

[Report 1926] / Medical Officer of Health, Colchester Borough.

Contributors

Colchester (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1926

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/gzbgcbhj>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

4411 (1) COLCHESTER

BOROUGH OF



COLCHESTER.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

W. F. CORFIELD,

M.D., B.S., London ; M.R.C.S., Eng. ; L.R.C.P., Lond. ;

D.P.H., Cambridge ;

Medical Officer of Health ; School Medical Officer ;

Medical Superintendent of the Isolation Hospital and Sanatorium ;

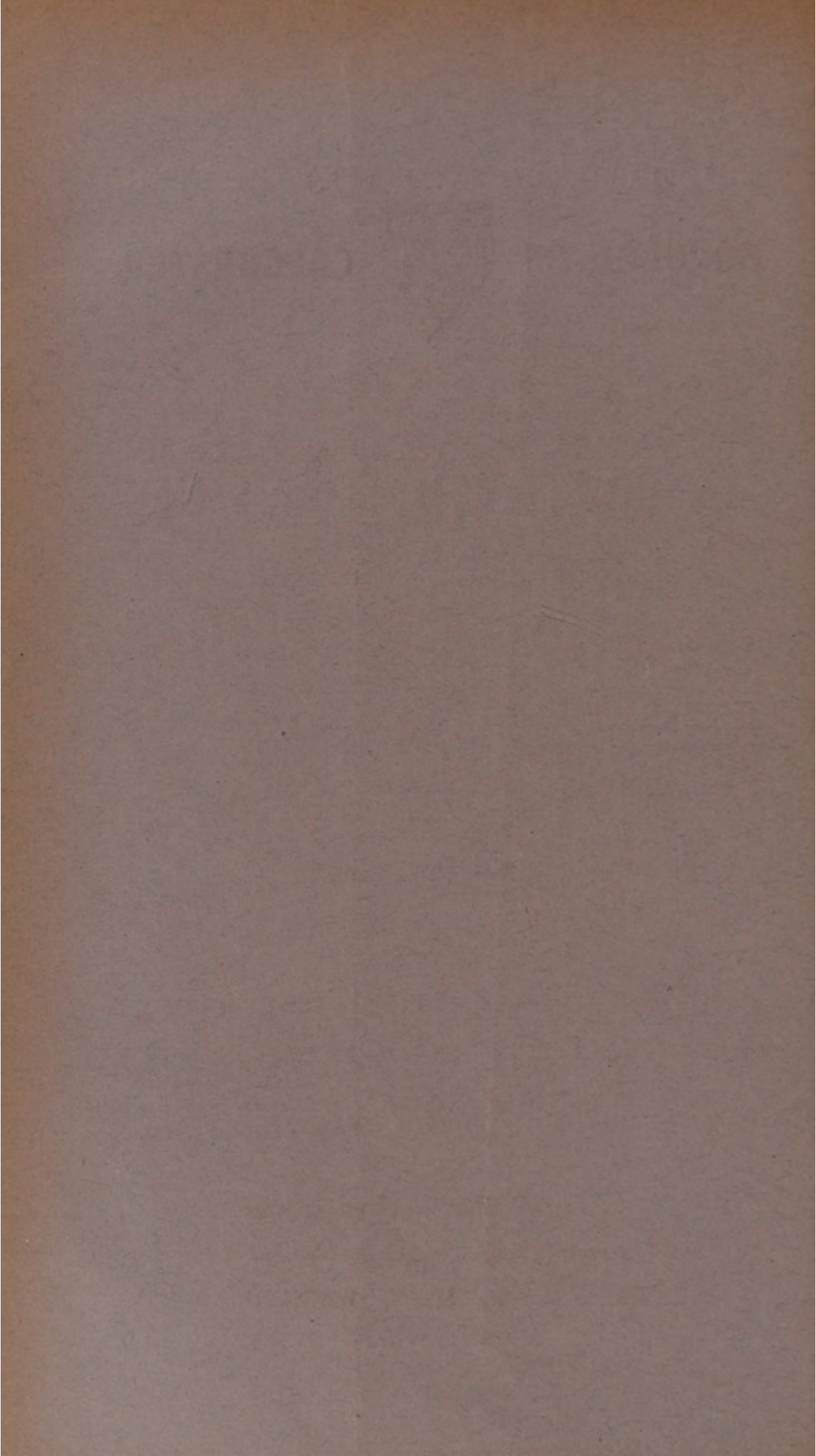
Tuberculosis Officer and Public Analyst ;

1926.



Colchester :

WILES & SON, TRINITY STREET.



BOROUGH OF



COLCHESTER.

BOROUGH & PORT HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1926.

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR

COUNCILLOR C. C. SMALLWOOD.

Chairman :

ALDERMAN R. B. BEARD, J.P.

Deputy-Chairman :

COUNCILLOR P. A. SANDERS, O.B.E., J.P., C.C.

Councillors :

MRS. C. B. ALDERTON, J.P. MRS. BENSUSAN-BUTT, M.D.

DAME CATHERINE HUNT, F. BILLINGTON, J.P.
D.B.E., J.P.

F. E. HAYDON.

T. W. WATTS.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee :

The Health Committee with the addition of

MRS. FELL AND MRS. TOWNSEND.

THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health, etc. :

W. F. CORFIELD, M.D., B.S. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Camb.).

Assistant Medical Officer of Health, etc. :

R. W. CUSHING, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Oxon).

Sanitary Inspectors :

A. FISHER, C.R.S.I., Cert. Meat Insp. J. E. AUSTIN, C.S.I.B.

Health Nurses :

MISS L. PEARSON, C.M.B. MISS A. W. SASSE.
MISS E. R. SMITH, S.R.N., C.M.B.

Clerks :

R. D. SARGEANT. MISS M. KITTLE. D. H. BAILEY.

Laboratory Assistant :

R. D. SARGEANT.

Disinfectors :

G. T. HEWES.

Matron of the Borough Isolation Hospital and Sanatorium :

MISS K. C. BRAIDWOOD, R.R.C.

PART-TIME SPECIALISTS :

Orthopædic Surgeon :

B. WHITCHURCH HOWELL, F.R.C.S. (Eng.).

X-Ray Specialist :

J. ORD PENDER SMITH, M.B., Ch.B. (Ed.), D.M.R.E. (Camb.).

HEALTH OFFICES,

TRINITY STREET,

20th April, 1927.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you my Annual Report upon the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough for the year 1926.

The past year was not remarkable for any outstanding feature of Public Health importance. There was no remarkable improvement in any of the rates of mortality nor was there any widespread or serious epidemic.

As was expected, cases of Scarlet Fever, that had been so common for two years, became less and the number of persons attacked fell to the usual low rate.

The incidence of Diphtheria was exceptionally light and the Borough was extremely free from this disease.

Attention is drawn in the body of the report to the fact that patients sent into the Essex County Hospital from other Districts and notified from there as suffering from an Infectious Disease have to be included in the Annual Statistics as Colchester cases. This report mentions 5 cases of Sleepy Sickness so notified. This gives a completely wrong impression. Steps should be taken so that such cases may be counted in the districts to which they belong and not in the district in which the hospital to which they have been sent is situate as is the case at present.

I am grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their interest and support and to the Staffs of the Isolation Hospital and Health Department for their loyal assistance and co-operation.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. F. CORFIELD,

Medical Officer of Health, etc.

THE STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
TRINITY STREET
DALLAS, TEXAS

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst. and in reply to advise you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

Very respectfully,
W. H. GRIFFIN

The Board of Directors of the Association has considered your application and has decided to grant the same. The same will be in effect from the date of the meeting of the Association on the 15th inst.

I am glad to see the Association and its members are so interested in their own interests and affairs and to the fact that the Association is so active and successful in its efforts to promote the interests of the profession and the public.

I am, Sir, very truly,
Your obedient servant,
W. H. GRIFFIN
Member, Board of Directors

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1926.

*An "Ordinary Report" as defined in para. 3 of Circular 743 of
the Ministry of Health.*

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (acres)	11,333
Population (1926 R.G. estimate)	} For Birth Rate 49,480 " Death " 44,780
" (Census, 1921) .. .. .		43,393
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	9,053
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921)	9,380
Rateable Value	£207,654
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£772

The Annual Report for 1926 is to be an "Ordinary Report," that is to say, in the words of Circular 743, "a Report of a more simple character than the full Survey Report which the Medical Officer of Health was asked to prepare last year."

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

	1925	1926
Birth Rate	16·2	16·1
" " England and Wales	18·3	17·8
Death Rate	9·4	10·6
" " England and Wales	12·2	11·6
Infantile Mortality Rate	54·8	62·5
" " " England and Wales	75·0	70·0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate	0·81	0·58
Other Tubercular Diseases	0·11	0·33
Cancer Death Rate	1·29	1·43

Births		Total	Male	Female	Infantile Deaths.
800	Legitimate	756	383	373	48
	Illegitimate	44	20	24	2

Total Deaths, 476. Male, 263. Female, 213.

Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of, Child-Birth—

From Sepsis, 2. From Other Causes, 2.

Legitimate Infantile Mortality Rate	..	..	63·5
Illegitimate „ „ „	..	..	45·4
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ..	..	..	2
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) ..	..	..	7
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ..	..	..	5

Two of the above figures call for special mention: the Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate and the Illegitimate Infantile Death Rate. For the past few years the former has been falling very satisfactorily.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate, 1921-26.

1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
1·11	0·96	0·67	0·66	0·81	0·58

It may be noted that there were only two Illegitimate Infant Deaths. Neither of these occurred in the town, both being what is known as inward transferred deaths, i.e. deaths of persons belonging to the district but dying elsewhere. Thus it would be correct to state that no illegitimate infants died in Colchester in 1926.

A table of deaths of persons over 70 years of age is given on the next page.

Deaths of Colchester Residents of 70 years and over.

70 and under 80	80 and under 90	90 and over	Total over 70
107	64	5	176

The ages of persons of 90 and over were—2 of 90, 2 of 91, and 1 of 92; 3 of these 5 were women.

Garrison and Institutional Populations.

Average Daily Strength of the Garrison	..	4,717	
Officers,	183.	Women, 346.	
Other Ranks,	3,620.	Children, 568.	
Mental Hospitals Population	.. ..	3,223
Severalls Mental Hospital (Inmates and Resident Staff)	1,913	Increase or Decrease. + 36
Royal Eastern Counties Institution		1,310	+ 59

Small changes have occurred in all the above figures, but none worthy of particular mention.

The Causes of Death in Infants and Children under 5 years, 1926.

Cause of Death	Under 1 year	1—2 years	2—5 years	TOTALS
Accidents or Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	2	...	...	2
Measles ... ..	...	...	1	1
Whooping Cough	3	2	1	6
Meningococcal Meningitis ...	1	...	...	1
Heart Disease	2	...	...	2
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	3	3	6
Bronchitis	3	...	...	3
Pneumonia	6	4	2	12
Diarrhœa and Enteritis ...	4	...	...	4
Congenital Debility and Premature Birth	29	...	...	29
Other Defined Diseases ...	1	2	1	4
Totals... ..	51	11	8	70

It is to be regretted that there is an increase of 13 deaths in this figure. These all occurred in children under 2 years of age. Five were due to Congenital Debility and four to Pneumonia.

Causes of Death in Colchester 1926.

(Civilians only)

Causes	Males	Females	TOTALS
Enteric Fever ... ..	...	...	...
Measles	1	1	2
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	4	3	7
Diphtheria ... ..	...	...	...
Influenza	3	2	5
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	...	1
Meningococcal Meningitis	1	1	2
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	16	10	26
Other Tuberculous Diseases	7	8	15
Cancer, Malignant Disease	33	31	64
Rheumatic Fever ... ..	...	...	...
Diabetes	1	2	3
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	18	20	38
Heart Disease	38	30	68
Arterio-sclerosis	14	9	23
Bronchitis	13	16	29
Pneumonia (all forms)	18	12	30
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	1	3
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum... ..	2	...	2
Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	4	1	5
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	4	1	5
Cirrhosis of Liver	3	...	3
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	6	4	10
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	...	2	2
Other Accidents and Diseases of Preg- nancy and Parturition ... ..	...	2	2
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	11	11	22
Suicide	4	1	5
Other deaths from Violence	10	1	11
Other Defined Diseases	48	42	90
Causes Ill-defined or unknown	1	2	3
Totals	263	213	476

When compared with the Causes of Death for 1925 the above Table shows increases in the following causes—Cancer, Other Tuberculous Diseases, Cerebral Hæmorrhage, Arterio-sclerosis, Pneumonia and other defined diseases.

Diminutions have occurred in Pulmonary Tuberculosis, Influenza, Nephritis and Deaths from Violence. Upon the total deaths there is an increase of 59.

**Birth Rate, Death Rate, and Analysis of Mortality
during the year 1926.**

	Birth Rate per 1000 Total Population.	Annual Death Rate per 1000 Population.							Rate per 1000 Births.	
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 yrs.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
England and Wales	17.8	11.6	0.01	0.09	0.02	0.10	0.07	0.22	8.7	70
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	18.2	11.6	0.01	0.12	0.02	0.10	0.10	0.22	11.8	73
158 Smaller Towns	17.6	10.6	0.01	0.07	0.02	0.11	0.06	0.23	6.6	67
London ...	17.1	11.6	0.01	0.20	0.02	0.05	0.12	0.17	11.8	64
Colchester Borough	16.1	10.6	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.10	6.2	51 62.5

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

The Hospitals provided by the Local Authority, County Council, Poor Law Institutions, and Voluntary Hospitals remain the same as those set out in the Survey Report of 1925.

The same may be said of the Ambulance Facilities and Clinics and Treatment Centres, except that to the School Clinics should be added the Orthopædic Clinic. This Clinic has now been carried on for over a year with great success, in conjunction with the School Inspection Clinics.

Public Health Officers.

One change has occurred among these officers. Mr. C. S. Humphreys who was the Assistant Sanitary Inspector, retired upon pension during the year, and Mr. J. E. Austin, Cert., S.I.B., was appointed additional Sanitary Inspector. A contribution is made to his salary under the Public Health Acts.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

The arrangements remain the same as in 1925. It has been suggested that Maternity Accommodation might be found by the District Nursing Association, and the matter is having the careful consideration of this Association.

Laboratory Work.

Specimens Examined.	Results.		TOTAL.
	Positive.	Negative or Normal.	1926.
Swabs for Diphtheria B.	34	291	325
Sputum for Tubercle B.	9	100	109
Blood for Typhoid and Paratyphoid Reaction... ..	1	17	18
Milk for Tubercle B ... ..	...	1	1
Pus for Streptococci	1	1	2
Hair for Ringworm	17	6	23
Urine Examinations (various)	5	8	13
Spinal Fluid for Meningococcus ... ..	...	2	2
Fluid for Tubercle B ... ..	...	1	1
Town Water Supply { Spring Supply ... 11 } Analysis ... { Artesian Well ... 11 } ... ..	...	...	22
Other Water Supply Analysis ... ..	...	...	5
Total Specimens Examined ... ..	...	...	521

Legislation in Force.

A list of the Adoptive Acts, Local Acts, Bye-laws and Regulations in force in the Borough was given in the Annual Report for 1925.

To these should now be added—

The Borough of Colchester (Public Health) Order, 1926. This Order made Section 25 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, in force in the Borough from 7th June, 1926.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Visits paid to Infants by the Health Nurses during the year.

Under 1 month	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—12 months	1—2 years	2—5 years	Total Visits
768	741	989	1,650	2,077	3,451	9,676

Number of Visits to Illegitimate Children ..	452
„ Long Tube Bottles being used ..	nil
„ occasions where Infants were sleeping with their parents	30
„ Still Birth enquiries	6

Notification of Births Act.

Number of Children born alive and notified in accordance with the Act	..	..	774
„ Children born alive and not so notified	..	..	29
„ Still Births notified	..	..	24
„ Births notified by Midwives	..	..	536
„ „ „ Parents or Doctors	..	..	262

These figures remain much the same each year but it is satisfactory to find that the number of failures to notify births has fallen from 47 instances in 1925 to 29 in the year under consideration although the actual number of births was a little higher.

Nursing of Sick Children under 5 years.

Under the arrangement with the District Nursing Association 12 children were looked after by nurses from the Association at the request of the Health Department. They were suffering from the following illnesses: —Measles (2); Whooping Cough and Pneumonia (2); Measles and Broncho-pneumonia (2); Pneumonia (3); Measles and Whooping Cough (1); Measles, Whooping Cough and Pneumonia (1); Ophthalmia Neonatorum (1).

The total number of visits paid was 336 and 116 of these were paid to the Ophthalmia case. The child with Measles and Whooping Cough was removed to the Isolation Hospital where she recovered. The children with Measles, Whooping Cough and Pneumonia (1), Whooping Cough and Pneumonia (1) and Pneumonia only (1) died. The other 9 all recovered.

The Infant Clinic.

Number of new babies brought to the Clinic: Trinity Street 208, Wimpole Road 71	..	..	279
Number of Attendances made: Trinity Street 1,428, Wimpole Road 663	..	..	2,091
Dried Milk supplied free or at reduced prices	lbs.		224
„ „ „ at full special price	..	lbs.	1,299
Meat Extract supplied at full special price in 10-oz. cartons	..	..	671
Flannel supplied at a special price	..	yds.	217

Wool	..	..	..	..	lbs.	17 $\frac{3}{4}$
Baby Garments made up at special prices	..	..	..	..		—
Paper Patterns for Baby Clothing given free	..	..	..	..		2
Malt and Cod Liver Oil	..	..	..	..	lbs.	123
Cod Liver Oil and Hypophosphites	..	..	..	..	4-oz. bottles	261
Parish's Food	..	..	..	..	4-oz. bottles	127
Lactagol	..	..	..	..	packets	59
Rusks	..	..	..	..	packets	3
Baby Feeding Bottles	..	..	..	..		37

The Infant Clinics are becoming more popular. The attendance at both has increased, 24 more babies having been brought to the Trinity Street Clinic and 15 to the Wimpole Road Clinic, an increase of 39. This is not enough yet, but the total is well over a quarter of the babies born during the year.

The number of attendances increased by over 500 showing that once the mothers come to the Clinics they appreciate them and attend again.

The other figures remain much as usual though less milk was supplied but more Meat Extract and Malt and Cod Liver Oil. Rusks were not so popular but the type of Feeding Bottle recommended was appreciated and the sales were over three times as many as in the previous year.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919.

	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Number of families supplied with free fresh milk ..	85	102	84	71	61	78
Number of pints supplied ..	6,830	8,836	8,309	6,167	5,507	6,969

Although the figures up to 1925 were decreasing, 1926 has brought them back nearly to what they were in 1923. It would seem as though 75 families receiving 7,000 pints of milk will be somewhere near the average for some years to come.

Efforts to find accommodation for maternity cases have been persistent as the importance of such provision is being more and more realized. After some negotiation it was hoped that a satisfactory

arrangement would be made with the Poor Law Guardians who at one time appeared willing to provide the necessary rooms in a small separate building to which access could be obtained, by some small alteration, separate and distinct from the entrance to the Infirmary.

Unfortunately, after several months' consideration, the proposal had to be abandoned as the Guardians found they had other use for the building at first suggested.

Negotiations have now been opened with the District Nursing Association. It seems an excellent way of linking up the work of the Maternity Committee of the Council with the District Nursing Association and of avoiding overlapping for the latter to be assisted by the former and perhaps by the Ministry of Health grant to provide the necessary accommodation and then to receive cases from, and be paid for them by, the Borough Council. Such a scheme is being explored and it appears a very satisfactory way of providing the accommodation and nursing required.

Puerperal Fever. No cases of this condition were notified, but one death was ascribed to this cause in a patient at the Essex County Hospital who had not been notified. The attention of the Hospital authorities was drawn to this omission.

Under new Regulations of the Ministry of Health Puerperal Pyrexia as well as Purperal Fever is now notifiable. Taken literally these mean the same thing but there has never been an exact definition of the meaning of Puerperal Fever and as this term can only be altered by Act of Parliament, it was easier for the Ministry to make a Regulation making Puerperal Pyrexia also notifiable and defining this condition exactly. It is defined in the Regulations as "any febrile condition occurring in a woman within 21 days after child-birth or miscarriage in which a temperature of 100·4° F. or more has been sustained during a period of 24 hours or has recurred during that period."

One case of Puerperal Pyrexia was notified from the Military Families Hospital.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Number of Cases.	Cases		Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths	
	Notified	Treated					
		At Home					In Hospital
2	2	2	...	2	...	...

These two cases of Ophthalmia were both births that were attended by midwives. Both recovered completely with no ill-effects to the sight.

Orthopædic Clinic.

Under arrangement with the Education Committee, children found at the Infant Clinics to be suffering from some crippling defect may be seen by the Specialist at the Orthopædic Clinic at which school children are seen.

During the past year 9 Infants were seen by Mr. Whitchurch Howell, the Specialist, these Infants making 10 attendances and suitable treatment or appliances were recommended for each case.

The cases were 4 of Rickets, 4 of Congenital Deformities and 1 of Paralysis.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**Water.**

The water mains steadily follow the population out into the more rural parts of the Borough, but they are lagging behind somewhat in one or two places and care is needed to see that wherever possible where collections of new houses spring up, the mains are taken to them. Otherwise wells must be sunk and sooner or later these are likely to cause trouble.

The town water is regularly examined bacteriologically and as regularly proves satisfactory. There is an excellent supply of first class water.

Drainage and Sewerage.

With the increased building of dwelling houses the sewers have been extended and most of the Borough has now the advantage of municipal water and sewers.

There can be no doubt that these two services are among the most important of a local Sanitary Authority, and no town can reach its optimum of health until every house has the water laid on and its own closet accommodation.

Closet Accommodation.

The following Table gives the number of privies, earth closets, cess-pools, etc., known in the district.

Type of Closet.	Number. 1925	Number. 1926
Privy ...	50	47
Pail Closets ...	125	125
Cess-pools ...	50	113
Wells ...	120	158

The Table shows that three privies were abolished during the year.

The number of pail closets remains the same and it will be many years before all of these have been replaced by connection to the sewers. This is, of course, to be expected, as much of the Borough is rural in character.

Hand-flushed Closets connected with Water Supply.

1924	1925	1926
686	380	149

This work was started in a small way in 1911 by Mr. Wells, and reached its peak of 813 alterations in 1923. Since then the numbers have fallen off as the work has continued and it will not be long before all cases where this improvement is necessary will have been dealt with.

Scavenging.

No change has occurred in the system of refuse collection and disposal. At the routine Housing Inspections special attention has been paid to the ash-bins provided, and since 1921 the provision

of a large number of proper sanitary bins has been insisted upon. This work continues, but as with the hand-flushed closets, the numbers required of late years have diminished owing to the large number that required replacement at first having been overtaken, and the number now is settling down to a fairly steady figure due to ordinary wear and tear and not to the complete absence of a bin or the unsatisfactory type of receptacle as was the case a few years ago.

Year.	Ash-pits Abolished.	Ash-bins Provided.
1924	12	398
1925	9	273
1926	2	177

Sanitary Inspection.

Work of the Sanitary Inspector's Department with action taken under the Public Health Acts, Bye-laws, etc.

Number of—

Complaints received	..	..	..	301
Defects found	..	..	..	1,088
Factories and Workshops inspected	..	..	..	282
Homeworkers' Premises inspected	..	..	..	271
Informal Notices served	..	..	..	561
Statutory Notices served	..	..	..	134
Summonses taken out	..	..	..	—
Defects abated..	..	..	..	871

Housing.

Number of—

Houses and Workshops cleansed	..	..	39
Overcrowded Houses where Overcrowding was abated			28
Defective Roofs repaired	..	..	26
Rainwater Pipes and Gutters repaired or renewed	..		19
Houses or Workshops, Ventilation improved	..		1

Water Supply.

Number of—

Hand-flushed Closets connected with Water Supply			149
Defective Closet Water Fittings repaired or renewed			103
Houses provided with Water	..	..	14

Defects reported to Water Supply Department ..	23
Inspections of premises where water is cut off by Water Supply Department	460
<i>Drainage.</i>	
Number of—	
Drains unstopped or repaired	68
New Closet Pans fixed	78
Water Closets repaired	42
Filthy Closets cleansed and lime-washed ..	4
New Closets built	10
Privies and Cess-pools abolished	6
Old drains and Traps abolished	7
New Drains, Gullies, Disconnecting Chambers, etc., fixed	34
Defective or Insufficiently Ventilated Soil-pipes remedied	2
Drains repaired	19
Bath and Sink Waste Pipes disconnected from drains	6

Other Sanitary Work.

Number of—

Miscellaneous defects remedied	119
Defects reported to the Surveyor's Department ..	4
Ashpits abolished	2
Ashbins provided	177
Yards paved	7
Removals of Manure or other offensive Matter ..	46
Nuisances from Animals improperly kept abated ..	159
Dead Animals removed from public places and buried	36
Defects reported to H.M. Inspector of Factories ..	3
Re-visits in connection with Sanitary Notices ..	1609

The above Table gives a very fair idea of the large amount of work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors.

The figures speak for themselves, but attention may well be called to the very large number of "Re-visits in connection with Sanitary Notices," the last figure of the Table. With this figure the numbers of "Informal Notices," "Statutory Notices," and "Summonses taken out," in the first paragraph of the Table should

be studied. It will be at once realized that almost all of the 1,000 defects found were put right by the Sanitary Inspector by Informal Notice, and in only one-sixth of the cases was it necessary to act under Statutory Notice, and in no instance was a summons required.

This explains the high figure for re-visits. It shows not only that the Sanitary Inspector gets the work done by constant visits and persuasion, but also that in the large majority of cases the owner or tenant, whoever is responsible for the work, considers that the Inspector's demands are reasonable.

Premises and Occupations controlled by Bye-laws and Regulations.

Offensive Trades.

	Number.	Inspections.
Fish Frier	21	50
Gut Scraper	1	12
Tallow Melter	3	23
Rag, Bone and Skin Dealer	5	9
Bone Boiler	1	10
Total	31	104
Horse Slaughterer	1	10

As one of the Gut Scraping Factories was doing a good deal of Tallow Melting, it was considered desirable to insist upon his registration as a Tallow Melter also. This accounts for the increase of one in the number of Tallow Melters.

One new Fish Frying business has been established and one old one has given up the trade, so the number remains the same.

The Horse Slaughterer is included separately in the above table, as his business is allied to the Offensive Trades, but is not statutorily included as such.

All these premises are regularly visited and inspected. Trouble arose in connection with only one of them, that of one of the Tallow Melters. This business was old-established, but during the summer months became very offensive to its neighbours. The method of melting was very old fashioned, and it was pointed out to the management that if they wished to continue in business they must adopt more modern methods and apparatus. After some persuasion they agreed to do this, and the nuisance should thereby be completely or almost completely abated.

Common Lodging Houses.

The one Common Lodging House continues to supply a definite want in the Borough. It is well kept and no trouble or difficulties have arisen in connection with it.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.*1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.*

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Prosecutions (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	60	3	...
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	126	27	...
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises)	19	6	...
Total	205	36	..

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts* :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness ...	25	25	...	...
Want of ventilation ...	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding ...	...	...	...	...
Want of drainage of floors ...	...	...	...	...
Other nuisances... ..	...	...	..	...
<i>Sanitary accommodation—</i>				
Insufficient	5	4	...	...
Unsuitable or defective	8	8	...	...
Not separate for sexes ...	...	...	...	...
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	...	...	...	...
Other offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921). ...	4	...	3	...
Total	42	37	3	...

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

Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108.

Nature of Work.	Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Wearing Apparel—Making, &c. ...	4	4	...
Total	4	4	...

Home Work.

Nature of Work.	Outworkers' Lists. Section 107.						Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending Lists.
	Lists received from Employers twice a year.			Lists received from Employers once a year.			
	Lists.	Outworkers.		Lists.	Outworkers.		
		Contractors.	Workmen.		Contractors.	Workmen.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	
Wearing Apparel Making, etc. . .	38	—	1162	2	—	4	1
Furniture and Upholstery ..	4	—	8	—	—	—	—
Sack Making ..	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Paper Receptacle Making ..	—	—	—	1	—	3	—
Total	42	—	1170	4	—	8	1

During the year, cases of Scarlet Fever occurred in one house where homework was being done.

A notice was served stopping further work being sent to the house until it had been disinfected and all danger of infection was past. The work which was in the house at the time was removed and disinfected before being returned to the factory from which it had been issued.

Lists of Outworkers have been received as above, and where it is found that persons residing in other districts are employed by a firm in the Borough, particulars have been sent to the Clerk to the District Council in which they reside. During the year 20 lists relating to 522 names were so transferred. Similarly, 8 lists relating to 8 Outworkers were received from other districts.

HOUSING.*Statistics for the Year 1926.*

Number of New Houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total (including numbers given under [b])	..	270
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:		
(i.) By the Local Authority	..	98
(ii.) By other bodies or persons	..	168

I.—Unfit Dwelling-Houses.

Inspection:—

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	.. .. .	1,474
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated Regulations, 1925)	.. .. .	467
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	.. .. .	8
(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	.. .. .	89

II.—Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	812
---	---------	-----

III.—Action under Statutory Powers.

A. Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	6
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices ;	
(a) by owners	4
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ..	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ..	—
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	126
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices ;	
(a) by owners	106
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ..	—
C. Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing, Act, 1925.	
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	8
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	8
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	—

(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursu-
ance of Demolition Orders —

The number of new houses erected is more by 112 than the number erected in 1925, and in addition 201 were in course of erection at the end of the year.

Distribution of the New Houses.

North Ward.	South Ward.	East Ward.	West Ward.
29	41	91	109

The housing position is getting a little easier, and it is not uncommon now to see occasional notices in windows of rooms to let. However, the need for more houses is still present, and it must not be forgotten that certain defective houses in the town will very soon have to be transferred to the list of houses so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation, and Closing Orders will have to be made.

It will be noticed that the number of houses under Part I. (3) above has decreased from 29 in 1925 to 8 in 1926. The explanation for this was given on page 25 of the Annual Report for 1925. In the current Report, empty houses used as stores and warehouses are not included, and so the number has fallen to 8 as stated.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Premises	Number	Inspections
Slaughter-houses:—		
Registered	10	245
Licensed	10	
Bakehouses	34	78
Underground	1	
Dairies and Milk Shops	93	189
Cowsheds	29	50

One Slaughter-house Licence was not renewed as the premises are now used for other purposes.

Milk.

The Milk Shops, Dairies and Cowsheds in the Borough are constantly and regularly inspected and the standard of cleanliness in all such premises is kept as high as possible.

Unfortunately, under the Milk and Dairies Consolidation Act, the County Council is the authority for the veterinary inspection of milking herds. Under this Act the Ministry of Health may give a Borough such authority in the place of the County Council and the Ministry was asked to do this for Colchester, as for years past, in fact since 1911, the Colchester Borough Council have made provision for the veterinary inspection of the cows in the Borough twice in every 12 months. The Ministry refused its sanction and was not willing to give Colchester the authority to continue the veterinary inspection work it has been doing for the past 16 years. This seems an unusual way of encouraging sanitary progress.

There are no licensed producers of any of the milks classified in the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923, but licences for the retail of such milk were granted as follows:—

Licences Granted for the Retail of Special Milk.

Certified Milk	..	..	..	1
Grade A (Tubercular Tested) Milk			..	1
Grade A Milk	..	..	..	2

In all cases the retailers obtained the bottled milk direct from the farm at which it had been produced.

It was not found necessary to refuse or revoke registration of dealers or licences.

Meat.

During the year 1,142 carcasses were examined. The table below gives the figures for 1925 and 1926.

	Cattle.	Swine.	Sheep.	Total.
1925*	172	366	188	726
1926	290	510	342	1,142

* From 1st April only.

The fact that the newly appointed Sanitary Inspector has had experience in Meat Inspection will enable an increased amount of Meat Inspection to be carried out.

All the food condemned was voluntarily surrendered and subsequently destroyed. Part of it was brought to the Inspectors' notice by the butchers, as they were not satisfied with the appearance of the meat and asked the Inspectors' opinion. The majority was found during the examination of carcasses immediately after slaughter.

Table shewing Amount of Diseased and Unfit Meat and other Foods Condemned and Destroyed, 1926.

Whole Carcasses and All Organs.

Animals.	Disease.	Weight, lbs.
1 Ox	Generalized Tuberculosis ..	1232
1 Pig	Oedema	240
1 Pig	„	40

Parts of Carcasses and Organs.

	Disease.	Weight, lbs.
<i>Cattle—</i>		
Liver	Tuberculosis	24
Liver	Distomatosis	354
Liver	Abscess	52
<i>Pigs—</i>		
9 Heads and Tongues ..	Tuberculosis	119
2 Legs and Loins	„	36
6 Plucks	„	46
5 Mesenteries	„	10
1 Lungs	„	3
1 Hand and Spring	„	14
2 Livers	Cirrhosis	8
2 Livers	Icteric	4
2 Lungs	Congestion	8
12 Lungs	Pneumonia	32
2 Kidneys	Infiltration	1
3 Legs	Injury	47
1 Leg	Abscess	15
2 Hind-quarters	Difficult Parturition ..	121
<i>Sheep—</i>		
2 Legs and Breasts	Injury	22
<i>Miscellaneous—</i>		
Tinned Meat	Decomposition	6
Fish	„	196
Chilled Beef	„	603
„ „ (Offal)	„	97
20 Rabbits	„	—

Other Foods.

Premises upon which other kinds of foods are handled or dealt with such as Restaurants, Bakehouses, and Fish Shops are constantly inspected.

Such premises are kept in a clean and satisfactory condition, and the Bye-laws as to lime washing, disposal of refuse, etc. are complied with.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

Result of Analysis of Samples taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

Samples.	Number of Samples.	Adulterated.	Nature of Adulteration.
New Milk	61	11	11 Fat Deficient :—
Bitter Beer	1		6·6 per cent. ; 3·3 per cent. ;
Polony	1		3·3 per cent. ; 23·3 per cent. ;
Rice	2		23·3 per cent. ; 13·3 per cent. ;
Sugar	1		23·3 per cent. ; 10·0 per cent. ;
Cocoa	1		6·6 per cent. ; 13·3 per cent. ;
Sago	1		& 3·3 per cent. respectively.
Mixed Spice... ..	3		
White Pepper	3		
Rum	1		
Butter	4		
Arrowroot	2		
Ice Cream	4		
Oatmeal	1		
Preserved Cream	2		
Cream	3		
Stout	1		
Port Wine	1		
Glauber Salts	1		
Chocolate Roll	1		
Tea	1		
Brandy	1		
Sausages	2		
Malt Vinegar	1		
Bread	3		
Yeast	1		
Glycerine	1		
Sponge Buns	2		
Condensed Milk	2		
Seidlitz Powder	1		
	110	11	

Five of the eleven adulterated samples were original samples, the rest being second samples or farm samples or samples taken in course of delivery.

No prosecutions were instituted after each case had been enquired into, but the vendors were warned by the Watch Committee.

Milk and Cream Regulations, 1912-1917.

	(a) Number of Samples examined for the pre- sence of a preservative.	(b) Number in which a Pre- servative was reported to be present and per- centage of preservative found in each sample.
Milk, and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream—		
Milk	61	...
Cream	3	...
Cream sold as Preserved Cream	2	(1) 0·35 per cent. (2) 0·37 per cent.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Attention was drawn in the Annual Report for 1925, to the prevalence of Scarlet Fever for two years out of every eight or ten years. The increase of cases that had occurred in 1924 and 1925 ended abruptly with the beginning of 1926, and during that year only 86 cases were notified, whereas in 1924 and 1925 there had been 183 and 315 cases respectively.

The reason for this is at present not known, but if the suggested cycle is correct there should not be any large increase in the number of cases of this disease in Colchester until after 1930, and not over 300 cases until 1935, provided other factors, such as population, remain fairly constant.

The almost complete absence of cases of Diphtheria from the Borough for the year is most remarkable. Even the cases that occurred were either imported or doubtful in nearly every instance. So long as it is not the forerunner of an outbreak, as some foretell,

it is a matter for great satisfaction. If it continues for another year, the Colchester practice of swabbing contacts and isolating positive contacts may rightfully claim the credit.

Encephalitis Lethargica was notified in five cases, all patients at the Essex County Hospital. None of these patients belonged to Colchester, and such notifications having to be included as belonging to Colchester give a very false impression. The same remark applies to such a disease as Pneumonia. Patients are sent into the General Hospital where the disease is diagnosed and the case then has to be notified, not to the Medical Officer of Health of the District from which the patient was admitted, but to the Medical Officer of Health of the District in which the Hospital is situate. He may not transmit the notification to the District from which the patient was sent, but he has to count it as that of a case occurring in his own District.

Thus, wherever a General Hospital is situate, the Infectious Disease returns of that District are incorrect and too high by the number of Infectious Cases from other Districts notified from the Hospital.

In the present instance no cases of Encephalitis Lethargica occurred in Colchester in 1926, yet all records and statistics will show five cases, because five cases from other Districts were sent into the Essex County Hospital, which is situate in Colchester, and notified from there. The system of transmitting such notifications to their rightful districts as is done in the case of Tuberculosis should be made to apply to all Infectious Diseases.

The Measles epidemic that threatened in the spring did not develop, and the schools were not so seriously affected as had been expected. The regular visits of the Health Nurses to the Schools and to the homes of children suffering from any of the milder infectious diseases and the careful exclusion of children who have the disease or who are likely to take it, from Day Schools and Sunday Schools, undoubtedly prevents the sudden flare up of an epidemic and, as in the present case, tends to reduce the incidence of an epidemic.

**Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during
the Year 1926.**

(Civilian and Military Cases.)

Disease	Total Cases Notified and Total Deaths	Total Cases and Deaths in Age Groups												Cases admitted to Hospital
		Under 1 Year	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-34	35-44	45-64	65 and over	
Diphtheria ...	7	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	3	...	...	...	7
Scarlet Fever ...	86	1	2	4	4	11	38	13	5	6	2	...	...	79
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) }	6 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3 1	...	...	...	2
Puerperal Fever...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	58 11	3 1	3	2	...	...	11	3 1	5 1	9 1	8 2	13 4	1 1	...

Other Diseases Generally Notifiable.

Puerperal Pyrexia	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	3	7	1	...
Encephalitis Lethargica }	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	2	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum }	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Ant. Poliomyelitis }	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis }	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Other Diseases Notifiable Locally.

Measles ...	183 1	12	34	27 1	30	80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Whooping Cough	108 4	23 3	19 1	21	22	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

The figures in *italics* in the above table give the number of deaths of cases notified.

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
1 ...	...	...	2	2	...	...	1	2
2-4 ..	...	...	2	1	...	...	3	...
5-9 ...	1	2	3	1	...	...	...	...
10-14 ...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	2
15-19 ...	1	4	...	...	...	2	1	...
20-24 ...	3	4	...	1	3	...	1	...
25-34 ...	6	10	1	1	2	2	...	...
35-44 ...	8	3	2	1	1	3	1	...
45-54 ...	6	4	...	...	5	3	...	1
55-64 ...	4	...	...	2	4	...	...	1
65 and upwards...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Totals ...	32	28	11	12	15	10	7	7

Diphtheria Antitoxin and swabs are always available for the use of General Practitioners of the district. They can obtain them at once at the Health Offices or outside office hours at the Town Hall Police Station.

The Schick Test and subsequent immunisation of those found susceptible to Diphtheria has been repeated upon new Nurses at the Isolation Hospital. This has now been done for three years and so far no Nurse that was Schick Negative and none of those susceptible but subsequently immunised have taken this disease.

After consultation with the Medical Officer of Health, the Medical Superintendent of "The Royal Eastern Counties' Institution for the Mentally Defective" decided to Schick Test and immunise the non-immune among his patients.

The undertaking was a large one as the permission of relatives or friends had to be obtained for every patient tested. Dr. Turner classifies the results as follows:—

Patients at the R.E.C.I. Schick Tested.

AGE.	Number Tested.	Positive Reactions.	Percentage Positive.
Under 5 years ...	7	3	42·8
5 and under 10 ...	48	16	33·0
10 and under 15 ...	157	42	26·7
Over 15 years. ...	825	187	22·2
Totals ...	1037	248	23·9

Some of the members of the Staff, to the number of 47, were Schick Tested and 18 or 38 per cent. of these were positive reactors.

All patients and the staff with positive reactions were given three immunising injections of toxin-antitoxin. No bad arms followed the tests and only three persons showed a moderately severe reaction.

Dr. Turner had been previously troubled with recurring small outbreaks of Diphtheria. Since the tests and immunisation no cases at all have occurred.

Isolation Hospital.*Cases admitted to the Isolation Hospital during the year.*

Authority sending in cases	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid Fever	Other Diseases	Total
Colchester Borough ...	64	6	2	14	86
Essex County Hospital ...	6	...	...	1	1
Mental Institutions ...	1	...	...	2	8
War Department ...	8	1	...	1	2
Sudbury Borough Council ...	...	1	...	41	50
Brightlingsea U.D. ...	...	...	...	1	2
Wivenhoe U.D. ...	1	...	...	1	1
Tendring R.D. ...	27	4	1	...	2
Lexden and Winstree R.D. ...	3	1	...	...	32
Melford R.D. ...	...	1	...	2	6
Essex County Council ...	...	...	...	65*	1
Private Outside District Cases ...	...	1	...	5	65
Totals ...	110	15	3	129	256
				6	6

Deaths from the various diseases are given in italics.

* Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 27 in Hospital beds and 38 in Sanatorium beds.

One Nurse contracted Scarlet Fever in the Hospital, and one caught German Measles.

One case of Diphtheria occurred among the Staff, but this case was mentioned in the Annual Report for 1925.

The 64 "Other Diseases" noted in the above Table, were:

- 39 German Measles.
- 4 Mumps.
- 7 Measles.
- 2 Diphtheria Carriers.
- 5 Tonsillitis.
- 2 Observation.
- 1 each Pneumonia, Measles and Pneumonia, Measles and Whooping Cough, Pityriasis Rosea, Acute Poliomyelitis.

Many of the milder cases of Measles, Mumps, etc. were sent in for isolation from the Barracks. Several others were sent in as suspicious cases of Scarlet Fever or one of the other Infectious Diseases. Thus the case of Pneumonia was sent in suspected of being a case of Enteric Fever, a not very uncommon mistake before the disease has fully developed.

The case of Acute Poliomyelitis was a soldier serving in the Garrison. The attack was very severe and paralysis nearly complete.

Scarlet Fever. Eighty-six cases were notified, and 79 of these were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

They were distributed as follows:—

North Ward	South Ward	East Ward	West Ward	Garrison	Institutions
15	12	28	16	8	7

No epidemic occurred and no deaths.

Diphtheria. Only 7 cases were notified, and all were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

They occurred as follows:—

South Ward	East Ward	West Ward	Garrison	Institutions
1	3	1	1	1

The Institution case was a maid in the Isolation Hospital. This was mentioned in the Annual Report for 1925, in discussing the Schick Test.

Three of the other cases contracted the disease elsewhere returning home to Colchester while the disease was developing.

So far as can be ascertained, this number of Notifications of Diphtheria is the lowest that has ever been attained in Colchester. Certainly seven cases only in one year is surprisingly few in a Borough of over 50,000 inhabitants. It seems a great pity that no definite reason can be given for this great reduction, but the factors governing the spread of the infectious diseases are not at all well understood yet. Atmospheric conditions do not appear to have any great influence. No doubt centres of infection and healthy carriers who may have the germs in their throats, without any signs or symptoms of illness, may definitely originate cases. Such carriers should be few in Colchester, as the swabbing of those in contact with the disease and the isolation of carriers has been carried out for many years, and thus centres of possible infection should be scarce, and so, unless the disease is introduced, cases should not arise.

This is an attractive supposition, and, if it is correct, Diphtheria cases should remain scarce, so long as the same precautions continue to be taken and provided the disease is not introduced to any large extent.

Typhoid Fever. Eight cases of Typhoid Fever occurred during the year, but only six of these were notified, as in two cases the disease was not diagnosed until after death. These two and three of the others were inmates of Severalls Mental Hospital.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis; Encephalitis Lethargica; Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis. One case of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis was notified from and looked after in the Military Families' Hospital. This was the only case notified. The notifications of cases of Encephalitis Lethargica have already been mentioned above.

A soldier suffering from severe Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis was transferred from the Military Hospital to the Isolation Hospital. He was very ill and almost completely paralysed. He had been in lodgings in the town, but no further case arose, and after some weeks, when the period of infection was over, he was moved back to the Military Hospital. He lingered on for some weeks, the paralysis showing no signs of recovery, and eventually died of Broncho-Pneumonia.

Pneumonia ; Dysentery ; Erysipelas. It is probable that many cases of Pneumonia fail to be notified, as out of 21 deaths that occurred from this disease, 10 had not been notified. The number of cases notified was 58 ; this is 20 more than in 1925, and the deaths ascribed to this disease were 21 in 1926 and 5 in 1925. Eleven of the 58 notified cases were brought into the Borough to the Essex County Hospital and notified from there, and so were not Colchester cases.

Only two cases of Dysentery were notified, and both occurred at the Royal Eastern Counties Institution for the Mentally Defective.

Fifteen cases of Erysipelas were notified, and there was one death from Nephritis, following Erysipelas.

Measles and Whooping Cough. Under the Colchester Regulations, which make the first case in a house of either of these diseases under 5 years old notifiable, 183 cases of Measles were notified and 108 cases of Whooping Cough. Two deaths occurred from Measles and seven from Whooping Cough.

It has been the custom for some years to admit cases of both these diseases to the Isolation Hospital when the home conditions have been very bad and the child seriously ill. During 1926 two cases of Measles and one of Measles and Whooping Cough were so admitted. One of the former died.

It is worth considering if more cases of these diseases might not be sent to the Hospital when both Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria cases are few in number. The benefit to the children would be very great.

Exclusions from School due to Infectious Disease.

These diseases are probably responsible for a greater loss of children's attendance at school than any other group of diseases or conditions. The following Table gives the number of children that have been excluded as the actual sufferers from the diseases stated or owing to their having been in contact with cases.

Attendances at School lost through Infectious Disease.

	Diph- theria.	Scarlet Fever.	German Measles.	Measles.	Wh'ping Cough.	Chicken Pox.	Mumps	Totals
Cases ...	2	43	652	474	103	63	53	1390
Contacts	3	45	—	114	27	5	—	194
Totals ...	5	88	652	588	130	68	53	1584

An approximate figure for the number of attendances lost owing to these diseases may be arrived at by estimating that every child is away on the average for a fortnight, *i.e.*, 20 school attendances.

Then the attendances lost due to Infectious Disease were approximately 31,680 during the year. The Education grant for each attendance may be considered to be 2d. Therefore the Infectious Diseases in 1926 were responsible for a loss of £264.

It is hardly necessary to state that everything is done, compatible with safety, to avoid children being unnecessarily kept out of school. On the other hand it is of the utmost importance to bear in mind that desire for a good attendance rate must not hurry children back to school after an infectious disease before they are fit.

Tuberculosis.—Seven cases died of Tuberculosis who had not been notified as suffering from this disease, a percentage of approximately 18 per cent. of the total deaths. A few cases die without the disease having been suspected until the fatal illness occurs, others are old chronic cases that move from place to place and general practitioners take it for granted that such cases have

already been notified. There is probably little or no deliberate suppression of notification where such notification may be of service to the community or to the individual. But it is likely that notification is not always carried out when the sufferer is well to do and so able to be well looked after and cared for. In such cases the schemes for assisting tubercular persons would be of no assistance and so the failure to notify is not of serious import.

Under recent Regulations definite rules have been laid down for the keeping of the Tuberculosis Register and the figures in Registers for different districts are now comparable. For the Borough of Colchester the known cases of this disease may be classified as follows :

Cases of Tuberculosis 1st January, 1927.

213 Pulmonary.		93 Non-Pulmonary.	
Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
118	95	47	46

PROPAGANDA.

In business it is universally accepted that it pays to advertise and this idea has been carried to extremes in many directions. But in Public Health work Advertising, or the more euphonious term Propaganda, wants very careful handling. A Baby Show may make known far and wide an Infant Welfare Centre but it may also spread an epidemic of Measles. A Health Week may tell the population how to live but may also advertise a dozen undesirable articles unless the strictest watch is kept over the exhibits and advertisements.

Such shows are best considered as shows that leave a general impression of undigested facts without very many sound ideas having been instilled into the minds of those who really need such information.

The best form of Health Propaganda is the steady collar work done by good well-trained Health Nurses day after day going their rounds explaining, describing and showing how things can and

should best be done. Such work may be relieved and helped by occasional shows so long as it is realized that it is the steady plodding work that will tell and that produces the results and not the widely known much advertised show.

One kind of show is of great value and that is the Conference of Experts with exhibits of new methods and materials. Such Conferences as those of Medical Officers and of Sanitary Inspectors, of Health and School Nurses are valuable sources of information and inspiration.

During 1926 a Maternity and Child Welfare Exhibition was held in Colchester on the 11th and 12th of March with the assistance of the Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare. The Exhibition was in every way successful and was thronged with visitors throughout.

In November a Sessional Meeting of the Royal Sanitary Institute was held in the Borough at which Dr. Vercoe, Medical Officer of Health of Chelmsford opened a most interesting discussion upon Acute Rheumatism in Children and Mr. Miles the Surveyor of Chelmsford initiated a discussion upon Modern School Buildings.

Also in November the Management of the Empire Cinema were so good as to display as part of their ordinary programme one of the Films of the Health and Cleanliness Council. This film showed in pictures how much a girl would have gained had she kept the house clean. It was excellently received by the audience. By this last method, through the Cinema House, impressions may be produced and information given in simple ways that will be lasting. More persons learn and remember by means of pictures than in any other way.

W. F. CORFIELD, M.D., D.P.H.,

*Medical Officer of Health, etc,
of the Borough of Colchester.*

Health Offices,
Trinity Street.

INDEX.

A			L	
	PAGE			PAGE
Adoptive Acts ...	10	Laboratory Work ...		10
Ambulance Facilities ...	9			
Analysis of Foods ...	26	M		
Antitoxin, Diphtheria ...	30	Maternity Home ...		12
Ashbins ...	16	Measles ...		34
B			Meat ..	24
Bakehouses ...	23	Milk ...		24
Birth Rate ...	5	Milk and Cream Regulations ...		27
Byelaws ...	10	Mortality Rates ...		9
C			N	
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	33	Notification of Births Act ...		11
Cess-pools ...	15	Nursing ...		9, 11
Child Welfare ...	10	O		
Clinics ...	11, 14	Offensive Trades ..		18
Closet Accommodation ...	15	Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...		14
Common Lodging Houses ...	19	Outwork... ..		20
Cowsheds ...	23	P		
D			Pneumonia ...	34
Dairies ...	23	Population ...		5
Death Rate ...	5	Puerperal Fever ...		13
Deaths, Causes of ...	8	S		
" Infectious Diseases ...	29	Sanitary Work ...		16
Diphtheria ...	32	Scarlet Fever ...		32
Drainage... ..	15, 17	Scavenging ...		15
E			Schick Test ...	33
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	33	Slaughter Houses ...		23
Enteric Fever ...	33	Staff ...		2, 9
F			Statistics, General ...	5
Factories ...	19	T		
Food Inspection ...	24	Tuberculosis ...		6
G			U	
Garrison, Strength ...	7	Unsound Food ...		25
H			W	
Health Nurses, Work of ...	10	Water ...		14
Housing ...	21	Whooping Cough ...		34
I			Workshops ...	19
Infant Clinic ...	11			
Infantile Mortality ...	7			
Infectious Diseases ...	27			
Isolation Hospital ...	31			

