

[Report 1943] / Medical Officer of Health, East Hertfordshire Combined Districts (Hertford Borough, Hoddesdon U.D.C., Bishop's Stortford U.D.C., Ware U.D.C., Sawbridgeworth U.D.C., Ware R.D.C., Braughing R.D.C., Hertford R.D.C.).

Contributors

East Hertfordshire Combined Districts.

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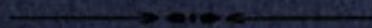
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**EAST HERTFORDSHIRE
COMBINED DISTRICTS.**

Hertford (M.B.)	Sawbridgeworth (U.D.)
Hoddesdon (U.D.)	Ware (R.D.)
Bishop's Stortford (U.D.)	Braughing (R.D.)
Ware (U.D.)	Hertford (R.D.)



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

(Alan D. Whitelaw, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.)

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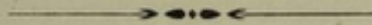
Ware (U.D.)

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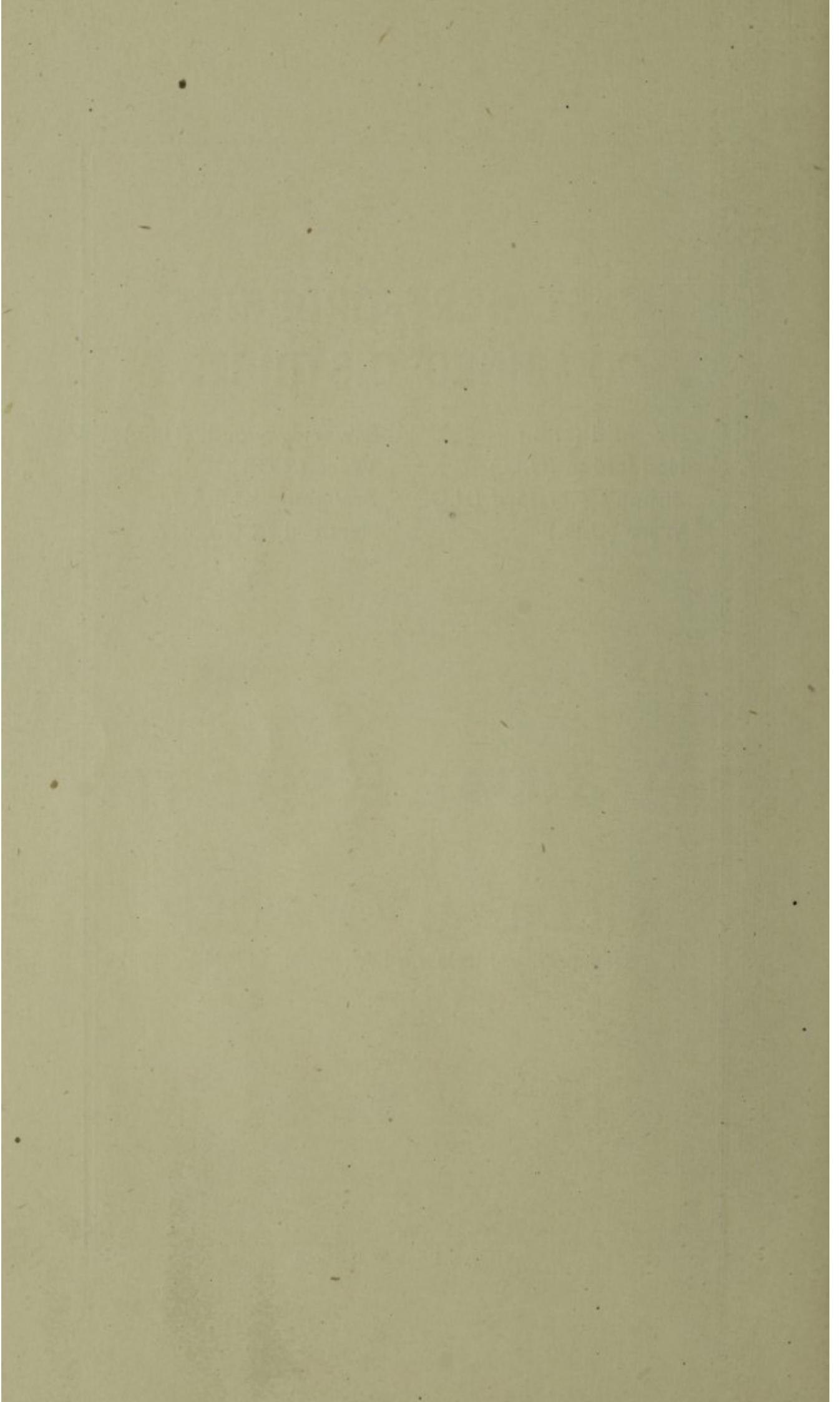
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1943.



Sanitary Inspectors :

JOHN BARNISH* - - - (The Castle) Hertford (M.B.)

WM. NOEL DAVID* - - - (Council Offices) Hoddesdon (U.D.)

NORMAN F. CRIPPS* (The Council House) Bishop's Stortford (U.D.).

CHAS. J. LUCAS* - - - (The Priory) Ware (U.D.)

KENNETH STEENT† - (Council Offices) Sawbridgeworth (U.D.)

LAURENCE J. DALE*† - - - (97, New Road) Ware (R.D.)

E. E. WATERIDGE† - - - (Bridgefoot House, Buntingford)
Braughing (R.D.)

W. D. WAINE*† - - - (20, Castle Street) Hertford (R.D.)

*Certified Meat Inspector (Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board).

†Also District Council Surveyor.

Preface.

The following Report on the Health of the Combined Districts has been drawn up on the lines indicated in the Circular issued by the Minister of Health.

These rates have been calculated on the Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population in 1943.

I am indebted to the respective Sanitary Inspectors for the information on Sanitary matters generally, Housing and Food Inspection.

ALAN D. WHITELOW,
Medical Officer of Health.

THE CASTLE,
HERTFORD.

Vital Statistics.

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infantile Mortality.
MUNICIPAL BOROUGH.			
Hertford	13'4	12	16
URBAN DISTRICTS.			
Hoddesdon	14'3	13'2	32
Bishop's Stortford	16'1	12'5	38
Ware	16'2	12	53
Sawbridgeworth	15'7	11'2	0
RURAL DISTRICTS.			
Ware	15'4	10'7	39
Braughing	13'8	11'6	14
Hertford	16'6	13'8	54
England and Wales	16'5	12'1	49

*Per 1,000 population.

**Per 1,000 births.

	BIRTHS					DEATHS
	Legitimate	Illegitimate		TOTAL		
		Number	Per centage	M	F.	
Hertford (M.B.) ...	177	9	4·8	100	86	166
Hoddesdon ...	184	3	1·6	97	90	172
Bishop's Stortford	159	23	12·6	91	91	141
Ware (U.D.) ...	126	7	5·3	63	70	96
Sawbridgeworth ...	50	2	3·9	25	27	37
Ware (R.D.) ...	141	12	7·8	85	68	109
Braughing ...	128	14	9·9	78	64	119
Hertford (R.D.) ...	116	14	10·8	72	58	108

Tuberculosis.

New Cases during 1943.

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	
Hertford (M.B.)	2	2	2	2	8
Hoddesdon	4	7	2	2	15
Bishop's Stortford	7	6	0	2	15
Ware (U.D.)	4	1	1	4	10
Sawbridgeworth	1	1	0	1	3
Ware (R.D.)	1	1	3	2	7
Braughing	7	3	1	2	13
Hertford (R.D.)	1	2	1	2	6

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Hertford County Hospital. Pathologist—Konrad Rosenberg, M.D. (Prague).

Sick Bays for Evacuee Children.

Woodlands, High Street, Hoddesdon.

Westfield, Westfield Road, Bishop's Stortford.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Hertford M.B.		Hoddesdon		Bishop's Stortford		Ware U.D.		S'gworth		Ware R.D.		Braughing		Hertford R.D.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
ALL CAUSES	75	91	79	93	71	70	55	41	19	18	55	54	69	50	58	50
Zymotic diseases	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Influenza	2	1	2	0	1	4	2	1	0	0	0	1	2	6	3	2
Tuberculosis (all forms)	1	4	4	1	2	2	2	0	1	0	0	2	2	1	1	1
Syphilitic diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
Cancer	8	12	17	17	13	17	12	8	3	2	6	7	17	9	7	6
Diabetes	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	0
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	4	6	6	16	5	3	2	2	5	3	8	8	3	4	3	7
Heart disease	33	29	18	23	10	17	14	15	3	2	13	15	22	8	13	12
Other circulatory diseases	0	4	6	4	8	4	0	0	1	3	1	3	5	6	5	5
Bronchitis	6	10	6	8	4	2	8	6	1	1	5	3	3	2	2	4
Pneumonia	4	5	3	4	1	3	5	3	1	0	4	1	1	2	2	3
Other respiratory diseases	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	2
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	0	1	3	1	2	0	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Appendicitis	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Other digestive diseases	0	2	3	2	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	3	0
Nephritis	3	1	2	3	3	1	0	0	1	1	0	2	2	1	1	1
Pregnancy and childbirth	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Birth injuries: infant diseases; premature births	1	2	1	4	5	1	2	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	5	0
Suicide	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Road Traffic Accidents	2	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	1
Other violent causes	2	3	2	2	1	2	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	3	0
All other causes	8	8	1	6	8	9	1	1	1	5	9	5	4	6	3	3
Still Births	1	3	5	4	0	0	2	3	1	0	2	1	4	3	2	1
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	1	2	2	4	6	1	3	4	0	0	4	2	2	0	6	1

Borough of Hertford.

Water Supply.

Prior to the War the Council completed a new pumping station which, in itself, is sufficient to supply the needs of the Borough for many years to come. The old pumping stations have been retained which gives further assurance of a sufficiency.

The quality of the water has been consistently good, and the purity safeguarded by Chlorination and Ammoniation.

The supply is constant over the whole area. The whole of the Borough has a piped water supply with the exception of 29 houses (of which 25 are in the village of Hertingfordbury) representing 0.8% of the total population. The water main runs conveniently near all these properties, now dependent on wells, and the laying of service connections should be a simple matter.

The water has no plumbo-solvent or other detrimental action, and, although rather hard, is of a high standard of purity.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The method of disposal of the sewerage of the town is by the presedimented activated sludge process, and the resulting effluent is ultimately discharged into the River Lee.

Refuse Disposal.

There is a weekly collection, in covered freighters, of refuse which is disposed of by controlled tipping on Hartham.

Particulars of Sanitary Inspector's work during the year 1943.

Inspection of District.

<i>Total number of Inspections</i>	- - - - -	1151
Dwelling-houses inspected (Public Health and Housing Acts	- - - - -	117
Re-inspections and Visits	- - - - -	321
General Inspections	- - - - -	94
Interviews	- - - - -	182
Visits re cases of Infectious Disease	- - - - -	14
Disinfections	- - - - -	27
Complaints received and investigated	- - - - -	63
Miscellaneous	- - - - -	8

Registered and Licensed Premises Inspected.

Factories	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Bakehouses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Cowsheds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48
Dairies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55
Shops and Food Premises	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	180
Common Lodging Houses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
									<u>1151</u>

Notices Served.

Informal notices	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39
Statutory notices	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Improvements carried out	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	107

*Housing.**Overcrowding.*

During the year alleged cases of overcrowding have been investigated at 10 dwelling-houses. The following is a summary of the circumstances :—

Houses Statutorily Overcrowded.

36, HERTINGFORDBURY ROAD. Permitted number— $4\frac{1}{2}$ persons.

Occupants :—Husband and Wife and 3 children.

Males (1), 12 years.

Females (2), 14 and 8 years.

Occupants represent $4\frac{1}{2}$ persons. Sex Overcrowding.

5, ASH STREET. Permitted number— $5\frac{1}{2}$ persons.

Occupants :—Husband and Wife and 9 children.

Males (6), 17, 15, 14, 13, 8,
4 years.

Females (3), 7, 5, 3 years.

Occupants represent $8\frac{1}{2}$ persons. Serious Overcrowding.

7, PEARSON AVENUE. Permitted number $6\frac{1}{2}$ persons.

Occupants :—Husband and Wife and 8 children.

Males (6), 18, 16, 13, 7, 4,
2 years.

Females (2), 11, 8 years.

Husband and Wife and 1 child, child 1 month.

Occupants represent 10 persons. Serious overcrowding.

The overcrowding has been partially abated, the lodgers, husband and wife and small child, have left the house.

7, TALBOT STREET. Permitted number— $11\frac{1}{2}$ persons.

Occupants :—Husband and Wife and 6 children.

Males (1), over 10 years.

Females (5), 4 over 10 years,
1 under 10.

Husband and Wife and boy, 7 years.

Adult male lodger.

Occupants represent 11 persons. Sex overcrowding.

8, PORT VALE. Permitted Number—7 persons.

Occupants :—Husband and Wife and 5 children.

Males (3), 10, 7, 6 years.

Females (2), 5, 3 years.

Husband and Wife and 2 children, boy 7 years;
girl 5 years.

Occupants represent 8 persons. Overcrowded.

Overcrowding abated by lodger and family leaving.

Houses found not to be Overcrowded.

13, ASH STREET. Permitted number— $6\frac{1}{2}$ persons. Occupants,
 $5\frac{1}{2}$ persons.

3, MEAD LANE. Permitted number—8 persons. Occupants,
 $5\frac{1}{2}$ persons.

27, MOLEWOOD ROAD. Permitted Number—9 persons. Occu-
pants, $7\frac{1}{2}$ persons.

Public Health Act, 1936.

“Elmdene,” Hertingfordbury.

The drainage system to the house has been connected to the public sewer.

Houses, 11, 13, 15, Hertingfordbury.

The drainage system to these houses has been related and connected to the public sewer. The town water supply has been laid on to the houses.

Common Lodging House, Railway Street. “The White House.”

This is the only registered Common Lodging House within the Borough. The house provides nightly accommodation for 33 men; the number of men accommodated during the year was 6,947, a nightly average of 19 men. The house has generally been well conducted.

*Inspection and Supervision of Food.**Milk Supply.*

Number of Cowkeepers on Register	10
Number of Retail Purveyors of milk within the Borough	8
Number of Retail Purveyors of milk outside the Borough	6
Number of inspections of Cowsheds	48
Number of inspections of Dairies	55

Foxholes Farm, London Road.

The cowshed and dairy premises have been considerably improved and rendered suitable for registration for purposes of The Milk and Dairies Order, 1926. Registration has been approved.

Mill Farm, Hertingfordbury.

Improvements have been carried out to the cowsheds and dairy premises to qualify for a licence to produce "Tuberculin Tested" milk.

Milk (Special Designations Orders) 1936-1938.

Number of producers of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	3
Number of producers of "Accredited" Milk	1
Number of dealers licenses to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	1
Number of dealers licenses to sell "Accredited" Milk	1
Number of dealers licenses to sell "Pasteurised" Milk	2

*Food Premises.**Food Store rear of 28, Port Vale.*

Arising from a request for an examination of foodstuffs, the premises were found to be unsuitable for the storage of food. The premises were in the occupation of the Ministry of Food, and the Hertfordshire County Council. As the result of representations the use of the premises as a foodstore has been discontinued.

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

The following foodstuffs have been found to be unfit for human consumption:—

Beef (English)	Weight	30	lbs.
Beef (Imported)	"	130	lbs.
Veal (Carcass)	"	82	lbs.
Lamb (Carcass)	"	36	lbs.
Pork (Forequarter)	"	41	lbs.
Bacon	"	95	lbs.
Sausages (Beef)	"	60	lbs.

Fish.

Mackerel	„	34	lbs.
Kippers	„	147	lbs.
Kippers	„	210	lbs.
Dogfish	„	70	lbs.
Codfish	} Magistrates Order obtained for destruction.	210	lbs.
Monkfish		70	lbs.
Fish Fillets	„	70	lbs.
Herrings	„	1960	lbs.

General.

Oatmeal	„	112	lbs.
Chocolate	„	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	lbs.
Sugar	„	28	lbs.

Canned Foods.

Beef	311 tins	1711	lbs.
Mutton and Lamb	28 „	144	lbs.
Pork and Ham	36 „	114	lbs.
Bacon	5 „	70	lbs.
Sausage Meat	26 „	36 $\frac{1}{2}$	lbs.
Minced Meat	11 „	66	lbs.
Pork and Beans	12 „	12	lbs.
Fish	61 „	55	lbs.
Fruit	63 „	136	lbs.
Vegetables	70 „	86	lbs.
Miscellaneous	81 „	199	lbs.

*Meat Distribution Depot, Bell Lane, Hertford.**The South Eastern, W.M.S.A., Ltd.*

Close contact has been maintained with the Depot during the year, 20 special visits were made to examine foodstuffs regarded as being unfit for human consumption.

*General Defence Regulations, 1939.**The Infestation Order, 1943. Rats and Mice Destruction.*

In conformity with the arrangements of the Ministry of Food, the Sanitary Inspector attended on the 6th and 9th September, 1943, instructional courses in "Survey" and "Destruction" at the headquarters of the Ministry's Infestation Centre, University College, London.

In accordance with Article 2 of the directions under the Infestation Order, 1943, as to the extent of infestation within the Borough; on the 19th August, 1943, a report was submitted that investigations showed there were "no major infestations within the Borough."

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases.

	TOTAL	Under 1 year	1-5 years	5-14 years	14-21 years	21-65 years	over 65 years	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Small-pox	0								
Diphtheria	5†			4	1			5	1
Scarlet Fever	12		4	5		3		12	0
Enteric Fever	0								
Puerperal Pyrexia	3					3		3	0
Pneumonia	0								
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0								
Erysipelas	3							2	0
Dysentery (Sonne)	5							5	0
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	0								
Acute Polio-myelitis	0								
Measles	130	2	17	110	1			7	0
Whooping Cough	27	1	4	22				3	0
Jaundice	3								0

† Balls Park (L.C.C. Open Air School).

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Diphtheria - -												5†
Scarlet Fever -	4	1		1			1	1	1			3
Enteric Fever -												
Pneumonia - -	1	1			1							1
Measles - -			41	39	39	9		1				
Whooping Cough -	5		13				3	1		5		

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

	Age under 5 years.	Aged 5 years and over, but under 15.	Total.
Number of children who completed the full course of immunisation during the year	221	107	328
Percentage of the child population considered immunised at 31/12/43.	88	95	

Scabies Order, 1941.

The Gas Cleansing Station at the rear of the Infant Welfare Centre, Bull Plain has been adapted as a Scabies Treatment Centre.

Women and children are treated by the District Nurses and men by the full-time Civil Defence personnel.

During the year 1943, the number of persons treated at the centre was :—

Children under 14 years of age 32.
Adults 26.

Hoddesdon Urban District.

Water.

The Waterworks consist of the Pumping Station in Middlefield Road and the Reservoir on West Hill, with boosting plants to fill the Goose Green Water Tower and the Coldhall reservoir at Broxbourne. The Metropolitan Water Board supplies an area which extends from the Cemetery northwards. All the water is chlorinated.

Bacteriological Examination of the water supply always proved to be satisfactory.

Sixteen houses in Nursery Road have a piped supply from a large nursery adjoining. This is from a deep well and is of satisfactory purity.

There are some ten houses in the Woollensbrook area which are served by wells and springs.

In the Essex Road, Dobbs Weir area, there are thirty houses deriving their water from wells.

Apart from these two areas and some eighteen isolated houses, (representing slightly less than 2%) the whole district has a constant supply from public mains which in nearly all cases is laid on direct to each house, only a few houses relying on standpipes.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Most of the district (except for houses in undeveloped and low-lying parts of the area) is sewered. Sewage disposal works consisting of detritus, settling tanks, contact beds, and percolating filters serve the old urban area. Sewage from Broxbourne and Wormley is disposed of by broad irrigation at the sewage farm.

No properties were connected to the Council's Sewers during the year.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The controlled tipping at the Gravel Pit on the Essex Road site ceased in May. Controlled tipping was commenced on a new site in Ogard Road in a disused Gravel Pit.

A few complaints were received during the year about flies and crickets. A patent liquid dressing was used during the Summer months to prevent the crickets breeding and spraying with a solution was carried out in the very warm weather to discourage flies.

Both tips are well regulated and no nuisance is permitted to arise.

Particulars of Sanitary Inspector's Work.

Dwelling-houses inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts	103
Housing, re-inspections, works in progress and Interviews with Owners and Builders	453
Visits in connection with Infectious Diseases	15
Inspections—Cowsheds	37
Inspections—Dairies and Milkshops	56
Visits to Slaughterhouses in connection with meat inspection	15
Butchers' Shops	52
Inspections of Bakehouses	11
Visits to other premises where food is prepared and or exposed for sale	81
Market Inspections	41
Visits to School Premises	11
Refuse Tip Inspections	42
Investigation of complaints other than Housing	43
Factories	32
Camping Grounds and Caravans	26
Miscellaneous Inspections	166

TOTAL INSPECTIONS	1,184
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Complaints received	74
Number of letters sent	490
Number of Informal Notices served	33
Number of Statutory Notices served	1

Drainage and Sanitary Arrangements.

Drain tests carried out	19
Drains provided, improved, relaid or repaired	12
Drains cleared	27
Improvements to Soil Pipes, Vent Shafts, Inspection Chambers, etc.	19
New W.C.'s provided	14
W.C.'s repaired	16
Dustbins provided	11
Yards paved or repaired	2
Roofs and Gutters repaired	12
Dangerous Structures rebuilt	3
External Walls repaired	4
Damp-proof Courses provided	1
Dampness remedied	5
Floors repaired or renewed	1
Floors ventilated	1
Rooms, Walls and Ceilings repaired; re-decorated	29
Windows and Doors repaired	6

*Housing.**Housing Act, 1936—56, Amwell Street, Hoddesdon.*

A Statutory Notice under Section 9 of the above Act was served upon the owner of the above premises to carry out certain works in order to render the house fit for human habitation.

The Notice was not complied with and the Council carried out work in default in the early part of 1944.

Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.

A great deal of overcrowding exists in the district and informal action was taken in three cases arising out of complaints. The overcrowding was abated in two cases by the sub-tenants finding other accommodation and in the third case the sub-tenants left in 1944.

Demolition Orders.

No Demolition or Closing Orders were served during the year.

12, 14, 16, High Road, Wormley.

Demolition Orders were made in November, 1937. Representations were made to the owner during the year to demolish these properties, which were becoming derelict and dangerous and in a condition so as to be a nuisance.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

During the year, eleven houses were treated for bug infestation, eight of these were Council Houses and three were privately owned. The same procedure as in previous years was followed, *i.e.*, stripping of wallpaper, removing skirting boards and architraves and spraying all surfaces with an insecticide and fumigating with "Cimex" Blocks.

One house was treated with an insecticide for infestation by fleas.

*Inspection and Supervision of Food.**Milk Supply.*

Number of registered producers	...	...	...	7
Number of retail purveyors of milk	...	...	...	16
Number of retail purveyors of milk by round from premises outside the district	...	...	...	3

The cowsheds and dairies have frequently been inspected, and a total of 93 visits has been made.

Two new cowsheds were built during the year. The arrangements for disposal of sewage were improved at one milk producer's farm.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 & 1938.

Retailers' licences in respect of Tuberculin Tested Milk	3
Supplementary retailers' licences in respect of Accredited Milk	1
Supplementary retailers' licence in respect of Pasteurised Milk	1
Supplementary retailers' licence in respect of Tuberculin Tested Milk	1

Milk Samples.

Fifteen samples of milk retailed in the district were submitted to Bacteriological Analysis. Out of 13 undesignated samples examined, 7 passed the Methylene Blue Test and no Coliform Bacilli were present in 0.01 c.c.

One sample of Accredited Milk satisfied both tests.

A sample of Pasteurised Milk passed the Phosphatase Test and gave a bacterial count of 10,000 per c.c.

With one exception the unsatisfactory samples were of milk produced outside the district and the facts were reported to the Authorities concerned.

Meat and other Foods—Inspections.

Slaughterhouses	4
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Fifteen visits to slaughterhouses were made during the year.

Only two of the slaughterhouses have been used for the occasional slaughter of pigs belonging to Pig Clubs, under licence issued by the Ministry of Food.

Legal Proceedings.

Proceedings were taken against a local Butcher on March 31st, 1943, for the following offences under the Public Health Meat Regulations, 1924 :—

Article 8.

Failing to give notice to the Local Authority of the slaughter of a pig for sale for human consumption.

Article 20 (2).

Occupier of a room (cold store) in which meat is sold or exposed for sale or deposited for the purpose of sale or of preparation for sale caused or suffered refuse or filth to be deposited or accumulated therein.

Article 20 (3).

Occupier of a room (cold store) in which meat is sold or exposed for sale or deposited for the purpose of sale or of preparation for sale failed to cause the walls of such room to be cleansed or purified as often as was necessary to keep them in a proper state.

Article 20 (5) (d).

Occupier of a room (cold store) in which meat is sold or exposed for sale or deposited for the purpose of sale or of preparation for sale did not place all rubbish and refuse in a properly covered receptacle kept for the purpose apart from any meat intended for sale.

The defendant was also charged by the Ministry of Food for illicit slaughter of a pig and total fines of £25 plus £10 10s. costs were imposed.

Unsound Food.

The following foods were found to be unfit for human consumption and were surrendered:—

- 76½ lbs. Pork—Bruised and fevered, ill set.
- 41 tins of Canned Meals (169 lbs.)
- 17½ lbs. Bacon (Fore-hock.)
- 2 Packages Shredded Suet (28 lbs.)
- 110 lbs. Lentils.
- 80 lbs. Biscuits.
- ½ lb. Tea.
- 56 lbs. Spratts.
- 84 lbs. Herrings.
- 49 tins fish (46 lbs.)
- 17 tins Baked Beans.
- 2 x '1' tin Peas.
- 1 x '1' tin Carrots.
- 7 x 16 oz. tins Mushroom Soup.
- 1 x '1' tin Sweetened Full Cream Condensed Milk.
- 1 x 14 oz. tin Condensed Milk.
- 2 x 13 oz. tins Evaporated Milk.
- 1 x 1 lb. 14 oz. tin Prunes.
- 6 x '2' tins Plums.
- 4 x '1' tins Blackberries.
- 1 x '2' tin Blackberries.

*Inspection of Factories.**Factories Act, 1937.*

Thirty-two Visits and Inspections were made.

Three factories were provided with sanitary and cloakroom accommodation during the year and additional sanitary conveniences were provided at another factory.

Schools.

It was necessary to call the attention of the School Authorities in the case of one non-provided school to the inadequate lighting and ventilation of the lavatory accommodation and to the need for cleansing and redecorating the walls and ceilings of the conveniences. Additional openable windows were provided and redecoration carried out.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

The County Council are the authority for enforcing the above, and during the year some 27 complaints were received and passed on to the County Pests Officer.

Under the Infestation Order, 1943, S.R. & O. 1943 680 this Local Authority was directed to make a survey and submit a report to the Ministry of Food. The Ministry were informed that no major infestation of Rats or Mice existed in this district.

Moveable Dwellings and Temporary Structures.

There is a growing tendency for temporary structures, caravans and other moveable dwellings to be placed in areas near the river Lee in this district. A great deal of time is taken up in endeavouring to ascertain the names and addresses of the persons responsible for placing the moveable dwellings or erecting the structures on the land referred to. These persons, invariably can only be contacted at week-ends or holiday time.

The sites have no proper roads or services. In some cases the buildings are very small huts intended to afford shelter from the elements, but in other cases there is strong evidence that they are used for week-end habitation.

Control of the moveable dwellings is exercised by means of the provisions of the Herts County Council Act, 1935. Structures which are not moveable dwellings are not permitted under the Council's Town Planning Scheme in these areas, and the Council is seriously considering the question of enforcing the prohibition of the buildings, either under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1935, or the Sections of the Public Health Act, 1936, dealing with buildings.

Disinfections.

Disinfections were carried out in consequence of infectious disease (including Tuberculosis) in 34 dwelling houses.

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other
Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases.

	TOTAL	Under 1 year	1-5 years	5-14 years	14-21 years	21-65 years	over 65 years	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Small-pox	0								
Diphtheria	4			2	1	1		4	
Scarlet Fever	20		6	13	1			20	
Enteric Fever	0								
Puerperal Pyrexia	0								
Pneumonia	19	1				13	5		7
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0								
Erysipelas	5					5			
Dysentery (Sonne)	0								
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	0								
Acute Polio-myelitis	0								
Measles	254	5	91	150	3	5			
Whooping Cough	13	2	6	5					
Jaundice	0								

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Diphtheria											4	
Scarlet Fever	3	1				1	3	1	1	2	2	6
Enteric Fever												
Pneumonia	2	2		3	3				2	2	1	6
Measles	40	88	31	52	36	6		1				
Whooping Cough						1	1		9		2	

Rye Park. Hoddesdon. Broxbourne. Wormley.

Measles... ..	57	134	48	15
Scarlet Fever ...	6	7	6	2
Whooping Cough		3		10

Scabies.

All cases are now treated at the Gas Cleansing Section of the First Aid Post situated at the rear of the Council Offices, by Civil Defence Workers.

A total of 231 cases was treated during the year together with 62 contacts.

<i>Adults.</i>	<i>Children.</i>
91 (plus 31 contacts)	105 (plus 27 contacts)
And from other districts	35 cases plus 4 contacts.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

	Age under 5 years.	Aged 5 years and over, but under 15.	Total.
Number of children who completed the full course of immunisation during the year	279	103	392
Percentage of the child population considered immunised at 31/12/43.	90	95	

Insulin.

During 1943, four persons were supplied with Insulin free of cost. One person was supplied with it at half cost.

Bishop's Stortford

Water.

There is a piped supply which is chlorinated for most of the Urban District from the pumping station near the western boundary.

There are a few privately owned shallow wells and bores supplying houses in the Thorley area and other isolated premises on the outskirts of the district. The boreholes do not appear to have given any trouble but the water level in the shallow wells has been considerably lower than normal. Two of the wells in the Thorley area have ceased to be of any value and supplies are being obtained from neighbouring houses and from the Thorley School drinking water supply which is carted to the school twice weekly. All residents in the Thorley area with shallow well supplies are still boiling all water used for drinking purposes.

The strain on the mains supply has been aggravated by the large military requirements and that a constant supply was only maintained by economy drives in which posters, circulars, to large consumers and reduced mains pressure all played their part. The water level in the well is of course lower than normal. Plumbo-solvent action is entirely absent and there are no public standpipes although there are several blocks of cottages supplied by standpipes situated in private yards.

Drainage and Sewerage.

There is a public sewerage system for the town. The sewage gravitates to tanks at the sewage farm in the parish of Hallingbury (Dunmow Rural District), where it is screened and then pumped on to the high level. After chlorination it is treated by broad irrigation, with final treatment through longitudinal gravel filters before the effluent passes into the River Stort.

Public Cleansing.

Household and trade refuse is collected by motor lorry and in horse drawn covered dust carts, and disposed of by tipping on land adjoining the Castle grounds.

**Particulars of Sanitary Inspector's work
during the year.**

Inspection of District.

<i>Total number of visits</i>	2245
Dwelling houses inspected for Housing Defects	180
Re-visits to dwelling houses including works in progress	364
Premises inspected on complaint for nuisances other than Housing Defects	46
Re-visits to premises where a nuisance was found to exist	98
Special and miscellaneous visits	256
Interviews with owners, etc., at properties	50
Visits re Infectious disease	51
Visits re Scabies, etc.	136
Visits to Slaughterhouses	169
Visits to dairies, cowsheds, etc.	101
Visits to bakehouses	39
Visits to butchers' shops	60
Visits to fish shops	23
Visits to cafes and restaurants	53
Visits to other food shops, stores, etc.	155
Visits to markets	78
Visits to factories	39
Visits to out-workers premises	1
Visits to workplaces (offices, etc.)	9
Visits re Shops Act	22
Visits re Petroleum Acts	8
Visits re Building Byelaws	70
Visits to rat infested premises	62
Visits to stables and piggeries	8
Visits to schools	2
Visits to moveable dwellings	7
Visits to Council Houses (overcrowding, etc.)	158

Complaints and Matters Referred.

Complaints received	184
Complaints investigated	171
Complaints referred to other Departments & Authorities	18
Other matters referred to other Departments & Authorities	18

Testing of Drains and Sanitary Fittings.

Drains tested with water	14
Drains tested by other means	10

Notices served, and the result of the service of such notices.

Preliminary.	No. served.	No. complied with.
(a) Dwelling house for Housing Defects	122	126
(b) Premises for other than Housing Defects	24	20
(c) Special premises (shops, factories, etc.)	29	27
Statutory.		
Shops Act 1934.		
Section 10 to provide sanitary convenience	1	1
Public Health Act, 1936.		
Section 44 to reconstruct waterclosets	2	2
Section 45 to put defective closets into repair	2	2
Section 287 to enter premises	11	0
Section 75 to provide a suitable covered Dustbin	7	7
Section 93 to abate nuisance at a dwelling house	2	1

Summary of Sanitary Improvements effected.

	Dwelling houses	Special premises	Houses for other than Housing Defects.
Drainage systems repaired, etc.,	13	4	.....
Water closets repaired	18	4	.....
Water closets reconstructed or new provided	2	3	.....
Dampness remedied (roofs, gutters, etc., repaired)	18	1	.....
Floors repaired	13	2	.....
Sink and Waste pipes renewed or repaired	3	1	.....
Premises cleansed	1	12	2
Rooms cleansed	5	.....	.....
Overcrowding abated	.....	.....	3
Animals removed	.....	.....	1
Accumulations removed	.....	5	5
Dustbins provided	93	2	.....
Tent dwellings removed	.....	.....	2
Means of escape in case of fire provided	.....	1	.....
Miscellaneous	22	.....	2

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

	Rooms disinfected with Formaldehyde Lamps.	Parcels of bedding passed through Steam Disinfector.	Houses disinfected with Zaldecide and Sulphur candles.	Houses disinfected with Zaldecide.	Houses disinfested with Hydrogen Cyanide.	Parcels of bedding, etc., destroyed.	4oz. tins of Izal issued.	1 pt. bottles of Zaldecide issued.
Following infectious Disease	33	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Following Scabies, Lice, etc.	.....	43	.....	.....	.....	3	12	.....
Following other diseases	1	13	.....	.....	.....	1	8	.....
For A.R.P. Department	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....
Following vermin infestation at								
(a) Council Houses	.....	3	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....
(b) Other Houses	.....	2	3	2	.....	1	.....	30
TOTALS	34	62	3	2	3	5	26	30

*Inspection and Supervision of Food.**Milk Supplies.*

The number of persons on the register of dairymen actively engaged in the production and/or distribution of milk is now fifteen as follows :—

Nature of Registration.	No. Registered.	No. Selling Accredited.	Designated Milk T.T.
Producer Retailers	6	4	—
Retail Purveyors resident in the district	2	—	—
Retail Purveyors resident outside the district	7	4	1

All milk production and distribution premises were inspected on frequent occasions and found to be generally kept in a reasonably satisfactory condition. The results of milk samples submitted for

examination are set out below ; all unsatisfactory reports were followed up in the manner outlined in previous reports.

Designation (if any) produced in district.	No. satisfactory		No. unsatisfactory	
	Dept.	other L.A.'s.	Dept.	other L.A.'s.
Ungraded	1	3	1	—
Accredited	6	17	3	5
Produced outside district				
Ungraded	2	2	—	1
Accredited	4	—	2	—
Tuberculin Tested	4	—	—	—
Pasteurised	1	3	—	1

Meat and Food Inspection.

The statutory requirements of the Food and Drugs Act relating to cleanliness at food premises were well observed although it was necessary on occasions to draw the attention of some occupiers to minor infringements and improvements required.

A considerable reduction in the number of animals slaughtered will be noted, consequent upon the closure early in April of the Central Slaughterhouse in Hallingbury Road. Having served Bishop's Stortford and neighbouring districts in a very efficient manner for a period of over three years, the closure came as a surprise and did not pass without strong protests from the Urban District Council and other interested local bodies. All local animals intended for human consumption are, with very few exceptions, now slaughtered at Ware which in conjunction with Hertford, now provide the meat distributing centres for this district. By an arrangement with the local Food Executive Officer, all authorisations for the slaughter of home consumption animals are notified to the department and the meat of such animals examined prior to distribution for human consumption.

With the exception of certain canned fruit returned to the manufacturer for re-processing, the unfit foodstuffs were, when suitable, passed to the local salvage organisation for use as animal feeding stuffs.

Description and Weight of Diseased Meat.

Description.	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Beef	1	7	3	7
Beef Offals	1	19	2	21
Mutton	—	—	—	21
Mutton Offals	—	—	—	23
Pork	—	5	—	25
Pork Offals	—	1	1	17
Veal	—	—	1	22
Veal Offals	—	—	1	5
TOTAL WEIGHT	3	15	1	1

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and lambs.	Pigs.
Number inspected	347	155	487	832	403
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	1	—	1	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	16	26	2	7	19
Percentage of number in- spected affected with diseases other than tuber- culosis	4'3	17'4	0'41	0'96	5'2
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	2	2	1	—	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	51	61	2	—	16
Percentage of number in- spected affected with tuberculosis	15'2	40'6	0'61	—	4'7

. Details of Diseased Conditions found in Affected Animals
and Action Taken

Disease or Defect.	No.		Whole carcasses diseased	Part carcasses diseased	No.		Whole carcasses diseased	Part carcasses diseased	No.		Whole carcasses diseased	Part carcasses diseased	
	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows only			Calves	Sheep			Pigs				
Abscess	7	2	—	9	2	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	1
Actinomy- cosis	2	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Angioma	1	16	—	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asphyxiation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	2	7	—	7
Cyst	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	3	1	—	1
Distomatosis	2	1	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Injury	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	3
Nephritis	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Oedema	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Pleurisy	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Septicaemia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Swine													
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
Traumatism	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	53	63	4	112	3	1	2	—	—	—	19	3	16
TOTALS	69	90	5	154	5	1	4	8	1	7	40	5	35

Number of Organs Found Affected with Tuberculosis
and Other Conditions in Different Classes of Animals.

ORGANS.	Cattle		Calves		Sheep		Pigs		TOTALS.
	Tuberculosis	Other diseases	Tuberculosis	Other diseases	Tuberculosis	Other diseases	Tuberculosis	Other diseases	
Heads	49	5	2	—	—	1	15	2	74
Lungs	104	6	2	—	—	1	11	5	129
Hearts	13	3	2	—	—	1	11	5	35
Kidneys	13	8	2	—	—	2	5	6	36
Livers	20	36	2	2	—	7	9	11	87
Spleens	9	3	1	—	—	1	3	2	19
Stomachs	10	1	1	—	—	1	3	2	18
Intestines	10	1	1	—	—	1	10	2	25

Details of Foodstuffs (other than Meat, etc. at Slaughterhouse) found unfit for Human Consumption.

Corned Beef	35x12oz. tins	Herrings	15x7oz. tins
" "	33x6 lbs. "	" "	1x13oz. "
Corned Pork	1x6 lbs. "	" "	40x15oz. "
Corned Mutton	1x6 lb. "	Sardines	15x3½oz. "
Corned Beef Hash	13xA1 "	Fish Flakes	4x15oz. "
Boiled Mutton	24x6 lbs. "	Grade 1 Salmon	1x1's "
Meat Roll, etc.	117xA1T "	Grade 1 Salmon	2x½'s "
" " "	5x3 lbs. "	Grade 3 Salmon	147x1's "
Fish Roll	1xA1T "	Grade 3 Salmon	8x½'s "
Pork Sausage Meat	13x1½ lb. "	Plums	44xA2½ "
Pork Luncheon Meat	34x6 lbs. "	" "	25xA2 "
" " "	20x2½ lbs. "	Loganberries	1xA2 "
Chopped Ham	9x6 lbs. "	Rhubarb	1xA1 "
" "	6x2½ lbs. "	Gooseberries	1xA2 "
" "	10x12oz. "	Cherries	1xA2 "
Brisket Beef	1x4 lbs. "	Blackcurrants	7xA2½ "
Ox tongue	2x6 lbs. "	Pears	1xA2 "
" "	1x12oz. "	Apricots	1xA2 "
Braised Beef, etc.	6xA1T "	Grape Fruit	12xA2½ "
Meat & Vegetable Stew	34xA1T "	" "	1xA2 "
Vegetables in Gravy	11xA1 "	" "	92xE1 "
Mixed Vegetables	1xA2 "	Pineapples	6xA2½ "
Parsnips	20xA2½ "	" "	5xA2 "
Peas	19xA2 "	" "	4xA1 "
" "	37xA1T "	Apples	1x105oz. "
" "	1xE1 "	" "	1x28oz. "
Spaghetti	2xA1T "	Blackberries	1xA1T "
Carrots	211xA2 "	Skimmed Milk	15x1¼ pt. "
" "	25xA1 "	Sweet Condensed Milk	39x1¼ pt. "
Beans	25xA2½ "	Un-Sweet. Con. Milk	3x1½ pt. "
" "	10xA2 "	Evaporated Milk	273x14½oz. "
" "	65xA1T "	Margarine	3x2 lbs. "
" "	55x8oz. "	Marmalade	2x2 lbs. "
Soup	4xA2½ "	Jam	2x2 lbs. "
" "	18xA1T "	" "	22x1½ lbs. "
" "	60x8oz. "	" "	6x1 lb. "
Pilchards	209x15oz. "	" "	2x12oz. "
" "	8x7oz. "	Tomato Juice	1xA1T "
Mackerel	269x15oz. "	Egg Substitute Powder	170x2 oz. "
Marmalade	3x2 lb. jars	Tea	211½ lbs.
" "	1x1 lb. "	Flour	75½ "
Jam	3x2 lb. "	Bacon	77¼ "
" "	10x1 lb. "	Sausage Meat	12 "
Lemon Cheese	1x1 lb. "	Biscuits	10½ "
Mincemeat	1x1 lb. "	Kosher Meat	7 "
Pickles	4x10oz. "	Eggs	74 "
Meat & Fish Paste	3 small "	Boneless Beef	53 "
Vinegar	1x1 pt. bottle	Ox Heart (1)	4 "
Fish	266 lbs.	Veal, Beef & Mutton mixed	271 "
Coffee	2 "		

General.

Shortage of building labour and materials again caused considerable delay in obtaining the repair of dwelling houses, with the result that the number of complaints received by the department was in excess of the figure for a normal year. Persistent pressure on owners and builders did however secure the remedying of the more serious defects, but the absence of any systematic house-to-house inspections combined with the difficulties mentioned above, is shown by the deterioration of housing conditions. The Ministry of Health, in conjunction with the Ministry of Labour, is attempting to secure that the services of all building labour is used to maximum effect in the repair programme.

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other
Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases.

	TOTAL	Under 1 year	1-5 years	5-14 years	14-21 years	21-65 years	over 65 years	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Small-pox	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria	2	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	2	1
Scarlet Fever	31	.....	5	25	.....	1	.....	23	.....
Enteric Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia	14	.....	.....	.....	2	12	.....	14	.....
Pneumonia	9	.....	.....	2	.....	3	4	4	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Erysipelas	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....
Dysentery (Sonne)	8	.....	5	2	.....	1	.....	6	.....
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	1
Acute Polio-myelitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Measles	397	6	104	283	1	3	.....	9	.....
Whooping Cough	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Jaundice	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Diphtheria	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Scarlet Fever	3	.....	.....	1	.....	2	2	.....	5	4	6	8
Puerperal Pyrexia	.....	.....	4	3	2	1	.....	2	.....	1	.....	1
Pneumonia	.....	2	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	3	1
Dysentery	1	2	.....	1	3	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Measles	8	47	42	14	33	157	85	9	1	.....	.....	1
Whooping Cough	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria.

	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria.	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria.
Northgate School	6	—	Evacuee Schools	4
St. Michael's School	5	—	Pre-school	5
Herts & Essex School	2	—	Adults	4
Hockerill School	1	—	Nursery Schools, etc.	2
St. Joseph's School	1	—	B/Stortford College	1

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

	Age under 5 years.	Aged 5 years and over, but under 15.	Total.
Number of children who completed the full course of immunisation during the year	174	152	326
Percentage of the child population considered immunised at 31/12/43.	59	92	

Scabies.

Early in January, the Gas Cleansing Station at the old Police Station, Church Street, was brought into use as a Scabies Treatment Centre and out patient treatment with hot baths and benzyl benzoate emulsion given to needy inhabitants of this and certain adjoining districts by the District Nurses and full time C.D. personnel. Where facilities are available, home treatment is frequently given in preference to the above, particularly when the day's programme consists of the treatment of a single family.

Details of the persons treated are given below, actual cases receiving two applications of benzyl benzoate and close contacts one.

*Residents of
Bishop's Stortford.**Residents of
Other Districts.*

No. of Applications	Under 5 years		5 to 14 years		Over 14 years		Under 5 years		5 to 14 years		Over 14 years		Total Treated
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
1	2	2	6	4	12	12	1	—	5	4	1	2	51
2	5	6	29	23	10	44	—	—	—	2	—	—	119

Insulin.

During 1943, three persons were supplied with Insulin free of cost.

Ware Urban District.

Water.

Although there is a prolific source of underground water in the Lea Valley, there is a general decline of water level in the chalk; due to an accumulating deficiency of rainfall and increased demand.

The supply is constant, but it is possible for the level to drop below the foot valves of the pumps, in which case the existing machinery will become redundant and new machinery will be required to maintain the supply. Recent analysis, both Chemical and Bacteriological, show that the water is pure and wholesome and fit for human consumption, though it has a high degree of temporary and permanent hardness. The supply is chlorinated. The whole of the Town is supplied by direct servicing from mains of the Local Authority or Metropolitan Water Board.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Practically the whole district is sewered. The sewage gravitates to the pumping station at Stanstead Abbots, in the Ware Rural District.

From here it is lifted to the Sewage Farm near Rye House (131 acres) and distributed by broad irrigation.

Public Cleansing.

Refuse is collected weekly in two covered mechanical conveyances and is disposed of by controlled tipping.

Particulars of the Sanitary Inspector's Work.

The inspection of meat and other foods, and the supervision of the district's milk supply, has taken a large proportion of his time.

<i>Summary of Visits.</i>	No.
Slaughterhouses	367
Food Premises	47
Cowsheds and Dairies	58
Laboratory	33
Sewers and Drains, etc.	69
Sundry complaints	125
Infectious Disease	25
Scabies, etc.	22
Verminous and filthy premises, etc.	84
Overcrowding	10
Housing repair	5
Smoke abatement	2
Rats and Mice	7
Factories	15
	<hr/>
	869

Public Health Act, 1936.

	No.	Visits.
<i>Sewers.</i>		
(1) Relaid as required by Statutory Notice	1	5
(2) Number of houses affected - - -	2	—
(3) Examined and obstructions removed	7	9
(4) Examined - - - - -	1	1
(5) Smoke Tested and found defective -	1	2
<i>Drains.</i>		
(1) Examined and obstructions removed	8	14
(2) Smoke Tested and found in order -	1	4
(3) Gully and pipes fixed - - -	2	5
(4) New branch soil drain laid - - -	1	4
(5) New connection to surface water sewer	1	1
(6) New manhole cover provided - - -	1	2
(7) Meetings with owners, builders & etc.	—	3
<i>Sanitary Fittings.</i>		
(1) Soil pipe and W.C. pan renewed -	1	3
(2) W.C. pan joints remade - - -	2	4
(3) W.C. flushing cisterns or service pipes repaired - - - - -	6	10
(4) W.C. pan blockages removed - - -	1	2
<i>Sundry Repairs and Nuisances.</i>		
(1) Roofs repaired - - - - -	10	21
(2) Dampness remedied (slight) - - -	1	—
(3) Stairs repaired - - - - -	2	1
(4) Sash cords renewed - - - - -	1	1
(5) Fire basket renewed - - - - -	1	2
(6) Ceilings repaired - - - - -	2	3
(7) Floors renewed and repaired - - -	19	33
(8) Guttering and down pipes provided and repaired - - - - -	4	7
(9) Wash-house rebuilt - - - - -	1	1
(10) Sink and trap renewed - - - - -	2	3
(11) Firegrate renewed - - - - -	1	3
(12) Copper renewed - - - - -	1	2
(13) Outstanding works - - - - -	5	8
(14) Offensive Accumulation removed -	1	2
(15) Dustbins provided - - - - -	5	10
(16) Keeping of Animals, no nuisance -	6	6
(17) " " " nuisance found	1	1
(18) No nuisance found (complaints) -	9	13
(19) " " " (routine)- - - - -	5	8
(20) Complaints received as to nuisances	108	—

*Filthy and Verminous Premises or Articles.**Bugs.*

<i>Houses Disinfested.</i>	No.	Visits.
(1) "Matafli" spray and SO ₂	1	2
(2) "Matafli" spray only	3	4
(3) "Zaldecide" spray only	5	14
(4) Letter sent to occupier to eradicate vermin	2	2
(5) No trace found	33	42
(6) Canteen disinfested "Zaldecide"	1	4
(7) Beddings Steamed Disinfector loads	7	—
(8) Bedding and Clothing destroyed (lots)	1	—
(9) Old chair destroyed	1	—

Fleas.

House disinfested	1	3
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Lice (Body).

Cases reported	1	1
Clothing steamed (loads)	1	—

Filthy Houses.

<i>Filthy Articles (in houses)</i>	4	8
Bedding destroyed (lots)	1	—

Housing Act, 1936.

<i>Overcrowding.</i>	No.	Visits.
Houses visited	9	10
No overcrowding	6	—
Slight overcrowding	1	—
Overcrowded	1	—

There are no statistics available regarding the present degree of overcrowding but the above cases were revealed during the year.

Circular 2156.

Licences authorising the temporary occupation of the following houses were extended.

No. 4, The Bourne, Ware.

„ 8, Crib Street, Ware.

„ 32, „ „ „

Houses awaiting demolition repaired
by Council—Nos. 29, 30, 31, Church
Street; 32 and 34, Priory Street

5 5

Smoke Abatement.

Two complaints about one factory were received during the year. Waste material consumed in the boilers could not be avoided for certain reasons and the nuisance continues intermittently.

Rats and Mice Destruction.

Complaints passed to County Pests Officer for attention	8
Number of visits	7

Contracts for the destruction of rats on the Council's properties were made with the County Council.

Factories Act, 1937.

	Visits.	Written Notices.
Factories with mechanical power	14	1
„ without mechanical power	1	—

Sanitary Conveniences — Defects Found.

	Found.	Remedied.
Want of cleanliness (Section 1)	2	2
Sanitary Conveniences (Section 7)		
(a) No intervening ventilated space	1	—
(b) Ventilation inadequate	1	—

*Inspection and Supervision of Food.**Milk and Dairies.*

Number of routine visits to Cowsheds	16
„ „ „ „ „ Dairies	21
„ „ visits to dairy and farm premises on special enquiry	21
„ „ visits to laboratory with samples	18
„ „ routine samples	15
„ „ samples for Resazurin test (Milk Advisory Scheme)	6
„ „ samples for special enquiry (30 samples chemical and bacteriological examination, 15 samples follow up accredited standard)	45

Samples.

	Satisfactory.		Unsatisfactory.	
	Other L.A.'s	Ware U.D.	Other L.A.'s.	Ware U.D.
Accredited	6	3	—	1
Accredited (Special Enquiry)	—	8	—	7
Pasteurised	16	8	5	—
Ungraded	—	1	—	2

An accredited producer was found to be distributing milk which was very unwholesome. One of the cows, which had recently calved, was giving milk infiltrated with blood; and the milk rapidly putrefied. The bacteriological reports indicated that mastitis was present in the herd, staphylococcus aureus, coryne-bacterium pyogenos and alpha hæmolytic streptococcus being found in various samples. The veterinary inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture, whose services were requested, found five cows affected with mastitis and the animal giving "port wine" coloured milk.

With regard to milk pasteurised in Ware, twenty-six samples were examined. Seven of these were taken by me and all conformed to the standards of pasteurised milk. Of nineteen samples taken by other authorities, fourteen were satisfactory but five which were taken in course of delivery to the consumer gave satisfactory counts but coliform organisms were present. Six samples submitted by me and three by other authorities satisfied the phosphatase test. These results suggest that the H.T.S.T. Pasteurisation Plant operating in Ware is doing its job satisfactorily, and the coliform organisms found by one authority during a day's sampling may have been due to churns not thoroughly steamed or other unknown factor not connected with pasteurisation. Three samples of milk pasteurised outside but retailed in Ware were satisfactory. One was submitted to and satisfied the phosphatase test.

Other Foods.

Number of visits to Food Premises - - - - - 47

A considerable quantity of packed goods and other food were condemned, but 112 lbs. of sugar were refined again.

Tinned or Packed Commodities.

Number of items - - - - - 426

Other Goods.

Cheese	-	-	-	-	-	22½ lbs.
Bacon	-	-	-	-	-	13½ "
Eggs	-	-	-	-	-	46 "
Sugar	-	-	-	-	-	166 "
Fish	-	-	-	-	-	245 "
Bread (loaves)	-	-	-	-	-	42½ qtns.

Meat Inspection.

Visits to Central Slaughterhouse	-	-	-	-	-	367
" Laboratory with specimens	-	-	-	-	-	15
Number of Sundays and holidays worked	-	-	-	-	-	20
Average hours per visit, 2.4						
" " " day, 3.4						

The number of cattle inspected has again increased, and was double the figure for 1941. The statistics given in the Table are compiled from a daily analysis sheet of the location of disease in animals.

About 29 $\frac{3}{4}$ tons of meat and offals (excluding tripes, intestines and trimmings) were condemned during the year.

	Cattle excluding cows.	Cows.	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs.
<i>Number Slaughtered.</i>					
(a) From Collection Centres	2214	785	3044	6511	358
(b) Emergency Slaughter	50	70	41	127	173
<i>Number Inspected</i>	2264	855	3085	6638	531
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis—</i>					
Whole Carcasses condemned	3	13	21	16	13
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	753	381	10	65	70
% of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	33.4	46.1	1.0	1.2	15.6
<i>Tuberculosis Only—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	9	40	2	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	208	231	1	—	6
% of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	9.6	31.7	0.1	—	0.1
<i>Scabies.</i>					
				No.	Visits.
Cases reported				51	20
Persons given institutional treatment				38	—
Persons given treatment by other authorities				2	—
Persons treated by nurse				8	—
Persons treated by parents				3	—
<i>Lice.</i>					
Cases reported				1	2

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases.

	TOTAL	Under 1 year	1-5 years	5-14 years	14-21 years	21-65 years	over 65 years	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Small-pox	0								
Diphtheria	0								
Scarlet Fever	5		1	4				5	0
Enteric Fever	0								
Puerperal Pyrexia	1				1			1	0
Pneumonia	3	1				1	1	3	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0								
Erysipelas	0								
Dysentery (Sonne)	1		1					0	0
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	0								
Acute Polio-myelitis	0								
Measles	148	4	51	88	2	3			
Whooping Cough	18		8	10					
Jaundice	1			1				0	0

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Diphtheria												
Scarlet Fever								2			2	1
Enteric Fever												
Pneumonia				1							1	1
Measles	2	3	13	89	34	6	0	1				
Whooping Cough			2	2	4	1	1	0	5	0	3	

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

	Age under 5 years.	Aged 5 years and over, but under 15.	Total.
Number of children who completed the full course of immunisation during the year	116	116	232
Percentage of the child population considered immunised at 31/12/43.	67	76	

Sawbridgeworth Urban District.

Water.

The town is supplied by the Herts and Essex Waterworks Company from their deep wells in Redrick Lane. 93% of the houses have a constant supply from the waterworks. The remaining 7% in the village of Spellbrook obtain their water from shallow wells. Spellbrook well continues to be chlorinated each day and no samples of water, analysed monthly, have been found to be unsatisfactory.

Sewerage.

A sewerage system has now been provided to a part of the Pishiobury area where considerable nuisance had arisen from cesspools to 47 houses.

The sewers laid are part of the major scheme of sewerage for the Southern part of the district. The sewage is dealt with on a system of land irrigation with a septic tank on land which has been purchased for the South Sewage Disposal Works.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

	Age under 5 years.	Aged 5 years and over, but under 15.	Total.
Number of children who completed the full course of immunisation during the year	77	26	103
Percentage of the child population considered immunised at 31/12/43.	48	89	

Ware Rural District.

Water Supplies.

There is a main water supply obtained from two bore holes 450 ft. deep at the Pumping Station on the main Cambridge Road, Puckeridge. The water is pumped to a tower of 250,000 gallons capacity situated at Old Hall Green. The mains pass through each parish except the outlying parishes of Eastwick and Gilston. The parishes of Great Amwell and St. Margarets are supplied through the mains of the Metropolitan Water Board. The quality of the water is very high but it is chlorinated as an extra precaution. The sufficiency is not in doubt at the moment. Of 2,700 properties in the district there are 1,700 on main water supply.

Of the private supplies throughout the district approximately two-thirds are deep wells or bore holes, and one-third are shallow wells. Samples have been taken regularly from a cross section of these and have generally proved satisfactory but there has been definite evidence towards the end of the year of a lowering of the water level and it is anticipated that during the coming year a number of properties will be connected to the main water supply.

The parish of Gilston is supplied by private wells and the parish of Eastwick by private piped water supply.

The Ware Rural District Council has considered the position of properties in the outlying areas and has resolved that as soon as practical, subsidiary mains will be laid to afford a piped supply to most of the properties in the district.

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases.

	TOTAL	Under 1 year	1-5 years	5-14 years	14-21 years	21-65 years	over 65 years	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Small-pox	0								
Diphtheria	2 [†]		1	1				2	0
Scarlet Fever	9		4	2	2	1		9	0
Enteric Fever	0								
Puerperal Pyrexia	0								
Pneumonia	6	2		1		2	1		5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0								
Erysipelas	2			1		1			
Dysentery (Sonne)	1				1			1	0
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1*					1		1	
Acute Polio-myelitis	2			2				2	0
Measles	163	1	45	75	29	13		10	
Whooping Cough	31		21	10				2	
Jaundice	2			2					

* Non-Civilian.

† Not immunised.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Diphtheria										2 [†]		
Scarlet Fever	2					2			2	1	1	1
Enteric Fever												
Pneumonia	1	1	1	1	1							1
Measles	13	43	59	21	22	1	2	2				
Whooping Cough			5	6		3			1	3	1	12

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Polio-myelitis.
Eastwick	-	-	6	-	-
Gilston	-	-	10	1	-
Great Amwell	1	-	42	-	1
Great Munden	-	-	2	1	-
Hunsdon	-	-	-	1	-
Little Munden	-	-	3	-	-
Standon	4	-	31	11	1
Stanstead Abbots	2	2	1	2	-
St. Margarets	-	-	2	-	-
Thundridge	-	-	2	3	-
Ware Rural	1	-	6	-	-
Widford	-	-	11	-	-
Haileybury College	-	-	12	-	-
St. Edmund's College	-	-	24	-	-
Cheyne (Children's) Hospital	-	-	4	-	-
L.C.C. Nursery Easneye	-	-	-	6	-
P.L.A. Nursery, Dane End House	-	-	-	5	-
Non Civilian	1	-	7	-	-

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

	Age under 5 years.	Aged 5 years and over, but under 15.	Total.
Number of children who completed the full course of immunisation during the year	147	97	244
Percentage of the child population considered immunised at 31/12/43.	60	95	

Braughing Rural District.

Water Supplies.

The northern part of the district is now supplied from 2 deep bore-holes at Chipping, from which water is pumped to a water tower at Throcking and to a reservoir at Buntingford; while the southern part of the district is supplied from Much Hadham, augmented by a supply from the Ware Rural District which is pumped to a water tower at Albury to serve the parishes of Braughing, Albury and the higher parts of Little and Much Hadham. All the water is chlorinated.

The main has been extended from Hare Street Road to Wyddial.

The old Buntingford Waterworks have been re-opened and a booster pumps the water to the Throcking water tower as and when required.

It is estimated that the mains now supply 75% of the District.

Insulin.

During the year, two persons were supplied with Insulin free of cost. One person was supplied with it at half cost.

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases.

	TOTAL	Under 1 year	1-5 years	5-14 years	14-21 years	21-65 years	over 65 years	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Small-pox	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Scarlet Fever	14	.....	2	9	.....	3	.....	14	.....
Enteric Fever	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Pneumonia	11	.....	.....	3	.....	7	.....	.....	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Erysipelas	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Dysentery (Sonne)	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Acute Polio-myelitis	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Measles	180	7	45	119	5	4	.....	.....	1
Whooping Cough	63	4	35	24	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jaundice	8	.....	.....	2	1	5	.....	.....	.....

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Diphtheria -												
Scarlet Fever -		1	2	2			4		1	2		2
Enteric Fever -												
Pneumonia -	4	1		1		1					2	2
Measles -	3	6	63	54	23	19	8	4				
Whooping Cough -		16	17	14	7	6	3					

	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>	<i>Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Measles</i>
Anstey - - -	.....	.....	2
Ardeley - - -	2	.....	.....
Aspenden - - -	.....	1	2
Braughing - - -	3	19	82
Buckland - - -	.....	.....	1
Buntingford - - -	4	27	18
Cottered - - -	.....	.....	5
Furneaux Pelham - - -	2	.....	2
High Wych - - -	1	.....	12
Hormead - - -	.....	9	.....
Little Hadham - - -	.....	.....	29
Much Hadham - - -	1	2	7
Stocking Pelham - - -	.....	.....	1
Thorley - - -	1	.....	13
Westmill - - -	.....	.....	4
Wyddial - - -	.....	2	2

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

	Age under 5 years.	Aged 5 years and over, but under 15.	Total.
Number of children who completed the full course of immunisation during the year	151	57	208
Percentage of the child population considered immunised at 31/12/43.	67	92	

Scabies.

Two centrally-heated rooms at Bridgefoot House have been adapted by the Surveyor as a Scabies Treatment Centre. One room is divided into two cubicles; the other room has a cubicle partitioned off. Each cubicle has fitted baths. Men are treated by the ex-care-taker of the Old Buntingford Isolation Hospital. Women and children are treated by the Assistant District Nurse.

During the year, 5 men, 13 women and 41 children received Benzyl benzoate treatment.

Hertford Rural District.

Water.

There are main supplies available in all of the fifteen parishes in the Rural District. At Little Amwell, the supply is by the Metropolitan Water Board. In the other parishes, the Council owns the mains; but at Bramfield, Datchworth and Tewin, water bought in bulk from Welwyn R.D.C., which in turn buys from Welwyn Garden City U.D.C., is supplied. The other sources of supply are the Council's boreholes at Aston and Little Berkhamstead. In all cases, the supply is sufficient, of good quality, and has no plumbo—solvent action. It is also constant.

Most of the hamlet of Waterford in the parish of Stapleford is supplied by a main belonging to Dr. Barnardo's Homes; but the Corporation of Hertford supplies a few houses near the railway. Similarly, the hamlet of Wormley West End in the parish of Brickendon Liberty is supplied by Hoddesdon U.D.C.

Of the 2,000 houses in the District about 1240 have a piped supply on to the premises and about 560 are within 100 yards of a main and generally have a standpipe supply available. Only isolated houses are entirely dependent on well supplies.

During the year, a small main extension at Bayford to give supplies to "Claypits" Farm and "Homewood" Farm in Hatfield Rural District was carried out. A supply to three cottages at Bramfield, which are at some distance from the end of the main, was provided by long services. The latter work, which also included provision of sinks, drains and cesspools was the subject of grant under the Housing (Rural Workers') Acts.

The presence of an excess of iron in water after passing through long ungalvanised services was referred to in the last report. In one case, the installation of a Magnesite filter to remove the CO₂ before the water enters the ungalvanised pipes has been successful in preventing the absorption of the iron. In another case, the use of a similar filter has not been so successful. The matter is being investigated further.

Sanitary Improvements.

An old Rectory, now used as a private school, was drained to the sewer and the former cesspool abolished.

Milk and Dairies.

Five new dairies have been provided at places where milk is produced; four additional steam sterilizers installed and four cowsheds reconstructed.

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases.

	TOTAL	Under 1 year	1-5 years	5-14 years	14-21 years	21-65 years	over 65 years	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Small-pox	0								
Diphtheria	3*		1	2				3	0
Scarlet Fever	11		2	8		1		11	0
Enteric Fever	0								
Puerperal Pyrexia	0								
Pneumonia	7				3	4			5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0								
Erysipelas	2					1	1		
Dysentery (Sonne)	2*		1			1		1	0
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1			1				1	0
Acute Polio-myelitis	1			1				0	0
Measles	41	3	12	24	2				0
Whooping Cough	55	5	16	34				3	0
Jaundice									

*Queen Elizabeth Hospital for Children, Bayford.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Diphtheria				1*		1*	1*					
Scarlet Fever	3	1	1	3						2		1
Enteric Fever												
Pneumonia				1			1					5
Measles	4	5	15	8	9							1
Whooping Cough	8	6	13	4		4	15		4			1

	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Cerebro- Spinal Meningitis	Polio Myelitis
Aston - - -	.....	.....	2	.....	.....
Bayford - - -	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Benington - - -	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bengeo Rural - - -	.....	1	2	.....	.....
Bramfield - - -	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Brickendon Liberty -	4	.....	2	.....	.....
Datchworth - - -	2	24	11	.....	1
Hertingfordbury -	2	1	4	.....	.....
Little Amwell - - -	.....	3	1	.....	.....
Little Berkhamstead	.....	.....	11	.....	.....
Sacombe - - -	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Stapleford - - -	.....	7	1	.....	.....
Tewin - - -	.....	1	3	1	.....
Walkern - - -	.....	1	3	.....	.....
Watton-at-Stone - - -	.....	10	.....	.....	.....
Queen Elizabeth Hospital for Children, Bayford	1	7	1	.....	.....
Port of London Nursery, Sacombe - - -	.....	1	.....	.....	.....

Food Poisoning.

Eighteen cases of food poisoning occurred at the Women's Land Army Hostel, Watton-at-Stone, during August. On investigation, it was found that a member of the domestic staff had a nasal discharge from which a coagulase positive staphylococcus was isolated. As the rectal swabs from the affected woman grew no food poisoning organisms on culture it was assumed that the outbreak was due to staphylococcal toxin contamination of a pie containing meat and potatoes.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

	Age under 5 years.	Aged 5 years and over, but under 15.	Total.
Number of children who completed the full course of immunisation during the year	70	81	151
Percentage of the child population considered immunised at 31/12/43.	83	95	



