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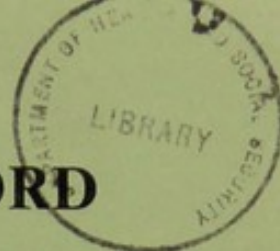
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BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR

1972

J. A. SLATTERY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

Area Medical Officer, Mid-Essex

Divisional School Medical Officer, Mid-Essex

N. T. HUDSON, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Chief Public Health Inspector



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FOR

1972

J. A. BATTY, M.B., B.S., D.R.
Medical Officer of Health
and Medical Officer of Health
Divisional Medical Officer, Mid Essex

M. T. HILLON, M.B., B.S.
Chief Public Health Inspector

BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE OF THE BOROUGH FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 1972/73

Chairman:

ALDERMAN H. PRYCE

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR Mrs. E. M. KING

Members:

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR COUNCILLOR L. W. H. KING

ALDERMAN C. A. ALLSOP	COUNCILLOR R. E. MILLARD
ALDERMAN Mrs. J. M. ROULSTON	COUNCILLOR F. L. RICHARDSON
COUNCILLOR L. GOODIER	COUNCILLOR D. L. RIDGEWELL
COUNCILLOR W. LANDERS	COUNCILLOR Mrs. D. V. TIBBENHAM
COUNCILLOR P. W. LOMAX	COUNCILLOR B. G. YOUNG

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH

Medical Officer of Health:

J. A. SLATTERY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

Clerk: MRS. W. BALDWIN

Chief Public Health Inspector: N. T. HUDSON, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector: H. C. ORMEROD, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

T. A. DAWKINS, C.R.S.H.

J. V. KAYE, C.R.S.H.

D. J. BENNETT, C.R.S.H.

Authorised Meat Inspectors: J. FEENEY, B. EDWARDS

Inspector of Premises:

A. R. BROWN (*Resigned 17th November, 1972*)

H. W. MONK (*Appointed 1st December, 1972*)

Administrative Assistant: R. F. HILLIARD

Clerk/Typist: MRS. S. I. RITCHINGS

Public Analysts for the Borough:

J. H. HAMENCE, F.R.I.C.

P. S. HALL, F.R.I.C.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1972

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for 1972. This is likely to be the last report which I shall be required to submit as Medical Officer of Health, though you will continue to receive an annual summary of the work of the Public Health Department from the Chief Public Health Inspector.

You have had the services of an M.O.H. since 1896 when Dr. H. W. Newton was appointed to this office in compliance with legislation passed in 1872. The same doctor was appointed School Medical Officer in 1908. All M.O's H. were required to be registered medical practitioners in possession of a post graduate diploma in public health. They have always had security of tenure and freedom to comment on all matters affecting the health of the community. They have had a statutory duty to make an annual report to their employing authorities. Shown below is a list of your M.O's H. since 1896: —

H. W. Newton	1896-1919
W. J. Cox	1919-1921
R. H. Vercoe	1922-1930
J. R. Tibbles	1930-1931
J. C. Sleight	1931-1936
A. Dick	1937-1939
J. M. Thomas	1939-1954
J. L. Miller Wood	1954-1970
J. A. Slattery	1970

POPULATION

Chelmsford's population at the turn of the century was a little over 12,000. By the outbreak of the second world war it had risen to 32,000. Since that time the population has almost doubled.

BIRTH RATE

Chelmsford's birth rate showed a general decline during the last quarter of the nineteenth century, and apart from fluctuations brought about by wartime conditions, it continued to fall until 1939. At no time did it fall below the death rate which ensured a natural population increase each year. The falling birth rate was a cause of much anxiety early in the century. In 1909 Dr. Newton described Chelmsford's birth rate of 18.45 as "disastrous". Such is the change in our attitude that we now regard a falling

birth rate as desirable, and some feel it should continue to fall until it is equal to the death rate. The corrected birth rate for 1972 was 15.2—the lowest recorded rate since 1954, though even lower rates occurred in the early fifties.

There were 998 live births in 1972, 47 of these were illegitimate. Each year approximately 150 pregnancies are terminated among Chelmsford women. This huge number of abortions, together with the illegitimate births, indicates that at last one in six pregnancies are unintended, and there are good reasons for believing the proportion to be very much higher than this. I am not suggesting that these figures indicate that social conditions are worse in Chelmsford than in the Country as a whole. There is evidence that the reverse is true but one cannot be complacent about so unhappy a situation.

INFANT MORTALITY

Chelmsford's infant mortality rate has been below the national rate, apart from a few isolated years, for the whole of the century. In 1911 when Chelmsford's rate was 102 Dr. Newton observed that in most cases death was due to diarrhoea, atrophy or bronchitis, and described these deaths as "absolutely preventable". Time has proved him right. It is now well recognised that the infant mortality rate is a reflection of social conditions rather than of the medical care available to infants. Ignorance, poverty and overcrowding were the basic causes of the preventable deaths mentioned by Dr. Newton. He recognised the need to give clean food to infants when he wrote in the same year "I know how difficult it is to make many of these mothers understand the first essentials of cleanliness or the dietary errors they subject their infants to". The struggle to educate mothers about bottle feeding and baby care is now largely over, thanks to the efforts of health visitors. It has more recently been recognised that an infant's development and well being depends very much on the affection he received from those who care for him. Unwanted children grow more slowly, do less well in school, and have higher mortality than others. None of this is surprising perhaps but general recognition of its importance can produce startling results. Most northern cities have infant mortality rates higher than Chelmsford, but in one of these cities in which great efforts have been made to help every woman embark on pregnancy only by intention, the infant mortality rate has been reduced to a remarkably low figure—lower even than Chelmsford's in 1971. It is clear that having won the battle for a wholesome physical environment we must now consider more carefully the emotional surroundings of the infant and young child.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Maternal deaths are now quite rare. Until 1939 there were about two maternal deaths each year in Chelmsford. The problem here, as elsewhere, was the low standard of care provided for expectant mothers. Since the

Midwives Act of 1902 professionally qualified midwives had been available. Unqualified "handy women" were also operating in the town. Their knowledge and skills were very limited, and in 1934 Dr. Sleight firmly stated "it is safer for a prospective mother to engage a trained Midwife and no doctor, than a doctor and a Handywoman". He was supported by the Borough Council which provided a home help when needed and assistance with fees, but only for women who registered with a qualified midwife. In 1935 the last of the handywomen ceased her activities in Chelmsford.

From as early as 1927 there is mention of an antenatal clinic in Chelmsford conducted by the M.O.H. He records (1934) that birth control advice was given to women who requested it. These clinics were gradually replaced by the hospital based antenatal clinic which was in operation by 1952.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

The early reports of the M.O.H. contain many references to problems with water and milk. Drinking water in Chelmsford came from three wells. Two of them were shallow and subject to pollution from time to time. Infected milk distributed in Chelmsford caused an outbreak of diphtheria in 1910, and of scarlet fever in 1935. Milk has been known to transmit brucellosis, tuberculosis and paratyphoid in addition to the diseases already mentioned. Pasteurisation kills all the organisms responsible for these serious conditions. Although pasteurisation is fully supported by the medical profession there are still some people even today who are prepared to drink raw milk.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTION

Certain infectious conditions have been notifiable to the M.O.H. since the beginning of the century. The list of infections is subject to frequent revision. Until the second world war infectious illnesses kept the M.O.H. very busy. He was the specialist in infectious disease, and combined this with his post as Tuberculosis Officer and Medical Superintendent of the Joint Isolation Hospital. There were some anomalous situations to begin with, in particular the notification of tuberculosis being required only for those in receipt of Parish relief. The extension of tuberculosis notification to all classes in 1911 was welcomed by Dr. Newton. In that year no less than 113 cases were notified. The problems of treatment were acute at that time because of the lack of sanatorium facilities, and because those who were too poor to insure themselves against illness were unable to obtain treatment.

Nearly every year until 1939 there were many cases of scarlet fever, diphtheria, typhoid and poliomyelitis. In 1915 there was a disastrous outbreak of cerebro spinal fever amongst the young soldiers of 1st South Midland Division stationed at that time in Chelmsford.

Improvements in hygiene, improvements in living conditions and immunisation have eliminated most of these scourges.

HEALTH VISITING

In 1917 a health visitor/school nurse was appointed for Chelmsford. In his report for 1920 the M.O.H. says "in nearly all cases the visits of the health visitor are welcomed by mothers who are glad to avail themselves of her friendly advice". Much of the credit for the improvements in child care which have taken place in the last 50 years is due to the patient efforts of the health visitor. The health visitor of today is attached to a group of general practitioners, and assists them in their work. There must be many doctors now who are themselves glad of "her friendly advice".

FUTURE TRENDS

The traditional role of the M.O.H. has always been to seek out need and then to meet it. In this way he came to set up the infant welfare clinics, antenatal clinics, clinics for tuberculosis, venereal disease, children's dental and eye clinics. Many of these were staffed by the M.O.H. himself at a time when specialists in these disciplines were not available. It was hardly to be expected that such a Jack of all Trades could survive unchanged whilst medicine became increasingly complex. Some clinics were transferred to the hospital service with the introduction of the Health Service in 1948, and a number of public health staff became consultants in the new service.

With the public health inspector, formerly the sanitary inspector and inspector of nuisances, the M.O.H. has always had most cordial relations. The inspectorate will continue to advise the Council on the physical environment and its effect on health. The M.O.H. will turn to new problems, amongst them the epidemiology of non-communicable disease, and the influence of social customs on the nation's health. Many like myself will regret the end of many useful and happy years spent in the service of district Councils.

I wish once more to express my personal appreciation to this Council for the kindness and help I have received from its Members. It is a pleasure to record also the co-operation I have had from Mr. Hudson and his staff.

I have the honour to be,

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. A. SLATTERY

Medical Officer of Health

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1972

8

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Total Ages</i>	<i>Under Year</i>	<i>1-4</i>	<i>5-14</i>	<i>15-24</i>	<i>25-44</i>	<i>45-64</i>	<i>65 and over</i>
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, etc.	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	6	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	17	—	—	—	—	—	7	10
Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	27	—	—	—	—	—	10	17
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	13	—	—	—	—	—	7	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Leukaemia	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	33	—	—	1	1	2	13	16
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diabetes Mellitus	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Other Endocrine, etc. Diseases	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Anaemias	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Meningitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Multiple Sclerosis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	3	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Hypertensive Disease	13	—	—	—	—	1	—	12
Ischaemic Heart Disease	110	—	—	—	—	2	30	78

Other Forms of Heart Disease ...	...	...	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	17
Cerebrovascular Disease ...	...	...	51	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	47
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ...	...	...	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	13
Influenza ...	...	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia ...	...	...	50	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	46
Bronchitis and Emphysema ...	...	...	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	14
Asthma ...	...	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...	...	...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Peptic Ulcer ...	...	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia ...	...	...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System ...	...	...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	...	...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Hyperplasia of Prostrate ...	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System ...	...	...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue ...	...	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System ...	...	...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3
Congenital Anomalies ...	...	...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc. ...	...	...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other causes of Perinatal Mortality ...	...	...	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions ...	...	...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	...	...	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2
All Other Accidents ...	...	...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries ...	...	...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	1
TOTAL ALL CAUSES ...	...	...	470	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	96	14	338

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

AREA (in acres)	4,772
POPULATION 1972	58,330 (Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid-year Census)
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (end of 1972) according to Rate Books	19,979
RATEABLE VALUE (1st April, 1972)	£3,816,076
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE (year ending 31st March, 1972)	£37,794

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

CHELMSFORD				ENGLAND & WALES
	Males	Females	Totals	
Live Births	515	471	986	725,405
Stillbirths	4	8	12	8,794
Total live and stillbirths	519	479	998	734,199
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	6	5	11	12,494
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	5	4	9	8,373
Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age	5	4	9	7,142
Deaths at all ages ...	246	224	470	591,907
LIVE BIRTH RATES				
Live births per 1,000 home population			16.9	14.8
Area comparability factor ... ..			.90	1.00
Local adjusted birth rate			15.2	14.8
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate ...			1.03	1.00
INFANT MORTALITY RATES				
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births			11	17
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births			9	12
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births			9	10
PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE				
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths ...			21	22
DEATH RATES ALL AGES				
Deaths per 1,000 home population			8.1	12.1
Area comparability factor			1.29	1.00
Local adjusted rate			10.4	12.1
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate ...			.86	1.00

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY (*see page 3*).

The following Personal Health services are provided within the Borough by the Essex County Council:—

Child Health Centres

Essex County Health Services Clinic, Coval Lane, Chelmsford	Thursdays at 2 p.m.
Trinity Church Hall, Trinity Road	1st and 3rd Mondays at 2 p.m.
St. John's Hall, Vicarage Road, Chelmsford	Mondays at 2 p.m.
St. Michael's Hall, Woodhall Road, Chelmsford (Woodhall Estate)	2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 2 p.m.
Essex County Health Services Clinic, Springfield	Thursdays at 2 p.m. and 2nd and 4th Mondays p.m.
Essex County Health Services Clinic, Moulsham Lodge Estate, Chelmsford	Tuesdays 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon and Wednesdays at 2 p.m.
Church Hall, Forest Drive, Chelmsford ...	1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tuesdays at 2 p.m.
Essex County Health Services Clinic, Melbourne Avenue, Chelmsford	Every Friday at 2 p.m.

Ante-Natal Clinics

St. John's Hospital, Wood Street, Chelmsford	Tuesdays at 9 a.m. Thursdays at 9.30 a.m. Fridays at 1.30 p.m.
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Cervical Cytology Clinic

Coval Lane, Chelmsford	1st, 2nd and 3rd Thursday mornings (By appointment)
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Ante-Natal Relaxation Classes

Coval Lane, Chelmsford	Friday and Wednesday afternoons (By arrangement only)
Melbourne Avenue, Chelmsford	Monday afternoons
Moulsham Lodge, Chelmsford	Friday afternoons
Springfield Green, Chelmsford	Thursday afternoons

Chest Clinic

Broomfield Hospital, Chelmsford	Mondays and Wednesdays 9.30 a.m. to 11.45 a.m. Thursdays 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. B.C.G. Clinic—1st Thursday in every month (By appointment)
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School Clinics

Coval Lane, Chelmsford	2nd, 4th and 5th Mondays 10 a.m.
Melbourne Avenue, Chelmsford	2nd Monday 10 a.m.
Moulsham Lodge, Chelmsford	...	...	2nd Thursday afternoons

Audiology Clinic

Springfield Health Services Clinic, Springfield Green, Chelmsford	2nd and 4th Wednesdays p.m.
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Ophthalmic Clinic

Coval Lane, Chelmsford	Tuesdays a.m. and Wednesdays all day (By appointment). Fridays all day.
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Dental Clinics

Coval Lane, Chelmsford	Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. (By appointment)
Melbourne Avenue, Chelmsford	...	...	Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays (By appointment)
Moulsham Lodge, Chelmsford	...	...	Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays (By appointment)
Springfield Green, Chelmsford	Mondays and Fridays (By appointment)

Child Guidance Clinic

146 Broomfield Road, Chelmsford	By appointment
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Chiropody Clinics

Coval Lane, Chelmsford	Monday to Friday (By appointment)
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Melbourne Avenue, Chelmsford	Wednesday mornings and afternoons (By appointment)
Moulsham Lodge Health Services Clinic, Chelmsford	...	...	Thursday mornings (By appointment)
Springfield Health Services Clinic, Springfield Green, Chelmsford	...	...	Monday mornings (By appointment)

Speech Therapy Clinics

Coval Lane, Chelmsford	...	...	Mondays all day (By appointment)
Melbourne Avenue, Chelmsford	...	...	Thursdays (By appointment)
Springfield Green, Chelmsford	...	...	Tuesdays—all day
Moulsham Lodge, Chelmsford	...	...	Wednesdays (By appointment)

Immunisation Clinics

Coval Lane, Chelmsford	...	...	1st Monday 2 p.m.
Melbourne Avenue, Chelmsford	...	...	4th Friday 2 p.m.
Springfield Green, Chelmsford	...	...	3rd Thursday mornings
Moulsham Lodge, Chelmsford	...	...	1st Friday mornings (By appointment)

F.P.A. Clinics

Coval Lane, Chelmsford	...	...	For appointment phone between 6.30 p.m. and 9 p.m. Monday to Thursday only. Chelmsford 51671
Melbourne Avenue, Chelmsford	...	...	For appointment phone between 9.30 and 11 a.m. Friday only. Chelmsford 56430
Springfield Green, Chelmsford	...	...	For appointment phone between 9.30 and 11 a.m. Tuesday only. Chelmsford 59474

Health Visitors

There are five Health Visitors based at the Essex County Health Services Clinic, Coval Lane, Chelmsford (telephone 51671), two at Melbourne Clinic (telephone 56430), two at Springfield Green Clinic (telephone 59474) and six at the Health Services Clinic, Moulsham Lodge Estate (telephone 55394). There is also one Health Visitor based at the surgery of Dr. Catlin and Partners, Beauchamp House, Baddow Road, Chelmsford. These ladies are Public Health Nurses whose duties consist in attending at various County Council Clinics and Child Welfare Centres, where they give advice as Health teachers, with an expert knowledge of the care of young children. They also carry out health work in the schools as School Nurses. The most important part of a Health Visitor's work, however, consists in visiting the homes of the people, where she gives advice on health matters concerning the family as a whole. She can also form a most important connecting link between the family and the facilities provided by the Local Health Authority and the General Practitioner Services under the National Health Service Act.

HOME NURSE/MIDWIVES

The following is a list of Home Nurses and Midwives who are working in the Borough:—

Home Nurses

Mrs. J. Allen (Part-time), 47 Ongar Road, Writtle.

Tel. Chelmsford 42009

Mrs. M. L. Blackburn (Part-time), 46 Pennine Road, Chelmsford.

Tel. 63663

Mrs. V. E. Davies, 43 Gilmore Way, Gt. Baddow. Tel. 71895

Mrs. C. Duffy, 26 Wood Dale, Gt. Baddow. Tel. 73649

Mr. M. Falkner, 21 Archers Way, Galleywood. Tel. 74258

Mrs. N. K. Griffiths (Part-time), 2 Daws Close, Writtle.

Tel. Chelmsford 420298

Mrs. J. A. K. Heard (Part-time), 38 Barnard Road, Galleywood.

Tel. Chelmsford 74747

Mr. J. D. Howell, 9 West Lawn, Galleywood.

Tel. Chelmsford 71710

Miss A. Money, The Cottage, 74 Upper Bridge Road, Chelmsford.

Tel. 64756

Miss D. A. Newlyn, 84 Well Lane, Galleywood.

Tel. Chelmsford 53988

Mrs. M. B. Palmer, 127 Springfield Park Avenue, Chelmsford.

Tel. 52354

- Mrs. R. Pullan (Part-time), 7 Bells Chase, Gt. Baddow. Tel. 72031
 Mrs. C. Richardson, 6 Longshots Close, Broomfield.
 Tel. Chelmsford 440730
 Mrs. E. Stonebank, 9 Barnard Road, Galleywood.
 Tel. Chelmsford 72302
 Mrs M. K. Thurgood, 12 Tylers Close, Chelmsford. Tel. 56943
 Mrs. E. B. Tripp, 31 Crescent Road, Gt. Baddow.
 Tel. Chelmsford 72180
 Mrs. J. A. Whyte (Part-time), 18 Hampton Road, Gt. Baddow.
 Tel. 74257
 Mrs. B. Marshall—District Nurse Liaison Officer—Chelmsford
 Hospitals Group. Tel. Chelmsford 54791 ext. 17.

District Auxiliaries (Part-time)

- Mr. G. Barratt, 31 Mendip Road, Chelmsford.
 Mrs. E. E. Collicot, 145 Avon Road, Chelmsford.
 Mrs. D. Green, 15 Church Lane, Springfield.
 Tel. Chelmsford 66643
 Mrs. M. R. Hickman, 15 Westbourne Grove, Chelmsford.
 Tel. 59906
 Mrs. J. Mickleburgh, 248 Rainsford Road, Chelmsford.

Midwives

- Mrs. A. W. Burrows, 1 Kirkman Road, Galleywood.
 Tel. Chelmsford 71414
 Mrs. D. Coomber (Part-time), 22 Nabbott Road, Chelmsford.
 Tel. 63111
 Mrs. J. E. Falkner, 21 Archers Way, Galleywood. Tel. 74258
 Miss E. A. Martin, 1 Epping Close, Chelmsford. Tel. 54132
 Mrs. D. Naylor, 24 Larch Grove, Chelmsford. Tel. 51181
 Mrs. M. B. O'Dwyer, 7 Houblon Drive, Galleywood.
 Tel. Chelmsford 72528
 Mrs. V. A. Pastakia, 69 Lower Anchor Street, Chelmsford.
 Tel. 62543
 Mrs. D. G. Sherrington, 14 Pembroke Place, Chelmsford.
 Tel. 51387
 Mrs. S. Taylor, 542 Galleywood Road, Chelmsford. Tel. 56413
 Miss P. Wells, 126 Long Brandocks, Writtle.
 Tel. Chelmsford 420656
 Mrs. S. H. Whiddett (Part-time), 5 Pertwee Drive, Gt. Baddow
 Tel. Chelmsford 72900

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

This service is provided by the Essex County Council and operates from Coval Lane, Chelmsford. Telephone No. 51131.

LABORATORY SERVICES

Laboratory Services are provided by the Essex County Council at the Public Health Laboratories, Chelmsford & Essex Hospital, New London Road, Chelmsford, and the Counties Public Health Laboratories, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.1.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Treatment is available at Chelmsford & Essex Hospital, London Road, Chelmsford on Wednesday afternoons 3.30-6 p.m. and Friday mornings 9.30-11.30 a.m.

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS

The Essex Association for the Welfare of the Physically Handicapped operates from 90 Broomfield Road, Chelmsford (Telephone No. Chelmsford 57309), where application can be made by physically handicapped persons requiring assistance.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER

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

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

The Essex Water Company carries out regular bacteriological examinations of the raw water, the water at various stages of treatment, and the water before it is pumped into supply. Analyses were also made of samples obtained from consumers' taps in various parts of the Borough, and all these proved to be satisfactory. The Galleywood borehole, which pumps directly into supply, has a fluoride content of 5.6 p.p.m.

The water is not plumbo-solvent.

No action has been necessary in respect of contamination.

All dwellings within the Borough are directly supplied from water mains, no dwellings are supplied by means of standpipe.

NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1972

By the Chelmsford Borough Council:

Bekeswell Place, Barnard Road, Galleywood—

One-bedroomed Warden supervised flats ...	...	...	14
Two-bedroomed Warden supervised flats ...	...	...	5
One-bedroomed non-Warden supervised flats ...	...	...	4
Two-bedroomed non-Warden supervised flats ...	...	...	6

Watchouse Road Estate, Galleywood—

One-bedroomed flats ...	...	...	...	...	27
Two-bedroomed flats ...	...	...	...	...	27

83

By private development—

355

Total ... 438

PUBLIC CLEANSING

There has been no alteration in the method of refuse collection during the year.

SEWERAGE

The arrangements for sewerage and sewage disposal in the district are reasonably adequate.

A sewerage scheme serving properties in Private Road and Butts Way, Galleywood, is due to be completed in the autumn of 1973, and a major extension to the Brookend Sewage Disposal Works is due to be completed in the summer of 1973.

DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1972 UNDER THE HEALTH SERVICES AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1968

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Disease	Total Notifi- cations	Under 1 Year	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over
Measles	16	—	4	—	3	1	7	—	—	1	—	—
Dysentery	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever	12	—	—	4	1	2	5	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Jaundice ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3	—	—
Respiratory Tuberculosis	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—
Non Respiratory Tuberculosis	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR 1972

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

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the following report on work carried out during 1972.

Activities in the field of housing have again consumed much of the time of the Public Health Inspectors. The present Clearance Area programme is nearing completion and more attention is being paid to improvement and repair of houses. The Department of the Environment in Circular 50/72 asked Local Authorities to take action to review existing plans for dealing with unsatisfactory housing and to draw up a strategy for the clearance or improvement of this housing by 1980. Following receipt of this circular a sample survey of houses was carried out which indicated that more than 2,000 houses lacked either a wash basin, a bath, hot water, inside watercloset or all of these amenities. It has since been decided to give consideration to the formation of a programme of General Improvement Areas. It is hoped that good progress will be made with the existing declared area and much information will be gained on the success or otherwise from the efforts being made to persuade owners to improve and repair their houses.

Staff and pupils at the Chelmsford Technical High School have completed the construction of equipment to measure sulphur dioxide and smoke pollution from the atmosphere and measurements are in progress by staff at the school. This is a great contribution to the efforts being made to ensure that the air we breathe is as free from impurities as possible.

Comment has been made in a number of past annual reports on the lack of a system of drainage in the Butts Way/Private Road area of Chelmsford, the only part lacking of these facilities. I am very pleased to be able to report that work is proceeding towards the provision of a public sewer which will be connected to the system during 1973. I look forward to all houses being connected to the sewer.

Rodent and pest control is an important part of the work of the department. It is only by constant vigilance in this activity that more serious infestations of rats and mice do not arise. There must be no easing off in the work of searching for new and better methods of dealing with mice which pose problems since "Warfarin" has become virtually useless in Chelmsford. Traps, tracking dust and other methods are tried—all have disadvantages. It would appear logical that it is only a matter of time before the Country sees larger areas of "Warfarin" resistant rats commonly known as "super rats". Constant attention must be given to causes of infestations and these must be eliminated. Irresponsible people who deposit

litter, which includes all kinds of untidy rubbish, should realise that they are contributing to the problems of pollution and vermin. Proprietors of food premises have particular responsibilities to prevent contamination of foods. All too often waste food bins are seen in rear yards of food shops without lids and containing quantities of food debris, food scraps are often seen on the yard surfaces. A pride in the state of cleanliness should extend beyond the part of the food premises seen by the customer.

Members of the public and local organisations have continued to take an increased interest in the work of the department as is indicated by requests for advice on public health matters and the many requests for talks on all aspects of our various duties. I welcome this interest by people, the great majority of whom are anxious to ensure that Chelmsford is not spoilt by the small minority.

When this report is published, Local Government will be very close to being re-organised. Changes will be taking place simultaneously throughout the whole of the country. New Councils and new boundaries will appear. Local Government has progressed a lot in the field of public health since the formation of the boundaries as they are at present known. In those early days deaths were common from measles, whooping cough, tuberculosis and fever. The definition of good health in those days was "the absence of disease and infirmity" whereas today it is "a state of complete physical, mental and social well being". The problems today include noise, food, pollution in all its many modern forms and still the problem of unsatisfactory housing. I look forward to the relentless pursuit of the many solutions in order to improve the quality of life for the citizens of our new and enlarged community.

In conclusion I would like to express my appreciation to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee who have always encouraged and supported the activities of the department. I would thank all of the Officers of the other departments who have co-operated fully despite their many other activities and involvements and especially do I thank Dr. Slattery. A report such as this could not be produced without staff to carry out a large amount of the work—inspection and administration—and I thank the staff for their loyalty and continued devotion to duty.

I have the honour to be,

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

N. T. HUDSON

Chief Public Health Inspector

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

The figures set out below include the number of inspections and the amount of work carried out at dwelling houses. Inspections are made for several different purposes and include inspections for defects following complaints, for consideration for clearance area and demolition order procedures, inspections following applications for qualification certificates and improvement grants. Inspections are also made of houses in multiple occupation and following requests for advice from owner/occupiers.

It is due to the ready co-operation of many owners that a considerable amount of work is completed without the necessity to proceed by way of Statutory powers.

1. INSPECTIONS OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR

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

Public Health Act	89	} 614
Housing Act	525	

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

Public Health Act	174	} 2,039
Housing Act	1,865	

- (2) Number of dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation 25

- (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 or in a state of disrepair:—

Public Health Act	6	} 28
Housing Act	22	

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

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit or repaired in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority's Officers:—

Public Health Act	9	} 32
Housing Act	23	

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR

Proceedings under Section 9, 10, 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957:—

- | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| (1) Demolition orders issued | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| (2) Demolition orders complied with | ... | ... | ... | 5 |

(3) Houses closed	2
Parts of Buildings Closed—Houses	1
(4) Houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted in lieu of orders	—
(5) Houses demolished following undertakings in lieu of orders	—
(6) Houses made fit following undertakings in lieu of demolition orders	1
(7) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(8) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	—
(b) By the Local Authority in default of owners	—

*Summary of Inspections Made and Work Carried Out
as a Result of Notices Served or Recommendations made*

Housing Act, 1957

Informal Notices issued	22
" " complied with	23

Public Health Act, 1936

Informal Notices issued	6
" " complied with	9

Inspections Made and Recorded

Houses	614
Tents, Vans and Sheds	39
Water Supplies	21
Infectious Disease	43
Ponds, Ditches and Watercourses	18
Dirty and/or Verminous Houses	45
Public Conveniences	5
Places of Entertainment	1
Yards and Passages	1
Effluvia	11

Inspections Made and Recorded (Cont.)

Abandoned Petrol Tanks	5
Dustbins	35
Drainage Inspection	515
Accumulations of Refuse	241
Keeping of Animals	66
Drain Tests	30
Swimming Pools	66
Insect Infestations	57
Outworkers' Premises	11
Nuisances on land	44
Noise Nuisances	76
Shops	10
Clean Air Act:—	
Smoke Observations	41
Inspection of Installations	8

Work Carried Out

Ceilings provided or repaired	5
Floors repaired or renewed	14
Windows repaired or renewed	14
Sash cords renewed	8
Roofs repaired	14
Internal wall plaster repaired	15
Staircase repaired	1
Drains cleansed	64
Internal walls rendered with impervious material	8
Eaves Gutters and Fallpipes repaired	10
External walls repaired	17
Dust Nuisances Abated	1
Chimneys repaired	24
Yards/Paths repaired	4
Houses provided with Horizontal D.P.C.	1
Natural Lighting improved	7
Water Services repaired	1
W.C.'s repaired or renewed	6
Drains repaired or reconstructed	6
Satisfactory Food Store provided	1
Smoke Nuisances abated	2
Door and door frames repaired	2
Rainwater Fallpipes repaired or renewed	2
Paintwork Renewed	3
W.C. Compartments repaired or renewed	3
Nuisance from Animals abated	1
Means of escape provided in H.M.O.	6
House in multiple occupation cleaned	3

Work Carried Out (Cont.)

Sinks renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Additional underfloor ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sink W.P. repaired/renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Fireplaces repaired/renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective Dustbins renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Inspection Chambers repaired/reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	22

Clearance Areas

Progress with the four-year clearance area programme commenced in 1967 and deferred pending the coming into operation of the Housing Act 1969 has continued. Details are set out below:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Properties</i>	<i>Present Position</i>
1967	59, 60 and 61 Moulsham Street; 308, 310 and 312 Springfield Road; 9, 11, 13, 15 and 17 Maltese Road; 1 and 2 Sycamore Cottages; 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25 Railway Street; 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 Railway Square	Demolished
1968	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 Rochford Road	Demolished
	237 Broomfield Road; 1, 3, 5 and 7 Patching Hall Lane	Demolished informally
	27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33 Townfield Street	Demolished
	14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 Lower Anchor Street	Clearance Order confirmed
1969	66, 68, 70, 72 and 74 Widford Road ...	Demolished
	15, 17, 19 and 21 Springfield Green ...	Demolished after Demolition Orders
	140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154 and 156 Baddow Road	Improved and made fit
	178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194 and 196 Springfield Road	Demolished
1970	42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64 and 66 Arbour Lane	Compulsory Purchase Order confirmed
	111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 125, 127, 129, 131, 133, 135, 137 and 139 Broomfield Road	Demolished
	9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 Primrose Hill	Demolished
	28, 30, 32, 34 St. John's Road	Clearance Order modified excl. No. 28
	36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 St. John's Road	Demolished

Housing Act, 1969—Qualification Certificates

The following details relate to applications for certificates received and refer to houses having controlled tenancies:—

Applications for Qualification Certificates received	...	...	46
Qualification Certificates granted	...	...	35
Qualification Certificates refused	...	...	9
Qualification Certificates granted after Certificates of Provisional Approval	...	...	24
Applications for Certificates of Provisional Approval received			33
Certificates of Provisional Approval granted	...	...	36

Housing Act, 1969—General Improvement Area

Since the Council declared the first area to be a General Improvement Area on the 17th March, 1971, there have been a number of applications for Improvement Grants and works of improvement have been completed at a few of the houses. Plans have been prepared for the improvement of the area and it is expected that the works will commence during 1973.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960

It will be seen that 76 visits have been made in connection with complaints of noise nuisances. The complaints related to industrial and commercial (10), roadwork construction (3), domestic (14) and other noises (4). Generally it has been found that roadworkers are co-operating in ensuring that drills are muffled and ice cream vendors are being more reasonable with the operation of musical chimes. Domestic noises create problems and there seems to be more need for co-operation between neighbours.

Noise is a growing factor in the kind of society in which we live and it is up to all concerned with construction of factories and machinery to give serious consideration to ways and means of reducing noise at the planning and design stage. If a factory operates on a 24-hour basis difficulty is often experienced in arranging different noise levels during these periods. People will accept a certain level of daytime noise but are not able to tolerate that same level at night.

SAFEGUARDING OF FOOD SUPPLIES

A considerable amount of time is spent by the Public Health Inspectors and the Authorised Meat Inspectors in carrying out their duties under this section of the work of the department. The figures given on this and following pages are merely statistics which do not give a true and complete picture of the constant efforts to ensure that all food during its storage, preparation and sale is clean, safe to eat and of a satisfactory quality.

All plans submitted in connection with proposed new premises and alterations to existing premises are inspected in detail and occupiers are encouraged to seek advice. During inspections at food premises and food stalls no effort is spared to bring about improvements and it is pleasing to be able to record that all of the work carried out was achieved by informal approach.

The number and types of food premises are given below. At many of these premises several types of business are carried on but the main trade only is mentioned and, therefore, the number of premises can be ascertained and compared with the number of inspections carried out. The number of food stalls is not recorded because a number of these include food vehicles coming into the district from other areas. Frequent inspections are made of the stalls at the Chelmsford Retail Market.

Number of Premises and Inspections made.

	No. of Premises	No. of Inspections
Bakehouses	5	23
Butchers	30	210
Cafés and Restaurants	38	338
Daries and Milk Shops	7	51
Fishmongers and Poulterers	4	16
Food Preparing Premises	10	38
Fried Fish Shops	9	26
Grocers	56	337
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	22	71
Ice cream premises/Confectioners	48	102
Licensed Premises	80	120
School Canteens	41	178
Factory Canteens, Warehouses, stores and other miscellaneous premises	90	563
Food Stalls	—	341
Informal Notices Issued ... ..	...	165
„ „ „ complied with ... ..	...	125

Work Carried Out

Articles and/or equipment repaired	8
Articles and/or equipment cleaned	22
Containers protected from contamination	6
Cupboards or cloakrooms provided for outdoor clothing	2
Floors, walls and ceilings repaired	5
Clean clothing provided	3

Work Carried Out (Cont.)

Containers provided for waste food	5
Food protected from risk of contamination	36
Floors cleansed	18
First Aid materials provided	9
Hand washing notices displayed	13
Name and address displayed at stalls	7
Food rooms suitably ventilated	2
Food rooms suitably lighted	2
Persons refrained from using tobacco	1
Sanitary conveniences cleansed or put in order	7
Sanitary conveniences lighted and/or ventilated	5
Suitable constant water supply provided for hand washing ...	4
Soap, towel and/or nail brush provided	12
Suitable facilities provided for washing equipment	2
Rooms cleansed and/or decorated	26
Wash hand basins provided	2
Wash hand basins cleansed or repaired	1

Registrations

Premises registered for sale of ice cream	176
Persons registered as Vendors of ice cream	199
Premises registered for manufacture of ice cream	8
Persons registered for manufacture of ice cream	9
Premises registered for manufacture of cooked meats, etc. ...	53

The following unsound food has been surrendered as unfit. It has been collected and destroyed (where salvage is impracticable):

	<i>tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Meat at slaughterhouses	62	3	96
Meat at wholesale premises/retail shops ...	1	—	—
Cooked meat and meat products			4
Canned meats		12	2
Other canned foods	5	3	65
Frozen foods due to cabinet breakdown ...	4	4	16
Other foods	2	9	56

Bacteriological Examination

The following are details of samples of food and food equipment submitted for bacteriological examination: —

					<i>Samples Taken</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>		<i>Unsatis- factory</i>	
Ice cream	...	...	...	...	137	...	135	...	2
Cream	...	...	...	...	18	...	11	...	7
Milk	...	...	...	...	180	...	176	...	4
Meat Products	...	...	...	...	87	...	87	...	—
Milk Churn Rinses	...	...	...	...	18	...	18	...	—
Milk Bottles	...	...	...	...	18	...	18	...	—
Bakers confectionery	...	...	...	...	12	...	12	...	—
Fish Products	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	—
Soup	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	—

The two unsatisfactory ice cream samples were taken from two retail premises. Following notification to the retailers concerned, follow-up samples proved satisfactory.

The seven unsatisfactory cream samples were taken from two retail premises. After investigation of the storage cabinet facilities one retailer was advised of action to be taken to ensure correct storage temperatures. In the second case the distribution and storage arrangements were taken up with the retailer concerned. Subsequent inspections revealed satisfactory storage methods at both of these premises.

Three milk samples failed to pass the Phosphatase test and after investigation had taken place the producer confirmed that this product was no longer manufactured. One milk sample failed the Methylene Blue Test and the matter was taken up with the retailer concerned. All subsequent samples were found to be satisfactory.

Analysis of Food

Details of samples tested or submitted for analysis by the Public Analysts for the Chelmsford Borough are given below: —

					<i>Samples Taken</i>	<i>Genuine</i>		<i>Not Genuine</i>	
Milks	...	...	...	...	73	...	73	...	—
Ice cream	...	...	...	...	18	...	18	...	—
Creams	...	...	...	...	12	...	12	...	—
Sausages and other Meat Products	...	...	...	...	43	...	41	...	2

Analysis of Food (Cont.)

					<i>Samples Taken</i>		<i>Genuine</i>		<i>Not Genuine</i>
Medicines	...	...	...	...	9	...	9	...	—
Bread	...	...	...	...	10	...	10	...	—
Fruit Juices	...	...	...	...	5	...	5	...	—
Confectionery	...	...	...	...	6	...	6	...	—
Fruits and Vegetables	...	...	...	...	7	...	6	...	1
Other Miscellaneous Foods	...	...	...	...	25	...	24	...	1

In addition to the above, samples of grapefruit, apples, oranges, peaches and tomatoes were submitted for analysis in connection with the country wide pesticide survey.

A chicken pasty was found to contain 13.5% meat whereas the Meat Pie and Sausage Rolls Regulations require the meat content should not be less than 25%.

A sample of beef sausages was found to be deficient of meat by 10% as prescribed by the Regulations.

Although a 6 lbs 4 ozs tin of gooseberries in light syrup were free from harmful contamination they were neither "topped" nor "tailed" and tinned gooseberries in syrup should be sold prepared for use.

A sample of a tin of stringless green beans in brine was submitted for analysis following complaints and examination of a large consignment of similar tins of beans. The sample was found to contain 305 parts per million of tin whereas tinned foods of this nature should not exceed 250 parts per million. In this case the consignment was withdrawn. In respect of the remaining unsatisfactory samples these were taken up with the manufacturers and follow-up samples proved to be satisfactory.

Food Complaints

I set out below a list of all customer food complaints received during the year:—

<i>No. of Complaints</i>		<i>No. of Complaints</i>	
Mould growth in bread ...	4	Mould growth in pasties ...	2
Mould growth in meat pies	5	Mould growth in brawn with	
Mould growth in sausages	2	egg	1
Mould growth in cheese ...	2	Mould growth in peaches ...	1
Mould growth in suet ...	1	Mould growth in fruit pies	3

Food Complaints (Cont.)

		<i>No. of Complaints</i>			<i>No. of Complaints</i>
Mould growth in cake ...	1		Hair in chocolate ...	...	1
Mould growth in flan cases	1		Glass in beetroot ...	...	1
Mould growth in yoghurt ...	1		Chicken claw in meal ...	...	1
Mould growth in cream dessert	1		Rust in can of beans ...	...	1
Mould growth in creamed rice	1		Stone in chocolate ...	...	1
Glass in pickle	1		Leaf in tin of tomatoes ...	...	1
Metal in meat	1		Foreign bodies in meat, flour, meat pie, bread, tin of carrots, bovril, and biscuits	...	11
Grit in cauliflower	1		Unfit soup ... ..	...	1
Hair in apricot	1		Unfit fish ... ..	...	2
Cigarette in tinned apples ...	1		Unfit meat pie ... ..	...	3
Matches in pie veal	1		Unfit margarine and butter	...	2
Metal blade in loaf of bread	1		Unfit meat ... ..	...	12
Elastic band in steak pie ...	1		Unfit potatoes ... ..	...	1
Insufficient meat in pork pie	1		Unfit pickled onions ...	...	1
Rancid cream in eclair ...	1		Unfit yoghurt... ..	...	2
Cigarette end in sugar ...	1		Unfit meal ... ..	...	3
Dirty milk bottles	3		Unfit jam tart ... ..	...	1
Abnormal colour of meat, bread, fruit and butter ...	12		Glass in cheese ... ..	...	1
Silver fish in orange juice ...	1		Abnormal taste and smell of meat, soup, fish, bovril, bread, tinned fruit ...	...	12
Insects in cereals, butter, bread, spaghetti	6		Beetle in cake ... ..	...	1
Curdled tinned milk	1		Ants in cake ... ..	...	1
Insufficient jam in sponge ...	1		Insect larvae in gherkins, tinned plums, meat and chocolate ... ..	...	4
Glass in bread	2		Incorrectly labelled lamb ...	...	1
String in bread	2				
Pin in bread	1				

Complaints relating to food have increased from 100 in 1971 to 131 in 1972. Both retailer and manufacturer must share the blame. Food retailers must take more care in stock rotation as complaints of mouldy food all too often indicate carelessness in this aspect of food handling. Foreign bodies in food have produced a variety of articles, the most unusual being a 14 inches long bread slicing blade along with glass, a pin, a box of matches in a frozen packet of veal, and an assortment of insects. All but a few retailers and manufacturers carry out a thorough examination of their methods and do all possible to prevent further contraventions. A few of the complaints were found not to be justified and it was possible to put the complainant at ease about the food. I welcome the receipt of complaints regarding food if the customer considers it to be unsatisfactory. Although the pin, the piece of glass and the unfit food may be seen before eating by the customer concerned, there are those who may not have detected the unfitness or the foreign body with more serious consequences. A complaint is always investigated and occasionally legal proceedings were necessary as follows:—

Food and Drugs Act—Section 2. A Manufacturer was found guilty of making a doughnut containing a filter tip from a cigarette and was fined £30 with £10 costs.

Food and Drugs Act—Section 8. A retailer was fined £30 with £6 costs for selling sausages which were unfit for human consumption.

Food and Drugs Act—Section 2. A retailer was found guilty of selling two meat and potato pies affected with mould growth and was fined £100 and £10 costs and the same retailer was fined £75 and £10 costs later in the year for selling a packet of pork brawn with egg affected with mould growth.

Food and Drugs Act—Section 2. The Manager of a food shop was fined £25 with £2 costs for selling two Cornish pasties affected with mould growth.

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations—A dairyman was given a conditional discharge and £10 costs for failing to ensure that a milk bottle was clean.

Meat Inspection

The three slaughterhouses in Chelmsford are all privately owned. The two Authorised Meat Inspectors carry out most of the work of meat inspection and it will be seen that 83,206 animals were killed compared with 76,488 last year. The carcasses and organs of all animals slaughtered were inspected.

It has not been found necessary to apply any form of control on slaughtering times.

Whole carcasses rejected as unfit for human consumption numbered 102 compared with 95 in 1971. The reasons being as follows:—

<i>Cows</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Jaundice (2)	Dropsy (1)	Pyaemia (38)
	Emaciation (5)	Moribund (3)
<i>Bullocks</i>	Extn. Bruising (1)	Septicaemia (23)
Septicaemia (7)	Septicaemia (1)	Dropsy (3)
	Pyaemia (1)	Emaciation (2)
<i>Calves</i>	Moribund (7)	Lymphatic Leukaemia (1)
Septicaemia (2)		Fevered (2)
Jaundice (1)		Jaundice (2)

All unfit meat was disposed of in the manner required by the appropriate Regulations.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND REJECTED

	Cows	Bullocks Heifers	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected ...	48	14,271	44	26,995	41,848
All diseases except Tuberculosis—					
Whole carcasses rejected ...	2	7	3	16	74
Carcases of which some part or organ was rejected ...	3	4,265	2	2,480	8,433
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	10.4	29.9	11.4	9.2	20.3
Tuberculosis only—					
Whole carcasses rejected ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was rejected ...	—	—	—	—	488
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	1.2
Cysticercosis—					
Carcases of which some part or organ was rejected ...	—	16	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	16	—	—	—
Generalised and totally rejected ...	—	—	—	—	—

The weight of meat rejected amounted to 63 tons, 3 cwts., 96 lbs.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

In addition to the Council-owned swimming bath and pool there are 6 school swimming pools. Sixty-six visits were made to ensure that satisfactory sterilisation of the water was being carried out. Advice is readily given in order to ensure that the water in the pools remains suitable for use by the school children.

PEST CONTROL

The Outside Assistant spends much of his time on pest control work. He is provided with a light van in which to carry his equipment. The Council's free service to householders continues and members of the public co-operate in reporting infestations. It is the reporting of these infestations which assists with the prevention of spread of rats, mice and other pests. The Council's sewers were treated once during the year necessitating the placing of bait in manholes.

Rodent Control

Properties inspected for rats and mice	764
Properties found to be infested by rats	447
Properties found to be infested by mice	195
Number of visits made	3,551

The year has shown an increase of infestations of rats from 359 to 447 whereas mice infestations were 195 compared with 228 during the previous year.

INSECT PESTS

A variety of pests were destroyed including crickets, carpet beetles, flies, wood boring beetles and cockroaches. Wasps nests decreased from 447 to 153 but complaints of ants increased from 69 to 103. Infestations of fleas have again been prevalent and 52 separate treatments were carried out. The infestations mostly occurred in new estates and usually where people kept a pet which presumably collected fleas from wild animals.

PETROLEUM ACTS

98 premises are licensed for the storage of petroleum spirits. Each underground storage tank is subject to a periodic ullage test and newly installed tanks are pressure tested after installation. During the year 58 tanks were tested and 312 visits were made to stores and installations to ensure compliance with the Licensing Conditions. 22 informal requests were made for improvements and 23 requests had been complied with at the end of the year which involved requirements from the previous year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Inspections

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local Authority	192	134	7	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	25	13	2	—
TOTAL	223	147	9	—

Defects

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

Persons employed in registered premises							No. of Persons
Offices	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,429
Retail Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,998
Wholesale departments, warehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	461
Catering Establishments open to the public	...	...	...	...	...	...	595
Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Fuel Storage Depots	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Total Males 4,593							
Total Females 4,952							
							9,545

Analysis of Contraventions and work carried out

Detail		Contraventions Found Remedied		Detail		Contraventions Found Remedied	
Cleanliness	...	—	—	Floors, passages & stairs	...	27	23
Overcrowding	...	1	1	Fencing exposed machinery	...	3	2
Temperature	...	4	3	Provision of Thermometers	...	74	67
Ventilation	...	12	5	Notices	...	92	83
Lighting	...	—	5	First Aid General Provision	...	45	49
Sanitary Conveniences	...	18	13				
Washing facilities	...	16	8				
Drinking Vessels	...	—	4				
Eating facilities	...	—	—				
Hoists & Lifts Regs.	...	15	10				
The remedial work mentioned above relates to contraventions found during 1971/72						307	273

Accidents

During the year there were 27 non-fatal accidents reported.

The Act requires the occupier of any premises to notify forthwith any accident occurring on the premises which:—

- (a) causes the death of a person employed to work on the premises, or
- (b) disables any such person for more than three days from doing his usual work.

The causes of accidents were classified as follows:—

No. of Accidents	Cause classification
7	Use of hand tools
6	Machinery
5	Falls of persons
4	Handling goods
4	Struck by falling object
1	Not otherwise specified

Outworkers

Nature of Work		Section 133			Section 134	
		No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served Prosecutions
Wearing apparel	Making etc.,	20	—	—	—	—
	Cleaning and Washing	—	—	—	—	—
Curtains and Furniture hangings ...		6	—	—	—	—
TOTAL		26	—	—	—	—

THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Summary of Registrations, Inspections, Contraventions and Work carried out during the Year ended 31st December, 1972

Class of Premises	No. of Premises Registered during the year	Total Registered Premises at end of year	No. of Registered Premises receiving one or more general inspections during 1972
Offices	32	352	144
Retail Shops	60	439	230
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	4	56	29
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens ...	8	92	48
Fuel storage Depots	—	2	—
	104	941	451

Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered premises under the Act 1,039



