EPPING URBAN, HARLOW URBAN

AND

EPPING AND ONGAR RURAL DISTRICTS

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1958

INCORPORATING THE REPORTS OF THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

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AND

EPPING & ONGAR RURAL

DISTRICTS

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I N D E X

P U B L I C H E A L T H C O M M I T T E E S

as at 31st December, 1958.

EPPING URBAN DISTRICT

Chairman: Councillor H. J. MAYHEW

Members

Cllr. D. G. CLARK
" H. CLIFFE

Cllr. F. R. HUTTON
" D. F. RITCHIE

Ex-Officio Member: Cllr. C. S. TOSELAND, C.B.E.
Chairman of the Council.

HARLOW URBAN DISTRICT

Chairman: Councillor A. E. BOND

Vice-Chairman: " MRS. E. DRUCE.

Members

Cllr. MRS. J. F. HUNTER
" W. JARVIS

Cllr. A. F. SMITHERS
" R. J. WARD

Ex-Officio Members: Cllr. W. FISHER
Chairman of the Council
Cllr. E. W. BUCKLE
Vice-Chairman of the Council

EPPING & ONGAR RURAL DISTRICT

Chairman: Councillor Lt.Col. K. F. MAY, O.B.E.
Vice-Chairman: " H. G. WATERMAN.

Members

Cllr. E. G. COOKE	Cllr. J. W. STEVENS
" R. B. JUDGE	" J. H. E. EVANS
" D. O. MOSS	" E. W. MARSH
" R. F. READER	" S. A. PAYNE
" R. J. PADFIELD	" Mrs. H. E. HOWARD
" L. D. G. RITCHINGS	" J. R. WOOLLARD

Cllr. The Hon. SIMON RODNEY

Ex-Officio Members: Cllr. R. TORRANCE
Chairman of the Council

Cllr. R. G. R. DANIELS
Vice-Chairman of the Council

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

I. ASH, M.D., D.P.H.

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
(Part-time)

A. W. FORREST, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

Office:- 209, High Street, Epping. Essex - Telephone EPPING 2294

Secretary:- Mrs. V. Lemon.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

EPPING URBAN DISTRICT	Hawthorn Lodge, 91, High Street. Epping.
Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.	H. J. MEAD, M.A.P.H.I., F.I.A.S., M.R.S.H., Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Examination Board. Royal Sanitary Institute (Meat and Other Foods) Certificate. Certificate in Sanitary Science, Royal Sanitary Institute.
Public Health Inspector and Assistant Surveyor.	G. J. BETHELL, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., A.B.I.C.C. Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors' Education Board.
Clerk.	MRS. M. HOWARD.

HARLOW URBAN DISTRICT

Chief Public Health Inspector	H. J. HEELEY, M.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.H.H. Certificate of Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board. Royal Sanitary Institute (Meat and Other Foods) Certificate. Diploma in Practical Sanitary Science, London.
Additional Public Health Inspector.	S. A. EADE, M.A.P.H.I., Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Examination Board. Royal Sanitary Institute (Meat and Other Foods) Certificate. Certificate in Sanitary Science, Royal Sanitary Institute. Diploma in Hygiene, Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene.
Chief Clerk.	MISS A. E. A. ROTHWELL.
Clerk.	MISS R. L. E. BOSANQUET.

EPPING & ONGAR RURAL DISTRICT

Chief Public Health Inspector	R. S. SHEARS, M.A.P.H.I., Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Examination Board. Royal Sanitary Institute (Meat and Other Foods) Certificate

Additional Public Health Inspectors.	R. A. T. KEMP, M.A.P.H.I., Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Examination Board. Royal Sanitary Institute (Meat and Other Foods) Certificate. Certificate in Sanitary Science, Royal Sanitary Institute.
	R. F. S. MUSGRAVE M.A.P.H.I., (to 13th April, 1958)
	R. J. DAVIES, M.A.P.H.I., (from 27th May, 1958) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Examination Board. Royal Society of Health (Meat and Other Foods) Certificate.
Chief Clerk.	T. D. BLYTH.
Clerks.	MISS G. M. WILLIAMS. MISS V. N. P. KNIGHT.

To the Chairmen and Members of the
Councils of the Epping and Harlow Urban
Districts and the Epping & Ongar Rural District.

"The healthy know not of their
health but only the sick".
(Thomas Carlyle)

LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

Once again, in discharging my duty under the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935 and 1951, and the Sanitary Officers Order, 1926, I have the pleasure of laying before you my annual report.

It is with little enthusiasm that each year I face the onus of writing a report. The reluctance with which I approach this recurrent task is not only due to the great amount of work and time involved or to the knowledge that the report is read by only a few of those to whom it is sent. The main reason for this feeling is the realisation that the report is incapable of fulfilling its purpose, which is to give a comprehensive picture of the state of public health in the three districts.

I have stressed in previous reports that we must strive towards positive health and that my function as medical officer of health is not only the prevention of disease but the promotion of health. This, as defined in the constitution of the World Health Organisation, is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. It would, therefore, be fallacious to infer the state of public health from the incidence of disease and death. Even the account of sanitary inspections and of consequent action aimed at improving environmental conditions only conveys the degree of diligence of the public health officers concerned. It

does not show in a direct way how the health of the community benefits from such action. Therefore, until a yardstick for measuring health is devised, the annual report will have to continue to give a summary of the work of the public health officers and of the effect it has on the incidence of disease and death rather than on health.

The present report follows broadly the lines of its immediate predecessors. However, in a further effort to make it more readable it has been divided into two parts. Section A, which is in the form of a narrative, is almost a complete report in itself but without the encumbrance of lengthy statistics. Figures have been used in the text only when it was necessary to stress some point. For more detailed information the reader should turn to section B where all statistical material is concentrated.

Once again I must acknowledge my indebtedness to my fellow officers on the three Councils, in particular to the public health inspectors, and to all others who co-operated with me throughout the year and supplied information for this report.

I am also deeply grateful to the members of my three Councils for their understanding and help in matters of public health.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
I. ASH, M.D., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

S E C T I O N 'A' - T E X T

ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL

The administration of the public health services in the three districts remained as before but the following changes in personnel took place:-

Mr. G. J. Bethell was appointed as assistant public health inspector and assistant surveyor to the Epping Urban District Council, and during the course of the year, after passing the required examinations, became a fully qualified public health inspector. His appointment was consequently re-designated as public health inspector and assistant surveyor.

Mr. R. F. S. Musgrave, one of the additional public health inspectors of the Epping & Ongar Rural District, left in April to take up a similar appointment with the Chelmsford Rural District. He was replaced by Mr. R. J. Davies.

It is gratifying to report that the Royal Society of Health has conferred a fellowship on Mr. H. J. Heeley, the chief public health inspector for the Harlow Urban District. Prior to taking up his present position in 1955, Mr. Heeley was for many years chief public health inspector of the former Epping Rural District.

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

The population of the three districts increased by 6,370 and in mid-year stood at 83,650. This increase was smaller by 860 than that in 1957 but was the same as in the year before. Harlow was again responsible for the bulk of the total increase, mainly through the continued influx of new residents. In Epping too, immigration accounted for most of the population rise whilst in the Rural District the excess of births over deaths and the immigrants contributed in almost equal proportion to the small growth of population.

Births

The adjusted birth rates in all three districts were higher than the rate for England and Wales. In acordance with instructions from the Ministry of Health the birth statistics now also include the rates of illegitimate live births, expressed as a percentage of total live births. With the exception of the Rural District these figures were slightly higher than the corresponding ones for 1957.

Still-births

The stillbirth rate decreased in Epping and Harlow in comparison with the previous year but increased slightly in the Rural District. However, in view of the small numbers involved undue importance need not be attached to this rise.

Deaths

The crude death rates were low in all districts, particularly in Harlow, but the adjusted rates for Harlow and the Rural District differed little from the national rate.

Mortality of infants under one year of age decreased in Epping and Harlow but increased in the Rural District in comparison with the previous year. In Epping Urban District and Epping & Ongar Rural District all the deceased infants died within the first four weeks of life. In Harlow Urban District approximately half died within the first month and the remainder during the subsequent eleven months. In this district the illegitimate infant mortality was considerably higher than the legitimate one.

CAUSES OF DEATH

Coronary disease

Coronary disease held first place amongst the causes of death in each of the three districts. In Harlow and in the Rural District there were more deaths from this condition than in the previous year and their ratio to the total number of deaths and to the population also increased. In Epping Urban District the opposite was the case.

Cancer

Deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus, which the year before showed a pause in their upward trend, more than doubled during 1958. The lowest age at death was thirty-nine years, the highest seventy-nine years and the median sixty-three years. In Harlow, where the population is continually growing, the increase was not only in numbers but also in proportion to the population. The number of deaths from all other malignant tumours showed little change in each district as compared with 1957.

Other Causes

There was only one death attributable to pregnancy, childbirth or abortion. The deceased was a woman from Epping who, after confinement, discharged herself from hospital against medical advice and subsequently died of puerperal fever.

A twenty-three year old Abridge man died of tetanus resulting from injuries sustained in a motor-cycle accident.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

There were no major outbreaks of communicable diseases and, thanks mainly to the cyclic decline in measles, the number of all cases was only about one third of that in the previous year. All other notifiable diseases except scarlet fever, food poisoning and dysentery were also less prevalent.

Food poisoning

Food poisoning increased appreciably in Epping and Harlow, but there were only two outbreaks involving a total of ten persons; all other cases were sporadic. Salmonella typhi-murium was again responsible for most of the cases where the causative agent could be identified. A newcomer to the districts was Salmonella schwarzengrund found in a tomato nursery worker and his young daughter. It was thought that this new type of Salmonella could have been introduced in fertilisers used at the nursery but the result of bacteriological examinations did not confirm this suspicion.

Five persons (Epping 1, Harlow 2 and Epping & Ongar 2) whose occupations entailed the preparation and handling of food for public consumption were temporarily excluded from work under the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1953. Another person found to be a carrier of Salmonella typhi-murium was prevented from taking up employment in a school canteen.

Dysentery

Dysentery continued to be mild and the incidence was far in excess of that indicated by the number of notifications. For this reason it is believed that except in a few special cases the usual measures aimed at controlling this disease are time-consuming, costly and quite ineffective. Twenty-nine of the cases reported in the Epping & Ongar Rural District occurred in the County Council's hostel at Abridge.

Tuberculosis

At the close of the year the number of cases on the tuberculosis register of the three districts showed an increase of 107 over the corresponding figure on the 1st January. Most of these cases were inward transfers, and, since the influx of people into Harlow was so great, it is only natural that the bulk of these old and previously notified cases should swell that district's register. However, there were also 49 new cases (Epping 5, Harlow 28, Epping & Ongar 16) and 5 deaths (Epping 1, Harlow 1, Epping & Ongar 3). The incidence rate of new cases was similar to that in the rest of the country.

Mass Radiography Survey

After an absence of three years the North East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board's Mass Radiography Unit 6A visited this area, and a full statistical report on their work and results, kindly supplied by the Unit's medical director, is reproduced in section B. In Harlow a special effort was made to attract as many people as possible to the open sessions held in various parts of the town. For this purpose an extensive publicity campaign was launched by means of posters, leaflets, newspaper articles and letters delivered to every household. In addition a draw was held each

day and prizes given to those already X-rayed who held lucky numbers. These prizes were generously provided by the Harlow Urban District Council and by some local traders. Although their intrinsic value was not great they provided a talking point and thus kept alive the interest in the mass radiography campaign.

The success of this campaign is reflected in the number of people X-rayed which was 65.1% higher than in 1955, although in the intervening three years the town's population had increased by only 39.7%. In considering these figures it must be borne in mind that a number of people who had settled in Harlow within the past year or two might have been X-rayed in their previous place of residence or work and did not, therefore, attend again.

As far as is known, this was the first time that a mass radiography unit had visited the Epping & Ongar Rural District. Unfortunately there was a bus strike on at the same time so that people from outlying small parishes could not easily reach the unit. Rainy weather made things even more difficult.

In examining the figures of attendances and of cases of tuberculosis discovered, it is necessary to remember that a certain number of people from the Rural District came to Epping for their examination, and that the statistics for the Urban District may thus have been somewhat inflated. Altogether 14 cases of active tuberculosis requiring immediate treatment were found (Epping 2, Harlow 10 and Epping & Ongar 2). In addition a number of other abnormalities of the lungs and heart were discovered.

PROBLEM FAMILIES

The Harlow Committee for the Co-ordination of Prevention of Break-up of Families continued to meet quarterly. It dealt with only four new cases and

four old ones brought forward from the previous year. This small volume of work is rather discouraging because there are indications that some problem families are not brought to the notice of the committee. The reluctance of certain persons and organisations to do so may be due partly to unwillingness to interfere in other people's family matters and partly to the fact that the committee as such has no powers to act. It is, as its name clearly indicates, only a co-ordinating committee whose main task is to ensure that there is no overlapping on the part of the various social organisations active in the area and that the person or organisation best suited to deal with a particular case should undertake the work of supervision and rehabilitation. Despite the small case-load members felt that the committee was doing a useful job and they repeatedly expressed their opinion that it should continue in existence.

CARE OF OLD PEOPLE

In January it was agreed with St. Margaret's Hospital, Epping, that all aged in-patients known to be living alone and about to be discharged home should be notified to the medical officer of health. This proved to be a very useful arrangement and a number of such old persons were visited and helped in various ways. In addition to those reported by the hospital, others requiring supervision and help were notified by general practitioners, health visitors, voluntary organisations and private individuals. Altogether fifteen persons (Epping 2, Harlow 6, Epping & Ongar 7) were visited and generally supervised and three of them were eventually removed to Part III accommodation.

Various voluntary organisations provided services and recreation for old people. The Harlow and District Old People's Association continued to run their hot meals service. They charged only 1/- per meal, the balance of the cost being defrayed by a contribution from the Harlow Council. The same association was also responsible for providing chiropody which, again thanks to a grant from the Harlow Council, was offered free to those old people who could not afford even the special reduced charge.

In the Rural District the W.V.S. started a limited 'Meals on Wheels' service, having obtained from the Council a contribution in cash and the use of premises for preparing meals.

Various old people's clubs in all three districts did not confine their activities to holding social meetings but also provided chiropody, outings, holidays and other help.

More dwellings suitable for old people were made available by the three Councils. Eight bungalows were completed and occupied in Epping and six in Harlow. The Rural District brought into use eight new maisonettes on their Shelley estate.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS OF COUNCIL STAFF

Towards the end of the year, after lengthy and detailed discussions between the chief officers concerned, the Harlow Council accepted a new system whereby a workman not fully fit, though not a registered disabled person, could be admitted to the Superannuation and/or Sick Pay Scheme without increasing the Council's liability. If such a person is found on medical examination to be unsuited for certain work, such as lifting heavy weights, he himself and, with his consent, the head of the employing department, are officially informed about it. It is then the employee's responsibility to see that he is not called upon to do tasks for which he is unsuited. This system enables the Council to engage people who, although not in perfect physical health, are nevertheless quite fit and well qualified to do duties normally connected with their employment. It also reduces the likelihood of a person being ordered in an emergency to undertake a task which is not part of his normal duties and for which he is not physically fit.

The Epping and Epping & Ongar Councils later adopted the same system. It does not alter in any way the existing provisions for the employment of registered disabled persons.

During the year seventy-six persons were examined (Epping 8, Harlow 50, Epping & Ongar 18) of whom only four were found to be unfit for admission to the Superannuation/Sick Pay Scheme.

HEALTH EDUCATION

The public nowadays is subjected to so many posters, leaflets and other publicity material of all kinds that it takes little or no notice of them. For this reason commercial firms advertising products of wide use have to resort more and more to giving coupons or free samples in order to attract attention to their particular wares. As there is usually nothing to give away in advertising a healthy way of living, health education carried out by the conventional means remains largely ineffective. It must also be admitted that besides having imcomparably greater material resources behind it, commercial advertising is often more subtle in its psychological approach to the customer than health advertising which still uses to a great extent the unpalatable preaching technique.

Another reason for the public's lack of interest in health education is the excessive number of special campaigns sponsored each year by various official bodies, all using similar methods. "Guard that Fire" was an instance of the failure of a government sponsored large-scale health education campaign. Various circumstances combined to frustrate the considerable amount of thought and effort that went into it. The campaign was launched in November when all shop owners and managers were pre-occupied with their Christmas trade and hardly any of them responded to the request to stage special window displays or even exhibit posters. Masses of leaflets arranged to be distributed by voluntary organisations to every household did not reach their destination, except in Harlow, and an intended public demonstration of the inflammability of certain materials widely used for children's wear could not take place because the necessary co-operation of an organisation particularly concerned with the problem was not forth-

coming. Especially disappointing was the failure of government agencies to carry out the promised large scale nation-wide publicity campaign. Such references to prevention of burning accidents as could be found in the press or on the B.B.C. were scanty and inconspicuous.

A much more successful local health education campaign was organised in connexion with the visit of the mass radiography unit and has already been mentioned on pages 12 and 13.

During the year under review several talks were given including an illustrated one on B.C.G.vaccination. Other subjects were the relation between smoking and lung cancer and the health of school children. In addition a discussion group was led on certain problems of adolescence.

NEW LEGISLATION

The following Acts of Parliament dealing directly or indirectly with public health matters received Royal Assent in the course of the year:-

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958
Slaughterhouses Act, 1958
Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958
Litter Act, 1958
Local Government Act, 1958
Water Act, 1958

The Local Government Act, 1958, makes far-reaching changes in the functions and finance of local authorities. Under its provisions the Harlow Council resolved to apply for the delegation of certain health, education and welfare functions.

THE HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTERED BY THE ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

As the main purpose of this report is to give an account of the health services provided by the Councils of the three districts, relatively little space can be devoted to the services administered by the County

Council, although they are of the greatest importance to the well-being of the population.

The medical officers of the Forest and Mid-Essex Health Areas and Education Divisions have again kindly supplied the relevant information and statistics.

One of the main events of the year was the opening of new clinics in Harlow which form part of a large health centre. The building consists of three wings, each bearing a distinct name. Addison House provides room for maternity, child welfare and minor ailment clinics as well as for general medical and dental practitioners' surgeries. Chadwick House accommodates consultant and other special services for school children, and Galen House, which commenced functioning only in May, contains the Child Guidance Clinic. This clinic, as anticipated in last year's report, is proving of great benefit not only to children but also to parents who no longer need to make the long journey to Walthamstow.

The continued rise in the number of school children in Harlow necessitated an increase in the sessions at the orthoptic clinic from two to three per week and at the physiotherapy clinic from three to four per week.

The speech therapist attending the Epping and Harlow clinics resigned in August and a replacement could not be found before September, by which time there was a long waiting list of patients.

In Ongar the minor ailment clinic continued to function at the Congregational Church Hall twice a month.

Two interesting developments in Harlow were the establishment of a special clinic for bed-wetters and the reorganisation of the school medical inspections. The clinic was opened in November and the results so far obtained are very encouraging.

Regarding school medical examinations, it had been apparent for a long time that little was being achieved by routine medical inspections of large numbers of children, most of whom were in perfect health. It was, therefore, decided with the approval of the Ministry of Education, to discontinue routine inspections of children in the 10-12 years age group and to concentrate instead on those pupils who presented some health or educational problems. To do so frequent visits were paid to the junior schools by medical officers and nurses who discussed with the teachers and parents the peculiar problems of those children about whom some concern was felt. These pupils were usually also medically examined and kept under observation or referred for treatment if it was found necessary.

The poliomyelitis vaccination programme which in the two previous years had suffered delays through shortage of vaccine, went ahead fairly smoothly thanks to the availability of imported vaccine. Towards the end of the year it was even possible to extend it to young persons up to the age of twenty-five years. Only those who specifically asked to be immunized with British vaccine could not be dealt with immediately.

Other immunizations, including B.C.G.vaccination, suffered somewhat because of the priority given to the poliomyelitis programme.

The health visitors, midwives and district nurses in all three districts were kept busy throughout the year. Their conscientious and devoted efforts which cannot be adequately reflected in statistical summaries, contributed greatly to the maintenance of high standards of community health.

GENERAL PROVISION OF MEDICAL SERVICES

General Practitioners

Relations with the general practitioners continued to be good, particularly in Harlow where health centres

contribute to a closer co-operation between the preventive and curative health services.

The opening of Addison House, referred to previously, has provided Harlow with yet another fine health centre in which general practitioners can work in comfortable and pleasant surroundings.

Hospitals

Hardly any progress was made with the building of the Harlow hospital. By the end of the year some site work had been done and the construction of staff quarters was under way but there was still no sign of the hospital proper. This delay stirred the emotions of a number of people and caused complaints to be voiced in the Council chamber and in the local press.

Looking at the matter dispassionately there is no doubt that once the Regional Hospital Board and the Ministry had agreed on the need for a hospital the project should have been treated with a greater sense of urgency.

It is true that a hospital is not simply a large and more or less imposing building but a group of very complex functional units which require careful and far-seeing planning. On the other hand, however, it is necessary to bear in mind that with the continuous and rapid changes in the methods of medical care there is a danger that if the planning and building of the hospital is too long protracted it may become obsolete almost as soon as it is completed.

There is another matter which calls for comment. Some of the utterances of those who quite rightly urge the speeding up of the construction of the Harlow hospital may have given the impression that the hospital is to be regarded as the supreme and ultimate achievement in the provision of the town's health services - a kind of pivot around which general practitioners' and local authority services would revolve. Such an idea, if indeed it exists, is quite erroneous because

although hospitals are indispensable, they are no more than aids to the other services. In fact, with the exception of maternity cases, admission to hospital usually becomes necessary only if measures to prevent disease fail and the family doctor is unable to treat the patient in the natural surroundings of the home and family.

To assume that more and better hospitals would improve our standards of health would be as fallacious as to think that our road traffic problems would be solved by building more garages to which wrecked cars could be towed for repairs.

Therefore, contrary to the impression given by television, films and magazines which glamorise hospitals, and the fact that almost three fifths of the cost of the National Health Service goes towards running them, it is the primary and secondary prevention of disease practised by the public health service and the family doctors respectively which safeguard the nation's health.

Of course we will always need good and easily accessible hospitals, but we should exert our efforts towards creating conditions under which it would be possible to reduce the ratio of beds per population or even close entire departments, as has already been done in fairly recent years in the case of infectious and venereal diseases and tuberculosis. The well-being of a community will then be judged not by the number, size and magnificence of its hospitals but by the declining need for them.

Whilst discontent with the delay in the provision of a hospital for Harlow was being expressed both privately and officially St. Margaret's Hospital, Epping, and to a lesser extent the Herts & Essex Hospital, Bishops Stortford, much to their credit, continued to cope with cases from the New Town. Although because of the distance of these hospitals and the long waiting lists in some departments, many patients and relatives

must have suffered hardship as far as is known nobody requiring urgent hospitalisation was refused admission, even if at times it had to be in a hospital further afield.

In the autumn the Epping Group Hospital Management Committee took over Bentham House in Harlow and established there an out-patient department staffed by consultants from St. Margaret's, Epping. This, and the opening of a physiotherapy department in a temporary building previously used as the Industrial Health Centre somewhat alleviated the inconvenience of not having a hospital in the town.

As in previous years most cases of infectious diseases from all three districts went to the Honey Lane Hospital, Waltham Abbey. Only a few patients were admitted to other fever hospitals in the neighbourhood.

Laboratory services

A large number of bacteriological examinations connected with the control of communicable diseases were carried out at the laboratory of St. Margaret's Hospital. Samples of water, foodstuffs and other materials were sent for analysis to the Counties Public Health Laboratories.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

Details of the sanitary circumstances and of the work of the public health inspectorate are given under appropriate headings separately for each district. Here only some specific matters and others common to all three districts are briefly reviewed.

Water

Throughout the year the water supply in the area was of high bacterial purity. Unfortunately, discolouration due to a heavy rusty deposit, mentioned in the previous report, continued to appear from time to time, particularly in Epping and in the Rural District. Members of the Epping Urban District Council were not satisfied that the more frequent flushing of mains undertaken by the Herts & Essex Water Company with a view to preventing the occurrence of turbid water was having the desired effect, and resolved to ask the

Ministry of Housing and Local Government for advice in the matter. This has not yet been received.

The water company produced a report on water softening in which they showed that the cost of the scheme could only be met by a substantial increase in water rates and charges. In fact, the domestic rate would have to be 30% higher if the cost was equally shared between domestic and trade consumers and 60% higher if the whole extra cost was passed to the domestic consumer only. After careful consideration of the report the Councils of the three districts decided not to press for the time being for the provision of softened water.

Sewerage

The nuisance caused in the previous year by raw sludge deposited in two large open lagoons at the Rye Mead sewage works was satisfactorily abated and the inhabitants of the nearby villages no longer complained about foul smell.

The relaxation of the restrictions on capital expenditure enabled the Rural District to proceed with its Blackmore and Doddinghurst sewerage scheme, and to commence work on the Fyfield and Willingale sewer.

Housing

The demolition, closing or conversion of unfit houses and the provision of new dwellings continued at a satisfactory rate.

Having completed its slum clearance programme, Harlow dealt only with individual unfit houses as circumstances required. In the Epping Urban and in the Rural District the slum clearance programme was progressing well.

There were sixty-four applications for rehousing supported by medical certificates (Epping 13, Harlow 7, Epping & Ongar 44). All were thoroughly investigated and appropriate recommendations were submitted to the Housing Committees. The system of treating such applications according to the points scheme is

unsatisfactory because even the maximum allowed number of points on medical grounds does not necessarily ensure early rehousing. In fact, there are cases where perfectly healthy people accumulate so many points awarded to them on account of sub-standard accommodation, lack of separate home, length of residence in the district, etc. that on the housing list they are far ahead of those whose condition of health requires immediate rehousing. It is obvious, therefore, that urgent medical cases should have priority irrespective of their total number of points and that it would be more satisfactory if they were to be treated strictly on their merit and not according to the cold and impersonal arithmetic of the points scheme.

Glen Faba & Riverfields Estate

Reference to the appalling housing conditions on the Glen Faba and Riverfields Estate, Roydon, has unfortunately become a recurrent item in the annual report. The Epping & Ongar Council made some further administrative moves to solve the problem but they have not yet resulted in any material change in the situation. In February and July the estate was flooded and fourteen persons had to be evacuated from their partly submerged shacks and caravans. The flood waters washed up a considerable amount of sewage which had been buried in the gardens, and it is very fortunate indeed that it did not pollute the shallow wells to such an extent as to cause an outbreak of a serious epidemic disease. However, after the floods, many residents suffered from enteritis. In one case almost half a day was spent in arranging admission to hospital of a woman who was due to have a baby. The ordinary maternity hospitals would not admit her because she was suffering from dysentery and she could not be left to give birth in her shack, not only because the accommodation there was unsuitable and insanitary, but also because her doctor would have had difficulty in reaching her through all the mud covering the estate.

Ionising radiation

The problem of danger from radiation came to the fore as a result of two incidents in Harlow. In one of them a general dealer found a box with a label on it which stated that it contained radium guaranteed by the Radium Institute of Vienna. This caused some anxiety because nobody in the area had the means to determine whether the box was radio-active and it had to be sent to London for examination. In the other case a patient returned to a chemist's shop containers in which radio-isotopes had been delivered to him and the pharmacist did not know if it was safe to handle them. As a result of these incidents it was decided that there was need for a simple instrument for monitoring of radiation, and the Harlow Council authorised the purchase of a utility-type Geiger counter.

Since radiation affects health, the increasing use of radio-active materials in industry gives cause for concern. It is felt that there is need for legislation to require all establishments using such materials to be registered with the local authority. This would enable the medical officer of health to ensure that all necessary safety precautions are taken in the transport and use of radio-active substances and particularly in the disposal of their waste.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES AND INSPECTIONS - INDIVIDUAL DISTRICTS

I. EPPING URBAN DISTRICT

The public health inspector reports as follows:-

Water

The water supplied by the Herts & Essex Water Company was satisfactory in quantity but complaints about discolouration continued, though they were fewer in number than during the previous year. The trouble was again said by the company

to be due to local interruptions in the supply or to have occurred at times of high consumption. There does not seem to be a ready solution to this problem, and the County Council who were asked to investigate the matter had not yet reported on it by the end of the year.

Sewerage

Sewage Works

Both sewage disposal works continued to operate satisfactorily although on one occasion an adverse report was received on a sample of effluent from the Northern Outfall. This sample was taken early in June and it was found to contain the maximum allowable amount of suspended matter. It was felt that the condition was due to the very heavy rainfall at that time, which had the effect of lessening the period during which the sewage remained in the sedimentation tanks. With an improvement in the weather, the position remedied itself and subsequent samples were satisfactory.

Sewers

Considerable difficulty was experienced with sections of the oldest sewers in the district serving the centre of the town and running through the Beaconfield Estate to the Northern Outfall. In February, and again in September, parts of the roadway in Hemnall Street collapsed. These subsidences occurred over the line of the sewer which at that particular point is about 15ft deep and is thought to be some 90 years old. When the pipes were exposed, it was found that the trouble arose from the use of junction pipes sealed off with wooden stoppers, which, in the course of time, had decayed. This left an opening in the side of the sewer through which the surrounding soil had been drawn in, thus creating a cavity which eventually collapsed, causing the subsidence in the road.

It was necessary to expose and re-lay this section of the sewer for a distance of 75 yards in order to

remove three further junction pipes which might have caused similar difficulties at some future time. There was, in fact, evidence in two cases that underground cavities were already forming.

As anticipated in the 1957 report, further housing development along this same pipe-line necessitated the exposure of sewers of similar age which were found to be in such a bad condition as to require renewal.

The exceptionally wet summer during which there were many severe storms causing flooding in Brook Road led to renewed consideration of the consultant engineer's proposals for dealing with this problem. At the end of the year the matter was considered again but no decision had been reached.

Public Conveniences

There were no changes in the two conveniences situated in the district but there was a welcome reduction in the amount of wilful damage caused to them.

Public Cleansing.

The rapid growth of the district, particularly in the Beaconfield Estate area where a large number of houses were completed both by the Epping Council and the Chingford Borough Council, focused attention on the need for a reorganisation of the refuse collection service. The problem was to try to find a refuse vehicle which had a carrying capacity capable of maintaining a weekly service without additional staff. Various types of large capacity machines were tested for periods of several days at a time. Following these tests and the examination of tenders it was finally decided to purchase a new Karrier "Dualtip" machine of 25 cubic yard capacity. The machine was ordered during the year under review but not delivered until 1959.

Atmospheric Pollution

Observations continued to be made of the smoke from the boilers at St. Margaret's Hospital and it was pleasing to note a considerable improvement.

Many complaints were received about the effluvium from a cellulose spraying plant. However, after the management had carried out modifications to the exhaust screening and washing apparatus no further difficulties were experienced.

Housing

General

The year saw the completion of one of the largest contracts placed by the Council when 55 housing units, comprising 3 bedroom houses, 2 bedroom flats and aged persons bungalows, were completed and occupied. This accommodation was used to rehouse tenants displaced by the fourth stage of the clearance area programme which included properties in Lindsey Street, Coopersale Street, Coopersale Common and Union Terrace. The contract also enabled some progress to be made with the problem of providing accommodation for aged persons, a matter which continues to engage the attention of the Council.

With a further 52 houses built on their Beaconfield Estate the Chingford Borough Council completed their development in Epping. By the use of varied types of brick and large areas of green verges a very attractive estate has been erected in this part of the district.

Private enterprise building continued to make steady progress, and some 49 houses were completed during the year. There is no doubt that but for the scarcity and high cost of land in Epping this number would have been considerably higher. The scarcity of land is, of course, due to the policy of restricting the expansion of the district.

Certificates of Disrepair

There was an increase in the number of applications by tenants for certificates of disrepair, but generally speaking this section of the Rent Act of 1957 has not created many problems in the district. In those cases where certificates were issued all the work was carried out to the satisfaction of the Council.

Inspection of Food

There were no changes in either the number or nature of food premises in the district. They were regularly inspected during the year and were generally found to be satisfactory.

Local ice-cream vendors continued to obtain their supplies from large and reputable producers. Four samples were taken and upon examination were found to be of Grade I (Ministry of Health's Provisional Grades).

There were no prosecutions for breach of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Rodent Control

The Council's part-time rodent operative dealt with fifty-nine private residences and fourteen business premises.

Inspection of Factories

No new factories were erected during the year. Routine inspections were carried out at existing premises.

II. HARLOW URBAN DISTRICT

The chief public health inspector reports as follows:-

Water

The quantity and quality of water remained good throughout the year and there were no complaints from

consumers. One hundred and eight samples were submitted by the Herts & Essex Water Company for analysis and all proved to be of high bacterial purity.

The water company's capital works programme, commenced in 1956 and aimed at securing further bulk supplies of water for Harlow, was reported as being almost completed. The new works, which include the construction of three new bore holes and pumping stations at Thundridge, the extension of re-pumping at Hadham and the laying of a new 21" diameter trunk main from Harlow to the Rye Hill reservoir should be ready for use in the summer of 1959.

Approximately four miles of trunk and distribution mains ranging from 3" to 15" diameter were laid during the year bringing the total length of mains within the district to 76.59 miles.

The six wells serving eight properties on the outskirts of the town were kept under constant supervision.

A sample of water used in watercress beds was submitted to analysis and found to be of a high standard of purity.

Sewerage

During the year under review a new sewer was completed in Latton Street and action was taken to connect to it the various properties situated along its course. Another sewer, to serve Kingsmoor Road, was in the course of construction. There still remain isolated dwellings on the outskirts of the town, particularly on the Roydon border, for which there are no sewers. Pail closets or cesspools on these properties are regularly emptied by the Engineer & Surveyor's Department.

Extensive investigations were carried out into the causes of the recurrent flooding in The Oxleys (Old Harlow) and remedial work will be undertaken in due course.

Atmospheric Pollution

Investigation of atmospheric pollution was carried on as part of a general County scheme. In addition to the deposit gauge and two lead peroxide candles already in use, a volumetric apparatus for the daily measurement of smoke and suspended matter and of sulphur dioxide in the air was installed at Netteswell Hall. The air pollution data obtained with the aid of these instruments compare favourably with those of other parts of the country.

Eight complaints were received about the emission of excessive smoke and grit from furnaces and twenty-three inspections were made to investigate the matter. There were also forty-eight visits in connexion with other duties relating to the Clean Air Act.

The Council submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government provisional proposals for the first smoke control area in the town. This area would cover eight hundred and sixty-five acres and would comprise the neighbourhoods of Mark Hall, North and South, and part of Netteswell and include five thousand two hundred and twelve properties.

Housing

Slum Clearance

In August, 1955, the Council submitted a return to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in accordance with the requirements of Section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, in which they estimated that there were eighty-five houses unfit for habitation and due to be demolished within a period of five years. At the end of 1958 all these houses and twenty-four others had been dealt with, making a total of one hundred and nine dwellings.

Movable Dwellings

It is the Council's policy to dispense with licensing of movable dwellings under the provisions of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, when the occupants of such dwellings are employed by contractors on the building of the new town. The

dwellings, however, are kept under supervision in order to ensure that they do not cause a public health nuisance.

Two licences under Section 269 were granted during the year. The occupiers of these movable dwellings were not engaged on building work.

Food

General

The total number of food premises in the district was two hundred and seventy-six, and one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven visits were made to them. Thirty complaints were received regarding the sale of food. Forty-two intimation notices were served in connexion with food premises and it was necessary to take legal proceedings in a Court of Summary Jurisdiction in five cases.

Three thousand three hundred and twenty pounds of foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption but most of this was collected by pig keepers and, after being rendered sterile through boiling, was used for animal feeding.

Registration of premises

Under the provisions of Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, all premises used for the storage and sale of ice-cream or the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pickled or preserved food are registered by the Council. They continued to be frequently inspected in order to ensure a high standard of hygiene. Samples of ice-cream and ice-lolly taken for laboratory examination were all found to be satisfactory.

Milk and Dairies

Six dairies are registered in the town under the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949-1954, and sixty-eight dealers' licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations.

Of thirty-five samples of milk examined thirty-four were found to be satisfactory but one did not

pass the requisite (methylene blue) test. As this milk had been heat treated outside Harlow, the appropriate local authority was informed in order that the necessary action might be taken.

Hawkers of Food

Sixteen persons are registered as hawkers of food under the provisions of Section 103 of the Essex County Council Act, 1952. No lock-up premises for the storage of food requiring registration were used in this district.

Rodent Control

The duties of the part-time rodent operative were carried out as before, and in accordance with the Council's previously agreed policy no charge was made for treatment of infested dwellings.

Treatment of business premises was carried out on the basis of contracts entered into with the occupiers, and an economic charge was levied for the service.

Inspection of Factories

Inspections were carried out at factories in order to ensure compliance with those provisions of the Factories Acts which are enforceable by the local authority. A considerable number of visits were also made in connexion with the issue or amendment of certificates relating to means of escape from fire.

The register of out-workers was kept up to date.

III. EPPING & ONGAR RURAL DISTRICT

The chief public health inspector reports as follows:-

Water

The quantity of the main water supply was generally adequate. Bacteriological tests of raw and treated water were arranged by the Herts & Essex Water Company and gave satisfactory results as did also two samples taken by Council staff. A number of complaints were received from consumers regarding transient discolouration of water due to heavy deposit of iron. These were referred to the water company.

Ten samples of well water were submitted for examination and two were found to be unsatisfactory. The premises served by these two wells were subsequently connected to the main water supply.

Sewerage

The Engineer and Surveyor who has control over sewerage and sewage disposal has supplied the following information:

Sewers

Progress was made on the Council's five-year programme for sewering the district at an estimated cost of £500,000. During the year under review work commenced on the Blackmore part (part II) of the Blackmore and Doddinghurst sewerage scheme, and on the Fyfield and Willingale scheme. A tender was accepted for the Stapleford Abbotts sewer and the preparatory work for sewering Matching and Berners Roding was in hand. With the new Doddinghurst sewer which came into service, there are now thirteen parishes provided with sewers. New connexions to these proceeded at a satisfactory rate.

Cesspools

With the exception of Sheering the same parishes as before were provided with a cesspool emptying service. This was withdrawn from Sheering because an adequate sewer has been in existence there since 1955. As a result of this withdrawal it was possible to extend the service to Moreton.

Some four hundred and fifty cesspools were emptied during the year.

Pail Closets

About five hundred pail closets in seven parishes were emptied each week by Council employees. For reasons stated in the preceding sub-paragraph this service was discontinued in Sheering and extended instead to Moreton.

Sewage disposal

All sewage disposal works in the district and the various pumping stations which serve them continued to function satisfactorily and gave no cause for complaint.

Public Conveniences

The Council approved a plan for the provision of a car park and public convenience on a site near Budworth Hall at Chipping Ongar. Since ministerial consent has so far been received only for the construction of the car park, the temporary arrangement for the use by the public of conveniences attached to a public house remains as before.

The maintenace of the public convenience in Abridge was made difficult by constant misuse. Abridge is a terminus of a London Transport Executive bus route and a large number of visitors who come there at weekends and in summer use the toilets. The convenience is situated on the forecourt of a public house and is rented from the brewery company.

Public Cleansing

This service is under the control of the engineer and surveyor and is carried out by a staff of twenty-

five men and one foreman. The plant is gradually being modernised and now comprises 3 "Paxit" and four side loader vehicles, one of which is kept in reserve. Refuse is collected throughout the whole district and most parishes have a weekly collection. There are two refuse disposal sites in use, one at Stondon Massey and the other at Theydon Bois. Both are of the controlled tipping type. Negotiations for the use of a centrally sited tip have been completed and it is expected to come into use in 1959.

Atmospheric Pollution

The investigations of atmospheric pollution continued by means of one deposit gauge, three lead peroxide candles and a daily smoke instrument installed at various points in the district.

A report was submitted recommending the establishment of smoke control areas but the Council decided to take no action for the time being. There would, however, appear to be no reason why districts which are not in the so-called "black areas" should not make their contribution towards the creation of a smoke-free atmosphere.

Housing

Slum Clearance

Continued satisfactory progress was made with the clearance of slums. In the year under review this involved the re-housing by the Council of twenty-one families.

There is an increasing tendency for people to acquire and extensively recondition houses which are the subject of demolition orders. The Council views this trend with favour.

Improvement Grants

Sixty premises were inspected in connexion with proposed improvements and forty-nine schedules were prepared showing items of disrepair and of work required to qualify for an improvement grant. Twenty-one such grants were approved by the Council.

An analysis of the improvement grants made since the coming into force of the Housing Act, 1949, shows that the majority of dwellings for which a grant was asked were owner-occupied. There seems to be little doubt that the high standard which an improved dwelling must attain in order to qualify for a grant is a deterrent to the improvement of tenanted properties.

Movable Dwellings

In the course of the year six applications were received for permission to station movable dwellings. A licence under Section 269 (1)(ii) of the Public Health Act, 1936, was granted in each case.

Glen Faba & Riverfields Estate

Reference has been made on page 24 as well as in previous reports to the very unsatisfactory and progressively deteriorating conditions on the Glen Faba and Riverfields Estate. The sub-committee of the Council specially appointed to deal with this problem has considered further proposals which seem to offer a reasonable solution. They have been accepted in principle by the Essex County Council subject to satisfactory settlement with the Rural District Council of some details, including finance. The scheme has the merit of being generally acceptable to the Residents' Association of the estate. Observations on it by the Minister of Housing & Local Government are now awaited and it is hoped that it will be possible to make some progress towards the solution of the problem in the near future.

Food

General

Much attention was paid during the year to food hygiene. There were two hundred and fifty-four food premises in the district, and the proportionately large amount of time spent in paying them a total of seven hundred and eighty nine visits was on the whole rewarding because it resulted in the remedy of many defects. It was found that some brewery firms were tardy in bringing their public houses up to the required standard and it was felt that matters would

improve if the issue of a licence could be made conditional upon the presentation of a satisfactory report on the state of hygiene of the premises and equipment.

There were no prosecutions under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Registration of premises

Premises used for the sale of ice-cream or for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pickled or preserved food and registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, were kept under constant supervision. Samples of ice-cream and ice-lolly submitted for bacteriological examination were all found to be satisfactory. The casual itinerant ice-cream vendor was particularly watched.

Milk & Dairies

Six dairies are registered in the Rural District under the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949-1954, and there were sixteen distributors of milk operating in the same area. Fifty-six dealers' or supplementary licences were issued in the course of the year.

Four samples were taken - three of pasteurised and one of tuberculin-tested milk - and all were satisfactory.

Hawkers of Food

There were four persons registered as hawkers of food under the provisions of Section 103 of the Essex County Council Act, 1952.

Slaughtering & Meat Inspection

Twenty-nine slaughtermen were on the Council's register and there were seven licensed slaughterhouses in the district. Twenty one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine carcases were inspected during the year.

A considerable amount of week-end slaughtering took place and much of the meat was for consumption outside the district. Under the Slaughterhouse

(Meat Inspection Grant) Regulations, 1958, the Council received an Exchequer grant towards the expenses of meat inspection.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's policy of slaughtering tuberculin positive cattle in an endeavour to eradicate bovine tuberculosis is bearing fruit. In 1958 the percentage of bovine carcases found to have tubercular lesions was only 10.9 compared with 22.3 in 1957 in spite of the fact that twice as many cows were slaughtered.

Rodent Control

Following the recommendation of the Arton and Wilson Committee the rat and mouse extermination service of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was to cease in March, 1959. At the invitation of the Ministry, supported by the National Farmers' Union, the Council decided to take over as from September, 1958, all existing contracts between the Ministry and the farmers. An additional rodent operative was employed for this farm contract service which is expected to be self-supporting.

Maintenance treatment of the Council's sewerage system was carried out as in previous years.

Petroleum Acts and Orders

The Model Code of Principles of Construction and Licensing Conditions for the storage of petroleum spirit is being enforced by the Council, and conditions relating to the electrically operated pumps and associated equipment are incorporated in the local authority's licences.

Spot checks carried out showed that the conditions of the Petroleum Spirits (Conveyance by Road Regulations) 1957 were on the whole being

observed although cases of thoughtless handling of the highly inflammable petroleum products were noted at times.

Inspection of Factories

One hundred and forty-three inspections were carried out under the Factories Acts in order to ensure proper hygienic conditions of work and the provision of suitable sanitary conveniences.

Visits were also made for the purpose of ascertaining the adequacy of means of escape from fire. In this connexion the valuable and ready advice of the County Fire Brigade is acknowledged.

Offensive Trades

At the fat extraction factory at Stapleford Abbotts new machinery for removal of residual fat after treatment in the "Iwel" plant was installed during the year, benzine being used as the solvent medium.

A redesigned vacuum system for dealing with noxious vapours has proved to be effective.

The building for the storage of raw material which was required as a condition for the establishment of this trade has not yet, however, been provided.

S E C T I O N 'B' - S T A T I S T I C S

(Figures in brackets refer to 1957)

EPPING URBAN DISTRICT

General Data

Area (in acres).....	1,488	(1,488)
Number of houses (mid-year).....	2,719	(2,560)
Number of houses per acre (average).....	1.8	(1.7)
Number of persons per acre (average).....	6.0	(5.6)
Number of persons per house (average).....	3.3	(3.2)
Ratable value (mid-year).....	£119,617	(£106,046)
Product of a penny rate (financial year 1958/59).....	£476	(£420)
The rate in the pound (financial year 1958/59).....	17/10d	(17/4d)

Population

Resident population (Registrar General's mid-year estimate)	8,870	(8,290)
Increase over the previous year.....	580	(350)
Proportion of increase due to excess of births over deaths.....	96	(64)
Proportion of increase due to immigration.....	484	(286)

Births	M.	F.
(a) Live Births		
Legitimate.....	76 (71)	88 (72)
Illegitimate ...	1 (1)	4 (3)
Total....	77 (72)	92 (75)

Crude rate.....	per 1,000 population	19.0 (17.7)
Adjusted rate	" " "	17.1 (16.5)
England & Wales.....	" " "	16.4 (16.1)

(b) Stillbirths		
Legitimate.....	1 (3)	3 (1)
Illegitimate....	- (1)	- (-)
Total....	1 (4)	3 (1)

Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	23.1 (32.9)
" " " " " England & Wales	21.6 (22.4)

(c) Total Births		
Legitimate.....	77 (74)	91 (73)
Illegitimate....	1 (2)	4 (3)
Total....	78 (76)	95 (76)

(d) Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	3.1 (2.8)
" " England & Wales	4.9 (4.6)

Deaths	M.	F.
(a) All ages	38 (46)	35 (37)
Crude rate..... per 1,000 population	8.2 (10.0)	
Adjusted rate..... " " "	8.4 (9.8)	
England & Wales..... " " "	11.7 (11.5)	
(b) Infants under 1 year of age		
(i) Legitimate...	1 (5)	- (-)
Legitimate infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate births.....	6.1 (35.0)	
" " England & Wales....	* (22.8)	
(ii) Illegitimate.	- (-)	- (-)
Illegitimate infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate births.....	- (-)	
" " England & Wales	* (30.0)	
(iii) Total mortality rate per 1,000 live births.....	5.9 (34.0)	
" " England & Wales	22.6 (23.0)	
(c) Infants under 4 weeks of age		
(i) Legitimate ..	1 (3)	- (-)
(ii) Illegitimate	- (-)	- (-)
Total.	1 3	- (-)
Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births.....	5.9 (20.4)	
" " England & Wales	16.2 (16.5)	
(d) Maternal deaths (including abortion)		1 (1)
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths.....	5.8 (6.6)	
" " England & Wales	0.5 (0.5)	

* Figures not yet available

Causes of Death	Male	Female	Total
All causes	38 (46)	35 (37)	73 (83)
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1 (-)	- (-)	1 (-)
2. Tuberculosis, other	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
3. Syphilitic disease	- (1)	- (-)	- (1)
4. Diphtheria	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
5. Whooping cough	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
6. Meningococcal infections	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
7. Acute poliomyelitis	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
8. Measles	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	- (-)	1 (-)	1 (-)
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3 (2)	- (-)	3 (2)
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	- (-)	2 (3)	2 (3)
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	- (-)	1 (1)	1 (1)
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3 (4)	1 (3)	4 (7)
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
16. Diabetes	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	5 (5)	7 (7)	12 (12)
18. Coronary disease, angina	8 (11)	5 (9)	13 (20)
19. Hypertension with heart disease	- (1)	2 (1)	2 (2)
20. Other heart disease	6 (4)	2 (7)	8 (11)
21. Other circulatory disease	- (1)	1 (-)	1 (1)
22. Influenza	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
23. Pneumonia	2 (5)	5 (1)	7 (6)
24. Bronchitis	3 (-)	- (-)	3 (-)
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system	1 (1)	1 (-)	2 (1)
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1 (1)	1 (1)	2 (2)
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	- (-)	2 (-)	2 (-)
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	- (-)	1 (1)	1 (1)
31. Congenital malformations	1 (1)	- (-)	1 (1)
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3 (5)	2 (3)	5 (8)
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1 (2)	1 (-)	2 (2)
34. All other accidents	- (1)	- (-)	- (1)
35. Suicides	- (1)	- (-)	- (1)
36. Homicide and operations of war	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)

Communicable Diseases (except Tuberculosis)

	Notifications according to age groups													Incidence rate per 100,000 population	
	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65-	Age unknown	Total	Epping	England & Wales
Scarlet fever	-	-	-	-	1	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	7	78.9	86.1
Whooping cough	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	45.1	74.0
Poliomyelitis-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	3.1
non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1.3
Measles	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	3	33.8	508.1
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.2
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	11.3	384.5
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1.8
Acute pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	11.3	49.4
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.4
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	11.3	7.3
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	3	1	1	-	-	9	101.6	19.8
Infective hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	*
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	22.5	*

*Figures not available.

Communicable Diseases - Tuberculosis

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Number of cases on the register at 1st January, 1958.....	32 (32)	29(33)	5 (4)	2 (2)	68 (71)
Number of cases added to the register during 1958:-					
New cases.....	4 (1)	1 (-)	- (1)	- (-)	5 (2)
Inward transfers.....	10 (3)	10 (5)	- (-)	1 (-)	21 (8)
Number of cases removed from register during 1958:-					
* Deaths.....	- (-)	1 (1)	- (-)	- (-)	1 (1)
Outward transfers.....	3 (4)	3 (6)	- (-)	- (-)	6 (10)
Patients cured.....	- (-)	- (2)	- (-)	- (-)	- (2)
Diagnosis amended.....	1 (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	1 (-)
Number of patients remaining on the register at 31.12.58.	42 (32)	36(29)	5 (5)	3 (2)	86 (68)

Incidence rate of new cases per 1,000 population 0.6 (0.2)
" " " " " England & Wales..... 0.7 (0.7)

* From causes other than tuberculosis.

In addition to the one death shown above there was another one of a male person who was not on the register. The diagnosis was made post mortem.

Mass Radiography Survey

Location of Unit: High Street, Epping.

	Male	Female	Total
Total number of miniature films taken..	616	889	1505
Total recalled for large film.....	7	10	17
Cases of pulmonary tuberculosis discovered.....	3	4	7
Active cases.....	1	1	2

County Council Health Services

Ante-Natal Clinics

(a) Ante-natal attendances.....	432
(b) Post-natal attendances.....	-

Child Welfare Clinics

Attendances - under 1 year.....	1119
1 - 5 years.....	475

Women's Welfare Clinics

Attendances.....	81

Midwifery & Home Nursing

Number of cases attended by midwives:-	
(a) as midwives.....	67
(b) as maternity nurses....	2
Number of visits paid by home nurses.....	3422

Health Visiting

Number of visits made.....	1329

Immunizations (other than B.C.G.)

Smallpox.....	146
Revaccinations.....	41
Diphtheria.....	154
Booster doses.....	39
Whooping cough.....	100
Booster doses.....	-
Poliomyelitis.....	1174
Third injections.....	42

B.C.G.Vaccination

Number to whom offered.....	183
Number given Mantoux (skin) test after parents' consent obtained...	73
Percentage.....	39.9
Number who gave a positive reaction to skin test.....	7
Number vaccinated with B.C.G.....	64

Sickness Benefit Claims

Table showing the monthly number of new claims submitted to the Epping Office of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance.

Month	Claims
January	278 (211)
February	251 (169)
March	174 (174)
April	211 (160)
May	132 (102)
June	100 (117)
July	142 (143)
August	94 (87)
September	172 (133)
October	145 (539)
November	180 (257)
December	200 (299)

Sanitary Circumstances & Inspections

Sewage Works

Samples were taken as follows:-

Northern Outfall - by the Lee Conservancy Catchment Board

Month	Result
March	Satisfactory
June	Unsatisfactory
September	Satisfactory
October	Satisfactory

Southern Outfall - by the Essex River Board

Month	Result
March	Satisfactory
October	Satisfactory
December	Satisfactory

Housing

General

Total number of occupied houses as at 31.12.58.....	2797
New houses erected by Epping Urban District Council...	55
New houses erected by Chingford Borough Council.....	52
New houses erected by private enterprise.....	49

Repairs

Intimation notices served.....	23
Statutory notices served.....	7
Inspections carried out.....	52
Re-inspections carried out.....	221

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 - Improvement Grants

Applications considered and approved.....	3

Clearance Area Programme

Families rehoused.....	17
Properties left empty on undertaking from owners.....	21

Rent Act, 1957

Number of applications for certificates of disrepair..	6
Number of certificates issued.....	6
(All work completed)	

Food

Type and number of shops and other food premises in the district - Number of inspections carried out

	Number of Premises	Number of inspections
Grocery and provisions.....	19	10
Confectioners.....	7	2
Canteens.....	9	3
Greengrocers.....	4	2
Licensed premises.....	15	22
Restaurants and cafés.....	11	9
Bakers and confectioners.....	3	5
Fish shops.....	4	2
Butchers.....	6	7

Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Sale of ice cream.....	14
Fried fish shops.....	2
Preparation and sale of preserved meats...	2

Dairies

Three premises in the district were registered under the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949-54.

Foodstuffs condemned as unfit for human consumption

	Lbs.	Ozs.
Fresh meat.....	12	
Tinned meat.....	33	9
Fresh fish.....	56	
Tinned fish.....	-	6
Tinned fruit.....	45	12
Miscellaneous.....	63	1
Total.....	210	12

Factories

Factories Acts, 1937 & 1948

(a) Inspections

	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authorities.....	4	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority.....	36	18	2	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers' premises).....	7	2	-	-
Total.....	47	22	2	-

(b) Outworkers

Twenty-one outworkers were on the register at 31st December, 1958 and were engaged mainly on work in connexion with wearing apparel.

HARLOW URBAN DISTRICT

No Sit.

General Data

Area (in acres).....	6,313	(6,313)
Number of houses (mid-year).....	12,152	(10,850)
Number of houses per acre (average).....	1.9	(1.7)
Number of persons per acre (average).....	6.5	(5.6)
Number of persons per house (average)	3.4	(3.3)
Ratable value (mid-year)	£558,820	(£439,775)
Product of a penny rate (financial year 1958/59).....	£2,300	(£1,963)
The rate in the pound (financial year 1958/59).....	20/4d	(20/-d)

Population

Resident population (Registrar General's mid-year estimate).....	40,890	(35,690)
Increase over the previous year.....	5,200	(5,860)
Proportion of increase due to excess of births over deaths.....	1,158	(977)
Proportion of increase due to immigration.....	4,042	(4,883)

Births	M.	F.
(a) Live Births		
Legitimate.....	665 (573)	640 (558)
Illegitimate.....	17 (15)	14 (6)
Total.....	682 (588)	654 (564)

Crude rate.....	per 1,000 population	32.7	(32.3)
Adjusted rate.....	" " "	20.9	(21.0)
England & Wales.....	" " "	16.4	(16.1)

(b) Stillbirths		
Legitimate.....	9 (18)	7 (12)
Illegitimate.....	- (-)	- (1)
Total.....	9 (18)	7 (13)

Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	11.8	(26.2)
" " " " " England & Wales	21.6	(22.4)

(c) Total Births		
Legitimate.....	674 (591)	647 (570)
Illegitimate.....	17 (15)	14 (7)
Total.....	691 (606)	661 (577)

(d) Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	2.3	(1.8)
" " England & Wales	4.9	(4.6)

Deaths	M.	F.
(a) All ages	94 (76)	84 (78)
Crude rate..... per 1,000 population		4.3 (4.3)
Adjusted rate..... " " "		11.0 (10.7)
England & Wales..... " " "		11.7 (11.5)
(b) Infants under 1 year of age		
(i) Legitimate..	12 (15)	14 (10)
Legitimate infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate births.....		19.9 (22.1)
" " England & Wales....		* (22.8)
(ii) Illegitimate	- (1)	1 (-)
Illegitimate infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate births.....		32.3 (47.6)
" " England & Wales....		* (30.0)
(iii) Total mortality rate per 1,000 live births.....		20.2 (22.2)
" " England & Wales....		22.6 (23.0)
(c) Infants under 4 weeks of age		
(i) Legitimate..	10 (8)	7 (8)
(ii) Illegitimate	- (1)	1 (-)
Total..	10 (9)	8 (8)
Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births.....		13.5 (14.7)
" " England & Wales....		16.2 (16.5)
(d) Maternal deaths (including abortion)		
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths.....		- (-)
" " England & Wales		0.5 (0.5)

* Figures not yet available

Causes of Death	Male	Female.	Total
All causes	94 (76)	84 (78)	178 (154)
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	- (1)	1 (2)	1 (3)
2. Tuberculosis, other	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
3. Syphilitic disease	1 (-)	- (-)	1 (-)
4. Diphtheria	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
5. Whooping cough	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
6. Meningococcal infections	- (-)	1 (-)	1 (-)
7. Acute poliomyelitis	- (1)	- (-)	- (1)
8. Measles	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	- (1)	1 (-)	1 (1)
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1 (-)	2 (1)	3 (1)
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	9 (5)	3 (-)	12 (5)
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	- (-)	3 (7)	3 (7)
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	- (-)	- (1)	- (1)
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7 (5)	11 (7)	18 (12)
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1 (2)	1 (1)	2 (3)
16. Diabetes	- (-)	- (1)	- (1)
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	9 (8)	5 (10)	14 (18)
18. Coronary disease, angina	14 (14)	13 (6)	27 (20)
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1 (1)	2 (1)	3 (2)
20. Other heart disease	6 (1)	9 (6)	15 (7)
21. Other circulatory disease	1 (3)	4 (4)	5 (7)
22. Influenza	1 (-)	- (2)	1 (2)
23. Pneumonia	10 (3)	4 (5)	14 (8)
24. Bronchitis	3 (3)	3 (3)	6 (6)
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	- (3)	1 (2)	1 (5)
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	- (-)	- (1)	- (1)
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1 (1)	1 (-)	2 (1)
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1 (-)	- (-)	1 (-)
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
31. Congenital malformations	4 (5)	5 (5)	9 (10)
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	12 (13)	12 (11)	24 (24)
33. Motor vehicle accidents	5 (2)	- (-)	5 (2)
34. All other accidents	5 (3)	1 (1)	6 (4)
35. Suicides	2 (1)	1 (1)	3 (2)
36. Homicide and operations of war	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)

Communicable Diseases (except Tuberculosis)

	Notifications according to age groups													Incidence rate per 100,000 population	
	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65-	Age un-known	Total	Harlow	England & Wales
Scarlet fever	2	1	13	17	13	71	2	1	-	-	-	-	120	293.5	86.1
Whooping cough	2	2	4	4	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	48.9	74.0
Poliomyelitis - paralytic	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	7.3	3.1
non - paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.4	1.3
Measles	20	42	56	72	60	153	1	1	-	-	-	-	405	990.5	508.1
Dysentery	2	1	-	1	-	3	1	-	3	-	-	-	11	26.9	84.5
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.2
Meningococcal infection	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.4	1.8
Acute pneumonia	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	5	-	2	-	10	26.0	49.4
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.4
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	4.9	7.3
Food poisoning	2	1	1	1	1	2	4	1	11	1	-	-	25	61.1	19.8
Infective hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	17	4	1	13	-	-	1	36	88.0	*
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	4.9	*

*Figures not available

Communicable Diseases - Tuberculosis

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Number of cases on the register at 1st January, 1958.....	111 (77)	118 (88)	10 (8)	14 (7)	253 (180)
Number of cases added to the register during 1958:-					
New cases.....	13 (9)	13 (10)	2 (1)	- (3)	28 (23)
Inward transfers.....	33 (31)	38 (33)	1 (1)	1 (5)	73 (70)
Number of cases removed from register during 1958:-					
Deaths.....	*1 (-)	1 (1)	- (-)	- (-)	2 (1)
Outward transfers.....	6 (2)	11 (9)	- (-)	1 (-)	18 (11)
Patients cured.....	- (2)	- (3)	1 (-)	- (-)	1 (5)
Diagnosis amended.....	1 (2)	1 (-)	- (-)	- (1)	2 (3)
Number of cases remaining on the register at 31.12.58.....	149(111)	156(118)	12(10)	14(14)	331 (253)

Incidence rate of new cases per 1,000 population.....	0.7 (0.6)
" " " " " England & Wales.....	0.7 (0.7)

* From causes other than tuberculosis.

Mass Radiography Survey

Total miniature films taken	Male	Female	Total
Location of Unit:-			
The High	813	1116	1929
Potter Street	374	471	845
Women's Institute, Old Harlow	91	239	330
The Stow.....	910	1284	2194
Dorstel Press.....	142	151	293
Standard Telephones.....	335	191	526
Edinburgh House.....	1339	389	1728
Total.....	4004	3841	7845
Total recalled for large film	67	64	131
Did not attend for large film	1	2	3
All cases of pulmonary tuberculosis discovered.....	24	18	42
Active cases requiring immediate treatment:-			
The Stow.....	3	4	7
Potter Street.....	-	1	1
Edinburgh House.....	2	-	2
Total.....	5	5	10
Other interesting abnormalities.....			
Chondroma of rib.....	2	-	2
Pneumonia.....	1	2	3
Sarcoidosis.....	1	-	1
Bronchial carcinoma.....	1	-	1
Metastases (secondary carcinoma).....	1	1	2
Cardiovascular lesions...	1	6	7 *
Total.....	7	9	16

* Including one provisional.

County Council Health Services

Ante-Natal Clinics	
(a) Ante-natal attendances.....	7274
(b) Post-natal attendances.....	119
Child Welfare Clinics	
Attendances - under 1 year.....	14714
1 - 5 years	4416
Women's Welfare Clinics.	Nil
Midwifery & Home Nursing	
Number of cases attended by midwives	
(a) as midwives.....	578
(b) as maternity nurses.....	96
Number of visits paid by home nurses.	10586
Health Visiting	
Number of visits made.....	13598

Immunizations (other than B.C.G.)

Smallpox.....	783
Revaccinations.....	112
Diphtheria.....	1198
Booster doses.....	452
Whooping cough.....	791
Booster doses.....	18
Poliomyelitis.....	7343
Third injections.....	266

B.C.G.Vaccination

Number to whom offered.....	539
Number given Mantoux (skin) test after parents' consent obtained...	304
Percentage.....	56.4
Number who gave a positive reaction to skin test.....	30
Number vaccinated with B.C.G.....	259

Sickness Benefit Claims

Table showing the monthly number of new claims submitted to the Harlow Office of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance.

Month	Claims
January	703 (380)
February	606 (371)
March	458 (395)
April	459 (308)
May	360 (324)
June	341 (272)
July	399 (303)
August	283 (308)
September	442 (284)
October	505(1379)
November	548 (993)
December	568 (697)

Sanitary Circumstances & Inspections

Water	Gallons
Water supplied unmeasured (domestic).....	426,330,000
" " by meter (trade).....	223,295,000
Total consumption for year.....	649,625,000
Average consumption per day (domestic).....	1,168,000
" " " " (trade).....	611,700
" daily consumption (all purposes).....	1,779,700
Consumption per head per day (domestic).....	26.61
" " " " " (trade).....	13.93
" " " " " (all purposes)....	40.54

(The above figures were supplied by the Herts & Essex Water Company)

Sewerage

Number of cesspools emptied during the year....	46*
Number of pail closets emptied weekly.....	104
Number of connexions to sewer from pail closet.	16
Number of connexions to sewer from cesspool....	10

* This necessitated 62 emptying operations

(The above figures were supplied by the Engineer & Surveyor)

Housing

General

Number of houses as at 31.12.58.....	13,198
" " " owned by local authority.....	1,003
" " " " " Harlow Development Corporation.....	11,089
" " " privately owned.....	1,106
" " " erected by local authority.....	12
" " " " " Harlow Development Corporation.....	1,103
" " " " " private enterprise....	56
" " housing inspections carried out.....	150
" " intimation notices served.....	9
" " complaints of housing defects.....	39
" " housing defects remedied.....	40
" " legal proceedings.....	Nil

Housing Act, 1957

Houses demolished.....	12
Undertakings not to let.....	1
Closing orders.....	3
Houses in confirmed clearance areas awaiting demolition.....	Nil
Houses in clearance areas not yet confirmed.....	Nil
Demolition orders made under Section 17.....	1

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 - Improvement Grants.

Number of applications considered by local authority	6
" " " approved.....	5
" " dwellings where work has been completed.	3

Rent Act, 1957

Number of applications for certificates of disrepair.....	3
Number of certificates issued.....	3

Food

Type and number of shops and other food premises in the district

Grocers	47
Bakers	9
Butchers	23
Fishmongers (including five fish fryers)	11
Greengrocers	19
Sweets and confectionery	22
General food stores	19
Cafés	8
Restaurants	5
Public Houses	23
Off-Licences	7
Halls and community centres	12
Factory canteens	24
School canteens	20
Building site canteens	8
Food storage depots	1
Food factories	2
Bakehouses	4
Market stalls	12
Total	276

Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and number of inspections carried out

	Number of premises registered	Number of inspections
Storage and sale of ice-cream	52	121
Preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food	24	118

Sampling of ice-cream & ice lolly

Type of samples		Result
Ice-cream	6	Grade I. Ministry of Health's Provisional Grades.
Ice lolly	2	Satisfactory.

Milk Supply

Number of dairies registered..... 6
Number of inspections carried out..... 4
Licences issued under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1949-1954:-

	Supplementary	Dealer	Total
Pasteurised	4	23	27
Sterilised.....	4	23	27
Tuberculin tested...	4	10	14

Number of premises from which milk was sold..... 26
Number of samples of milk taken during the year.... 35
(Pasteurised 31, sterilised 1, tuberculin tested pasteurised 3)

Foodstuffs condemned as unfit for human consumption

	Lbs.	Ozs.
Canned meat.....	309	15
" fish.....	8	3¾
" milk.....	7	6½
" fruit.....	137	13
" vegetables.....	33	15½
" jam and syrup.....	13	0
" soup.....	7	13½
Ham.....	4	8
Fish - wet.....	322	8
Meat.....	2369	4
Potatoes.....	56	0
Poultry.....	50	0
Total...	3320	7¼

Legal Proceedings

Offence	Result
Tobacco in loaf. Contrary to Section 2 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955.....	Fine of £2. with £5. 5. 0. costs.
Glass in banbury type cake. Contrary to Section 2 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955.....	Fine of £20. with £5. 5. 0. costs.
Rat excrement in coconut cake. Contrary to Section 2 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955.....	Fine of £5.with £5. 5. 0. costs.
Sale of mouldy loaf. Contrary to Section 2 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955.....	Fine of £10. with £2. 2. 0. costs.
Insect in tin of pineapple.	Dismissed. Firm pleaded statutory defence of warranty.

All cases were heard at the Harlow Magistrates Court.

Rodent Control (Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949)

Number of properties dealt with	459
Number of inspections made.....	1089
Number of properties inspected and no evidence of infestation found.....	16
Number of infestations:-	
Rats - major.....	Nil
minor.....	84
Mice - major.....	Nil
minor.....	53
Number of complaints received.....	153
Number of contracts entered into.....	29
Number of infestations treated by the Council.....	137

Factories

Factories Acts, 1937 & 1948

(a) Inspections

	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authorities.....	12	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority.....	112	120	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers' premises).....	9	8	-	-
	133	128	1	-

(b) Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Referred by H.M. Inspector.	Number of Prosecutions
Sanitary conveniences (Section 7):-					
(a) Insufficient.....	2	1	1	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective.....	3	3	-	3	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork).....	1	1	-	-	-
	6	5	1	4	-

(c) Outwork

One hundred and seven outworkers were on the register at 31st December, 1958 and were engaged mainly on work in connexion with wearing apparel.

(d) Means of escape from fire.

Certificates issued.....	14
Certificates amended.....	4
Visits made for the purpose.....	106

Summary of other work carried out by the Public Health Inspectorate.

Number of complaints investigated and action taken.....	161
Total number of intimation notices served.....	53
Number of inspections of establishments for massage and special treatment.....	2
Number of inspections of hairdressers' establishments....	22
Number of inspections of shops other than food shops....	72
Visits in connexion with infectious diseases.....	287
" " " " movable dwellings.....	16
" " " " complaints and nuisances (other than housing matters).....	86
Visits in connexion with insect infestations.....	45

EPPING & ONGAR RURAL DISTRICT

General Data

Area (in acres).....	76,007	(76,007)
Number of houses (mid-year).....	10,864	(10,672)
Number of houses per acre (average).....	0.1	(0.1)
Number of persons per acre (average).....	0.4	(0.4)
Number of persons per house (average).....	3.1	(3.1)
Ratable value (mid-year).....	£367,315	(£342,818)
Product of a penny rate (financial year 1958/59).....	£1,400	(£1,357)
The rate in the pound (financial year 1958/59).....	18/-	(17/6)

Population

Resident population (Registrar General's mid-year estimate).....	33,890	(33,300)
Increase over the previous year.....	590	(640)
Proportion of increase due to excess of births over deaths.....	269	(274)
Proportion of increase due to immigration.....	321	(366)

Births	M.	F.
(a) Live Births		
Legitimate	300 (291)	288 (261)
Illegitimate...	4 (9)	11 (19)
Total...	304 (300)	299 (280)
Crude rate.....	per 1,000 population	17.8 (17.4)
Adjusted rate.....	" " "	17.8 (18.1)
England & Wales	" " "	16.4 (16.1)
(b). Stillbirths		
Legitimate.....	8 (7)	10 (6)
Illegitimate...	- (-)	1 (-)
Total...	8 (7)	11 (6)
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths..		30.5 (21.9)
" " " " " England & Wales.		21.6 (22.4)
(c) Total Births		
Legitimate.....	308 (298)	298 (267)
Illegitimate...	4 (9)	12 (19)
Total...	312 (307)	310 (286)
(d) Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births		2.5 (4.8)
" " England & Wales		4.9 (4.6)

Deaths	M.	F.
(a) All ages	188 (162)	146 (144)
Crude rate..... per 1,000 population	9.8 (9.2)	
Adjusted rate..... " " "	10.8 (9.5)	
England & Wales..... " " "	11.7 (11.5)	
(b) Infants under 1 year of age		
(i) Legitimate...	5 (7)	9 (4)
Legitimate infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate births.....	23.8 (19.9)	
" " England & Wales...	* (22.8)	
(ii) Illegitimate.	- (-)	- (-)
Illegitimate infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate births.....	- (-)	
" " England & Wales...	* (30.0)	
(iii) Total mortality rate per 1,000 live births.....	23.2 (19.0)	
" " England & Wales...	22.6 (23.0)	
(c) Infants under 4 weeks of age		
(i) Legitimate....	1 (5)	5 (2)
(ii) Illegitimate..	- (-)	- (-)
Total..	1 5	5 2
Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births.....	9.9 (12.1)	
" " England & Wales...	16.2 (16.5)	
(d) Maternal deaths (including abortion)		
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths.....	- (-)	
" " England & Wales...	0.5 (0.5)	

* Figures not yet available

Causes of Death.	Male.		Female		Total	
All causes	188	(162)	146	(144)	334	(306)
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	(1)	-	(1)	2	(2)
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	(-)	1	(-)	1	(-)
3. Syphilitic disease	-	(1)	-	(-)	-	(1)
4. Diphtheria	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
5. Whooping cough	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
6. Meningococcal infections	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
8. Measles	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	(1)	-	(-)	1	(1)
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	(6)	4	(1)	8	(7)
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	8	(4)	2	(1)	10	(5)
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	(-)	3	(4)	3	(4)
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	(-)	1	(1)	1	(1)
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	26	(27)	15	(19)	41	(46)
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	(1)	-	(-)	2	(1)
16. Diabetes	2	(1)	1	(2)	3	(3)
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	18	(21)	21	(32)	39	(53)
18. Coronary disease, angina	46	(21)	19	(17)	65	(38)
19. Hypertension with heart disease	5	(1)	1	(1)	6	(2)
20. Other heart disease	19	(14)	32	(31)	51	(45)
21. Other circulatory disease	3	(8)	5	(7)	8	(15)
22. Influenza	-	(6)	-	(1)	-	(7)
23. Pneumonia	7	(10)	11	(4)	18	(14)
24. Bronchitis	8	(7)	2	(6)	10	(13)
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	(1)	-	(1)	3	(2)
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	(-)	-	(1)	2	(1)
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	(1)	2	(-)	3	(1)
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	(1)	-	(-)	1	(1)
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	(4)	-	(-)	1	(4)
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
31. Congenital malformations	5	(4)	2	(-)	7	(4)
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	13	(9)	16	(11)	29	(20)
33. Motor vehicle accidents	4	(3)	1	(-)	5	(3)
34. All other accidents	5	(7)	5	(3)	10	(10)
35. Suicides	1	(2)	2	(-)	3	(2)
36. Homicide and operations of war	1	(-)	-	(-)	1	(-)

Communicable Diseases (except Tuberculosis)

	Notifications according to age groups													Incidence rate per 100,000 population	
	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65-	Age unknown	Total	Epping & Ongar	England & Wales
Scarlet fever	-	-	1	1	1	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	35.4	86.1
Whooping cough	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5.9	74.0
Poliomyelitis - paralytic	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	5	14.7	3.1
non - paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5.9	1.3
Measles	4	4	2	6	7	14	3	-	-	-	-	-	40	118.0	508.1
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.2
Dysentery	2	3	5	1	3	8	2	1	9	2	-	-	36	106.2	84.5
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2.9	1.8
Acute pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	4	11.8	49.4
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.9	0.4
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	5.9	7.3
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	4	6	1	-	-	14	41.3	19.8
Infective hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	*
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	*

* Figures not available

Communicable Diseases - Tuberculosis.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Number of cases on the register at 1st January, 1958.....	66 (52)	60 (49)	18 (18)	13 (13)	157 (132)
Number of cases added to the register during 1958:-					
New cases.....	8 (11)	6 (8)	- (3)	2 (2)	16 (24)
Inward transfers.....	6 (8)	9 (8)	1 (1)	1 (-)	17 (17)
Number of cases removed from the register during 1958:-					
Deaths.....	2 (1)	- (2)	- (-)	1 (-)	3 (3)
Outward transfers.....	5 (3)	10 (3)	- (-)	2 (1)	17 (7)
Patients cured.....	- (1)	2 (-)	- (3)	- (1)	2 (5)
Diagnosis amended.....	- (-)	- (-)	1 (1)	- (-)	1 (1)
Number of cases remaining on the register at 31.12.58.....	73 (66)	63 (60)	18 (18)	13 (13)	167 (157)

Incidence rate of new cases per 1,000 population..... 0.5 (0.7)
" " " " " England & Wales..... 0.7 (0.7)

Mass Radiography Survey

Total miniature films taken	Male	Female	Total
Location of Unit:-			
Shelley, Ongar.....	158	146	304
Chipping Ongar.....	162	240	402
Roydon.....	66	97	163
Nazeing.....	132	158	290
Theydon Bois.....	144	201	345
Hill Hall Prison.....	10	65	75
North Weald.....	130	152	282
Blackmore.....	32	38	70
Total.....	834	1097	1931
Total recalled for large film	18	17	35
Did not attend for large film	1	-	1
All cases of pulmonary tuberculosis discovered.....	10	10	20
Active cases requiring immediate treatment:-			
Shelley, Ongar.....	1	-	1
Hill Hall Prison.....	-	1	1
Total.....	1	1	2
Other interesting abnormalities.....			
Chondroma.....	-	1	1
Bronchiectasis.....	-	1	1
Cardiovascular lesions.	-	2	2
Total.....	-	4	4

County Council Health Services

Ante-Natal Clinics.

(a) Ante-natal attendances.....	Nil
(b) Post-natal attendances.....	Nil

Child Welfare Clinics

Attendances - under 1 year.....	2504
1 - 5 years.....	1899

Women's Welfare Clinics	Nil

Midwifery & Home Nursing

Number of cases attended by midwives

(a) as midwives.....	184
(b) as maternity nurses.....	102

Number of visits paid by home nurses.	14195

Health Visiting

Number of visits made.....	6926

Immunizations (other than B.C.G.)

Smallpox.....	372
Revaccinations.....	63
Diphtheria.....	485
Booster doses.....	150
Whooping cough.....	334
Booster doses.....	24
Poliomyelitis	3147
Third injections.....	98

B.C.G.Vaccination

Number to whom offered.....	130
Number given Mantoux (skin) test after parents' consent obtained.....	40
Percentage.....	30.8
Number who gave a positive reaction to skin test.....	13
Number vaccinated with B.C.G.....	27

Sanitary Circumstances & Inspections

Water

Total number of premises with supply from mains..... 9,836
Total population served..... 31,970

Extensions of mains carried out in 1958:-

	Size of Main			
	3"	4"	6"	9"
Chipping Ongar.....	337	565	232	-
High Ongar.....	62	-	186	-
Little Laver.....	3	-	765	-
Nazeing.....	6	198	-	-
Roydon.....	114	-	-	960
Sheering.....	2	110	1995	-
Theydon Bois.....	73	581	-	-
Length laid (in yards).	597	1454	3178	960

Dwellings connected during 1958:-

Parish	No. of new connexions	Parish	No. of new connexions
Abbess, Berners & Beauchamp Roding..	5	Blackmore.....	5
Chipping Ongar....	121	Bobbingworth.....	1
Epping Upland.....	13	Doddinghurst.....	6
Greensted.....	2	Fyfield.....	2
High Ongar.....	9	High Laver.....	1
Lambourne.....	26	Kelvedon Hatch.....	1
Nazeing.....	65	Matching.....	2
Roydon.....	18	North Weald.....	25
Shelley.....	32	Sheering.....	18
Stanford Rivers...	5	Stondon Massey.....	1
Stapleford Tawney.	1	Stapleford Abbotts..	9
		Theydon Bois...	70
	Theydon Garnon 1		

Total..... 457

Housing

General

Number of houses as at 31.12.58.....	11057
" " " owned by local authority.....	2517
" " " privately owned.....	8540
" " " and shops combined included in the above.....	158
Number of housing inspections.....	303
" " intimation notices served.....	87
" " statutory notices served.....	6
" " housing defects remedied.....	73
" " houses completed by local authority.....	55
" " " " " private enterprise..	330

Housing Act, 1957

Houses demolished.....	22
Undertakings not to use houses for human habitation	7
Closing orders made.....	4
Houses in clearance areas confirmed during the year	-
Houses in confirmed clearance areas awaiting demolition.....	28
Demolition Orders made.....	17
Undertakings cancelled and demolition orders revoked	3

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 - Improvement Grants.

Applications approved.....	21

Rent Act, 1957

Number of applications for certificates of disrepair	4
" " certificates of disrepair issued.....	1
" " " " " cancelled.....	2
" " undertakings received from landlord.....	2

Food

Type and number of shops and other food premises in the district

Grocers, provisions and general stores.....	98
Restaurants and cafés.....	36
Bakers.....	5
Greengrocers.....	9
Fishmongers.....	4
Butchers.....	17
Dairies.....	6
Licensed premises.....	79
Total.....	254

Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955 and number of inspections carried out

	No. of premises registered	No. of inspections
Storage and sale of ice-cream.....	140	220
Preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food.....	16	40

Sampling of ice-cream

Type of samples		Result
Ice-cream.....	21	Grade I. Ministry of Health's Provisional Grades.
Ice lolly.....	17	Satisfactory.

Milk Supply

Number of dairies registered..... 6
Number of inspections carried out..... 8
Licences issued under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1949-1954:-

	Supplementary	Dealer	Total
Pasteurised.....	10	7	17
Sterilised.....	12	12	24
Tuberculin tested.....	10	5	15

Number of samples of milk taken during the year.. 4
(Pasteurised 3, tuberculin tested 1)

Foodstuffs condemned as unfit for human consumption

	Lbs.	Ozs.
Canned meat.....	36	-
" fish.....		4
" milk.....	1	8
" fruit.....	18	3
" vegetables.....	2	14
" soup.....	2	15
Fish - wet.....	42	-
Miscellaneous.....		6
Total.....	104	2

Slaughtering and meat inspection

	Cattle excluding cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed.....	994	1063	193	16,862	2821
" inspected.....	994	1058	193	16,782	2772
All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticercosis					
Whole carcases condemned..	3	5	1	16	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned....	132	228	-	749	109
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease.....	13.6	22.1	0.5	4.6	4.0
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned..	-	12	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned....	19	84	-	-	18
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.....	1.9	9.0	-	-	0.6
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.....	6	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.....	6	-	-	-	-

Total weight of meat condemned:- 9 tons 1 cwt - qtrs 8lbs

Rodent Control (Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949)

	Local Authority	Dwelling houses including Council houses	Agricultural	All others including business premises	Total
No. of properties inspected as a result of:-					
(a) Notification...	-	310	11	27	348
(b) Survey.....	34	278	170	70	552
(c) Otherwise.....	-	927	72	520	1519
No. of properties found to be infested by:-					
(a) Rats - major	-	-	1	-	1
minor	20	376	122	29	547
(b) Mice - major					
minor	-	-	-	-	-
No. of infested properties treated by local authority.....	26	418	140	36	620

Number of block controls: 63

Maintenance treatment of the Council's sewerage systems was carried out during the year. A total of 209 manholes were baited and of these 34 (16.2%) showed partial pre-bait take and 6 (2.8%) showed a complete pre-bait take.

Petroleum Acts and Orders

Number of operative licences 153
Number of visits in connexion with petroleum installations..... 115

Factories

Factories Acts, 1937 & 1948

(a) Inspections

	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6. are to be enforced by local authorities.....	5	10	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority.....	87	133	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers' premises).....	-	-	-	-
	92	143	-	-

(b) Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	No. of prosecutions
Sanitary conveniences (Section 7)					
(a) Insufficient...	5	4	-	2	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective.....	2	2	-	-	-
	7	6	-	2	-

(c) Outworkers

Thirty-six outworkers were on the register at the end of the year and were engaged mainly on work connected with wearing apparel.

Summary of Inspections.

Public Health Act, 1936.

Water supplies	293
Sewerage and drainage	460
Piggeries	126
Movable dwellings	72
Movable dwelling sites	20
Provision of dustbins	32
Offensive trades	32
Nuisances	210
Re-inspections to secure abatement of nuisances	168
Enquiries in cases of infectious diseases	52

Food & Drugs Act, 1955

Slaughterhouses	1021
Bakehouses	29
Fish shops	12
Ice-cream premises	220
Dairies	8
Butchers' shops	52
Food shops	553
Restaurant kitchens	69
Canteens (including school canteens)	22
Licensed premises	145

Housing.

Number of inspections under the Public Health Act, 1936.....	128
Number of re-inspections under the Public Health Act, 1936.....	215
Number of inspections under the Housing Act, 1957.....	175
Number of re-inspections under the Housing Act, 1957.....	177
Number of visits in connexion with improvement grants.....	127
Number of visits in connexion with certificates of disrepair - Rent Act,1957	25

Miscellaneous

Factories.....	143
Public conveniences.....	26
National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 50	6
Unclassified.....	69