

*Chelmsford Public Assistance Institution. (Managed by the Essex County Council).*

The hospital accommodation at this Institution is as follows :—

	Male.		Female.		Total.
General Medical ..	5	..	5	..	10
General Surgical ..	5	..	5	..	10
Maternity ..	—	..	10	..	10 and 10 cots.
Tuberculosis ..	2	..	4	..	6
Chronic Sick ..	38	..	38	..	76
Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia	—	..	2	..	2
					114 and 10 cots.

7. INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR—

(a) *Unmarried Mothers.* The only arrangement is that supplied by the Public Assistance Committee. After the lying-in period, however, they may be helped by the Girls' Aid Society, who have a Hostel in Fairfield Road.

(b) *Illegitimate Infants.*  
(c) *Homeless Children.* } The Public Assistance Institution is available.

8. AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) *For Infectious Cases.* A motor ambulance is maintained by the Chelmsford Joint Hospital Board. The old horse-drawn ambulance is used for Smallpox cases.

(b) *For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases,* and

(c) *For Maternity Patients.*

The Chelmsford and Essex Hospital has no ambulance of its own, but the British Red Cross Society have two ambulances which are always available.

9. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The Ante-Natal Clinic, formerly held at the Chelmsford and Essex Hospital on the afternoon of the first Wednesday in each month (August excepted), is now held at the Public Health Office, each Monday afternoon (except during August), from 2 to 4 p.m.

The School Dental Surgeon attends on Tuesdays and Fridays in each week (except during August). Formerly the Dental Clinic was held only on one day per week.

See Table on page 14.

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Name.	Accommodation.	Purpose.	Sessions.	By whom provided.
Minor Ailments Clinic.	Public Health Offices, 89, Duke Street.	Consultation and Treatment for Elementary School Children.	Daily, 9 to 10 a.m.	Local Authority.
Eye Clinic.	Public Health Offices, 89, Duke Street.	Consultation and Treatment for Elementary School Children.	When necessary and by appointment.	Local Authority.
Dental Clinic.	Trinity Road Council School.	(a) { Treatment for Elementary School Children.	(a) { 4 sessions per week, Tuesdays and Fridays, by appointment.	Local Authority.
Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.	(1) Friends' Meeting House, Duke Street. (2) Orchard Street Hall, Orchard Street.	(b) { Treatment for Expectant and Nursing Mothers; and for Infants.	(b) { 1 session per month by appointment.	Local Authority.
Ante-Natal Clinic.	Public Health Offices, 89, Duke Street.	Consultation.	Tuesdays, 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. Thursdays, 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.	Local Authority.
Tuberculosis Dispensary.	General Hospital, London Road.	Consultation.	Mondays, 2 to 4 p.m.	Local Authority.
Venereal Disease Centre.	General Hospital, London Road.	Consultation and Treatment.	Fridays.	Essex County Council.
		Consultation and Treatment.	Fridays.	Essex County Council.

## Maternity and Child Welfare.

### MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Investigation is held into each case of maternal death, puerperal fever or puerperal pyrexia. The co-operation of the medical practitioner and midwife in attendance is invited.

### MEMORANDUM 156/M.C.W.

#### *Ante-Natal Care.*

The Ante-Natal Clinic has been held during the past year every Monday at the Public Health Office, instead of, as previously, once a month at the General Hospital.

All Midwives have been circularised and invited to attend the Ante-Natal Clinic with their patients.

Efforts have been made to interest doctors and midwives in ante-natal work. A pamphlet, by Dr. T. W. Eden, Consulting Obstetric Physician to Charing Cross Hospital, entitled "The Prevention of Puerperal Sepsis," has been circulated amongst all the midwives practising in the Borough.

Future mothers have been encouraged at Infant Welfare Centres to attend the Ante-Natal Clinic, and the wives of clergymen in suitable districts have been asked to advise their parishioners of the services available.

#### *Consultants.*

Arrangements can be made for expectant mothers, for whom difficulty is anticipated, to visit London Hospitals for an expert opinion and, if necessary, treatment.

#### *Hospital Beds.*

In addition to the above provision, the Chelmsford and Essex Hospital is available for abnormal maternity cases.

The Public Assistance Hospital has a maternity ward of 10 beds available for normal midwifery. Use of this is slowly increasing among women who have not suitable accommodation at home.

#### *Provision of Ancillaries.*

(1) Four sets of clean maternity outfits are available at the Public Health Department; a charge of 6d. is made for the hire of an outfit.

(2) There is no arrangement for home helps.

(3) Fresh Grade A milk is supplied free to expectant and nursing mothers whose income is below an approved scale.

(4) Pathological material can be sent to the Counties Public Health Laboratories for examination.

*Education.*

See page 15, "Ante-Natal Care."

A lecture was delivered to the Women's Co-operative Guild on the "Social Services available in the Borough," in which stress was laid upon the need for ante-natal supervision.

## HEALTH VISITING.

The Health Visitor has made the following visits during the year :—

	First Visits.	Total Visits.
To children under one year of age ..	398	1,639
To children between one and five years ..	—	591

## CHILDREN ACT, 1908, PART I.

The Borough share with the Chelmsford Rural District Council, the services of an Infant Life Protection Visitor.

## INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

INFANT WELFARE CLINICS are held on Tuesday afternoons at 2.30 p.m. in the Friends' Meeting House (North end of the town), and on Thursday afternoons in the Orchard Street Hall (South end of the town). The Medical Officer and Health Visitor attend, together with Voluntary Helpers. Children below school age are seen and their mothers advised according to their needs. Tea and biscuits are provided at one penny per head. Infants' dried foods, cod liver oil and malt, &c., are sold at cost price, a clerk from the Public Health Office being present for that purpose. In a few necessitous cases food has been allowed free of charge, after careful investigation.

## ATTENDANCES DURING THE YEAR.

	Friends' Meeting House.	Orchard Street Hall.	Total.
Children under 1 year of age ..	2,142	468	2,610
Children between 1 and 5 years ..	1,071	234	1,305
Average per session ..	66	14	40
Number who attended for the first time during the year :—			
Children under 1 year of age ..			368
Children between 1 and 5 years ..			213

The 368 "new babies" represents 89 per cent. of the total live births notified during the year.

## ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

The Ante-Natal Clinic is held at the Public Health Offices on Monday afternoons from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Expectant mothers are advised as to their mode of life during pregnancy and afterwards, and are kept under supervision ; any abnormal situation or condition being reported to the doctor or midwife who will conduct the confinement. Defective teeth are treated by the School Dental Surgeon by arrangement.

No treatment has been attempted at the Clinic which should rightly come within the province of the private doctor.

*Attendances at Ante-Natal Clinic during the Year :—*

Total attendances during the year	..	141
Average per session	.. .. .	3
Total number of expectant mothers who attended		36
Percentage of total notified births represented		8 per cent.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION FOR MATERNITY CASES.

There is no Municipal Maternity Home in the Borough.

Women who have not suitable home accommodation for their confinement can be admitted to the Public Assistance Hospital. The Corporation have an agreement with the Public Assistance Committee for the admission of maternity cases to the Hospital upon recommendation from the Ante-Natal Clinic. There are 10 beds in the maternity ward. A non-resident Medical Officer supervises the qualified nursing staff.

A charge of £2 2s. per week is imposed, with Specialist's fees where necessary. These fees are paid by the Council in the case of persons sent in through the Ante-Natal Clinic ; this money being recovered from the patient when possible.

This arrangement, far superior as it is to a confinement in unsuitable surroundings, is not sufficiently utilised.

During 1931, seven women took advantage of this service, and had their confinement in the Maternity Ward of the Public Assistance Hospital.

ABNORMAL MATERNITY.

Puerperal Fever, Puerperal Pyrexia, and Ophthalmia Neonatorum cases are admitted to the Chelmsford and Essex Hospital. Any requiring advice and treatment not available there, are sent to the special London Hospitals, or a specialist is brought to see them. Fees are recovered by the Council when possible.

ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.

The Health Visitor is a qualified Masseuse, &c.

Children suffering from crippling defects are sent to the Royal National Orthopædic Hospital for advice and treatment. They may be admitted to the hospital for treatment, supplied with the necessary instruments, or returned home for treatment.

#### PROVISION OF MILK FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS.

Fresh Grade A milk is provided to expectant and nursing mothers whose income is below the scale approved by the Council.

Altogether 60 families received free milk during 1931. About 6,850 pints of Grade A milk were distributed.

Dried Milks, Cod Liver Oil and other foods are available at cost price at the Infant Welfare Centres, when advised by the Medical Officer or other medical practitioner.

#### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

##### WATER.

The quantity of water required for the town supply is constantly increasing, and the new Sandford Waterworks for purifying and softening river water, which were inaugurated by the Corporation three years ago, are working in a satisfactory manner. These works will be capable of meeting the increasing demand due to the normal growth of the town for many years, an output of one million gallons per day being obtainable from this source, this amount being augmented by the additional existing sources in the town.

A constant water service is maintained as far as possible to all parts within the Borough, with the exception of an area now being developed on Galleywood Road, where there is insufficient head available from the Longstomps Service Reservoir. This area, which is becoming extensively built up, is at present dependent upon a pumping head during the day time, but the Council propose to provide and erect a service tank 60 feet high, with electrically driven pumps, to maintain a constant supply from Longstomps Reservoir. This scheme is at present awaiting loan sanction by the Ministry of Health.

A scheme for a new storage and service reservoir of 3,000,000 gallons capacity at the highest point on Galleywood Common has been deferred for the present.

A new feature in the treatment of the river water at Sandford Waterworks is the "activated charcoal" process. This treatment is necessary at times to remove a slight taste from the water, the charcoal being added to the sterile water before filtering. From 1 to 3 lbs. of charcoal are required per 100,000 gallons of water.

The supply to the Boarded Barns Housing Estate and other high parts in the north-west of the Borough is at times inadequate, and a proposal for a ten-inch main from Longstomps Reservoir to supply the deficiency is awaiting loan sanction.

The new nine-inch main in the By-pass Road is now supplying parts of Springfield from Longstomps Reservoir, the service to this area being much improved thereby.

### *Quality of Water.*

There is a resident chemist at Sandford Mill, who controls the amount of the added chemicals. Monthly samples are sent to Drs. Beale and Suckling for analysis.

Samples taken at the various boreholes are analysed at six-monthly intervals.

From the Analyst's reports upon samples from all the sources it is seen that the water is in all cases clear and bright, of high degree of organic and bacterial purity, pure and wholesome, and suitable for purposes of public supply.

### RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Regular inspection of rivers and streams is carried out and any sources of pollution are investigated.

### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The chief developments during the year have been the completion of new 18-in., 15-in., 12-in. and 9-in. soil sewers in the By-pass Road. These sewers extend a length of a little less than 3 miles, and will open up new areas for housing development off the new road.

A scheme was prepared for a new 9-inch soil sewer in Sandford Road to drain a new building estate, and this work has since been carried out.

The laying of the sewers in connection with the Galleywood Road Sewerage Scheme was completed early in 1931. The scheme will come into operation when the pumping plant and rising main have been constructed. These latter works are at present awaiting loan sanction by the Ministry of Health.

The scheme for the proposed alteration to the Chelmsford Joint Sewerage Committee Sewage Disposal Works, consisting of the provision of percolating filters and additional subsidence tanks and pumping plant, is also awaiting loan sanction.

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are no privy middens in the Borough. There are some 50 pail closets in the Galleywood District, where as yet there are no sewers.

### SCAVENGING.

Early in the year 1931 the Council completed the purchase of approximately 40 acres of land off Waterhouse Lane, adjoining the River Can for refuse disposal by controlled tipping. Tipping has been commenced on part of this site.

In October, 1931, the Council purchased a petrol driven refuse collecting lorry, of the low loading type, of 7 cubic yards capacity. A second vehicle of the same type has since been purchased (March, 1932), and the two lorries, working together, considerably expedite refuse collection and tipping.

#### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

See Report of the Sanitary Inspector, pages 33 to 44.

#### SMOKE ABATEMENT.

In the early part of 1931 a complaint was received, alleging a nuisance caused by the emission of smoke from the chimney of a laundry situated in the Borough. After investigation the Sanitary Inspector suggested the provision of a much higher chimney stack. This was provided by the firm in question and the nuisance was minimised.

In December, owing to increased business at the laundry, the boiler power became insufficient and nuisance again occurred. This was obviated by the installation of a much more powerful boiler, and the result has been very satisfactory.

In October it became necessary to serve statutory notice on a firm in connection with the emission of smoke and gritty particles from the chimneys at a timber yard in the Borough.

A considerable improvement was afterwards noted and further action, beyond observation, was not necessary.

#### PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS OR REGULATIONS.

There are two Common Lodging Houses in the Borough (32 and 53 beds), both for men only. These are maintained in fair condition.

New Byelaws with respect to Common Lodging Houses were adopted by the Council during the year, but did not come into force until the 6th January, 1932.

Occasionally caravans have settled in the Borough for short periods.

The only offensive trades are five fish frying establishments.

New Byelaws with respect to Slaughterhouses were adopted by the Council during the year, but did not come into force until the 8th January, 1932.

There are no underground sleeping rooms in the Borough.

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) .. .. .	13	—	—
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries) ... ..	118	—	—
WORKPLACES (Other than Outworkers' Premises) ... ..	21	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	152	—	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of defects.			Number of Prosecutions (5)
	Found. (2)	Bemiedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of Cleanliness .. .. .	6	6	—	—
Want of ventilation .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ... .. .	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances .. .. .	1	1	—	—
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient .. .. .	—	—	—	—
{ unsuitable or defective .. .. .	5	5	—	—
{ 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.

## SCHOOLS.

All schools in the area are visited each month by the Sanitary Inspector, who reports any defects. No serious defects were discovered during the year, and minor defects requiring attention have been remedied. The School Medical Officer also inspects the school buildings on the occasion of his routine medical inspections.

All elementary schools have the Borough water supply, which is adequate and satisfactory.

See Table on page 23.

*Prevention of Spread of Infectious Diseases.*

The elementary schools are visited frequently by the School Nurse, who also sees absentees at their homes, and reports to the School Medical Officer. The latter, if the event requires it, also pays visits to school or home. Children who have been absent from school on account of any infectious disease or whom their teacher suspects to have been absent on such account, are not re-admitted without a certificate from the School Medical Officer.

See also pages 28, 29 and 54 to 57.

*Closure.*

The usual periods of exclusion for cases of infectious diseases and their contacts have been enforced.

Closure of school, department, or class, was not found necessary during the year.

## RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 AND 1928.

There are no rag flock producers in the Borough.

NUMBER AND TYPE OF SANITARY CONVENIENCES IN THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN THE BOROUGH.

School.	No. of Scholars, Accommodation provided 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 Council's Sewer	From Boro' Mains
" Girls	370	16 " " "	14 " " "	" "	" "	" "
" Infants	100	2 " " 1 " "	5 " " "	" "	" "	" "
Friars, Infants..	260	14 " " 1 " {	8 " " "	" "	" "	" "
			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	431	6 Pedestal w.c.'s	5 " " "	" "	" "	" "
" Infants		7 " " 1 " "	1 " " "	" "	" "	" "
St. Peter's Infants	104	7 Trough Closets, 1 " "	2 " " "	" "	" "	" "
Springfield Mixed	243	{ 3 Pedestal Closets, 1 " "	2 " " }	" "	" "	" "
" Infants		{ 4 " " "		" "	" "	" "
		{ 2 " " 1 " "		" "	" "	" "
Kings Road Boys	320 + 100	8 Pedestal w.c.s, 2 Urinals	17 " " "	" "	" "	" "
" Girls	320 + 100	28 " " "	17 " " "	" "	" "	" "
" Infants	250 + 50	16 " " "	22 " " "	" "	" "	" "

## Housing—Year 1931.

1. NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR.			
(i) By the Local Authority	..	..	124
(ii) By other Local Authorities	..	..	Nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons	..	..	113
			124
		Total	237
			237
2. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.			
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	..		1,524
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	..		2,219
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	..		79
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	..		143
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	..	..	17
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	..	..	101
3. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.			
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	..	..	111
4. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.			
A. <i>Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930</i> :—			
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	..	..	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—			
(a) By owners	..	..	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	..	..	Nil
B. <i>Proceedings under Public Health Acts</i> :—			
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notice were served requiring defects to be remedied	..		197
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—			
(a) By owners	..	..	181
(b) By Local Authority in default of owner	..	..	Nil

<i>C. Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—</i>	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .. .. .	6
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. .. .	4
<i>D. Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—</i>	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit .. .. .	Nil
<i>E. Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 :—</i>	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .. .. .	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners .. .. .	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owner ..	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declaration by owners of intention to close .. .. .	Nil
<i>F. Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 :—</i>	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made .. .. .	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit .. .. .	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .. .. .	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. .. .	10

#### **Inspection and Supervision of Food.**

##### **(a) MILK SUPPLY.**

Frequent inspections of cowsheds, dairies and milk shops are made by the Sanitary Inspector, in addition to the bi-monthly inspections by the Veterinary Inspector.

Samples of milk are taken, when considered necessary at the cowsheds, for bacteriological examination. (See reports of Sanitary and Veterinary Inspectors, pages 40 to 42 and 45).

For action under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923, see Sanitary Inspector's Report, page 42.

##### **(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.**

The Veterinary Inspector receives notices of slaughter under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, and inspects carcasses.

The Sanitary Inspector supervises slaughterhouses, butchers' shops, and other places where food is prepared. (See Sanitary Inspector's Report, page 39).

(c) ADULTERATION, &c.

The Essex County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority. The following is a list of samples taken by the Essex County Council under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, in the Borough of Chelmsford during 1931 :—

Name of Article Sampled.	No. of Samples Taken.	Name of Article Sampled.	No. of Samples Taken.
		Brought forward	.. 271
Milk .. ..	27	" Shortex " .. ..	1
Butter .. ..	43	Gelantine Roll .. ..	1
Lard .. ..	35	Chicken and Ham .. ..	2
Margarine .. ..	28	Apricots .. ..	1
Bacon .. ..	28	Mustard .. ..	2
White Pepper .. ..	23	Desiccated Cocoanut .. ..	1
Ground Ginger .. ..	19	Egg Substitute .. ..	1
Curry Powder .. ..	12	Custard Powder .. ..	1
Arrowroot .. ..	11	Blanc Mange Powder .. ..	1
Mixed Spice .. ..	2	Bun Flour .. ..	1
Luncheon Sausage .. ..	6	Butter and Margarine .. ..	1
Cinnamon .. ..	1	Currants .. ..	1
Baking Powder .. ..	3	Raisins .. ..	1
Shredded Suet .. ..	5	Sultanas .. ..	1
Pimento .. ..	1	Granulated Sugar .. ..	1
Sausages .. ..	4	Loaf Sugar .. ..	1
Ground Rice .. ..	2	Rice .. ..	1
Tea .. ..	4	Tapioca .. ..	1
Cocoa .. ..	6	Coffee Beans .. ..	1
Black Pepper .. ..	2	Pearl Barley .. ..	1
Chocolate Wafer .. ..	1	Split Peas .. ..	1
Figs .. ..	1	Oatmeal .. ..	1
Fruit Salad .. ..	3	Haricot Beans .. ..	1
Cheese .. ..	2	Flour .. ..	1
Dripping .. ..	1	Chicory .. ..	1
Brawn .. ..	1		
		Total	.. 298
Carried forward..	.. 271		

One dairyman was fined £2 10s. for selling milk 11 per cent. deficient in fat, and one dairyman was fined £2 10s. for selling milk 14 per cent. deficient in fat.

(d) CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

Chemical and Bacteriological examinations are made by the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 91, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4.

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

#### GENERAL.

The number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year was as follows :—

Smallpox .. .. .	1
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	65
Diphtheria .. .. .	25
Puerperal Fever .. .. .	3
Puerperal Pyrexia .. .. .	5
Pneumonia .. .. .	9
Erysipelas .. .. .	7
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. .. .	1
Encephalitis Lethargica .. .. .	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever .. .. .	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis .. .. .	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .. .. .	22
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis .. .. .	5

(See also Tables on pages 31 and 32).

The year has been characterised by the persistence of Scarlet Fever, mostly of a moderate type. Many of the cases have been indefinite in the first place, causing extreme difficulty in diagnosis, and there is no doubt that many such cases have been overlooked ; a fact which accounts for the persistence of the disease.

A number of minor complications have occurred in the forms of ear and nose discharges, and although these have not been allowed to leave hospital until all signs have cleared, it is likely that they recurred after treatment had ceased. In fact, what may be described as "delayed return cases" have been admitted to the Isolation Hospital ; that is, contacts have developed the disease may-be weeks after the original case has been discharged as cured.

#### MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF SCARLET FEVER AND DIPHTHERIA.

Month.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.
January .. .. .	4	7
February .. .. .	11	1
March .. .. .	7	7
April .. .. .	2	3
May .. .. .	3	5
June .. .. .	2	0
July .. .. .	2	2
August .. .. .	1	0
September .. .. .	6	0
October .. .. .	17	0
November .. .. .	4	0
December .. .. .	6	0
	—	—
Totals .. .. .	65	25

(See also Tables on pages 31 and 32).

## SMALLPOX.

No cases occurred in the Borough during the first part of the year, despite the prevalence of this disease in South West Essex.

In November, a girl working as a barmaid in a house at Stratford was sent home to Chelmsford, ill. On arrival she was found to be suffering from Smallpox, and was admitted to the Smallpox Hospital at Baker Lane. The Medical Officer of Health of Stratford was informed and two other cases were detected in the same house.

The Chelmsford case recovered satisfactorily, and no further cases have developed in the Borough.

## SCARLET FEVER.

As already noted, Scarlet Fever has been present throughout the year, and has mainly been moderate in type, with many cases of an indefinite character. These latter cases have given rise to errors in diagnosis; and, not only have cases probably been missed, but some have been notified as Scarlet Fever and sent to hospital where they were found not to be so. Amongst these the following diagnoses were concluded:—

Typhoid .. .. .	1
Measles .. .. .	2
Septicæmia .. .. .	2
Pneumonia and Whooping Cough .. .. .	1
Influenza .. .. .	1

In the Autumn, Scarlet Fever unfortunately broke out in the new Children's Ward at the Chelmsford General Hospital. In all 18 cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

## DIPHThERIA.

At the commencement of the year the slight epidemic of Diphtheria which occurred at the end of 1930, was slowing down. This diminution continued until in June no cases were notified, two only in July, and from thence to the end of the year no cases occurred.

It is, perhaps, too much to claim that this evident improvement was the direct result of measures taken amongst the schools in the early part of 1931. But it does suggest that those measures should be maintained in the future; *i.e.*, observation by the class teachers of sore noses, throats, and other obvious signs of indisposition and the sending of such children to the School Clinic for the Medical Officer's opinion. The recommendations of the School Medical Officer, as set out in a special report to the Managers of Kings Road Council School (*vide* page 54), relating to the general health of children and the hygiene of schools, should be borne in mind.

## EXAMINATION OF PATHOLOGICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL SPECIMENS.

See paragraph 4 on page 11 (*ante*).

## VACCINATION.

No vaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health.

### Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Mumps, Measles, Whooping Cough and Chicken-Pox were very prevalent amongst school children during the early part of the year. They were particularly persistent at King's Road School, so that in May the Managers of that school asked for a report and recommendations from the Medical Officer. Investigation into the conditions contributing to the persistence of these diseases was made, and it was considered that the principal cause lay in the physique of the children themselves and in their home conditions. The full report is set out in the School Medical Officer's Report on page 54.

The Head Teachers now inform the School Medical Officer, at the end of each week, of any children reported absent through infectious illness.

#### DISINFECTION.

Free disinfection is carried out in cases of notifiable infectious diseases. Rooms are fumigated with formaldehyde; the bedding, &c., is removed to the disinfecting station at the Isolation Hospital and subjected to steam sterilisation.

### Annual Report of the Chelmsford Joint Isolation Hospital Board for the Year 1931.

Cases admitted during each month were as follows :—

Month.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Septicaemia.	Pneumonia and Whooping Cough.	Influenza.	Total.
January .. ..	14	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	23
February .. ..	12	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	15
March .. ..	12	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	19
April .. ..	6	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
May .. ..	11	7	—	—	1	—	—	—	19
June .. ..	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
July .. ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	5
August .. ..	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	5
September .. ..	8	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	11
October .. ..	31	—	—	4	—	1	—	1	37
November .. ..	8	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	9
December .. ..	23	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	25
Totals .. ..	134	31	1	8	2	2	1	1	180
Patients remaining from 1930 .. ..	20	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	32
Total patients treated during 1931 .. ..	154	43	1	8	2	2	1	1	212
Discharged during year	127	43	1	8	2	2	1	1	185
Remaining, 1932 .. ..	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27

There were no deaths in the hospital during the year.

Of the 180 patients admitted during the year, 89 came from the Borough of Chelmsford and the remaining 91 from the Chelmsford Rural District.

## SCARLET FEVER.

In the Autumn 18 cases of Scarlet Fever were admitted from the Chelmsford and Essex Hospital Children's Ward. These were surgical in type, many of them very seriously ill and complicated cases for treatment. They included :—

Severe Scalds .. .. .	1
Fractured Femur .. .. .	2
Mastoid .. .. .	1
Extensive Dissection of Glands of the Neck ..	1
Fractured Skull, Jaw, both Femora and Left Arm..	1
Fractured Arm .. .. .	1
Fractured Skull.. .. .	1

It is greatly to the credit of the nursing staff that all these cases recovered satisfactorily, and that the fractures were able to return home with the minimum amount of disability.

## DIPHThERIA.

Twelve cases remained over from 1930. These were mostly the "nasal type" carriers from the Writtle Boys' Home; practically all of the inmates of this Home had been admitted with positive nasal swabs during the preceding Autumn. None of these children were in any sense ill, but were obliged to be detained as long as they showed the presence of the Diphtheria Bacilli. In the event of a similar epidemic, either in a home or school, I should not advise admission of cases to hospital until it had been proved, by a test for the virulence of the bacteria, that the cases were a danger to others. I should recommend that arrangements be made for their treatment in the home and, of course, exclusion from public elementary school.

## PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No cases occurred requiring action under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1931.

Disease.	Total cases.	NOTIFICATIONS AT AGES.											Total Deaths.	Total cases notified in each Ward.				
		Under 1 year.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65		Over 65	Cases admitted to Hospital.	North Ward.	South Ward.	Springfield Ward.
			1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65						
Smallpox ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	65	1	2	2	8	24	15	7	4	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ..	25	—	1	—	—	11	3	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric (including Paratyphoid) ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	9	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	119	2	1	5	4	8	35	18	13	17	7	8	1	105	32	76	11	

## TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1931.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Under 1 year ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 10 ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 to 15 ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 20 ..	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
20 to 25 ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 to 35 ..	5	4	2	1	—	1	1	—
35 to 45 ..	2	2	—	1	4	2	—	1
45 to 55 ..	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
55 to 65 ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Over 65 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	13	9	3	3	5	5	1	1

Non-notified Tuberculosis Deaths .. .. . 3  
 Total Tuberculosis Deaths .. .. . 12

## PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1930.

STATEMENT OF PARTICULARS OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, COMPILED FROM THE REGISTER,  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1931.

	PULMONARY.			NON-PULMONARY.			Pulmonary and Non- Pulmonary. TOTAL.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
(1) Number of cases on the Register on the 1st January, 1931	59	60	119	27	21	48	167
(2) Number of cases NOTIFIED to me under the Regulations for the first time during the year	13	9	22	2	3	5	27
(3) Number of cases added to the Register during the year which have been brought to my notice otherwise than by notification .. .. .	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
(4) Number of cases removed from the Register during the year	5	6	11	1	1	2	13
(5) Number of cases remaining on the Register on the 31st December, 1931 .. .. .	67	63	130	29	23	52	182
Information supplied by County Medical Officer.							
Number of patients from Chelmsford Borough sent to Institutions under the County Tuberculosis Scheme during 1931 :—							
Adults .. .. .	9	11	20	2	3	5	25
Children .. .. .	1	1	2	—	1	1	3
TOTALS .. .. .	10	12	22	2	4	6	28

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES.						
Notified.	Treated.		Vision unimpaired.	Vision impaired.	Total blindness.	Deaths.
	At home.	In hospital.				
1	0	1	1	0	0	0

Report of Sanitary Inspector.

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

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
89, DUKE STREET,  
CHELMSFORD.

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 the sanitary work done during the year 1931, being my twentieth Annual Report.

*Summary of Sanitary Work carried out as a result of Notices Served or Recommendations made.*

Dilapidated water closets abolished .. .. .	5
Dilapidated water closets re-built .. .. .	4
Additional water closets provided .. .. .	2
Flushing apparatus and fittings of water closets repaired or new flushing cisterns provided .. .. .	22
New pedestal basins provided in water closets in place of defective or obsolete basins .. .. .	20
Defective water closets repaired, cleansed, &c. .. .. .	17
Defective drains relaid, improved, &c. .. .. .	36
Defective sink, bath and lavatory waste pipes properly disconnected, trapped or renewed .. .. .	8
Smoke nuisances abated .. .. .	2
Miscellaneous nuisances abated .. .. .	30

*Refuse Receptacles.*

Galvanised iron sanitary dustbins provided in place of foul ashpits or where previous bins were dilapidated .. .. .	70
---	----

*Dwelling Houses.*

Baths and lavatory basins provided .. .. .	3
Houses or parts thereof cleansed .. .. .	10
Damp conditions prevented, damp-proof courses inserted, walls rendered in impervious material, soil removed from walls, &c. .. .. .	39
Overcrowding abated .. .. .	3
Floors relaid .. .. .	11
Floors and stairs repaired .. .. .	14
Coppers and stoves repaired or new ones provided .. .. .	9
Windows and doors repaired .. .. .	24

Roofs, ceilings and chimneys repaired .. .. .	30
Walls and plastering repaired .. .. .	43
Troughing and downpipes provided, disconnected, repaired or cleared from obstruction .. .. .	31
Sanitary sinks provided in place of defective stone or other sinks ..	10
Yard paving laid, relaid or repaired .. .. .	43
Houses closed as unfit for habitation .. .. .	11
Houses demolished .. .. .	16

*Factories and Workshops (including Bakehouses).*

Factories, workshops, or parts thereof, limewashed or cleansed ..	6
Insufficient or defective closet accommodation .. .. .	5
Other nuisances abated .. .. .	1

*Water Supply.*

Houses provided with supplies of water directly from main instead of from storage tanks .. .. .	2
New services provided where service had become defective ..	22

*Miscellaneous.*

Dairies, cowsheds or milk shops cleansed or repaired or new dairies provided .. .. .	7
Nuisances (from keeping animals) abated .. .. .	7
Accumulations of manure and refuse removed, premises cleansed, &c.	19
Manure pits provided or improved .. .. .	1
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.

Two additional water closets have been provided where there was no accommodation or where the accommodation was insufficient, and 20 pedestal basins have been provided in place of defective and obsolete basins.

*Refuse Receptacles.*

Seventy 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. All other accommodation consists of properly flushed water closets. There are no hand flushed water closets.

The water closet accommodation is nearly all separate for each house and within the curtilage belonging to the house; there being only 102 houses, including 21 Almshouses, where the accommodation is common to more than one house and not within its own curtilage.

*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 Acts in addition to those closed under the Housing Acts ; altogether ten houses were closed during the year and 17 have been entirely demolished, none as the result of formal demolition orders, all being demolished without this formality being necessary.

Under the Housing Acts six houses were represented to you with a view to the making of Closing Orders, and you decided to make the necessary Order in each case. The following table shows that considerable headway has been made in getting the dwellings closed against which Closing Orders were made in 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930 and 1931 :—

Closing Orders made in 1925.	Condition at end of 1931.
57, New Writtle Street ..	.. Demolished.
58,       "       " ..	..       "
59,       "       " ..	..       "
60,       "       " ..	..       "
61,       "       " ..	..       "
1, Baddeley Square ..	..       "
2,       "       " ..	..       "
3,       "       " ..	..       "
4,       "       " ..	..       "
5,       "       " ..	..       "
6,       "       " ..	..       "
7,       "       " ..	..       "
10, Union Yard ..	..       "
11,       "       " ..	..       "
12,       "       " ..	..       "
13,       "       " ..	..       "
Angel Yard—	
Everitt ..	.. Demolished.
Green ..	..       "
Turner ..	..       "
Fisher ..	..       "
Lodge ..	..       "
Olive ..	..       "
Hindmarsh's Yard—	
Ridgewell ..	..       "
Tovee ..	..       "
Faiers ..	..       "
126, Rainsford Road ..	.. Now lock-up shop.

Closing Orders made in 1925.	Condition at end of 1931.
128, Rainsford Road ..	.. Demolished.
130, " ..	.. "
132, " ..	.. "
142, " ..	.. "
144, " ..	.. "
146, " ..	.. "
148, " ..	.. "
172, " ..	.. "
174, " ..	.. "
176, " ..	.. "
1, French's Square ..	.. Part used as lock-up shop.
2, " ..	.. Demolished.
3, " ..	.. "
5, " ..	.. "
6, " ..	.. "
7, " ..	.. "
8, " ..	.. "
9, " ..	.. "
10, " ..	.. "
11, " ..	.. "
12, " ..	.. "
13, " ..	.. "
14, " ..	.. "
15, " ..	.. "
16, " ..	.. "
17, " ..	.. "
Closing Orders made in 1926.	Condition at end of 1931.
1, Griggs Yard ..	.. Demolished.
2, " ..	.. "
3, " ..	.. "
4, " ..	.. "
5, " ..	.. "
6, " ..	.. "
7, " ..	.. Empty.
9, Navigation Road ..	.. Used as store.
Closing Orders made in 1926.	Condition at end of 1931.
40, Orchard Street ..	.. Made fit by owner and Order cancelled.
21, Baddow Road ..	.. Demolished.
1, St. Helen's Cottages, Baddow Road ..	.. "
2, " " " " ..	.. "
20, New Street ..	.. Empty.
Closing Orders made in 1927.	Condition at end of 1931.
1, Coppins Yard ..	.. Occupied.
2, " ..	.. Empty.
5, " ..	.. "

Closing Orders made in 1927.	Condition at end of 1931.
120, Rainsford Road .. ..	.. Demolished.
122, " .. ..	.. "
14, Union Yard .. ..	.. Empty.
29, Wood Street .. ..	.. Demolished.
30, " .. ..	.. "
31, " .. ..	.. "
32, " .. ..	.. "
18, Church Lane .. ..	.. "
1, Brown's Yard, Moulsham Street ..	.. Empty.
2, " " .. ..	.. "
3, " " .. ..	.. "
4, " " .. ..	.. "
1, back of 203, Moulsham Street (Bright) ..	.. Demolished.
2, " 203, " (Mead) .. ..	.. "
1, " 31, " .. ..	.. "
2, " 31, " .. ..	.. "
3, " 31, " .. ..	.. "
4, " 31, " .. ..	.. "
Baker's Yard, Moulsham Street (Cowell) ..	.. Used as store.
" " .. ..	.. Demolished.
King's Arms Yard, Moulsham Street (Warner) .. ..	.. Occupied.
King's Arms Yard, Moulsham Street (Oliver) .. ..	.. Empty.
Springfield Green (Woodison) .. ..	.. "
" (Gurton) .. ..	.. "
Coppins Yard (Marshall) .. ..	.. "
Closing Orders made in 1928.	Condition at end of 1931.
25, Wood Street .. ..	.. Repaired and Order cancelled.
26, " .. ..	.. " " "
Closing Orders made in 1929.	Condition at end of 1931.
4, Union Yard .. ..	.. Empty.
5, " .. ..	.. "
20, New Street .. ..	.. "
21, " .. ..	.. "
3, Hall Street .. ..	.. Repaired and Order cancelled.
71a, London Road .. ..	.. Demolished.
71b, " .. ..	.. "
71c, " .. ..	.. "

Demolition Orders made in 1930.		Condition at end of 1931.	
28, Moulsham Street	.. ..	.. ..	Demolished.
29,            "	.. ..	.. ..	"
30,            "	.. ..	.. ..	"
31,            "	.. ..	.. ..	"
Back of 28, Moulsham Street (Bines)	.. ..	.. ..	"
"    28,            "    (Freestone)	.. ..	.. ..	"
Demolition Orders made in 1931.		Condition at end of 1931.	
9, Cables Yard	.. ..	.. ..	Empty.
10,           "	.. ..	.. ..	Occupied.

## SUMMARY.

Houses against which Closing Orders were made 1925-1931	..	110
Houses made fit by owners and Closing Orders cancelled	..	4
Houses occupied	.. ..	3
Houses now used as stores	.. ..	2
Houses now used as lock-up shops	.. ..	2
Houses empty	.. ..	17
Houses demolished	.. ..	82
		110
<b>Total</b>	.. ..	<b>110</b>

Altogether 12 of these houses were demolished during the year, in addition to 5 others, and in recent years as many as 114 houses have been demolished.

The houses closed during the year where Closing Orders had not been made were as follows :—

Garden Cottage, George Street.  
52, New Street.  
5, St. Helen's Cottages, Baddow Road.  
1 back of 202, Moulsham Street.

The following two houses, previously closed by arrangement with the owner, were demolished during 1931 :—

25 and 26, Baddow Road.

Houses demolished for other causes during 1931 were :—

30, Baddow Road .. .. Road widening.  
59 and 60, Broomfield Road .. Alterations.

*Paving of Yards, Passages, &c.*

The paving of 43 yards or passages has either been repaired or relaid in cement; most of the yards in the Borough are well paved as a result of previous activities in this respect.

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 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. Two such tanks were abolished during the year; practically all the houses are supplied direct from the mains. Very few houses remain without an internal water supply, about 1,000 sinks and internal water supplies having been provided in comparatively recent years.

#### *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 bedding renewed, &c.

New Bye-laws were adopted by the Council during the year, but did not come into force until the 6th January, 1932.

#### *Slaughter Houses and Butchers' Shops.*

The slaughter houses are generally well and cleanly kept. Contraventions of the Regulations are few, and the butchers are prompt to carry out suggestions made.

There are six slaughter houses in the Borough :—

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

Up-to-date Bye-laws were adopted to take the place of the obsolete Bye-laws previously in force. These new Bye-laws came into force on the 8th January, 1932.

There are now 24 butchers' shops in the Borough; these and the slaughter houses, and other places where food is prepared, have been frequently inspected.

The butchers' shops in the Borough are as follows :—

Archer .. .. .	Duke Street.
.. .. .	Moulsham Street.
Banham .. .. .	High Street.
Ben Clarke, Ltd. .. .. .	Duke Street.
British & Argentine Meat Co. .. .. .	High Street.
Candler .. .. .	Moulsham Street.
Co-operative Society .. .. .	Wells Street.
.. .. .	Baddow Road.
Copsey .. .. .	Springfield Road.
Day .. .. .	Broomfield Road.
Edgcumbe .. .. .	Rainsford Road.
W. & R. Fletcher .. .. .	High Street.
Green & Sons .. .. .	Moulsham Street.
.. .. .	.. .. .
London Central Meat Co. .. .. .	High Street.
Matthews .. .. .	Broomfield Road.
Rowe .. .. .	Rainsford Road.
Smith .. .. .	Corporation Road.
Wooltorton .. .. .	Moulsham Street.
Hugh Wright .. .. .	Tindal Street.
.. .. .	Springfield Road.
.. .. .	Moulsham Street.
.. .. .	Duke Street.
.. .. .	King's Road.

#### *Food Supply.*

Unsound food condemned and surrendered during 1931 was as follows :—

Apples .. .. .	6½ tons.
Tinned Prawns .. .. .	2 cases.
Tinned Ox Tongue .. .. .	1 tin.

#### *Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.*

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

New registration of producer's premises within the Borough	1
Transfer of registration of producer's premises within the Borough .. .. .	1
New registration of retailers from outside the Borough .. .. .	2
Transfer of registration of retailer in the Borough .. .. .	1
Removal from register of retailer from outside the Borough .. .. .	1

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

Producers within the Borough .. .. .	5
Retailers from premises within the Borough .. .. .	15
Retailers from premises outside the Borough .. .. .	15

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.

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

Producers within the Borough are :—

R. H. Currie, Moulsham Lodge Farm, Lodge Farm, Galleywood, and Tile Kiln Farm, Galleywood.

D. Fleming, Springfield Barnes.

P. R. Morse, Whittles Hall, Springfield.

J. Rimmer, Bexfield Farm, Galleywood, and Thrift Farm, Wood Street.

Mrs. Lewis, Goat Hall Farm, Galleywood.

Retailers whose premises are situated in the Borough :—

R. H. Currie, 9 and 10, Springfield Road.

P. R. Morse, Whittles Hall, Springfield.

E. Thurlow, 7, Broomfield Road.

H. H. Davis, 47, New Street.

A. G. Bateman, 22, Springfield Road.

Mrs. Harrison, Rainsford Road.

Messrs. Fewell & Lilley, Broomfield Road.

Mrs. Tucker, 7, Baddow Road.

J. Rimmer, Moulsham Street.

C. Mason, Moulsham Street.

E. J. A. French, New Writtle Street.

Chelmsford Star Co-operative Society, Barrack Square.

D. Fleming, Springfield Barnes.

J. R. Magness & Sons, Railway Street.

P. W. Cleaver, 84, Moulsham Street.

Great improvements have been made at Tile Kiln Farm, Galleywood.

Retailers whose premises are situated outside the Borough :—

F. C. Richens, 50, New Road, Great Baddow.

R. Partridge, Patching Hall, Broomfield.

J. N. Christy, Priors, Broomfield.

Wm. Macmillan, Brick House, Boreham.

T. Chaplin & Sons, Galleywood.

Wm. Westwood, Roxwell.

F. J. Carter, Great Baddow.

H. J. J. Snelling, Writtle.

A. W. Whiting, Great Baddow.

C. E. Cottey, Wood Farm, Galleywood.

F. Holmes, Mill Hill, Sandon.

W. A. McKnight, Wellington House, Writtle.

L. Wallis, Sawkins, Great Baddow.

G. D. Rogers, North View, Baddow Road.

J. McKinlay, Readings Farm, Blackmore.

*Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923.*

No "Certified" milk was being retailed in the Borough at the end of 1931.

Six samples of Grade A (TT) milk were taken under Ministry of Health Regulations and all passed the standard.

Four other samples of Grade A (TT) milk were also submitted for examination—three complied with the standard and one failed to comply.

One firm is producing Grade A milk at two farms in the Borough.

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

*Market.*

I visit the Cattle Market each market day with your Veterinary Inspector, and the following is a list of the animals sent out of the market during 1931 :—

January	23rd	..	Black and white cow suspected to be tuberculous.
„	23rd	..	13 pigs suspected to be suffering from Swine Fever.
February	27th	..	2 red roan cows suspected to be tuberculous.
July	31st	..	Black and white cow suspected to be tuberculous.
August	7th	..	Blue roan cow suspected to be tuberculous.
„	28th	..	12 pigs suspected to be suffering from Swine Fever.
October	2nd	..	14 pigs suspected to be suffering from Swine Fever.
„	16th	..	Red roan cow suspected to be tuberculous.
„	16th	..	1 pig, fractured leg—sent for slaughter.
November	20th	..	2 red roan cows suspected to be tuberculous.
„	27th	..	12 pigs suspected to be suffering from Swine Fever.

*Offensive Trades.*

The offensive trades carried on in the Borough are :—

Fish Friers	..	..	..	..	5
-------------	----	----	----	----	---

No complaint has been received and the businesses are generally well conducted. The Knacker's Yard has received considerable attention throughout the year.

*Factories and Workshops.*

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

The bakehouses in use are as follows :—

Occupier.	Street.
W. T. Nickelson .. .. .	Moulsham Street.
Shedd Bros. .. .. .	Duke Street.
Buxton & Sons .. .. .	„
Willcox .. .. .	„
W. & O. Budd .. .. .	Springfield Road.
F. Poney .. .. .	Tindal Street.
J. Thompson .. .. .	Broomfield Road.

Occupier.		Street.	
Hicks Bros.	.. ..	..	High Street.
Chelmsford Co-operative Society		..	Wells Street.
A. E. Sansom	.. ..	..	Anchor Street.
A. Brown	.. ..	..	Rainsford Road.
Marriage & Willis	.. ..	..	Legg Street.
Barker	.. ..	..	Baddow Road.

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 page 21.

#### *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.

The table on page 23 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 :—

Smallpox	.. ..	..	1
Scarlet Fever	.. ..	..	60
Diphtheria	.. ..	..	25

The number of disinfections done was as follows :—

Smallpox	.. ..	..	1
Scarlet Fever	.. ..	..	56
Diphtheria	.. ..	..	21
Consumption	.. ..	..	5
Cancer	.. ..	..	12
Other Illness	.. ..	..	4

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 the late Mr. Miles, then Borough Engineer, for his active and valuable co-operation.

*Petroleum Acts.*

During the year 81 licences to store petroleum and 16 to store carbide of calcium were granted, as against 79 and 17 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.*

**Report of the Veterinary Inspector, 1931.**

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

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in reporting that nothing of an unusual nature has arisen in connection with my duties as Veterinary Inspector to the Borough during the year ending 31st December, 1931.

*Cows and Cowsheds.*

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

The number of cowsheds in the Borough is	.. ..	11
"    "    cows in the Borough is (approx.)	.. ..	270
"    "    cows excluded from cowsheds in the Borough during the year was	.. ..	22
"    "    samples of milk examined during the year was	.. ..	31
"    "    cows tested with the tuberculin test during the year was	.. ..	8
"    "    visits paid to cowsheds during the year was	.. ..	118

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

Samples have been 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 lived 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.*

- F. J. Carter, Gardiners Farm, Great Baddow.
- A. W. Whiting, Baddow Road.
- T. Chaplin & Sons, Galleywood.
- R. Partridge, Patching Hall, Broomfield.
- W. McMillan, Boreham.
- W. Westwood, Roxwell.
- H. J. J. Snelling, Writtle.
- J. N. Christy, Priors, Broomfield.
- E. C. Cottey, Wood Farm, Galleywood.
- F. C. Ritchens, New Road, Great Baddow.
- F. Holmes, Mill Hill, Sandon.
- W. A. McKnight, Wellington House, Writtle.
- L. Wallis, Sawkins, Great Baddow.
- G. D. Rogers, North View, Baddow Road.
- J. McKinlay, Readings Farm, Blackmore.

*Slaughterhouses.*

The number of animals slaughtered in the Borough for human food during the year 1931 was approximately :—

Beasts	..	..	..	..	2,379
Sheep	..	..	..	..	8,852
Calves	..	..	..	..	540
Pigs	..	..	..	..	5,740
Cows	..	..	..	..	60
Goats	..	..	..	..	8

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	..	..	..	..	3
Cows	..	..	..	..	141
Lambs	..	..	..	..	Nil
Pigs	..	..	..	..	5
Bullocks	..	..	..	..	8
Bulls	..	..	..	..	Nil

In addition to these, a considerable quantity of various organs and flesh is destroyed every day.

All slaughterhouses have been visited every day.

The number of butchers' shops in the town is 24.

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 the Annual Report for 1925.

**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	..	..	171
Boars	..	..	10
Goats	..	..	8

The Horses are slaughtered at Moulsham ; Goats and Boars at Mildmay Road.

**CONDEMNED :** Horses 9 ; Boars 1 ; Goats nil.

*Market.*

The Corporation Market has been regularly attended on each market day 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 last year :—

1931.			
January	23rd	..	Black and white cow, suspected of being tuberculous.
„	23rd	..	13 pigs, suspected of suffering from Swine Fever.
February	27th	..	2 red roan cows, suspected of being tuberculous.
July	31st	..	Black and white cow, suspected to be tuberculous.
August	7th	..	Blue roan cow, suspected to be tuberculous.
„	28th	..	12 pigs, suspected to be suffering from Swine Fever.
October	2nd	..	14 pigs, suspected to be suffering from Swine Fever.
„	16th	..	Red roan cow, suspected to be tuberculous.
„	16th	..	1 pig, fractured leg, sent for slaughter.
November	2nd	..	Dead horse, valvular disease of the heart.
„	20th	..	2 red roan cows, suspected to be tuberculous.
„	27th	..	12 pigs, suspected to be suffering from Swine Fever.

There is a very marked improvement in the quality of cattle exposed for sale.

18 extra Irish Store Sales were held.

2 Jersey Sales, 1 Holstein Sale, and 1 Guernsey Sale have been held.

*Contagious Diseases.*

	Chelmsford Division.	Chelmsford Borough.
Swine Fever .. ..	7	Nil
Anthrax .. ..	1	Nil
Mange .. ..	5	4
Sheep Scab .. ..	5	Nil
Foot and Mouth Disease .. ..	Nil	Nil
Tuberculosis .. ..	125	18

*Animals Exposed for Sale in 1931.*

Sows and Pigs	..	..	..	29
Fat Pigs	..	..	..	9,053
Store Pigs	..	..	..	15,465
Rams	..	..	..	296
Fat Sheep	..	..	..	4,519
Store Sheep	..	..	..	16,615
Lambs	..	..	..	457
Bulls	..	..	..	647
Fat Beasts	..	..	..	5,234
Store Beasts	..	..	..	10,232
Dairy Cows	..	..	..	3,508
Fat Calves	..	..	..	169
Store Calves	..	..	..	5,656
Horses	..	..	..	533
Goats	..	..	..	Nil.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. S. MULVEY,

*Veterinary Inspector.*

May, 1932.

BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD.



EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

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**REPORT**  
OF THE  
**SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER,**  
FOR  
the year ended 31st December, 1931.

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# Borough of Chelmsford.

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## EDUCATION COMMITTEE, 1930-31.

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### MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL :

The Mayor (Councillor L. F. CHRISTY).

Alderman J. O. THOMPSON, O.B.E., J.P. (*Chairman*).

Alderman J. G. DIXON (*Vice-Chairman*).

Alderman J. GOWERS.

Alderman W. A. LEECH.

Councillor E. C. ASHTON.

Councillor C. E. GOSLING.

„ Miss F. J. CHANCELLOR.

„ J. C. PAWSON.

„ F. EVE.

„ H. WRIGHT, M.B.E.

„ F. FOX.

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### SELECTED MEMBERS :

The Rev. J. W. ALMOND.

The Rev. W. S. BROWNLESS (St. John's School).

Miss J. C. CRAMPORN.

The Rev. R. C. C. HARGREAVES (Springfield School).

The Rev. Canon W. E. R. MORROW.

Mrs. J. C. PAWSON.

Mr. J. H. ROWE (Victoria Schools).

The Rev. W. THOMPSON (Deceased) (Roman Catholic School).

Mr. F. A. WELLS.

## BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD.

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Public Health Department,  
89, Duke Street,  
Chelmsford.

*July, 1932.*

*To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the report of the School Medical Officer for the year ended 31st December, 1931.

Your late School Medical Officer demitted office on the 31st March, 1932, before the report was compiled.

The Annual Report for 1931 is therefore almost entirely a bare record of facts and figures, and I am indebted to Mr. F. E. Young, my chief clerk, for preparing these.

The report of Dr. J. R. Tibbles on Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases, to the Managers of Kings Road Schools, is included.

You are already familiar with some of my views through my re-organisation reports, and in the circumstances I think it undesirable for me to make any comments on the 1931 report.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. C. SLEIGH,

*School Medical Officer.*

**STAFF.**

School Medical Officer	..	J. R. TIBBLES, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
School Dental Surgeon	..	FRANCIS V. MAGUIRE, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.).
School Nurse	..	MISS E. M. LEVETT (Four years' hospital trained at the Elizabeth Garrett Ander- son Hospital and the Seamen's Hos- pital).
Chief Clerk	..	F. ERIC YOUNG.
Junior Clerk	..	S. V. EDWARDS.

**CO-ORDINATION.****(a) Infant and Child Welfare, and****(c) The care of debilitated children under school age.**

What may be termed a "natural co-ordination" exists between the work of the School Medical Service and that of the Maternity and Child Welfare service, as both departments are under the same control.

**(b) Nursery Schools.**

There are no Nursery Schools in Chelmsford.

**THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE IN RELATION TO  
PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.**

**School Hygiene.**

The Sanitary Inspector, Mr. W. Brown, inspects the sanitary conveniences at the elementary schools each month and reports upon their condition to the Education Committee.

The Table on page 23 shews the number and type of sanitary conveniences, &c., of each elementary school in the Borough.

The sanitary conveniences at St. John's Schools are of a very old type, and while they are not actually in an insanitary condition, a great improvement would be effected by the substitution of pedestal closets, and an economy in water would result.

In November, 1931, the Managers of St. John's Schools stated that they approved alterations as suggested by the Sanitary Inspector and Borough Engineer, but found it necessary, owing to want of funds, to defer the carrying out of the works.

- (i) Warming up of meals brought to school by the children ; and  
(ii) Supervision of children during the meals.

The Authority has no definite arrangements. The Head Teachers provide their own arrangements where necessary.

(iii) The service of meals.

No arrangements are made by the Authority, other than the supply of free milk to certain elementary school children (see page 59).

### MEDICAL INSPECTION AND FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

See Tables on pages 64 to 71.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified amongst children attending elementary schools in the Borough :—

School.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.
Kings Road Boys' .. ..	2	1
„ Girls' .. ..	3	0
„ Infants' .. ..	2	1
Trinity Road Boys' .. ..	2	0
„ Girls' .. ..	2	1 (teacher).
„ Infants' .. ..	1	1
St. John's Boys' .. ..	4	0
„ Girls' .. ..	3	0
„ Infants' .. ..	4	0
Victoria Boys' .. ..	1	0
„ Girls' and Infants' .. ..	1	0
Friars Infants' .. ..	4	1
Springfield Mixed .. ..	0	3
St. Peter's Infants' .. ..	2	0
	—	—
	31	8
	—	—

It was not found necessary to close either a class, department or school during the year.

See also pages 27 and 28.

### Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Epidemics of Whooping Cough, Chicken Pox, Mumps, and a slight epidemic of Measles occurred during the year.

In June, 1931, the Managers of Kings Road Council School asked for a report from the School Medical Officer upon the prevalence of these diseases. The School Medical Officer reported as follows :—

#### NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES AT KINGS ROAD SCHOOL.

I have been asked by the Managers of this school to submit my observations to them on the prevalence of Whooping Cough, Measles, Chicken Pox and Mumps.

This I have done as follows :—

“ When I came to Chelmsford I was soon struck by the bad record of the school in this regard and made enquiries.

I found the school itself to be a modern building of excellent design, situated on high ground in the centre of a model housing estate. Most of the scholars live on the estate in well found houses, which have a proper water supply, drainage, ventilation and plenty of air space.

Those few who do not live on the estate come from homes which are none too bad. There is little home overcrowding and no real distress among the parents due to unemployment.

Evidently the cause of illness in Kings Road scholars is not to be accounted for by their immediate sanitary surroundings.

Looking at the scholars themselves, I find that the majority are children of people in fairly good circumstances, are reasonably well fed and clothed, and live in houses which are reasonably clean.

A proportion, however, are children whose parents came from the slum areas, from houses which have recently been condemned and closed, and who were necessarily provided with accommodation on the estate. In this way there was introduced to the estate a number of families accustomed to squalid conditions ; and to the school, what may be termed, a focus of infection. For, although these people were given good houses in which to live, the mere fact of transference could not at once abolish the slum habit of life. Their children, poorly fed and clothed from birth, living until recently in slum conditions, and now in conditions not very much better, have less than a normal resistance to disease ; and mixing, as they must, with large numbers in the school are continually introducing some fresh infection.

That, I think, indicates the origin of these infections ; although it must be remembered that all children are particularly liable during the first quarter of the year. But there is no doubt that many of these epidemics of trivial diseases are unduly prolonged and can be considerably reduced by administrative means.

There is nothing new in the measures I advise ; they have been rubbed into the nation now for years by the medical profession, using every means of propaganda to ensure that the elementary principles of health are known to the people.

(1) *Improvement of Home Conditions.* Children brought up amidst dirtiness and stale air, born of parents who have always lived in even worse conditions, are handicapped from the start in their fight against disease. The remedy is obvious—to teach cleanliness and open windows. This is best done, generally, through newspapers : locally, through the Infant Welfare Centres and through the house visitation of Health Visitor and School Nurse. An Englishman's home is his castle : it can only be invaded with tact, certainly not with the avowed intention of changing his mode of life.

(2) *Improvement in Feeding.* Apart from defects due to the unhygienic conditions under which their food is kept and cooked, the diet of these children is generally ill-balanced. Children require a sufficiency of each of the three great food principles—protein, fat and carbohydrate—and these must be fresh, or vitamins are lost. Fresh milk is the only perfect food ; it will supply whatever is lacking. Milk must form an essential part of every child's daily food, and, to ensure that children get it, should be available at school.

(3) *Fresh air at the School.* This is often admitted in theory but not in fact. To preserve purity of the atmosphere in an inhabited room, the total air must be completely changed at least three times every hour. This is necessary for the maintenance of health under normal conditions. In the special ones under consideration I advise that all doors and all windows should be open wide before and after all class periods, during all intervals and for as long as possible while the caretaker is in the building during the evening and over weekends. This applies particularly to cloak rooms and other places where personal belongings are stored. Moreover, coats and hats should hang free, each clear of the next ones.

(4) *Use of School Clinic.* A freer use should be made of the advice and amenities provided by the School Medical Service. Teachers who consider that a child is not in normal health should recommend the parents to seek advice at the Clinic or from their private doctor. In any necessary case, parents will be recommended at the Clinic to go to their private doctor.

(5) *Re-admissions to School.* It is only in a very small proportion of these cases of non-notifiable infection that a doctor is called in. Most mothers, or their neighbours, recognise mumps and whooping cough, guess at measles and chicken pox (and often call them nettle rash), keep their children at home until the obvious signs have disappeared and the child feels well, generally a matter of a few days, and then send them back to school in an infectious condition.

This haphazard, uncontrolled re-admission to school is undoubtedly one of the most potent factors operating in keeping alive these epidemics of minor infections.

On the 30th October, 1930, I addressed a memorandum to all Head Teachers on this subject, asking that no child should be re-admitted, after absence due to illness, without the formal certificate of the School Medical Officer. (In the event of a private doctor's certificate, I wished to have knowledge thereof, and would at once issue the formal certificate).

Nevertheless in November and December that year approximately 116 children were absent from Kings Road School with mumps but only about 60 attended the Clinic and were certified free from infection. Here is a leak in the system which can easily be plugged.

To sum up : the remedy lies in the improvement of the general health of the children and the control of infectious disease at school ; the former a long and slow process ; the latter comprising a normal hygienic principle and a small detail of organisation which should already be in use.

In addition I should point out to you the absence of any means of my receiving information as to these outbreaks except indirectly. I consider it necessary that I should receive information from the Teachers as to the prevalence or otherwise of these non-notifiable diseases and I suggest that the Teachers should send me, every week, the names and addresses of children absent from school owing to these causes."

The above was also reported to the Education Committee.

The following extract from the Minutes of the Education Committee's meeting on the 9th June, 1931, shows the action taken :—

" The Town Clerk reported that the Managers of the Kings Road Schools had also considered the report of the School Medical Officer upon the prevalence of non-notifiable diseases at their schools, and had made the following recommendations :—

- (a) That the Head Teachers be instructed not to re-admit children who have been absent through infectious diseases, unless they produce a certificate from the School Medical Officer that they are fit to return to school.
- (b) That copies of the School Medical Officer's Report be forwarded to the Head Teachers.
- (c) That the School Medical Officer be asked to send copies of his recommendations as to the principles of good health to the Head Teachers for circulation to the scholars.

Resolved to recommend that these recommendations be approved and adopted and also that the Head Teachers be asked to report to the School Medical Officer each week as to the prevalence or otherwise of non-notifiable diseases in their schools."

### FOLLOWING UP.

The School Nurse follows-up cases where children are found to be suffering from defects and a visit is necessary.

During the year the School Nurse paid approximately 320 visits to homes.

An average time-table of the School Nurse's work for a week is as follows :—

Monday	.. 9—10	Minor Ailments Clinic.
	10—1	Visiting.
	2—5	Preparation for school medical inspection (weighing and measuring, &c.).
Tuesday	.. 9—10	Minor Ailments Clinic.
	10—5	Dental Clinic.
Wednesday	.. 9—10	Minor Ailments Clinic.
	10—5	School Medical Inspection.
Thursday	.. 9—10	Minor Ailments Clinic.
	10—1	School Medical Inspection.
	2—5	Visiting and clerical work.
Friday	.. 9—10	Minor Ailments Clinic.
	10—5	Dental Clinic.
Saturday	.. 9—10	Minor Ailments Clinic.
	10—12	Clerical work.

It will be seen therefore that insufficient time is available for home visiting.

**MEDICAL TREATMENT.****(a) Minor Ailments.**

The Minor Ailments Clinic is held every morning from 9 to 10 a.m., at the Public Health Department.

During the year 834 children made 2,078 attendances at this clinic.

See Table IV. on page 69.

**(b) Tonsils and Adenoids.**

During the year eight children, who were recommended by the School Medical Officer, received operative treatment for tonsils and adenoids at the Chelmsford and Essex Hospital.

Two cases referred for treatment were on the waiting list at the end of the year.

One partially blind boy from Chelmsford, who is at the East Anglian School for Blind and Deaf Children, received operative treatment for enlarged tonsils and adenoids at that Institution, the Education Committee bearing the cost of the operation.

**(c) Tuberculosis.**

No cases of active tuberculosis were discovered during the year by the School Medical Officer.

Two children were suspected to be suffering from tuberculosis (pulmonary) and were sent to the Tuberculosis Officer.

**(d) Skin Disease.**

See Table IV. on page 69.

One child received X-ray treatment for ringworm of the scalp, at the London Hospital under the Authority's agreement.

**(e) External Eye Diseases.**

See Table IV. on page 69.

Eighteen minor cases occurred during 1931 ; these were treated at the Minor Ailments Clinic.

**(f) Vision.**

See Table IV. on page 69.

Spectacles were supplied free in 4 cases, and in two instances they were supplied at less than cost price.

Two children were sent to the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital (Moorfields), for examination. Spectacles were prescribed in each case. In one case the parents purchased the spectacles, the other being supplied free.

Three children were examined at the London Hospital.

**(g) Ear Disease and Hearing.**

See Table IV. on page 69.

One child found to be partially deaf was sent to the Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, London, and the necessary treatment provided.

**(h) Dental Defects.**

See Table IV. on page 70.

**(i) Crippling Defects and Orthopædics.**

During the year two children were sent to the Royal National Orthopædic Hospital, London, for examination and treatment.

### OPEN-AIR EDUCATION.

**(a) Playground Classes** are held where the accommodation is available and when the weather is suitable.

**(b) School Journeys ; and**

**(c) School Camps.**

No arrangements were made during the year under review.

**(d) Open-air Classrooms in Public Elementary Schools.**

There are no Open-air Classrooms in the Borough. At Kings Road Schools in all the classrooms there are windows on both opposite walls, this giving practically the same effect as open-air classrooms.

**(e) Day Open-air Schools ; and**

**(f) Residential Open-air Schools.**

There are no schools of these types in the Borough.

### PHYSICAL TRAINING.

During the winter 30 women teachers from Borough Elementary Schools attended a special physical training class organised by the Essex Education Committee.

There is no Area Organiser of Physical Training for the Borough.

### PROVISION OF MEALS.

Milk "meals" only are provided by the Authority at the schools in cases of necessity.

#### Statement of work done during the year 1931.

Average cost per milk "meal" .. .. .	2d.
Number of individual children for whom milk was provided free .. .. .	119
Number of milk "meals" provided .. .. .	11,687

The "meal" consists of  $\frac{1}{2}$ -pint of Grade A milk per school day. No milk is supplied during the school holidays.

In January, 1931, Dr. Tibbles reported to the Education Committee as follows :—

"At your meeting on November 11th last you authorised me to supply milk to school children who would benefit by it.

This was approved by the Board of Education in their letter, dated 29th November, 1930, 'on the understanding that only children of parents who are genuinely necessitous will receive the milk free of charge.'

During my inspections at schools I did not make any particular inquiry into the circumstances of parents of children for whom I recommended milk. Naturally most of these parents of malnourished children are necessitous. I propose to estimate a 'necessitous' case according to the scale in use for the supply of free milk to expectant and nursing mothers (which has been approved by the Council).

This scheme is obviously defective, for it only provides milk for children whose parents are unable to pay. The present number of children receiving milk is 35, this may be expected to vary with the unemployment figures.

But there must, in any school population, be a very large number of children who would benefit enormously from a regular supply of good, fresh milk; and whose parents are able and eager to pay for it if the supply is arranged.

The child who will not eat breakfast, the child who is 'a bit thin but seems alright,' the child who tends to be anaemic or rheumatic, the child who is lackadaisical and uninterested, even the mentally backward child—all these are the types of children who would undoubtedly benefit by milk during school hours. It is a long time for a growing child to go from breakfast to dinner and to be able to sustain an interest in his lessons. I consider that apart from the physical benefit, an improvement in mental attainments would result.

You will remember from the Board's letter, extracts from which I will re-read, that they do not think we have gone far enough.

I have been in touch with the National Milk Publicity Council and I have here the correspondence and leaflets which they issue. Briefly, the scheme is to arrange for the supply of one-third of a pint of milk, sealed and with a straw, at a charge of one penny. The cost of the special bottles obtainable from the National Milk Publicity Council, only on the recommendation of the Medical Officer, falls on the dealer. The dairy trade have agreed with the National Council to sell milk at 6d. per quart the rate to remain constant all the year round.

I have, therefore, approached the dealer who is already providing the necessitous cases and find that he is willing to undertake the supply of Grade A Milk under these conditions, if the number of bottles required is in the neighbourhood of 300 per day. I do not think there is any doubt on the score of number. I propose, however, to issue to each school leaflets (provided by the National Milk Publicity Council), describing the scheme so that teachers can circularise all parents and discover how many wish to join what may be termed the "Milk Club." This may entail a certain amount of work on the part of the teachers but the physical and mental development in the children will respectively improve their attendance and learning capacity. As soon as the numbers willing are ascertained, the scheme can be put into operation without delay. I ask your sanction to proceed."

As a result of this report the following Minute was recorded :—

"Resolved to recommend that the proposals of the School Medical Officer for the supply of milk to school children in accordance with the scheme formulated by the National Milk Publicity Council, be approved, subject to the scheme being of a self-supporting nature, except for the Council's authorised free list, and that tenders be invited for the supply of the Grade A milk required."

In February the Education Committee authorised the School Medical Officer to circularise all the parents of children attending Borough Schools to ascertain what demand there would be for the milk to be supplied under the scheme of the National Milk Publicity Council.

This was done and the number of parents willing to pay for this milk supply was 748. In several instances parents offered to pay for supplying a necessitous case in addition to providing for their own children.

The Chelmsford Head Teachers' Association then communicated with the Education Committee stating that the Head Teachers viewed the introduction of a milk system with great misgiving, as it was anticipated that the time required for serving milk would interfere with the curriculum of the schools, and suggesting that the scheme should be limited to necessitous children only, and that the Head Teachers should be given an opportunity of discussing the matter with the Committee.

A meeting of representatives of the Education Committee and Head Teachers was held in September and Mr. A. D. Allen, O.B.E., Organiser for the National Milk Publicity Council, thoroughly explained the scheme for the supply of milk for school children. He emphasised the fact that in schools where the scheme was in operation the amount of time required for dealing with it in no way interfered with the curriculum. A discussion followed and the teachers decided to hold a meeting by themselves and communicate their opinion on the scheme to the School Medical Officer.

Nothing further has been done in the matter as a certain amount of mis-giving still exists amongst the Head Teachers regarding the introduction of the National Milk Publicity Council's Scheme.

It must still be realised, however, that the present scheme is defective, as it only provides for children whose parents are unable to pay, and the Board of Education do not consider that it goes far enough.

#### **SCHOOL BATHS.**

The Authority has no arrangements for this service.

#### **CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS.**

Parents are invited to attend with their children at routine medical inspections, minor ailment clinic, eye clinic, and dental clinic. In many instances the parents do attend with their children.

#### **CO-OPERATION OF TEACHERS.**

The practice of arranging the medical work so as to interfere as little as possible with the school curriculum is still maintained.

#### **CO-OPERATION OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICER.**

Although the School Attendance Officer takes no part in the actual work of the school medical service, a close co-ordination exists between the two departments.

#### **CO-OPERATION OF VOLUNTARY BODIES.**

The department is in touch with many voluntary bodies. The closest co-operation exists between the school medical department and the N.S.P.C.C.

During the year a case arose where parents objected to providing spectacles for their child, although they were perfectly able to pay for them. An Inspector of the N.S.P.C.C. visited the parents and the spectacles were immediately provided.

#### **BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.**

(a) During the year two children were notified to the Essex County Council under Article 2 (b) of the Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928.

One child is still awaiting admission to the Royal Eastern Counties Institution, Colchester.

An epileptic child was transferred from the Lingfield Epileptic Colony to the Royal Eastern Counties Institution.

An epileptic child was on the waiting list for admission to the Chalfont Epileptic Colony. This child has since died.

(b) No arrangements are made for the supervision of mentally defective children who are not in special schools.

(c) The Authority has no special schools.

### NURSERY SCHOOLS.

There are no Nursery Schools in the Borough.

### SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND CONTINUATION SCHOOLS.

The Essex County Council is the Authority for Higher Education in the Borough.

### EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS.

#### (i) Conditions of Employment.

Children of school age are employed in accordance with the provisions of the Borough Bye-laws. Their chief occupation is the delivery of newspapers.

During the year 73 certificates were issued ; of these, 47 were in respect of employment by newsagents.

The certificate of the School Medical Officer certifies that the employment will not be prejudicial to the health or physical development of the child and will not render him unfit to obtain proper benefit from his education.

No girls applied for certificates.

(ii) Neither the Juvenile Employment Committee nor the Certifying Factory Surgeon have requested assistance from this department.

(iii) The total number of children examined by the School Medical Officer during 1931, in respect of their employment out of school hours was 74.

In one instance the certificate was refused as the boy was suffering from anæmia.

Two children were granted temporary certificates, but upon re-examination at a later date, permanent certificates were granted.

### SPECIAL INQUIRIES.

See pages 54 to 57.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

#### Diabetes Case.

A child suffering from diabetes mellitus was supplied with insulin and special biscuits, free of charge. Towards the end of 1931, this girl was admitted to the Chelmsford and Essex Hospital, the Education Committee bearing the cost of her maintenance there.

#### Heart Disease.

One girl was excluded from school for the remainder of her school life as she was suffering from severe valvular disease of the heart.

#### Delicate Child.

One girl was sent to the Ogilvie School of Recovery, Clacton-on-Sea.

## STATISTICAL TABLES.

TABLE I.

Number of Children inspected from 1st January, 1931 to 31st December, 1931.

A.—*Routine Medical Inspections.*

Number of Code Group Inspections :—

	No of Children Inspected.
Entrants .. .. .	158
Intermediates .. .. .	211
Leavers .. .. .	138
	—
Total .. .. .	507
	—

Number of other Routine Inspections .. .. .	114
---	-----

B.—*Other Inspections.*

Number of Special Inspections .. .. .	847
Number of Re-Inspections .. .. .	1303
	—
Total .. .. .	2150
	—

**TABLE II.**  
**A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN**  
**THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1931.**

Defect or Disease.  (1)	Routine Inspections.		Special Inspections.	
	Requiring Treatment.  (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment.  (3)	Requiring Treatment.  (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment.  (5)
Malnutrition .. .. .	46	32	11	—
Uncleanliness : (See Table IV., Group V.)	—	—	—	—
Skin { Ringworm :				
{ Scalp .. .. .	—	—	—	—
{ Body .. .. .	—	—	—	—
{ Scabies .. .. .	4	—	—	—
{ Impetigo .. .. .	—	—	—	—
{ Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous)	—	1	—	—
Eye { Blepharitis .. .. .	—	—	—	—
{ Conjunctivitis .. .. .	—	—	—	—
{ Keratitis .. .. .	—	—	—	—
{ Corneal Opacities .. .. .	—	—	—	—
{ Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	49	15	2	—
{ Squint .. .. .	—	1	—	—
{ Other Conditions .. .. .	—	1	—	—
Ear { Defective Hearing .. .. .	3	2	—	—
{ Otitis Media .. .. .	—	1	—	—
{ Other Ear Diseases .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Nose and Throat { Enlarged Tonsils only .. .. .	3	27	—	2
{ Adenoids only .. .. .	7	8	—	—
{ Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids .. .. .	7	7	—	2
{ Other Conditions .. .. .	—	1	—	—
Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous)...	4	26	—	—
Defective Speech .. .. .	—	6	—	—
Teeth—Dental Diseases .. .. . (See Table IV., Group IV.)	281	—	1	—
Heart and Circulation { Heart Disease :				
{ Organic .. .. .	2	18	3	16
{ Functional .. .. .	—	10	—	3
{ Anæmia .. .. .	9	5	3	4
Lungs { Bronchitis .. .. .	—	17	—	2
{ Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases .. .. .	—	4	1	6
Tuber- culosis { Pulmonary :				
{ Definite .. .. .	—	—	—	—
{ Suspected .. .. .	2	1	3	3
{ Non-Pulmonary :				
{ Glands .. .. .	—	1	—	1
{ Spine .. .. .	—	—	—	—
{ Hip .. .. .	—	1	—	—
{ Other Bones and Joints .. .. .	—	—	—	—
{ Skin .. .. .	—	—	—	—
{ Other Forms .. .. .	—	1	—	—
Nervous System { Epilepsy .. .. .	1	—	—	1
{ Chorea .. .. .	—	—	—	—
{ Other Conditions .. .. .	2	2	—	2
Deformities { Rickets .. .. .	—	2	—	—
{ Spinal Curvature .. .. .	4	4	—	1
{ Other Forms .. .. .	1	2	1	3
Other Defects and Diseases .. .. .	2	6	—	3

TABLE II.—*continued.*

## B.—NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN FOUND AT ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION TO REQUIRE TREATMENT (EXCLUDING UNCLEANLINESS AND DENTAL DISEASES.)

GROUP. (1)	NUMBER OF CHILDREN.		Percentage of children found to require Treatment. (4)
	Inspected. (2)	Found to require Treatment. (3)	
CODE GROUPS :—			
Entrants ... ..	158	23	14.5
Intermediates ... ..	211	61	28.9
Leavers ... ..	138	36	26.1
Total (Code Groups) ... ..	507	120	23.7
Other Routine Inspections ... ..	114	27	23.7

TABLE III.

## RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN THE AREA IN 1931.

			Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Children suffering from the following types of Multiple Defect, i.e., any combination of Total Blindness, Total Deafness, Mental Defect, Epilepsy, Active Tuberculosis, Crippling (as defined in penultimate category of the Table), or Heart Disease ... ..			2	3	5*
Blind (including partially blind)	(i) Suitable for training in a School for the totally blind.	At Certified Schools for the Blind ...	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools ...	—	—	—
		At other Institutions ...	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution ...	—	—	—
(ii) Suitable for training in a School for the partially blind.	At Certified Schools for the Blind or partially blind ...	1	—	1	
	At Public Elementary Schools ...	—	—	—	
	At other Institutions ...	—	—	—	
	At no School or Institution ...	—	—	—	
Deaf (including deaf and dumb and partially deaf)	(i) Suitable for training in a School for the totally deaf or deaf and dumb.	At Certified Schools for the Deaf ...	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools ...	—	—	—
		At other Institutions ...	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution ...	—	—	—
(ii) Suitable for training in a School for the partially deaf.	At Certified Schools for the Deaf or partially Deaf ...	—	—	—	
	At Public Elementary Schools ...	—	—	—	
	At other Institutions ...	—	—	—	
	At no School or Institution ...	—	—	—	

TABLE III—continued.

			Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Mentally Defective.	Feeble-minded (cases not notifiable to the Local Control Authority.)	At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children ...	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools ...	4	3	7
At other Institutions ...		—	—	—	
At no School or Institution ...		4	1	5	
	Notified to the Local Control Authority during the year.	Details given on page 71.	1	2	3
Epileptics	Suffering from severe epilepsy.	At Certified Schools for Epileptics ...	—	—	—
		At Certified Residential Open Air Schools ...	—	—	—
At Certified Day Open Air Schools ...		—	—	—	
At Public Elementary Schools ...		—	—	—	
At other Institutions ...		—	1	1	
	Suffering from epilepsy which is not severe.	At Public Elementary Schools ...	1	—	1
At no School or Institution ...		—	—	—	
Physically Defective	Active pulmonary tuberculosis (including pleura and intrathoracic glands).	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board ...	—	—	—
		At Certified Residential Open Air Schools ...	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Open Air Schools ...	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools ...	—	—	—
		At other Institutions ...	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution ...	—	—	—
	Quiescent or arrested pulmonary tuberculosis (including pleura and intrathoracic glands).	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board ...	—	—	—
		At Certified Residential Open Air Schools ...	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Open Air Schools ...	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools ...	—	2	2
		At other Institutions ...	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution ...	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of the peripheral glands.	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board ...	—	—	—	
	At Certified Residential Open Air Schools ...	—	—	—	
	At Certified Day Open Air Schools ...	—	—	—	
	At Public Elementary Schools ...	5	2	7	
	At other Institutions ...	—	—	—	
	At no School or Institution ...	—	—	—	
Abdominal tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board ...	—	—	—	
	At Certified Residential Open Air Schools ...	—	—	—	
	At Certified Day Open Air Schools ...	—	—	—	
	At Public Elementary Schools ...	1	1	2	
	At other Institutions ...	—	—	—	
	At no School or Institution ...	—	—	—	

TABLE III—continued.

			Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Physically Defective continued.	Tuberculosis of bones and joints (not including deformities due to old tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Hospital Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools	3	1	4
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution	—	—	—
	Tuberculosis of other organs (skin, etc.).	At Sanatoria or Hospital Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools	—	—	—
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution	—	—	—
	Delicate children (i.e., all children (except those included in other groups) whose general health renders it desirable that they should be specially selected for admission to an Open Air School.	At Certified Residential Cripple Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Cripple Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Residential Open Air Schools	—	1	1
		At Certified Day Open Air Schools	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools	9	11	20
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
	Crippled Children (other than those with active tuberculous disease) who are suffering from a degree of crippling sufficiently severe to interfere materially with a child's normal mode of life.	At Certified Hospital Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Residential Cripple Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Cripple Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Residential Open Air Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Open Air Schools	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools	5	7	12 (6)†
At other Institutions	—	—	—		
At no School or Institution	1	1	2 (—)		
Children with heart disease, i.e., children whose defect is so severe as to necessitate the provision of educational facilities other than those of the public elementary school.	At Certified Hospital Schools	—	—	—	
	At Certified Residential Cripple Schools	—	—	—	
	At Certified Day Cripple Schools	—	—	—	
	At Certified Residential Open Air Schools	—	—	—	
	At Certified Day Open Air Schools	—	—	—	
	At Public Elementary Schools	4	4	8	
	At other Institutions	—	—	—	
At no School or Institution	—	1	1		

	OTHER DEFECTS.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Tuberculosis hipjoint, attending private school	.. ..	—	1	1
Hyperthyroidism attending Public Elementary School	.. ..	—	1	1
Diabetes, attending no school or institution	.. ..	—	1	1

## \*MULTIPLE DEFECTS.

Mental defective and cripple, attending no school or institution	.. ..	1	1	2
Feeble-minded and cripple, attending Public Elementary School	.. ..	1	1	2
Feeble-minded and severe heart disease, attending no school or institution	.. ..	—	1	1
Feeble-minded, attending private school	.. ..	—	1	1

†The figures in brackets refer to the number of children that should be receiving Special School Education.

TABLE IV.

## RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED DURING 1931.

GROUP I.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Group V.)

Disease or Defect.  (1)	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Otherwise. (3)	Total (4)
<i>Skin—</i>			
Ringworm-Scalp... ..	1	—	1
Ringworm-Body ... ..	1	—	1
Scabies ... ..	13	—	13
Impetigo ... ..	27	—	27
Other skin disease ... ..	95	—	95
<i>Minor Eye Defects</i> ... .. (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.)	18	—	18
<i>Minor Ear Defects</i> ... ..	23	—	23
<i>Miscellaneous</i> ... .. (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, &c.)	727	—	727
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>905</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>905</b>

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.)

Defect or Disease.  (1)	No. of Defects dealt with.			
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Submitted to refraction by private practitioner or at hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. (3)	Otherwise. (4)	Total. (5)
Errors of Refraction (including Squint) (Operations for squint should be recorded separately in the body of the Report) ... ..	126	7	—	133
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.) ... ..	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>126</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>133</b>

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme ... ..	124
(b) Otherwise ... ..	7

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme ... ..	121
(b) Otherwise ... ..	1

TABLE IV.—*continued.*

## GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Number of Defects.				
Received Operative Treatment.			Received other forms of Treatment.	Total number treated.
Under the Authority's Scheme—in Clinic or Hospital.	By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme.	Total.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
8	—	8	54	62

## GROUP IV.—DENTAL DEFECTS.

(1) Number of Children who were :—

(a) Inspected by the Dentist :

	5 ..	46	} Total ... 1295
	6 ...	53	
	7 ...	113	
	8 ...	159	
Routine	9 ...	179	
Age	10 ...	192	
Groups	11 ...	195	
	12 ...	138	
	13 ...	168	
	14 ...	52	

Specials ... .. 320

Total ... 1615

(b) Found to require treatment ... 975

(c) Actually treated ... .. 564

(2) Half-days devoted to :—

Inspection ... ..	6	} Total ... 140
Treatment ... ..	134	

(3) Attendances made by children for treatment ... .. 1119

(4) Fillings :—

Permanent teeth	317	} Total ... 387
Temporary teeth	70	

(5) Extractions :—

Permanent teeth	226	} Total ... 940
Temporary teeth	714	

(6) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions ... .. 267

(7) Other operations :—

Permanent teeth	342	} Total ... 734
Temporary teeth	392	

## GROUP V.—UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

- (i.) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses ... .. 5
- (ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses ... 6,259
- (iii.) Number of individual children found unclean ... .. 163
- (iv.) Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority ... .. Nil
- (v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—
- (a) Under the Education Act, 1921 ... .. Nil
- (b) Under School Attendance Bye-laws ... .. Nil

TABLE V.

STATEMENT OF THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1931,  
BY THE LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY TO THE LOCAL MENTAL DEFICIENCY AUTHORITY.

Total Number of Children Notified .. 3

## ANALYSIS OF THE ABOVE TOTAL.

Diagnosis.	Boys.	Girls.
(i) Children incapable of receiving benefit or further benefit from instruction in a Special School :		
(a) Idiots .. .. .	—	1
(b) Imbeciles .. .. .	1	1
(c) Others .. .. .	—	—
(ii) Children unable to be instructed in a Special School without detriment to the interests of other children :		
(a) Moral defectives .. .. .	—	—
(b) Others .. .. .	—	—
2. Feeble-minded children notified on leaving a Special School on or before attaining the age of 16 .. .. .	—	—
3. Feeble-minded children notified under Article 3, i.e., "special circumstances" cases .. .. . Note.—No child should be notified under Article 3 until the Board have issued a formal certificate (Form 308M) to the Authority.	—	—
4. Children who in addition to being mentally defective were blind or deaf .. .. . Note.—No blind or deaf child should be notified without reference to the Board—see Article 2, proviso (ii).	—	—
Grand Total .. .. .	1	2

TABLE V

ANALYSIS OF THE LIVER TISSUE  
IN THE LIVER OF THE RAT  
DURING THE PERIOD OF  
REGENERATION

Component	Concentration (%)
Water	75.0
Protein	15.0
Lipid	5.0
Carbohydrate	2.0
Inorganic salts	3.0
Total	100.0

