

[Report 1948] / Medical Officer of Health, Chelmsford Borough.

Contributors

Chelmsford (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1948

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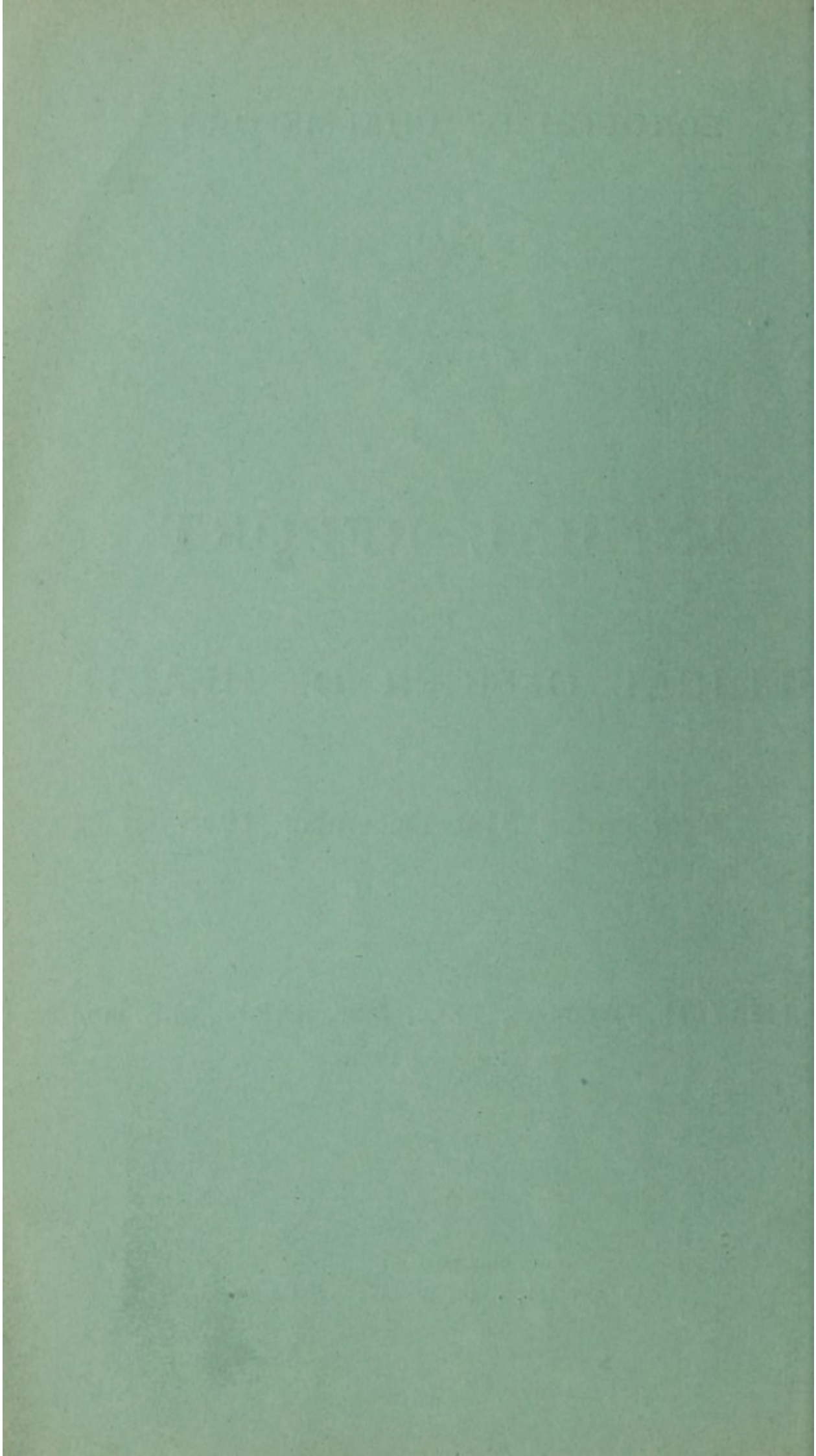
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BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE
Year ended 31st December, 1948

I. MERVYN THOMAS, M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H., M.R.San.I.
Medical Officer of Health.

CHELMSFORD :
John Dutton Ltd., 8, Tindal Street and 91, High Street.



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BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH.

Medical Officer of Health :

J. MERVYN THOMAS, M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H., M.R.San.I.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

R. F. WYNN, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspectors :

E. ALTY, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

T. B. HOOD, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (Resigned July, 1948).

H. FIELD, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (Appointed 26th July, 1948).

R. PRICHARD, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (Appointed 22nd Nov. 1948).

Sanitary Inspector's Department :

Clerks :

S. V. EDWARDS.

L. AINSWORTH.

Veterinary Inspector (part-time) :

Mr. H. G. McSHANE, M.R.C.V.S.

The following Officers were transferred (full-time) to the Essex County Council under the National Health Service Act, 1946, on the 5th July, 1948.

Health Visitors :

Miss E. E. GLASCODINE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss M. MAKINGS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Miss H. M. HALL, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Mrs. E. LUCEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Mrs. V. H. GROVE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

(Appointed 18th October, 1948).

Chief Clerk :

T. W. BUNTER, M.R. San. I.

Clerks :

G. H. D. BROWN.

Miss P. DOBBS.

D. L. GIFFORD.

Miss V. DEVONISH.

Matron, Day Nursery, Waterloo Lane :

Miss SYMMONS.

Dental Surgeon (part-time) :

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

Dental Attendant :

Miss R. LEEKS.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1948.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

My Tenth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health is presented for your information in respect of the year 1948, and in it are found many Services which were transferred to the Essex County Council under the National Health Service Act, Part III, on July 5th, 1948.

It is said that "Man wants but little here below nor wants that little long." I would suggest that the "little" in this quotation as a minimum implies (i) good inheritance and hereditary characteristics; (ii) good healthy parents; (iii) a good and happy home; (iv) the necessary environment to grow and be free from most of the ailments that man is heir to; and (v) should he unfortunately succumb a curative service is necessary both for his Mental and Physical Welfare. Given these conditions it is expected that man himself should form his destiny in the right and proper way expected of Civilization.

With this in mind let us analyse what is being done and what has been attained in the Borough of Chelmsford to satisfy the needs of the "little here below" for 1948. In the first place, during the past year man has stood the chance of only being 1 in 29.27 in dying under the age of one year, which for the rest of the country has been 34. His chances of survival have been bettered by reason of the fact that no mother has suffered with puerperal sepsis nor has there been a maternal death. There has been no death from either Measles, Whooping Cough or Diphtheria, although the rest of the country has a death rate of 3.3 per thousand for Diarrhoea. In fact, only 18 children under one year died of any condition in the year, and 13 of these were Malformations or Birth Injuries, etc. He has been free from typhoid or paratyphoid fevers, measles, scarlet fever, whooping cough, diphtheria, influenza, cerebro-spinal fever and infantile paralysis, all of which had no deaths in the year.

Arriving at the termination of life, it would appear that here we record the majority of deaths, these being 115 over the age of 75, with a figure of 81 from 65-75; this, I suggest, is a very good record of health estimated by longevity. To promote care at all ages the Services, which from year to year have been reported by me as increasing in attendance and expansions into fields of wider knowledge all focusing on the health of the individual, have played an important part and, I am pleased to record, are accepted widely in the Borough of Chelmsford.

To mention, once again, the work done by the Clinic Doctors, the Health Visitors and School Nurses, the Dental Officers and their Staffs, together with the excellent help given by the willing Voluntary Helpers, is only to emphasise the scope of the work in hand. The fact that the scourge of diphtheria has now not been known for over twelve years can only be attributed to the careful watch that is kept on all babies who are effectively immunized in the first year of life, and this immunity is maintained by boosting doses at the age of five, ten and possibly fifteen years.

As in previous years there is nothing spectacular to report for which I am indeed grateful, but it is this that makes the health of Chelmsford so outstanding. At this stage I would draw your attention to the fact that the National Health Service Act of 1946, which came into operation on the 5th July, 1948, will in no way destroy the Services which have formerly been under the guidance of the Chelmsford Borough Council, but can be enhanced to a large degree by having available, from a widening field, both the knowledge of the circumstances surrounding our Borough and also such preventive measures as were impracticable and uneconomical hitherto. As the co-ordinating Medical Officer of the Mid-Essex Health Division the advantages of furthering the Borough's own particular needs will continue and improve. It is unfortunate that the Act states so little about preventive medicine and yet emphasises so much curative medicine. Surely curative medicine is an admission of failure, for the individual has contracted something which might conceivably have been prevented. Here must be stated the 64 deaths from Cancer. We have an excellent medical service on the curative side in Chelmsford when this takes place, but to me it is always an admission of failure in my work in preventive measures.

On the 5th July, 1948, the Maternity and Child Welfare work was entirely transferred, as were all Specialist Services, under the Regional Hospital Board, and it is often asked what is left for a Medical Officer of Health of any town. It is my submission that at last he can begin to assess, in its right perspective, the information of his area in all matters of health whether they be infective diseases, food poisoning, environmental health or social and economic welfare.

So far it has been stated the "little" man requires, but he "cannot live by bread alone" and this truly is only the bread. He requires substance for mental thought and activity and exercise for his active physical body. It is, therefore, necessary for cultural activities, both in large and small ways, to be available in which he can himself take part, and, in this connection, the setting up of good parks with playing fields, etc., is most important. We do very much need an indoor swimming pool in Chelmsford.

Good and adequate homes are an essential feature and these are being met to quite a marked degree in Chelmsford, but I cannot agree that separating the aged to one part of a community as some kind of "foreign body" is a good thing. Although the reasons for so doing are appreciated, I do maintain that the family unit should comprise both the very young and the very old if true relationships and internal happiness is to be preserved, and while their individual living accommodation may be separated they should not be segregated where the one cannot be influenced by the other.

J. MERVYN THOMAS,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Circulars, etc., received during the Year 1948.

Circular.	Number.	Title.
Ministry of Health Circular ..	3/48 ..	Health Centres.
Do. ..	12/48 ..	Salaries of whole-time Medical Officers of Health.
Do. ..	23/48 ..	Food and Drugs Act, 1938 and 1944. Ministers of the Crown (Transfer of Functions) Act, 1946. Transfer of Functions (Food and Drugs) Order, 1948.
Do. ..	36/48 ..	National Health Service Act, 1948. Public Health Services available to Public.
National Health Service Act, 1946 ..	Section 51 of Act ..	Mental Health Service—Essex County Council. Proposed arrangements.
Do. ..	— ..	Decentralization of Administration—Essex County Council.
Ministry of Health Circular ..	60/48 ..	Authentication of Certificates of Vaccination and Inoculation for use of travellers abroad.
Do. ..	67/48 and Amendment Order No. 819 ..	Ice-cream (heat treatment, etc.). Amendment Regulations, 1948.
Ministry of Food ..	Memo 62 b/Foods ..	Meat Inspection.
Do. ..	— ..	The Public Health (Imported Food) Amendment Regulations, 1948.
Ministry of Health Circular ..	81/48 ..	Food and Drugs Acts, 1938 and 1944.
Do. ..	1948 No. 1117 ..	The Milk (Special Designations) (Amendment) Regulations, 1948.
Do. ..	1948 No. 1119 ..	The Public Health (Meat) (Amendment) Regulations, 1948.
Ministry of Health Circular ..	Memo 30-9-48 ..	Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944.
Ministry of Food Circular ..	M.F. 3/48 ..	Food and Drugs Act, 1938. 1. Unsound Food.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

AREA (in acres)	..	..	4,755.
POPULATION, 1948	..	{	35,850 (Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid-year).
			26,537 (Census, 1931).
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (end of 1948) according to Rate Books			10,344.
RATEABLE VALUE (1st April, 1948)			£365,101.
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE (year ending 31st March, 1948)	..	..	£1,460 15s. 8d.

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS.

		Total.	Male.	Female.	
Live Births	Legitimate	.. 582	.. 308	.. 274	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population mid-1948—17.15.
	Illegitimate	.. 33	.. 14	.. 19	
	Totals	.. 615	.. 322	.. 293	
Still Births	Legitimate	.. 13	.. 9	.. 4	Rate per 1,000 live and still births—22.3.
	Illegitimate	.. 1	.. 1	.. —	
	Totals	.. 14	.. 10	.. 4	
DEATHS	..	.. 311	.. 156	.. 155	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—8.68.

Deaths from Puerperal causes :—

Puerperal Sepsis	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.
Maternal cases	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 births	..	..	..	..	29.27
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	29.21
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	..	30.30
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	64
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea, etc. (under two years of age)	..	..	..	..	Nil.

Deaths.

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING THE YEAR 1948.

Under 1	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 +
18	1	3	—	5	6	11	28	43	81	115

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, 1948.

Causes of Death	Males	Females	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Influenza	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	1	2	3
Other Tuberculosis Diseases	—	1	1
Syphilitic Diseases	4	—	4
Cancer of b. Cav. and Oesoph (M) ; Uterus (F)	6	3	9
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	6	5	11
Cancer of other sites	19	19	38
Cancer of Breast	—	6	6
Diabetes	2	1	3
Intra Cran. Vasc. Lesions	12	24	36
Heart Diseases	45	39	84
Other Circulatory Diseases	9	9	18
Bronchitis	11	3	14
Pneumonia	3	12	15
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	1	3
Nephritis	—	2	2
Puerperal and Post-abortion : Sepsis	—	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	—	—	—
Con. Mal., birth injury, Infant dis.	6	7	13
Premature Birth	—	1	1
Suicide	2	1	3
Other Violent Causes	3	4	7
Road Traffic Accidents	3	1	4
For all other Causes	20	11	31
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	—	—	—
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	—	—	—
Diarrhoea, etc. (under two years of age)	—	—	—
Appendicitis	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases	2	3	5
Totals	156	155	311

Vital Statistics.

BIRTH RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1948.

(Provisional figures based on quarterly returns.)

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population				
<i>Births.</i>				
Live	17.9 (a)	20.0	19.2	20.1
Still	0.42 (a)	0.52	0.43	0.39
<i>Deaths.</i>				
All Causes.. ..	10.8 (a)	11.6	10.7	11.6
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough.. ..	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Tuberculosis	0.51	0.59	0.46	0.63
Influenza	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.02
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.41	0.38	0.36	0.54
<i>Notifications (corrected).</i>				
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Scarlet Fever	1.73	1.90	1.82	1.37
Whooping Cough.. ..	3.42	3.51	3.31	3.13
Diphtheria	0.08	0.10	0.09	0.10
Erysipelas.. .. .	0.21	0.23	0.21	0.22
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	9.34	9.75	8.84	9.17
Pneumonia	0.73	0.84	0.60	0.57
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.04
Acute Polioencephalitis ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
<i>Deaths.</i>				
All causes under one year of age	34 (b)	39	32	31
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under two years of age	3.3	4.5	2.1	2.4
Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births				
<i>Notifications (corrected).</i>				
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia ..	6.89	8.90	4.71	7.34 (c)

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales.

	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	Rates per million women aged 15-44
140 Abortion with Sepsis	0.11	9
141 Abortion without Sepsis	0.05	4
147 Puerperal infections	0.13	
142-146, 148-160 Other Maternal Causes	0.73	

(a) Rates per 1,000 total population.

(b) Per 1,000 related births.

(c) In London Puerperal Fever alone was 0.61

General Provision of Health Services.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY (See Page 1).

NURSING IN THE HOME.

General.

There are four District Nurses practising in the Borough.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations and analysis of water, milk, food, etc., are made by arrangement with the Essex County Council Laboratories.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

Ministry of Health Circulars and Amendments, etc., received during the year have been mentioned.

Chelmsford and Essex Hospital.

Out-patient Clinics.

Monday—	9 a.m.	..	Orthopædic	..	..	Mr. H. A. Harris, F.R.C.S.
	10 a.m.	..	Medical	..	..	H. Bathurst-Norman, D.M. M.R.C.P.
	2 p.m.	..	Surgical	..	..	P. G. C. Martin, M.Chir., F.R.C.S.
	2 p.m.	..	Psychiatric	..	..	N. Copeland, M.B., D.P.M.
Tuesday—	9 a.m.	..	Surgical	..	..	M. D. Sheppard, F.R.C.S.
	2 p.m.	..	Ear, Nose and Throat			A. Martin Henry, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.D.S.
	10 a.m.	..	Diabetic Clinic	..		
Wednesday—	9 a.m.	..	Dental	..	..	A. King, L.D.S.
	10 a.m.	..	Diseases of the	..	..	P. G. C. Martin, M.Chir., F.R.C.S.
			Rectum and Anus			
	10 a.m.	..	Medical	..	..	R. Sleigh-Johnson, M.D., M.R.C.P.
Thursday—	9 a.m.	..	Genito-Urinary	..	..	M. D. Sheppard, F.R.C.S.
	1.30 p.m.	..	Dermatological	..	..	Richard E. A. Price, M.B.
	2 p.m.	..	Neurological	..	..	P. Buckley, M.R.C.P.
Friday—	9 a.m.	..	Surgical (including	..	..	H. A. H. Harris, F.R.C.S.
			Orthopædics)			
	1.30 p.m.	..	Ophthalmic	..	..	R. McIver Paton, F.R.C.S.
Saturday—	10 a.m.	..	Children	..	..	C. B. M. Warren, M.R.C.P., D.C.H.

Patients will not be seen at the above Clinics except by appointment, application to the Registration Clerk, Chelmsford Hospital, Telephone 3481, and MUST bring with them a letter from their Doctor giving details of the case.

Private patients can be seen at the Hospital, similar arrangements to be made through the Registration Clerk, regarding appointments. Intimation must be given when making appointment as to whether the case is private or not.

Printed Post Cards are obtainable, on application to the Hospital, for making appointments by post.

The following Essex County Council Clinics are also held at the Chelmsford Hospital, but it is not necessary for appointments to be made for patients attending these clinics.

Tuesday—2.30 p.m.	..	..	Ante-Natal.
Wednesday—1.30 p.m.	..	..	Mental Diseases (2nd, 4th and 5th weeks).
Thursday—4 p.m. to 6 p.m.	..	..	Venereal Diseases.
Friday—10.30 a.m. to noon	..	..	Venereal Diseases.

HOSPITALS.

The Hospital Service was transferred to the Regional Hospital Board on 5th July, 1948.

St. John's Hospital (controlled by the Essex County Council).

The Chelmsford Joint Isolation Hospital.

Tuberculosis Clinics are held at the Essex County Council Hospital, Broomfield.

The following Services were transferred to the control of the Essex County Council, 5th July, 1948, under the National Health Service Act, 1946.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) *For Infectious Cases.* A motor ambulance is maintained by the Chelmsford Joint Hospital Board for conveyance of patients. In addition an older motor ambulance is in use for carrying articles for disinfection and disinfestation.

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

(c) *For Maternity Patients.*

These cases are dealt with by the Borough Ambulance Service.

SMALLPOX.

Arrangements as in previous years.

PUBLIC VACCINATORS.

Vaccination was made non-compulsory from 5th July, 1948, and from this date no Public Vaccinators were employed.

Dr. I. C. P. Beauchamp, "Farleigh," London Road, Chelmsford	..	Chelmsford and Widford.
Dr. R. W. Willcocks, 194, Springfield Road, Chelmsford	..	Springfield Ward, Springfield, etc.
Dr. J. T. Whitley, "Thorneybrook," London Road, Chelmsford	..	Broomfield, etc.
Dr. Tudor Pembleton, Kitts Croft, Writtle	..	Writtle, etc.

MATERNITY.

Our arrangement for the institutional treatment at St. John's Hospital, Wood Street, of cases of complications arising during pregnancy or confinement, and for cases where the home environment is unsatisfactory, remains as before. The full charge for maintenance and treatment is 11/8d. per day. This charge is subject to reduction if the person's income is below the Council's Income Scale Assessment.

Ninety-two Borough cases were admitted to St. John's Hospital for confinement during the period 1st January, 1948, to 4th July, 1948.

ANTE-NATAL SERVICES.

The Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics are held every Wednesday afternoon. Mothers are encouraged to attend six weeks or so after confinement for post-natal examination.

In addition, married women, where pregnancy would endanger health, are on their request given instructions in birth control.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR—

(a) *Unmarried Mothers.* The only arrangement is that supplied by the Borough and the Essex County Council Public Assistance Committee. After the lying-in period, however, they may be helped by the Girls' Aid Society, who have a Hostel just outside the Borough. There is also a Home at Ardmore, Buckhurst Hill, for unmarried mothers and their children.

(b) *For Illegitimate Infants and Homeless Children.* The Public Assistance Institution is available.

PREMATURE INFANTS.

Arrangements have been made between the hospitals and this Authority to ensure the follow-up of premature infants on discharge. Notification, with complete record of child's progress while in hospital, is received from the Medical Officer in Charge of the Maternity Section. Health Visitors follow-up soon after receiving above information.

MUNICIPAL MIDWIVES.

(1) Mrs. M. E. Harris	..	3, Ruskin Road	..	..	Tel. No. 3815
(2) Miss E. M. Miller	..	"Lonicera," St. Mildred Road	..	..	Tel. No. 3816
(3) Mrs. M. Aldred	..	40, Kings Road	..	..	Tel. No. 3817
(4) Miss M. A. Wilkins	..	5, Bruce Grove	..	..	Tel. No. 2438
(5) Miss B. Briggs	..	65, Sandford Road	..	..	Tel. No. 4552

INSPECTION OF NURSING HOMES, ETC.

Inspections are carried out by the Essex County Council, which is the Local Supervising Authority.

NURSING HOMES.

- (1) "Brooklands," London Road.
- (2) St. John's Maternity Home, Broomfield Road.
- (3) "Lionmede," Springfield Road.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No cases occurred requiring action under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Period 1st January, 1948, to 4th July, 1948.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

These are set out in the Table on page 16.

Attendances at Infant Welfare Centres.

Children 0 to 5 years	..	..	..	..	..	6,461
-----------------------	----	----	----	----	----	-------

Number who attended for the first time during the year :—

Children under 1 year	..	..	..	..	..	559
-----------------------	----	----	----	----	----	-----

Children between 1 and 5 years	..	..	..	..	..	535
--------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	-----

1,094

Ante-Natal Clinics.

1948.

Attendances	..	..	..	..	..	1,194
-------------	----	----	----	----	----	-------

Post-Natal Clinic.

Attendances	..	..	..	..	..	154
-------------	----	----	----	----	----	-----

HEALTH VISITING.

The Health Visitors have made the following visits during the above period :—

	1st Visit.	Total Visits.
To expectant mothers	34	64
To children under 1 year of age	384	1,104
To children between the ages of 1 and 5 years ..	108	1,428
Totals	526	2,596

MILK AND OTHER FOODS.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee have instituted a scheme to supplement feeding in necessitous and difficult cases on the recommendation of the Medical Officer.

DENTAL SERVICE.

Dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers and children under five years of age has been carried out during the period 1st January—4th July, 1948, and the following is a summary of the work :—

Dental Treatment.

PERIOD—1ST JANUARY, 1948—4TH JULY, 1948.

(a) Expectant Mothers.

(b) Nursing Mothers.

(c) Children under 5 years of age.

(a) *Expectant Mothers.*

Form of Dental Treatment—

Fillings—

Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	..	49
No. examined	..	..	..	..	..	250
No. needing treatment	..	..	..	..	..	228

Extractions—

Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	..	80
No. treated	..	..	..	..	..	213

Other Operations—

Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	..	165
No. of General Anæsthetics	..	..	..	..	..	13
No. of Local Anæsthetics	..	..	..	..	..	42
No. made dentally fit	..	..	..	..	..	205

(b) *Nursing Mothers.*

Form of Dental Treatment—

Fillings—

Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	..	42
No. examined	..	..	..	..	..	79
No. needing treatment	..	..	..	..	..	68

Extractions—

Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	..	46
No. treated	..	..	..	..	..	68

Other Operations—

Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	..	68
No. of General Anæsthetics	..	..	..	..	..	5
No. of Local Anæsthetics	..	..	..	..	..	22
No. made dentally fit	..	..	..	..	..	63

(c) *Children under 5 years of age.*

Form of Dental Treatment—

Fillings—

Temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	..	98
No. examined	..	..	..	..	..	314
No. needing treatment	..	..	..	..	..	302

Extractions—

Temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	..	29
No. treated	..	..	..	..	..	291

Other Operations—

Temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	..	424
No. of General Anæsthetics	..	..	..	..	..	8
No. of Local Anæsthetics	..	..	..	..	..	15
No. made dentally fit	..	..	..	..	..	276

REPORT OF DENTAL OFFICER.

After over 25 years engaged in the dental treatment of Nursing and Expectant Mothers and Children under five years of age, I have come to the conclusion that Oral Sepsis (which is very prevalent) is due entirely to the stagnation of fermentable carbohydrates in relation to the tooth surface.

Advertisements *re* toothpaste, etc., are of no avail, but actual contact with the patients must be made, and propaganda *re* the care of the teeth actually demonstrated.

With regard to the "under 5's," there is only one advice to be given, viz., clean teeth at bedtime, and no biscuits or sweets (a most common practice) in bed. For cleaning the teeth the best proposition is a quarter of a cup of warm water with which to brush the teeth, no toothpaste advised. It is a noticeable fact that the habit of a sweet or biscuit in bed leads to carious teeth.

I maintain that the chairside talks with the parents are most necessary, and not as is generally undertaken, operative measures only. The public must be educated.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER.

The quality of the water has at all times been of a satisfactory nature for public supply purposes.

During the past year the quantity of water available has been sufficient to meet the needs of the Borough.

Bacteriological examinations are made daily of the treated water as it leaves the Sandford Mill Pumping Station and frequent analyses are made of the raw water. Frequent samples are also taken from the Service Reservoir and at certain points on the distribution system. These have in all cases proved satisfactory. Independent analyses are made weekly by the Counties Public Health Laboratories.

The water has no plumbo-solvent action.

No contamination has occurred after treatment.

All properties within the area of supply have mains supply direct to the house with the exception of the following :—

Writtle Road—

" Bedfords "	..	..	..	..	..	1
" Hillcroft "	..	..	..	..	..	1

Water is available at stopcocks but services have not been picked up.

Widford Hall Lane—

Robjohns Farm	..	..	..	..	..	1
---------------	----	----	----	----	----	---

Horse and Groom Lane—

Seven Cottages	..	..	..	..	..	7
----------------	----	----	----	----	----	---

Total	..	..	..	..	..	10
-------	----	----	----	----	----	----

Supply by means of Stand-pipes	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.
--------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	------

SEWERS LAID DURING YEAR.

Woodhall Estate—

Surface water sewers	..	..	18 in.—234 yards lineal.		
			15 in.—183 „ „		
			12 in.— 94 „ „		
			9 in.—600 „ „		
			6 in.—990 „ „		
Soil sewers	..	..	12 in.—266 yards lineal.		
			9 in.—490 „ „		
			6 in.—1566 „ „		

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

A close watch is kept on the rivers within the Borough and all possible steps taken to prevent pollution.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

There was no change in the method of refuse collection during 1948, but the working week was reduced to 44 hours.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR.

(1) By the Local Authority	..	..	355	(Includes 100 aluminium bungalows and two steel houses).
(2) Private Enterprise	..	..	6	
(3) War Damaged Houses rebuilt	..	..	40	

PROMOTION OF CLEANLINESS AND ELIMINATION OF VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

Facilities for treatment of Scabies, etc., have been in operation throughout the year.

Number of children found unclean and cleansed	..	..	5
Number of persons treated for Scabies, etc.	..	..	11

CLINIC TREATMENT CENTRES—From 1st January to 5th July, 1948.

Service	Accommodation	Purpose	Sessions	By whom provided
Minor Ailments Clinic.	Public Health Department, Coval Lane, Chelmsford.	1. Consultation and Treatment of School Children. 2. Consultation and Treatment of Children under 5.	1. Monday and Friday, 9-10 a.m. 2. Daily.	Local Authority, Essex County Council for School Children.
Eye Clinic.	Public Health Department, Coval Lane, Chelmsford.	Children under five years and Consultation and Treatment of School Children.	Each Tuesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon.	Local Authority, Essex County Council for School Children.
Dental Clinic.	Public Health Department, Coval Lane, Chelmsford.	Children under five years—Consultation and Treatment of School Children and for Expectant and Nursing Mothers.	School Children daily. Maternity and Child Welfare, two sessions per week by appointment.	Local Authority, Essex County Council for School Children.
Immunization Clinic.	Public Health Department, Coval Lane, Chelmsford.	Immunization for Children under five, and School Children.	First and last Thursday in every month.	Local Authority.
Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic.	Public Health Department, Coval Lane, Chelmsford.	Consultation, etc.	Each Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Local Authority.
Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic.	Moulsham Clinic, "Highfield," London Road, Chelmsford.	Consultation, etc.	Each Wednesday, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Local Authority.
Ante-Natal Clinic.	Moulsham Clinic, "Highfield," London Road, Chelmsford.	Appointments only.	Each Friday, 1.30 p.m. to 3 p.m.	Local Authority.
Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinic.	Public Health Department, Coval Lane, Chelmsford.	Consultation, etc.	Each Wednesday at 1.30 p.m.	Local Authority.
Orthopaedic Clinic.	Public Health Department, Coval Lane, Chelmsford.	Consultation and Treatment.	2nd, 3rd and 4th Mondays in each month at 1.30 p.m.	Local Authority and Essex County Council Joint.
Orthopaedic Clinic.	Public Health Department, Coval Lane, Chelmsford.	Consultation and Treatment. Specialist attends.	Approximately eight sessions in year.	Essex County Council.
Aural Clinic.	Public Health Department, Coval Lane, Chelmsford.	Consultation and Treatment.	By arrangement with Specialist.	Local Authority and Essex County Council Joint.
Birth Control Clinic.	New Writtle Street, Chelmsford.	Consultation and Treatment.	2nd and 4th Thursdays in each month at 10 a.m.	Local Authority and Essex County Council Joint.
Day-Time Nurseries.	Waterloo Lane, Chelmsford.	For children 0-2 years of age of priority and Industrial workers.	7.30 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. 7.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Saturdays.	Local Authority.
Veneral Diseases Clinic.	Chelmsford and Essex Hospital, New Writtle Street, Chelmsford.	Consultation and Treatment.	Thursday, 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, 10.30 to noon. Doctor in attendance. Daily—From 5-6 p.m. Doctor not in attendance.	Essex County Council.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1948.

Disease	Total cases	NOTIFICATION AT AGES										Cases admitted to Hospital	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	North Ward	South Ward	East Ward	West Ward
Scarlet Fever ..	20	—	—	—	1	4	11	2	—	1	1	—	—	5	7	7	1
Whooping Cough ..	80	5	8	6	8	18	33	—	—	2	—	—	—	22	23	24	11
Erysipelas ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—
Infective Hepatitis ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—
Poliomyelitis ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	6	—	—	1	18	3	—
Measles ..	604	18	79	71	64	102	261	10	5	2	1	—	—	209	179	120	96
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals ..	734	24	78	77	73	124	305	13	6	22	10	1	1	240	230	155	109

CASES TREATED IN JOINT ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

1948					Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Measles	Mumps	Whooping Cough	Scabies	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	Other Diseases	Total
January	..	..	..	..	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	4	8
February	..	..	..	..	1	—	—	2	3	2	—	—	6	14
March	..	..	..	..	—	1	—	3	—	1	—	—	3	8
April	..	..	..	..	2	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	5	10
May	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	4	2	1	—	—	2	13
June	..	..	..	..	1	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	2	8
July	..	..	..	..	4	—	—	4	—	2	—	—	7	17
August	..	..	..	..	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	8
September	..	..	..	..	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	9
October	..	..	..	..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	7
November	..	..	..	..	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	5	10
December	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	6	8
Totals	..	..	..	..	24	3	1	21	7	10	1	2	51	120
Patients remaining from 1947	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Total No. of patients treated during 1948	..	..	..	..	24	3	1	21	7	11	1	2	51	121
Discharged during the year	..	..	..	..	24	3	1	19	7	10	1	2	47	114
Deaths	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2
Patients remaining 31st December, 1948	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	3	5

Of the patients admitted during the year, 51 came from the Borough of Chelmsford, 38 came from the Chelmsford Rural District, 11 from Ongar, 9 from Braintree, 4 from Dunmow, 1 from Epping, 1 from Maldon, 1 from Witham, 1 from Bishop's Stortford, 1 from Saffron Walden, 2 Military.

TUBERCULOSIS.
NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1948.

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 15 "	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 25 "	2	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 to 35 "	3	5	—	—	—	1	—	—
35 to 45 "	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
45 to 55 "	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
55 to 65 "	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 65 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	8	13	2	1	1	2	—	1

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1930.

STATEMENT OF PARTICULARS OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, COMPILED FROM THE REGISTER
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1948.

	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, 1948	174	99	273	78	77	155	428
2) Number of cases notified to me under the Regulations for the first time during the year	8	13	21	2	1	3	24
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	2	3	5	—	—	—	5
5) Number of cases remaining on the Register on 31st December, 1948	181	109	290	80	78	158	448

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES			Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Total blindness	Deaths
No. Notified	Treated					
	At Home	Hospital				
*1	—	1	1	—	—	—

* Non-Borough Case.

**WORK CARRIED OUT BY SANITARY INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1948.**

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

1. INSPECTIONS OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects :—

Public Health Act	..	..	..	..	800	} 1,309
Housing Act	..	..	..	..	509	

- (b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose :—

Public Health Act	..	..	..	..	1,565	} 2,966
Housing Act	..	..	..	..	1,401	

- (2) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 3

- (3) 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 :—

Public Health Act	..	..	..	..	200	} 508
Housing Act	..	..	..	..	308	

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority's Officers :—

Public Health Act	..	..	..	..	351	} 680
Housing Act	..	..	..	..	329	

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 13

- (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners	..	..	..	..	8
(b) By the Local Authority in default of owners	..	..	..	..	2

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

Housing Act, 1936.

Informal notices issued	..	..	..	..	..	295
„ „ complied with	..	..	..	..	..	329
Statutory notices issued	..	..	..	..	..	16
„ „ complied with	..	..	..	..	..	10

THE FOLLOWING INSPECTIONS HAVE BEEN RECORDED.

973 complaints have been investigated.

2,966 inspections made at dwelling houses.

408 " " at dwelling houses prior to rehousing.

188 " " at dirty or verminous houses.

107 " " of tents, vans, or sheds.

1 inspection " of public houses.

21 inspections " of schools.

20 " and enquiries made in connection with infectious disease.

7 " made in connection with pollution of watercourses.

35 " " in respect of smoke nuisances.

10 " " of lands and ditches.

3 " " at swimming baths.

14 " " of offices.

54 " " at butchers' shops.

98 " " " cafes, restaurants and hotels.

81 " " " dairies and milkshops.

20 " " " farms (milk producers).

446 " " " food shops.

1,133 " " " slaughterhouses.

In many cases during these inspections matters relating to minor defects and nuisances were dealt with verbally and remedies carried out in response to persuasive methods.

The following carcasses were examined at the two Government controlled slaughterhouses:—4,524 beasts, 2,447 calves, 5,069 sheep, 362 pigs.

And the total weight of meat condemned was :—134,220 lbs.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	<i>Cattle and Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed (if known) 	4,524	—	2,447	5,069	362
Number inspected 	4,524	—	2,447	5,069	362
All diseases except Tuberculosis— Whole carcasses condemned ..	19	—	5	8	8
Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned 	1,227	—	35	565	35
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis 	27.5	—	1.7	11.3	11.8
Tuberculosis only— Whole carcasses condemned ..	80	—	2	—	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned 	1,049	—	3	—	9
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis 	24.9	—	0.2	—	4.1

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS.

<i>Total number of outbreaks</i>	<i>Number of cases</i>	<i>Number of deaths</i>	<i>Organisms or other agents responsible with number of outbreaks of each</i>	<i>Foods involved with number of outbreaks of each</i>
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

The following samples were obtained and submitted for analysis, all unsatisfactory results being followed up :—

			Samples taken.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Milk (ungraded)	..	..	21	.. 19	.. 2
Pasteurised milk	..	..	43	.. 37	.. 6
Tuberculin tested milk	..	..	23	.. 22	.. 1
Sterilised milk	..	..	1	.. 1	.. —
Water from well	..	..	2	.. 2	.. —
Ice cream	..	..	128	.. 104	.. 24
Ice cream powder	..	..	1	.. 1	.. —
Accredited milk	..	..	8	.. 7	.. 1
Custard	..	..	1	.. 1	.. —
Meat mince	..	..	1	.. 1	.. —
Ginger pudding	..	..	1	.. 1	.. —
Maderia cake	..	..	1	.. 1	.. —

The following food has been condemned and surrendered as unfit :—

620 tins milk.	26 lbs. sour pickles.
225 tins fruit.	126½ lbs. english beef.
6 tins stewed steak.	69 lbs. dried peas.
36 tins meat and vegetable.	31¼ lbs. cake.
54 tins soup.	6½ lbs. liver.
5 tins bacon.	269 lbs. rolled oats.
1 tin steak and kidney.	12 lbs. tinned ox tongue.
4 tins irish stew.	112 lbs. beasts udders.
3 tins fish balls.	6 lbs. jellied veal.
535 tins vegetables.	12½ lbs. pressed beef.
12 tins meat paste.	4 lbs. biscuits.
35 tins meat loaf.	302½ lbs. preserves.
4 tins lambs tongues.	9¾ lbs. margarine.
22 tins spaghetti.	121½ lbs. dried fruit.
14 tins puddings.	30 pkts. cereals.
15 tins tomatoes.	59 pkts. pudding mixtures.
3 tins pate de foie.	4 pkts. soup.
4 tins tomato juice.	8 lbs. pork brawn.
34 tins luncheon meat.	5 tins danish pork.
5 tins pork sausage.	5 lbs. crushed pineapple.

2	tins turkey.	27	lbs. black puddings.
130	tins fruit juice.	54	lbs. sago.
4	tins levair.	8	tins rabbit.
573	tins mussels	56	lbs. herrings roes.
269	tins tomato catsup.	101	jars mixed preserves.
17	lbs. fat extendor.	6	tins breakfast spread.
40	lbs. cake extendor.	25	lbs. ice cream powder.
10	lbs. vanilla barley.	23	lbs. almond powder.
1	tin mustard.	4	jars yeastrel.
1	lb. sweetphat.	37	jars fish paste.
77½	lbs. chile con carne.	292	jars pickles..
45	lbs. haslet.	1	tin coffee.
567	tins various fish.	27	bars chocolate.
35	lbs. bacon.	1	bottle vinegar.
110	lbs. cheese.	110	stones dried fish.
3	lbs. cake flour.	91¼	stones wet fish.
28	lbs. sausages.	8,613	assorted cakes and buns.
46¾	lbs. butter.	95	boxes dates.
780½	lbs. corned beef.	16	bottles sauce.
4½	lbs. dried egg.	11	boxes camembert cheese.
6	lbs. syrup.	1	calf's head.
3	lbs. self raising flour.	88	trifles.
49	lbs. chocolates.	1,228	lbs. frozen beef.
104¾	lbs. sweets.	18	lbs. pork.
189	lbs. mutton.	24	meat pies.
36	sausage rolls.		

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

Infestation Order, 1943.

During the year 1,033 visits have been made to infested premises and 7,226 treatments applied.

Factories Act, 1937.

18 inspections have been made at bakehouses.

176 „ „ „ „ factories and workplaces.