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Contributors

East Hertfordshire Combined Districts.

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HEALTH
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C.R. 50

EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

Hertford (M.B.)

Hoddesdon (U.D.)

Ware (R.D.)

Ware (U.D.)

Braughing (R.D.)

Sawbridgeworth (U.D.)

Hertford (R.D.)

ANNUAL REPORT

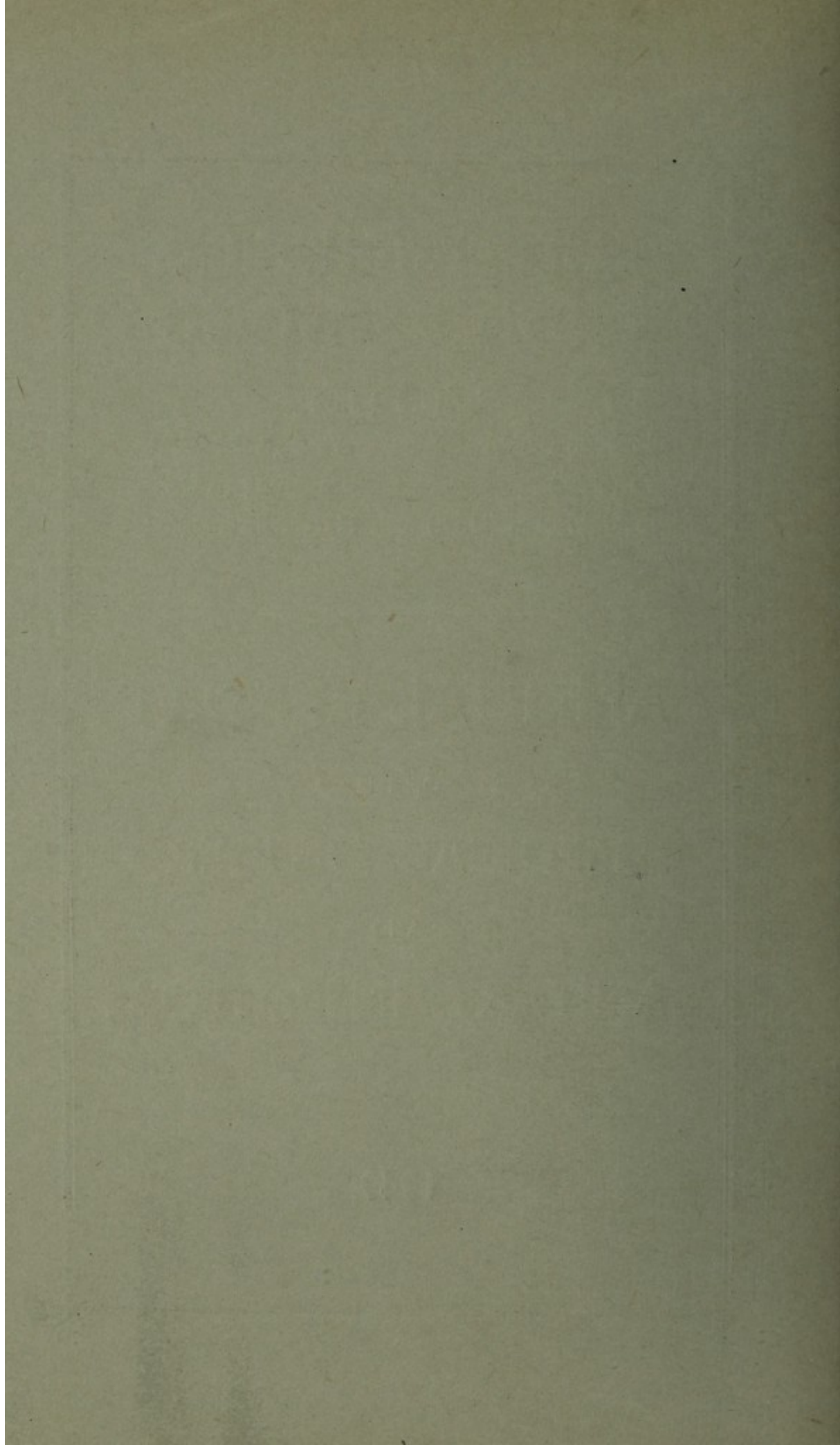
OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

AND

SANITARY INSPECTORS

1949



EAST HERTS COMBINED DISTRICTS

HEALTH
52 SEP 50
G.R. 50

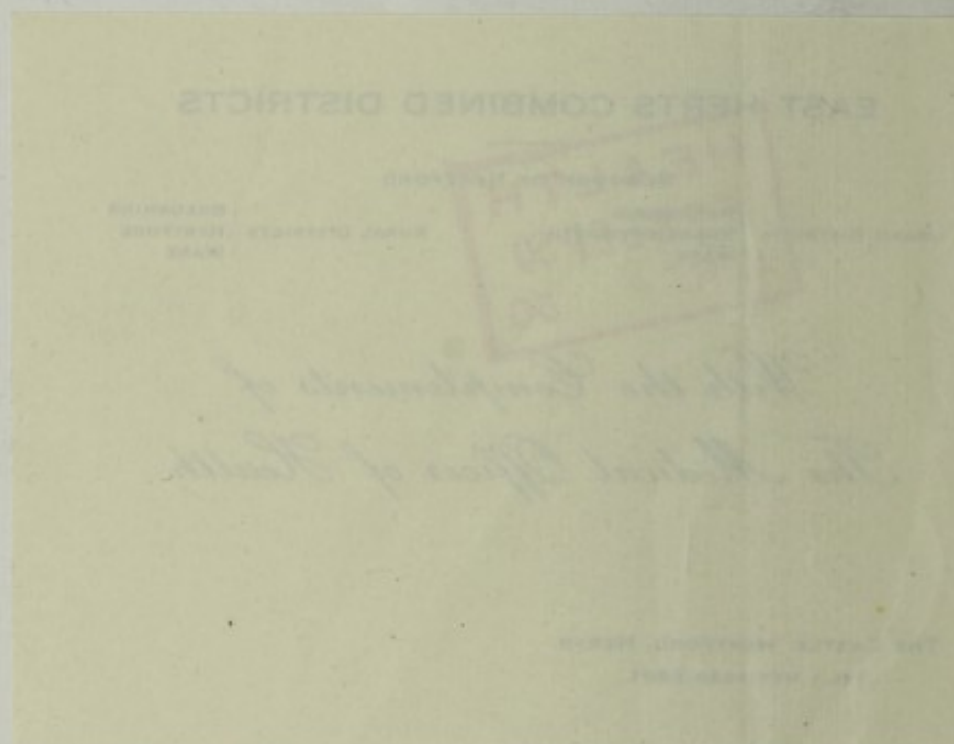
BOROUGH OF HERTFORD

URBAN DISTRICTS: HODDERSDON, SAWBRIDGEWORTH, WARE

RURAL DISTRICTS: BRAUGHING, HERTFORD, WARE

*With the Compliments of
The Medical Officer of Health*

THE CASTLE, HERTFORD, HERTS.
TEL.: HERTFORD 2201



EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

Hertford (M.B.)

Hoddesdon (U.D.)

Ware (R.D.)

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ANNUAL REPORT

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AND

SANITARY INSPECTORS

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B. W. PECK† (from 30/5/1949)	
WM. NOEL DAVID*	}	Council Offices, HODDESDON (U.D.)	
W. F. FORREST† (from 25/6/1949)			
CHAS. J. LUCAS*	.....	.....	} The Priory, WARE (U.D.)
J. C. CHAPMAN† (from 24/10/1949)	
JOHN ARTHUR YATES*†, Council Offices, SAWBRIDGEWORTH (U.D.)			
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P. G. ALLISON†	
E. E. WATERIDGE†	}	Bridgefoot House, Buntingford, BRAUGHING (R.D.)	
G. C. SMITH†			
HORACE ERNEST GILBY†, 2, Parliament Square, HERTFORD (R.D.)			

† Additional Sanitary Inspector.

* Certified Meat Inspector (Sanitary Inspectors Examination Board)

† Also District Council Surveyor.

EAST HERTS. COMBINED DISTRICTS

PREFACE

The following report on the health of the East Herts Combined Sanitary Districts has been drawn up on the lines indicated in circular 2/50 issued by the Ministry of Health. The various rates have been calculated on the Registrar-General's estimate of the resident mid-year population for 1949.

Although this report deals with the year 1949, the text concerning some of the items has been brought up to date as far as possible. Rural water supplies are dealt with in detail in the appropriate sections, and at the beginning of the report there is information concerning the General Provision of Health Services.

Public Health Laboratory Service.

Suitable apparatus for the testing of ice-cream samples was installed in the laboratory at the Hertford County Hospital early in 1950 following representations sent to the Ministry of Health in the autumn of 1949.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

Responsibility for rodent control was delegated to the local sanitary authorities by the Herts County Council early in 1949. Rodent operators were appointed and attended a course of instruction before taking up their duties locally. A free service was offered to domestic premises and a charge was levied in respect of business premises. In rural districts agricultural property was dealt with by the Agricultural Executive Committee, and not by the local sanitary authority. The above Act has now been replaced by the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949, which became operative on 31st March, 1950.

Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944.

Responsibility for the supervision of milk production on all farms passed over to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries on the 1st October, 1949 (*the date of the coming into force of the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944*).

Local sanitary authorities are still responsible for the registration of dairies and the issue of licences for the sale of designated milks by retail. Supplementary licences are issued to retailers outside the area, in respect of designated milks sold in a particular sanitary district.

Handling and Transport of Home Killed Meat.

During the very hot weather of July, 1949, it was necessary to condemn several hundredweights of home killed meat which had just been distributed to the local butchers. This meat, freshly killed, was unfit for human consumption owing to internal decomposition. Circumstances at the slaughterhouse, and concerning

the transport of this meat were investigated. It was clear that the condemned carcasses had not cooled adequately, and that drainage of blood was incomplete. Finally the method of transporting the meat appeared most unsatisfactory.

These facts were communicated to the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Food, and it was suggested that the cooling arrangements in the slaughterhouse could be reviewed. It was also suggested that provision of meat lorries with hooks, together with enforcement of the use of those hooks, was long overdue.

These complaints and suggestions were discussed at a meeting arranged by the representatives of the Ministry of Food. It would appear that major alterations to the existing arrangements are deemed impracticable at the present time on account of the expense. The Ministry of Food emphasised that the amount of home killed meat wasted due to internal decomposition formed a very small percentage of the total lost from other causes such as tuberculosis.

It is proposed to keep a close watch on the situation, especially during hot weather.

I am indebted to all my colleagues who have helped to compile this report, and to the County Medical Officer who supplied all the information concerning the Herts County Council Health Services in the section entitled "General Provision of Health Services."

JOHN WILDMAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

The Castle,
Hertford.

June, 1950.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Resident Population	Birth Rate (per 1,000 Population).	Death Rate (per 1,000 Popu- lation)	Comparability factor	Standardised Death Rate	Infantile Mortality (per 1,000 live births).
MUNICIPAL BOROUGH Hertford	14,130	12.7	9.9	1.03	10.2	11
URBAN DISTRICTS.						
Hoddesdon	13,630	16.4	10.6	0.98	10.4	—
Ware	8,890	15.3	10.7	0.90	9.6	29
Sawbridgeworth	3,692	14.1	11.9	0.88	10.5	38
RURAL DISTRICTS.						
Ware *	10,180	16.6	13.1	0.92	12.1	18
Braughing	10,530	17.7	13.2	0.87	11.5	22
Hertford	8,130	18.9	10.7	0.95	10.2	6
East Herts (C.D.)	69,182	15.9	11.3			15
England and Wales		16.7	11.7		11.7	32

* Population : Civilian 10,120, Non-Civilian 60.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

	Area (Acres)	Number of inhabited houses (end of 1948, according to the Rate Books)	Density (persons per acre)	Density (houses per acre)	Average number of occupants per house	Rateable value	Sum represented by a Penny Rate
						£	£
Hertford (M.B.)	3,882	4,476	3.6	1.15	3.2	107,062	412
Hoddesdon	4,423	3,847	3.1	0.87	3.5	96,773	376
Ware (U.D.)	1,343	2,225	6.6	1.66	4.0	49,781	200
Sawbridgeworth	2,678	1,053	1.4	0.39	3.5	23,705	95
Ware (R.D.)	29,102	2,889	0.3	0.10	3.5	64,572	267
Braughing	45,570	3,153	0.2	0.07	3.3	47,500	185
Hertford (R.D.)	32,664	2,447	0.2	0.07	3.3	40,054	157
East Herts (C.D.)	119,662,	20,090	0.6	0.17	3.4		

	BIRTHS						DEATHS		Natural Increase or Decrease	
	Legitimate	Illegitimate		TOTAL		M.	F.	M.		F.
		Num. ber	Per- c'age	M.	F.					
Hertford (M.B.)	173	6	3.4	94	85	61	79	+	39	
Hoddesdon	215	9	4.0	117	107	79	66	+	79	
Ware (U.D.)	130	6	4.4	77	59	45	50	+	41	
Sawbridgeworth	51	1	1.9	30	22	23	21	+	8	
Ware (R.D.)	154	14	8.3	82	86	68	65	+	35	
Braughing	175	11	5.9	88	98	61	78	+	47	
Hertford (R.D.)	149	5	3.2	83	71	47	40	+	67	
East Herts (C.D.)	1,047	52	4.7	571	528	384	399	+	316	

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1948

	NEW CASES					DEATHS					Mortality Rate per 1,000 population
	Res- piratory M. F.		Non-Res- piratory M. F.		Total	Res- piratory M. F.		Non-Res- piratory M. F.		Total	
Hertford M.B.)	7	1	3	1	12	7	1	—	—	8	0.57
Hoddesdon	3	4	1	—	8	3	2	2	—	7	0.51
Ware (U.D.)	5	4	2	2	13	3	—	—	—	3	0.34
Sawbridgeworth	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	0.27
Ware (R.D.)	—	4	1	4	9	1	2	—	1	4	0.39
Braughing	6	5	—	—	11	2	1	—	—	3	0.28
Hertford (R.D.)	—	4	2	1	7	—	—	—	—	—	0.00
East Herts (C.D.)	21	22	9	9	61	16	6	3	1	26	0.38

*Number of cases remaining on the Register
at the end of the year*

	Respiratory M. F.		Non-Respiratory M. F.		Total	Increase or Decrease over 1948
	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Hertford (M.B.)	24	16	12	17	69	+
Hoddesdon	50	33	9	14	106	+ 2
Ware (U.D.)	19	15	5	10	49	+ 7
Sawbridgeworth	—	6	—	2	8	— 2
Ware (R.D.)	12	12	15	13	52	+ 2
Braughing	21	13	10	9	53	+ 7
Hertford (R.D.)	13	16	4	9	42	+ 6
East Herts (C.D.)	139	111	55	74	379	+22

+ (i.e. No Change)

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Measles	Whooping Cough	Typhoid Fever	Acute Polio- myelitis	Food Poisoning	Erysipelas	Smallpox	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia
Hertford (M.B.)	6	—	129	1	—	3	—	—	—	2	1
Hoddesdon	11	—	210	4	—	3	1	4	—	9	—
Ware (U.D.)	1	—	142	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sawbridgeworth	4	—	40	17	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Ware (R.D.)	5	—	184	24	—	1	—	1	—	7	—
Braughing	6	2	350	26	—	7	—	1	—	7	—
Hertford (R.D.)	1	—	31	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
East Herts (C.D.)	34	2	1086	76	—	14	1	7	—	26	1

Case Rate.

Per 1,000 Population											Per 1,000 Total Births
	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Measles	Whooping Cough	Typhoid Fever	Acute Polio- myelitis	Food Poisoning	Erysipelas	Smallpox	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia
Hertford (M.B.)	0.42	.....	8.82	0.07	.....	0.21	.....	.....	.....	0.14	5.46
Hoddesdon	0.81	.....	15.41	0.29	.....	0.22	0.07	0.29	.....	0.66	.....
Ware (U.D.)	0.11	.....	15.97	0.11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sawbridgeworth	1.08	.....	10.83	4.60	.....	.....	.....	0.27	.....	.....	.....
Ware (R.D.)	0.49	.....	18.18	2.37	.....	0.10	.....	0.10	.....	0.69	.....
Braughing	0.57	0.19	33.24	2.47	.....	0.66	.....	0.09	.....	0.66	.....
Hertford (R.D.)	0.12	.....	3.81	0.37	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.12	.....
East Herts. (C.D.)	0.49	0.03	15.71	1.10	.....	0.20	0.01	0.10	.....	0.38	0.91
England & Wales	1.63	0.04	8.95	2.39	0.01	0.13	0.14	0.19	0.00	0.80	6.31

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Hertford M.B.		Hoddesdon		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.
ALL CAUSES	.....	61	79	79	66	45	50	23	21	68	65	61	78	47	40
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	.....	6	1	4	2	1	0	0	0	1	3	1	1	1	0
Others forms of Tuberculosis	.....	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Syphilitic diseases	.....	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Influenza	.....	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Measles	.....	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	.....	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Cancer	.....	12	41	14	7	5	12	6	2	10	11	6	15	9	3
Diabetes	.....	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	.....	2	12	4	5	1	8	3	2	5	7	6	13	5	9
Heart Diseases	.....	16	25	28	26	15	9	6	5	17	20	14	23	13	10
Other diseases of the circulatory system	.....	2	1	3	5	3	6	1	4	3	3	4	5	2	3
Bronchitis	.....	4	4	5	5	4	3	1	2	3	4	2	1	4	1
Pneumonia	.....	3	0	6	4	3	1	1	0	3	5	3	5	1	1
Other respiratory diseases	.....	1	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	5	1	1	1	0	0
Ulcer of Stomach or duodenum	.....	3	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	4	0	1	0
Diarrhoea under 2 years	.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Appendicitis	.....	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0
Other digestive diseases	.....	3	3	0	0	1	1	0	2	6	2	0	2	0	1
Nephritis	.....	2	3	2	0	0	2	0	1	0	2	3	1	1	1
Birth injuries, infant diseases, premature births	.....	0	2	0	0	2	2	1	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Suicide	.....	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	1	1
Road Traffic Accidents	.....	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0
Other Violent causes	.....	0	0	2	1	1	2	0	0	3	1	2	1	1	2
All other causes	.....	5	15	3	6	3	4	2	1	5	5	6	8	4	7
Still Births	.....	2	2	2	0	3	1	1	0	3	0	0	2	3	1
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	.....	1	1	0	0	2	2	1	1	2	1	3	1	0	1

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.**Inspections of Factories.**

(Copy of Information supplied to the Ministry of Labour and National Service on Form 572 (Revised))	Hertford M.B.	Hoddesdon	Ware U.D.	Sawbridgeworth	Ware R.D.	Braughing	Hertford R.D.
Factories without Mechanical Power							
Number on Register	25	22	19	13	16	43	4
Inspections	4	6	2	16	8	48	4
Written notices	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Occupier Prosecuted	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Factories with Mechanical Power							
Number on Register	83	86	61	21	34	14	8
Inspections	11	78	15	22	17	14	8
Written Notices	—	5	3	—	—	—	—
Occupier Prosecuted	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Premises under the Act. (Electric Stations, Institutions, Sites of Buildings operations and works of engineering construction, but not including Out- workers premises.)							
Number on Register	—	1	—	5	—	—	—
Inspections	—	1 6	1	6	—	—	—
Written Notices	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Occupier Prosecuted	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Outworkers.

(Copy of Information supplied to the Ministry of Labour and National Service on Form 572 (Revised))	Hertford M.B.	Hoddesdon	Ware U.D.	Sawbridgeworth	Ware R.D.	Braughing	Hertford R.D.
Wearing apparel :—							
Making, etc.	190	—	—	—	5	8	22
Cleaning and Washing	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Box Making	—	—	75	—	—	—	—
Brush Making	33	—	—	—	1	—	1
Paper Bag Making	—	—	—	—	5	—	—

Defects found in Factories.

(Copy of Information supplied to the Ministry of Labour and National Service on Form 572 (Revised))	Hertford M.B.	Hoddesdon	Ware U.D.	Sawbridgeworth	Ware R.D.	Braughing	Hertford R.D.
Want of cleanliness							
Found	1	-	-	-	-	3	-
Remedied	1	-	-	-	-	3	-
Overcrowding							
Found	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Remedied	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature							
Found	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Remedied	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation							
Found	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Remedied	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors							
Found	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Remedied	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences insufficient							
Found	-	3	-	-	3	-	-
Remedied	1	3	-	-	3	-	-
Sanitary conveniences unsuitable or defective							
Found	1	4	3	1	2	2	-
Remedied	1	4	2	-	1	2	-
Sanitary conveniences not separate for sexes							
Found	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Remedied	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences							
Found	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Remedied	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Total defects							
Found	2	10	3	1	5	5	-
Remedied	4	10	2	-	4	5	-
Total defects referred to H.M. Inspector	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total defects referred by H.M. Inspector	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

County Council Health Services.

The following County Council Services under the National Health Service Act, 1946, are available in the District :-

(1). *Home Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting.*

District Nurses live in Bayford, Bengoe, Benington, Broxbourne, Buntingford, Dane End, Great Hormead, Hertford, Hertford Heath, Hoddesdon, Hunsdon, Little Hadham, Puckeridge, Sawbridgeworth, Tewin and Ware.

In all these areas, except Hoddesdon and Sawbridgeworth, the district nurses carry out duties as Midwives, Health Visitors and School Nurses and can advise on the welfare of children of all ages.

In Hoddesdon there is a full-time district nurse for home nursing, a full-time midwife and a full-time health visitor/school nurse.

The Sawbridgeworth nurse undertakes midwifery and home nursing—the health visiting and school nursing is done by the Bishop Stortford staff.

There are Infant Welfare Centres in the district at HERTFORD (Wednesdays 1-45-4 p.m.); ASTON (1st Tuesday 2-30-4-30); BENINGTON (2nd Wednesday 2-30-4-30 p.m.); WATTON (last Wednesday 2-30-4); WALKERN (1st Thursday 2-30-5 p.m.); DATCHWORTH, Weighing Centre only, (3rd Thursday 2-30-4 p.m.); TEWIN (1st Tuesday 2-30-4 p.m.); WOOLMER GREEN (2nd and 4th Tuesday 3-30-5); HODDESDON (Mondays 2-4 p.m. at Rye Road and Wednesdays 2-4 p.m. at the Welfare Centre, High Street); SAWBRIDGEWORTH (2nd Tuesday 2-4-30 p.m.); WARE (Tuesdays 2-4 p.m.); THUNDRIDGE (1st Tuesday 2-4 p.m.); DANE END, Weighing Centre (2nd Wednesday 3-4-30 p.m.); HIGH CROSS (4th Thursday 2-30-4-30 p.m.); GILSTON (1st Wednesday 3-4 p.m.); STANSTEAD ABBOTS, Weighing Centre (2nd and 4th Thursday 3-4 p.m.); BRAUGHING (1st Thursday 2-45-4 p.m.); BUNTINGFORD (2nd and 4th Tuesday 2-30-4-30 p.m.); MUCH HADHAM (last Thursday 2-4-30 p.m.); a Weighing Centre at LITTLE HADHAM (alternate Tuesdays 2-4-30 p.m.); a Weighing Centre at FURNEAUX PELHAM (1st Wednesday 3-4 p.m.); a Weighing Centre at BRENT PELHAM (1st Tuesday 3-4 p.m.); The Medical Officers at the Infant Welfare Centres will examine children and advise on child management.

There are Ante-Natal Clinics at HERTFORD (Wednesday 9-12 noon) and WARE (Thursday 1-30-4 p.m.), where medical examinations can be obtained during pregnancy and advice given to the expectant mother.

A Midwives' Ante-Natal Clinic is held at HODDESDON (Rye Road, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1-45-4-45 p.m.). Ante-Natal examinations are carried out at the Infant Welfare Centres at Tewin and Woolmer Green.

(2). *Vaccination and Immunisation.*

Vaccination against Smallpox and Immunisation against Diphtheria can be carried out free of charge by the family Doctor. The Medical Officers at the Welfare Centres will also vaccinate and immunise any babies brought to them.

(3). *Home Helps.*

The County Council has a staff of Home Helps for work in households in case of illness, infirmity or home confinement. A charge is payable, but this may be reduced after assessment. The Local Organisers may be communicated with at 20B BULL PLAIN, HERTFORD, hours 10—11 a.m. Monday to Friday, Telephone No. Hertford 3232; 25a PORTLAND ROAD, BISHOP'S STORTFORD, Telephone No. Bishop's Stortford 332, hours Tuesdays and Thursdays 10—11 a.m., Fridays 3—4 p.m.; or through your local Doctor or Nurse.

(4). *Care and After-Care.*

Arrangements can be made for recuperative holidays and for the supply or loan of medical or nursing requisites, bedding, etc.

A charge may be made for the maintenance on holiday and for the article supplied.

(5). *Ambulance.*

The local ambulance Stations are at HERTFORD, Telephone Number Hertford 2222; BISHOP'S STORTFORD, Telephone No. Bishop's Stortford 1101; HODDESDON, Telephone No. Hoddesdon 3021; and HIGH STREET, WARE, Telephone No. Ware 441. The service is free. It should be ordered by a Medical Practitioner except in an emergency.

(6). *Mental Health.*

Arrangements for mental treatment on the recommendation of a General Practitioner are made by the Duly Authorised Officer, MR. PARKER, COLLETT ROAD, WARE, Telephone No. Ware 541.

Help in respect of mentally defective persons can be obtained by application to the County Medical Officer, County Hall, Hertford.

There is an Occupation Centre for defective children held Monday to Friday from 9-30 a.m. to 3-30 p.m. at the Friends' School House, Railway Street, Hertford.

Hospital Services.

These are provided by the Hertford Group of Hospitals within the North East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board. Ordinary and specialist services are readily available.

General Practitioner Medical Services.

There are approximately 36 doctors in General Practice who reside in the East Herts Area. In addition a number of practitioners resident in adjoining county districts also carry out general practice in this area.

BOROUGH OF HERTFORD.

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE, AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Storm water and foul sewers serving most of the developed area of the town have been extended by connections to new properties erected during the year.

The activated sludge process of sewage purification has continued to function satisfactorily, and the periodic analyses have proved that the effluent is well up to the standard required.

During the period reviewed by this report more attention has been given to the cleansing and maintenance of existing sewers. This has been made possible by the full use of the Corporation's gulley cleansing vehicle.

The present day difficulties of street cleansing by manual employees have been overcome by the use of the modern mechanical sweeper which has been used continuously throughout the year.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

A weekly collection of refuse is carried out to each household in modern types of low loading covered vehicles.

Salvage collection is dealt with by the addition of trailer to the refuse vehicles as circumstances require. One vehicle is maintained in operation to deal with the paper collection from business premises.

Partial separation takes place at the Disposal Works and Salvaged materials when sold provide a source of income.

Refuse disposal is dealt with by means of controlled tipping on modern lines at Hartham, and the reclaimed areas of land are being developed for recreational purposes.

WATER SUPPLY

Source.

All the water is obtained from boreholes (sunk in chalk) at Molewood, Wadesmill Road, Hartham and Port Hill.

Quantity.

During the year ended 31st December, 1949, the average daily amount raised was 831,407 gallons.

Although abnormally dry weather conditions obtained during the year the total consumption was less than in 1948.

Trade purposes (metered)	98,007,000 gallons.
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Domestic, within the Borough	200,609,598 gallons.
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Users outside the Borough	4,847,000 gallons.
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The average domestic consumption within the Borough per head per day was 38.9 gallons.

This saving of water has been brought about by the introduction of a free system for adjusting and re-washing leaking taps and ball-valves and the closer attention to the reduction of waste, undue consumption and misuse of water.

Quality.

Chemical.—The water has no plumbo-solvent or other detrimental action, and although rather hard, is of a high standard of purity. A chemical examination of the water (before treatment) was carried out in November, 1949, from each of the four pumping stations with the following results :—

CHEMICAL ANALYSES (parts per million)				
(9/11/1949)	WADESMILL ROAD	PORT HILL	HARTHAM	MOLEWOOD
Appearance	Bright with very few mineral particles	Clear and bright	Bright with very few mineral particles	Clear and bright
Turbidity (Silica scale)	Less than 5	Nil	Less than 5	Nil
Colour (Hazen)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Odour	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Re-action pH.	7.1	7.3	7.1	7.2
Free CO ₂	28	18	28	22
Electric Conductivity at 20° C	510	510	530	500
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	240	245	245	240
Total solids dried at 180° C	330	340	350	330
Hardness :—				
Carbonate (Temp)	240	245	245	240
Non-carb (Perm)	50	40	35	40
Total	290*	285*	280*	280*
Nitrogen in :—				
Nitrates	4.8	3.8	3.4	3.4
Nitrites	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01
Free Ammonia	0.000	0.018	0.024	0.000
Free Ammonia (as N)	0.000	0.015	0.020	0.000
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Metals	Absent	Absent	Iron : 0.07 Other metals absent	Iron : less than 0.03 Other metals absent
Fluorine		0.1	0.1	0.1

* The precise figure calculated from the magnesium and calcium contents.

REPORT. (All four samples).

It is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water supply suitable for public supply purposes.

Bacteriological.—The water was examined bacteriologically monthly with the following results:—

Bacteriological Examinations.

Date	Plate Count : Yeastrel agar (aerobically)		Probable No. of coliform bacilli, MacConkey, 2 dys, 37°C	Report	Date	Plate Count : Yeastrel agar (aerobically)		Probable No. of coliform bacilli, MacConkey, 2 dys, 37°C	Report
	3 dys at 22° C	2 dys at 37° C				3 dys at 22° C	2 dys at 37° C		
	S-Satisfactory	N.S.-Not Satisfactory				S-Satisfactory	N.S.-Not Satisfactory		
PORT HILL					WADESMILL ROAD				
4 / 1 / 49	4	1	Nil	S	4 / 1 / 49	7	2	Nil	S
1 / 2 / 49	10	3	Nil	S	1 / 2 / 49	Nil	Nil	Nil	S
1 / 3 / 49	2	1	Nil	S	1 / 3 / 49	Nil	Nil	Nil	S
29 / 3 / 49	5	Nil	Nil	S	29 / 3 / 49	2	Nil	Nil	S
26 / 4 / 49	7	5	Nil	S	26 / 4 / 49	5	2	Nil	S
31 / 5 / 49	Nil	Nil	Nil	S	31 / 5 / 49	Nil	Nil	Nil	S
28 / 6 / 49	2	Nil	Nil	S	28 / 6 / 49	3	2	Nil	S
16 / 8 / 49	7	4	Nil	S	16 / 8 / 49	5	2	Nil	S
4 / 10 / 49	2	Nil	Nil	S	4 / 10 / 49	Nil	Nil	Nil	S
25 / 10 / 49	5	2	Nil	S	25 / 10 / 49	7	3	Nil	S
MOLEWOOD					HARTHAM.				
4 / 1 / 49	3	Nil	Nil	S	4 / 1 / 49	6	1	Nil	S
1 / 2 / 49	Nil	Nil	Nil	S	1 / 2 / 49	20	6	*1 NS	
1 / 3 / 49	2	Nil	Nil	S	1 / 3 / 49	Nil	Nil	Nil	S
29 / 3 / 49	7	Nil	Nil	S	15 / 3 / 49	4	1	Nil	S
26 / 4 / 49	Nil	Nil	Nil	S	22 / 3 / 49	Nil	Nil	Nil	S
31 / 5 / 49	2	1	Nil	S	29 / 3 / 49	6	Nil	Nil	S
28 / 6 / 49	1	1	Nil	S	5 / 4 / 49	5	Nil	Nil	S
16 / 8 / 49	2	Nil	Nil	S	26 / 4 / 49	3	Nil	Nil	S
4 / 10 / 49	5	2	Nil	S	17 / 5 / 49	22	3	Nil	S
25 / 10 / 49	5	3	Nil	S	31 / 5 / 49	Nil	Nil	Nil	S
					28 / 6 / 49	2	1	Nil	S
					16 / 8 / 49	3	Nil	Nil	S
					4 / 10 / 49	Nil	Nil	Nil	S
					25 / 10 / 49	2	Nil	Nil	S

* Approximate proportion—Non-fæcal coli = 100%.

(Samples taken 9/11/49)	Number of colonies develop- ing on agar per c c. or ml. in			Presumptive Coli + Aero- genes Re- action		Bact. Coli.		Cl. welchii reaction
	1 day at 37°C	2 dys at 37°C	3 dys at 20°C	Ab- sent from	Prob- able no.	Ab- sent from	Prob- able no.	Absent from
PORT HILL	0	0	0	100 ml	0	100 ml	0	100 ml
WADESMILL ROAD	0	0	0	100 ml	0	100 ml	—	100 ml
MOLEWOOD	0	0	0	100 ml	0	100 ml	0	100 ml
HARTHAM	0	0	1	100 ml	0	100 ml	0	100 ml

Hartham Waterworks.

Following receipt of an unsatisfactory bacteriological Report on a sample of water from Hartham pumping station in February, 1949, the Borough Council was advised to review the method of chlorination of this supply. Subsequently arrangements were carried out whereby the contact time between the water and chlorine was trebled to a period of over one hour.

PARTICULARS OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK
during the Year, 1949

Inspection of District.

Total Number of Visits	3,354
Dwelling Houses inspected (Public Health Acts)	96
" " inspected (Housing Acts).	14
" " enumerated (Housing Act Over-crowding).	830
" " re-inspections and re-visits (Public Health and Housing Acts).	1,151
General Inspections	203
" " re-visits	269
Interviews	36
Complaints investigated	70
Food Inspections	176
" " Control visits	72
Milk Samples	14
Visits re cases of Infectious Diseases	22
" " " " " " Disinfections	16
Smoke observations	15
Rodent Control—Inspections and Visits	141

Registered and Licensed Premises Inspected.

Factories	6
Bakehouses	9
Cowsheds	20
Dairies	38
Ice-cream premises	40
Slaughterhouses	6
Shops, Meat Stores	96
Common Lodging Houses	14
Total Number of Visits	3,354

During the year, 96 houses have been inspected in regard to sanitary defects. Arising from informal procedure 85 improvements have been carried out in regard to these premises.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS**Common Lodging Houses (Part IX.).***The White House, Railway Street.*

This is the only registered Common Lodging House within the Borough. The house provides nightly accommodation for 32 men; the number of men accommodated during the year was 6,435, a nightly average of 18 men.

The premises have been kept under observation, 14 visits having been made during the year. The house is generally well conducted.

No case of Infectious Disease has been notified at the house.

Canal Boats. (Part X.).

During the year the riverside and wharves have been kept under observation for the purpose of inspection of Registered Canal Boats using the canal within the Borough boundary.

No registered canal boats have been observed using the canal during the year.

Hertingfordbury.—Sanitary Circumstances.

The periodic cleansing of the pail closets commenced by the Corporation in November, 1947, is continued.

Water Supply.

The houses in the area are provided with constant water supply connected with the Borough Service.

Houses as follows are served by stand-pipes:—

Houses 229, 231, 233, 235, Hertingfordbury Road,	one external tap.
„ 237, 239, 241	„ „ „ „
„ 260, 262, 264, 266, }	„ „ „ „
„ 268, 270, 272, 274, }	„ „ „ „

Smoke Nuisance.—Reliance Laundry, Hertford.

An investigation of complaints by residents within the Stanstead Road Area of smoke nuisance from the chimney stack to the boiler installation at the above mentioned factory, was carried out.

This investigation necessitated 15 smoke observations covering a total of 13 hours.

Owing to a difficulty in avoiding a smoke nuisance with the available fuel supplies (coal), the nuisance was abated by a change over from coal consumption to the use of coke.

Keeping of Animals.

Enquiries and complaints were made during the year with regard to the keeping of animals. Following one complaint, a contravention of the Corporation Bye-laws, arising from the keeping of pigs, was abated. Two further contraventions arising from (1) the keeping of poultry, and (2) the keeping of rabbits, were abated.

Infectious Diseases.

The number of visits re cases of Infectious Diseases made during the year was 22.

The number of disinfections of rooms carried out, following cases of infectious diseases was 16.

In three cases, following deaths from Tuberculosis, after receipt of formal application, a small quantity of bedding and clothing was removed and destroyed.

In four cases, following infectious diseases, it was necessary to require the cleansing and redecorating of rooms.

Poliomyelitis.

On the 12th August, 1949, a lecture on Poliomyelitis, arranged by the County Medical Officer and given by Dr. McFarlan, Bacteriologist and Lecturer at Cambridge University, was attended by members of the Department.

Verminous Premises, Articles and Persons.*Verminous Premises (Section 83).*

Disinfestation was carried out at five houses during the year. D.D.T. Preparations being used in each case.

Verminous Persons (Section 85).

Although the Scabies Order, 1941, is now no longer in force, the arrangements made under the Order whereby verminous persons are treated at the County Welfare Clinic, Bull Plain, have continued.

All male cases are treated by a male employee of the Corporation specially trained for the work, and the County Council have agreed for all female cases to be treated by the Nursing Sisters or Health Visitors.

HOUSING ACTS

Overcrowding Survey, 1949.

During the year an enumeration has been carried out at 830 houses, of which number 52 were mostly concerned with complaints of overcrowding and applications for Corporation houses. Existing cases of overcrowding have been kept under review during the year.

The remaining 778 houses were re-enumerations as part of a routine survey. The survey includes ten areas of the town, particulars of which are given below.

- Area 1. Railway Street, St. John's Street, Priory Street, Mill Road.
- Area 2. Gashouse Lane, Mead Lane, Spencer Street.
- Area 3. Villiers Street, Townshend Street, Railway Place.
- Area 4. Davies Street, Talbot Street, Currie Street, Raynham St.
- Area 5. Tamworth Road, Cromwell Road.
- Area 6. Ware Road (196-420), Kings Road, Cockbush Avenue.
- Area 7. Ware Road (161-397), Fairfax Road.
- Area 8. Stanstead Road (2-46), Foxholes Avenue (even side), Woodlands Mount, Woodlands Road.
- Area 9. Bullocks Lane (2-48), Hornsmill Road (1-21), Hillside Terrace.
- Area 10. West Street, Ivy Passage, Castle Street, Water Lane.

The following table gives the summarised figures for each area and the comparable figures of population and overcrowding as obtained during the Overcrowding Survey carried out under the Housing Acts, 1935 and 1936.

Area	No. of Houses	Population			Over-crowding		Borderline Overcrowding		Houses with two families		
		1949	1936	Increase or decrease	1949	1936	1949	1936	1949 % of area		1936
1	42	125	120	+ 5	-	-	-	2	4	9.5	1
2	43	186	169	+ 17	-	2	-	2	5	11.6	2
3	91	362	336	+ 26	-	-	-	-	13	14.3	4
4	108	375	356	+ 19	-	-	-	1	7	6.5	6
5	114	405	461	- 56	-	-	-	1	8	7.0	1
6	73	203	179	+ 24	-	-	-	-	3	4.1	2
7	79	258	225	+ 33	-	-	-	-	8	10.1	-
8	61	216	183	+ 33	-	-	-	-	4	6.6	-
	31*	107	-	+ 107	-	-	-	-	2	6.5	-
9	51	178	152	+ 26	-	1	-	-	6	11.8	1
10	85	290	260	+ 30	-	1	-	1	10	11.8	1
Totals	778	2705	2441	+ 264	-	4	-	7	70	9.0	18

* Woodlands Road—unoccupied at the time of the 1936 survey.

The following table is set out in similar form to that required by the Minister of Health in 1936 for the tabulation of the results obtained of the Overcrowding Survey 1935/6.

"Equivalent Adults" in occupation of each dwelling. (Adult over 10 years=1 person ; Child between 1-10 yrs.= $\frac{1}{2}$; Child under 1 year of age—not counted).																				
		1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	7	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	9	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	10
"Permitted Number" of "Persons" allowed to occupy	3	5	—	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5	1	1	1	3	3	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	6	3	—	5	—	2	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	4	—	4	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	7	—	—	10	2	8	2	2	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	15	—	29	10	27	7	10	3	3	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	8	5	—	19	3	20	6	12	5	9	2	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	—	46	18	46	12	27	6	10	—	6	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	9	4	—	11	5	16	3	15	4	6	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	1	17	4	22	—	17	4	7	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
	10	3	—	14	4	10	2	6	4	4	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	—	2	—	5	2	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11	1	—	5	1	3	1	1	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
11 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	—	8	—	8	1	5	2	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	
12	1	1	3	1	6	3	4	3	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
12 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	—	1	—	2	—	2	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
13	—	—	2	1	—	—	2	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
13 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
14-16	—	—	2	—	1	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	

Totals :

Un-

crowded 48 3 186 55 185 41 113 39 51 11 23 8 8 1 1 — 2 1 2

Overcrowding and borderline cases = Nil.

The following tabulation of "Rooms per house" x "Number of persons per house" varies from the above tabulation in that no account is taken of the "permitted number" of the houses or rooms or of their size, and for the number of persons in the house, all individuals are counted as one person.

	Number of persons in occupation at each house												No. of 2-9 roomed dwellings
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Number of rooms per dwelling	2	5	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
	3	2	2	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
	4	15	36	33	22	16	1	5	—	—	—	—	128
	5	18	106	137	91	56	35	12	4	1	—	—	460
	6	6	29	33	23	11	2	3	1	1	1	—	111
	7	2	6	7	9	7	11	1	1	1	—	—	45
	8	—	2	1	1	3	3	—	—	—	—	1	11
	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Dwellings occupied by 1-12 persons	48	186	216	148	94	52	22	6	3	1	—	2	778
No. of persons	48	372	648	592	470	312	154	48	27	10	—	24	2,705
	i.e., 'Dwellings' x 'No. of persons in occupation.'												

From the above tabulation it will be seen that of the total of 778 houses, 460 or 59.1% are five roomed, 128 or 16.5% are four roomed, and 111 or 14.3% are six roomed dwellings.

With regard to the number of persons occupying the houses, the four largest groups give the following percentages:—

2 persons per house — 186 (23.9%) houses ; 372 (13.8%) persons.
 3 persons per house — 216 (27.8%) houses ; 648 (23.9%) persons.
 4 persons per house — 148 (19.0%) houses ; 592 (21.9%) persons.
 5 persons per house — 94 (12.1%) houses ; 470 (17.4%) persons.

2—5 „ „ „ — 644 (82.8%) houses 2082 (77.0%) persons.

From the recorded information obtained from the ten areas, the number of persons per house is 3.47, a slightly higher figure than the 3.2 persons per house for the whole Borough, calculated on the Registrar General's estimated figure of population and the number of houses in the Borough according to the Rate Books.

Overcrowding Summary.

The following is a summary of the recorded conditions of overcrowding within the Borough, for the year 1949.

Overcrowding.

No. of Overcrowded houses at 1st January, 1949		9
Rehoused by Corporation	—	
Abated by Occupier	1	1
	—	
New cases discovered (including 3 Borderline cases which became overcrowded during the year)	6	5
	—	—
No. of overcrowding cases at 31/12/49		14

Borderline Cases.

No. of Borderline Cases at 1st January, 1949		14
Rehoused by Corporation	3	
Abated by Occupier	1	
Cases which became overcrowded during the year	3	7
	—	
New cases discovered	2	5
	—	—
No. of Borderline cases at 31/12/1949		9

Partial Overcrowding Cases (overcrowding of rooms).

No. of Partially Overcrowded cases at 1st Jan., 1949		9
Rehoused by Corporation	2	
Abated by Occupier	4	
Cases which became Borderline overcrowding during the year	—	6
	—	
New cases discovered during the year	1	5
	—	—
No. of Partial Overcrowding cases at 31/12/1949		4

HOUSING PROGRESS*By Private Enterprise.*

	During 1949	Total since the War
New Dwellings erected	7	32
War Destroyed Dwellings rebuilt	—	17
Repairs of War Damaged Houses	1	4
Conversions or Adaptations in terms of family units	3	23

By Local Authority.

New Dwellings erected	33	109
Conversions or Adaptations in terms of family units	—	6
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows	—	50

Properties Controlled by the Local Authority at 31/12/1949.

Properties provided under the various Housing Acts.

Corporation houses	748
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows	50
Sundries	21
Requisitioned dwellings	8

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938**Milk and Dairies.***Milk Supply.*

Number of Registered Producers	11
" " " Producer/Retailers of Milk	1
" " " Retail Purveyors of Milk	1
" " " Retail Purveyors of Milk (Premises outside the Borough)	2
Number of Inspections of Cowsheds	20
Number of Inspections of Dairies	38

Registered Premises.

Due to the breakdown of the windlass for raising the water supply from a private well, the provision of a suitable and sufficient water supply to a cowshed and dairy was not maintained. Following informal discussion, the premises were connected to the town's water service.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936—1946.

Producers of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	6
Producer Retailers of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	—
Dealer's Licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	2
Supplementary Dealer's Licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	1
Dealer's Licence to sell "Pasteurised" Milk	2
Supplementary Dealer's Licence to sell "Pasteurised" Milk	2
Supplementary Dealer's Licence to sell "Sterilised" Milk (October—December)	1

In March, 1949, a licence was issued in relation to milk pasteurised by the "Holder Process" at premises within the Borough. Including the pre-licence samples, a total number of 14 samples were taken, all of which satisfied the prescribed tests.

During the year, copies of reports on 19 samples of "Tuberculin Tested" milk, taken by the County Council from farms within the Borough, were received. Of these 19 samples, 1 only did not comply with the required standard, but subsequent samples were among the remaining 18 which complied with the required standard.

Ice Cream.*Ice Cream Premises.*

The number of registered premises for the sale of Ice-Cream within the Borough is :—

Registered Dealers (including 10 registrations during 1949)	23
Registered Producer /Dealer " cold mix "	1
Number of changes of occupation	3
Number of Inspections	40

Registration in one case was deferred pending the provision of hot water supply. The requirements of the Corporation having been carried out, the premises were registered.

Cafes and Restaurants.

The following contraventions were remedied during the year :

Provision of adequate food storage (a refrigerator being provided)	1
Provision of intervening ventilated space between the sanitary accommodation and the food preparation room	1
Provision of suitable and sufficient washing facilities	2

Shops and Meat Stores.

Number of premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale	16
Number of Meat Retailers)	14
Number of Shops retailing general foodstuffs (Not including the above Meat Retailers)	56
Number of Inspections	68
Number of Contraventions	8

Contraventions.

Contraventions of the Food and Drugs Act discovered and remedied during the year included :—

Provision of sufficient hot water supply	2
Provision of suitable and sufficient washing facilities	2
Provision of adequate facilities for the preparation of food	1
Provision of gas copper for the sterilisation of equipment	1
Provision of suitable and sufficient means of ventilation to a food preparation room	1
Food preparation room—walls and ceiling not painted or whitewashed to maintain the room in a cleanly state	1

Slaughterhouses and Slaughtermen.

During the year 6 visits were made to the Slaughterhouses in respect of Section 57 (2a), reference the renewal of the licences.

One application for renewal of a Slaughterhouse licence was opposed during the year on the grounds of structural and material changes having been made to the premises and to their change of use to that of a factory registered under the Factories Act, 1937.

The three remaining licensed Slaughterhouses in the town are not being used at the present time, centralised slaughter for the area being carried out at the Ministry of Food's Central Slaughterhouse at Ware. Each of these premises, apart from deterioration due to non-usage, have not materially changed.

There are four Slaughtermen licenced by the Corporation under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

During the year a considerable amount of time has been taken up with food inspections. The duties have necessitated 176 visits for examination purposes and the issue of 181 Certificates of Condemnation of Foodstuffs.

The Foodstuffs dealt with are set out under their respective headings as follows:—

Canned Foodstuffs.

	No. of Containers	Weight in lbs.
Corned Beef	69	393
Other Meats and Meat Products	47	62 $\frac{3}{4}$
Soups	30	29 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pulses	56	61
Vegetables	286	267
Fruit	53	82 $\frac{1}{4}$
Milk	130	129 $\frac{1}{4}$
Preserves and Jams	44	69
Pickles and Sauces	65	57
Fish and Fish Products	144	127 $\frac{3}{4}$
Miscellaneous	2	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
	<u>926</u>	<u>1,281 lbs</u>
Meat Depot	38	228
Institutions and Schools.....	277	272 $\frac{1}{2}$
Shops	611	780 $\frac{1}{2}$
	<u>926</u>	<u>1,281 lbs</u>

The Meat Depot, the South Eastern Wholesale Meat Supply Association, situated within the Borough, is a distribution centre for the meat traders within the surrounding area. Close co-operation has been maintained with the Depot in regard to notification and examination of suspect canned meat.

Of the above, 193 packets of dehydrated mashed potato weighing 145 lbs. were saved by the Corporation for pig food.

Fish.

Herrings	.....	542 lbs.	Dogfish	.....	84 lbs.
Cod	.....	560 „	Sprats	.....	62 „
Cod Fillets	.....	168 „	Bream Fillets	.....	56 „
Cod Fillets—smoked	.....	28 „	Halibut Fillets	.....	18 „
Mackerel	.....	378 „	Fish Roes	.....	42 „
Plaice	.....	322 „	Lobsters	.....	106 „
Haddock	.....	238 „	Prawns	.....	54 „
Dab	.....	154 „	Fish Cakes	.....	26 „
Skate-wings	.....	126 „			
					<hr/>
					2,964 lbs.
					<hr/>

Miscellaneous Foodstuffs.

Beef—Imported Frozen

Thick Flank, Internal Decomposition	11 lbs.	
Silverside, „ „	15½ „	
Rump, „ „	13 „	
	<hr/>	39½ lbs.

Beef—English Home Killed

Rump (2), Internal Decomposition	.....	16 lbs.
Thick Flank „ „	.....	8 „
Chuck and Blade „ „	.....	20 „
Silverside, Topside, Thick Flank (2)	.....	63 „
	<hr/>	107 „

Mutton, Imported Frozen

Sheep (1), Black Spot Mould and		
Decomposition	45 lbs.	
Lambs (3) „ „ „	89 „	
	<hr/>	134 „

Mutton, English Home Killed

Lamb (1),	Decomposition	33 lbs.
Loins (5 pairs) Internal Decomposition		84½ „
Legs (4 pairs) „ „		72 „
		<hr/>
		189½

Pork, Imported		
Pigs Feet (1 box), Decomposition	.....	112 lbs.
Pork, English Home Killed		
Legs (1 pair), Decomposition	.....	30 lbs.
Pigs Head (1 side) ,,	.....	11 ,,
Pork Trimmings ,,	.....	6 ,,
	-----	47 ,,
Bacon		
Smoked Collar (2) Decomposition	.....	7 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Smoked Fore End (5), ,,	.....	51 $\frac{1}{4}$,,
Rashers, ,,	.....	3 $\frac{1}{2}$,,
	-----	62 $\frac{1}{2}$,,
Chickens, Imported Frozen (1 box), Decomposition		50 ,,
Sausages, Pork, Decomposition	.....	24 ,,
Sausage Meat, Corresponding side of the carcass of the sow condemned as unsound affected with multiple abscesses	.....	75 ,,
Pies, (Pork 3, Meat 4), Decomposition	.....	4 ,,
Black Pudding ,,	.....	1 ,,
Brawn (24) ,,	.....	21 ,,
Barley Flakes, Mite Infested.....	.....	105 ,,
Flour, ,, ,,	.....	80 ,,
Cheese, Decomposition	.....	17 ,,
Chocolates Dates, Glass Contaminated		6 $\frac{1}{2}$,,
Oranges, Decomposition		170 ,,

Total	.....	<u>1,245 lbs.</u>

Reference the condemnation of the five pairs of loins and four pairs of legs of English Mutton, total weight 156 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., the cause of decomposition was enclosed body heat in the carcasses, contributory factors would appear to be :-

- (a) the high temperature of the day and night on the day of slaughter of the animals.
- (b) inadequate provision for cooling carcasses.

The Medical Officer of Health has taken up the matter of cooling facilities with the department of the Ministry of Food in control and management of the central slaughterhouse.

	Salvaged by :-	
	Ministry of Food.	Corporation (pig food)
Totals		
1,106 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Shops	319 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	105 lbs.
25 $\frac{1}{2}$,, British Railways		
33 ,, Works Canteens		
80 ,, Schools and Institutions		80 ,,
	-----	-----
	319 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	185 lbs.
Amount Destroyed	740 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	
	-----	-----
<u>1,245 lbs.</u>	1,245 lbs.	

The above 319½ lbs. of other foodstuffs from shops was salvaged through trade channels under direction of the Ministry of Food.

The 185 lbs. of foodstuffs salvaged by the Corporation for pig food, was made up of unsound cereal foods.

Total weights of foodstuffs for the year :—

	tons	cwts.	lbs.
Food in Containers		11	49
Fish	1	6	52
Miscellaneous Foodstuffs		11	13
Total	2	9	2

	1946			1947			1948		
	tons	cwts.	lbs.	tons	cwts.	lbs.	tons	cwts.	lbs.
Canned Foods	1	10	6	1	13	68	—	14	30
Fish	1	6	81	1	6	106	—	12	64
Miscellaneous	—	4	16	—	18	73	2	0	38
	3	0	103	3	19	23	3	7	20

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Number of Factories on Register :

Mechanical Factories	83
Non-mechanical Factories	25
	<u>108</u>

Number of Inspections :

Mechanical Factories (including 6 " Mechanical " Bake-houses)	11
Non-mechanical Factories (including 3 " Non-mechanical " Bakehouses)	4
	<u>15</u>

Number of Notices Served	<u>1</u>
--------------------------------	----------

During the year references were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories in regard to new or changed circumstances at 15 Factories.

Contraventions.

During the year informal action secured the cleansing of a sanitary convenience and the repair of a defective W.C. seat.

At one other factory additional sanitary accommodation was provided in order to secure sufficient and separate sanitary accommodation for the sexes.

During 1948, following informal procedure, plans were submitted and approved for the provision of additional sanitary accommodation in order to secure sufficient and separate sanitary accommodation for the sexes. The work was completed during 1949.

Outworkers.

The half-yearly lists of outworkers supplied by Factories within the Borough in accordance with the requirements of the Factories Act, include 223 persons. Of this 223, 79 are resident within the Borough.

Lists supplied by other Local Authorities of outworkers employed by firms situate outside the Borough include 13 persons resident within the Borough.

The nature of the work carried out by the Outworkers within the Borough is as follows:—

Wearing apparel 55, Brush workers 26, Envelope making 11.

No case of infectious disease has occurred at the outworkers' premises.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

Pursuance of the acceptance by the Corporation of the delegation of powers by the Hertfordshire County Council under Section 2 (1) of the above-mentioned Act, operational procedure commenced on the 1st of April, 1949.

Administration.

To give effect to the Act, an enclosed room at The Castle has been equipped for stores and ancillary requirements.

On the 3rd and 4th of May, 1949, the appointed Rodent Operator attended a two-day course of lectures and practical demonstrations arranged by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries at St. Albans. A similar course held on the 15th of June, 1949, and restricted to Sanitary Inspectors, was attended by the members of this department.

Rodent Control—Treatments.

Since the 1st of April, the following treatments have been carried out during the year.

Corporation Surface Properties.

Sewage Works	3 treatments
Sewage Works Effluent Channel	2 treatments
Refuse Dump	1 treatment
Waterworks, Port Hill	1 treatment

Routine visits were made during the year to all Council Properties occupied by the Corporation.

Sewage Works.—Heavy infestation was found in the area used for the collection of "skimmings," and a treatment carried out in May, 1949. Following this treatment, the method of collection and disposal of "skimmings" was re-adjusted to minimise re-infestation. Two minor infestations were also treated during the year.

Sewage Works Effluent Channel.—Disinfestation of the banks of the effluent channel was carried out by "pump gassing" in conjunction with a similar treatment, carried out by the staff of the Metropolitan Water Board, on the banks of the New River (both waterways running parallel and close together for a distance of two-thirds of a mile). A follow-up treatment by "spoon gassing" was carried out later in the year.

Corporation Refuse Dump.—Frequent visits were made to the Corporation refuse dump on Hartham, but only one treatment for a minor infestation was found necessary during the year.

Corporation Sewers.

Test Baiting	2 (June and November)
Treatments	2 (July and December)

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Summer Test Baiting of the Sewers was carried out in June.

Total No. of Sewer Manholes in Borough	368 (appx.)
No. " " test baited	60
Percentage	16% (1 in 6).
Number of manholes showing "takes"	14

The above 14 manholes where infestation was found, formed the basis of 10 areas which were treated by baiting and poisoning in the following month.

In November a control test baiting of 38 of the manholes which were not infested at the time of the June test baiting, was carried out. As no new infestations were found, the December treatment was confined to those areas previously treated in July.

Private Dwellings.

Mice infestations	2 treatments
Rat infestations	16 treatments

In order to facilitate the work of rodent control, the Corporation agreed that private dwellings be serviced and treated without charge. The advantage of this policy has been proved by the gradual increase in the number of complaints of minor infestations (potential major infestations) which might otherwise have not been reported.

Business Premises.

Total number of premises treated 30

On the 1st May, 1949, Agreements held by the Hertfordshire County Agricultural Committee for Rodent Destruction on Business Premises within the Borough, were taken over by the Corporation. These Agreements, now operated by the Corporation, have facilitated the work of Rodent Control in the industrial parts of the town.

Agricultural Properties.

The work of rodent control on agricultural property is still the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Close co-operation has been maintained with the responsible officers of the Herts. County Agricultural Committee of this Ministry.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1935.**Refuse Dumps** (*Section 26*).

During 1947, consents were granted under the provision of Section 26 of the Hertfordshire County Council Act, 1935, by the Corporation and the Hertfordshire County Council to the Southgate Borough Council to deposit "refuse and waste material which is not of an edible or putrescible character" in the Old Clay Pits near Hertingfordbury Station.

The dump has been kept under observation during the year.

In July, 1949, it was found that putrescible matter was being deposited on the site of the dump in contravention of the conditional consents of the Corporation. A communication was sent to the Cleansing Superintendent for the Borough of Southgate and speedy action was taken by the officer to remedy the default.

No other action has been necessary during the year, the refuse deposited on the site, being in accordance with the conditions of consent given by the Council on the 5th February, 1947.

Employment Agencies (*Section 74*).

The conduct and management of the only Employment Agency in the Borough, a Domestic Agency, has been in accordance with Part V. of the Hertfordshire County Council Act, 1935.

Movable Dwellings (*Section 93*).

Investigation of a complain revealed the existence of two moveable dwellings in contravention of Section 93 of the above Act. Following informal procedure, one "caravan" was removed the second being dismantled and its use restricted to other purposes, the contraventions of the Act being abated.

**PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND
OTHER DISEASES.**

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

	TOTAL	AGES						Age not known	Admitted to hospital	Deaths
		Under 1 year	1- years	5- years	15- years	25- years	Over 65 years			
Small-pox	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Scarlet Fever	6	.....	1	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....
Erysipelas	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Enteric Fever	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Acute Polio Myelitis	3	.....	.....	2	1	.....	.....	.....	3	.....
Ophthalmia Nenoatorum	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....
Dysentery (Sonné)	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Acute Primary Pneumonia	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	1	1
Measles	129	3	55	68	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....
Whooping Cough	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jaundice (Hepatitis)	3	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....
Para-typhoid	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Food Poisoning	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

**INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
during the different Months.**

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Scarlet Fever	1	1	1	.....	2	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Measles	3	3	3	8	6	39	42	25	.....	.....	.....	.....
Whooping Cough	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Acute Polio-myelitis	1	2
Pneumonia	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis
Erysipelas
Jaundice	1	.....	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

SUSPECTED FOOD POSIONING.

No Statutory Notifications of Food Poisoning were received by the Borough Health Department during 1949, under Section 17 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, but two suspected outbreaks were brought to notice by informal means.

The first occurred during the very hot weather of June 27th, 28th and 29th, at an Elementary School in Hertford. Thirty-four Children and Staff were afflicted by Diarrhoea lasting about 24 hours. All made a good recovery. Only two cases were absent more than one day. They had all eaten some cold cooked veal which had been cooked the day previously and stored in a cupboard overnight. Prompt action was taken by the Education Authority, and a Refrigerator for food storage was installed. Unfortunately no samples of the food were retained or sent for bacteriological analysis.

The Second suspected outbreak occurred on September 10th and 11th and concerned 14 persons out of a party of 46 people who visited a seaside resort. It was alleged that the 14 victims who suffered from varying degrees of diarrhoea and sickness had all eaten mussels and cockles, and that the remaining unaffected persons had not consumed any shellfish. Bacteriological tests of samples of shellfish, carried out by the Medical Officer of Health of the seaside resort concerned have not revealed any harmful organisms.

In both the above instances the initial information arrived at the Borough Health Department more than a week after the outbreak had occurred, making effective public health action almost impossible.

Steps have since been taken to minimise such delays.

TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	
Cases on Register 1/1/1949	28	9	16	16	69
Cases added to Register during the year. New cases	7	4	—	1	12
Cases restored to Register	—	—	—	—	—
Inward Transfers	—	—	—	—	—
Cases removed from Register during the year. Deaths.....	7	1	—	—	8
Outward Transfers.....	1	—	—	—	1
Patients cured	3	—	—	—	3
Cases on Register 31/12/1949	24	12	16	17	69

HODDESDON URBAN DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLIES—GENERAL.

Most of the houses (more than 98%) derive their water from public mains. A small number of houses are served by stand-pipes, but during the year eight of such houses were provided with an internal water supply. There are about sixty houses in the district without a public supply and these are situated in the out-lying and undeveloped parts of the district.

In addition, twenty houses in Southern and Western Terraces, Nursery Road, Hoddesdon, are provided with a piped supply from an adjoining Nursery. Trouble has been experienced both from the quality of the water and the interruption of supplies. Negotiations are proceeding with the Owners for an extension of the Metropolitan Water Board's main to serve these houses. The results of eleven samples of water taken from this supply were submitted for bacteriological examination.

Six other houses, which had a private supply, have now been provided with a piped service from the mains.

Public Main Supplies.

The Northern end of the district is served by the Metropolitan Water Board.

The Council's own water undertaking covers the remainder of the district, all the water being chlorinated and pumped into reservoirs prior to distribution through the mains.

In July, the Council's Water Engineer reported that in consequence of the prolonged drought, the average daily output from the Council's pumping station had increased from 330,000 to as much as 500,000 gallons, and the pumps were in continual operation for twenty-four hours. A large part of this increase is thought to have been attributable to the demands of the horticultural industry, and the use of water for garden purposes. Despite the fact that warning notices against waste were issued, no official restrictions were imposed.

Considerable pumping operations were in progress during the year in connection with the de-watering of the site of the Rye Power House Station. The possible effect of these operations on the Council's wells was the subject of investigation and report by the Council's Engineer and Surveyor.

Fifty-five samples were taken from the Council's mains and submitted for bacteriological examination. Two full chemical and bacteriological analyses were also made during the year. Details of the results of these examinations are tabulated on the next page of this Report.

An examination of the Council's water undertaking was made during the year by a specialist consultant. His chief recommendation was that the raw water should be super chlorinated, followed by de-chlorination above the surface of the well. A scheme has been prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval for loan sanctions, to implement the recommendations.

Private Supplies.

Six samples of water were taken from two pumps at Frogley's Road, Dobbs Weir, Hoddesdon, and submitted for bacteriological examination, four of which were reported as unsatisfactory. As a result, one of the pumps has been put out of use for drinking purposes.

Details of the results of these and four other samples taken from private wells during the year, are given under "Quality" (c).

Factory Supplies.

Nine samples of water were taken from factory supplies during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination. Details of the results are given under "Quality" (in item (d)).

Unsatisfactory reports were received on three samples taken from one group of factories. This continued to be investigated in 1950 and the trouble was eventually cleared up.

Rye House Power Station Site.

Water for the canteen and hostels used by the constructional workers at this site is derived from an open well 28 ft. deep. Bacteriological results of samples taken from this source have not been satisfactory and the Contractors have been requested to post notices stating that all water must be boiled.

An extension of the Council's water main will be made to this site in 1950. This main will also serve other properties on the line of route where water is at present derived from shallow wells.

WATER SUPPLIES :-QUALITY.**(a) Hoddesdon U.D.C. Main Supply.***Chemical and Bacteriological Analyses.*

Chemical Results in Parts per million	Sample taken 25/7/1949	Sample taken 26/10/1949
Appearance	Bright with a very few min- eral particles	Faint opales- cence with a slight yellow- brown deposit chiefly of iron oxide
Turbidity (Silica Scale)	Less than 5	Less than 5
Colour	Nil	Less than 10
Odour	Nil	Nil
Reacton pH	7.3	7.1
Free Carbon Dioxide	16	24
Electric Conductivity at 20°C	630	610
Total Solids, dried at 180°C	420	410
Chlorine in Chlorides	30	27
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	230	210
Hardness :-		
Carbonate (Temporary)	230	210
Non-Carbonate (Permanent)	100	95
Total	330*	305*
Nitrogen in Nitrates	6.4	7.2
Nitrogen in Nitrites	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01
Free Ammonia	0.000	0.000
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C	0.10	0.05
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.000	0.010
Residual Chlorine	Absent	Absent
Metals	Absent	Iron 0.96 Other metals absent

* The precise figure calculated from the magnesium and calcium contents.

Bacteriological Results :	Sample taken 25 /7 /1949	Sample taken 26 /10 /1949
No. Colonies developing on Agar :-		
1 day at 37°C	3 per ml.	2 per ml.
2 days at 37°C	4 per ml.	4 per ml.
3 days at 20°C	3 per ml.	4 per ml.
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes Reactions :-		
Absent from	100 ml	100 ml.
Bact. coli (Type I) :-		
Absent from	100 ml.	100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction :-		
Absent from	100 ml.	100 ml.

Routine Bacteriological Examinations.

Date	Plate Count Yeastrel agar (aerobically)		Probable No. Coli- form bacilli. 2 days 37° C per 100 ml.	Report	Date	Plate Count Yeastrel agar (aerobically)		Probable No. Coli- form bacilli. 2 days 37° C per 100 ml.	Report
	3 days at 22° C per ml	2 days at 37° C per ml				3 days at 22° C per ml	2 days at 37° C per ml		
6/ 1/49	7	5	Nil	S	14/ 6/49	7	5	Nil	S
13/ 1/49	16	3	Nil	S	22/ 6/49	10	5	Nil	S
20/ 1/49	3	Nil	Nil	S	27/ 6/49	5	2	Nil	S
26/ 1/49	Nil	Nil	Nil	S	11/ 7/49	12	7	Nil	S
27/ 1/49	30	3	Nil	S	18/ 7/49	6	5	Nil	S
1/ 2/49	31	20	Nil	S	25/ 7/49	9	2	Nil	S
3/ 2/49	Nil	Nil	Nil	S	3/ 8/49	4	3	Nil	S
14/ 2/49	7	3	Nil	S	9/ 8/49	6	2	Nil	S
22/ 2/49	10	10	Nil	S	16/ 8/49	4	1	Nil	S
22/ 2/49	10	20	Nil	S	23/ 8/49	Nil	1	Nil	S
1/ 3/49	4	2	Nil	S	29/ 8/49	24	4	Nil	S
9/ 3/49	8	Lab. Contam	Nil	S	29/ 8/49	4	Nil	Nil	S
16/ 3/49	7	2	Nil	S	8/ 9/49	3	3	Nil	S
22/ 3/49	22	6	Nil	S	12/ 9/49	2	2	Nil	S
23/ 3/49	T.M.C.	30	5	NS	20/ 9/49	22	7	Nil	S
28/ 3/49	T.M.C.	T.M.C.	Nil	NS	26/ 9/49	Nil	Nil	Nil	S
29/ 3/49	12	5	Nil	S	3/10/49	Nil	Nil	Nil	S
4/ 4/49	12	10	Nil	S	11/10/49	2	Nil	Nil	S
12/ 4/49	7	Nil	Nil	S	11/10/49	Nil	Nil	Nil	S
21/ 4/49	23	10	Nil	S	18/10/49	150	65	Nil	S
26/ 4/49	20	10	Nil	S	7/11/49	11	7	Nil	S
3/ 5/49	Nil	Nil	Nil	S	14/11/49	12	9	Nil	S
10/ 5/49	5	3	Nil	S	22/11/49	14	5	Nil	S
16/ 5/49	7	5	Nil	S	30/11/49	3	Nil	Nil	S
23/ 5/49	9	3	Nil	S	6/12/49	7	6	Nil	S
31/ 5/49	7	5	Nil	S	12/12/49	10	3	Nil	S
7/ 6/49	8	Nil	Nil	S	20/12/49	9	5	Nil	S
					28/12/49	15	9	Nil	S

S—Satisfactory. N.S.—Not satisfactory. B.P.—B. Pyocyaneus.
T.M.C.—Too many to count.

(b) Private Supply, Nursery Road, Hoddesdon:*Bacteriological Examinations.*

Date	Plate Count 3 days at 22°C per ml.	Plate Count 2 days at 37°C per ml.	Probable No. Coliform bacilli 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.	Report
2/2/49	240	50	Nil	Satisfactory
29/6/49	110	60	5	N.S. B.P. present
20/7/49	15	9	Nil	Satisfactory
20/7/49	T.M.C.	212	160	Not satisfactory
20/7/49	T.M.C.	43	20	Not satisfactory
9/8/49	T.M.C.	T.M.C.	1800+	Not satisfactory
24/8/49	T.M.C.	T.M.C.	8	Not satisfactory
25/8/49	T.M.C.	T.M.C.	13	Not satisfactory
13/9/49	25	12	11	N.S. B.P. present
29/11/49	47	10	Nil	Satisfactory
20/12/49	T.M.C.	60	17	Not satisfactory

(c) Private Supplies:*Bacteriological Examinations.*

Date	Plate Count 3 days at 22°C per ml.	Plate Count 2 days at 37°C per ml.	Probable No. Coliform bacilli 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.	Report
6/1/49	3	1	Nil	Satisfactory
9/3/49	55	11	5	N.S. B.P. present
13/9/49	T.M.C.	T.M.C.	Nil	Satisfactory
13/9/49	T.M.C.	T.M.C.	50	Not satisfactory
7/11/49	T.M.C.	T.M.C.	50	Not satisfactory
21/11/49	5	2	Nil	Satisfactory
21/11/49	T.M.C.	T.M.C.	160	Not satisfactory
21/11/49	8	1	Nil	Satisfactory
21/11/49	23	10	1	Not satisfactory
29/11/49	36	5	Nil	Satisfactory

(d) Factory Supplies:*Bacteriological Examinations.*

Date	Plate Count 3 days at 22°C per ml.	Plate Count 2 days at 37°C per ml.	Probable No. Coliform bacilli 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.	Report
27/1/49	750	22	1	Not satisfactory
15/6/49	T.M.C.	12	Nil	N.S. B.P. present
13/7/49	T.M.C.	T.M.C.	13	Not satisfactory
7/11/49	T.M.C.	T.M.C.	7	Not satisfactory
12/12/49	20	13	Nil	Satisfactory
12/12/49	50	15	Nil	N.S. B.P. present
12/12/49	65	40	Nil	Satisfactory
20/12/49	T.M.C.	T.M.C.	3	Not satisfactory
20/12/49	90	25	8	N.S. B.P. present

N.S.—Not Satisfactory. T.M.C.—Too many to count. B.P.—*B. pyocyaneus*.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There was no alteration to the sewerage arrangements in the district during the year. 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 farms, after passing through screening and precipitation tanks. The Council have given consideration to a report for the sewerage of part of their Northern area in Stanstead Road / Nursery Road, which is at present served by cesspools.

"Waldeck" and "Wyvis," Ware Road, Hoddesdon, which were formerly served by cesspools, were connected to the Council's sewer during the year.

Sinks and drains were provided to ten houses in Lord Street, Hoddesdon (Nos. 167—185), and the drains of five other houses in Lord Street were reconstructed. The drainage system at St. Cross Convent of Our Lady School, Hoddesdon, was also reconstructed during the year.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Household refuse was collected once a fortnight and was disposed of by controlled tipping methods in a gravel pit in Rye Road, Hoddesdon.

In July fire broke out at this tip. A bulldozer was employed straightaway to open up the tip and the fire was brought under control. The tip was not brought into use again until the autumn. Meanwhile, all household refuse was being deposited at the Edmonton Borough Council tip in Church Lane, Wormley. Complaints about flies and crickets from persons living in the vicinity of the Rye Road tip were made in the early summer and every effort was made to remove cause for complaint. An undertaking was given that the tip should not be used for the disposal of household refuse between the months of April and October.

Gravel Pit, Old Nazeing Road, Broxbourne.

During December it was found that a quantity of fluorescein (discarded war stores) had been dumped in this wet pit discolouring the water a vivid green. Some apprehension was felt that this might percolate to the underground water sources, but no reports of this happening have been received. The owners of the pit have now put up a notice warning lorry drivers that it is an offence to deposit any kind of chemical waste at this tip.

The Ministry of Health were informed and it was suggested that the appropriate Government Department might be approached to prevent indiscriminate dumping of this type of material.

Edmonton Borough Council Tip, Church Lane, Wormley.

This tip is used mainly for the deposit of destructor screenings and destructor clinker and, during the months from April to October, the crude refuse from the Hoddesdon District. The tip is well controlled.

It was necessary to request the use of insecticides arising from complaints of flies and crickets in the summer months.

Ware Rural District Council Tip, Stanstead Road, Hoddesdon.

This tip continues to be used by the Ware Rural District Council. The control of tipping attained a higher standard than in previous years.

PARTICULARS OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK
During the Year 1949.

Inspections, Etc.

The following inspections have been made and the following notices served :-

Dwelling houses inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts	471
Housing, re-inspection of works in progress, and interviews with Owners and Builders	1694
Visits in connection with Infectious Diseases	18
Inspection of Cowsheds	14
Inspection of Dairies and Milkshops	36
Inspection of Stables and Pig-Sties	14
Inspection of Butchers' Shops	45
Inspection of Bakehouses	17
Inspection of Ice Cream Premises	4
Visits to other premises where food is prepared and/or exposed for sale	89
Market Inspections	15
Visits to School Premises	6
Refuse Tip Inspections	111
Investigations of Complaints other than Housing	46
Inspection of Factories	73
Inspection of Camping Grounds and Caravans	32
Miscellaneous Inspections	286
Total Inspections	2971
 Complaints received	 203
Number of letters sent	652
Number of Informal Notices served	74
Number of Statutory Notices served	24

Defects Remedied.*Drainage and Sanitary Arrangements.*

Drains Tested	108
Drains provided, improved or relaid	89
Drains cleared	35
Provision of and improvements to Soil Pipes, Vents, Shafts, Inspection Chambers, etc.	65
New W.C.'s Provided	14
W.C.'s repaired or improved	21
New Pans and Traps provided to W.C.'s	20
New Flushing Cisterns provided to W.C.'s	18
W.C. Flushing Cisterns repaired	7
Earth and Pail Closets provided or improved	2
Disused Wells and Cesspools filled in	3
Baths, Sinks and Basins provided	30
Waste Pipes provided, improved and trapped	30
Dustbins provided	33

Dwelling Houses, etc.

Roofs, Gutters and Rainwater Pipes Repaired	47
External Walls repaired.....	19
Chimney Stacks repaired	4
Firegrates provided or repaired	13
Damp-proof Courses provided	2
Dampness remedied	5
Floors repaired or renewed	11
Floors ventilated	5
Rooms—Walls and Ceilings repaired and redecorated	70
Windows and Doors provided or repaired	26
External Windows Sills repaired	3
Ventilation improved	4
Washing Coppers provided or repaired	3
Staircases repaired	3
Food Stores provided	2
Unauthorised Structures removed	2

Total Number of Defects Remedied	694
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PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.**Statutory Notices.**

Two Statutory Notices were served under Section 93 to remedy nuisances arising from structural defects to dwelling houses. Statutory Notices were also served under Sections 39 and 44 to provide drainage and sanitary accommodations at one premises.

Twenty Statutory Notices were served under Section 75 for the provision of dustbins at various addresses in the district.

Legal Proceedings.

Proceedings were taken at the Cheshunt Magistrates' Court in February, 1949, to enforce a Statutory Notice dated 1st October, 1948, for the repair of a wall and roof to the back addition building at No. 73, High Street, Hoddesdon. The Court made an Order for the abatement of the nuisance and awarded the Council five guineas costs. The Defendant appealed against the conviction. The Appeal was heard at Quarter Sessions on 5th April, 1949, and was allowed with ten guineas costs against the Council on the grounds that the Notice was bad.

The Agent, who was Defendant in the above proceedings, ceased to collect the rent and a fresh Notice was served in July, 1949, on the Owner of the property. Nothing being done, the Owner was summoned and the case was heard at Cheshunt on 24th August, 1949, and adjourned to allow the Magistrates to inspect the property. On 31st August, 1949, an Order was made for the abatement of the nuisance. The Owner appealed and the case was heard at Quarter Sessions on 5th October, 1949. The Appeal was dismissed with twenty guineas costs against the Owner, who then promptly did the work and abated the nuisance.

Disinfections.

Disinfections were carried out in consequence of infectious diseases (including tuberculosis) in twenty dwelling houses.

Scabies.

Arrangements were made for the treatment of ten cases of Scabies during the year at the Welfare Centre at the rear of the Council Offices, six of them being carried out on behalf of the Cheshunt Urban District Council.

Swimming Bath.

The Council brought into use the swimming pool at The Spinning Wheel, High Street, Hoddesdon, on 7th May, 1949, and it remained open to the public until 1st October, 1949. Owing to the very fair weather the pool was well patronised.

The water is from the Council's mains, and a new plant was installed, giving a continuous filtration, chlorination and aeration, and designed to ensure that there is a complete change-over every six hours. The water can be heated when considered necessary. Apart from the regular and routine tests for free chlorine in the water, frequent bacteriological examinations were made during the year.

Public Conveniences.

The Council gave consideration to the need for public conveniences at Broxbourne and Wormley. The negotiations between the Council and the Epping Rural District Council as to the provision of sanitary conveniences in the vicinity of the Crown Bridge over the River Lea at Broxbourne, were terminated owing to disagreement regarding the share of the cost.

Work commenced in 1949 on the improvement of the public conveniences at The Clock House, Hoddesdon, including the provision of two slipper baths.

Disinfestation.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

During the year seventeen houses were treated for bug infestation, including four Council houses. The same method of disinfestation was followed as in previous years.

Wasps' Nests.

Complaints were received about wasps' and hornets' nests and a total of sixty-five nests were destroyed during the year.

HOUSING ACTS.

Demolition Orders.

No Demolition or Closing Orders were served during the year.

Housing Act, 1936. Overcrowding.

During the year overcrowding was abated in thirteen Council houses and twenty-one privately owned houses, mainly through the allocation of new permanent houses.

Seventeen cases of overcrowding came to notice during the year, which included four cases in Council houses.

HOUSING PROGRESS.

<i>By Private Enterprise.</i>	During 1949	Total since the war
New Dwellings erected	7	65
War Destroyed Dwellings rebuilt	—	4
Repairs of War Damaged Houses	—	—
Conversions or Adaptations in terms of of family units	5	14
<i>By Local Authority.</i>		
New Dwellings erected	64	168
Conversions or Adaptations in terms of family units	1	8
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows	—	38

Properties Controlled by the Local Authority at 31/12/1949.

Properties provided under the various Housing Acts.

Council houses	534
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows	38
Sundries	27
Requisitioned dwellings	3

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.**Milk and Dairies.**

Number of Registered Producers	10
Number of Retail Purveyors of Milk	9
Number of Retail Purveyors of Milk by Round from outside the district	3

The cowsheds and dairies have been frequently inspected and a total of 50 visits has been made.

One disused dairy was enlarged and improved and again brought into use. Two new producers were registered during the year.

The Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, came into force on 1st October, 1949, and the duty of enforcing the Act and the Regulations in connection with the production of milk became the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 to 1946.

Bottling Licences in respect of Tuberculin Tested Milk	1
Retail Licences in respect of Tuberculin Tested Milk	5
Retail Licences in respect of Pasteurised Milk	1
Supplementary Retailers' Licences in respect of Accredited Milk	0
Supplementary Retailers' Licences in respect of Pasteurised Milk	1
Supplementary Retailers' Licences in respect of Tuberculin Tested Milk	1

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Dealers' Licences in respect of Sterilised Milk	4
Supplementary Licences in respect of Sterilised Milk	2

Milk Sampling.

Regular sampling of milk from producers in the district and of supplies to schools is undertaken by Officers of the County Council. The results obtained did not necessitate any follow-up action by the Hoddesdon Council.

Clean Food Campaign.

The Council approved in principle the adoption of byelaws as to the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air. Copies of the model byelaws were circulated to local organisations for comment.

Ice Cream.

There are 40 licensed retailers and one manufacturer registered with the Council. In addition 16 retailers from outside the district have applied for registration with the Council to sell ice cream in Hoddesdon Market, although only two attend regularly.

Four visits were made to ice cream premises during the year.

Facilities for the bacteriological examination of ice cream samples were still not available at the Public Health Laboratory at Hertford, the nearest laboratories being at Cambridge or Luton.

Catering Establishments.

A survey of the catering establishments and other food preparation premises was made during the year. In one case a new food preparation room was advised and this has now been provided.

Slaughterhouses.

Number of Slaughterhouses in the district 4

As a consequence of the Livestock (Restriction on Slaughtering) Orders, the four slaughterhouses in the district cease to be used.

Other Food Premises.

Visits paid to food premises during the year amounted to one hundred and fifty-one.

Unsound Food.

During the summer of 1949, three hindquarters and four fore-quarters of Home Killed Beef (some 614 lbs.) were condemned owing to the retention of animal heat. Strong representations were made to the authorities and a conference with Ministry of Food Officials took place at Ware slaughterhouse. (See Preface to this report.).

Details of foodstuffs which were found to be unfit for human consumption and were surrendered, are given below :—

Canned Foodstuffs.

Corned Beef	—15 containers—approx. weight	85½ lbs
Pork and Bacon	— 4 " " "	5 "
Meat Products	—14 " " "	21½ "
Soups, Stews, etc.	—10 " " "	8½ "
Milk	—88 " " "	61½ "
Fish	—106 " " "	63¾ "
Fruit	—30 " " "	27¾ "
Vegetables	—56 " " "	68¾ "
Miscellaneous	— 1 " " "	1 "
		<hr/>
		3 cwt. 7¼ "
		<hr/>

Fish.

Herrings	—	approximate weight	1 cwt. 28 lbs
Cod	—	" "	30 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Kippers	—	" "	1 cwt. 56 "
Skate	—	" "	1 cwt. 28 "
Haddock	—	" "	49 "
Bream	—	" "	22 "
White Fillet	—	" "	42 "
			<hr/>
			5 cwt. 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs
			<hr/>

Miscellaneous Foodstuffs.

Beef	—	approximate weight	5 cwt. 72 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Pork	—	" "	1 cwt. 75 "
Lamb	—	" "	5 "
Bacon	—	" "	43 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
Meat Pies	—	" "	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Fish Cakes	—	" "	3 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
Pearl Barley	—	" "	83 "
Peas	—	" "	15 "
Pickled Onions	—	" "	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Rusk Tomato	—	" "	
Sausages	—	" "	20 "
Salad Cream	—	" "	$\frac{3}{4}$ "
Fruit	—	" "	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Sugar	—	" "	1 cwt. 0 "
Choc-Malt spread—	—	" "	$\frac{1}{2}$ "
			<hr/>
			9cwt. 104 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
			<hr/>

Total Weight of all Foodstuffs : 18 cwt. 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Ninety visits and inspections were made during the year. Representations were made to the Council's Officers regarding the dangerous condition of one factory. Work commenced in 1949 on a new building on the same site, whilst the factory continued in use.

Details of matters dealt with during the year are as set out in the tabulated section of the Combined Report.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Wooden Bungalows, Huts, Shacks and Caravans, Frogley's Road, Dobbs Weir, Hoddesdon.

In November, a survey of the dwellings on this site was the subject of a special report to the Public Health Committee of the Council.

On nineteen plots there are twenty-one structures, as follows

6 Bungalows of timber frame construction.

3 Caravans.

5 Converted furniture vans.

2 Converted landing craft.

5 Huts, shacks or sheds.

In addition one houseboat is moored alongside one plot.

Ten of the above are used for human habitation, the others are used at week-ends and during the summer only. The water supply is derived from two hand-pumps some 220 yards apart. The water from one of the pumps has been reported on as unsatisfactory. There are no proper drains or sewers.

The Council are conferring with the Town Planning Authority as to what action can be taken under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, and as to the desirability of providing a suitable site in the vicinity of the River Lea at this point for moveable dwellings.

Shack Development, Slipe Lane, Wormley.

The Council have decided to operate their powers under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

The Hertfordshire County Council delegated their functions under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, to the district Council as from 1st April, 1949.

The Council appointed a Rodent Operative and a comprehensive survey of the whole of the district was undertaken. 116 infestations of rats were discovered and dealt with during the survey and a further 51 were dealt with on complaint during the year. In addition, 39 treatments were carried out at premises under contract. 14 of the infestations were "major" ones; these were all satisfactorily cleared. 40 mice infestations have also been dealt with, 15 on complaint and one at commercial premises under contract. Rats and/or mice infestations were confirmed at fifteen food premises in the district.

Treatment of 18 sewer manholes in the Hoddesdon system was carried out in August, and a ten per cent test of the Broxbourne and Wormley sewerage systems was made in September. There were no "takes" in the latter test.

FOOD POISONING.

(a) Notifications (corrected) Returned to R.G.

1st Qrtr.	2nd Qrtr.	3rd Qrtr.	4th Qrtr.	Total
Nil.	Nil.	One.	Nil.	One.

(b) Outbreak due to *SALMONELLA* ORGANISMS.

Total Cases.
One.

(c) Summary of Details.

1. Food causing Outbreak. Unknown.
Agent causing Outbreak. *Salmonella* Typhi-murium.
2. Cases Forming Outbreak which occurred on 7th July, 1949
One notified.
One Ascertained. Total: One case.
3. Clinical Features.
Long history of stomach trouble (Duodenal Ulcer)
Treated by doctor since 1948. Intermittent
symptoms since December, 1948. Vomiting 19th
June, 1948.
4. Result of Laboratory Tests.
Patients Faeces: *Salmonella* Typhi-murium.
July, 1948.
Contacts Faeces: No pathogenic organisms.
5. Contact with previous cases.
Not known.
6. Probable source of infection.
Unknown.

TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	
Cases on Register 1/1/1949	50	31	10	13	104
Cases added to Register during the year:—					
New Cases	3	4	1	—	8
Cases restored to Register	—	—	—	1	1
Inward Transfers	—	2	—	—	2
Cases removed from Register during the year :—					
Deaths	3	2	2	—	7
Outward Transfers	—	2	—	—	2
Patients cured	—	—	—	—	—
Cases on Register 31/12/1949	50	33	9	14	106

WARE URBAN DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLY.**Area of Supply.**

Only 0.6% of the properties in the district are not connected to a main water supply. The Metropolitan Water Board supplies water to the Highfields area.

Sources of Supply.

Water is obtained from two wells sunk in chalk, one at Musley Lane, and the other at Musley Hill, the former being the main source of supply. Both supplies are chlorinated.

Pumping Stations.

The Musley Lane Station pumps water into a water tower (High Level supply) which overflows into a reservoir. The Musley Hill Station which was not used during the early part of 1949, due to electricity load spreading arrangements, pumps water into the reservoir (Low Level supply).

Quality.*Bacteriological.*

Routine monthly samples of water are taken for bacteriological examination, and a summary of the results is appended.

Date	Sample No.	Plate Count 3 days at 22°C per ml.	Plate Count 2 days at 37°C per ml.	Probable No. Coliform bacilli 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.	Remarks
Low Level Supply :					
3. 1.49	7	11	5	Nil.	Satisfactory
1. 2. 49	228	10	2	5	Unsatisfactory
14. 2.49	353	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Satisfactory
1. 3.49	486	Nil.	Nil.	"	"
6. 4.49	851	Nil.	Nil.	"	"
3. 5.49	1078	5	2	"	"
1. 6.49	1387	3	Nil.	"	"
4. 7.49	1655	7	Nil.	"	"
4. 8.49	1933	21	5	"	"
1. 9.49	2188	4	3	"	"
7.10.49	2497	10	7	"	"
1.11.49	2654	10	6	"	"
6.12.49	3005	4	1	"	"

The unsatisfactory sample was considered to be due to an error during sampling.

Date	Sample No.	Plate Count 3 days at 22°C per ml.	Plate Count 2 days at 37°C per ml.	Probable No. Coliform bacilli 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.	Remarks
High Level Supply :					
3. 1.49	6	7	3	Nil.	Satisfactory
1. 2.49	227	5	1	"	"
1. 3.49	485	3	1	"	"
6. 4.49	852	10	5	"	"
3. 5.49	1079	Nil.	Nil.	"	"
1. 6.49	1388	2	Nil.	"	"
4. 7.49	1654	3	Nil.	"	"
4. 8.49	1932	15	3	"	"
1. 9.49	2187	4	2	"	"
7.10.49	2498	7	4	"	"
1.11.49	2653	4	Nil.	"	"
6.12.49	3004	6	2	"	"

Chemical.

A chemical analysis was made of a sample of water taken on the 7th February, 1949, from the Pump Delivery at the Musley Hill Waterworks, (Low Level supply). The result was as follows : -

Chemical Analysis (parts per million)	
Appearance	Clear and bright
Turbidity (Silica Scale)	Nil.
Colour (Hazen)	Nil.
Odour	Nil.
Reaction pH	7.1
Free Carbon Dioxide	30
Elec. Conductivity at 20°C	560
Total Solids, Dried at 180°C	375
Chlorine in Chlorides	20
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	260
Hardness :	Total 320
	Temp. 260
	Perm. 60
Nitrogen in Nitrates	2.6
Nitrogen in Nitrites	Less than 0.01
Free Ammonia	0.006
Oxygen absorbed 4 hours 27°C	0.00
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.000
Residual Chlorine	Absent

REMARKS : This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction, and is free from iron and other metals. The water is very hard though not excessively so and it contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

These results present no abnormality from the aspect of contamination and are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Practically the whole of the district is sewered. The flow from the area south of the River Lee enters the main sewer by means of an inverted siphon under the river.

No progress has yet been made with the preparation of the scheme for sewerage the proposed Industrial Site in the London Road area, including Red House Road, which latter is not sewered. It is intended that this scheme shall commence shortly, in order to provide, in addition, for the residential development of Presdales Estate, recently purchased by the Council.

Most of the old sewerage system is on the combined or partially separate system, with infiltration, and trouble is experienced with silting up of sewers and surcharging.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

This is by land-irrigation at Rye House Farm. The area of the farm is 136 acres.

Sewage from Ware, and a portion of the Rural District of Ware gravitates to a pumping station at Stanstead Abbots. It is then pumped to overground concrete troughs at Rye House Farm from which the sewage can be discharged at various points as desired.

Much of the land is used for cropping, including potatoes and greens.

The drainage from the boundary ditches passes under the river Stort and enters the River Lee.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

A weekly collection of household refuse is in operation, with special arrangements for trade refuse. Waste paper is not now collected.

A small system of weekly collection of pig food is also in operation.

Refuse is disposed of by tipping off Amwell End adjoining the railway. This tip is dressed with appropriate tip dressing as and when required.

PARTICULARS OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK
during the year 1949.

Summary of Visits.

	Number
Sewers, Drains, Sanitary Accommodation, etc.	133
Nuisances	754
Infectious Disease	12
Housing Overcrowding, Repairs, Housing Acts., etc.	72
Food Premises, Sect. 13, Condemnations	79
Ice-cream, Factories, Retailers, Sampling	67
Milk, Cowsheds, Dairies, Sampling	39
Slaughter-house, Inspection of Meat	277
Shops Act, 1934 (Sect. 10)	2
Rats and Mice	151
Factories and Outworkers	24
Miscellaneous	9
	1619

Statutory Notices, Etc., Served and Abated.

	Number
Verminous Premises, P.H.A. 1936, Section (83)	3
Dirty Premises, P.H.A. 1936 Section (83)	1
House Repairs, P.H.A. 1936, Section (93)	1
Overcrowding, Housing Act, 1936	1
Certificate of Exemption, Sanitary Accommodation, Shops Act, 1934, Section 10 (6)	1

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

The following work has been attended to under the Public Health Acts :-

Sewers and Drains, cleansed, tested, repaired, reconstructed	40
Water Closets, repaired or renewed	27
Urinals, condemned and removed	1
Sanitary Fittings, renewed, traps provided, etc.	4
Nuisances and Sundry Repairs, walls, floors, ceilings, roofs, windows, etc., overhauled and repaired	77
Dustbins provided	3
Accumulations removed	3
Complaints received	138

Keeping of Animals.

Premises visited	361
Total poultry keepers (out of 358 houses)	194
Unsatisfactory conditions and informal notices sent	86

The structural condition of the chicken houses etc., is averagely poor, and the minimum of attention normally given.

Filthy and Verminous Premises and Articles.

Houses inspected and no vermin found	31
Houses inspected and bugs found	8
Houses disinfested with hydrogen cyanide	2
Houses disinfested by tenant	6
Houses infested with fleas and privately disinfested	1
Filthy premises, articles cleansed	4

Infectious Disease.

Rooms disinfected	6
Bedding steam disinfected.....	1

Gravel Pit, Watton Road (privately owned).

Tip improvement continues, under supervision, and bad entry closed.

Smoke Abatement.

No further complaints received after boiler repairs at one factory.

HOUSING ACT, 1936.**Improvements.**

	Number
Condemned houses temporarily made fit by the Council	2
Houses modernised (W.C., bath, etc., internally) by Private Owner	1
Houses, Kitchen improvement	4

Proposed Clearance Areas.—Monkey Row.

Action was not considered practicable at the present time.

Overcrowding.

No survey has been carried out ; but cases of overcrowding have been investigated during the year and of 17 new cases discovered twelve have been abated, and two cases which were overcrowded in 1948 were still overcrowded at the end of 1949, but one of these was abated in January, 1950.

	Privately Owned	Council Houses	Total
Number of Overcrowded houses brought forward at 1/1/49	9	7	16
New cases of overcrowding discovered during 1949	6	11	17
Number of cases abated	12	14	26
Number of overcrowded houses at 31/12/1949	3	4	7

HOUSING PROGRESS.

<i>By Private Enterprise</i>	During 1949	Total since the war
New Dwellings erected	8	30*
* This total includes 4 Police Cottages built by Herts. County Council.		
War Destroyed Dwellings rebuilt	—	—
Repairs of War Damaged Houses	—	—
Conversions or Adaptations in terms of family units	—	24

By Local Authority.

New Dwellings erected	31	138
Conversions or Adaptations in terms of family units	—	—
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows	—	13

Properties Controlled by the Local Authority at 31/12/1949.

Properties provided under the various Housing Acts.

Council houses	578
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows	13
Sundries	18
Requisitioned dwellings	1

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.**Meat Inspection.**

Number of visits to Slaughterhouse : 277.

Weight of Meat condemned in lbs.				
Home Killed	Beef	Mutton	Pork	Total
Diseased	36,582	899	2,452	39,933
Internal Decomposition	—	15	—	15

Imported.

Diseased	—	6	—	6
Bone Taint	37	—	—	37
Black Spot	—	12	—	12
Tinned (Decomposition)	117 $\frac{3}{4}$	—	—	117 $\frac{3}{4}$

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle exc. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	1896	795	950	5048	549
Number Inspected	<i>See Remarks.</i>				
All Diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole Carcases condemned	-	7	21	7	10
% of the number inspected affected with disease	-	0.88	2.21	0.14	1.82
Tuberculosis only. Whole Carcases Condemned	2	11	-	-	1
% of the number inspected affected with disease	0.10	1.38	-	-	0.18

Remarks.

The number inspected closely approximates to the number slaughtered.

One case of *cysticercus bovis* was found at the Slaughterhouse on the 9th August, and the carcase (steer) was detained in a cold store for 21 days at a temperature of 16°F. On the following day a heifer was found to be affected in a minor degree, but as the lesions were degenerated, detention was unnecessary.

Records are not available of the inspections done by other inspectors during a period of sickness and holiday. The keeping of *accurate* records involves too much time for an officer who has ordinary sanitary duties as well as meat inspection.

Other Foods.

The following foods were condemned, being unfit for human consumption. The malt was used for animal feeding.

Item	Defect	Weight in lbs.
Tinned foods	Blown leakers, etc.	164
Tinned meat (Not Meat Ration)	Blown leakers, etc.	37
Cakes	Rancid fat used	12
Beef Juice	Fermentation	952
Malt	Contaminated	860
Pickles, sauces, Bottled fruit, etc.	90 bottles/jars mouldy fermenting	69
Fish wet	Decomposition	605
Fish smoked.....	Decomposition	116
Rabbits	Decomposition	10
		<hr/> 2825 <hr/>

MILK AND DAIRIES.

During the year nineteen samples were taken at a creamery where a H.T.S.T. pasteurisation plant is installed. The results of these samples are tabulated below. The control of this plant passed to the Herts. County Council from the 1st October, 1949, A review of all dairy premises is programmed for 1950.

Milk Samples.

		In Churns		Bottled	
		" T.T."	" Pstd."	" T.T."	" Pstd."
M.Blue	Passed	—	10	3	4
Test	Failed	2	—	—	—
Phos. Test	Passed	—	10	3	4

ICE CREAM.

Number of Manufacturers (Pasteurisation Plants)	2
Number of Premises Registered (S.14)	16
Number of Premises Registered during 1949	8

Large Factory.

The equipment at one manufacturer's premises has been increased and now includes the following :—

2 x 200 gallon Holder Pasteurisers with recording and indicating thermometers, homogeniser, three stage covered cooler, 2 x 200 gallon and 2 x 100 gallon storage vats, which are thermostatically controlled and 2 x 120 gallon per hour Vogt freezers. Additional

cold storage space has been provided during the year and two "Rose" wrapping machines installed one of which cuts dips and wraps "choc" ices and the other cuts and wraps only. There are five insulated delivery vans and these have been provided with refrigeration plant in recent weeks. The compressors on each van are plugged into the mains at night and when loaded with ice cream the temperature is reputed to be within the limit prescribed by article 4 (a) of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment &c.) Regulations for a period of 12 hours. Laboratory facilities are available on the premises and the company have carried out the methylene blue and coliform tests on their products since the 16th November, 1949.

Permission was given by the Ministry of Health during 1949 to sink a borehole which should be of material assistance for cooling purposes in the summer months when mains water temperatures are often rather high. Steam and hypochlorites are used for sterilization.

Small Factory.

The second manufacturer has a fifteen gallon pasteuriser with recording and indicating thermometers, cooler and steam sterilizer. Stocks are held in a thermostatically controlled cold store.

Ice Cream Samples.

Large Factory.

After a disappointing year in regard to samplings at the large factory in 1948, a warning letter was sent by the Clerk of the Council to the Owner in January, 1949, and this had a good effect, for thirteen samples submitted for examination during 1949 were certified to be grade 1 standard. Reports were received from fifteen local authorities concerning 56 samples, of which number, 51 were submitted to the provisional methylene blue test, the remaining five being submitted to a plate count test by the Borough concerned. There has been a considerable increase in the number of satisfactory grade 1 and 2 samples comparing the table for the years 1949 and 1948 immediately following, but I conclude that although the hygienic quality has at times improved, there have been occasions, particularly in the June to September period when owing to pressure of work and/or breakdown of machinery, there has been an increased percentage of grade 4 results. There has been a reduction in the number of positive faecal coli bacilli found in samples after pre-incubation at 20°C, viz., from 10 in samples taken at the factory in 1948 to 2 in 51 samples taken by other Authorities in 1949.

An improvement in the keeping quality of the product should follow upon the provision of refrigeration equipment in the delivery vehicles and it is hoped that the reports upon other Local Authorities' samples will demonstrate the premise to be true.

Now that the factory laboratory is fully equipped and staffed, a strong check should be maintained internally; and as the Hertford Public Health Laboratory is now properly equipped for the examination of ice cream, more frequent examinations by the Council will be possible, and much travelling time to the Cambridge Laboratory saved.

TABLE 1. ICE CREAM SAMPLES.

			ICE CREAM SAMPLES.			No. of Samples faecal coli	
Sampled by	Year	Place	Grade			Total Samples	+ve
			1 & 2	3	4		
Ware U.D.C.	1948	Factory	51%	42%	7%	79	10
Ware U.D.C.	1949	Factory	100%	—	—	13	—

OTHER L.A.s

Pre-Packed only	1949	Retailers	70.9%	8.3%	20.8%	24	1
All Samples	1949	Retailers	62.7%	19.6%	17.7%	51	2
% in each grade recommended by Advisory Committee			50 & 30	20	-	-	-
			80				

SUMMARY OF REPORTS UPON ICE-CREAM MANUFACTURED IN WARE AND SAMPLED BY OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITIES

TABLE 2.

	GRADE 1. Coliforms.								GRADE 2. Coliforms.									
	No.	1		2		3		4		No.	1		2		3		4	
P.	13	6	5	10	1	6	7	13	—	4	2	1	3	—	—	4	3	1
O.C.	5	4	1	5	—	2	3	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
N.K.C.	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
P.U.	8	—	—	—	—	4	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	27	10	6	15	1	13	11	24	—	5	2	1	3	—	—	4	3	1

	GRADE 3. Coliforms.								GRADE 4. Coliforms.								
	No.	1	2	3	4	No.	1	2	3	4	No.	1	2	3	4		
P.	2	1	—	1	—	1	1	3	—	5	—	1	—	1	—	1	—
O.C.	6	—	1	1	—	—	5	3	1	4	—	—	—	—	2	2	—
N.K.C.																	
P.U.	2																
Totals	10	1	1	2	—	1	6	6	1	9	—	1	—	1	—	3	—

NOTES.

Abbreviations used: (P) Prepacked only. (O.C.) Opened Cans. (N.K.C. Can, not known if opened. (P.U.) Packing unknown.

COLUMNAR NOTES.

1. Presumptive Coli in 0.3 m.l.
2. Faecal coli in 0.3 m.l.
3. Presumptive coli in 0.1 m.l after pre-incubation at 20°C.
4. Faecal coli in 0.1. m.l after pre-incubation at 20°C.

Small Factory.

Four samples were taken during the months of March, July, August and November, and all four samples were certified to be grade 1 standard.

TABLE 3.

Manufacturer	Samples from Retailers. Grading			
	1	2	3	4
Firms of National Repute	3	—	1	—
Large Ware Factory Epping Area	1 4	— —	— —	— —
London Area	1	—	1*	1*
	9	—	2	1

*A warning letter was sent to one hawker from London drawing attention to the requirements of Article 4 (a) and 4 (b) of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment &c.) Regulations, 1947, governing the temperature conditions at which ice cream must be stored. A special thermometer is on order so that infringements of Article 4 (a) can be detected. (Delivered May, 1950).

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

The Council's Rodent Operative commenced work on 19th April, 1949, and was engaged upon survey and preparatory work until the 31st May, 1949. On 1st June, 1949, contracts for Rodent Destruction were taken over from the Hertfordshire War Agricultural Committee. The following visits have been made since his appointment :-

Domestic	Type of Premises	
	Business	Council
480	626	61

Complaints of Rats and/or Mice received at the office 35,

Sewer Treatment.

Manholes in the area	201
Manholes treated	164
Manholes poisoned	152
Manholes poison take	140 (approx.)

The system of sewers has been treated during the latter part of the year with good results. Thirty seven manholes could not be baited as they have not yet been fitted with baiting trays. (It is hoped that these will be ready for the next treatment).

Following this treatment there occurred a blockage of the main sewer in High Street, arising from dead rats which had undoubtedly been flushed to this point by an increased flow in the sewers due to heavy rain.

Council's Controlled Tip.

Rat destruction at this tip was immediately undertaken as there was evidence of considerable infestation. There have been 38 visits to the tip. Gassing and poison baiting methods have been employed to good account, for at the time of writing there are practically no rats on the tip. The river banks have also received attention, being adjacent to the tip.

General Observations.

There is no doubt a good deal of work for the future, as Ware is situated on the River Lee and being a great malting and milling centre rats and mice are always likely to be found. However, at the present rate of progress the outlook is brighter than it has been.

TUBERCULOSIS.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	
Cases on Register, 1/1/1949	19	11	4	8	42
Cases added to Register					
during the year. New cases	5	4	2	2	13
Cases restored to Register	—	1	—	—	1
Inward Transfers	—	—	—	—	—
Cases removed from Register					
during the the year. Deaths	3	—	—	—	3
Outward Transfers	2	1	1	—	4
Patients cured	—	—	—	—	—
Cases on Register 31/12/49	19	15	5	10	49

SAWBRIDGEWORTH URBAN DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLY.

The piped supply of the area is provided by the Herts and Essex Water Company and serves approximately 96% of the district. This supply has now been extended to Spelbrook, and the Spelbrook Pump was closed down in February, 1950.

Details of the present position are given below:-

	Houses	Caravans
With mains supply, and internal draw-off point	25	0
" " " and external stand pipe	8	3
" piped supply to dwellings, from U.D.C.		
public well	1	-
" " " " " from		
private wells	19	0
Supplied from private well, with no piped supply	8	0
Total	61	3*

(*In addition, 3 caravans have no individual supply, but draw their water from neighbouring houses, all of which have a mains supply).

Approximately half the dwellings in Spelbrook are now utilising the main water supply. Of those not connected at the end of the year only one was still dependent on the U.D.C. well. This one, however, shortly afterwards came on to the main supply, and the well was closed in February, 1950.

The quality and quantity of the mains supply continues to be satisfactory. The supplies are chlorinated, that from the U.D.C. well at Spelbrook was carried out daily by hand.

The results of the examinations of the water from Spelbrook Well, show that the plate count results are better than those for 1948, and this may be due to the decreasing demand caused by the provision of a public supply main.

The waters in the area are not plumbo-solvent.

Quality.*Bacteriological.*

The water was examined bacteriologically with the following results :-

Bacteriological Examination.

Date	Sample No.	No. of Colonies developing on agar per ml. in.			Probable No. of Coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37°C	Report S = Satisfactory
		3 days at 22°C	2 days at 37°C	1 day at 37°C		
Herts. & Essex Water Co.						
16 / 3 /49	D /AM /69	70	0	0	—	S
17 / 3 /49	D /AM /69	0	1	1	—	S
19 / 4 /49	D /TN /81	0	0	0	—	S
19 / 4 /49	D /TN /82	15	1	0	—	S
18 / 5 /49	D /EE /98	1	1	1	—	S
18 / 5 /49	D /EE /97	0	0	0	—	S
12 / 9 /49	D /YR /22	1	1	0	—	S
12 / 9 /49	D /YR /23	80	6	5	—	S
Spellbrook Well (Public Supply)						
18 / 1 /49	110	0	0	—	Nil.	S
8 / 2 /49	318	0	0	—	„	S
8 / 3 /49	552	2	0	—	„	S
18 / 4 /49	904	14	2	—	„	S
17 / 5 /49	1273	0	0	—	„	S
14 / 6 /49	1479	3	0	—	„	S
12 / 7 /49	1736	3	0	—	„	S
10 / 8 /49	1965	0	0	—	„	S
14 / 9 /49	2327	5	2	—	„	S
12 /10 /49	2523	4	2	—	„	S
8 /11 /49	2791	8	0	—	„	S
13 /12 /49	3057	2	0	—	„	S

Chemical.

Results of Chemical Analysis (Parts per million) taken by the Herts and Essex Water Company from the Aerating Tank at Sawbridgeworth Pumping Station.

TEST	Date	
	17 /3 /49	12 /9 /49
Appearance	Faint opalescence with slight deposit of iron oxide with a few threads of Gallionella.	Faintly opalescent with a very slight flocculent deposit of iron oxide.
Turbidity (Silica scale).....	8	Less than 5
Colour (Hazen).....	Less than 10	Nil.
Odour.....	Nil.	Nil.
Reaction pH.....	7.1	7.1
Free CO ₂	36	35
Electric Conductivity at 20°C.....	680	680
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	310	305
Total solids dried at 180°C.....	486	470
Hardness :-		
Carbonate (Temporary).....	310	305
Non-Carb (Permanent).....	60	70
Total.....	370*	375*
Nitrogen in :-		
Nitrates.....	1.0	0.10
Nitrites.....	Nil.	Less than 0.01
Free Ammonia.....	0.18	0.21
Albuminoid Ammonia.....	0.074	0.00
Residual Chlorine.....	Nil.	Nil.
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. @ 27°C.....	0.40	0.05
Metals.....	Iron 0.29 Other metals absent	Iron 0.30 Other metals absent
Fluorine.....	0.8	0.6

*The precise figure calculated from the magnesium and calcium contents.

Both these samples have an appreciable content of CO_2 . They are hard in character but not excessively so. There are no excess saline or mineral constituents in solution.

Apart from the objections that the samples are not quite clear and bright in appearance and are also hard, the water is considered pure and wholesome in character and suitable for public supply purposes.

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Estimated population served by main drainage : 3,420.

At Parsonage Estate, separate water closets and sinks were installed at a further 33 hutments.

Approximately 97 houses (9%) in the Urban District use cesspools or other conservancy systems.

At the principal sewage disposal works, an estimated dry weather flow of 112,000 gallons per day is dealt with. Treatment is by sedimentation, septic tank and bacteria bed (percolating filter) ; and the purified effluent is discharged into the River Stort.

The Southern sewage disposal works deals with an estimated dry weather flow of 9,000 gallons per day, and treatment is by two septic tanks and land irrigation.

A total estimated dry weather flow of 121,000 gallons per day is dealt with. The estimated capacity of the two works is 132,000 gallons per day.

REFUSE COLLECTION & DISPOSAL.

Refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on ground adjacent to the principal sewage disposal works. An estimated weekly collection of 20 tons (60 cubic yards) is made by a covered collecting vehicle.

During the year 24 tons 18 cwts. of paper has been baled and sold for salvage.

Infestation of the tip face by crickets occurred during the exceptionally hot summer and these were kept under control by application of suitable insecticides.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR
for the Year ending 31st Dec., 1949.

Summary of Visits and Inspections.

Public Health Acts.

Infectious Diseases and Disinfections	.....	10
Nuisances	.....	18
Sewage and Refuse disposal	.....	53
Drains and Drainage	.....	31
Re proposed new cemetery	.....	8
Moveable dwellings	5

Housing Acts.

Dwelling houses, visits and inspections	76
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Food and Drugs Acts.

Food Premises inspected	13
Water samples taken	12
Ice Cream samples taken	7
Visits re Ice Cream registrations	10
Visits re condemnation of food	12

Factory Act, 1937.

Inspections	44
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Miscellaneous Visits.

Rodent Control	14
General Inspections	46
General Inspections Parsonage Estate	53
Total	<u>.....</u>	<u>412</u>

Number of Informal Notices served	.....	18
Number of Complaints passed to other Authorities for attention	.....	1

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.**Prevention of Nuisances.**

Nuisances arising from three overflowing cesspools were abated. In one case this was by the installation of a private sewage disposal plant.

Several smoke nuisances have also been investigated and abated during the year.

Statutory Notices.

No statutory notices have been served under the Act.

Proposed New Cemetery.

The land considered for the new cemetery lies to the north of the town by the main road, from which it is screened by an existing belt of trees. Steps to acquire this land by compulsory purchase order led to a Public Enquiry in February, 1950.

The compulsory purchase order has been granted.

HOUSING ACT, 1936.**Demolition Order.**

No. 6, Bell Street, classed as unfit for human habitation was demolished and the site cleared during 1949, in accordance with a statutory notice served the previous year under Section XI. of the Housing Act.

Conversion of Premises.

Two very small houses, No. 7 and 9, New Street, were converted into one dwelling with an internal water supply.

HOUSING PROGRESS.

<i>By Private Enterprise.</i>		<i>During 1949</i>	<i>Total since the war.</i>
New dwellings erected (*includes three police cottages built by Herts. C.C.)	6*		27
War damaged houses rebuilt	—		1
<i>By Local Authority.</i>			
New dwellings erected	30		58
War damaged houses rebuilt	—		7
Conversions or adaptations in terms of family units	—		10
Ditto at Parsonage estate	7		72
Number of families living in unconverted hutments	3		

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.**Milk.**

Milk is supplied in the district by two companies. The milk is received by these companies already bottled. All grades of designated milk, with the exception of "Sterilised" milk are available in the district.

A Complaint concerning a dirty milk bottle was received and dealt with. The Analysts' report states that :-

The deposit was found to consist mainly of Calcium Phosphate. A trace of fungus was also detected.

The sample was very sour when received for examination.

NOTE.—It is thought that the deposit of Calcium Phosphate may have been due to a defect in the bottle washing process at the main dairy. The Bishop's Stortford Health Department kindly investigated and confirmed that view-point.

A sample of Pasteurised Milk was also subjected to the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase tests with satisfactory results.

Ice-Cream.

Ice Cream is manufactured at one premises by the Cold Mix Process. Improvements to the premises have been carried out, including the installation of a constant hot water supply, and a stainless steel sink.

Results of samples taken from various premises in the district are given below :-

Sample Results.

Date	Sample No.	Methylene Blue Test.	Grade.
25 / 3 /49	1 /5451	Not discoloured in 4½ hrs.	1
25 / 3 /49	2 /5452	„ „ „ 4½ hrs.	1
10 /10 /49	17980	Discoloured after 3 hrs.	2
10 /10 /49	17981	Not discoloured in 4½ hrs.	1
10 /10 /49	17982	Discoloured after 3 hrs.	2
23 /10 /49	21702	Not discoloured in 4½ hrs.	1
23 /10 /49	21703	„ „ „ 4½ hrs.	1

Unsound Food.

The following foods were found unfit for human consumption and were surrendered.

Category	No. of Tins or Containers.	Weight. lbs.
Meat (Tinned and Potted)	8	17 $\frac{3}{4}$
Fish (tinned)	39	33
Milk (tinned)	23	24
Bacon	—	8
Liquid egg (tinned)	4	112
Fruit (tinned)	11	16
Broth (tinned)	1	$\frac{1}{4}$
Marmalade (potted)	1	2
Mincemeat (potted)	1	1
Beans (tinned)	2	1
Cake	—	1
Total		216

(1948 Total : 406 lbs. 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.)

Clean Food Campaign.

No direct scheme was commenced in 1949 but the matter is receiving active consideration.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.**Rodent Control.**

During the year 14 infestations have been dealt with, calling for a total of 71 baitings. Only one of the infestations was of major extent and this was satisfactorily cleared.

The Rodent Operator has attended a course of instruction during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	
Cases on Register, 1/1/1949	0	7	1	2	10
Cases added to Register					
during the year. New cases	—	—	—	1	1
Cases restored to Register	—	—	—	—	—
Inward Transfers	—	—	—	—	—
Cases removed from Register					
during the year. Deaths	—	—	1	—	1
Outward Transfers	—	1	—	—	1
Patients cured	—	—	—	1	—
Cases on Register 31/12/49	0	6	0	2	8

WARE RURAL DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLIES.

The Ware Rural District (with the exception of the Parishes of Great Amwell and St. Margarets) is supplied with main water derived from two boreholes, 450 feet deep at the Standon Pumping Station. The water is pumped into supply after chlorination and filtration. Storage is effected by means of a water tower at Old Hall Green. The Parishes of Great Amwell and Stanstead St. Margarets are supplied by the Metropolitan Water Board but with the exception of these parishes, the mains of the R.D.C. pass through every Parish of the Rural District and very few properties are without supply. The water continues to be of good quality and ample supply. The average quantity of water pumped throughout the year was 320,000 gallons per day. The supply was maintained without restriction or interruption throughout the exceptionally dry summer of 1949.

Eight private wells and one serving eight Council properties dried up during the summer. Arrangements were made to cart water to the properties affected as a temporary measure, and in every case action was taken to afford a better supply. Of the private properties affected, one was connected to the main supply by arrangement with the Ware Urban District Council, five were the subject of Statutory action to require the owners to connect to the Council's main. There is no main available for the remaining two properties, but in each case steps are being taken to have the main extended to them. The eight Council properties are shortly to receive another temporary supply piped from a nearby well and negotiations are in hand to extend the Council's main to supply them, together with several private houses which have their own supply.

Quality.

The following analyses relate to the Ware R.D.C. supply derived from Standon :-

Bacteriological Examination of Public Water Supply.

Date	Sample No.	Plate 3 days 22° C per ml	Plate 2 days 37° C. per ml	Probably No. Coliform Bacilli 2 days 37° C. Per 100 ml	Remarks
21 /3 /49	688	5	Nil	Nil	Chlorinated water
20 /6 /49	10597	—	—	Nil	Raw water
20 /6 /49	10598	—	—	Nil	Chlorinated water
22 /11 /49	21167	—	—	Nil	Raw water
22 /11 /49	21168	—	—	Nil	Chlorinated water

Chemical Analysis of Public Water Supply.

Date 16/3/49. Sample No. 3283.

	Parts per 100,000	Grains per Gallon
Total solids (dried at 180°C)	42.0	29.4
Combined chlorine (Cl)	1.9	1.3
Equivalent to Sodium Chloride (NaCl)	3.1	2.2
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	0.04	0.03
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	Nil.	Nil.
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	Nil.	Nil.
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.0003	0.0002
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C	0.005	0.004
Lead or Copper	Nil.	Nil.
Temporary hardness (Equivalent to CaCO ₃)	28.5	20.0
Permanent hardness (" " ")	3.0	2.1
Total hardness (" " ")	31.5	22.1

The above result shows no evidence of pollution and the water is of a high degree of organic purity and quite safe for drinking purposes.

The water is hard, the hardness is mainly "temporary" in nature, i.e., removable by boiling.

The following analyses of water relate to the supply in the Parishes of Great Amwell and Stanstead St. Margaret's, served by the Metropolitan Water Board:—

Chemical

Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.033
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.026
Oxidised Nitrogen : Nitrate	2.5
Chlorides as Cl ₂	25.3
Oxygen abs. 3 hrs. at 80°F	0.23
Turbidity in terms of Silica	0.2
Colour, m.m. brown, Burgess's Tintometer	1
Hardness (Total)	305
Hardness (Permanent)	79
pH Value	7.1

Bacteriological.

No. of microbes per ml. Colonies counted on agar after 20-24 hrs. at 37°C	1.6
Percentage of samples negative to Bact. coli in 100 ml.	100.0
Bact. coli per 100 ml.	Nil.

The above results are reprinted by kind permission of the Metropolitan Water Board and show the water to be of excellent bacterial and chemical purity.

Distribution of Water Services.

Dwelling houses supplied by Public Water Mains:-

Parish	No. of houses	Population (approx.)	Main direct to house	Main to stand-pipes
Standon	782	2,500	625	109
Great Munden	116	439	79	17
Little Munden	127	501	98	27
Thundridge	151	700	78	10
Ware Rural	221	1,050	160	9
Hunsdon	231	550	202	21
Widford	111	400	59	42
Stanstead Abbotts	404	1,560	337	24
Eastwick	63	147	16	10
Gilston	63	169	8	-
Great Amwell	573	2,240	532	16
St. Margarets	47	170	40	-
Total	2,889		2,234	285

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Standon and Puckeridge are sewered and gravitate to a pumping station in Paper Mill Lane, Standon, from which the sewage is raised to a disposal works south of the village.

High Cross and Wadesmill, Great Amwell, St. Margarets and Stanstead Abbotts are drained to pumping stations from which the sewage is raised to join the Ware Urban District Council sewers.

Part of the village of Hertford Heath is in the Great Amwell Parish and is sewered by agreement to disposal works in the Hertford Rural District.

The ex-R.A.F. works at Hunsdon have been repaired and are now in commission. They are taking the drainage from dispersed hut sites and a part of Hunsdon village. The sewer extension to the village is making good progress and should be completed during 1950. The old Hunsdon village drain and tank will then be abandoned.

The scheme for sewerage Wareside, Widford, and the Hadham area of the Braughing R.D.C. had reached the inquiry stage when it became known that Harlow New Town Corporation were exploring in this area for a water supply. Further consideration of the Council's scheme has therefore been postponed by the

Ministry of Health until an application on behalf of the Development Corporation to sink a trial bore hole at Widford was heard by the Minister. It seems highly probable, now that an order has been made by the Minister permitting the sinking of the well, that the Council's sewage disposal scheme as previously proposed will be considerably prejudiced and may in fact be impossible to carry out. It is anticipated that if and when the proposed source of water for the Development Corporation has been proved, an application will be made to the Minister under the Water Act for an order enabling the Corporation to act as water undertakers. At this stage it should be brought to the notice of the Ministry of Health that the Council are certain to be faced with both delay and additional expense in the now considerably overdue drainage of these villages. Unless urgent consideration is given to this problem by the Ministry, new building will virtually cease for only a limited number of houses on the present building site at Widford and Wareside can be served by existing arrangements. The villages will suffer at the expense of the New Town.

Fifty-eight sewer connections were made during 1949.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Cesspools.

The Council have a cesspool emptying service which operated during the year as follows :-

Those private houses that are situated outside, certain area in proximity to the Council's sewers and defined on a Resolution Map, were emptied twice a year free of charge.

The remainder which are within the above defined areas were only emptied by request at a scale of charges fixed by the Council.

Pails.

The pail emptying service was modified in October this year to exclude those properties that are within proximity to the sewers as defined under "Cesspools" above. A charge was fixed at 15/- per quarter for emptying one pail closet twice a week. The remainder of the pail closets to private houses are emptied twice a week free of charge.

This scheme has encouraged property owners to convert their pail closets to W.C.'s and of the 197 properties involved 38 have so far made the conversion and work is in hand for a further 20.

Refuse Collection.

The system of refuse collection was reviewed during the year and it was decided to continue a weekly collection. In order to do this more efficiently it was found necessary to bring an additional vehicle into use. This has resulted in an increase of about 20% in the quantity of refuse collected.

Refuse is tipped at two dumps—Standon and St. Margarets. These dumps are regularly supervised and proper controlled tipping methods are employed in the disposal of the refuse.

PARTICULARS OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK
during the Year 1949.

Inspections.

Rural Housing Survey,		Total Bt. Fwd.	1,339
Houses Inspected	457	Ice Cream Premises	57
Complaints	147	Bakehouses	27
Infectious Diseases	29	Factories	25
Food Premises	174	Knackers Yard	12
Drainage	196	Refuse Tips	200
Water Supply	291	Caravans	51
Schools	12	Rats and Mice	143
Cowsheds and Dairies	33	Miscellaneous	46
Total Carried Fwd.		Total	1,900

HOUSING.**Rural Housing Survey.**

The "Hobhouse" Survey was completed in October this year. The following Table gives the various categories into which the houses were placed :-

Category 1	569	—	27.8%
„ 2	581	—	28.4%
„ 3	476	—	23.2%
„ 5	422	—	20.6%
Total	2,048		

Category 1 includes houses which are satisfactory in all respects.

Category 2 includes houses needing only minor repairs.

Category 3 includes houses requiring repair, structural alterations or improvements.

Category 5 includes houses which are unfit for habitation and beyond repair at a reasonable expense.

The number of houses in Category 5 includes 30 properties which were the subject of Demolition Orders under the Public Health Act, 1936, and which are still occupied.

Demolition Orders.

Demolition Orders under Section XI of the Housing Act, 1936, were served on two Individual Unfit properties.

HOUSING PROGRESS.

<i>By Private Enterprise.</i>	During 1949	Total since the war.
New Dwellings erected	8	37
War Destroyed Dwellings rebuilt	—	—
Repairs of War Damaged Houses	—	—
Conversions or Adaptations in terms of family units	4	11
<i>By Local Authority.</i>		
New Dwellings erected	138	230
Conversions or Adaptations in terms of family units	—	5
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows	—	—

Properties Controlled by the Local Authority at 31/12/1949.

Properties provided under the various Housing Acts :—

Council Houses	602
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows	Nil.
Sundries	56
Requisitioned dwellings	7

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**Ice-Cream Premises.**

There are nineteen premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the sale of ice-cream.

The registration of the one manufacturer in the District was cancelled when it was discovered that he was adding raw milk to the cold mix process in contravention of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations.

Nine new premises were registered during the year and these and the other premises were inspected regularly to ensure a adequate standard of cleanliness.

Meat and Other Foods.

There is no slaughtering for sale carried out in the District. There is one knackers yard which was inspected periodically. 174 Inspections were made of the other food premises which number as follows :-

Bakehouses	.....	6	Grocers Shops	.....	24
Butchers Shops	.....	12	Cafes	.....	6
Fishmongers Shops	.....	4			

Milk and Dairies.

Responsibility for the supervision of milk production on all farms passed over to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries on the 1st October (the date of the coming into force of the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944).

The Council are still responsible for the registration of 4 dairies and the issue of licences for the sale of designated milks by retail. Supplementary licences are issued to retailers outside the area in respect of designated milks sold in this District.

Condemned Foodstuffs.

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

Canned Foodstuffs.

Fish	15 tins	—	approx. weight	.....	12 lbs.
Fruit	42	„	„	.....	65½ „
Meat	22	„	„	.....	47¼ „
Milk	19	„	„	.....	14¼ „
Vegetables	26	„	„	.....	32¼ „
					<hr/> 171½ lbs. <hr/>

Meat and Meat Products.

Beef	Approx. weight	.....	60 lbs.
Mutton	„	.....	15 „
Meat Pies etc.	„	.....	12 „
			<hr/> 87 lbs. <hr/>

Fish.

Dabs	Approx weight	.....	.....	.....	140 lbs.
Haddock		.....	.....	.....	154 „
Mackerel	„	„	.....	.....	70 „
Skate	„	„	.....	.....	140 „
					<hr/> 504 lbs. <hr/>

Miscellaneous Foodstuffs.

Black Malt	Approx. weight	.....	.....	.....	112 lbs.
Flour	„	„	.....	.....	10 „
					<hr/> 122 lbs. <hr/>

Total Weight of all Foods : 7 cwt. 100 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

During the year, the Council received delegated powers under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, making them responsible for the control of pest destruction in all private houses but not on farms which are still treated by the Pests Department of the Herts Agricultural Executive Committee.

The necessary equipment was purchased and a rodent operative engaged on a part-time basis.

From April to December, 32 private properties were treated as well as six treatments on each of the Council's refuse dumps.

The whole of the sewerage systems were tested with a 10% baiting and found to be free from rats.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

	TOTAL	AGES						Age not known	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
		Under 1 year	1 - years	5 - years	15 - years	25 - years	Over 65 years			
Small-pox	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	5	—	2	2	1	—	—	—	4	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-myelitis	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery (Sonné)	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia	7	—	3	1	1	2	—	—	—	—
Measles	184	4	71	95	3	3	—	8	—	—
Whooping Cough	24	4	16	3	—	—	—	1	—	—
Jaundice (Hepatitis)	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Para-typhoid	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the different Months.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Scarlet Fever	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1
Measles	21	49	60	25	7	13	4	5	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	—	—	—	—	2	7	11	3	—	—	—
Acute Polio-myelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia	—	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jaundice (Hepatitis)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—

DISTRIBUTION OF THE NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES
Among the different parishes.

	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Acute P.M.	Pneumonia	Jaundice	Erysipelas
Eastwick	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gilston	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Amwell	—	12	2	—	2	—	—
Great Munden	—	16	6	—	2	—	—
Little Munden	1	3	—	—	1	—	1
Hunsdon	1	16	4	—	1	—	—
Standon	—	39	11	1	—	1	—
Stanstead Abbots	1	35	1	—	1	—	—
Stanstead Easneye (L.C.C. Home)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Margaret's	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
St. Margaret's, St. Margaretsbury (Children's Short Stay Home)	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
Thundridge	1	19	—	—	—	—	—
Ware Rural	1	12	—	—	—	1	—
Ware Rural (Roundhouse (Herts. C.C. Children's Nursery))	—	7	—	—	—	—	—
Widford	—	18	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

	Pulmonary M	Pulmonary F	Non- Pulmonary M	Non- Pulmonary F	TOTAL
<hr/>					
Cases on Register 1st Jan., 1949	14	9	16	11	50
<hr/>					
Cases added to Register					
during the year. New cases	—	4	1	4	9
Cases restored to Register	—	—	—	—	—
Inward Transfers	1	2	—	—	3
<hr/>					
Cases removed from Register					
during the year. Deaths	1	2	—	1	4
Outward Transfers	—	—	—	—	—
Patients cured	2	1	2	1	6
<hr/>					
Cases on Register, 31/12/49	12	12	15	13	52

BRAUGHING RURAL DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLY.

There is a piped supply in each of the 21 Parishes. The northern Parishes are supplied from Chipping Pumping Station, the parish of High Wych by the Herts and Essex Water Co., the parish of Thorley from Bishop's Stortford Urban District Council's supply and the remainder of the district from Standon Pumping Station in the Ware Rural District.

Water storage is supplied by Water Towers at Albury and Throcking, both Towers having a capacity of 75,000 gallons and reservoirs at Much Hadham and Buntingford each with a capacity of 60,000 gallons, giving a total of 270,000 gallons.

There are two pumping stations, one at Much Hadham and one at Buntingford, which could be brought into service at short notice in the event of any breakdown in main stations.

Distribution of Water Services.

PARISH	TYPE OF WATER SUPPLY		
	Water in House	Outside Supply (Standpipe)	Wells
	No. of Houses	No. of Houses	No. of Houses
Anstey	51	30	20
Albury	120	51	2
Ardley	69	33	11
Broadfield	4	—	—
Buckland	68	31	1
Buntingford	432	56	1
Braughing	116	146	22
Brent Pelham	31	26	4
Cottered	102	22	2
Furneux Pelham	92	18	11
Hormead	162	19	1
Little Hadham	168	40	8
Meesden	26	15	—
Much Hadham	430	47	2
Stocking Pelham	34	7	3
Throcking	23	3	1
Thorley	33	16	9
Westmill	46	13	15
Wyddial	15	14	4
High Wych	125	21	40
Aspenden	74	—	—
Totals	2221	608	157

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Four Parishes, Cottered, Buntingford, Much Hadham and High Wych have sewerage systems, and each system gravitates to small disposal works. The treatment in each case is the same—the sewer outfall discharges into sedimentation tanks and the effluent is then irrigated. There is also a cesspool emptying service in other parishes and parts of the four mentioned where no sewer are available.

77 Post-War Council Houses have been connected to the sewers, (39 in Buntingford, 28 in Much Hadham and 10 in Cottered).

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Since 1948 further changes in the refuse collection and disposal system has enabled a fortnightly collection to be made in lieu of the previous monthly collection. This increased frequency of collection together with the cessation of the Salvage collection has resulted in a general increase in the quantity of refuse to be collected. The present approximate tonnage estimated on actual vehicle loads per parish is 3,500 to 4,000 tons per year.

PARTICULARS OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S VISITS AND INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR.

Inspections under the Housing Acts 1936-49	393
Inspections under the Public Health Act 1936	441
Inspections in connection drainage and nuisances	126
Infectious disease investigations disinfections etc.	53
Appointments with owners etc.	39
Visits in connection with the Refuse Survey	239
Inspections under Sect. 13 and 14 Food & Drugs Act, 1938	60
Water Samples taken	11
Milk Samples	104
Cowhouse Inspections	55
Dairy Inspections	18
Visits to refuse disposal sites	36
Shops Act Inspections	11
Factory Act Inspections	33
Bakehouse Inspections	5
Visits in connection with supervision of Labour	34
Unsuccessful visits	23
	<hr/>
	1681

HOUSING.

Further progress has been made with the Rural Housing Survey, these were provisionally classified as follows :-

Cat. 1.	462	.....	16.6%
Cat. 2.	455	.....	16.3%
Cat. 3.	1285	.....	46.0%
Cat. 5.	588	.....	21.1%

HOUSING PROGRESS.

	During 1949	Total Post-War
<i>By Private Enterprise.</i>		
New Dwellings erected	16	66
Ware Destroyed Dwellings rebuilt	—	—
Repairs to War Damaged Houses (Minor)	—	46
Conversions or Adaptations in terms of family units	2	34

<i>By Local Authority.</i>		
New Dwellings erected	29	230
Conversions or Adaptations in terms of family units	—	40
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows	—	—

Properties Controlled by Local Authority at 31/12/49.

Properties provided under the various Housing Acts :-

Council Houses	616
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows	—
Sundries (ex W.D. Huts adapted)	40
Requisitioned Dwellings	3

MILK SAMPLING.

Routine samples of milk were taken during the year with the following results :-

(a) Methylene Blue and Coliform Tests.

Total No. of Samples.	Passed Prescribed Test.		Failed to Pass.	
	Graded	Ungraded	Graded	Ungraded
104	28	46	1	22

To obtain a more informative picture the analysis results have been divided into graded and ungraded, according to the quality of milk retailed. The number of retailers selling graded milk is 4; of the samples taken from these retailers 95% passed the prescribed tests. The same is not so with the 11 ungraded milk retailers of which only 61% of samples passed the prescribed tests. Although not a satisfactory result, this is an improvement upon 1948.

(b) Biological Samples.

These samples were taken on behalf of the County Council to detect the presence of Tubercle Bacilli. Of the 45 samples taken 3 were found to be positive. The affected animals were removed from the herds for slaughter by the Divisional Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

FOOD PREMISES.

During the year inspection of 60 premises coming within the jurisdiction of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, have been made. Although limitations of Labour and materials retard improvement schemes, some progress has been made with works in shops, cafes and public houses. In the public houses improvements such as the provision of constant hot water in the bars for washing glasses, etc., has been made. Sanitary Accommodation which is often sparse and primitive has been provided on a scale of separate accommodation for the tenant's household, female patrons, and male patrons. In many cases Water Closets connected to Septic tanks have been provided. In nearly all cases where requested, the Brewery Companies have co-operated by carrying out these works. Whilst such works improve the property generally from a Public Health point of view they are especially welcome as an endeavour to improve the general standard of Hygiene and to reduce the possibility of spread of communicable disease, in establishments which are frequented by a large section of the Public.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

	TOTAL	AGES						Age not known	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
		Under 1 year	1 - years	5 - years	15 - years	25 - years	Over 65 years			
Small-pox	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-
Scarlet Fever	6	-	1	3	1	1	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.....	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	7	-	1	2	3	1	-	-	-	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery (Sonné)	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Primary Pneumonia	7	-	-	3	-	4	-	-	-	-
Measles	350	7	129	197	4	11	-	2	-	-
Whooping Cough	26	3	11	11	-	1	-	-	-	-
Jaundice (Hepatitis)	6	-	1	-	3	2	-	-	4	-
Para-Typhoid	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES during the different months

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	1	1	-	-
Measles	11	14	22	48	74	124	44	13	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	2	1	1	-	5	6	6	-	-	3	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	2	1
Pneumonia	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Jaundice	-	-	1	1	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-

**DISTRIBUTION OF THE NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES
among the different parishes.**

	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Acute P.M.	Acute Pneumonia	Jaundice
Albury	—	9	—	—	1	—
Anstey	—	22	—	1	—	—
Aspenden	—	1	2	—	—	—
Braughing	—	58	—	—	1	—
Brent Pelham	—	16	—	—	—	—
Broadfield	—	—	—	—	—	—
Buckland	—	—	—	—	—	2
Buntingford	1	59	1	—	—	—
Cottered	—	41	1	—	—	—
Furneaux Pelham	—	—	—	—	—	—
High Wych	—	18	4	2	—	1
Hormead	—	7	2	—	—	1
Little Hadham	1	46	1	1	—	—
Meesden	—	7	—	2	—	—
Much Hadham	3	44	14	—	5	1
Stocking Pelham	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thorley	—	8	—	1	—	—
Throcking	—	2	—	—	—	—
Westmill	—	7	—	—	—	1
Wyddial	—	5	1	—	—	—
Yardley	1	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Cases on Register 1/1/1949	18	9	10	9	46
Cases added to Register during the year :					
New Cases	6	5	—	—	11
Cases restored to Register	—	—	—	—	—
Inward Transfers	—	—	—	—	—
Cases removed from Register during the year :					
Deaths	2	1	—	—	3
Outward transfers	—	—	—	—	—
Patients cured	1	—	—	—	1
Cases on Register 31/12/49	21	13	10	9	53

HERTFORD RURAL DISTRICT

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Improvements to the outfall at Benington were in hand but incomplete at the end of the year.

A scheme was prepared to serve part of the village of Datchworth and a public enquiry held; but at the end of the year no progress had been made with regard to the works.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse Collection.

House refuse was collected fortnightly throughout the district and disposed of by tipping at Stevenage and Hertingfordbury. Direct labour was employed for this purpose.

Cesspool Emptying.

The Council maintains a service for the emptying of cesspools at private houses, four loads on not more than two visits being removed annually free of charge, upon written application by the owner or occupier. Charges are made in respect of additional emptyings. 336 Cesspools were emptied during the year, a total of 3,019 loads being removed.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The northern part of the District comprising the Parishes of Aston, Benington, Walkern, Watton-at-Stone, Stapleford, Sacombe and Bengoe Rural is supplied by the Aston Pumping Station, the water being obtained from two boreholes 310 feet in chalk.

Two 310 feet deep boreholes at Little Berkhamstead supply the southern portion of the District which includes the Parishes of Bayford, Brickendon, Hertingfordbury and Little Berkhamstead.

The western portion of the District comprising the Parishes of Tewin, Datchworth and Bramfield is supplied from the Welwyn R.D.C. Reservoir at Burnham Green, the water being obtained from Welwyn Garden City Waterworks.

A portion of Waterford village (in Stapleford Parish) is supplied by the Borough of Hertford.

The Metropolitan Water Board serves the Parish of Little Amwell.

Throughout the District, the water was satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

Piped supplies have been taken into 36 houses which formerly relied on public stand-pipes or wells.

Quality.

Bacteriological Examination of Public Water Supply.

Source of supply	Date	Sample No.	Plate Count 3 days 22°C per ml.	Plate Count 2 days 37°C per ml.	Probable No. Coliform bacilli 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.	Remarks
Burnham Green Reservoir	12/3/49	575	Nil	Nil	Nil	Satisfactory
Aston Pumping Station	12/3/49	574	7	2	Nil	Satisfactory
	19/10/49	—	1	1	2	Satisfactory
Little Berkhamstead Pumping Station	12/3/49	576	3	1	Nil	Satisfactory
	13/6/49	1460	3	Nil	Nil	Satisfactory

Chemical Analyses of Public Water Supply (Parts per million).

Source of supply	Lt. Berkhamstead Pumping Station	Aston Pumping Station	Burnham Green Reservoir
Appearance	Bright, with a few mineral particles	Clear and bright	Very faint opalescence with a slight deposit consisting of zinc carbonate
Turbidity (Silica Scale)	Less than 5	Nil	Less than 5
Colour (Hazen)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Odour	Nil	Nil	Nil
Re-action pH	7.3	7.1	7.3
Free Carbon Dioxide	18	29	19
Elect. Conductivity at 20°C.	550	510	540
Total solids dried at 180° C.	370	340	360
Chlorine in Chlorides	25	16	16
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	245	255	270
Hardness : Total	300	300	310
Temp.	245	255	270
Perm.	55	45	40
Nitrogen in Nitrates	3.0	3.4	4.0
Nitrogen in Nitrites	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01
Free Ammonia	0.048	0.000	0.000
Oxygen absorbed 4 hrs. 27°C.	0.55	0.00	0.00
Albuminoid ammonia	0.016	0.000	0.000
Residual Chlorine	Absent	Absent	Absent
Metals	Zinc : 3.0	Iron 0.03	Iron : 0.16 Zinc : Total 14.0 In solution 5.0
Remarks :	These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes	These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes	These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Disinfestation was carried out at a house infested by bugs. An insecticide containing D.D.T. proved effective.

Disinfection, following the removal of cases of Scarlet Fever to hospital was carried out at two houses.

New roofs were provided at four cottages.

In 16 of the older Council houses at Watton-at-Stone amenities were provided as follows :—

8 houses — indoor water supply and w.c.'s.

8 houses — indoor water supply, w.c.'s and baths.

HOUSING.

Inspection of the 2410 dwellings in the district under the Hobhouse Rural Housing Survey was completed during the year the classification being as follows :—

Class 1 (Satisfactory in all respects)	834	—	34.61%
Class 2 (Requiring minor repairs only)	565	—	23.45%
Class 3 (Requiring major repairs)	365	—	15.15%
Class 4 (Requiring reconditioning)	443	—	18.38%
Class 5 (Beyond repair at reasonable cost)	203	—	8.41%
Total	2410		

HOUSING PROGRESS.

	During 1949	Total since the war.
<i>By Private Enterprise.</i>		
New Dwellings erected	8	106
War Destroyed Dwellings rebuilt	Nil.	1
Repairs of War Damaged Houses	Nil.	31
Conversions or Adaptations in terms of family units	5	24
<i>By Local Authority.</i>		
New Dwellings erected	32	148
Conversions or Adaptations in terms of family units	Nil.	Nil.
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows	Nil.	Nil.

Properties Controlled by the Local Authority at 31/12/1949.

Properties provided under the various Housing Acts :—

Council Houses	424
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows	Nil.
Sundries	Nil.
Requisitioned Dwellings	8

INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**Unsound Food.**

The following foods were upon inspection, found to be unfit for human consumption, and were surrendered :-

22 lbs butter	1 tin orange juice.
16 tins milk.	4 tins grapefruit.
1 tin minced beef loaf	1 tin grapes.
1 tin tomatoes.	1 tin corned beef.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	-	-	-	-	6
Number inspected	-	-	-	-	6

All diseases except Tuberculosis.

Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	1
---	---	---	---	---	---

Tuberculosis only :

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	1

OUTBREAK OF SUSPECTED FOOD POISONING.

Investigations were carried out following complaints of poisoning believed to be due to the consumption of food at a school on October 25th.

Ten children out of a total of 24 had a history of varying degrees of diarrhoea and sickness, the more serious cases having a slight temperature on the 26th, but all having practically recovered by the following day.

The investigations indicated that the food and milk consumed should not be blamed as nearly 2,000 children in other schools had consumed similar food supplied by the Cooking Dept. in Hertford without further complaint being received.

A probable cause of the sickness was thought to be contamination by mice of the crockery used by the children. A mouse trapped in the premises was examined with negative results.

Arrangements were made to prevent further contamination of crockery and utensils.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES
among the different parishes.

	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Acute P.M.	Pneumonia	Cerebro-Spinal M
Aston	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bayford	—	5	—	—	1	—
Benington	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bengeo Rural	—	6	—	—	—	—
Bramfield	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brickendon Liberty	—	—	—	—	—	—
Datchworth	—	2	—	—	—	—
Hertingfordbury	1	—	—	—	—	—
Little Amwell	—	2	1	—	—	—
Little Berkhamstead	—	4	—	—	—	—
Sacombe	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stapleford	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tewin	—	8	—	—	—	—
Walkern	—	2	—	—	—	—
Watton-at-Stone	—	2	2	—	—	—
„ Heathmount School, Woodhall Park	—	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Cases on Register 1/1/1949	13	12	3	8	36
Cases added to Register during the year.					
New Cases	—	4	2	1	7
Cases restored to Register	—	—	—	—	—
Inward Transfers	—	—	—	—	—
Cases removed from Register during the year.					
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—
Outward Transfers	—	—	1	—	1
Patients cured	—	—	—	—	—
Cases on Register 31/12/49	13	16	4	9	42

