

**[Report 1951] / Medical Officer of Health, East Hertfordshire Combined Districts (Hertford Borough, Hoddesdon U.D.C., Bishop's Stortford U.D.C., Ware U.D.C., Sawbridgeworth U.D.C., Ware R.D.C., Braughing R.D.C., Hertford R.D.C.).**

**Contributors**

East Hertfordshire Combined Districts.

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# EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

Hertford (M.B.)

Hoddesdon (U.D.)

Sawbridgeworth (U.D.)

Ware (U.D.)

Braughing (R.D.)

Hertford (R.D.)

Ware (R.D.)



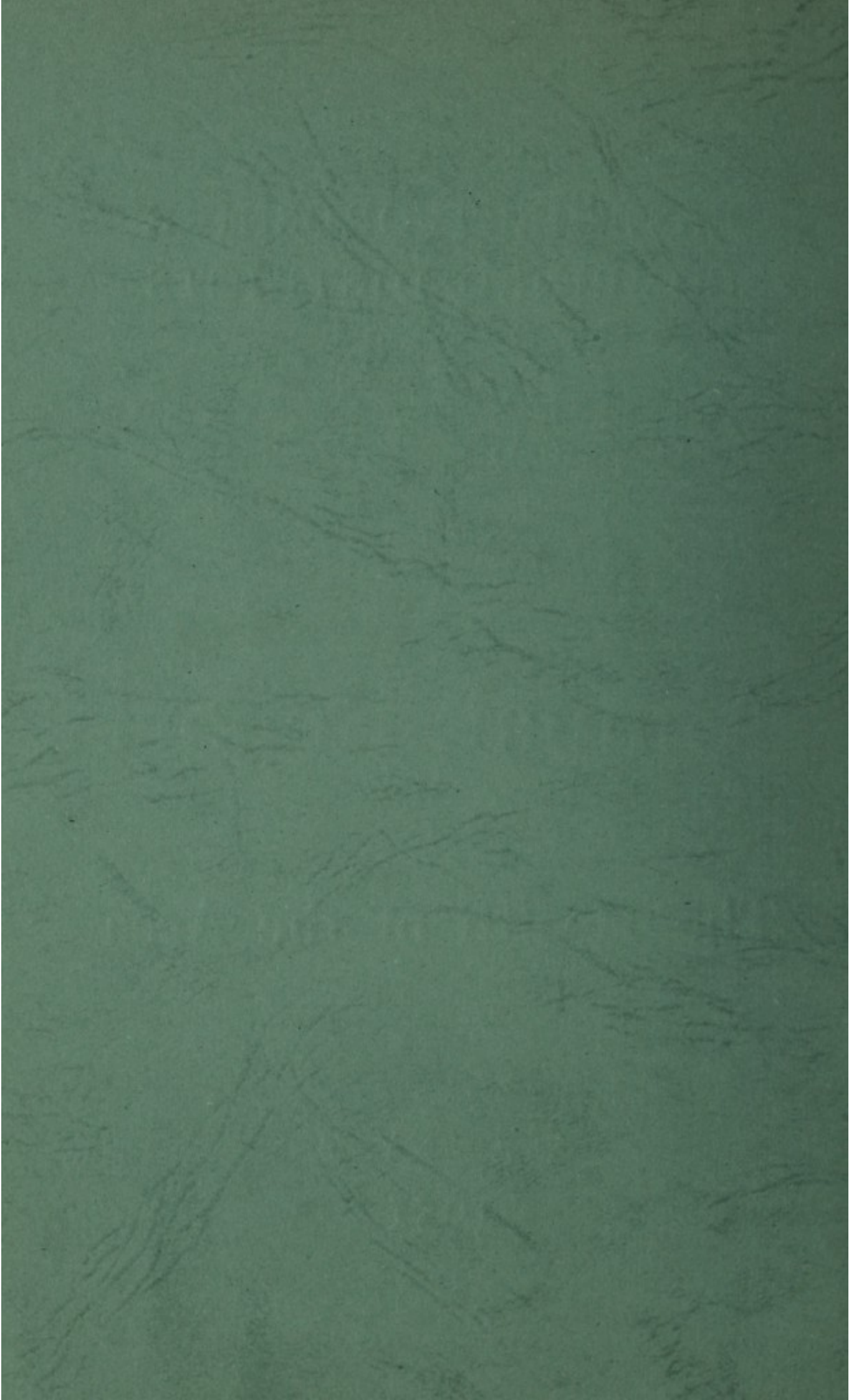
# Annual Report

ON

## The Health of the Area

*For the Year*

1951





# EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

Hertford (M.B.)

Hoddesdon (U.D.)

Braughing (R.D.)

Sawbridgeworth (U.D.)

Hertford (R.D.)

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1951

PRINTED BY THOMAS KNIGHT AND CO., LTD.  
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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE  
COMBINED DISTRICTS

(Hertford & H.A.)

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Annual Report

of

The Health of the Area

For the Year

1951

## INDEX

## SECTION A

<b>Sanitary Inspectors for each District</b> ... ..	<i>Page</i> 4
<b>Preface and General Remarks</b> on Influenza, Diphtheria, Acute Poliomyelitis, Illness at two schools, Milk—Bovine Tuberculosis, Mass Radiography, National Assistance Act, 1948 ... ..	5
<b>Vital Statistics</b>	
Resident Populations ... ..	8
Birth Rates ... ..	8
Death Rates ... ..	8
Infantile Mortality Rates ... ..	8
<b>General Statistics</b>	
Acreage, Inhabited Houses, Densities ... ..	9
Rateable Value, Penny Rate ... ..	9
Births and Deaths ... ..	9
<b>Infectious Diseases</b>	
Number of Cases, Case Rates ... ..	10
Tuberculosis (Table) ... ..	11
<b>Causes of Death</b> ... ..	12
<b>General Provision of Health Services in East Herts</b>	
Home Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting	} ... .. 13
Vaccination and Immunisation	
Home Helps	
Care and After Care	
Ambulance	
Mental Health	
Hospital Services	
General Practitioner Medical Services	
<b>Housing Progress Table</b> ... ..	14
<b>Factories Act, 1937</b>	
Inspection of Factories ... ..	15
Outworkers ... ..	15
Defects found in Factories ... ..	16

## SECTION B

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF EACH DISTRICT

<b>Municipal Borough of Hertford</b> ... ..	17
<b>Urban District of Hoddesdon</b> ... ..	31
"    "    " <i>Sawbridgeworth</i> ... ..	46
"    "    " <i>Ware</i> ... ..	51
<b>Rural District of Braughing</b> ... ..	61
"    "    " <i>Hertford</i> ... ..	66
"    "    " <i>Ware</i> ... ..	71



# EAST HERTS COMBINED DISTRICTS

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L.R.C.P.(Lond.)

*(Deputy (Part-time) Medical Officer of Health)*

## SANITARY INSPECTORS

### HERTFORD MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

JOHN BARNISH\* (retired 11/10/51) B. W. PECK† (until 11/10/51)

B. W. PECK (appointed Sanitary Inspector 12/10/51)

The Castle, Hertford

(Telephone: Hertford 2204)

### HODDESDON URBAN DISTRICT

WM. NOEL DAVID\* W. F. FORREST‡

Council Offices, High Street, Hoddesdon, Herts

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C. A. FORD\*†

Council Offices, The Forebury, Sawbridgeworth, Herts

(Telephone: Sawbridgeworth 2161)

### WARE URBAN DISTRICT

CHAS. J. LUCAS\* J. C. CHAPMAN‡

The Priory, Ware, Herts

(Telephone: Ware 425)

### BRAUGHING RURAL DISTRICT

E. E. WATERIDGE† G. C. SMITH‡

Bridgefoot House, Buntingford, Herts

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### HERTFORD RURAL DISTRICT

HORACE ERNEST GILBY\*†

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### WARE RURAL DISTRICT

A. D. G. GOOLD\*† P. G. ALLISON‡

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(Telephone: Ware 492)

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

† Also District Council Surveyor.

‡ Additional Sanitary Inspector.



## EAST HERTS COMBINED DISTRICTS

### PREFACE AND GENERAL REMARKS

The following report on the health of the East Herts Combined Sanitary Districts during 1951, has been drawn up on the lines indicated in Circular 42/51 issued by the Ministry of Health. The various rates have been calculated on the Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year population for 1951.

The influenza outbreak which spread across the country during the first quarter of 1951 caused an increase of approximately four times the normal number of claims for sick benefit at the local offices of the Ministry of National Insurance in East Herts. The outbreak appeared to reach its peak towards the end of January and a total of 22 deaths from influenza was recorded, compared with only seven deaths from this cause during 1950.

For the second year in succession no cases of diphtheria occurred in the whole of the area, and only two minor cases of acute poliomyelitis were notified, both of whom made a good recovery.

Two outbreaks of illness affecting schools were investigated. The first was an outbreak of Sonné dysentery at Bayford School in the Hertford Rural District during March 1951. This affected 26 children and two adults. The origin of the infection was not discovered, but it is thought that the spread was facilitated by the primitive form of the sanitary arrangements at the school. The School Medical Officer was informed of the facts and steps have been taken to install modern sanitation.

The second outbreak occurred during December 1951 at Brent Pelham School in the Braughing Rural District, when 22 children and one teacher were afflicted with vomiting, diarrhoea, and stomach pains. Detailed investigations were carried out immediately and the Cambridge Public Health Laboratory carried out tests upon food specimens, specimens of vomit and faeces, a rat and a mouse trapped at the school canteen, and upon milk and water samples taken at the school.

All these tests failed to show adequate reason for the outbreak. Recovery of the patients was rapid and attendance at the school four days later was normal for that time of year.

During the year information was received of a number of herds of cows yielding milk infected with bovine tuberculosis. In most cases no statutory action had to be taken by the Public Health Department since the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was able to detect the infected



cows at a clinical examination and cause them to be removed for slaughter. In one case, however, in a herd where the infection was very heavy and raw milk was being sold to the general public, a notice was issued under Section 20 of the Milk Regulations 1949 diverting the milk from the herd for heat treatment prior to its sale for human consumption. The notice remained in force from the 20th April, 1951, until the 5th June, 1951, when it was cancelled upon receipt of a report stating that the milk was no longer infected with bovine tuberculosis.

In connection with the National Anti-Tuberculosis Campaign a Mass Radiography Unit of the North East Metropolitan Regional Hospitals Board visited Hertford and Ware during July, 1951. A total of 5,381 persons (3,051 men and 2,330 women) volunteered for X-ray examination on miniature films. Only 180 were recalled for further examination on large films. Of these, 87 persons showed signs of having had an infection with pulmonary tuberculosis, but the disease was inactive in all except one case. Of the remaining 93 persons called for X-ray on large films, 27 showed interesting abnormalities of either the heart, lungs or the ribs; and 66 were subsequently found to have no chest disease at all. Full details are given in the district reports for the Hertford Borough and Ware Urban District.

The nett result of the survey is that out of a combined total population of just over 25,000 only one-fifth of the population volunteered to undergo free X-ray examination.

Finally I would like to make a few general comments concerning my experience of the National Assistance Act 1948, Section 47—*removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention*. As a result of complaints received or of investigations carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors, I visited the homes of a small number of aged persons who were living in conditions of squalor and neglect. In no case was I able to advise the District Council concerned that statutory action could be taken to cause the forcible removal of the person to an institution or home, since one or other of the conditions in the regulations were not fulfilled, and it was considered doubtful whether any Magistrates Court would uphold an order for removal. In all these cases an attempt was made to improve the living conditions of the person concerned by enlisting the help of the County Council Welfare Services—District Nurse, Health Visitor, Home Helps—as well as the assistance of kind-hearted neighbours and members of Old Peoples' Welfare Committees and the National Assistance Board. It is often difficult, sometimes impossible to obtain a Home Help who is able and willing to continue to look after these folk. The premises and persons therein are so dirty and revolting that after one visit the would-be helpers feel unable to remain. *And yet these are the very*



*cases requiring the maximum amount of help from the Social Services. I think that a remedy might be the formation of "Mobile Squads" of stout-hearted men and women equipped with a van, an assortment of cleaning materials, mainly soap, water, buckets, and brooms, and who could be sent out to these dirty premises to give them a thorough springcleaning. Once the premises were reasonably clean it would not be so difficult to persuade a Home Help to remain in attendance, maintain cleanliness, and look after the aged persons. It might be necessary for this squad of cleaners to pay a return visit once or twice a year depending upon the circumstances of the cases.*

A Service of this nature would probably be very costly to maintain if done on a small scale, but if extended to cover a large area might provide enough work to keep a team of cleaners fully and usefully occupied. I think that this is a Service which could very well be considered and undertaken by the County Council in co-operation with the Sanitary Authorities, and certain voluntary organisations.

As in former years, I am indebted to all my colleagues who have helped me compile this Combined Report, and to the County Medical Officer for the Summary of County Council Services.

JOHN WILDMAN,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

The Castle,  
Hertford.  
July, 1952.



## VITAL STATISTICS, 1951

District	Resident Population	Birth Rate (per 1,000 Population)	Area Comparability Factor for Births	Standardised Birth Rate	Death Rate (per 1,000 Population)	Area Comparability Factor for Deaths	Standardised Death Rate	Infantile Mortality (per 1,000 Related Live Births)
MUNICIPAL BOROUGH Hertford ...	14,140	13.8	1.01	13.9	12.5	1.02	12.8	20.5
URBAN DISTRICTS								
Hoddesdon ...	13,820	15.1	0.96	14.5	11.1	0.97	10.8	33.7
Sawbridgeworth ...	3,785	16.1	1.06	17.0	13.2	0.87	11.5	16.4
Ware ...	8,365	17.0	1.24	21.0	13.3	0.89	11.8	21.1
RURAL DISTRICTS								
Braughing ...	10,460	16.0	1.10	17.6	11.6	0.86	10.0	23.9
Hertford ...	8,652	16.9	1.04	17.6	11.2	0.94	10.5	27.4
Ware ...	11,230	17.1	1.05	17.9	12.8	0.91	11.6	31.2
East Herts (C.D.) ...	70,452	15.8	—	—	12.1	—	—	26.1
England and Wales ...	—	15.5	—	15.5	12.5	—	12.5	29.6

GENERAL STATISTICS, 1951  
Table I

	Area (Acres)	Number of inhabited houses (end of 1951, according to the Rate Books)	Density of persons per Acre	Density of Houses per Acre	Average Number of Occupants per House	Rateable Value	Sum represented by a Penny Rate
Hertford (M.B.)	3,882	4,719	3.6	1.22	3.0	£ 109,156	£ 420
Hoddesdon	4,423	3,915	3.1	0.89	3.5	98,373	395
Sawbridgeworth	2,678	1,073	1.4	0.40	3.5	24,171	97
Ware (U.D.)	1,343	2,298	6.2	1.71	3.6	51,346	211
Braughing	45,570	3,384	0.2	0.07	3.1	49,364	191
Hertford (R.D.)	31,843	2,498	0.3	0.08	3.5	41,477	167
Ware (R.D.)	29,102	2,963	0.4	0.10	3.8	67,188	264
East Herts (C.D.)	118,841	20,850	0.6	0.17	3.4		

Table II

	BIRTHS					DEATHS		Natural Increase or Decrease
	Legitimate	Illegitimate		TOTAL				
		Number	Percentage	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Hertford	190	5	2.6	102	88	89	+ 18	
Hoddesdon	196	12	5.8	116	85	69	+ 54	
Sawbridgeworth	58	3	4.9	34	25	25	+ 11	
Ware (U.D.)	137	5	3.5	69	56	55	+ 31	
Braughing	160	7	4.2	92	60	61	+ 46	
Hertford (R.D.)	137	9	6.2	65	50	47	+ 49	
Ware (R.D.)	187	5	2.6	96	91	53	+ 48	
East Herts (C.D.)	1,065	46	4.1	574	455	399	+ 257	



# INFECTIOUS DISEASES      GENERAL STATISTICS, 1951 Incidence

District	Scarlet Fever	Whoop- ing Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis		Measles	Diph- theria	Acute Pneu- monia	Small- pox	Typhoid Fever	Para- typhoid Fever	Ery- sipelas	Menin- gococcal Infec- tion	Food Poison- ing	Puer- peral Pyrexia
			Para- lytic	Non- para- lytic										
Hertford (M.B.) ...	20	87	—	—	242	—	32	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Hoddesdon (U.D.) ...	10	135	—	—	376	—	18	—	—	—	3	—	3	—
Sawbridgeworth (U.D.) ...	2	2	—	—	71	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Ware (U.D.) ...	1	28	—	—	90	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Braughing (R.D.) ...	5	121	—	1	201	—	16	—	—	2	—	1	—	—
Hertford (R.D.) ...	6	92	—	1	118	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Ware (R.D.) ...	1	100	—	—	248	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total East Herts (C.D.) ...	45	565	—	2	1346	—	90	—	—	2	4	1	6	1

## Case Rate

District	Per 1,000 Population													Per 1,000 Total Births
	Scarlet Fever	Whoop- ing Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis		Measles	Diph- theria	Acute Pneu- monia	Small- pox	Typhoid Fever	Para- typhoid Fever	Ery- sipelas	Menin- gococcal Infec- tion	Food Poison- ing	
			Para- lytic	Non- para- lytic										
Hertford (M.B.) ...	1.42	6.15	—	—	17.12	—	2.26	—	—	—	0.07	—	0.07	—
Hoddesdon (U.D.) ...	0.72	9.99	—	—	27.20	—	1.30	—	—	—	0.22	—	0.22	—
Sawbridgeworth (U.D.) ...	0.53	0.53	—	—	18.76	—	0.26	—	—	—	—	—	0.26	—
Ware (U.D.) ...	0.12	3.35	—	—	10.76	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6.99
Braughing (R.D.) ...	0.48	11.57	—	0.09	19.22	—	1.15	—	—	0.19	—	0.09	—	—
Hertford (R.D.) ...	0.69	1.06	—	0.12	10.83	—	0.58	—	—	—	—	—	0.12	—
Ware (R.D.) ...	0.09	8.90	—	—	22.09	—	1.16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total East Herts (C.D.) ...	0.64	8.02	0.00	0.28	19.10	0.00	1.13	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.09	0.01	0.08	0.88
England and Wales ...	1.11	3.87	0.03	0.02	14.07	0.02	0.99	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.14	0.03	0.13	10.66



## TUBERCULOSIS DURING 1951

	Cases on Register at 1st January, 1951			Cases added to Register during 1951						Cases removed from Register during 1951						Cases remaining on Register at 31st Dec., 1951			Increase or decrease over 1950	Mortality Rate per 1,000 Population										
	P.	NP.	Td.	New Cases			Cases restored to Register			Inward Transfers			Deaths			Outward Transfers					Patients Cured									
				P.	NP.	Td.	P.	NP.	Td.	P.	NP.	Td.	P.	NP.	Td.	P.	NP.	Td.			P.	NP.	Td.							
Hertford M.B. ...	M.	27	12	77	9	1	14	-	-	-	-	-	Nil	-	-	Nil	2	1	4	1	-	1	-	-	Nil	33	12	86	+ 9	0.28
	F.	20	18		4	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	18			
Hoddesdon U.D. ...	M.	47	8	101	4	-	7	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	4	-	5	-	-	2	-	1	-	48	8	102	+ 1	0.36
	F.	32	14		3	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	32	14			
Sawbridgeworth U.D.	M.	1	-	10	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	Nil	-	-	Nil	-	-	Nil	-	-	Nil	-	-	-	2	-	11	+ 1	Nil
	F.	8	1		-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	1			
Ware U.D. ...	M.	18	6	48	5	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	1	5	-	-	-	20	6	54	+ 6	0.12
	F.	15	9		6	-		-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	20	8			
Braughing R.D. ...	M.	25	10	62	1	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	Nil	-	-	Nil	2	-	3	1	-	1	-	1	-	22	11	63	+ 1	0.29
	F.	17	10		3	1		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	11			
Hertford R.D. ...	M.	13	5	41	7	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	Nil	-	-	Nil	2	-	2	1	-	1	-	1	-	16	5	46	+ 5	0.23
	F.	13	10		4	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	8			
Ware R.D. ...	M.	20	15	65	4	-	10	-	-	-	3	-	7	-	-	Nil	2	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	24	15	79	+ 14	0.18
	F.	13	17		6	-		-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	17			
Total East Herts C.D.	M.	151	56	404	31	2	60	-	-	-	5	-	10	-	-	Nil	13	1	17	6	-	11	3	-	5	165	57	441	+ 37	0.24
	F.	118	79		26	1		-	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	4	1	-	2	-	142	77			

## ABBREVIATIONS USED

M—Male. F—Female. P—Pulmonary. NP—Non-Pulmonary. Td.—Total. M.B.—Municipal Borough. U.D.—Urban District.  
R.D.—Rural District. C.D.—Combined Districts.



## CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1951

	Causes of Death	Hertford M.B.		Hoddesdon U.D.		Sawbridge-worth U.D.		Ware U.D.		Braughing R.D.		Hertford R.D.		Ware R.D.		
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1	ALL CAUSES ...	88	89	85	69	25	25	56	55	60	61	50	47	91	53	1
2	Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	2	3	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	3	1	2	0	2
3	Tuberculosis, other	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
4	Syphilitic disease	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
5	Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
6	Whooping Cough	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
7	Meningococcal infections	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
8	Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
9	Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
10	Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	10
11	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	4	3	2	3	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	11
12	" lung, bronchus	6	1	3	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	3	0	2	0	12
13	" breast	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	13
14	" uterus	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	14
15	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	3	6	5	2	2	9	4	3	6	1	1	9	7	15
16	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	16
17	Diabetes	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	17
18	Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	21	11	6	5	6	2	10	11	12	4	9	15	10	18
19	Coronary disease, angina	12	12	12	9	3	3	7	4	12	4	12	7	12	4	19
20	Hypertension with heart disease	1	0	2	7	0	0	2	4	4	3	2	3	2	2	20
21	Other heart disease	12	16	10	12	4	7	6	14	7	7	8	6	15	8	21
22	Other circulatory disease	4	4	2	4	0	1	3	2	1	1	1	1	3	0	22
23	Influenza	3	2	4	0	0	0	1	1	1	6	0	1	0	3	23
24	Pneumonia	4	3	0	1	0	1	2	2	2	4	2	1	3	3	24
25	Bronchitis	2	4	1	2	2	0	9	4	3	3	0	1	9	2	25
26	Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	26
27	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	27
28	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	28
29	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	29
30	Hyperplasia of prostate	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	30
31	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31
32	Congenital malformations	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	32
33	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	9	15	12	1	0	6	4	6	7	6	7	9	4	33
34	Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	34
35	All other accidents	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	2	2	1	35
36	Suicide	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	36
	Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Still Births	4	2	4	4	2	0	0	1	1	3	0	2	3	1	
	Deaths of infants under four weeks of age	2	0	5	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	3	1	3	0	
	" " four weeks to one year of age	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	1	2	



## **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.

Further details can be obtained from the County Medical Officer, County Hall, Hertford.

### **Home Nursing, Midwifery, Health Visiting and Welfare Centres**

District Nurse/Midwives work at 17 localities in the East Herts Combined Sanitary Districts.

These Nurses also carry out Health Visiting and School Nursing except at Hertford, Hoddesdon, Sawbridgeworth and Ware, where there are whole-time Health Visitor/School Nurses.

Twenty-four Welfare Centres have also been established in the same area.

### **Vaccinations and Diphtheria Immunisations**

Medical Officers at Welfare Centres will vaccinate or immunise any babies at the request of parents. Family Doctors will also provide this prophylaxis free of charge.

### **Home and Domestic Help**

Applications for this Service should be addressed to the Local Organiser at 27 Bull Plain, Hertford (Tel.: Hertford 3232) and 25a Portland Road, Bishop's Stortford (Tel.: Bishop's Stortford 332). A charge may be made for this Service in accordance with the County Council's assessment scale.

### **Care and After-Care**

Applications for recuperative holidays, if recommended by the Medical Attendant, should be made to the County Medical Officer.

Equipment can be issued on loan to patients being nursed at home. Loan Depots have been established at Bishop's Stortford, Braughing, Buntingford, Hertford, Great Hormead, Hoddesdon, Much Hadham, Standon, Stanstead Abbots and Ware.

A charge may be made for both these Services.

### **Ambulance Services**

There are Ambulance Stations at Hertford (Tel.: Hertford 2222), Bishop's Stortford (Tel.: Bishop's Stortford 1101), Hoddesdon (Tel.: Hoddesdon 3021) and Ware (Tel.: Ware 441).

Except in emergency an Ambulance should be ordered by a Medical Practitioner.

### **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 (Tel.: Ware 541).

Help in respect of Mentally Defective persons can be obtained by application to the County Medical Officer.

An Occupation Centre for defective children has been established in Hertford.

### **Hospital and General Practitioner Medical Services**

There has been no important change in these services since publication of the 1949 Report.



# HOUSING PROGRESS DURING 1951

	Hertford M.B.		Hoddesdon U.D.		Sawbridge-worth U.D.		Ware U.D.		Braughing R.D.		Hertford R.D.		Ware R.D.	
	During 1951	Since 1945	During 1951	Since 1945	During 1951	Since 1945	During 1951	Since 1945	During 1951	Since 1945	During 1951	Since 1945	During 1951	Since 1945
<b>By PRIVATE ENTERPRISE</b>														
New dwellings erected ... ..	4	44	13	97	4	29	7	40	3	76	8	84	10	55
War-destroyed dwellings rebuilt ... ..	—	21	—	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Repairs to war-damaged houses ... ..	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	46	—	31	—	—
Conversions or adaptations in terms of family units ... ..	6	33	4	20	—	—	3	27	—	34	1	25	—	—
<b>By LOCAL SANITARY AUTHORITY</b>														
New dwellings erected ... ..	91	276	76	316	14	79	34	186	42	325	35	229	38	306
Conversions or adaptations in terms of family units ... ..	—	6	—	8	—	78	—	—	—	60	—	1	—	—
Temporary prefabricated bungalows ... ..	—	50	—	38	—	10	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>By OTHER AUTHORITIES (County Council, Police, Military, etc.) ... ..</b>														
	—	25	1	7	1	3	2	14	—	—	—	36	—	—
<b>TOTAL PROPERTIES CONTROLLED BY THE LOCAL SANITARY AUTHORITIES ON 31st DEC., 1951</b>														
Properties provided under the various Housing Acts:														
Council Houses ... ..	915	682	183	626	183	626	183	626	705	505	678	505	678	505
Temporary prefabricated bungalows ... ..	50	38	10	13	10	13	13	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sundries ... ..	25	30*	76	18	76	18	18	18	60	1	56	1	56	1
Requisitioned dwellings ... ..	6	3	4	1	4	1	1	1	2	6	5	6	5	5

Note:—\*Includes 4 Shop Premises.

# **FACTORIES ACT, 1937**

## **Inspections of Factories during 1951**

Copy of Information supplied to the Ministry of Labour and National Service on Form 572 (Revised)				Hertford M.B.	Hoddesdon U.D.	Sawbridge- worth U.D.	Ware U.D.	Braughing R.D.	Hertford R.D.	Ware R.D.
<b>Factories without Mechanical Power</b>										
Number on Register	...			21	18	3	13	38	23	11
Inspections	...	...	...	13	4	8	10	32	8	3
Written Notices	...	...	...	1	1	—	—	—	2	—
Occupier Prosecuted	...			—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Factories with Mechanical Power</b>										
Number on Register	...			100	93	16	77	23	—	42
Inspections	...	...	...	13	66	18	23	17	—	36
Written Notices	...	...	...	1	6	—	9	—	—	—
Occupier Prosecuted	...			—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Other Premises under the Act</b> (Electric Stations, Institutions, Sites of Buildings operations and works of engineering construction, but not including Outworkers premises)										
Number on Register	...			—	1	1	7	6	—	—
Inspections	...	...	...	—	15	4	12	6	—	—
Written Notices	...	...	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Occupier Prosecuted	...			—	—	—	—	—	—	—

## **Outworkers**

Copy of Information supplied to the Ministry of Labour and National Service on Form 572 (Revised)				Hertford M.B.	Hoddesdon U.D.	Sawbridge- worth U.D.	Ware U.D.	Braughing R.D.	Hertford R.D.	Ware R.D.
<b>Wearing Apparel:</b>										
Making, etc.	...	...	...	198	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning and Washing	...			—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Box Making	...	...	...	—	—	—	37	—	—	—
Brush Making	...	...	...	24	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paper Bag Making	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—



## Defects found in Factories during 1951

Copy of Information supplied to the Ministry of Labour and National Service on Form 572 (Revised)	Hertford M.B.	Hoddesdon U.D.	Sawbridge- worth U.D.	Ware U.D.	Braughing R.D.	Hertford R.D.	Ware R.D.
Want of Cleanliness:							
Found ... ..	2	1	-	1	-	-	-
Remedied ... ..	2	1	-	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding:							
Found ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Remedied ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature:							
Found ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Remedied ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation:							
Found ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Remedied ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of Floors:							
Found ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Remedied ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences Insufficient:							
Found ... ..	-	4	-	2	-	-	3
Remedied ... ..	-	4	-	2	-	-	2
Sanitary Conveniences Unsuitable or Defective:							
Found ... ..	-	9	2	6	-	-	6
Remedied ... ..	-	9	-	2	-	-	6
Sanitary Conveniences not separate for Sexes:							
Found ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Remedied ... ..	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Other Offences:							
Found ... ..	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Remedied ... ..	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Total Defects:							
Found ... ..	2	15	2	10	-	-	9
Remedied ... ..	2	15	-	6	-	-	8
Total Defects referred to H.M. Inspector ... ..	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Total Defects referred by H.M. Inspector ... ..	2	5	2	3	-	-	-

# BOROUGH OF HERTFORD

## WATER SUPPLY

### Source

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

### 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 was carried out in November, 1951, from each of the four pumping stations with the following results:—

Chemical Analyses (parts per million)				
(Samples taken 28th Nov., 1951)	Wadesmill Road	Port Hill	Hartham	Molewood
Appearance... ..	Clear and bright.	Clear and bright.	Bright with a few mineral particles.	Clear and bright.
Turbidity (Silica scale) ... ..	Nil	Nil	Less than 3	Nil
Colour (Hazen) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Odour ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Taste ... ..	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Reaction pH ...	7.2	7.3	7.2	7.3
Free CO <sub>2</sub> ... ..	23	17	23	17
Electric Conducti- vity at 20° C. ...	530	490	580	500
Total solids dried at 180° C. ... ..	360	320	385	340
Hardness: ... ..				
Carbonate (Temp.)	255	235	255	240
Non-Carb. (Perm.)	40	35	50	40
Total ... ..	295*	270*	305*	280*
Nitrate Nitrogen ...	4.0	3.0	2.8	3.2
Nitrite Nitrogen ...	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.000	0.000	0.008	0.007
Albuminoid " "	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27° C. ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Residual Chlorine	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Metals ... ..	Absent	Absent	Iron 0.08 Other metals absent	Absent
Fluoride (F) ...	Less than 0.1	Less than 0.1	Less than 0.1	Less than 0.1

\* The precise figure calculated from the Magnesium and Calcium contents.

### REPORT. (All four samples)

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction.

The water is hard in character but not to an excessive degree and it contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution.



It is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity. (Hartham.—It is of the highest standard of organic quality and of satisfactory bacterial purity.)

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

*Bacteriological.*—Forty samples of water from the public water supplies were examined bacteriologically during the year, and in each case *B. Coli* organisms were absent from 100 ml.

## DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

During the year repairs were carried out to the soil sewer in Fordwich Hill and the surface water sewer behind St. Leonard's Church, Bengeo.

A scheme for the provision of main soil and surface water sewers in Bramfield Road to serve housing development now in hand, and further future development, was submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for approval, and a contract has been let for this work, which is expected to be under construction by 30th June, 1952.

The Sewage Disposal Works have worked efficiently, and since the introduction of new dome diffusers in the aeration system the effluent has continued to improve.

## REFUSE DISPOSAL

A weekly collection of refuse is carried out to each household, and special arrangements exist for the collection of trade refuse.

The number of refuse bins at 31st March, 1952, dealt with per week amounted to some 4,500, representing a tonnage of approximately 62 tons per week, and an annual collection of 2,645 loads as compared with 2,200 loads in July, 1946, when the first post-war houses were occupied.

The refuse tip at Fox Hole Farm has functioned satisfactorily throughout the year, and the first section has now been sealed off with a "fire break."

## PARTICULARS OF SANITARY INSPECTORS' WORK during the year 1951

### Inspection of District

<b>Total Number of Visits</b> ... ..	1,351
Dwelling Houses inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts ... ..	156
Housing, re-inspection of Works in Progress, and interviews with Owners and Builders ... ..	173
General Inspections ... ..	117
Complaints Investigated ... ..	116
Food Inspections ... ..	161
„ „ Control Visits ... ..	92



Visits re Cases of Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	34
" " " " " " Disinfections	...	...	...	26
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	13
Rodent Control—Inspections and Visits	...	...	...	106
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	110

### Registered and Licensed Premises Inspected

Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Shops, Meat Stores, and other Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	146
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Refuse Dump	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
							1,351

During the year, 106 houses have been inspected in regard to sanitary defects. Arising from informal procedure 108 improvements have been carried out in regard to 73 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 6,083, a nightly average of 17 men.

The premises have been kept under observation, 13 visits having been made during the year. The house is generally well conducted.

During the year, internal re-decoration of all the rooms of the house was carried out.

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 }	„ „ „ „ „

**Infectious Diseases**

The number of visits concerning cases of Infectious Diseases made during the year was 34.

The number of disinfections of rooms carried out, following cases of infectious diseases was 26.

In one case, following death from Tuberculosis, after receipt of formal application, a small quantity of bedding and clothing was removed and destroyed.

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

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

Disinfestation was carried out at four 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.

No cases received treatment during 1951.

**Smoke Abatement**

Thirteen smoke observations were taken during the year. No nuisance was recorded and no action was required to be taken by the Health Department.

**Licensed Premises—Sanitary Accommodation**

Informal action under Section 89 has secured the following improvements:—

New urinal accommodation provided	...	...	...	1
Urinal accommodation improved	...	...	...	1
Sanitary accommodation for the sexes	...	...	...	2
Sanitary accommodation improved	...	...	...	1
Notices outstanding at the end of the year include:—				
Unsatisfactory urinal accommodation	...	...	...	1
Provision of separate accommodation for the sexes	...	...	...	1



## HOUSING ACTS 1936-1949

### Overcrowding Summary

The following is a summary of the recorded conditions of overcrowding within the Borough, for the year 1951.

#### *Overcrowding*

Number of overcrowded houses at 1st January, 1951	...	11
Rehoused by Corporation	... ..	6
Abated by Occupier	... ..	2
		— 8
New cases discovered (including one borderline case which became overcrowded during the year)	... ..	3
		— 5
Number of overcrowding cases at 31st December, 1951	...	6

#### *Borderline Cases*

Number of borderline cases at 1st January, 1951	...	5
Rehoused by Corporation	... ..	2
Abated by Occupier	... ..	—
Cases which became overcrowded during the year	... ..	1
		— 3
New cases discovered	... ..	1
		— 2
Number of borderline cases at 31st December, 1951	...	3

#### *Partial Overcrowding Cases (overcrowding of rooms)*

Number of partially overcrowded cases at 1st January, 1951	... ..	2
Rehoused by Corporation	... ..	1
Abated by Occupier	... ..	—
Cases which became borderline overcrowding during the year	... ..	—
		— 1
New cases discovered during the year	... ..	1
		— 0
Number of partial overcrowding cases at 31st Dec., 1951	...	2

### Housing Progress

Details of Housing Progress are tabulated in the combined statistical part of this Report.

## FOOD AND DRUG ACT, 1938

### Milk and Dairies

#### *Milk Supply*

Number of Producers	... ..	9
„ „ Producers/Retailers	... ..	1
„ „ Retail Purveyors of Milk	... ..	3



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

*Tuberculin Tested Milk*

Dealers' Licence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Supplementary Dealer's Licence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Producer's Licence (issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

*Sterilised Milk*

Dealer's Licence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Supplementary Dealer's Licence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

*Pasteurised Milk*

Dealer's Licence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Supplementary Dealer's Licence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pasteurisers Licence (issued by Herts County Council in respect of premises situate in the Borough)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Seven samples of pasteurised milk taken by the Herts County Council under the Milk in Schools Scheme satisfied the prescribed test.

A further 31 samples of pasteurised milk taken from the pasteurising plant within the Borough also proved to be satisfactory.

During August two notifications were received from the County Council of Laboratory reports on biological examinations of bulk representative samples of tuberculin tested milk which were positive to *Brucella abortus*. No special action was necessary since the milk from this supply was already being pasteurised before sale to the public.

## Ice-Cream

*Ice-Cream Premises*

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

Registered Dealers (including two new registrations during 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Registered Producer/Dealer "cold mix"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Changes of Occupation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42

## Food Premises

Number of Inspections of Food Premises: 146.

Various improvements have been carried out at Food Premises during the year, additional washing facilities having been installed and additional food storage provided by the installation of refrigerators.

In one instance the issue of a Catering Licence by the Ministry of Food was held over pending the completion of the requirements of this department regarding cleanliness and the provision of adequate food storage facilities.



## Slaughterhouses and Slaughtermen

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

Of the applications for renewal of the licences of the two slaughterhouses in the Borough, the granting of one was opposed on the grounds of the condition of the premises, considerable deterioration having taken place due to non-usage.

The remaining slaughterhouse is 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.

There are four slaughtermen licensed 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 a total of 253 visits and the issue of 321 Certificates of Condemnation of Foodstuffs.

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

<i>Canned Foodstuffs</i>						No. of Containers	Weight in lbs.
Corned Beef	...	...	...	...	...	30	34½
Other Meat and Meat Products	...	...	...	...	...	84	163¼
Ham	...	...	...	...	...	42	588¼
Soups	...	...	...	...	...	346	230¼
Pulses and Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	170	183¾
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	309	406
Preserves and Jams	...	...	...	...	...	57	63½
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	79	80¾
Pickles and Sauces	...	...	...	...	...	40	30¼
Cereals	...	...	...	...	...	89	59
Fish and Fish Products	...	...	...	...	...	29	61
						<hr/> 1,275	<hr/> 1,900½

## *Condensed Milk*

Arising from complaints of two customers in regard to canned Irish Condensed Milk, representative samples from the consignment were sent to the Central Public Health Laboratories, Hendon, the Report being that the bacteriological findings fell within normal limits. In the circumstances as the external conditions of the remainder of the consignment did not show external defects no further action was necessary.

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.



*Fish*

	Lbs.		Lbs.
Skate ... ..	15	Cod Fillets ... ..	78
Cod ... ..	14	Bloaters ... ..	14
Dogfish ... ..	112	Haddocks ... ..	84
Herrings ... ..	70	Crabs ... ..	70
Kippers ... ..	28	Cod Roes ... ..	56
Mackerel ... ..	199	Fish Cakes ... ..	15
Prawns ... ..	44		
Total: 799 lbs.			

*Miscellaneous Foodstuffs*

		Lbs.	Lbs.
Beef—Home Killed:			
Two Hind Quarters ...	Casual Slaughter (Internal Decomposition) ...	322	
Top Bit and Rump ...	Casual Slaughter (Extensive Inflammation) ...	98	
Topside, Silverside and Thick Flank ...	Internal Decomposition ...	25	
Topside and Silverside (Boneless) ...	Internal Decomposition ...	47	
Top Rib ...	Abscess ...	6	
Calves Head ...	Decomposition ...	18	
Calves Feet ...	Decomposition ...	12	
Veal Trimmings ...	Decomposition ...	3½	
Sweet Bread ...	... ..	5	
		—	536½

*Pork—Home Killed:*

Six Carcases ...	Decomposition ...	274	
One Carcase, Casualty Killed ...	Putrefaction ...	32	
Offal ...	Decomposition ...	14	
Head ...	Internal Decomposition ...	9	
		—	329

*Sausages:*

Pork ...	Decomposition ...	40	
Beef ...	„ ...	11	
Luncheon ...	„ ...	11	
		—	62
Turkey (two) ...	„ ...	15	
Cheese ...	... ..	22	
Cake ...	... ..	36	
Cake Filling ...	... ..	7	
Miscellaneous ...	... ..	42	
		—	1,049½

*Beef*

The two hind-quarters of Beef—weight 322 lbs. were examined at the Meat Depot, Bell Lane, Hertford (a Meat Distributing Centre linked with the Ministry of Food) and were from an animal slaughtered on the farm following an accident.

*Pork*

The six carcasses (274 lbs.) and Offal (14 lbs.) were examined in February at the Meat Depot, Bell Lane, Hertford (a Meat Distributing Centre linked with the Ministry of Food). The Police Authorities were involved in an action concerned with irregular slaughter of the pigs.

*Cheese*

In accordance with the instructions contained in Appendix B of the Ministry of Food Circular 3/48, the above 22 lbs. Cheese was returned to the Ministry of Food through Trade channels.

Total weight of foodstuffs for the year:—

	tons	cwts.	lbs.
Food in Containers ... ..		16	108½
Fish ... ..		7	15
Miscellaneous Foodstuffs ...		9	41½
	1	13	53

	1948			1949			1950		
	tons	cwts.	lbs.	tons	cwts.	lbs.	tons	cwts.	lbs.
Canned Foods		14	30		11	49	1	1	92½
Fish ... ..		12	64	1	6	52		7	89½
Miscellaneous	2	0	38		11	13		5	2
	3	7	20	2	9	2	1	14	72

**FACTORIES ACT, 1938***Number of Factories on Register:*

Mechanical Factories ... ..	100
Non-Mechanical Factories ... ..	21
	121

*Number of Inspections:*

Mechanical Factories (including five "Mechanical" Bake-houses) ... ..	13
Non-Mechanical Factories (including one non-mechanical Bakehouse) ... ..	13
	26



Number of Notices Served ... .. 2

During the year references were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories in regard to new or changed circumstances at 24 factories.

### Contraventions

Contraventions of the Factories Act discovered and remedied during the year include:—

Cleansing of Workroom	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cleansing of Watercloset compartment	...	...	...	...	...	1

### Outworkers

The half-yearly lists of outworkers supplied by factories within the Borough in accordance with the requirements of the Factories Act include 222 persons. Of this total, 89 are resident within the Borough.

Lists supplied by other local authorities of outworkers employed by firms situate outside the Borough include 11 persons resident within the Borough.

The nature of the work carried out by the outworkers within the Borough is as follows: Wearing apparel 73; Brush workers 17; Envelope making 10.

Information was received during the year of a case of Scarlet Fever having been notified at an address outside the Borough at which "home work" was received from a firm within the Borough. As the patient was being nursed at home, the necessary precautions were taken to prevent the further acceptance of "home work" until the termination of the case, and the disinfection of the material already held by the outworker.

During the year a notification was received of a case of Scarlet Fever occurring at an outworkers' premises where "home work" was being received from a firm situate outside the Borough. Following routine disinfection of the premises, a quantity of finished and unfinished materials at the premises was suitably disinfected by this Department before being returned to the factory.

## RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

The above Act providing for the Licensing or Registration by local authorities of premises where Rag Flock is manufactured, stored or used, came into operation on the 1st November, 1951.

### *Registered Premises*

One application for Registration was considered and approved under the Act, the premises already being registered as a factory carrying on a trade of Carpet Repairs, Mattress Cleaning, Upholstery and Cabinet Work.



## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Some difficulty was experienced during the year in maintaining inspections and treatments, the Corporation being without a rodent operator from the beginning of May until the end of July, and again in September/October. Following practical training with a neighbouring local authority, the present rodent operator commenced early in November.

### Corporation Properties

#### *Surface Properties*

Twenty-six routine visits were made during the year to all Council properties occupied by the Corporation. Treatments were made as follows:—

Sewage Works	...	...	...	2
Waterworks, Port Hill	...	...	...	1
Other Premises	...	...	...	2

#### *Sewers*

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, following the annual test-baiting of the Corporation Sewers in January, the winter and summer treatments were carried out during January and September. The number of manholes treated being 71 and 73 respectively.

#### *Private Dwellings*

Number of premises inspected	...	...	237
Mice infestations treated	...	...	11
Rat infestations treated	...	...	84

In order to facilitate the work of rodent control, the Corporation continues to service and treat private dwellings without charge. The advantage of this policy is the gradual increase in the number of complaints of minor infestations (potential major infestations) which might otherwise have not been reported.

### Business Properties

Number of premises inspected	...	...	41
Total number of premises treated	...	...	8

Owing to being without a rodent operator and the consequent difficulties of maintaining work on Contracts, the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries were carried out and treatments at business premises are now continued on a time and materials basis.

### Agricultural Land

Although the District Council is the responsible authority under the Act, infestations on agricultural properties are referred to the County Pest Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, who by agreement continue to carry out the treatment of such properties.

Close co-operation has been maintained with the Pest Department of the Herts County Agricultural Executive Committee.



## 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 August, 1951, 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 Act, 1935.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES: CONTROL AND PREVENTION

### Food Poisoning

*Notifications* (corrected) returned to Registrar General:—

First Quarter	...	...	...	—
Second „	...	...	...	—
Third „	...	...	...	1
Fourth „	...	...	...	—
				—
Total Cases	...	...	...	1
				—

### *Case History*

On 4th July, 1951, a boy aged  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years became feverish and developed diarrhoea. These symptoms lasted for nine days and the child was sent to hospital for diagnosis and treatment.

Tests showed the presence of *Salmonella typhimurium* organisms in the stools collected from the child, and the case was notified as Food Poisoning on 16th July.

Routine enquiries at the child's home and places he visited during the week preceding the onset of his illness failed to indicate the source of infection. Faecal tests on other members of the family who were close contacts of the child were negative to food poisoning germs.

The child made an uneventful recovery. No other cases occurred.



## Tuberculosis

During July a Mass Radiography Unit of the North-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board carried out a survey in Hertford. It used accommodation at The Barracks, London Road, and also paid a special visit to County Hall, Hertford.

Only 75 persons out of a total of 2,330 X-rayed on miniature films at the Barracks had to be recalled for further examination on large films. Forty-four (under 2 per cent. of the total) were found to have suffered from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, but the disease was inactive. No cases of active disease were discovered. Fourteen further cases showed interesting abnormalities affecting either the heart, ribs or lung tissues. The remaining 17 cases called for re-examination on large films were found to have no chest disease at all.

## ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total number of miniature films taken ...	1,048	1,282	2,330
Total number of large films called for ...	40	35	75
<i>Schoolchildren</i>			
Number of miniature films ...	273	317	590
Number of large films ...	3	3	6
<i>School Staffs</i>			
Number of miniature films ...	16	11	27
Number of large films ...	1	—	1
<i>Organised Groups</i>			
Number of miniature films ...	360	372	732
Number of large films ...	21	12	33
<i>Public Sessions</i>			
Number of miniature films ...	399	582	981
Number of large films ...	15	20	35

## Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Inactive Primary ...	10	11	21
Inactive Post-Primary ...	11	12	23

There was no case of active disease discovered.

## Among Interesting Abnormalities discovered were:—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Pneumonitis ...	—	1	1
Bronchiectasis ...	—	1	1
Cardiovascular lesions—acquired ...	1	4	5
Sarcoidosis ...	—	1	1
Osteochondroma ...	1	—	1
Consolidation of Unknown Cause ...	1	—	1
Still Undergoing Investigation—probably pneumokoniosis (dust disease of the lung)	4	—	4



## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

DISEASE	TOTAL	AGE GROUP (in Years)							Age not Known	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
		Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65				
Scarlet Fever ... ..	21	1	8	12	—	—	—	—	21	—	
Whooping Cough ... ..	87	4	39	41	—	—	—	3	—	—	
Poliomyelitis (Acute):											
Paralytic ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Non-Paralytic ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Measles ... ..	242	12	115	110	2	1	0	2	10	—	
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Pneumonia ... ..	32	2	7	4	1	12	6	—	5	2	
Dysentery ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Encephalitis (Acute):											
Infective ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Post-Infectious ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Food Poisoning ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Infective Jaundice ... ..	4	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	

### INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING THE DIFFERENT MONTHS

[illegible]



## HODDESDON URBAN DISTRICT

### WATER SUPPLIES

Most of the houses (more than 98 per cent.) derive their water from public mains. A small number of houses are served by stand-pipes, but during the year 12 of such houses were provided with an internal water supply. There are some 50 houses in the District without a public supply; these are mainly situated in the outlying and undeveloped parts of the District.

A further extension of the Metropolitan Water Board's main was carried out in the Woollensbrook area during the year, connecting up with their main at Hertford Heath. This enabled four more properties at the northern end of the District, formerly relying on shallow wells, to be provided with a main water supply. Twenty houses in Nursery Road which formerly derived their water from a private supply in an adjoining nursery, were connected to the Metropolitan Water Board's main extension referred to in my report for 1950. One other property, which had only a shallow well supply, was connected to the Council's new main in Essex Road.

#### Public Mains 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.

Work on the scheme for super-chlorinating the water at the pumping station, followed by partial de-chlorination on entry into the reservoir, was put in hand during the year and completed early in 1952. The chlorine residual recorder to be provided has not yet been received from the manufacturers.

Fifty-two samples of water were taken from the Council's public supply and submitted for bacteriological examination. All except one were reported as satisfactory. In addition, 12 bacteriological examinations and one full chemical analysis of the raw water were carried out.



*Routine Bacteriological Examinations*

*Public Supply (after treatment).*—Fifty-two samples were tested, 51 were reported as being satisfactory, but Fæcal and Non-fæcal Coli were present in the sample taken on 6th September.

*Raw Water (before treatment).*—Twenty-five samples were tested and showed the presence of Fæcal Coli in each case.

This contamination of the raw water before treatment has necessitated the maintenance of a very high level of chlorination of the water in order to safeguard the public health. The failure already mentioned arose following a minor defect in the chlorination apparatus.

*Chemical Analysis of Hoddesdon U.D.C. Main Supply*

Chemical Results in Parts per Million	Raw Water. Sample taken 9th July, 1951
Appearance ... ..	Bright with a very slight deposit consisting of chalk particles.
Turbidity ... ..	Less than 3
Colour ... ..	Less than 10
Odour ... ..	Nil
Reaction pH ... ..	7.3
Free Carbon Dioxide ... ..	16
Electric Conductivity at 20° C. ... ..	640
Total solids, dried at 180° C. ... ..	430
Chlorine as Chloride ... ..	29
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate ... ..	225
Hardness:	
Carbonate (Temporary) ... ..	225
Non-Carbonate (Permanent) ... ..	110
Total ... ..	335
Nitrate Nitrogen ... ..	9.6
Nitrite Nitrogen ... ..	Less than 0.01
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ... ..	0.000
Oxygen Absorbed ... ..	0.31
Albuminoid Nitrogen ... ..	0.010
Residual Chlorine ... ..	—
Metals ... ..	Absent

**Private Supplies**

Following representations made to the owners, a new deep borehole was sunk at Frogley's Road, Dobbs Weir, to serve the existing bungalows and the chalet and caravan site being developed. Six samples of water were taken from this private supply and submitted for bacteriological examination, together with one full chemical analysis of the supply direct from the new bore. All but the initial sample were reported as satisfactory.

Six other samples—one of which was unsatisfactory—were taken from private supplies during the year.

*Results of Bacteriological Examinations of Private Supplies*

The two unsatisfactory results mentioned above were due to the presence of non-fæcal coli.



*Chemical Analysis of Private Supply*

Chemical Results in Parts per Million	Private Supply. Sample taken 8th August, 1951
Appearance ... ..	Yellow brown opalescence with a yellow brown deposit of iron oxide.
Turbidity ... ..	35
Colour ... ..	Filtered Nil
Odour ... ..	Faintly oily
Reaction pH ... ..	7.0
Free Carbon Dioxide ... ..	30
Electric Conductivity at 20° C. ... ..	610
Total solids, dried at 180° C. ... ..	410
Chlorine as Chloride ... ..	20
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate ... ..	210
Hardness:	
Carbonate (Temporary) ... ..	210
Non-Carbonate (Permanent) ... ..	120
Total ... ..	330
Nitrate Nitrogen ... ..	0.0
Nitrite Nitrogen ... ..	Absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ... ..	0.033
Oxygen Absorbed ... ..	0.40
Albuminoid Nitrogen ... ..	0.000
Residual Chlorine ... ..	—
Metals ... ..	Iron 7.2. Manganese 0.04. Other metals absent.

**Factory Supplies**

Unsatisfactory reports were received on samples of water taken from the private supply to one factory towards the end of the year. Investigations were continued into 1952 and the trouble eventually cleared up. A total of eight samples were taken from this source and submitted for bacteriological examination. Four unsatisfactory results were due to presence of non-fæcal coli, and one further unsatisfactory result was due to contamination by *Bacillus pyocyaneus*. One other sample taken from factory supplies was satisfactory.

**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.

**Broxbourne and Wormley Sewage Works**

The Council's Engineer and Surveyor has called attention to the increasing difficulties at the above-mentioned works, as a result of the number of post-war houses erected in these areas. It is anticipated that further building developments will take place in



the immediate future, and the need for a scheme of improvement will become urgently necessary. The Council have authorised their Surveyor to confer with their Consulting Engineers, to prepare a comprehensive scheme for dealing with the sewage in the Broxbourne and Wormley Wards.

#### **Cozen's Lane East, Broxbourne**

During the winter, when there were periods of exceptionally heavy rainfall, the sewer to the Broxbourne Sewage Works became so surcharged that the drainage of the houses in Cozen's Lane East headed back and regular attention had to be given to prevent a nuisance arising. A quantity of debris was eventually removed from the sewer and serious trouble has not since recurred.

#### **Northern Drainage Area**

Construction of 400 yds. of 9-in. soil sewer to serve the Stanstead Road-Cranbourne Drive area, being the first part of a scheme to sewer the northern part of the District, was carried out during the year.

#### **Properties Connected to Sewer**

Consequent on the construction of the new length of sewer referred to above, the following properties, formerly served by cesspools, were connected to the main sewerage system: "Chapleau," "Cherrydene," "Ashwell," "Belvedere," "Katrina," "Cranbourne Lodge," "Chelsea Cottage," "Cranbourne Nursery" and Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4 Argyle Cottages, Stanstead Road, Hoddesdon, and Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4 Cranbourne Drive, Hoddesdon.

In addition, one other property, formerly served by a pail closet, was connected to the Council's sewer.

### **REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL**

Household refuse is collected fortnightly, but during the year a system of weekly collection was instituted in certain roads in the district where the occupiers co-operate by bringing the dustbins to the front entrance gates.

Refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping methods in a disused gravel pit in Cock Lane, Hoddesdon, well removed from the main residential areas of the District.

#### **Ware Rural District Council Tip, Stanstead Road, Hoddesdon**

In April the Council took over the work of disinfestation of the above tip, by arrangement with the Ware Rural District Council.

#### **Gravel Pit, Nazeing Road, Broxbourne**

Tipping of builder's spoil, etc., in a further part of this pit was re-commenced during the year.

#### **Gravel Pit, Carneles Green**

This pit is almost filled in, but representations to the owner were necessary in respect of unauthorised dumping.



### Lodge Hollow Gravel Pit, Cock Lane, Hoddesdon

An application for consent to the deposit of house refuse in the above pit, which is adjacent to the Council's own tip, was made by the owners during the year. Consent under Section 26 of the Hertfordshire County Council Act, 1935, was granted in May, but no tipping has yet been carried out.

## PARTICULARS OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK during the year 1951

### Inspections, etc.

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

Dwelling houses inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	493
Housing, re-Inspection of Works in Progress, and inter-views with Owners and Builders	...	...	...	...	1,639
Visits in connection with Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	16
Inspection of Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	21
Inspection of Stables and Pig-sties	...	...	...	...	3
Inspection of Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	32
Inspection of Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	14
Inspection of Ice-Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	18
Visits to other premises where food is prepared and/or exposed for sale	...	...	...	...	202
Market Inspections	...	...	...	...	33
Refuse Tip Inspections	...	...	...	...	106
Investigation of Complaints other than Housing	...	...	...	...	55
Inspections under Factories Acts	...	...	...	...	113
Inspection of Camping Grounds and Caravans	...	...	...	...	81
Miscellaneous Inspections	...	...	...	...	313
<b>Total Inspections</b>	...	...	...	...	<b>3,139</b>
Complaints received	...	...	...	...	209
Number of Letters sent	...	...	...	...	651
Number of Informal Notices served	...	...	...	...	54
Number of Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	...	3
<b>Defects Remedied</b>					
Drainage and Sanitary Arrangements	...	...	...	...	432
Dwelling Houses, etc.	...	...	...	...	211

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

### Statutory Notices

Two Statutory Notices were served under Section 93 to remedy nuisances arising from structural defects to dwelling houses. The Notices were complied with.

A Statutory Notice under Section 75 was served on the owner of one property to provide a dustbin. He appealed to the local Court of Summary Jurisdiction against the Notice, but this was



dismissed by the Bench and the Notice upheld. The owner then gave notice of appeal to Quarter Sessions, which he failed to pursue and supplied the dustbin in accordance with the Notice.

### **Collection or Dealing in Rags**

In May, a person was prosecuted by the Council at Cheshunt Police Court for delivering articles to children under the age of 14 years in exchange for rags, contrary to Section 154 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

He was fined £3 0s. 0d. and the Council awarded £3 3s. 0d. costs.

### **Nuisance—Factories, Pulham Works, Broxbourne**

Complaints were received about fumes emanating from one of these factories and several inspections were made. No cellulose solutions were used, but a nuisance was being caused by extensive paint-spraying operations. Although various remedial measures were taken these did not prove successful.

After representations, this firm gave up the factory and moved to another district.

### **Smoke Nuisances**

Complaints were received of smoke nuisances at two factories. Both were found to be due to the use of bituminous coal. When supplies of coke became available, the trouble ceased.

### **Disinfestation**

#### *Eradication of Bed Bugs*

During the year six houses were treated for bug infestation, including three 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 83 nests destroyed during the year.

### **Disinfections**

Disinfections were carried out in consequence of infectious diseases (including Tuberculosis) in 10 dwelling houses.

### **Verminous Persons**

The co-operation of this Department was sought in dealing with an infestation of body lice at a Workers' Hostel. After treatment, there was no recurrence of the trouble.

### **Sanitary Conveniences**

#### *Byelaws*

During the year, Bye-laws with respect to public Sanitary Conveniences made and confirmed in 1950, came into operation.

#### *Proposed Sanitary Convenience, Wormley*

It is to be regretted that no progress was made in the provision of a public convenience at Wormley. It is to be hoped that more favourable circumstances will permit the Council's plan to be carried out in 1952.

#### *Cemetery, Ware Road, Hoddesdon*

A new sanitary convenience was provided at the Cemetery during the year.



## Licensed Premises

Following representations to the owners, improvements were effected to the sanitary accommodation at two public houses in the District, new conveniences and drainage being provided in each case. Plans for modernising and improving the sanitary accommodation at three other public houses were submitted to the Council during the year, work on two of which was begun early in 1952. It is reported that in some instances, there is an appreciable delay in the issue of building licences by the Ministry of Works, owing to the restricted quota available for building works.

### *Swimming Bath*

The Council's swimming pool at "The Spinning Wheel," High Street, Hoddesdon, was opened to the public from 1st May to 30th September.

The water is supplied from the Council's mains. The pool is equipped with modern filtration plant and the "break-point" method of chlorination is employed. The water can be heated to a reasonable temperature when necessary.

Apart from the regular and routine tests for residual chlorine in the water, 22 bacteriological examinations were made during the year, as well as one full chemical analysis. All were reported as satisfactory.

## Atmospheric Pollution

### *Measurement and Recording*

The equipping of the two stations for measuring atmospheric pollution, referred to in the Report for 1950, was completed during the year, and recordings were commenced on 1st September. Each station consists of a deposit gauge for collecting soot, ash and grit, and a lead peroxide instrument for measuring sulphur. Details of the results of samples taken during the period September–December, 1951, are as follows:—

Month	Rainfall mm.	Insoluble Deposit Tons per square mile	Soluble Deposit	Total Solids	SO <sub>2</sub> mg./day/100 cm. <sup>2</sup> of Batch A Lead Peroxide
<b>STATION No. 1</b> (Council Offices, High Street, Hoddesdon)					
September ...	70	2.35	3.56	5.91	0.44
October ...	20	1.38	2.05	3.43	0.48
November ...	97	3.15	7.42	10.57	1.05
December ...	33	2.82	3.42	6.24	0.76
<b>STATION No. 2</b> (8 New River Close, Hoddesdon)					
September ...	74	3.00	5.70	8.70	0.29
October ...	21	1.65	3.75	5.40	0.55
November ...	103	3.16	7.90	11.06	0.85
December ...	38	5.33	2.90	8.23	0.82



## HOUSING ACTS, 1936-1949

### Overcrowding

Six new cases of overcrowding of Council houses were discovered during the year.

Overcrowding of four Council houses and four privately-owned houses, and the partial overcrowding of 19 other houses, was abated mainly through the allocation of new houses.

### Demolition Orders

No Demolition or Closing Orders were served during the year.

A sub-standard bungalow on a horticultural holding was demolished voluntarily by the owner.

## HOUSING ACT, 1949—Part II

### *Improvement of Housing Accommodation*

No applications for grant were received during the year.

### Housing Progress

Details are tabulated at the beginning of this Combined Report.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

### Milk and Dairies

Number of Retail Purveyors of Milk ... .. 9

Number of Retail Purveyors of Milk by Round from outside  
the District ... .. 3

The dairies have been frequently inspected and a total of 21 visits has been made.

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

*Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949*

Dealers' Licences to use Special Designation:

"Pasteurised" ... .. 7

"Sterilised" ... .. 5

"Tuberculin Tested" ... .. 6

Supplementary Licences to use Special Designation:

"Pasteurised" ... .. 1

"Sterilised" ... .. 2

"Tuberculin Tested" ... .. 1

### *Milk Sampling*

Fifty-four samples of milk were taken from Dealers in the District and submitted for bacteriological examination. A summary of the results obtained is given below:—

Type of Milk	Passed Prescribed Test	Failed to Pass Prescribed Test
Designated Milks ... ..	39	Nil
Ungraded Milks ... ..	15	Nil



Regular sampling of milk from producers in the District and of supplies to schools is undertaken by Officers of the County Council.

One sample of "pasteurised" school milk was reported as having failed the phosphatase test. This matter was investigated and it would appear that a small quantity of raw milk had inadvertently been used to make up this particular delivery. Steps have been taken to prevent a recurrence.

A sample taken at a dairy farm and submitted for biological examination was reported as being positive to *Brucella abortus*. All milk from this producer is sent for heat treatment, thus avoiding risk of human infection.

### **Clean Food Campaign**

#### *Traders' Clean Food Guild*

A meeting was held on the 2nd April, 1951, at Esdale Hall, Hoddesdon, to which traders and persons engaged in the selling, handling and/or preparation of foodstuffs, were invited, primarily to consider the formation of a Clean Food Guild. Approximately 100 people were present.

The Chairman of the Meeting was Councillor H. J. Ewers and the meeting was addressed by the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector.

The persons present decided not to set up a Traders' Clean Food Guild.

#### *Survey of Food Premises*

The survey of all food premises begun in 1950, was completed during the year. One hundred and fifty-seven premises were inspected, made up as follows:—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Butchers (including one Cooked Meat Manufacturer)	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Canteens—School	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ —Factory	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Confectionery and Sweets	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Ice-Cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hostels	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Undesirable features noted were usually connected with storage and display of food, insufficient attention being paid to protection of food from contamination by vermin, dirt, dust, dogs etc. There is a marked tendency in some trades to overcrowd shops and store rooms and to place too much reliance on cats for protection against vermin.

Kitchen and storage space in canteens was found generally to be more adequate than in the majority of restaurants and cafes.







								Approx. Weight	
<i>Fish</i>								cwt.	lbs.
Cod (approximate weight)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	70
<i>Miscellaneous Foodstuffs</i>									
Beef ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	103
Lamb ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		8
Pork ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		24
Eggs ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		4½
Tomatoes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	32
Jam ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		6
								12	65½

Total Weight of all Foodstuffs: 1 ton 2 cwt. 63½ lbs.

### **Watercress Beds, Conduit Lane, Hoddesdon**

Following a complaint, samples of spring water and sludge were taken from these beds and submitted for bacteriological examination. The results indicated that the quality of the water was not up to the standard of drinking water. Further investigations were carried out and after representations, the grower made arrangements to wash the watercress before despatch to market, in water of satisfactory bacterial purity.

## **PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949**

### *Private Dwellings*

The Council continued to give a free service to private dwellings and a total of 82 complaints of infestation were received from occupiers during the year.

### *Business Premises*

Contracts with the owners of two commercial properties, for the servicing and treatment of their premises, were in operation during the year. Treatment of 28 other business premises was carried out by arrangement with the owners on a time and material basis.

### *Agricultural Properties*

Although the District Council is the responsible authority under the new Act, infestations on agricultural properties are referred to the County Agricultural Committee, who by agreement continue to carry out the treatment of such properties.

### **Prevalence of Rats and Mice and Measures of Control (Summarised)**

Number of Inspections made	...	...	...	...	...	330
„ „ properties inspected	...	...	...	...	...	212
„ „ properties infested with rats and mice	...	...	...	...	...	137
Total number of treatments carried out to all properties	...	...	...	...	...	203



## Sewers

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, test-baiting of the Council's three sewerage systems was carried out in September:—

	Hoddesdon and Rye Park	Brox- bourne	Wormley
Total number of sewer manholes (approx.) ... ..	216	160	48
Number of sewer manholes test-baited	22	16	5
„ „ manholes showing "Takes"	—	—	—

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Eighty-five visits and inspections were made during the year. New sanitary conveniences were provided at three factories.

Details of matters dealt with during the year are given in the table at the beginning of this Combined Report.

## Certificates of Means of Escape in Case of Fire

A Certificate of means of escape in case of fire was issued in respect of one factory.

## HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1935

### Movable Dwellings

Informal action was taken in a number of instances to remove caravans, some of which were the only means of habitation of the occupants.

The Council decided to approve the use of certain of its own land at Rye Park for the placing of movable dwellings belonging to persons with a residential qualification. Water supply and sanitation will be provided.

There is a large number of movable dwellings and shacks in Broxbourne and Wormley, mainly in the proximity to the River Lea. Most of these are used at week-ends during the summer, although a few are in daily use. Every effort is made to discourage this latter tendency by frequent inspections of the sites and by advice given to prospective tenants and purchasers of such riverside plots. It is hoped that steps will be taken under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, to clear the worst of these sites.

### *Frogley's Road, Dobbs Weir*

The caravan camp referred to in the Report for 1950, was established on this site during the year and consent was given to the placing of not more than 24 movable dwellings for the period 1st May to 31st October.



A temporary sanitary block was erected and a deep borehole sunk, providing a supply of wholesome water to a number of standpipes. No chalets have yet been provided owing to building restrictions, but work was commenced on clearing up the site and several of the unsightly shacks and movable dwellings on the river bank were removed.

*Mill Stream North of Nazeing Road, Broxbourne*

The last of the huts used for habitation was demolished during the year and the site cleared.

*Boat Shed, "The Lynch," Conduit Lane, Hoddesdon*

This shed was found to be occupied by a man, wife and child, who eventually secured accommodation in another area. Despite a warning to the owner that the hut was unsuitable for living purposes, it was soon re-occupied by another family.

Before the end of the year, this family went abroad and the Council accepted an undertaking by the owner that the hut would not be re-let for human habitation.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES—COMMENT

### Food Poisoning

Three cases of food poisoning probably due to toxins, occurred in a Hoddesdon family during September, 1951. The family consisting of four adults and three children visited relatives consisting of two adults and one child at Ipswich. They arrived there just before lunch and all ate the same lunch which consisted of salad, sausages and spam followed by fruit and custard. At about 5 o'clock all except two of the Hoddesdon children ate sandwiches of tinned salmon and cucumber. These had been prepared earlier in the day by one of the adults (the housewife) at Ipswich.

At approximately 8 o'clock on the way home from Ipswich two adults and one child from Hoddesdon became violently ill with diarrhoea and vomiting and a doctor was called, who sent them to hospital immediately. The remaining two adults from Hoddesdon who ate only a few of the sandwiches had only slight symptoms of illness and required no medical treatment. The two Hoddesdon children who did not eat any sandwiches were not ill.

It was subsequently learned from the Medical Officer of Health at Ipswich that the housewife who had prepared the salmon and cucumber sandwiches suffered from chronic catarrh and that her husband and son had since developed a cold and sore throat. A growth of coagulase positive staphylococcus aureus was obtained from the nose and throat swabs prepared from all three of the members of the Ipswich family, and from specimens of the sandwiches.



# PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

DISEASE	TOTAL	AGE GROUP (in Years)						Age not Known	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
		Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65			
Scarlet Fever ... ..	10	—	—	2	7	1	—	—	2	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	135	11	57	64	—	1	—	2	2	—
Poliomyelitis (Acute):										
Paralytic ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	376	12	162	192	1	6	—	3	2	—
Diphtheria ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia ... ..	18	—	—	2	1	7	8	—	1	—
Dysentery ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis (Acute):										
Infective ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post-Infectious ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	3	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	3	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	3	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Jaundice ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

# INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING THE DIFFERENT MONTHS

DISEASE	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	5	2	—	—	—	1	2	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	3	10	36	35	40	7	1	2	1
Ac. Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	8	67	77	58	115	42	6	2	—	—	1	—
Acute Pneumonia	7	6	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—



From these results (the short incubation period of three hours, and the presence of staphylococci) it would appear suggestive that the food poisoning was caused by toxins from staphylococci aureus originating in the housewife of the Ipswich family. Contamination of the salmon and cucumber sandwiches could have occurred at the time of their preparation, and the time interval of several hours before they were eaten would have been long enough for toxins to have developed.

All the patients made a rapid recovery.



# SAWBRIDGEWORTH URBAN DISTRICT

## WATER SUPPLY

The piped supply is provided by the Herts and Essex Water Company to 1,058 houses, eight of which share three standpipes.

Seventeen houses in the District, including new houses, were connected to the mains during the year, leaving 15 dwellings in Spelbrook which are supplied from privately-owned wells.

### Quality

#### Bacteriological

Reports were received upon 23 samples of the town's water supply, and show that *B. Coli* were absent from 100 m.l. in each case.

#### Chemical

The results of a chemical analysis of four samples of the town's water supply are set out below:—

Results in Parts per Million	9th Jan., 1951	6th April, 1951	3rd July, 1951	10th Oct., 1951
Appearance ...	Faint opalescence with very few mineral particles			
Turbidity (Silica scale) ...	12	4	4	Less than 3
Colour (Hazen) ...	Under 10	Nil	Nil	Nil
Odour ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Faint sul- phuretted hydrogen.
Reaction pH ...	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.1
Free CO <sub>2</sub> ...	34	25	28	25
Electric Conducti- vity at 20° C. ...	660	690	660	680
Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	295	305	310	300
Total solids dried at 180° C. ...	440	485	440	475
Hardness:				
Carbonate (Temp.)	295	305	310	300
Non-Carb. (Perm.)	65	65	45	65
Total ...	360	370	355	365
Nitrogen in:				
Nitrates ...	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nitrites ...	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01
Free Ammonia ...	0.36	0.17	0.33	0.12
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	0.010	0.000	0.000	0.000
Residual Chlorine	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27° C. ...	0.40	0.10	0.10	0.25
Metals ...	Iron 0.66	Iron 0.28	Iron 0.68	Iron less than 0.03
	Other metals absent.	Other metals absent.	Other metals absent.	Other metals absent.
Fluorine ...	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.7



One of these samples was collected from the New Borehole at Harlow Pumping Station and the bacteriological report stated that the sample showed opalescence and deposit, features which are due to the circumstances of the sampling. The water was of satisfactory bacterial purity for a newly constructed source.

The question of softening the water was taken up by the Council with the Water Company, and the reply received stated that a scheme for the installation of a water-softening plant had been considered by the Water Company but the Ministry had informed them that the installation be deferred in view of the shortage of labour and materials.

### **DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL**

Most of the District is served by main drainage. Sewage is disposed of at two sewage works. The effluent at the principal works is discharged into the River Stort after purification and in the case of the other (smaller) works it is disposed of by septic tank treatment followed by land irrigation.

### **REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL**

Household refuse is collected fortnightly and is disposed of by controlled tipping on ground adjacent to the principal sewage works. Special arrangements are made in connection with trade refuse.

### **PARTICULARS OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK during the year 1951**

#### *Summary of Visits*

Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	228
Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	17
Food and Drugs Act	...	...	...	...	...	26
Factories Act	...	...	...	...	...	30
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	219
Total						520
Number of Informal Notices served						13
,, Statutory Notices served						Nil

### **PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936**

#### **Infectious Disease**

Disinfection of two dwelling-houses was carried out following notification of a case of Scarlet Fever.



## HOUSING ACTS, 1936/49

Fourteen houses were completed and tenanted on the Bullfields Housing Estate and work was commenced on a further 12 during the year. It is hoped that the houses will be ready for occupation in May, 1952.

Housing progress is shown in a table in the statistical section of the Combined Report.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

### Milk

A complaint of dirty milk bottles was received. The matter was investigated and was taken up with the Dairy concerned. A satisfactory explanation was given and no further complaints have been received.

### Ice Cream

No ice cream is manufactured in the district. There are five registered premises and regular inspection of the premises has been carried out.

### Unsound Food

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

Category					No. of Tins or Containers	Weight in lbs.
Meat (Tinned)	...	...	...	...	108	67
Fruit and Vegetables	...	...	...	...	30	27
Cereals, etc.	...	...	...	...	67	34
Sugar	...	...	...	...	—	35
Total Weight					...	163

(1950 Total: 380 lbs.)



## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY

### PESTS ACT, 1949

#### **Rodent Control**

Eight business premises and 16 private dwellings were treated for infestations of rats by the Council's Rodent Operative.

No charge is made in respect of private dwelling houses.

Routine sewer treatments were carried out in February and September.

#### *Hydrogen Cyanide Fumigation*

Fumigation of a portion of a local flour mill was carried out in January. The premises were granted exemption from the requirements of Section 5 (b) of the Hydrogen Cyanide (Fumigation) Act, 1937.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES : CONTROL AND PREVENTION

### INFECTIOUS DISEASE COMMENT

#### **Food Poisoning**

During December 1951 one middle-aged man was admitted to Haymead's Hospital suffering from persistent diarrhoea and vomiting. Laboratory tests showed that the illness was due to *Salmonella typhi-murium*. Routine enquiries, and tests carried out on a contact of this case, and upon the body of a rat trapped at the patient's home, failed to reveal the origin of the infection.

No other cases occurred.



## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

DISEASE	TOTAL	AGE GROUP (in Years)						Age not Known	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
		Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65			
Scarlet Fever ... ..	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Acute):										
Paralytic ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	71	—	28	36	3	4	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis (Acute):										
Infective ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post-Infectious ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Jaundice ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—

### INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING THE DIFFERENT MONTHS

[illegible]



# WARE URBAN DISTRICT

## WATER SUPPLY

Most of the town is supplied from two wells sunk in chalk, one at Musley Lane, and the other at Musley Hill, the former being the main source of supply. The Highfields area, however, is supplied by the Metropolitan Water Board. All these supplies are chlorinated.

Work is in hand upon a scheme of water main interconnection, whereby all property south of the River Lee will be transferred to the High Level Supply, with a consequent increase in pressure.

A plan to install a booster station at Watton Road to improve the Westmill Road Area supply is under investigation.

### Quality

Twenty-four routine samples of town water were taken for bacteriological examination, and showed B. Coli absent in 100 ml. in each case.

The result of chemical analysis of samples taken on the 4th July from both the Musley Lane (High Level supply) and Musley Hill (Low Level supply) is as follows:—

Chemical Results in Parts per Million				High Level Supply	Low Level Supply
Appearance	...	...	...	Bright with a very slight deposit of amorphous mineral debris.	Clear and bright
Turbidity (Silica scale)	...	...	...	Less than 3	Nil
Colour	...	...	...	Nil	Nil
Odour	...	...	...	Nil	Nil
Reaction pH	...	...	...	7.3	7.3
Free Carbon Dioxide	...	...	...	19	19
Electric Conductivity	...	...	...	640	610
Total Solids	...	...	...	430	410
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	24	22
Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	...	...	...	265	265
Hardness:					
Carbonate	...	...	...	265	265
Non-carbonate	...	...	...	75	70
Total	...	...	...	340	335
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...	...	...	6.4	5.8
Nitrogen in Nitrites	...	...	...	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	0.000	0.000
Oxygen Absorbed	...	...	...	0.15	0.20
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	0.000	0.000
Residual Chlorine	...	...	...	Absent	Absent
Metals:					
Iron	...	...	...	Less than 0.03	Absent
Zinc	...	...	...	0.5	Absent
Others	...	...	...	Nil	Absent

The High Level Sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of



iron and a trace of zinc, doubtless derived from galvanised pipes and cisterns. The water is very hard in character, but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. Its organic quality is of the highest standard.

These results are indicative of a water which, from the aspect of the chemical analysis, is pure and wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Practically the whole of the district is sewered.

Construction has recently commenced of that section of the new Trunk Sewer from Stevenage New Town, through the Urban District.

A scheme is in course of preparation for sewerage the London Road proposed Industrial Area, and a small residential area in the vicinity. This will discharge into the trunk sewer.

### REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

A weekly collection of refuse is in operation with special arrangements for trade refuse.

Refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping off Amwell End, adjoining the railway.

### PARTICULARS OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK

during the year 1951

#### Summary of Visits

Sewers, Drains, Sanitary Accommodation, etc.	...	...	467
Nuisances	...	...	332
Infectious Disease	...	...	154
Housing Overcrowding, Repairs, Housing Acts, etc.	...	...	105
Food Premises, Section 13, Condemnations	...	...	66
Ice-Cream, Factories, Retailers, Sampling	...	...	186
Milk, Dairies, Sampling	...	...	19
Slaughter House: Inspection of Meat	...	...	599
Butchers' Shops, Meat Transport, etc.	...	...	11
Shops Act, 1934 (Section 10)	...	...	2
Rats and Mice	...	...	710
Factories and Outworkers	...	...	4
			<hr/> 2,655
Number of Statutory Notices served	...	...	1



## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

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

Sewers and Drains, cleansed, tested, repaired, reconstructed	52
Water Closets, repaired or renewed ... ..	21
Sanitary Fittings, repaired or renewed, traps provided, etc.	13
Nuisance and Sundry Repairs, Walls, Floors, Ceilings, Roofs, Windows, etc., overhauled and repaired ... ..	32
Dustbins provided ... ..	3
Accumulations removed ... ..	9
Animals, Nuisance abated ... ..	9

### Filthy and Verminous Premises and Articles

One Council house was treated for bugs. Three private houses were treated for fleas. Seven filthy and verminous articles were destroyed.

### Infectious Disease

Ten disinfections were carried out following infectious disease.

### Scabies

No cases were reported or treated at the centre during the year.

### Smoke Abatement

Complaints concerning one factory were investigated. Owing to a breakdown the main boiler was out of action for a short period, and a subsidiary boiler was being overloaded.

### Tips

Complaints were received of the smell from burning rubbish on a private tip. Following investigation the nuisance was abated.

## HOUSING ACTS, 1936-1949

### Demolition Orders. 53, 55 and 57 Crib Street

These three houses have been demolished and two new houses are under construction on the site.

### Overcrowding

No survey has been carried out; but cases of overcrowding have been investigated as follows:—

	Privately Owned	Council Houses	Total
Number of overcrowded houses brought forward at 1st Jan., 1951	1	3	4
New cases of overcrowding discovered during 1951 ... ..	7	5	12
Number of cases abated ... ..	7	2	9
Number of overcrowded houses at 31st Dec., 1951 ... ..	1	6	7



## Section 6—Byelaws for Securing Improvement of Housing Conditions

Arising from the service by the Council, of a Statutory Notice which expired in January 1951, the owner of a large house occupied by three families took County Court Action against the main tenant. After adjournments the Judge refused to grant possession on two counts and deferred judgment upon the third count of dilapidations pending the report of an assessor. The owner has not yet decided whether he will take further court proceedings. Three sub-tenant families having obtained other accommodation and the main tenant only being in occupation, certain sanitary provisions are not required. Further Statutory Action is in abeyance pending negotiations with the owner's agent.

## Section 9—Repair of an Insanitary House

A Statutory Notice requiring considerable repairs to a dwelling house, has been served. The owner being unable to afford the repairs is in negotiation for the sale of the premises.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

### Meat Inspection

Number of Visits to Slaughterhouse ... .. 599

During the first half of the year late duty was performed on 90 evenings, but acting upon the Council's instructions this practice was discontinued. The Ministry of Food was requested to restrict slaughtering to reasonable hours, and inspections continued on this basis in accordance with instructions received.

Early in 1952, following protracted negotiations, the Ministry of Food agreed to modify the times of slaughtering in accordance with the wishes of the Council.

#### *Total Weight of Meat condemned in Lbs.*

Home Killed:		Beef	Mutton	Pork	Total
Diseased	... ..	39,963	1,087	6,335	47,385

#### Imported:

Tinned (Decomposition)	53	—	—	53
Tinned Ham	... ..	—	349	349

#### *Total Weight in Lbs. of Carcase Meat Condemned*

		Beef	Veal	Mutton	Pork	Total
Market	... ..	6,706	691	160	538	8,095
Casualty	... ..	7,566	651	345	4,045	12,607
Totals	... ..	14,272	1,342	505	4,583	20,702



*Carcases Inspected and Condemned during 1951*

	Cattle (excl. Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	3,471	736	1,607	5,096	1,756
Number inspected ... ..	2,455	551	1,207	4,128	1,470
Number killed ... .. during 1950 ... ..	3,100	750	1,329	5,437	504
All diseases except Tuber- culosis. Whole carcasses con- demned ... ..	6	5	25	9	24
% of the number inspected totally condemned ... ..	0.24	0.90	2.07	0.22	1.63
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	1	6	3	—	6
% of the number inspected totally condemned ... ..	0.04	1.09	0.25	—	0.41
Whole carcasses condemned from: Market ... ..	1	3	19	4	4
Casualty ... ..	6	8	9	5	26

**Other Foods**

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

	No. of Containers	Approx. Weight in lbs.
Tinned Foods ... ..	471	327
Tinned Meat (not Ration Meat) ... ..	26	49
Fish, Wet ... ..	1 lot	147
Chickens ... ..	9 birds	30
		—
	Total	553
		—



## MILK AND DAIRIES

Number of Dairies registered in the Urban District ...	...	4
„ „ Distributors registered in the Urban District ...	...	5
Dairies Pasteurisers Licences granted by Herts C.C. ...	...	2

## Milk Samples

Three samples of Pasteurised Milk, two samples of Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk and one sample of Tuberculin Tested Milk were taken. All the samples satisfied the prescribed tests.

Twelve samples of Pasteurised Milk taken by the Herts County Council under the Milk in Schools Scheme satisfied the prescribed tests.

Two "Bottle Rinses" and four "Churn Rinses" were examined with satisfactory results.

One distributor was found to be selling "loose milk" from unsuitable 2-gallon tin cans. He now retails bottled milk only.

## Ice-Cream

Number of Registered Manufacturers (Pasteurisation Plants)	2
„ „ Premises registered for the sale of ice-cream ...	22
„ „ „ newly registered for the sale of ice-cream	2

*Sampling at Large Factory*

The record of samples taken at the factory by the department during 1951 is not so good as in the previous year and this is reflected in the reports by other authorities. The considerable difference between the results obtained by this and other authorities still suggests that the temperature conditions during transport by the manufacturer or his agents, or during subsequent storage at wholesalers' or retailers' premises may not always be satisfactory.

In February, 1951, a circular letter was sent to 50 local authorities who had supplied particulars of reports upon samples examined during 1950. This explained that there appeared to be a serious deterioration between samples at the factory and the final sales points. (See next table.) The co-operation of local authorities was sought in taking temperature checks during delivery by the manufacturer or his agents. No information of such temperature checks was received in response to this request, but, after pressure, a report was received from an authority on the London/Kent borders (who had complained of Grade 4 samples) that ice-cream delivered by an agent during December 1951 was received at 26° F.—only 2° F. below the permitted maximum temperature.

During the period June to September an increase was recorded of Grade 3 and 4 results from other authorities. The Council requested the factory management to take immediate remedial action and also recommended the adoption of batch numbers to facilitate the tracing of ice-cream samples. Subsequently the Sanitary Inspector discovered that untreated raw water from a private borehole at the factory was being used in the final cleansing



process of the apparatus. This practice was stopped immediately, particularly as the sinking of the borehole had been supported by the Council on the sole ground that it would provide colder water for the brine-cooler, than could be obtained from the public supply. Also the water was found to be contaminated with non-fæcal coliform organisms. Similar organisms had been recovered from the defective ice-cream. It was thought that this well water had been in use for washing purposes since June 1951; which coincides with the period during which low gradings were reported.

In early October new Directors took over, and there were staff changes. An immediate improvement was noted in the quality of the samples taken at the factory. The results are shown in the next table.

Year	Samples at Factory					Retail Samples (other Authorities)				
	Total Samples	% in each Grade				Total Samples	% in each Grade			
		1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4
1948 ... ..	43	21·0	30·0	42·0	7·0	61	1·6	11·5	24·6	62·3
1949 ... ..	10	100	—	—	—	51	52·9	9·8	19·6	17·7
1950 ... ..	47	87·0	6·5	6·5	—	255	43·8	21·5	19·5	15·2
1951 ... ..	74	43·3	29·7	27·0	—	141	29·1	14·9	16·3	39·7
From 1/6/51 to 30/9/51 ...	44	31·8	27·3	40·9	—	84	20·3	9·5	19·0	51·2
From 1/8/51 to 30/10/51 ...	32	59·4	25·0	15·6	—	53	11·3	13·2	15·1	60·4
From 9/10/51 to 31/12/51 ...	25	60·0	32·0	8·0	—	21	9·5	19·0	19·0	52·5
Percentage in each Grade recommended by Advisory Committee ... ..							over 50%	under 30%	under 20%	Nil

### Sampling at Small Factory

Two samples were taken both being Grade 1.

### Sampling at Local Retailers

Nine samples were taken (of ice-cream manufactured by firms of national repute), all being placed in Grade 1.

### Precautions against the Contamination of Food

#### Sections 13-16 Food and Drugs Act, 1938

Number of Premises newly registered for the Preparation or

Manufacture of Preserved Foods, etc. ... .. 1

Total number of Premises registered for the Preparation or

Manufacture of Preserved Foods, etc. ... .. 11



The following works have been carried out:—

Bakehouses cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hot water supply provided	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ „ „ reinstated	...	...	...	...	...	2
Public House, alterations and improvements	...	...	...	...	...	1
Shop reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	1

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

### *Visits*

During the year 4,234 visits were made to premises in the town as follows:—

Local Authority	...	...	345 visits
Dwelling Houses	...	...	3,011 „
Agricultural	...	...	11 „
Business	...	...	867 „

and 41 complaints of infestations by rats or mice received attention.

No legal proceedings were necessary during the year and no cases occurred in which default action was taken by the local authority.

Block Control schemes were carried out in 12 areas, involving 418 properties.

### *Sewer Treatment*

Following a test in the spring it was only found necessary to treat a very small section of the sewers. A further test-baiting was carried out in the autumn, with negative results.

### *Black Rat*

The major infestations reported in 1950 were dealt with by block control measures at the request of maltsters. One case involving special difficulties has been greatly reduced, and is still under treatment.

Some black rats have been found at other scattered points but no major infestations have been discovered.

### *Hydrogen Cyanide Fumigation*

A large flour mill was fumigated against pests, using Hydrogen Cyanide.



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES : CONTROL AND PREVENTION

### TUBERCULOSIS

During July, a Mass Radiography Unit of the North-East Metropolitan Regional Hospitals Board carried out a survey of Ware. It used accommodation at the child welfare clinic in the High Street, and also paid a special visit to a large local factory. Out of a total of 1,803 persons X-rayed at the clinic only 68 (less than 4 per cent. of the total) were recalled for further examination on large films. Twenty-seven ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of the total) were found to have suffered from pulmonary tuberculosis, but the disease was inactive except in one case. Ten further cases showed interesting abnormalities affecting the heart, ribs or lung tissues. The remaining 31 cases recalled for examination on large films were subsequently found to have no chest disease at all.

#### Analysis of the Results

			<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total number of miniature films taken	...	...	952	851	1,803
Total number of large films called for	...	...	38	30	68
<i>Schoolchildren</i> (over 14 years of age)					
Number of miniatures	...	...	58	97	155
Number of large films	...	...	2	2	4
<i>School Staffs</i>					
Number of miniatures	...	...	8	6	14
Number of large films	...	...	—	—	—
<i>Organised Groups</i>					
Number of miniatures	...	...	668	476	1,144
Number of large films	...	...	27	15	42
<i>Public Sessions</i>					
Number of miniatures	...	...	218	272	490
Number of large films	...	...	9	13	22

#### Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis

			<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>
Active Post-primary (adult type)	...	...	—	1	1
Inactive Primary	...	...	7	4	11
Inactive Post-primary	...	...	8	7	15

#### Among Interesting Abnormalities discovered were:—

			<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>
Cardiovascular Lesions acquired	...	...	4	2	6
Pneumonitis	...	...	1	—	1
Bronchiectasis	...	...	1	—	1
Arterio-venous fistula	...	...	1	—	1
Osteochondroma	...	...	1	—	1



## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

[illegible]

### INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING THE DIFFERENT MONTHS

[illegible]



## BRAUGHING RURAL DISTRICT

### WATER SUPPLY

There is a piped supply in each of the 21 parishes. The parishes of Anstey, Ardeley, Aspenden, Broadfield, Buckland, Buntingford, Brent Pelham, Cottered, Furneux Pelham, Hormead, Meesden, Stocking Pelham, Throcking, Westmill and Wyddial are supplied from Chipping Pumping Station. The parish of High Wych by the Herts and Essex Water Co. The parish of Thorley from the Bishop's Stortford Urban District Council's supply and the parishes of Albury, Little Hadham, Much Hadham and Braughing from Standon Pumping Station in the Ware Rural District.

#### 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 ... ..	62	21	18
Albury ... ..	155	17	1
Ardeley ... ..	80	26	11
Aspenden ... ..	74	—	—
Broadfield ... ..	5	—	—
Buckland ... ..	80	25	1
Buntingford ... ..	494	56	1
Braughing ... ..	156	114	15
Brent Pelham ... ..	49	8	4
Cottered ... ..	107	18	2
Furneux Pelham ... ..	97	18	7
Hormead ... ..	170	12	1
High Wych ... ..	129	20	37
Little Hadham ... ..	185	34	4
Meesden ... ..	27	14	—
Much Hadham ... ..	565	42	2
Stocking Pelham ... ..	37	7	—
Throcking ... ..	23	3	1
Thorley ... ..	54	10	—
Westmill ... ..	46	13	15
Wyddial ... ..	20	13	4
<b>Totals ... ..</b>	<b>2,615</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>124</b>



## Quality of Water Supply

### *Bacteriological*

Twelve samples of water from the Chipping Pumping Station were subjected to bacteriological test and B. Coli were absent from 100 ml. in each case.

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

No alterations have been effected to the sewerage or sewage disposal works during the year. A scheme for the parish of Braughing has been submitted for approval to the Ministry.

The Cesspool Emptying Service was maintained, the demand was as heavy as in previous years and on occasions an extra vehicle was hired to cope with the work.

A further 26 council houses were connected to the sewer in Buntingford.

## PARTICULARS OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

during the year 1951

Inspections under the Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	618
" " " Housing Act, 1936	...	...	275
" " " Food and Drugs Act, 1938	...	...	328
" " " Pest Destruction Act, 1949	...	...	297
" " " Factory Act, 1937	...	...	60
" " " Shops Act	...	...	61
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	223
Total			1,862
Number of Statutory Notices served	...	...	7

## MILK SAMPLING

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

### METHYLENE BLUE AND PHOSPHATASE TESTS

Total Number of Samples	Passed Prescribed Test		Failed to Pass	
	Graded	Ungraded	Graded	Ungraded
101	40	53	2	6



## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

### Rodent Control

Total number of properties inspected	...	...	...	606
Number of premises found to be infested	...	...	...	431
Number of premises treated by Council	...	...	...	410
Total number of visits	...	...	...	1,311

In addition to destruction treatment at dwelling houses, etc., treatments have been carried out on the Council's sewage systems at Buntingford, Cottered, Much Hadham, and High Wych and at the refuse tipping sites at Buckland, Much Hadham, Little Hadham, and Furneux Pelham.

Inspections of agricultural lands and holdings have been carried out in conjunction with the H.A.E.C. Rodent Destruction Officer.

### PUBLIC CLEANSING

A fortnightly collection of refuse continues to operate in each parish. Disposal is by partially controlled tipping at the Council's tipping sites in the parishes of Buckland, Little Hadham, Much Hadham, Braughing, and Furneux Pelham. A trade refuse collection continues to operate for business premises requiring the service.



# PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

DISEASE	TOTAL	AGE GROUP (in Years)						Age not Known	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
		Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65			
Scarlet Fever ... ..	5	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	121	4	82	29	2	1	2	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Acute):										
Paralytic ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Measles ... ..	201	6	84	91	3	12	1	4	1	—
Diphtheria ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia ... ..	16	—	1	—	—	5	10	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis (Acute):										
Infective ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post-Infectious ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Jaundice ... ..	6	—	—	2	3	1	—	—	—	—

# INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING THE DIFFERENT MONTHS

DISEASE	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	23	31	31	8	2	5	11	4	5	1	—	—
Ac. Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	9	9	85	47	11	25	5	6	2	—	1	1
Acute Pneumonia	2	4	5	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	2	—
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jaundice ... ..	2	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—



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

Parish	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Acute Polio- myelitis	Measles	Acute Pneumonia	Paratyphoid Fever	Meningococcal Infection	Infective Jaundice
Albury ... ..	-	2	-	4	-	-	-	-
Anstey ... ..	-	5	-	4	-	-	-	-
Ardeley ... ..	-	7	-	1	-	-	-	-
Aspenden ... ..	-	3	-	10	-	-	-	-
Braughing ... ..	1	9	-	9	1	-	-	-
Brent Pelham ... ..	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	-
Broadfield ... ..	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Buckland ... ..	-	3	-	6	-	-	-	-
Buntingford ... ..	-	40	1	15	1	1	-	-
Cottered ... ..	-	4	-	5	-	-	-	-
Furneux Pelham ... ..	-	6	-	3	-	-	-	-
High Wych ... ..	1	-	-	38	1	-	-	-
Hormead ... ..	-	25	-	13	1	-	-	3
Little Hadham ... ..	-	-	-	8	-	-	1	1
Meesden ... ..	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Much Hadham ... ..	3	4	-	70	11	1	-	1
Stocking Pelham ... ..	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
Thorley ... ..	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
Throcking ... ..	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1
Westmill ... ..	-	5	-	7	-	-	-	-
Wyddial ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES : COMMENT**

**Paratyphoid Fever**

The first case in a girl aged 7 years occurred in July at Little Hadham. The child was on holiday from her home at Burnley in Lancashire and was taken ill shortly after her arrival. *Salmonella* organisms were isolated from stool specimens a fortnight later. Similar germs were also isolated from the child's mother, who had been "off colour" the day of the journey south. No other members of the family were affected. The origin of the infection could not be traced. The strain of *Salmonella* organisms in both instances was originally thought to be that of paratyphoid-B, but the *Salmonella* Reference Laboratory at Colindale subsequently found that the germs belonged to an untypable ("Kent") strain.

The second case occurred in a lad of 16 years at Buntingford during October, and was in no way connected with the previous case at Little Hadham. The causative organism was *Salmonella* paratyphi-B and was isolated from the patient's stools. The origin of this infection could not be traced. No other cases occurred.

Both the above cases made uneventful recoveries.



# HERTFORD RURAL DISTRICT

## 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 ft. in chalk.

Two 310-ft. 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, and the Parish of Little Amwell is supplied by the Metropolitan Water Board.

During the year, the boundary with Welwyn Garden City was revised, a portion of the Parish of Tewin comprising the area known as Attimore Hall and Panshanger Aerodrome being transferred to Welwyn Garden City.

The acreage of the area is 821 and includes 13 dwellings, only two of which were supplied with piped water by the Council. The Panshanger Aerodrome is still supplied with water by meter.

Piped supplies have been taken into 36 houses which formerly relied on public standpipes.

### Particulars of Dwellings supplied from Public Water Mains

Parish	No. of Houses connected to Mains		No. of Houses supplied by Wells, Private Systems, etc.	Total
	Piped Supply	Stand-pipe		
Aston ... ..	143	29	10	182
Bayford ... ..	91	13	5	109
Benington ... ..	150	36	7	193
Bengoe Rural ... ..	56	26	13	95
Bramfield ... ..	54	—	3	57
Datchworth ... ..	253	36	3	292
Brickendon ... ..	71	13	35	119
Hertingfordbury ... ..	123	37	24	184
Little Amwell ... ..	196	41	2	239
Little Berkhamstead ... ..	105	9	24	138
Sacombe ... ..	47	12	1	60
Stapleford ... ..	84	35	5	124
Tewin ... ..	220	18	3	241
Walkern ... ..	177	42	21	240
Watton-at-Stone ... ..	152	63	7	222
	1,922	410	163	2,495



## Quality

### Bacteriological

Four samples were taken from various sources of supply during the year and B. Coli were absent from 100 ml. in each case.

### Chemical

The result of chemical analysis of samples taken from the undermentioned pumping stations is as follows:—

Chemical Results in Parts per Million	Little Berkhamstead	Aston	Burnham Green Reservoir
Appearance ... ..	Bright with very few mineral particles.	Bright with very few mineral particles.	Bright with very few mineral particles.
Turbidity (Silica scale)	Less than 3	Less than 3	Less than 3
Colour (Hazen) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Odour ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
Reaction pH ... ..	7.2	7.2	7.3
Free Carbon Dioxide	22	23	18
Electric Conductivity at 20° C. ... ..	510	520	520
Total solids dried at 180° C. ... ..	340	350	350
Chlorine in Chlorides	16	14	14
Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	240	250	245
Hardness:			
Total ... ..	285	295	290
Temporary ... ..	240	250	245
Permanent ... ..	45	45	45
Nitrogen in Nitrates	3.0	3.4	5.6
Nitrogen in Nitrites...	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01	0.01
Free Ammonia ...	0.000	0.000	0.000
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27° C. ...	0.05	0.00	0.00
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.000	0.000	0.000
Residual Chlorine ...	Absent	Absent	Absent
Metals ... ..	Iron less than 0.08 Other metals absent.	Absent	Absent

### Remarks

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

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Improvements to the outfall at Birch Green were carried out during the year.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

### Refuse Collection

House refuse was collected fortnightly throughout the District and disposed of by tipping at Stevenage and Hertingfordbury.



### Cesspool Emptying

Three hundred and seventy-three cesspools were emptied during the year, a total of 2,966 loads being removed.

## PARTICULARS OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK during the year 1951

### Summary of Visits

Public Health Acts	...	...	...	1,001
Housing Acts	...	...	...	132
Food and Drugs Act	...	...	...	5
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	139
Total				1,277
Number of Statutory Notices served				Nil

### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Disinfections were carried out in consequence of infectious disease at three houses.

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

#### Unsound Food

The following food was, upon inspection, found to be unfit for human consumption, and was surrendered:—

8 lbs. Cheese.

#### Meat Inspection

Ten pigs were slaughtered during the year, and upon inspection found to be satisfactory.

### PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

#### Rodent Control

A part-time operative is employed by the Council and complaints are investigated and dealt with as they occur.

Total number of premises treated	...	...	17
" " " visits (treatments)	...	...	51

Regular treatment is carried out to the sewers in the 10 parishes which have public sewerage systems. A total of 30 visits was made to the parishes, and 136 manholes were treated.

The Council have agreed to make a fixed charge of 7s. 6d. for all domestic premises above £10 rateable value, and offer a free service to premises below this rating. Business premises are charged on the basis of time and materials plus a percentage.



DISEASE	TOTAL	AGE GROUP (in Years)							Age not Known	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
		Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65				
Scarlet Fever ... ..	6	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	5	—	
Whooping Cough ... ..	92	6	34	52	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Poliomyelitis (Acute):											
Paralytic ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Non-Paralytic ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Measles ... ..	118	1	49	68	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Diphtheria ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Pneumonia ... ..	5	1	—	—	—	3	1	—	1	—	
Dysentery ... ..	5	1	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	
Smallpox ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Encephalitis (Acute):											
Infective ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Post-Infectious ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Meningococcal Infection	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Food Poisoning ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Infective Jaundice ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	

[illegible]



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

Parish	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Acute Polio- myelitis	Measles	Acute Pneumonia	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Infective Jaundice
Aston ... ..	-	10	-	1	1	-	-	-
Bayford ... ..	-	1	1	3	1	-	-	2
Benington ... ..	-	5	-	4	-	1	-	-
Bengeo Rural ... ..	-	13	-	4	-	-	-	-
Bramfield ... ..	-	5	-	5	-	-	-	-
Brickendon Liberty	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	2
Datchworth ... ..	-	14	-	25	1	-	-	-
Hertingfordbury ...	4	1	-	3	1	-	-	-
Little Amwell ... ..	-	1	-	35	-	-	-	-
L. Berkhamstead	1	4	-	1	-	-	-	-
Sacombe ... ..	1	5	-	8	-	-	-	-
Stapleford ... ..	-	6	-	4	-	-	-	-
Tewin ... ..	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	1
Walkern ... ..	-	10	-	10	-	-	-	-
Watton-at-Stone ...	-	17	-	3	1	-	1	-

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES :  
CONTROL AND PREVENTION**

**Food Poisoning**

Early in November a single case of food poisoning due to *Salmonella typhi-murium* organisms was reported in a baby aged 14 weeks, near Benington. Investigations showed that the baby, who was bottle fed, became ill with diarrhoea at the end of October and was admitted to hospital for diagnosis and treatment on November 3rd. Food poisoning germs were isolated from the stools of the baby, but similar tests carried out on the child's mother and other members of the household including a dog, proved negative to organisms of the *Salmonella* group. There was no evidence of rodent infestations at the house.

It is thought that the baby was infected as a result of faulty technique regarding sterilisation, storage and preparation of the baby's feeding bottle. Prior to the baby's illness the bottle when not in use was rinsed out and left on an open shelf where flies and dust could contaminate it. Furthermore, the bottle was not being properly sterilised by boiling, before a feed. Contributory factors may have been that the house is in a remote rural area and sanitation is primitive; also the occupants at that time had only very recently moved into the locality from a neighbouring town and were probably not accustomed to the hazards of their new sanitary arrangements.

The baby made an uneventful recovery. No other cases have occurred in connection with this one.



# 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 ft. 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 322,000 gallons per day. The supply was maintained without restriction or interruption throughout the year.

No cases of wells drying up were reported.

Work was completed on a main extension from Babbs Green to Timber Hall, Thundridge. The main supplies eight Council houses, 14 private properties and three farms.

### Quality

#### *Bacteriological*

Eight samples of water from the Ware R.D.C. supply derived from Standon were examined bacteriologically, and B. Coli were absent from 100 ml. in each case.

#### *Chemical Analysis of Public Water Supply*

Chemical Results in Parts per 100,000	Sample taken 19th March, 1951	Sample taken 23rd Oct., 1951
Total solids (dried at 180° C.) ... ..	38.0	37.0
Combine Chlorine (Cl) ... ..	2.1	2.0
Equivalent to Sodium Chloride (NaCl) ...	3.5	0.24
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates) ... ..	0.04	Nil
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites) ... ..	Nil	Nil
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ... ..	0.006	Nil
Albuminoid Nitrogen ... ..	0.0002	Nil
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27° C. ...	Nil	Nil
Lead or Copper ... ..	Nil	Nil
Temporary hardness (equivalent to CaCO <sub>3</sub> ) ...	28.0	29.0
Permanent " " " "	6.0	4.0
Total " " " "	34.0	33.0

The above results show no evidence of pollution and the water is fit for drinking purposes. The water is hard, the hardness is mainly "temporary" in nature, i.e. removable by boiling.



**Distribution of Water Services**

Dwelling houses supplied by public water mains:—

Parish	Number of Houses	Population (approx.)	Main direct to House	Main to Standpipes
Eastwick ... ..	63	147	53	10
Gilston ... ..	63	169	62	—
Great Amwell ... ..	592	2,312	555	16
Great Munden ... ..	117	442	85	17
Hunsdon ... ..	243	596	212	21
Little Munden ... ..	127	501	98	27
St. Margarets ... ..	48	173	41	—
Standon ... ..	811	2,605	663	109
Stanstead Abbots ... ..	404	1,560	381	24
Thundridge ... ..	159	731	108	10
Ware Rural ... ..	221	1,050	172	9
Widford ... ..	127	443	78	42
Total ... ..	2,975		2,496	285

**DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE**

Sewers from Standon and Puckeridge 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 Abbots 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.

Good progress is being made with sewer connections and conversions of the old earth closets to w.c.'s at Hunsdon.

There is a small sewerage system at Eastwick. The effluent discharges into the septic tank which was originally installed to take the drainage from the new Council houses. The tank was suitably enlarged and improved for this purpose.

Fifty-five sewer connections were made during 1951.

A scheme to drain Pye Corner district of Gilston Parish and a scheme for the drainage of the Dane End district of Little Munden Parish have been submitted to the Ministry of Housing & Local Government for approval. This will entail disposal works at the south end of the village. Sewer extensions in Great Amwell Parish to drain the Hillside Estate have been approved by the Ministry of Housing and the work will be put in hand during 1952. A similar scheme to connect Haileybury College and adjoining property to the sewers of the Hoddesdon Urban District Council has been approved by the Ministry and work should be in hand during 1952.



## 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 areas 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

A scheme is in operation whereby those private houses within an area in proximity to the sewers (as defined above) were charged 15s. per quarter for emptying one pail twice a week.

This scheme continues to encourage property owners to convert their pail closets to W.C.s.

All other pails to domestic premises are emptied twice weekly free of charge.

### Refuse Collection

A weekly system of collection is in operation, two vehicles being used.

Refuse is tipped at two dumps—Standon and Stanstead Road, Hoddesdon. 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 1951

### *Inspections*

Housing ... ..	186	Total brought forward	1,092
Complaints ... ..	90	Bakehouses ... ..	23
Infectious Diseases ... ..	17	Factories ... ..	41
Food Premises ... ..	128	Knackers Yard ... ..	12
Drainage ... ..	376	Refuse Tips ... ..	129
Water Supply ... ..	172	Caravans ... ..	51
Schools ... ..	12	Rats and Mice ... ..	130
Cowsheds and Dairies	29	Miscellaneous ... ..	18
Ice-cream Premises ...	82		
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Total carried forward	1,092	Total	1,496
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Number of Informal Notices served ... ..	96		
„ „ Statutory Notices served ... ..	22		



## HOUSING ACTS, 1936-1949

### Individual Unfit Houses

Action was taken under Section XI of the Housing Act, 1936, in respect of one property. Work was put in hand on the reconditioning of three properties which were the subject of action under Section XI taken last year.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

### Inspection and Supervision of Food

#### Ice-cream Premises

There are 28 premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the sale of ice-cream.

One new premises was registered during the year and this and the other premises were inspected regularly to ensure an 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. One hundred and twenty-eight inspections were made of the other food premises, which number as follows:—

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

#### Milk and Dairies

The Council are responsible for the registration of four dairies under the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949. Supplementary licences to retail designated milks in this District were granted to seven retailers. A large proportion of the milk consumed in this District is supplied from dairies in other districts, namely Ware Urban, Hoddesdon, Bishop's Stortford and Enfield.

#### *Biological Sampling*

The County Council notified two samples of milk positive to the tubercle bacillus during the year. In one case the milk from the affected herd was retailed without any form of heat treatment and it was necessary for the Medical Officer of Health to take action to stop the sale of the untreated milk. A notice was served under Section 20 of the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949, and rescinded when the herd had been pronounced free from infection by the Divisional Veterinary Officer.

#### *School Milk*

Investigations revealed the supply of milk to Great Amwell School to be unreliable. The dealer was, in fact, supplying untreated milk instead of pasteurised. The County Health Department were informed and the supplier was changed immediately.



### Condemned Foodstuffs

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

<i>Canned Foodstuffs</i>						Approx. Weight
Fish ...	...	...	...	...	16 tins	13½ lbs.
Fruit ...	...	...	...	...	121 „	134½ „
Meat ...	...	...	...	...	45 „	184 „
Milk ...	...	...	...	...	20 „	18½ „
Vegetables ...	...	...	...	...	43 „	38 „
						<hr/> 388 lbs. <hr/>

<i>Meat and Meat Products</i>						Approx.
Beef ...	...	...	...	...	...	51 lbs.
Total weight of all foods: 3 cwt. 103 lbs.						

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

### Rodent Control

Rodent control under the above Act is now in full operation in this District. The Council employ a part-time operator who is now principally engaged on this work.

The table below sets out the action taken during the year:—

	Type of Property				
	Council's Property	Dwelling Houses	Agricul- tural	Business Premises	Total
Number of properties inspected ...	9	652	18	41	720
Number found to be infested by rats ...	9	112	14	5	140
Number seriously infested by mice ...	—	1	—	—	1
Number of properties treated for infestations	9	112	—	5	126
Number of block control schemes carried out	—	6	—	—	6



# PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

DISEASE	TOTAL	AGE GROUP (in Years)						Age not Known	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
		Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65			
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	100	13	51	33	—	2	—	1	4	—
Poliomyelitis (Acute):										
Paralytic ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	248	7	112	124	3	2	—	—	3	—
Diphtheria ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia ... ..	18	—	—	1	—	10	7	—	—	1
Dysentery ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis (Acute):										
Infective ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post-Infectious ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Jaundice ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—

# INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING THE DIFFERENT MONTHS

DISEASE	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	19	13	8	9	1	6	3	18	9	12	1	1
Measles ... ..	12	83	57	31	35	26	2	1	1	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	6	2	1	5	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
Jaundice ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—



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

Parish	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Acute Pneumonia	Jaundice
Eastwick ... ..	-	-	9	-	-
Gilston ... ..	-	1	7	-	-
Great Amwell ... ..	-	3	13	-	-
Great Munden ... ..	-	16	3	2	-
Hunsdon ... ..	-	16	20	1	-
Little Munden ... ..	-	4	25	-	-
St. Margarets ... ..	-	20	6	-	-
Standon ... ..	1	10	128	11	1
Stanstead Abbots ... ..	-	12	12	-	-
Thundridge ... ..	-	12	14	-	-
Ware Rural ... ..	-	6	11	1	-
Widford ... ..	-	-	-	3	-



## NOTES

DISEASE	No. of cases	No. of deaths	No. of recoveries	No. of cures	No. of relapses
Smallpox	1	0	1	1	0
Measles	1	0	1	1	0
Scarlet fever	1	0	1	1	0
Diphtheria	1	0	1	1	0
Croup	1	0	1	1	0
Whooping cough	1	0	1	1	0
Consumption	1	0	1	1	0
Cholera	1	0	1	1	0
Typhoid	1	0	1	1	0
Yellow fever	1	0	1	1	0
Malaria	1	0	1	1	0
Relapsing fever	1	0	1	1	0
Brucella	1	0	1	1	0
Leishmaniasis	1	0	1	1	0
Syphilis	1	0	1	1	0
Gonorrhea	1	0	1	1	0
Chancroid	1	0	1	1	0
Granuloma inguinale	1	0	1	1	0
Herpes	1	0	1	1	0
Scabies	1	0	1	1	0
Ringworm	1	0	1	1	0
Impetigo	1	0	1	1	0
Furunculosis	1	0	1	1	0
Cellulitis	1	0	1	1	0
Pyoderma	1	0	1	1	0
Erysipelas	1	0	1	1	0
Septicemia	1	0	1	1	0
Septic shock	1	0	1	1	0
Disseminated intravascular coagulation	1	0	1	1	0
Acute respiratory distress syndrome	1	0	1	1	0
Acute kidney injury	1	0	1	1	0
Acute liver failure	1	0	1	1	0
Acute pancreatitis	1	0	1	1	0
Acute myocardial infarction	1	0	1	1	0
Acute stroke	1	0	1	1	0
Acute trauma	1	0	1	1	0
Acute poisoning	1	0	1	1	0
Acute drug reaction	1	0	1	1	0
Acute allergic reaction	1	0	1	1	0
Acute anaphylaxis	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hemolytic transfusion reaction	1	0	1	1	0
Acute pyrexia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypotension	1	0	1	1	0
Acute tachycardia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute bradycardia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute arrhythmia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute heart failure	1	0	1	1	0
Acute pulmonary edema	1	0	1	1	0
Acute respiratory acidosis	1	0	1	1	0
Acute metabolic acidosis	1	0	1	1	0
Acute alkalosis	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hyponatremia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypernatremia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypocalcemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypercalcemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypokalemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hyperkalemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypomagnesemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypermagnesemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypophosphatemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hyperphosphatemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypoglycemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hyperglycemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute acidosis	1	0	1	1	0
Acute alkalosis	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypoxia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hyperoxia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypotension	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypertension	1	0	1	1	0
Acute tachycardia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute bradycardia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute arrhythmia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute heart failure	1	0	1	1	0
Acute pulmonary edema	1	0	1	1	0
Acute respiratory acidosis	1	0	1	1	0
Acute metabolic acidosis	1	0	1	1	0
Acute alkalosis	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hyponatremia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypernatremia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypocalcemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypercalcemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypokalemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hyperkalemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypomagnesemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypermagnesemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypophosphatemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hyperphosphatemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypoglycemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hyperglycemia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute acidosis	1	0	1	1	0
Acute alkalosis	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hypoxia	1	0	1	1	0
Acute hyperoxia	1	0	1	1	0



## NOTES



NOTES





