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Contributors

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CHELMSFORD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



Annual Reports

OF

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR

1963



**CHELMSFORD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Annual Reports

OF

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR

1963

STAFF

Clerk of the Rural District Council : C. A. Bohannon.

*Deputy Clerk of the Rural District Council: A. J. Little, LL.B.,
D.P.A., Barrister-at-Law.*

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

*Medical Officer of Health : T. D. Blott, B.Sc., M.B., B.S., D.P.H.,
Barrister-at-Law (also Medical Officer of Health to Borough of
Maldon & Maldon Port Health Authority, Urban District of
Burnham-on-Crouch, Rural District of Maldon, and Assistant
County Medical Officer, Essex County Council).*

*Clerk to Medical Officer of Health :
Miss S. Moye.*

CHIEF HEALTH INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT

*Chief Health Inspector and Director of Public Cleansing :
T. H. C. Bartrop, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.**

*Deputy Chief Health Inspector :
L. G. Smart, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., A.M.I.P.H.E.**

*Health Inspectors :
F. B. Brewster, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
G. D. Clare.*
R. F. S. Musgrave, M.A.P.H.I.**

*Meat Inspector:
A. Philip (from 1st October, 1963)*

*Public Cleansing Inspector :
E. J. Moore.*

*Clerical Staff :
R. H. Hawkes.
Mrs. A. B. Fleming.*

* Qualified Inspectors of Meat and other Foods, Royal Society of Health.

November, 1964

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present for your consideration my tenth Annual Report covering the year 1963.

The health of the district has been good as regards major epidemics of the more serious infectious diseases. These have virtually disappeared as a result of the vaccination and immunisation which has been carried out in recent years. It is to be hoped that soon the Health Services will be able to offer protection against measles, German measles and mumps.

A feature of the mumps outbreaks during the year has been a small number of serious cases of mumps and encephalitis amongst adults and more attention will have to be paid to mild encephalitic illnesses in future.

The Public Health Service is primarily protective and in such matters as clean water, refuse collection, drainage and meat inspection your Council's staff have reached a very high standard of efficiency, but in certain matters such as the care of the elderly, far too often your department is brought into the picture at too late a date.

It cannot be stressed too strongly that planning for old age starts in the prime of life.

The requirements of the elderly have received great attention from your Housing Members and much excellent housing accommodation is now available. There are, in addition, many voluntary societies helping in this direction. I am satisfied, however, that much more can be done by better utilisation of existing facilities, long-term planning and a vigorous educational programme.

I do not feel that we have done all that we can in this direction, but time and staffing difficulties present serious obstacles to carrying out this work.

In the near future, we must expect services such as water supplies and housing to be concentrated into larger and larger units for efficiency, but I feel that only a reasonably small Authority with knowledge of the local requirements of the people can sufficiently administer domiciliary services for the aged and mentally ill. Unless District Councils are prepared to act more actively in these matters, then I can well see this most important branch of Public Health carried on as a centralised service.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. D. BLOTT.

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Public Health Committee consists of thirty-four members of the Council, and meets on the second Tuesday of each month. The Council meeting is held on the fourth Tuesday in each month.

Chairman of Public Health Committee:

Mr. W. H. Orr.

Vice-Chairman of Public Health Committee:

Mrs. A. L. Mitchell.

LIST OF COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL:

General Purposes and Staffing.

Finance.

Buildings and Planning.

Public Health.

Housing.

Re-Housing.

Slum Clearance.

Estates Management.

Drainage and Water.

Council and Staff Joint.

Civil Defence.

Reception (Civil Defence).

The Council is represented on the:—

Chelmsford Joint Sewerage Committee.

South-East Essex Superannuation Joint Committee.

Chelmsford Borough and Rural District Road Safety Committee.

Mid-Essex Area Planning Sub-Committee.

Chelmsford and District Care Association for Tuberculosis and other Diseases of the Chest.

Essex County Branch, Rural District Councils' Association.
Divisional Executive Education Committee.
Mid-Essex Health Area Sub-Committee.
Old People's Committee.
Chelmsford Hospital Joint House Committee.
Essex Boroughs and District Councils' Association.
Eastern Regional Executive Committee (National Housing
and Town Planning Council).
Civil Defence Joint Advisory Committee.
Chelmsford King Edward VI School Governing Body.
Joint Traffic Committee of Essex Local Authorities.
Post Office Advisory Committee.
Victoria History of the County of Essex—County Committee.

National Assistance Act, 1948

Section 47. This section is concerned with the removal of aged and infirm persons from their homes when they are not receiving adequate care and attention. In most cases after the position has been explained to them, the persons concerned consent to leave home voluntarily, but sometimes legal action is necessary as a last resort.

Section 50. The Council has the duty to arrange the burial or cremation of the body of any person who has died or is found dead in its area, when no other suitable arrangements can be made.

From 1948 to 1962 forty-nine such burials were arranged and during 1963 arrangements were made for the burial of one person.

Clinics and Treatment Centres Administered by the Essex County Council

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

Centre	Address	Sessions (Monthly)
Great Baddow ...	Parish Hall	Mondays, 2 p.m.
Galleywood ...	Keene Memorial Hall ...	Each Tuesday, 2 p.m., not 5th.
Little Baddow ...	Memorial Hall	Last Tuesday, 2 p.m.
Boreham ...	Village Hall	3rd Tuesday, 2 p.m.
Broomfield ...	Methodist Church Room	1st and 3rd Thursdays, 2 p.m.
Chignal Smealey	Congregational Church Room	4th Monday, 2.30 p.m.
Danbury ...	Village Hall	1st and 3rd Thursdays, 2 p.m.
East Hanningfield	Women's Institute Hall	1st Tuesday, 2 p.m.
Ramsden Heath ...	Y.M.C.A. Hall, Rams- den Heath	1st Friday, 2 p.m.
Highwood ...	New Village Hall ...	3rd Wednesday, 2.30 p.m.
Ingatestone ...	Working Men's Club ...	2nd and 4th Fridays, 2 p.m.
Great Leighs ...	Village Hall	2nd Tuesday, 2.30 p.m.
Mountnessing ...	Women's Institute Hall	2nd Thursday, 2 p.m.
Rettendon ...	Village Hall	2nd Wednesday, 2 p.m.
Stock	Congregational School- Room	3rd Thursday, 2 p.m.
Great Waltham ...	Village Hall	3rd Tuesday, 2 p.m.
Little Waltham ...	Chapel Schoolroom ...	1st Tuesday, 2 p.m.
Woodham Ferrers	Village Hall	2nd Monday, 2 p.m.
South Woodham	Village Hall	1st Monday, 2 p.m.
Writtle	Village Hall	2nd, 3rd and 4th Tues- days, 2.30 p.m.
Runwell	Village Hall	1st and 3rd Tuesdays.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

The New Writtle Street Clinic, Tuesday, 2 p.m.

Women's Welfare and Ante-Natal Clinic, Coval Lane, Chelmsford. Thursday mornings.

IMMUNISATION CLINIC

Coval Lane Clinic, Chelmsford. 2nd Monday, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

SCHOOL CLINIC

Coval Lane Clinic, Chelmsford. Monday, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

OPHTHALMIC CLINIC, DENTAL CLINIC, CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC, SPEECH CLINIC, CHIROPODY CLINIC (for elderly persons)

These clinics are held by appointment and full details can be obtained from the Area Medical Officer, 75, Springfield Road, Chelmsford.

OTHER CLINICS, etc:—

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY

Broomfield Hospital, Broomfield. Mondays and Wednesdays, 10 a.m. - 12 noon.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Treatment is available at:—

- (a) The New Writtle Street Clinic, Wednesday 3.30 p.m. to 6 p.m., Friday 10.15 a.m. to 12.15 p.m.
- (b) Chelmsford and Essex Hospital, London Road, Chelmsford.
- (c) Essex County Hospital, Colchester.

Patients are seen at V.D. Clinics without letters from their private doctors and without appointments.

FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC

Coval Lane Clinic, Chelmsford. Tuesday evenings and Thursday.

HOSPITALS

The Hospitals in the area belong to No. 18 Group North-East Metropolitan Hospital Board.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES are provided by the Essex County Council.

MORTUARIES

Situate at:—

- (a) St. John's Hospital, Chelmsford.
- (b) Chelmsford & Essex Hospital, Chelmsford.
- (c) Isolation Hospital, Great Baddow (Infectious Diseases).

LABORATORY FACILITIES

These services are used by arrangement with the Essex County Council.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

Infected Diseases	Total Cases Notified	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 & over
Measles ...	812	27	67	71	109	87	396	41	7	7
Pneumonia ...	12	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	2	6
Erysipelas ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Scarlet Fever ...	9	1	—	—	2	2	3	1	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	85	6	10	13	10	10	30	4	—	2
Dysentery ...	5	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	1
Infective Hepatitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Food Poisoning ...	7	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	6
TOTALS ...	934	35	77	85	122	102	432	47	10	24

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table gives particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis during the year.

Age Periods	*New Cases			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5	—	—	—	—
5—14	—	1	—	—
15—24	—	—	—	—
25—44	2	3	—	—
45—64	1	—	—	1
65 & over	—	1	—	—
TOTALS	3	5	—	1

*Not including cases of tuberculosis removed into the District during the year, which had been previously notified elsewhere.

The number of deaths from respiratory tuberculosis was one. There were no deaths from non-respiratory tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis patients can, under certain circumstances, obtain financial help by way of grants for milk, food, clothing and other needs on application to the Hon. Secretary of the Chelmsford and District Care Association for Tuberculosis and other Diseases of the Chest, Mr. R. H. Hawkes, c/o R.D.C. Offices, 88 New London Road, Chelmsford.

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS

Total number of outbreaks	Number of cases	Number of deaths	Organisms or other agents responsible, with number of outbreaks attributed to each	Foods involved, with number of outbreaks associated with each food
3	6	NIL	No specific organisms isolated	No specific organisms isolated

WATER SUPPLY

The following is a summary of the water supplies from the Council's mains for the year ended 31st *March*, 1964.

Total amount of water supplied	...	696,542,000	gallons
Total length of water mains in use	...	273	miles
Total number of supplies afforded	...	17,098	
New supplies afforded		744	
New mains laid		3	miles
Number of burst mains repaired	...	92	
Number of burst service pipes repaired		164	

It was not necessary to cart any water to individual properties during the year.

In addition to the water supplied from the Council's mains, a total of 35,000,000 gallons was supplied by the Southend Waterworks Company during the year 1963 to the parish of Mountnessing, part of the parish of South Hanningfield and a small part of the parish of Woodham Ferrers.

A bulk supply of water is provided by the Council to the Braintree Rural District Council to serve properties in their District which are in the Great Leighs locality.

The water supplied from the South Essex Waterworks Company's trunk mains is satisfactory in both quality and quantity. Present restrictions on garden watering and car washing are made necessary by over-loading of the distribution system.

The supply is piped to all parts of the District and bacteriological and chemical analyses are taken by the South Essex Waterworks Company at their treatment works. Regular samples for bacteriological examination are also taken throughout the District by the Public Health Inspectors.

The water supplied has had no action on lead piping.

There has been no form of contamination that warrants report.

The following table gives details of houses and population supplied with water from the South Essex Waterworks Company.

Parish	No. of houses supplied direct	No. of houses supplied by standpipe	Population supplied direct	Population supplied by standpipe
Great Baddow	3,862	—	11,850	—
Little Baddow	396	—	1,227	—
Boreham	493	—	1,540	—
Broomfield	840	—	2,586	6
Chignal	119	2	370	—
Danbury	1,168	—	3,550	—
Good Easter	142	—	425	—
East Hanningfield	150	—	460	—
South Hanningfield	120	—	370	—
West Hanningfield	216	—	665	—
Highwood	196	—	600	—
Ingatstone and Fryerning	1,337	—	4,143	—
Great and Little Leighs	326	3	1,000	9
Margaretting	338	—	1,050	—
Mashbury	41	—	130	—
Mountnessing	—	—	—	—
Pleshey	122	—	380	—
Rettendon	432	7	1,360	21
Roxwell	377	—	1,170	—
Runwell	1,073	6	3,280	18
Sandon	301	—	925	—
Springfield	144	6	445	18
Stock	541	—	1,650	—
Great Waltham	644	—	2,000	—
Little Waltham	370	—	1,142	—
Woodham Ferrers	765	24	2,380	72
Writtle	1,169	—	3,630	—
	15,682	46	48,334	138

Total population supplied in District, 48,472.

*Copy of a Recent Analysis of Water from the Southend
Waterworks Company's Mains*

(CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION)

Appearance	...	...	...	Faint opalescence with particles
Turbidity (Silica Scale)	...	...	...	Less than 3
Colour A.P.H.A.	...	...	...	7
Odour	...	...	...	Nil
Reaction pH	...	...	...	7.7
Free Carbon Dioxide	...	...	...	Trace
Electric Conductivity	...	...	...	620
Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C	...	...	...	410
Chlorine present as Chloride	...	...	...	70
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	...	...	...	30
Hardness: Total	...	...	...	140
Carbonate	...	...	...	30
Non-Carbonate	...	...	...	110
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	...	4.9
Nitrite Nitrogen	...	...	...	Less than 0.01
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	0.066
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	0.11
Oxygen Absorbed	...	...	...	1.2
Residual Chlorine	...	...	...	0.20 at sampling
Metals: Zinc, copper and lead	...	...	...	Absent
Iron	...	...	...	0.03

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of Colonies developing on Agar per ml. in:—

1 day at 37°C = 7

2 days at 37°C = 9

3 days at 20°C = 290

Presumptive Coliform Reaction	Absent from 100 ml.
Bact. coli (Type 1)	...
Cl. Welchii Reaction	...
	Absent from 100 ml.

REPORT

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The hardness of the water is very moderate and it contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It is of satisfactory organic quality and bacterial purity.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

Analysis of purified water at the Langham and Layer-de-la-Haye stations of the South Essex Waterworks Company.

(CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION)

	Langham Works	Layer-de-la-Haye Works
	(Average of Weekly Analyses)	(Average of Weekly Analyses)
Total Dissolved Solids ...	515	407
pH Value	7.94	7.85
Residual Chlorine, Cl. ...	0.28	0.29
Chlorides, Cl.	51	48
Nitrate Nitrogen	3.90	1.74
Nitrite Nitrogen	0.003	0.002
Hardness, non-carbonate ...	126	131
„ carbonate	245	144
„ total	368	275
Free Ammonia (NH ₃) ...	0.21	0.19
Albuminoid Nitrogen ...	0.13	0.16
Oxygen Absorbed (4hrs./27°C)	1.25	1.32
Iron (Fe)	0.02	0.02

Bacteriological Examinations

No. of Tests during year	317	315
% of samples which were free from Bact. Coli (Type 1) in 100 ml.	100.0	99.7
% of samples which were free from Coliform bacteria in 100 ml.	99.7	99.7
Maximum count of Coliform bacteria per 100 ml. ...	1	1

HOUSING**NUMBER OF HOUSES ERECTED DURING 1963**

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Council</i>	<i>Private</i>
Great Baddow (inc. Galleywood) ...	—	152
Little Baddow ...	—	9
Boreham ...	4	26
Broomfield ...	—	11
Chignal ...	—	—
Danbury ...	30	18
Good Easter ...	—	8
East Hanningfield ...	—	1
South Hanningfield ...	—	13
West Hanningfield ...	—	5
Highwood ...	—	2
Ingatestone and Fryerning ...	8	72
Great and Little Leighs ...	—	1
Margaretting ...	12	—
Mashbury ...	—	—
Mountnessing ...	10	2
Pleshey ...	—	—
Rettendon ...	—	5
Roxwell ...	—	1
Runwell ...	—	47
Sandon ...	—	3
Springfield ...	—	1
Stock ...	—	19
Great Waltham ...	—	6
Little Waltham ...	—	1
Woodham Ferrers ...	—	3
Writtle ...	—	52
Totals ...	74	458

Since 1946, 2,144 Council houses and 4,061 private houses have been erected in the District.

STREET LIGHTING

Street lighting is provided in the following parishes:—

Great Baddow
Boreham
Broomfield
Danbury
Ingatestone
Great and Little Leighs
Margaretting
Mountnessing
Rettendon
Roxwell
Runwell (administered by Parish Council)
South Hanningfield (Ramsden Heath area)
Springfield
Stock
Great Waltham (administered by Parish Council)
Little Waltham
Woodham Ferrers
Writtle

Several schemes have been carried out to improve lighting in nine parishes in the District.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING

The Rural District is within the area of the Mid-Essex Planning Committee.

The Council, under delegated powers from the Essex County Council, deals with applications for permission to develop.

SEWERAGE

Public sewers are provided in the more populous areas of the following parishes:—

Great Baddow
Broomfield
South Hanningfield (Ramsden Heath area)
Ingatestone and Fryerning
Mountnessing
Rettendon (part)
Roxwell
Runwell
Great Waltham
Little Waltham
Writtle

The Danbury and Other Parishes Sewerage Scheme was nearing completion by the end of the year.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (acres)	...	...	...	86,506 (land and inland waters)
Home population (estimated, June, 1962)	...	...	...	51,600
Number of houses, 1962	...	...	...	16,923
Census population, 1961	...	...	...	48,026

The rateable value of the district for the half-year commencing 1st April, 1963, was £1,589,062.

The sum represented by a penny rate, year ended 31st March, 1964 £6,652

Live births (Male 547, Female 479) 1,026

Live birth rate per 1,000 population 20.2

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births 5.0

Still births 11

Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births ... 10.1

Total live and still births 1,037

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births 27.3

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks
per 1,000 total live births) 9.0

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under
1 week per 1,000 live births) 7.0

Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths
under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live
and still births) 18.75

Maternal deaths (including abortion)	1
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births ...	0.9
Deaths:— Male 326 } Crude death rate per 1,000 Female 319 } of estimated resident popu- Total 645 } lation	12.5
Registrar General's Comparability Factor of { Births Deaths	0.97 0.94
Corrected Death Rate	11.75
Death Rate for England and Wales	12.2
Number of deaths under one year of age	16
Number of deaths under 4 weeks of age	15

Natural increase of population, namely the excess in the number of live births over the number of deaths since 1943 is shown in the following tabular statement.

Year	Number of Births	Deaths	Increase
1943	584	387	197
1944	670	427	243
1945	586	358	228
1946	693	396	297
1947	770	428	342
1948	726	371	355
1949	690	391	299
1950	642	405	237
1951	589	413	176
1952	590	402	188
1953	641	470	171
1954	602	455	147
1955	666	514	152
1956	680	499	181
1957	738	523	215
1958	783	484	299
1959	749	504	245
1960	830	502	318
1961	916	566	350
1962	968	560	408
1963	1,026	645	381

The following table classifies the deaths according to
cause and sex

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Totals
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	1	1
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	1	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	11	4	15
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	13	4	17
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	11	11
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	4	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	39	27	66
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	3	1	4
Diabetes	2	5	7
Vascular lesions of nervous system	42	48	90
Coronary disease, angina	58	51	109
Hypertension with heart disease	7	8	15
Other heart disease	23	35	58
Other circulatory disease	14	14	28
Influenza	—	1	1
Pneumonia	35	40	75
Bronchitis	26	4	30
Other diseases of respiratory system	3	7	10
Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	4	1	5
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	2	4
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	—	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	3	—	3
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1	1
Congenital malformations	4	4	8
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	23	31	54
Motor vehicle accidents	3	1	4
All other accidents	6	10	16
Suicide	3	2	5
Homicide and operations of war	—	1	1
All causes	326	319	645

The deaths classified according to age were as follows:—

	Number of Deaths							
	Occurring in District		Of non-residents occurring in District		Of residents occurring outside District		Allotted to District	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	3	—	—	—	9	6	12	6
1 and under 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 " " 5	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	2
5 " " 15	—	—	—	—	3	1	3	1
15 " " 25	2	—	1	—	4	—	5	—
25 " " 35	3	2	2	2	3	3	4	3
35 " " 45	7	3	3	1	5	1	9	3
45 " " 55	16	9	9	5	12	2	19	6
55 " " 65	44	22	21	7	17	13	40	28
65 " " 75	76	61	25	19	37	34	88	76
75 and over	96	145	30	32	62	61	128	174
Totals	247	243	91	67	152	123	308	299

These figures do not agree exactly with those given in the table of cause and sex on page 18 owing to subsequent transfers to other districts by the Registrar.

**NUMBER OF DWELLINGS AND ESTIMATED
POPULATION IN EACH PARISH AS AT
31st DECEMBER, 1963**

Parish	Number of Dwellings	Estimated Population
Great Baddow	4,002	12,249
Little Baddow	414	1,261
Boreham	495	1,508
Broomfield	842	2,566
Chignall	122	371
Danbury	1,164	3,544
Good Easter	132	402
East Hanningfield	148	448
South Hanningfield	653	1,987
West Hanningfield	221	673
Highwood	196	597
Ingatestone and Fryerning	1,331	4,050
Great and Little Leighs	345	1,051
Margaretting	359	1,088
Mashbury	41	124
Mountnessing	461	1,395
Pleshey	124	377
Rettendon	437	1,328
Roxwell	364	1,109
Runwell	1,068	3,261
Sandon	315	960
Springfield	169	515
Stock	555	1,691
Great Waltham	655	1,996
Little Waltham	368	1,124
Woodham Ferrers	788	2,401
Writtle	1,154	3,524
	16,923	51,600

ANNUAL REPORT

of

The Chief Health Inspector
and Director of Public Cleansing

To the Chairman and Members of the Chelmsford Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for the year 1963.

Two aspects of our work are, I think, worthy of special mention. First, in February, a cesspool emptying scheme was inaugurated. By the end of the year, 451 applications under the scheme had been received and, as the service becomes more widely known, the calls upon it will increase. On the other hand, of course, the construction of sewers in various parishes will gradually eliminate the necessity for many hundreds of cesspools and septic tanks. Further details of the scheme are given on page 36.

Second, the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, came into force on 1st October. These make it compulsory for all meat to be inspected and marked before it leaves a slaughterhouse. The whole cost of this service is now expected to be borne by the trade but there was some disappointment that local authorities were given no powers to control the hours or days on which slaughtering takes place. The number of animals killed in this District is greater than anywhere else in Essex and necessitated staff being on meat inspection duty on 339 days in the year, including 51 Sundays. During the last quarter of the year, when the Regulations were in force, the amount of overtime was 70% more than during the similar period of 1962, although the number of animals inspected was 1% less. This complete lack of control of the days and hours of slaughtering is due to the Government's policy of wishing not to be unreasonable since such control, it is said, could cause unjustifiable disturbance of the accepted pattern of the trade. The Council's support and encouragement in our endeavours to have a meat inspection service that could meet the demands made upon it were greatly appreciated; one full-time meat inspector was appointed on 1st October and a second one was authorised at the end of the year. One wonders whether the general public realise that this service is working constantly to ensure that all meat sold for human

consumption is free from disease, sound and wholesome—and during the year necessitated the post-mortem (and sometimes ante-mortem) inspection of 82,547 animals. This led to the condemnation of over 25 tons of unfit meat. More information on this service is given on pages 31-33.

The incentive bonus scheme for the refuse collection service continued to work smoothly and well repays the detailed planning and supervision it involves.

As in previous years, comments upon other aspects of the work are made in the various sections of the Report.

I record my appreciation and thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for all the support and understanding received throughout the year and to Dr. Blott for his friendly help and encouragement. The loyal support of the staff, under trying conditions sometimes, continues to be a great asset to the smooth and happy working of the department.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. H. C. BARTROP.

Chief Health Inspector and Director of Public Cleansing.

INSPECTION WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE HEALTH INSPECTORS

The following tabular statement gives details of the housing work carried out during the year.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the year:—	
(1)(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	108
(b) Number of inspections and re-inspections made for the purpose	388
(2) Number of dwelling-houses included under sub-heading (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	7
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	10
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	62
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices:—	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	48
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—	
Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	80
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
By Owners	6
Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing Act, 1957:—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of houses closed as a result of Closing Orders	2
(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders:—	
By Owners	10
(4) Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit for human habitation as a result of owners complying with undertakings to carry out works of repair	Nil
(5) Number of houses demolished by owners as a result of informal action	3

INSPECTIONS AND PARTICULARS OF NOTICES FOR THE YEAR 1962

Nature of Inspection	Total Inspections	Notices Outstanding at end of 1962	Notices Served		Notices		
			Informal	Statutory	Complied with	Cancelled	Outstanding at end of 1963
Infectious Disease Inquiries ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Disinfections ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Houses Inspected under Public Health or Housing Acts ...	108	51	24	1	14	2	60
Re-inspections under Housing Acts ...	164	—	—	—	—	—	—
Re-inspections under Public Health Acts ...	116	—	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	52	1	—	—	—	—	1
Dirty Condition of Houses ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Water Closets ...	44	22	6	77	5	1	99
Privies and Pail Closets ...	84	3	2	—	—	—	5
House Drainage ...	398	138	41	3	32	1	149
Other Drainage ...	82	6	4	—	4	—	6
Water Supply ...	133	16	6	—	2	—	20
Urinals ...	17	2	—	—	1	—	1
Piggeries ...	33	4	2	—	—	—	6
Animals Improperly Kept ...	18	—	1	—	—	—	1
Rats and Mice ...	122	2	6	—	1	—	7
Insect Pests ...	34	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures ...	369	1	1	—	—	—	2
Schools ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
Cowsheds and Dairies ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ice Cream Premises ...	40	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bakehouses ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Catering Establishments ...	18	4	1	—	1	—	4
Butchers' Shops ...	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Food Shops and Premises ...	31	7	3	—	1	—	9
Miscellaneous Food Visits ...	18	—	—	—	1	—	—
Slaughterhouse and Knackers Yard ...	1,258	3	3	—	1	—	5
Shops Act ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Factories:—							
(a) with Mechanical Power	21	5	1	—	3	—	3
(b) without Mechanical Power ...	20	1	—	—	—	—	1
Outworkers ...	15	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rent Act ...	9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Improvement Grants ...	271	—	—	—	—	—	—
Clean Air Act ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Noise Abatement Act ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Public Cleansing:—							
Dustbins ...	71	30	18	—	9	3	26
Refuse Dumps ...	187	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ...	308	—	—	—	—	—	—
Petroleum Storage ...	30	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ...	294	20	18	—	8	2	28
TOTALS ...	4,404	307	137	81	82	9	434

The following table provides statistics of work done as a result of the service of Informal and Statutory Notices:—

Ashbins provided	...	...	...	...	11
Chimney stacks repaired or re-pointed	...	...	...	...	1
Ceiling plaster repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	3
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	6
Door frames repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	3
Fireplaces and stoves repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	3
Floors repaired or re-laid	...	...	...	...	2
Internal wall plaster repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	5
Roofs repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	4
Window frames repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...	...	2
Cesspool overflows abolished	...	...	...	...	6
Choked drains cleansed	...	...	...	...	4
Drainage systems provided, altered or repaired	...	...	...	...	9
Drainage cut off from ditches, water courses, etc.	...	...	...	...	16
Foul ditches cleansed	...	...	...	...	4
Main water supplies repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Sewer connections	...	...	...	...	4
Urinals cleansed	...	...	...	...	1
Water closets provided	...	...	...	...	4
Water closet cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous items of work done	...	...	...	...	17

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

During the year, 16 Site Licences were in force.

The conditions attached to these licences are based on the Model Conditions, modified where necessary in respect of individual sites.

<i>Parish</i>					<i>No. of Site Licences</i>	<i>No. of Caravans</i>
Little Baddow	...	...	...	...	1	1
Boreham	...	...	...	...	2	19
West Hanningfield	...	...	...	...	2	117
Highwood	...	...	...	...	1	48
Margaretting	...	...	...	...	1	1
Mountnessing	...	...	...	...	1	1
Rettendon	...	...	...	...	2	2
Roxwell	...	...	...	...	1	1
Stock	...	...	...	...	1	1
Great Waltham	...	...	...	...	1	1
Writtle	...	...	...	...	1	2
					14	194

Sites licensed for summer months only

Little Baddow	...	...	...	...	1	15
Rettendon	...	...	...	...	1	240
					2	255

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

1.—INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health including inspections made by Health Inspectors.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspection	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	86	20	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	109	21	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	195	41	1	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred 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.)	—	—	—	—	—
{ Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
{ Unsuitable or defective ...	1	3	—	—	—
{ Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	1	3	—	—	—

OUTWORK

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 133 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel—Making, etc.	15					
Cardboard Boxes	1					
TOTAL	16	—	—	—	—	—

SWIMMING POOL

There is now no public swimming pool in the District. The number of small, private swimming pools (often pre-fabricated) continues to grow and although there is no control over these, we have been pleased to advise on sterilisation and other problems in some cases.

WATER ANALYSIS

Samples of water were taken by the department as follows:—

Mains supply ...	...	...	...	66
Wells ...	...	...	...	8

MILK SUPPLY

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is responsible for the supervision of dairy farms, and the Essex County Council under the Milk and Dairies (Special Designations) Regulations, 1960, for the registration of distributors of milk, and for issuing dealers' licences and supplementary licences.

BAKEHOUSES

The following table shows the number of bakehouses in use at the end of the year:—

Great Baddow ...	...	...	Carters (Gt. Baddow) Ltd.
Broomfield ...	...	...	G. H. Follett.
South Hanningfield ...	...	...	Stafford (Bakeries) Ltd.
Ingatestone and Fryerning ...	...	...	E. Warder. S. Raven.
Rettendon ...	...	...	H. and E. Benson.
Great Waltham ...	...	...	Bigg Bros.
Little Waltham ...	...	...	E. W. Amos, Ltd.
Woodham Ferrers ...	...	...	Taylor and Woodland.
Writtle ...	...	...	A. W. Hance.

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1933

Ice Cream

The number of registered premises at the end of 1963 was 135.

The retailers' sources of supply and premises are investigated before certificates are issued.

Ice Cream Sampling

Twenty-five samples of ice cream and thirteen samples of ice lollies were submitted to the bacteriologist for examination.

All the samples of ice cream were reported upon as satisfactory. Four of the samples of ice lollies were unsatisfactory, but repeat samples proved satisfactory.

CONDEMNED FOODSTUFFS

The following foods were condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

	No. of tins		No. of tins
Apricots	6	Marmalade	1
Beans	11	Oranges	2
Blackcurrants	2	Peaches	4
Baby Food	4	Pears	4
Carrots	4	Peas	10
Crab Spread	1	Pilchards	1
Cherries	7	Pineapple	13
Corned Beef (12oz.)	4	Plums	7
Cream	23	Prunes	1
Evaporated Milk	2	Salmon	2
Fruit Salad	11	Soups	10
Grapefruit	4	Tomatoes	15
Irish Stew	1	Tuna Fish	1
Luncheon Meat (4lb.)	1		

Miscellaneous

	Pounds		Pounds
Beef	321	Pork	54
Chicken	40	Pork Sausage Meat	36
Lamb	34	Rock Eel	14
Lambs' Livers	35	Salmon	4½
Ox-Kidneys	66		

MEAT INSPECTION

The one hundred per cent. meat inspection service, maintained for so many years, unfortunately fell from its peak. There were one or two days early in the year when snow-blocked roads prevented an inspector reaching the slaughterhouse at Ramsden Heath, and for a few days in October, the rigidity of the new Meat Inspection Regulations and shortage of staff led to a few animals being uninspected.

During the year, meat inspection was carried out on 339 days and on 288 of these overtime, to a total of 1,053 hours, was necessary. The only Sunday clear of slaughtering was August Bank Holiday Sunday.

The interference that this work causes to the domestic life of the inspectors and to the routine work of the department is an ever-present problem.

During the year, 82,547 animals were inspected—a decrease of about 7% on last year's figure. The total weight of meat condemned was 57,198 pounds, an increase of 5%. All condemned meat is disposed of under our supervision.

TABLE I

Animals inspected and number affected with disease, etc. (The figures in brackets relate to the year 1962.)

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>			<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>		<i>Pigs</i>
	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>			
Number inspected ...	6,292 (6,241)	1,448 (1,274)	744 (1,119)	31,314 (36,211)		42,749 (43,830)
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS						
Whole carcasses condemned	2 (—)	9 (6)	5 (5)	17 (16)		42 (47)
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1,303 (1,890)	394 (239)	12 (8)	2,456 (847)		5,317 (5,933)
Percentage of the number inspected affected ...	20.7 (30.2)	27.8 (18.9)	2.3 (1.2)	7.9 (2.4)		12.5 (13.6)
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY						
Whole carcasses condemned	1 (—)	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)		— (—)
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	12 (35)	13 (15)	1 (6)	— (—)		393 (446)
Percentage of the number inspected affected ...	0.2 (0.6)	1.0 (1.3)	0.1 (0.5)	— (—)		0.9 (1.0)

In addition to the above-mentioned condemnations, 7 (14 in 1962) bovine carcasses were found to be affected with the parasite *Cysticercus bovis* which causes the condition commonly known as "measly beef." The carcasses were released when we were satisfied that arrangements had been made for them to be held for three weeks in a refrigerator at 20°F. This treatment destroys the cysts, provided they are not generalised in the carcase musculature as well as in the usual sites of predilection.

In the following table is set out the number of the various kinds of animals inspected during each of the past nine years, together with the amount of meat and edible offal condemned.

TABLE II

		Cattle		Sheep		Pigs	Total	Total weight of		
		excluding	Cows	Calves	Lambs			meat condemned	tons	cwts. lb.
1955	...	2,096	599	445	5,672	10,716	19,528	11	6	54
1956	...	2,482	511	826	6,306	13,206	23,331	10	17	46
1957	...	3,187	462	533	9,259	18,849	32,290	13	17	88
1958	...	3,313	994	396	16,868	31,284	52,555	17	17	93
1959	...	2,785	1,543	536	25,612	31,440	61,916	33	5	78
1960	...	4,283	1,323	1,431	19,782	38,961	65,780	24	12	69
1961	...	5,946	1,132	1,008	31,793	39,487	79,366	23	14	36
1962	...	6,241	1,274	1,119	36,211	43,380	88,675	24	8	89
1963	...	6,292	1,448	744	31,314	42,749	82,547	25	10	78

The amount of meat condemned showed a slight increase compared with the amount for 1962. The amount of tubercular meat (2 tons 1cwt. 26lb.) was approximately one-twelfth of the total, compared with one-eleventh of the total in 1962 and one-sixth in 1961. These figures reflect the effect of the Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication Scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The whole of the meat condemned was voluntarily surrendered by those concerned and it was not necessary to resort to any legal action. The mutual trust that has been built up between the butchers and the department over many years continued and our judgments are very seldom questioned. We have also worked closely with the Veterinary Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in their campaign to eradicate bovine tuberculosis.

TABLE IV: Slaughterhouses

J. Copsey and Sons, Ltd., "Rothmans," High Street, Great Baddow.

L. Campen, The Street, Great Waltham.

A. Fincham, High Street, Ingatestone.

F. D. Mahoney, Ltd., Ramsden Heath.

Knackers Yard

There is one in the District, erected in 1935, situate in the parish of Great Baddow.

It was inspected regularly and no cause for complaint has arisen. It is owned and administered by Messrs. Harrison, Barber and Company Limited.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection

The incentive bonus scheme, inaugurated in February, 1961, continued throughout the year and was a major factor in ensuring a public service remarkably free from complaints. It was also found possible to absorb all new development in the District without any increase in the number of workmen and, in two parishes, to increase the frequency of collection from fortnightly to weekly. This is not a state of affairs that can continue indefinitely and 1964 must see some small increase in the number of vehicles and men to ensure that the present service is maintained and enabled to deal with the continuing rapid growth of the District.

With few exceptions (these being mostly on unmade roads), all premises now receive the refuse collection service; 10,558 premises are scheduled to receive a weekly collection and 6,343 premises are scheduled to be visited fortnightly.

Refuse Disposal

The disused gravel pit (approximately twelve acres in extent) at Waltham Road, Broomfield (now owned by the Council), continued in use as a refuse pit. In March, tipping was commenced in a small disused gravel pit in Lodge Road, Writtle. This pit, which had become the site of much indiscriminate dumping, was loaned free of charge by the owners and will be completed next year.

No. 2 Bray loader shovel, after nearly five years hard work, was replaced by a higher powered and more versatile machine—a Weatherill L61.

Depot

This consists of fourteen garages, small workshop and spare parts store, office, general store, messroom, locker room, drying room and toilets. The greater part of the yard is concreted and there is a washdown area. Towards the end of the year, work commenced on the erection of a new range of garages and workshop.

Transport

The transport for the public cleansing service consisted of the following vehicles:—

Vehicle No.	Make	Capacity in cu. yds.	Date Purchased	Mileage 1963
5	Shelvoke & Drewry (W Type)	11	1948	4,597
6	Shelvoke & Drewry (W Type)	11	1950	2,916
7	Shelvoke & Drewry (Diesel Fore-and-Aft Tipper) ...	16/18	1954	6,448
*8	Ford	2	1956	1,962
9	Shelvoke & Drewry (Diesel Fore-and-Aft Tipper) ...	16/18	1957	6,531
10	Shelvoke & Drewry (Diesel Fore-and-Aft Tipper) ...	16/18	1957	10,533
11	Karrier	7	1958	10,179
12	Shelvoke & Drewry (Diesel Fore-and-Aft Tipper) ...	16/18	1958	8,618
13	Shelvoke & Drewry (Diesel Fore-and-Aft Tipper) ...	16/18	1958	13,594
14	Shelvoke & Drewry (Diesel Side Loader)	11	1959	7,176
15	Shelvoke & Drewry (Diesel Side Loader)	11	1960	10,200
16	Shelvoke & Drewry (Diesel Fore-and-Aft Tipper) ...	12/14	1960	10,985
17	Ford	3	1961	15,642
18	Shelvoke & Drewry (Diesel Fore-and-Aft Tipper) ...	12/14	1962	11,447
19	Shelvoke & Drewry (Diesel Fore-and-Aft Tipper — Bulk Loader)	16/18	1962	7,797
†20	Bedford 15 cwt.	—	1963 (May)	4,289
†21	Shelvoke & Drewry (Diesel Fore-and-Aft Tipper — Bulk Loader with Powerpress) ...	25	1963 (August)	3,071
	Austin A.55	—	1959	6,120
				142,105

* Taken out of service. † Brought into service.*

Salvage

The salvage bonus scheme continued in operation. One-third of the proceeds are retained by the Council, the remaining two-thirds being allocated to the workmen.

During the year, the total proceeds under this scheme amounted to £265, of which the Council retained £88.

Indiscriminate Dumping of Rubbish

As the District surrounds Chelmsford and is in close proximity to London, the anti-social habit of throwing rubbish indiscriminately on to greenswards and in ditches and ponds and other places is often in evidence throughout the District. Some local residents are not blameless in this matter.

The Council tries to set a good example, for it provides a free disposal service at the refuse tips, it will arrange collections, free or at a nominal charge, for bulky unwanted articles, and will collect, usually free of charge, unsightly deposits of refuse provided they are collected together in one heap in a spot accessible for vehicles.

Nightsoil Collection

The weekly collection of nightsoil is carried out in the following parishes by a contractor, Mr. G. Barker, of Steeple, for the sum of £80 a quarter.

<i>Parishes</i>	<i>No. of houses</i>			
Rettendon				
Battlesbridge	...	...	...	22
Woodham Ferrers	...	...	...	65

Cesspool Emptying Service

This service came into operation on the 18th February, 1963, and by the end of the year 451 applications had been received.

The scheme is carried out by contract by Messrs. Purle Brothers, of Thundersley. The charges are 35/- for the first 750 gallons load and 23/6 for each additional load or part thereof. These charges are for the emptying of the cesspool only and do not include any charges for the cleansing of any choked or blocked drain, trap or inspection chamber or for the digging out of sludge. The charges for such additional work are negotiated direct with the contractors.

PETROLEUM LICENCES IN FORCE DURING 1963

During the year, 179 licences to store petroleum spirit were granted. Of these 124 were for private installations (not for re-sale to the public) and 55 for filling stations.

The total licensed storage capacity was 360,860 gallons for petroleum spirit and 350 gallons for cellulose.

The amount received in fees was £145 12s. 6d.