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ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF ESSEX.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1939.

WILLIAM A. BULLOUGH, M.Sc., M.B., D.P.H.

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

CHELMSFORD:

Printed by John Dutton Ltd., 8, Tindal Street.

PREFACE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Essex County Council.

A have the honour to submit to you my Twenty-first Annual Report for the definition of the County of Essex for the year 1939. It is interesting to note that my coming of age "report coincides with the issuing of the Fiftieth Annual Report for this County.

By Circular 2067, dated 19th July, 1940, the Minister of Health stated that, im a view of the increasing pressure of work and of the need for strict economy in the usees of paper, "interim reports only should be made for the year 1939." This report has a been abridged accordingly, whilst at the same time every effort has been made took preserve the continuity of records. Certain tables, &c., have been omitted, e.g., listing of Public Health and Housing Committee and list of Public Health Staff.

As usual, the report is divided into sections recording the conditions prevailing to in the County, the developments which have taken place and the routine activities of the Committees concerned, and of the County Public Health service generally. Points to of interest in this Report may be summarised as follows:—

- (a) Birth-rate has lowered slightly (14.6 for 1939-14.7 for 1938).
- (b) Death-rate is slightly higher (9.9 for 1939—9.6 in 1938).
- (c) Infantile death-rate is the lowest on record (36 in 1939-42 in 1938).
- (d) Smallpox has again been absent from the Administrative County and infectious diseases were less prevalent.

In the concluding part of 1939, schemes for extending the public health services, a particularly in regard to new hospitals, had to be postponed; also adaptations and improvisations were necessary to meet the ever-changing circumstances due to the large influx of evacuees, to provide at very short notice a sufficient number of Emergency Maternity Homes, to release members of the staff for military service, and to second other members of the staff to work of national importance.

It is with great regret that I have to record the death of the Chairman of the Public Health and Housing Committee (Alderman A. M. Mathews, J.P.) on the 1st: February, 1940. He had been Chairman since 5th June, 1930, and throughout the whole period maintained a keen desire to build up in Essex as complete a public health and hospital service as possible. Undoubtedly, he had at heart the welfare of the people of his native County.

In these abnormal times, the confidence and support of the Chairmen and Members of the Public Health and Public Assistance Committees have been a great source of strength. My special thanks are also due to all the Medical Officers of Health and other officials of the Local Sanitary Authorities and to every member of the staff of the Public Health Department for the spendid way in which they responded to the many and varied calls made upon them.

W. A. BULLOUGH,

County Medical Officer.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, COUNTY HALL, CHELMSFORD.

8th November, 1940.

PART I.

ACREAGE AND POPULATION.

The area of the Administrative County as revised under Section 46 of the Local Government Act, 1929, is shown in the following table, which also sets out particulars of the Registrar-General's estimated population for the year 1939, compared with the census figures of 1931. The table gives as in previous years, the rateable value and the product of a 1d. rate.

	Revised	Areas.	Regis Gene Estim Populatio	ral's nated	Rateable Value
Resource politicipo de la companya d	Acres. Census, 1931.	Population Census, 1931.	For Birth Rate.	For Death Rate.	1st April, 1939.
Municipal Boroughs (13)	72,450	739,129	868,193	836,470	1
Urban Districts (19)	184,532	265,196	354,107	356,030	£10,305,385
Rural Districts (11)	702,482	184,679	195,600	202,300	
THE RESERVE	959,464	1,189,004	1,417,900	1,394,800	and the l

The product of a 1d. rate is estimated at £41,282.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The observations contained in the report for the year 1937 applied for the year 1939.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The total number of births, still-births, deaths at all ages, etc., is set out in Table VII, in Part V of the Report. The chief vital statistics of the Administrative County compared with those for England and Wales during 1939, are set out below:—

	100	Esse	х.	England a	nd Wales.
of phiell, in examine with consider		1935-1939.	1939.	1935-1939.	1939.
Birth-Rate per 1,000 population		14.5	14.6	14.9	15.0
Death-Rate per 1,000 population		9.8	9.9	12.0	12.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births		43	36	55	50
Still-Births Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	PER	33	32	39*	Not available

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

A summary of the notifications of infectious diseases in the various Sanitaryy Districts is set out in Table IX on page 42.

ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS.

It is pleasing to record that no further outbreak of acute anterior poliomyelities to has occurred during the year. The 15 cases notified were sporadic cases only and widely distributed.

SMALLPOX.

There were again no cases of Smallpox notified during the year 1939.

CANCER.

The number of deaths occurring in the County from Cancer during the year 1939 as is shown in the table below. The death rate per 1,000 of the population increased from 1.55 in 1938 to 1.56 in the year under review:—

							Age 1	Period.					
		0—	1—	2—	5—	15	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75	Total.
Borough and Urban Districts		2	_	3	6	8	27	118	279	455	559	360	1817
Rural Districts		-	-	1	-	2	4	19	.33	83	104	111	357
Total for Administrati County	ve 	2	_	4	6	10	31	137	312	538	663	471	2174

The provisions of the Cancer Act were set out in last year's Report, but since them the Ministry has granted Local Authorities extensions of time in which to submit to their arrangements under the Act to the Minister for approval, as by reason of them heavy pressure of work thrown on Local Authorities in recent months the Minister realises that it will generally be impossible for them to proceed in the early future within the carrying into effect of any arrangements that might be made. The Minister hopes, however, that as opportunity occurs Authorities will resume consideration of the matter.

Since then the County Public Health and Housing Committee has had underest consideration the question of providing a deep X-Ray Therapy Department at the Oldchurch County Hospital, but on the grounds of cost, the Ministry of Health has a now intimated that, although the project is one which in normal times would be regarded as very desirable, it is not possible, in view of the necessity for reserving the capital and material resources of the country for such purposes as are essential to the successful prosecution of the war, to give it favourable consideration at the presentation.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

The outbreak of war resulted in the loss to the County of the services of the wholetime Venereal Diseases Medical Officer, Col. J. M. Elliott, who was called up for military? service. His clinics at Romford, Chelmsford and Colchester had to be taken over by part-time medical practitioners who specialise in this work.

In September and October, 1939, the Ministry of Health intimated that as a result of war-time conditions, an increase in the incidence of venereal diseases may be anticipated and energetic measures to prevent their spread would be required.

The Public Health and Housing Committee arranged, with the approval of the Council, for Dr. J. P. Candler, late of the Ministry of Health, to make a survey of the existing facilities and possible future requirements for the treatment of venereal diseases. The report was considered by the Committee and certain recommendations were made in regard to the establishment of a V.D. Clinic at Harwich and the appointment of a part-time Medical Officer for that area to attend the Clinic. If and when found necessary, a fully equipped motor vehicle will be provided as a mobile unit.

The County Council continues to participate in the London and Home Counties Scheme, whereby Essex patients attend for advice and treatment at many of the London Hospitals. Clinics are also available as follows:—

Oldchurch County Hospital, Romford; Essex County Hospital, Colchester; Chelmsford and Essex Hospital, Chelmsford; East Suffolk and Ipswich Hospital, Ipswich; Southend Borough Sanatorium, Westcliff-on-Sea; Ad hoc Clinic, Gravesend; Prince of Wales Hospital, Tottenham.

Attendances at Clinics.

On page 6 is set out the usual table giving the number of new patients, attendances at clinics, and number of in-patient days.

Travelling Facilities for Patients.

During the financial year ended 31st March, 1940, fares of necessitous patients to and from the nearest Clinic were paid by the Council at a cost of £146 5s. 4d.

VACCINATION.

During the year ended 31st December, 1938 (the latest period for which complete information is available) the Vaccination Officers' returns summarised in Table II, show that 18,228 births were registered. Of these, 5,929 were successfully vaccinated and in 9,846 instances a statutory declaration of conscientious objection was made. Of the remaining 2,453 births, 639 removed to places unknown, 662 removed to districts of other Vaccination Officers who were duly notified; in 121 cases vaccination was postponed by medical certificate, 49 proved insusceptible to vaccination, and 536 died unvaccinated. At the end of the year 446 births remained which had not been entered in the vaccination register or temporarily accounted for in the report book.

With regard to the number of persons successfully vaccinated and re-vaccinated out of public expenditure by Public Vaccinators and Medical Officers of Poor Law Institutions, the Clerk of the County Council has kindly supplied the following information in respect of the year ended 30th September, 1939:—

TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASE, YEAR 1939.

	In- patient	Days.	2,763	1	1,211	36	73	699	1	1	530	5,172	4,665 3,785 3,155 2,750
	Total No.	dances of Essex Patients.	22,917	1	13,410	1,016	3,609	214	1,142	1,126	1,380	44,814	60,345 63,786 67,092 76,307
PATIENTS	ing from	Total.	1,004	-	412	106	134	13	41	20	20	1,810	1,885 1,591 1,532 1,585
ESSEX P	ime suffer	Not V.D.	199	1	203	63	7.1	5	20	18	22	1068	988 810 821 769
E	ed for first t	Gonorr- hæa.	268	1	151	32	49	2	14	22	61	557	705 601 540 612
	Total Number treated for first time suffering from	Soft Chancre.	89	1	64	1	amoun	i	1	-	1	5	8 14 23
	Total N	Syphilis.	99	1	99	12	14	9	7	10	6	180	184 174 157 181
Patients	all Areas. Total No.	treated for first time.	22,756	1	413	106	139	212	214	250	528	24,618	28,688 28,213 2 8,447 30,727
			:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	::::
	Centre.		:	London		:	:	!	:		:	:	. !! !!
	Treatment Centre.		London Hospitals	St. Bartholomew's,	Bomford	Obelmsford	Colchester	Ipswich	Southend	Gravesend	Tottenham	Total for 1939	Total for 1938

TABLE II.

	in a	No. o Cols. 1 Regi	No. of these Births entered by 31.1.40 in Cols. I, II, IV and V of the "Vaccination Register" (Birth List Sheets), viz.:—	ths entered of the the List Sh	ed by 31.1 ne "Vaccin heets), viz.	.40 in nation	No. of B remained cination Re-	No. of Births which on 31.1.40 remained unentered in the "Vaccination Register" on account of :-	131.1.40 the "Vac- ount of :	No. of these Births	No. of Certificates of	No. of
Guardians	in "Birth List Sheets" registered	1	Col	Col. II.	Col. IV.	Col. V.	Postpone-	Removal to Districts	Removal	31.1.40 neither entered in the "Vaccination	Primary Vaccination of Children	Declarations of Conscien- tious objection
Areas.	31st Dec., 1938.	fully vacci- nated.	Insus- ceptible of vacci- nation.	Had Small- pox.	Statu- tory Decla- rations.	un- vacci- nated.	ment by medical certifi- oste.	vaccination Officer of which have been apprised.	unknown and cases not found.	register nor temporarily accounted for in "Report Book."	received during 1939.	V. O. during
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(6)	(9)	(7)	(8)	(6)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Braintree	610	205	10	1	365	10	8	12	10		195	362
Chelmsford	1,992	669	9	1	1,043	99	12	67	73	36	788	818
Colchester	2,063	777	-	1	1,149	53	8	29	49	60	862	1,223
Epping	602	277	9	1	244	22	60	37	12	I	283	280
Saffron Walden	456	217	61	1	201	14	4	œ	6	1	246	197
Southern	7,020	2,229	222	1	3,662	230	40	276	330	231	2,778	3,442
South Eastern	1,860	440	4	1	1,091	44	10	130	33	108	434	1,059
South Western	3,625	1,085	4	1	2,091	107	46	103	123	99	1,458	1,926
	18,228	5,929	49	1	9,846	536	121	662	639	446	7,044	9,467

The Totals of the figures in columns 3 to 11 agree with the figure in Column 2.

Number of successful Primary Vaccinations of persons :-

(a) Under 1 year of age	 	 4,808
(b) 1 year and upward	 	 474
(c) Total		5,282

Number of successful re-vaccinations, i.e., successful vaccinations of persons who have been successfully vaccinated at some previous time—222.

ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

The usual table showing accommodation, number of cases treated, cost per bedia &c., dealing with the year ended 31st March, 1939, is given on page 8a.

In addition to the amounts shown, grants at the rate of £2 10s. 0d. per bed per annum provided out of revenue were paid in respect of the hospitals at Colchesters (40 beds), Dunmow (4 beds), Halstead (4 beds) and Thurrock (48 beds).

In the Report for 1937, reference was made to the High Court action which waster pending in connection with Area No. 4 (Chelmsford and Maldon) included in the Schement made by the County Council and approved by the Ministry of Health with modified cations under Section 63 of the Local Government Act, 1929.

At the suggestion of the Ministry of Health a conference was held at the Ministry on 27th March, 1939, between representatives of the Ministry, the County Council and the Chelmsford and Maldon Joint Hospital Boards. As a result the Ministry advised the creation of two separate areas (a) the Maldon Joint Hospital District to be extended to include the Borough of Maldon, Rural District of Maldon and the Urbana Districts of Burnham-on-Crouch and Witham, and (b) the Chelmsford Joint Hospital District to be extended to include the Borough of Chelmsford, and the Rural Districts of Chelmsford and Ongar.

The County Council subsequently informed the Ministry that the County Council were still of the opinion that the original scheme for one area to include all the districts named was the most suitable for meeting the needs of the districts, but that in view of the difficulties which have arisen, the County Council were willing to adopt their Ministry's suggestion for the creation of two separate areas.

LABORATORY SERVICE.

The Bacteriologist for Essex (Dr. E. V. Suckling) has kindly furnished a comprehensive report upon the work carried out during the year ended 31st December, 1939. In the limited space available, it is only possible to record the following summary:—

Summary of Specimens Examined.

Group.			1938.	1939)
	Water and Sewage Effluents		1,039	 8411
В.	Milk, Ice Cream and Foods		1,358	 9100
C.	Pathological Specimens from			
	Medical Practitioners, &c	*	28,524	 22,164

TABLE III.

Showing Accommodation, Number of Cases treated, Cost per Bed, etc., at those Isolation Hospitals for which Grants for Beds provided out of Loan were recommended for the Year ended 31st March, 1939.

			Billericay.	Braintree.	Chelmsford.	Colchester.	Dunmow.	Halstead.	Ilford.	Maldon.	Rochford.	Romford.	Saffron Walden	Thurrock	. Walthamston	walthan Joint.	TOTAL
Number for purpose of Grant		***	30	14	21	98	12	20	150-	10	12	-					
Frant from County Council	***		£170	£80	£115	£400	£60	£100	£770	£60	A70	£1195	£90	96 £390	81 £425	130 £680	925
ases treated during year :-										-		-				1080	£4605
Diphtheria /	***		34	8	39	47					1						
Scarlet Fever			94	25	89	233		1	132	11	108	298	2	189	118	142	1129
Typhold			7		1		***	4	264	23	68	628	31	48	247	166	
Other Diseases		-	39	1/2	37	3		100	2					24		2	1920
Total number of cases treated			174	- 85		†173	65	128	+264	6		528	10	73	+101	1.50	39
		- 1		- 61	166	456	65	133	662	40	176	1454	43	334	466	71	1547
d-Days	100		4454	2270	3636	19473	2481	8403	29886						100	381	4635
penditure for the year :-			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	1130	6350	47383	1438	9973	14558	12234	163969
Repayment of Loans			437 0 5		108 18 9	456 11 8		59 5 6		£ s. d.	E s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	E s. d.	£ s. d.	£ a. d.
Interest on loan			305 11 11		4 1 7	301 8 7		20 13 4	4263 17 9	44 2 8	40 1 8	6345 4 4	167 15 11	778 1 10	652 0 8	2931 15 3	16284 16 5
Total	111	£	742 12 4		113 0 4	758 0 3			2808 0 3	3 19 6	16 11 9	7440 7 3	43 11 0	572 1 0			14320 1 11
		- 1						79 18 10	7071 18 0	48 2 2	56 13 5	13785 11 7	211 6 11	1350 2 10		The second leaves and the second	30604 18 4
Structural Repairs	***		131 16 8	100 12 5	365 15 6	374 4 0	44 14 1	****									
Food (Patients and Staff)	144	200	1983 15 0	330 7 04	278 5 0	1643 4 0		469 10 9	1339 18 7	103 11 10		9336 9 10	62 19 8	1204 18 11	1211 19 11	196 1 3	15265 0 24
Estab, and Patients' Expenses		***	1848 10 4	2518 16 54	2369 16 8	6429 10 9		696 17 11	4985 8 2	293 18 4	1	6638 11 101	283 19 9	2635 12 3		1078 7 7	
Maintenance	***		3964 2 0	2949 15 11	3013 17 2	8406 18 9		4219 13 2		1213 1 2	1352 8 6	31425 1 65	896 5 4	4929 1 10		943 5 10 1	
Overhead Charges			742 12 4		113 0 4	758 0 3		5396 1 10		1610 11 4	2650 15 6	47610 3 2½ 1	233 4 9	8769 13 0	The second secon	-	43315 2 101
Total	***	£	4706 14 4	2949 15 11	3126 17 6	9204 19 0	1400 00	79 18 10	7071 18 0	48 2 2	56 13 5 1	13785 11 7	211 6 11	1350 2 10		403 19 10 3	
					0130 11 0	0201 19 0	1630 17 1	5466 0 8	33080 7 7	1658 13 6	2707 8 11 6	1385 14 94 1	444 11 8	10:19 15 10	18796 9 11 17		
oat per patient per week	***	£	7 7 11	9 1 11	6 0 15	3 6 2	723200	100000000									
" Food, Struct. ar	d				0 0 10	3 6 2	4 12 0	4 8 11	7 15 0	10 5 6	2 19 8	9 1 4	7 0 7	7 2 1	9 0 9	10 0 3	7 8 6
et per case treated, 1938-39		E	6 4 7	9 1 11	5 16 0	3 0 8	4 12 6	4 7 8	6 1 10	9 19 6	2 18 5						
		2	27 1 0	34 14 0	18 16 9	20 3 8	25 1 10	41 1 11	49 19 5	41 9 4		7 0 8	6 0 1	6 3 1		6 18 11	6 2 0
" ,, year 1937-38	***	£	18 5 5	67 13 5	15 1 7	24 10 11	58 11 10	61 0 3	53 16 1	26 19 3			33 11 11 25 16 3	50 6 0	40 6 9 4	6 6 1	37 10 5

Spaying Assoumodation, Number of Gason See

man Farmer		
Typhote		
The street of the said		
Measural Repairs		
days vig mather six		
many times sit wi		

opposed to the organization of the property of

Group	p.			1938,	1939.
D.	Pathological Specimer County Hospital, Ro		church	1,253	 1,626
E.	Pathological Specimens ance Institutions	from Public	Assist-	792	 663
				32,966	 26,204
				32,966	

One factor contributing to this decrease has been the growing number of hospitals and authorities undertaking the routine examination of specimens of sputum and of swabs, which account for 67 per cent. of the total reduction. Another factor was the outbreak of war.

Group A. Water and Sewage Effluents.

The samples in this group are differentiated as follows :-

Drinking Water		 465
Sewage Effluent, Trade Waste	es, &c.	 318
Swimming Bath Water		 55
Deposits for Examination	one di est	3
		841

The samples indicated that the public water supplies of the County continue to maintain a satisfactory standard of purity.

Group B. Milk, Ice Cream and Foods.

The samples consisted of the following :-

Ordinary or Ungraded	l Milk		 348
Graded Milk		7	 328
Bottles for Cleanlines	s		 7
Ice Cream		d 411	 219
Other Specimens		17 2 Onl	 8
			910

The Phosphatase Test is now included in the County Scheme to confirm the efficiency of pasteurization. The test may also be applied to verify the absence of heat treatment where such is prohibited by law. Ordinary ungraded milk is not subject to this restriction, but is assessed under the County standards as if it were "raw." It would be of interest to ascertain by the judicious application of the Phosphatase Test what proportion of "satisfactory" ungraded milks are actually untreated.

Groups C, D and E. Pathological Specimens.

The nature of the specimens and the examinations made are as follows :-

Spec	imen.		(C). Hospitals, Medical Practitione etc.	(D). Oldchurch County Hospital.	(E) Public Assistance Institutions.
Blood			825	 190	 29
Fæces			356	 146	 32
Urine			1452	 49	 199
Cerebro Spinal	Fluid		41	 27	 4
Pleural Fluid			68	 60	 3
Other Body F	luids		12	 17	 6
Pus			93	 37	 5
Sputum			6,501	 397	 241
Swabs from Tl	hroat, &c.		12,616	 514	 133
Vaginal and C	ervical Swab	S	52	 31	 7
Histological E	xaminations		22	 153	 3
Animal Inocul	ations		36	 63	 3
Autogenous Va	accines		8	 2	 _
Hair and Epid	lermal Scale	3	108	 	 _
Other Specime	ens		10	 3	 4

Proposed County Laboratory. Early in the year, the Bacteriologistic for Essex (Dr. E. V. Suckling) intimated that he desired to be relieved off the County Council's laboratory work as soon as alternative arrangements could be made. This revived the question of providing a laboratory attached Chelmsford, which had received consideration from time to time during the past fifteen years. A special Sub-Committee, under the Chairmanship of County Alderman C. W. Daines, after exploring the possibility of continuing to utilise the services of a private laboratory in London, came to the conclusion that the time had arrived when the County Council should provide, staff and equip a laboratory at Chelmsford.

Several sites were considered, but the need for economy resulted in the selection for adaptation of part of the building known as the East Anglians Institute of Agriculture, which is adjacent to the County Hall, Chelmsford, and which was to become vacant on the completion of the new Agricultural Institute at Writtle. Owing to the war, this proposal had to be adjourned, and the Public Health and Housing Committee agreed to release the selected portion of the disused Institute for other purposes on the understanding that this will not prejudice their position after the war. Meanwhile, the Committee has renewed the arrangements with Dr. E. V. Suckling, who agreed to carry on as Bacteriologist for Essex for the duration of the war.

HOUSING.

Increasing activities on work of national importance have meant less attention to routine housing matters during the year. By Circular No. 1866, dated 8th September, 1939, the Minister of Health stated that it had been necessary to defer the holding off Inquiries into Slum Clearance Orders; it was clearly desirable that the existing supply of accommodation should not be diminished and the provision of new houses could not be sanctioned except in cases of national importance.

TABLE IV.

SHEWING NUMBER AND TYPE OF PUBLIC HEALTH SPECIMENS EXAMINED BY THE BACTERIOLOGIST FOR ESSEX—YEAR 1939.

SANITARY DISTRICTS.	Diphtheria.	Sputa.	Typhoid.	Ringworm.	General.	Milk and Ice Cream.	Water.	Sewage.	Total Specimens examined.	Biological E Virulence Test.	xaminations, Tubercle B.	Histological.	Urine for Zondek ascheim
Saffron Walden B. Thurrock Waltham Holy Cross Walthamstow B. Wanstead and Woodford West Mersea Witham	102 5666 145 176 177 29 388 261 63 63 54 307 22 9 24 39 24 39 24 39 1042 1451 38 429 1042 1042 1042 1042 1042 1042 1042 1042	188 31 80 91 449 15 6 4 101 36 190 51 229 276 2084 755 274 33 10 334 26 222 8 759 189 27 28	6 7 20 14 3 4 1	1	49 19 152 81 9 1 12 	47 25 28 8 127 — 40 15 49 27 — 55 — 3 — 16 90 — 111 9 74 — 63 — 112 41 — — —	8 4 7 7 66 18 2 4 4 1 1 1 6 6 6 5 9 9 5 15 15 15 15 15 15 14 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1	1406 189 853 346 782 39 52 34 615 186 616 173 347 724 106 51 62 122 2392 4427 1400 621 59 736 121 1121 637 1995 835 56 130 20	1			
Total	. 8031	6651	312	96	5142	840	180	1	21253	14	2	_	1
Chelmsford Dunmow Epping Halstead Lexden and Winstree Maldon Ongar Rochford Saffron Walden	510 45 33 81 26 33 28 32 301 19 24	57 52 28 31 16 29 13 6 42 8	3 45 6 1 2 1 — 4 2 3	1 2 5 2 2	58 68 19 30 8 4 8 11 18 14 29	-4 26 67 	13 15 29 2 7 57 9 8 1 57 30		642 229 142 145 61 124 63 128 364 103 99	3 1 1	13 1	1 	
Totals :— Rural Urban	1132	296 6651	67 312	12 96	267 5142	97 840	228 180	1 1	2100 21253	5 14	14 2	1	1 1
Administrative County		6947 ens of Urine I	379 G. and O.O. 8	108 Sup. Acts	5409	937	408	2	23353 374 23727	19	16	1	2

NOTE.—The above figures do not include specimens from the Central Office and from the Oldchurch County Hospital, Romford

	11/4		

The position now appears to be that only urgent major repairs can be required so as to keep houses reasonably clean and weathertight. There are, however, difficulties in obtaining labour and materials even for these urgent cases, particularly in the rural areas.

To augment the accommodation needed to satisfy the influx of agricultural workers, where alternative accommodation is not available, a system of licensing for re-occupation of condemned unoccupied houses has been laid down under the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939. In granting such licences, a local authority may specify conditions under which re-occupation is allowed of houses which can be put into such condition of cleanliness and repair as to be reasonably capable of being used as a temporary war-time measure for housing purposes without detriment to health.

During the years 1938-39 and 1939-40 annual contributions under the Housing Act, 1936, and the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1938, were made to the following District Councils:—

		1938-39. £		1939-40. £
Dunmow R	 	 6		42
Epping R	 	 12		12
Halstead R	 	 101		130
Lexden & Winstree R.	 	 -		10
Ongar R	 	 20		20
Saffron Walden R.	 	 _		16
Thurrock U.	 	 2	٠.	2
		£141		£232

SEWAGE WORKS AND RIVERS POLLUTION.

LOANS. One Municipal Borough, two Urban Districts and two Rural District Councils made application to the Ministry of Health for sanction to borrow sums of money totalling £140,788 for works of sewerage and sewage disposal. Public Inquiries were convened for the dates shown in the following table:—

Date		Local Sanitary Authority.	Catchment Area.	t	Loan.	Purpose.
1939. 17th Janu	ary	Thurrock U	Thames		£ 18,050	Sewerage and sewage disposal.
7th Marc	h	Dunmow R.— (a) Great Dunmow	Chelmer		4,935	Do.
		(b) Stebbing Little Dunmow (c) Takeley	Chelmer		8,330	Do.
\$ 20 Te	1	Hatfield Broad Oak	Stort		8,743	Do.
7th Marc	h	Braintree and Bocking U.	Brain		22,500	Sewage disposal.
9th Marc	h	Tendring R (Weeley and Little Clacton)	Holland Br	ook	35,140	Sewerage and sewage disposal.
31st May		Harwich B	Sea		43,090	Do.
					£140,788	

Tendring R. The Public Inquiry into the Rural Council's application for consents to borrow £35,140 for the sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for the Parishes off Little Clacton and Weeley was postponed, as representations were made by thee County Council to the effect that the Rural Council should negotiate with the Urbam District Council of Clacton as to the practicability of a joint scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal to include the Parish of Little Clacton. A conference of the two Local Sanitary Authorities was held at the Ministry of Health, when it was agreed that a joint Scheme should be prepared. This will make provision for the drainage of Little Clactom into the Urban Council's sewerage system, leaving the Rural Council to prepare amentirely separate scheme for the Parish of Weeley.

The County Health Inspectors paid 307 visits to sewage works, when 315 sampless of effluents were obtained. Unsatisfactory samples (122 or 38.7 per cent.) tend too increase in number as necessary improvements and extensions to sewage works have had to be postponed. This is particularly the case in the Brain, Cam, Chelmer, Colnea and Crouch Valleys.

Table V on page 13 sets out details of the Sewage Works, etc. visited. Representations were made to the Local Authorities concerned regarding the unsatisfactoryy samples.

A special feature of the year was the representation made to the Ministry of Health by the Essex County Council regarding a scheme which the Ministry had under considered ation from the Corporation of Romford and the Urban District Council of Hornchurch for extending the Romford Joint Sewage Works at an estimated cost of £243,000 It was represented that an alternative scheme should be substituted on the lines indicated by Mr. E. H. Tabor, M.Inst.C.E., in the report upon the Sewage Disposal im South-West and South Essex, which he prepared in 1934 at the request of the Essex County Council.

The Ministry of Health convened a conference at which representatives and officials were present from the Essex County Council, the Corporations of Dagenham and Romford, the Urban District Councils of Brentwood and Hornchurch and the Ruran District Council of Ongar, when the practicability of a joint sewerage and sewage disseposal scheme for this part of the County was considered. Subsequently, the Ministry of Health stated that a comprehensive scheme for sewerage and sewage disposal in South Essex should receive serious consideration, not only on the ground of general amenity of the districts and of the particular section of the County, but also from the standpoint of efficiency and economical working.

On 7th March, 1939, the Essex County Council authorised the Public Health and Housing Committee to arrange with the Authorities concerned to instruct a Consulting Engineer to prepare a report upon a comprehensive scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal for the Boroughs of Dagenham and Romford, the Urban Districts of Billericay Brentwood and Hornchurch and the Rural District of Ongar, and to arrange for any necessary conferences. The Essex County Council also agreed to bear one-half of the total cost of the Consulting Engineer's charges for the report, estimated to cost three hundred guineas, upon the understanding that, with the exception of the Urban District Council of Billericay and the Rural District Council of Ongar, whose interest is compare atively slight, the remainder of the cost will be shared by the Local Authorities consciented upon the basis of rateable value.

TABLE V.

Showing Sewage Works, Number of Visits, and Number of Samples Taken during the Year 1939.

	The state of the s			Sar	uples take	n.
Catchment Area.	Sewage Works.	Sanitary District.	No. of Visits.	No. satisfac- tory or on bor- der line.	No. unsatis- factory.	Total
Beam	. Romford and Horn church Jt.	Romford Borough & Hornchurch U.	9	9	-	9
Brain .	. Braintree	Braintree & Bocking U.	7	1	6	7
Blackwater .	Bocking Coggeshall Hatfield Peverel Kelvedon Latchingdon Silver End Tolleshunt Knights White Notley Witham	Braintree R Do Do Do Do Do Witham U Maldon R Braintree R Witham U Braintree R Witham U Witham U Braintree R Witham U Witham U. Witham	5 4 7 4 1 4 3 2 5	5 4 3 4 — 1 2 2 5	- 4 - 1 3 1	5 4 7 4 1 4 3 2 5
Cam	. Newport Saffron Walden	. Saffron Walden R	4 5	3 1	1 4	4 5
Chelmer .	Chelmsford Jt Dunmow	Dunmow R	4 3 5 3	4 2 1 1	1 4 2	4 3 5 3
Colne	Earls Colne	R. Halstead R	1 2 1 7 2	2 1 5 2	1	1 2 1 7 2
	Steeple Bumpstead . Tiptree	R. Halstead R Lexden and Winstree R.	2 7	2 5	3	2 8
	Tolleshunt Knights .	25 11 0	3	2	1	3
Crouch .	. Burnham	. Burnham-on-Crouch U.	2	-	3	3
	Gt. Burstead	Billericay U	4 4 1	4 3 1	1	4 4 1
Holland Broo	k Gt. Holland		2	-	2	2
	Thorpe-le-Soken	TV.	3 4	3 1		3 4
Ingrebourne	Brentwood	. Brentwood U	6	6	_	6
Kirby Creek	Kirby-le-Sok-n .	Frinton and Walt-n U.	3	2	1	3
	Carried forward	al	129	87	44	131

TABLE V .- continued.

Catchme Area.			I rear man		**		
		Sewage Works.			No. satisfac- tory or on bor- der line.	No. unsatis- factory.	Total.
	1	Brought forward		129	87	44	131
fardyke		Bury Farm	Hornchurch U	2	1	1	2
		Orsett	Thurrock U	5	3	2	5
	-	S. Ockendon	Do,	4	4	-	4
Ramsey		Dovercourt	Harwich B	3		3	3
vamsey		Parkeston	Tendring R		_	4	4
		Ramsey	Do	. 0	-	3	3
and the same of th		-					
Roach		Gt. Stambridge			-	1	1
	4-	Gt. Wakering		-	2 5	-	2
		Rayleigh (East)	Rayleigh U	5	5		5
Roding		Abridge	Ongar R	4	4	_	4
8		Buckhurst Hill	CIL ! 11 TT	0	_	2	2
		Chigwell	Th-	1	-	1	1
		Chigwell Row		2	2 .	-	2
	-	Debden Green			1	1	2
		Epping (Southern) Grange Hill	CO. (11 TT		3	1	4
		Grange Hill Loughton	D-	0			2
		Moreton	0 0	0	1	2 2	3
		North Weald	D. D.	4	1	3	4
		Stanford Rivers			4	-	4
		Theydon Bois		3	2	1	3
		Thornwood Wanstead	Wanstood and Wood		3 5	-	3 5
		Wanstead	ford B.	0	0	100	0
		Woodford	De	4	4	-	4
Stort		Hatfield Heath	Dunmow R.	1	1		1
stort		Hatfield Heath Hatfield Broad Oak	D	1	1		1
		Timelou Drone One 11					
Stour		Dedham	Lexden and Winstree R.	2	-	2	2
		Lawford	Tendring R	3	-	3	3
1		T+ O-bless	D.		,		,
sea		Lt. Oakley St. Osyth (East)	De	1	1 4		1 4
		St. Osyth (West)	To .	1	_	1	1
							100
Vid		Billericay			5	_	5
		Blackmore		2 7		2 2 5	2
		Ingatestone		0	1	2 5	6
		Gt. Warley Mountnessing	Brentwood U Chelmsford R		2	3	5
		Shenfield, Hutton and	Brentwood U.			5	5
		Ingrave					
)then	w.l.	including private same	montes places stresses	1 1 1 1 1 1 1	F. M. MAIL		
ditches,		including private sewage		. 55	36	25	61
Frade effl	uents			. 8	6	2	8
				307	193	122	315

At the time of writing, the Consulting Engineer's report has been received and is being circulated to the Local Authorities concerned.

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACTS, 1926-38.

The County Land Agent has kindly intimated that during the year 1939, 101 forms of application were received applying for grants in respect of 189 cottages, in the districts set out hereunder:—

District.	A	No. of pplications.	na l	No. of Cottages.	N	o. of Cottag for which grants have been approved.	es	Total of Grants.
								£
Braintree R.D.C.		10		15		12		1,200
Chelmsford R.D.C.		7		12		4		400
Dunmow R.D.C.		20		35		16		1,600
Epping R.D.C.		6		13		8		800
Halstead R.D.C.		11		21		8		800
Lexden & Winstree	R.I	O.C. 7		11				_
Maldon R.D.C.		6		15		10		993
Ongar R.D.C.		4		10		6		600
Rochford R.D.C.		2		3		1		100
Saffron Walden R.I.).C.	5		11		3		300
Tendring R.D.C.		10		17		7		700
Billericay U.D.C.		4		5				
Romford B.		1		2		2		200
Thurrock U.D.C.		4		12		1		100
Witham U.D.C.		4		7		4		400
		101		189		82		£8,193

Of the cottages included in the above applications, 82 were approved for grants, 14 were not approved, 14 were withdrawn and 79 were awaiting owners' proposals.

The total number of cottages approved for reconditioning under the Acts in Essex up to 31st December, 1939, is 1,315.

The total amount of grants approved is £123,815, and it is estimated that the expenditure made in addition by the owners themselves exceeded £128,306.

MILK SUPPLY.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938.

(a) LICENCES. At the end of 1939, milk was being produced at 1,906 farms in the Administrative County of Essex. So far as the production of designated milks is concerned, the number of licences granted by the County Council during 1939 was:—

*Tuberculin Tested Milk	 	95	(81)
†Accredited milk		865	(838)
		960	(919)

*Of these, 22 licensees were also licensed to bottle Tuberculin Tested Milk. †Of these, 39 licensees were also licensed to bottle Accredited Milk.

The figures in brackets in the above table are for the year 1938.

Seven licences to produce accredited milk were revoked during the year owing too repeated unsatisfactory samples of milk, and one of these licensees appealed unsuccessfully to the Ministry of Health.

Notice of intention to revoke was served upon a licensee for each of two farmss licensed to produce Accredited Milk, owing to repeated unsatisfactory samples of milk; his appeals to the Ministry of Health had not been determined at the end of thee year.

Three farmers surrendered licences to produce Tuberculin-tested Milk, havinggraded to remove reactors forthwith from the herds; they immediately applied for, and were granted, licences to produce Accredited Milk at the farms in question.

(b) Samples of Designated Milks. All the samples of milk taken at licensed farms have been obtained by the Assistant County Health Inspectors, the aim beings at least six samples per farm per year. The Weights and Measures Inspectors continued to obtain samples at central depots and in course of delivery. The results of the examinations of these samples are set out in the following table:—

				Numbe	r of S	amples.		
Quarter ended.	Total.		Sa	Satisfactory.			satisfac	
						No.		%
31st March		1,632		1,536		96		5.9 (3.6%)
30th June		1,572		1,305		267		17.0 (17.8%)
30th September		1,173		690		483		41.2 (34.1%)
31st December		683		574		109		15.9 (8.1%)
Totals		5,060		4,105		955		16.9 (17.1%)

The figures in brackets in the above table are for the year 1938.

Milk-in-Schools Scheme.

- (a) Number of schools participating under the Milk Marketing Board Scheme, 458. Number of children participating, 31,316.
- (b) Number of schools for evacuees under the Milk Marketing Board Scheme, 78.
 Number of evacuees participating, 4,799.
- (c) Number of Schools not necessarily under the Milk Marketing Board Scheme, 60. Number of children participating, 2,508.
- (d) Number of Schools for evacuees, not necessarily under the Milk Marketings Board Scheme, 31. Number of children participating, 227.

(e) Samples were obtained and submitted to the following examinations, with the results indicated:—

Biological, 734 (22 or 3% contained tubercle bacilli). Bacteriological, 730 (116 or 15.9% were unsatisfactory).

Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915 (to 30th September, 1939).

Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (from 1st October, 1939).

(a) Biological Examinations. Samples of milk were obtained and submitted to biological examination, with the results indicated below:—

		Results.			
Taken.	Tubercle	Bacilli.	No. free from Tubercle Bacilli. 1939. 1938.		
At farms At Public Assistance Institutions, Sana-		63 (5.0%)	1,446 1,229	1,591	1,292
toria, &c Under Milk-in-Schools	9 (4.8%)	4 (5.1%) .	. 170 74	186	. 78
Scheme	26 (3.5%)	22 (4.4%) .	. 688 476	734 .	. 498
Totals	123 (4.9%)	89 (4.8%) .	. 2,304 1,779	2,511 .	. 1,868

Prompt action was taken by the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries to eliminate the cows which were giving tubercle bacilli in the milk.

(b) Notifications from Local Authorities. During the year, 14 notifications were received from Medical Officers of Health under Section 4 of the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, and as from 1st October, under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, to the effect that the biological examination of samples of milk from 18 farms within the Administrative County of Essex had revealed the presence of tubercle bacilli. Particulars were transmitted to the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, who arranged for the usual inspections of the herds at the farms where the milk in question was produced, with a view to eliminating the cows which were giving tubercle bacilli in the milk.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

This Act, which came into force on 1st October, 1939, consolidates with amendments certain enactments relating to food, drugs, markets, slaughterhouses and knackers' yards.

The Local Government and Public Health Consolidation Committee, which framed the Bill on which this Act is based, stated in their Third Interim Report that an examination of the law relating to food had disclosed the fact that the existing enactments were in the main directed towards two distinct objects, namely, the safe-guarding of public health and the protection of purchasers from fraud and deception.

This dual purpose has been preserved in the 1938 Act, which repeals the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and Section 10 of the Milk Act, 1934.

With the retirement of the Chief Weights and Measures Inspector for the Westerner District of the County (Mr. H. C. Card), the administration of the food and drugs works for the Administrative County has been centralised at Chelmsford under one Chief in Weights and Measures Inspector (Mr. A. Horsnell).

By Section 74 (1) of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, which came into operation on 1st October, 1939, quarterly reports of the Public Analyst must in future cover the periods ending 31st March, 30th June, 30th September and 31st December. The Annual Report will then automatically deal with the whole of one calendar years which has not been the case hitherto. To bring the procedure into line with the requirements of the Act, the Public Analyst has submitted a summary of the samples dealted with during the ten months ended 30th September, 1939, extracts from which are given below:—

Samples taken from Vendors of course of distribution.	or in		Samples analysed.	Samples unsatisfactory.
Administrative County			3,226	 168
Chingford Borough			13	 The same of the sa
Dagenham Borough			2	 2
Leyton Borough			3	 2
Walthamstow Borough			149	
Wanstead & Woodford Bo	orough		16	 _
				Thomas and
			3,409	 172
Samples taken from Schools or	Institu	tions.		
Administrative County			1,072	 72
"Appeal to Cow" Samples.				
Administrative County			63	 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
			4,544	 244

Milk.

Of the 1,075 samples of milk taken directly from vendors, 99 were found to be adulterated or unsatisfactory. Nine of these showed evidence of the presence of added water, by reason of deficiency of non-fatty solids, corresponding to 1 per cent. in one sample, 2 per cent. in four samples, 3 per cent. in three samples and 7 per cent. in one sample.

In addition, one sample of milk yielded a figure which did not fall below the figure of 8.50 per cent. of non-fatty solids indicated in the Sale of Milk Regulations, but, nevertheless, its freezing point indicated the presence of added water.

Eighty-seven samples showed deficiencies in fat in proportions varying from 4 personal to as much as 75 per cent. of the minimum quantity of fat proper to normal milk; as indicated in the Sale of Milk Regulations.

Two other samples of milk, otherwise genuine, were unsatisfactory by reason of an unpleasant flavour, probably brought about by the milk being overheated in some state of its preparation to such an extent that it had acquired a taste resembling that of caramel.

Of the milk samples taken from Schools or Institutions, 72 were unsatisfactory by reason of added water ranging from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Sixty-eight were unsatisfactory by reason of deficiency in fat, viz., in 12 cases the deficiency in fat ranged from 2 to 5 per cent., in 33 cases from 6 to 10 per cent., in 11 cases from 11 to 13 per cent., in 6 cases from 16 to 20 per cent. and in 6 cases from 21 to 33 per cent. of the minimum quantity of fat proper to normal milk.

Of the 1,064 samples of milk delivered to Schools and Institutions, there were 992 which complied with the requirements of the Sale of Milk Regulations, but of these there were 188 which, although containing the 3 per cent. of fat laid down in the Sale of Milk Regulations, nevertheless failed to comply with the more stringent requirement of the presence of 3.25 per cent. of fat enjoined as we understand, under the contracts for these supplies.

Cream.

One of the samples of cream was tinned cream containing only 21.5 per cent. of milk fat, which is about the quantity very commonly found in tinned cream. The label on the tin in this case described the contents as "pure thick cream," a description which appeared to be misleading, for although the cream was pure and in a sense, "thick," the thickness, as is usual in cream of this kind, was due only to the mechanical process of emulsification and not to richness in fat. Ordinary unemulsified cream, which would be colloquially described as "thick," contains three times as much milk fat as is found in emulsified tinned cream, and it seems, therefore, that the description "thick" is in such case improperly used to convey an erroneous impression of richness and is therefore objectionable.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Only relatively minor schemes of extensions of water mains were submitted by certain Rural District Councils for approval to rank for grant from the County Council under the Scheme made under Section 57 of the Local Government Act, 1929, full particulars of which appeared in the Annual Report for 1934.

In January, 1939, the Ministry of Health issued Memorandum 221 on "The safe-guards to be adopted in day to day administration of Water Undertakings." The Memorandum referred to Circular 1684, dated 12th March, 1938, which brought to the notice of all water undertakers the need for unremitting care in the supervision of water supplies, and it also dealt with the health of workmen employed at waterworks, the general cleanliness of waterworks, protection of sources of supply, analyses, treatment of water, &c.

When considering the payment of grants to those Rural District Councils which participate in the Section 57 Scheme, attention was given "to the need for special safeguards where water is supplied from wells or borings into the chalk or limestone at or near the outcrop of those formations." The nearness of the chalk to the surface

occurs in the Dunmow and Saffron Walden Rural Districts. There is also a public supply from springs in the Braintree Rural District, samples from which were examined! from time to time, resulting in the Bacteriologist for Essex expressing the opinion; that "this waterworks should either be discontinued or an effective system of treatment should be installed."

Representations were made to the Rural District Councils concerned. Effectives systems of treatment have been provided by the Braintree and Dunmow Rural District: Councils, but the Scheme for similar systems in the Saffron Walden Rural District: has been deferred by the war.

In Circular 1684, already referred to, all Water Authorities were also advised to arrange for more frequent analyses as a minimum precautionary measure. Locall Sanitary Authorities in the Administrative County of Essex had already been encouraged to do this by the laboratory facilities which were made available to them. Since 1936 such Authorities have been able to submit to the Bacteriologist for Essex samples of public water supplies for chemical and bacteriological examination, free of charge, on the understanding that they provide all necessary receptacles, such as baskets and ice cases, suitable for the careful transport of these samples to the laboratory.

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1933.

Establishments for Massage and Special Treatment.

During the year ended 31st March, 1940, licences under Part IV of the Essex County Council Act, 1933, were granted to 75 applicants—an increase of 11 over the previous year. Surprise visits were paid by the Assistant County Health Inspectors to all the licensed establishments, several of which were found to be closed at the end of the year owing to the war.

Refuse Dumps.

At the end of the year there were 17 refuse dumps in the Administrative County of Essex, all being adjacent or relatively near to the north bank of the River Thames. Depositing of refuse at these dumps must be carried out in accordance with the conditions laid down under Section 146 and Part I or Part II of the Third Schedule of the Essex County Council Act, 1933.

Surprise visits were paid to these dumps throughout the year. At the largest dumps conditions were usually satisfactory, but some of the smaller dumps had to be subjected to closer supervision and letters of warning were sent to the contractors concerned.

Local Government Act, 1929. Section 57.

Subject to adjustment when final claims are submitted, the County Councill made the following grants, in accordance with the provisions of the Section 57 Scheme, in respect of the financial year 1939-40:—

		£
Braintree R	 	3,935
Dunmow R	 	3,312
Halstead R	 	623
Ongar R	 *	1,352
Rochford R.	 	1,096
Saffron Walden R.	 	2,985
		£13,303

In addition, a payment of £644 was made to the Chelmsford Rural District Council, being the loan charges for 1939-40 in lieu of a capital grant of £12,000 under the Rural Water Supplies Act, 1934.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

Similarly to previous years, the services of Dr. T. P. Puddicombe, Deputy County Medical Officer, have been available to both the Statutory Committee for the Care of the Mentally Defective and on application to the Courts of Justice for the examination of, and medical reports on, suspected mentally defective persons. Dr. A. R. Forbes has continued to render valuable assistance in this work.

The following table shows that 430 persons were examined and from reports submitted on each, the classification is as set out below:—

	N	o. Examir	ned	The figures given in Columns (1), (2) and (3) include the following :—								
Diagnosis.		J. Lintellin			eferre		ics.	Spastic Tetraplegia.	Hydro- cephalus.	Mongols.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.		amina		Epileptics.					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	М.	F. Total. A Z	Hyc	Mon					
Feeble minded	139	129	268	27	12	39	11	_	1	2		
Imbeciles	49	43	92	_	_	-	6	1	_	27		
Idiots	15	15	30	_	_	-	2	-	_	1		
Moral Defectives	-	- Tree	_	_	-	- 1	-	-	-	-		
Not Certifiable under the Acts	27	13	40	26	14	40	3		-			
Totals	230	200	430	53	26	79	22	1	1	30		

The waiting list for Institutional care is increasing and evacuation of certain cases in the last quarter of the year from certain potential dangerous areas has increased the difficulty of finding suitable accommodation.

As the result of the outbreak of war, the Committee for the Care of the Mentally Defective was permitted by the County Council to evacuate certain cases living in evacuation areas of the County to places of safety under Section 15 of the Mentalian Deficiency Act of 1913. Thus, on the 6th September, 1939, 41 defectives were admitted to the Royal Eastern Counties Institution, Colchester.

A reception home for evacuated mental defectives was established at Chandoss Hall, Clacton, and 28 male defectives were admitted on the 6th September, 1939. On the same date 25 girl and junior defectives were admitted to the National Sundays. School Union Convalescent Home, Clacton, these being transferred on the 8th September, 1939, to Brandon Temperance Guest House, Clacton. On the 12th September, 1939, six of these defectives were transferred to the Royal Eastern Counties Institution, Colchester.

The transfer of these persons resulted in the closure of certain Occupation Centress and the dispersal of certain staff whose services were either not required at these Centres, or could not be made use of at the above-mentioned Homes of reception.

At the end of 1939, the Statutory Committee was responsible for the care and control or supervision of 2,243 persons, an increase of 42 on the previous year, classified under the following headings:—

	M.	F.	Total.
In Institutions	478	 362	 840
Under Statutory Supervision	698	 551	 1,249
Under Guardianship	25	 19	 44
Under Licence from Institutions	48	 62	 110
Total	1,249	 994	 2,243

The Royal Eastern Counties Institution, to which the majority of Essex cases requiring institutional care are sent, has been subjected to more pressure on its accommodation, and especially so since the outbreak of war.

The report of the Visitors of the Board of Control to this Institution which has just come to hand is as usual an excellent testimonial to the organisation of Dr. Douglass Turner, the Medical Superintendent, on the care, attention, regulation and industry practised under his control.

MENTAL TREATMENT ACT, 1930.

Consultant Psychiatric Clinics have continued to be held by the Medical Superintendents of the Severalls and Brentwood Mental Hospitals, with benefit to the patients concerned and great assistance to the Private Practitioners making use of these Clinics for their patients.

Dr. A. G. Duncan reports :—

"The Psychiatric Clinic at Colchester Hospital was held as usual throughout 1939 on Monday afternoons at 3 p.m.; the Clinic at Chelmsford Hospital on Wednesday afternoons was, after the outbreak of war, restricted to the 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesdays in each month and the time changed from 2.30 to 1.30 p.m. During the year there were, at these two Clinics, 411 attendances; 155 new patients were seen, nearly all at the request of their:

own doctors. In addition, some in-patients were seen at Public Assistance Institutions."

Dr. W. G. Masefield, who attends the Oldchurch County Hospital Clinic on Fridays at 2.30 p.m. and the Woodford Clinic at the Combined Treatment Centre, 93, High Road, South Woodford, on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 3 p.m., reports:—

"The Mental Out-Patient Clinics continue to serve a useful purpose, and during 1939 the number of attendances increased, there being 200 at the Romford Clinic, which is held weekly, and 80 at the Woodford Clinic, which is held twice monthly. Practically every week I have visited Suttons Institution, Hornchurch, at the request of the Medical Officer in charge of the observation wards to give advice regarding patients in those wards. I have also visited Orsett Institution from time to time when requested to do so by the Medical Officer."

BLIND PERSONS ACTS, 1920-1938.

As in other departments of the Public Services, the outbreak of war produced certain changes which necessitated re-organisation of staff and certain changes in clinic premises, &c. In the main, however, the facilities provided for the certification, medical supervision and general care of the Blind have been satisfactorily continued under the supervision of the Ophthalmic Specialists.

Mr. G. A. Jamieson, whole-time Senior Ophthalmic Specialist, and Mr. R. S. McLatchy (part-time) were called to the colours at the commencement of war. Their services have since been replaced by the employment on a part-time sessional basis of Mr. T. Collyer Summers, F.R.C.S., who it will be remembered, is the Consultant Ophthalmologist at the Oldchurch County Hospital, Romford. Mr. E. J. Baldwin, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.O.M.S., and Mr. J. R. Henderson, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S., were also employed in a similar capacity. The whole-time Ophthalmic Specialist services of Mr. J. H. Young have been available throughout the whole year.

Cases referred for in-patient treatment when consent has been given, have again been mainly treated at the Oldchurch County Hospital, with a few admissions to other Hospitals.

The Blind Persons Acts Committee has continued to administer the provisions of the Acts.

Notifications by Medical Practitioners have been few in number, six only having been received.

Dental treatment of the Blind has again been carried out by the County Dental Staff as and when such service has been required.

During the year 378 persons were examined by the Specialists and occupational training given to 43 persons.

At the beginning of September, 1939, 119 blind persons from evacuation areas were sent to Ipswich and 28 to Northampton. Later a great many of these evacuees returned home.

Home Teachers accompanied these persons to the reception areas and in some instances stayed for several days until billets were found for the blind persons. Submisequently, the Blind Persons Act Committee authorised the appointment of a temporary of Home Teacher and part-time Clerical Assistant to the Ipswich Blind Society to dead with Essex evacuees alone.

Throughout the year the work of caring for the blind in the County of Essex was carried on normally by the Committee's ten Home Teachers. Apart from the official evacuation of blind persons, there has been considerable movement into and out of the County, which has necessitated extra work for the Home Teaching Staff. This has been dealt with satisfactorily.

On the 31st March, 1940, a total of 1929 (males 939, females 990) were on the Blind Persons Register. Of these, 1,872 (males 902, females 970) are over 16 years on age. 1,578 are classified as unemployable, viz.:—males 676, females 902, and of these 21 are in Homes for the Blind, 15 in Mental Hospitals and 49 in Public Assistance Institutions.

Of the occupations followed by the Blind Workers, the main occupations show then following numbers:—Mat making 25; dealers 24; basket workers 22; piano tuners 22; poultry keepers 21; machine knitters 17; boot repairers 11.

PROPAGANDA.

Health Exhibitions.

The County Council assisted in providing Health Exhibitions in the followings districts:—Billericay, Boreham, Ingatestone, Hatfield Peverel, Great Easton, Essez: County Show, Harlow, and at Long Melford (West Suffolk).

Health Lectures.

Members of the staff of the County Public Health Department gave 32 lectures during the year to Women's Institutes, Nursing Associations, Mothercraft Classes, &co In addition, talks were given by Medical Officers and Health Visitors at Child Welfare Centres.

Venereal Diseases.

In conjunction with the British Social Hygiene Council, meetings were arranged at which a lecture was given and a cinema film exhibited at the following places during the year:—

1939.

9th January ... Oldchurch County Hospital, Romford.

10th January . . Barkingside Toc H.

13th to 27th January Walthamstow High School for Girls.

8th February ... Women's Liberal Association, Leytonstone.
17th March ... Park Senior School, Grays.—Public meeting.

25th March . . Infant Welfare Centre, Romford.

14th April .. South-East Essex Technical College, Dagenham.—
Public meeting.

July .. Romford High School for Girls.

Col. J. M. Elliott, V.D. Medical Officer, gave lectures to trainees at Plaistow Maternity Home and at Oldchurch County Hospital and to the Militia at Colchester.

PROVISION OF HOSPITAL SERVICES.

Hospitals.

During the first half of the year 1939 good progress was made in the Council's peace-time Hospital policy, details of which have been set out in the Reports for the years 1936, 1937 and 1938. Just prior to the outbreak of war, a tender had been provisionally accepted for the first portion of the new hospital at Crowlands, Chadwell Heath, to provide for 570 patients; similarly provision for a 200-bed convalescent hospital had been approved at Pyrgo Park, Havering-atte-Bower. Unfortunately the war intervened and destroyed any chance of these schemes going forward for some time to come and it is a matter of conjecture as to the prospects of their ever materialising. The negotiations between the County Council and Voluntary Hospital Authorities had also to be suspended for the time being.

The Oldchurch County Hospital, Romford, during the pre-war period of the year carried out its essential functions as the mainspring of the County Council's hospital service as it then existed.

The Essex County Hospital, Wanstead, which was opened at the end of 1938, providing accommodation for 201 chronic and infirm patients in the South-Western area, became well established prior to the outbreak of war. Up to 31st August, 1939, 302 patients were admitted and 253 discharged. Upon the receipt of the order to clear hospitals in connection with the Emergency Hospital Scheme, there were 178 patients patients under treatment.

The Brookfield Orthopædic Hospital (30 beds) continued to function until the outbreak of war, when on account of the temporary nature of the buildings and the fact that they were incapable of being adequately protected, the hospital was completely evacuated and closed down. Accommodation was found for the children in other hospitals and at the end of the year the County Council arranged for patients to receive hospital treatment at the Oldchurch County Hospital, Romford, cases which could not be accommodated there being sent to hospitals such as the Cheyney Hospital and Queen's Hospital, London, and St. Michael's Orthopædic Hospital, Clacton-on-Sea.

The facilities provided at the County Convalescent Home, Dovercourt, which was also opened in the autumn of 1938 were becoming well-known and were undoubtedly highly appreciated by all those who were able to take advantage of them. The Home did not form part of the Ministry of Health's Emergency Hospital Scheme, and continued to function as a Convalescent Home until the outbreak of war, when it was allocated for use as an improvised maternity home, and later partially as a sick bay under the Government Evacuation Scheme (see pages 36 and 38).

During the year under review the Ministry of Health's proposals for the organisation of the Emergency Hospital Scheme took concrete form and entailed the division of London and the Home Counties into Sectors, each Sector being in charge of a Group Officer, with a Voluntary Hospital team and a Municipal team to assist him. The whole of Essex, with the exception of a small portion including the Waltham Abbey War Memorial Hospital, was included in Sector I. The Group Officer appointed by the Ministry of Health was Mr. Russell J. Howard, C.B.E., F.R.C.S. Dr. G. G. Stewartt was seconded for duty as Municipal Medical Officer, and Miss M. Ruck, Matron of the Black Notley Sanatorium, was seconded for duty as Municipal Sector Matron too Sector Headquarters. For a short period after the outbreak of war Major Jl. Meiklejohn, a member of the staff of the County Air Raid Precautions Officer, who was also acting as County Ambulance Officer, undertook duty as Municipal Lay Sector Officer, but had to return to Chelmsford in November to take up duty as Deputy County Air Raid Precautions Officer (retaining his duties as County Ambulance Officer). At the end of the year it had not been possible to make another appointment to this office.

Ambulance Facilities.

The normal ambulance arrangements in the County have continued as heretoforce side by side with the large emergency organisation which has been set up specially too deal with casualties due to enemy action.

Nursing Services.

The main item of note in connection with the nursing services is the setting up of the Local Emergency Committee for the Nursing Profession and its attendant activities, in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 1775. The Committee held eight meetings during the year, and in addition, local Interviewing Sub-Committees set up att Wanstead, Romford, Chelmsford and Colchester held a large number of meetings.

It should be noted that, with the approval of the Ministry of Health, the districts comprising the Rochford Hundred come within the purview of the Local Emergency Committee set up by the Southend-on-Sea Borough Council.

At the outbreak of war Miss M. Ruck, Matron of the Black Notley Sanatorium, was, as indicated above, seconded for duty as Municipal Sector Matron at the headquarters of the Emergency Hospital Scheme at the Essex County Hospital, Wanstead. Prior to the war, Miss Ruck had rendered excellent service to the County Medical Officer in assisting in the organisation of the Civil Nursing Reserve, and in order to facilitate this work, she continued to carry on with the organisation from Wanstead.

Miss Ruck has undertaken this work in a most able fashion, and I am grateful too her for the following notes on this branch of the service:—

"In March, 1939, in accordance with Ministry of Health instructions as Local Emergency Committee for the Nursing Profession was formed, consisting of representatives of the Voluntary and Municipal Hospitals, the St. Johns Ambulance Brigade, the British Red Cross Society, the Women's Voluntary Services and the Medical Profession.

In the beginning this Committee was responsible for the recruitment and training of Nursing Auxiliaries; lectures in First Aid and Home Nursing were largely undertaken by the voluntary bodies; practical training in hospitall was arranged with the co-operation of the Matrons of both Voluntary and Municipal Hospitals.

At the outbreak of war, training became difficult because the hospitals were evacuated of most of their patients, but later, during the winter, with the increased numbers of civilian sick, it was possible to resume training almost up to pre-war standard.

Later, the other side of the work of the Local Emergency Committee was the enrolment and allocation of Trained and Assistant Nurses for full and part-time service in Hospitals and First Aid Posts.

Up to the 31st March, 1940, some 2,000 applications from directly recruited Nursing Auxiliaries had been received, all of whom were either receiving training or, having completed training, were giving full or part-time service to Hospitals and First Aid Posts.

By the 31st March, 1940, the Local Emergency Committee for Essex, through the Civil Nursing Reserve, had provided the Emergency Medical Service Hospitals and First Aid Posts with:—

194 Trained Nurses.
106 Assistant Nurses.

487 Nursing Auxiliaries

for either full or part-time service. These numbers do not, of course, include the A.R.P. personnel who are not registered with the Civil Nursing Reserve.

A close liaison has been formed between the St. John Ambulance Brigade, the British Red Cross Society, and the Civil Nursing Reserve, together with the Women's Voluntary Services who undertook the looking up of candidates who volunteered as a result of wireless appeals and, for one reason or another, faded out during the winter months when the black-out conditions made it difficult for them to attend lectures. Very great credit is due to the young women who, after spending days at business, gave weekends and half-days to training and part-time duty. This part-time duty, though not so useful as whole-time, is a very valuable help because the Matrons of the Hospitals are able to arrange their part-time workers so as to fill, in some cases, a whole day and thus relieve their full-time staff for off-duty times.

Male members of the British Red Cross Society and St. John Ambulance Brigade, who had not been absorbed by the A.R.P. Authorities, came forward and many of them have received training on the same lines as the Nursing Auxiliaries in order that they may be of assistance on the Wards of Hospitals, after they have assisted with Stretcher Bearing inside the curtilage of the Hospital."

On pages 28 and 29 will be found tables compiled on the lines of the annual return bmitted to the Ministry of Health, which give details of enrolments, the state of aining, &c.

CIVIL NURSING RESERVE.

TABLE A.

Registered Personnel on 31st March, 1940.

1. Registered Personnel.

Category.	(White). Mobile. Whole-time.	(Pink). Immobile. Whole-time.	(Yellow). Immobile. Part-time.	(Green). Specified Districts.	Totals.
A) Trained	49	67	74	4	194
B) Assistant	29	41	33	3	106
C) Auxiliary :— (1) Directly Recruited	18	34	38	200	90
(2) St. John	15	59	55	-	129
(3) Red Cross	27	76	162	3	268
Totals	138	277	362	10	787

2. Allocation of Registered Personnel.

			TRAINE	D.	1	ASSISTAN	T.	A			
	Allocated to :—	Whole- time.	Part- time.	Total.	Whole- time.	Part- time.	Total.	Whole- time.	Part- time.	Total.	Grand
(A)	Hospital	 33	_	33	29	_	29	2	_	2	644
(B)	First Aid Posts	 _	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(C)	Reception Areas	 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-
-	Totals	 33	_	33	29	_	29	2	_	2	641

3. Employment of Registered Personnel.

		7	FRAINEI),	A	SSISTAN	т.	A			
	Employed in :—	Whole- time.	Part- time.	Total.	Whole- time.	Part- time.	Total.	Whole- time.	Part- time.	Total.	Grand
	In male un in	(paid)	(un- paid)		(paid)	(un- paid)		(paid)	(un- paid)		
A)	Hospital	 68	4	72	39	-	39	49	6	55	332
B)	First Aid Posts	 40	-	40	4	-	4	6	-	6	100
C)	Reception Areas	 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
_	Totals	 108	4	112	43	_	43	55	6	61	432

TABLE B.

Progress Return for the Period ended 31st March, 1940.

'articulars of recruitment and training of Nursing Auxiliaries (exclusive of St. John and Red Cross members previously qualified).

						Totals to 31s	t March, 1940.	
					(1) Directly Recruited.	(2) St. John.	(3) Red Cross.	Grand Totals
)	Applications for Trainin	g			1,952	145 - 146	162 -7 6	1,952
)	Accepted for Training					-	THE REAL PROPERTY.	_
)	First stage of Training (First Aid and Home	Nursi	ng)		Sin Bee	1939	april 12	
	(i) In Training				1,465	_	_	1,465
	(ii) Completed				355	_	_	355
()	Second stage of Training (Hospital or District (i) In Training— Hospital	Nursir	ng) 		110	-	_	110
	D.N				_		_	_
	(ii) Completed— Hospital				148	99	228	475
	D.N				_	-	-	_
)	Combined Scheme of Tr	aining	in Hos	pital				
	(i) In Training				_		-	-
	(ii) Completed				-	_	_	_

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS CASUALTY SERVICES.

The scheme of Emergency Medical Services for dealing with casualties before they each hospitals was proceeded with on the lines indicated by the numerous Government inculars issued on the subject.

The training of personnel continued on the lines indicated in last year's report, and thanks are due to local Medical Officers of Health for their valuable assistance in his connection, and for their co-operation in regard to the scheme as a whole.

Quantities of stores and equipment continued to be received from the Government Departments and distribution to First Aid Posts and Hospitals, &c., was well advanced by the time war was declared. Since the end of the year under review the medical cores and equipment on charge in connection with the local casualty services have taken over by the County Equipment Officer and are now being dealt with very effectively through his organisation.

At the end of the year there were 103 First Aid Posts, 29 Mobile First Aid Units and 200 First Aid Points operating in the County, and in addition to this the Ambulance Scheme provided 321 whole-time improvised ambulances and 200 part-time vehicless together with 199 cars on whole-time duty and 374 cars available for part-time duty as cars for sitting cases.

It will be appreciated that the organisation of a scheme as vast as this entailed a tremendous amount of work, and this applied particularly to the months preceding the declaration of war. However, it can be safely said that the organisation which was built up then has proved its worth and although during the year under review it never had occasion to go into action, what has happened since the year 1939 has without doubt, proved this up to the hilt. Nevertheless, what may be described as the waiting period was valuable in that it permitted of consolidation and improvement and also gave opportunity for exercises of which full advantage was taken.

PART II.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Votifications of Tuberculosis.

Statistical information relating to the County Tuberculosis Scheme has been curtailed to the following table relating to Notifications, as this is the only Annual Fable the Ministry of Health have requested during the war. Certain statistics are, nowever, being supplied to the Ministry of Health quarterly and it is hoped that these quarterly returns will form a useful connecting link between pre-war and post-war lays.

TABLE VI.

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930.

(a) A summary of the notifications made in the Administrative County of Essex luring the period 1st January, 1939, to 31st December, 1939, is given below:—

of the accommodulation						For	RMAL	Non	FICA	TIONS			
feetfel appear van		Primary Notifications of New Cases of Tuberculosis.											
pattledly to visujuoitad		Age Periods											Total
and to because a	-0	1-	2	-01	15-	20	25-	35—	45-	-029	-99	Total (all ages)	Notifica- tions.
Pulmonary, Males	1	3	15	14	52	60	131	132	91	51	20	570	620
., Females	-	5	10	16	83	93	158	66	42	18	11	502	561
Non-Pulmonary, Males	-	31	45	21	21	6	15	6	3	2	-	150	156
,, Females	4	25	29	26	17	8	23	6	3	3	1	145	155

(b) The following summary shows the new cases which came to the knowledge of he Medical Officers of Health during the above-mentioned period, otherwise than by ormal notification :—

The second	Age periods.													
da observa esse	-0	1	-9	10-	15—	20-	25	39	45-	- 22	-69	Total.		
ulmonary, Males		-	4	3	1	9	20	18	8	6	3	72		
,, Females	-	1	3	9	9	17	18	15	9	4	1	79		
Ion-pulmonary, Males	_	1	5	4	1		6	100		1	-	18		
., Females		1	5	2	1	1	2	2	_	3	-	17		

The sources from which information as to the afore-mentioned cases was obtained re shown below :—

			No. of	Cases.
Source of Information.			Pulmonary.	Non- Pulmonary
Death Returns from Local Registrars transferable deaths from Registrar-General		***	13	3
Posthumous Notifications			7	2
"Transfers" from other areas (other than transferable deaths)			103	23
Other Sources (Forms I and II)	15		‡28	†6

‡ 23 (Form 1) 5 (Form 2).

+ 5 (Form 1) ! (Form 2).

Institutional Treatment.

The County Tuberculosis Scheme received a very severe setback on the outbreaks of hostilities owing to the necessity for reducing the number of patients in variouss institutions in order to release beds for the Emergency Hospital Service. In August, 1939, there were 947 beds occupied and a waiting list amounting to 81. It was necessary, to reduce the number of available beds to 566.

By certain re-arrangements, the best possible use was made of the accommodation which remained available for tuberculosis patients. Subsequently, it was found that events did not justify so many beds being retained empty and particularly at the Blacks Notley Sanatorium. Every effort was then made to ensure that each of those patientss who had sputum containing tubercle bacilli, and who had been discharged at the outbreak of war, was given the opportunity of returning to some Institution to complete treatment or remain for segregation.

The greatest hardships were experienced by patients suffering from the more on less advanced stages of pulmonary tuberculosis owing to the difficulty of finding suitable accommodation for this type of case. Towards the close of the year, howevern this difficulty was gradually being overcome, and it is anticipated that with the opening of the Essex County Hospital, Broomfield, this problem will be entirely solved.

Dispensaries and Out-patients.

Owing to the large numbers of discharges from Institutions at the outbreak of was the work of the dispensary staffs in following up cases was greatly increased.

Quite a large proportion of these patients needed artificial pneumothorax re-fill and arrangements were made for these to receive their re-fills at the different centres available.

Many patients have moved either within the County or to addresses outside the County and also many patients have come into the County from other areas. Every effort was made to follow up these cases and arrange for the transfer of the necessary records.

Arrangements have been made whereby the Medical Boards for the examining comen for the Forces refer to the District Tuberculosis Officer any man in whom tuberculosis is detected or suspected.

These arrangements, coupled with the arrangements made by the Ministry of Health for referring to the appropriate Council for immediate treatment those soldiers The are found to be suffering from tuberculosis after actual enlistment, should prove f great value in the effort being made to eradicate the disease and should also avoid a epetition of the experience after the Great War, 1914-1918, when quite a number of hose ex-service men referred to County Councils for institutional treatment for tuberulosis were found to be non-tuberculous or had suffered from tuberculosis prior to pining the Forces as fit men.

PART III.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The County Council's Maternity and Child Welfare Schemes, full details of which have been given in previous Reports, were continued throughout the year and in spites of the war can be said to have been fully maintained; in fact, as will be seen from there details given on pages 36 to 38 of this Report, as a result of Essex being to a larger extent, particularly during 1939, a reception area as well as an evacuation area, there Maternity and Child Welfare Service had to be extended, especially in regard to these establishment of improvised Maternity Homes, Residential Nurseries, Sick Bays, &c. For the first part, therefore, of this section of the Report, a certain amount of detail is given very briefly of the usual activities of the Schemes and the second part deals with the Service as affected by war conditions.

COUNTY AREA. This area remains the same as in the previous year.

The maternal mortality rate for the County Council's Child Welfare Area accordings to the Registrar-General is 2.75 as compared with the rate of 2.64 for the Administrative County and 2.82 for England and Wales.

The estimated population, number of births, &c., in the County Council's Child Welfare Area are given below:—

	Estimated	No. of notified		No. of Births	No. o	of Notifications	of—
	Estimated Population.	Midwives.	Drs. and Parents.	Unnotified.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Maternal Deaths.
Fotal	499350	4329	2523	198	71	14	17

Provision of Milk and Medicaments.

This was continued throughout the year. The County Council, in November, 1939, approved of a revised Scheme being put into operation in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular No. 1840, dated 2nd August, 1939, but before the Scheme could be put into operation, the Ministry of Food had introduced during the year 1940 the Scheme now in operation, whereby all expectant and nursing mothers and children under five years of age can obtain milk either free or at 2d. per pint.

Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, 1939.

Copies of notifications made by medical practitioners were received from Medical Officers, as indicated below:—

		inistrati ounty.	ve	C.C.	Child V Area	Welfare
	1938.		1939.	1938.		1939.
Puerperal Pyrexia	 318		304	 79		71

In March, 1939, the Ministry of Health issued the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations 1939, indicating that all cases of Puerperal Fever would in future be notified as Puerperal Pyrexia.

Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations, 1926-1937.

During the year 1939, 45 cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified in the Administrative County. Fourteen of the above notifications related to patients living in the County Child Welfare Area and the following particulars of these patients have been obtained:—

Tre	ated—	Vis	ion	Vis	ion	To	tal .	
At	In	Unimp	aired.	Impa	aired.	Blind	lness.	primit send
Home.	Hospital.	R.	L.	R.	L.	R.	L.	Deaths.
10	4	14	14	 			-	and the second

Treatment of Orthopaedic Patients.

As far as children of school age are concerned, these are dealt with in the School Medical Officer's Annual Report.

In connection with children under the age of 5 years, the County Orthopædic Scheme has continued to work satisfactorily during the year. 19 patients received Hospital in-patient treatment, 1,420 attendances were made at After-Treatment Centres and 263 examinations were carried out by the Orthopædic Surgeon.

Nursing Homes.

Routine inspections of Nursing Homes have been made at regular intervals and all Homes were found to be satisfactory. Owing to the outbreak of war several of the Homes, particularly in the coastal areas, have either evacuated or closed down for the duration of the war.

The number of Registered Homes at the end of the year was as follows :-

(c)	Nursing Homes (including Conv	alescent	Homes)	 14
(b)	Maternity and Nursing Homes			 30
(a)	Maternity Homes only			 23

Child Life Protection.

At the end of the year there were 606 registered foster children in the care of 326 oster mothers.

During the year one foster mother was brought before the Justices, who made the accessary Order for the removal of the children from her care.

Aidwifery Service.

The following table shows the number of midwives employed under the County Scheme at the end of the year 1939, and also the number of cases attended during he year:—

	M	idwifer	y.	Maternity.
20 County Council Midwives	 	754		257
21 Welfare Council Midwives	Was to Belleville	986		444

Post-graduate Courses for Midwives were continued until the outbreak of hostilities.

Essex County Nursing Association.

In order to assist the Essex County Nursing Association the County Council made a grant of £5,000 towards the alterations at the County Nurses' Training Home and Leytonstone, and the official opening took place on 7th March, 1940.

The extensions to the Training Home at York House, Dagenham, have been postponed owing to the outbreak of war.

Improvised Maternity Homes, Residential Nurseries and Sick Bays.

Prior to the outbreak of war arrangements had been made by the Ministry of Health for a large-scale evacuation of expectant mothers into Essex and it was therefore necessary to establish several improvised Maternity Homes or utilise existing available accommodation.

The following gives particulars of the premises used :-

Moulsham Grange, London Road, Chelmsford. (25 beds).

Opened on 2nd September, 1939, and closed on 10th October, 1939.

Number of patients admitted during this period: 48.

Writtle Park, near Chelmsford. (30 beds).

Opened on 2nd October, 1939, and closed on 4th July, 1940. Number of patients admitted during this period: 45.

Hill Hall, Theydon Mount, near Epping. (45 beds).

Opened on 2nd September, 1939. Accommodated the East End Maternative Hospital, London; patients and staff; including the Training School for Pupil Midwives. Number of patients admitted up to end of year 1939: 237.

Lawford Place, near Manningtree. (25 beds).

Opened on 2nd September, 1939, and closed on 3rd February, 19400 Number of patients admitted during this period: 99. Subsequently transferred to Stagenhoe Park, St. Paul's Walden, near Hitchin, Herts., on 5th June, 1940.

Michaelstow Hall, Dovercourt. (40 beds).

Opened on 2nd September, 1939, and closed on 3rd November, 19393 Number of patients admitted during this period: 50.

Danbury Park, near Chelmsford. (20 beds).

Opened on 2nd September, 1939, and closed on 17th June, 1940. Number of patients admitted during this period: 87. As and from 17th June, 1940, the County Council have entered into an agreement with Mrs. Wigan wherebox ordinary residents of Essex can be admitted under the County Scheme to this Maternity Home.

Campions, Harlow. (10 beds).

Opened on 24th September, 1939, and closed on 27th January, 1940. Number of patients admitted during this period: 22. As and from 27th January, 1940, Campions was established as a Sick Bay.

Mama's House, Tolleshunt D'Arcy. (2 beds).

Opened on 25th September, 1939, and closed on 29th January, 1940. Number of patients admitted during this period: 7.

Hollywood, Frinton. (2 beds).

Opened in September, 1939, and closed on 17th February, 1940.

The William Julien Courtauld Hospital, Braintree. (10 beds).

Dalehouse Maternity and Nursing Home, Leigh-on-Sea. (10 beds).

Arrangements were made to utilise the existing available accommodation as required.

It was also necessary to accommodate the following evacuated Nursery Parties and arrangements were made accordingly:—

St. Paul's Nursery, London Docks.

This Nursery was divided into two Parties which were accommodated in private houses where the owners were also in occupation :—

- (a) Walden Place, Saffron Walden (13 cots).
- (b) Colne House, Earls Colne (19 cots).

Subsequently the party at Earls Colne was transferred to the White House, Ongar, where there was accommodation available for 30 children.

St. Luke's Nursery, Holloway, London.

This Party was housed at the Mill House, Pebmarsh (25 cots), but subsequently transferred to Newton Hall, Dunmow, where the available accommodation is for 45 children.

Prior to their evacuation, these Nurseries were controlled by Voluntary Committees and conferences were arranged between the Voluntary Committees concerned, the Ministry of Health, and the Essex County Council. The necessary arrangements were made in regard to the financial position whereby the Essex County Council has undertaken to be financially responsible for the Parties, charging all expenditure to the Evacuation Account.

In view of the large number of evacuated school children and children under school ge received into Essex, it has been necessary in accordance with Circular No. 1882; the Ministry of Health, to establish Sick Bays in various parts of the County. Since 339, of course, the position has changed considerably and it will be seen from the ollowing information that a number of Sick Bays are at the time of writing this eport no longer in existence:—

Wakes Colne Old Rectory. (8 beds; later increased to 20 beds).

Opened in November, 1939. Closed on 14th August, 1940.

Michaelstow Hall, Dovercourt. (40 beds).

Ceased to be used as an improvised Maternity Home in November, 1939, and was continued as a Sick Bay. Subsequently closed in May, 1940.

Mabel Greville Home, Walton. (23 beds).

Before the war this Home was a Convalescent Home under the auspices of the Invalid Children's Aid Association. It was used as a Sick Bay for contagious cases from October, 1939, to May, 1940, when it was closed.

Campions, Harlow. (14 beds).

These premises, used until January, 1940, as an improvised Maternitt Home, were converted into a Sick Bay and are still in use for this purpose.

Childhaven, Hutton. (12 beds).

This is a Convalescent Home run by the East Ham Mission and as arrangement has been made, with the approval of the Ministry of Health whereby 12 beds are available for sick evacuees.

COMBINED MEDICAL SERVICE.

No material changes were made in this Service during the year. Dr. J. L. Milled Wood having been mobilised, his duties as Medical Officer of Health for Maldon II and Burnham-on-Crouch U. have been undertaken temporarily by Dr. J. L. R. Phillip and Dr. L. B. Light respectively.

On the resignation of Dr. J. Hatton in the Braintree and Dunmow Area, Dr. W. ... Moffat was appointed as and from 14th September, 1939, as Combined Medical Office for this area.

COMBINED TREATMENT CENTRES.

The County Council's usual practice of establishing about six new Combined Treatment Centres per year has had to be curtailed and during the year under review the following Combined Treatment Centres have been opened:—

 Centre.
 Date.

 Buckhurst Hill
 ..
 ..
 15th March, 1939.

 Rochford
 ..
 ..
 4th May, 1939.

In several cases Combined Treatment Centres have been converted into First Ai.

Posts and arrangements have been made for the use of alternative premises for the
carrying on of the various Clinics.

PART IV.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

eneral.

As in the case of the Public Health Hospital Service, the functions of the eleven ublic Assistance Institutions in the County have been largely subordinated to the eeds of the Emergency Hospital Scheme.

ree Choice of Doctor Scheme.

The extension of the Free Choice of Doctor Scheme alluded to in the Report for e year 1938 was postponed owing to the outbreak of war, but at the time of writing ere is every indication that it may be possible for the scheme to be further extended from 1st January, 1941. Further particulars will be given in a subsequent port.

BIRTHS, DEATHS, ANNUAL RATES, &c., 1839.

TABLE VII.

9

17,703 10.0 3 0.80 89.0 01.0 9.9 3,274 Dagge at Vanious Ages 2 2 : - 0 0 2 2 2 2 0 0 1 1 1 0 V 029 124 22 175 87 8.8 - 0 0 4 20 - 21 - 10 88 萨什舞声的 计三点页号符号设置 医自由点点 保持者的 医鸡蛋白香酸 三甲亚 89 8 0 8 - 8 - 1 - 8 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 4 - 4 6 WILLIAM TON adult svil S 11,000 11 Adjusted Topulation. 1961 254,982 HARLING H.

BEATHER ...

BRAITER ST.

BRAITER AND BEGENO

BRANTHER AND COLUMN

CHARLING CANADAM

CANADAM R.

CHARLING R. THERMOCK ... WALTERM HOLT CROSS WALTHAMSTOW B.
WENT MENNEA. CENTRY PARADO
CENTRATOR II. ...
CHESTOR III. ...
CHESTOR III. ...
CHESTOR III. ...
DAGINGAR II. ...
ETING
ET URBAN. POTAL.

Characters State MAIN 15,000	RURAL										-	-	-																
Name		900'00	16,378	15,550	16,210			R	10	9	-			0			8	3	8	32	10-6	12.5	0.12	90.0	64.0		10.7	168	90
Table Name		86,006	27,836	31,230	32,440	497	2	12	13	99	*	_		-	_	-	12	98	128	360	15.9	11.0	0.03	0.15	0.50		9.3	88	35
B. Wilsonian B. M. W. M.		72,487	15,320	16,220	17,150	81	00	181	10	10	_					-	8	0	65	183	14.1	10.7	0.12	0.29	0.93		60.00	22	43
Western		34.531	13,376	15,570	16,100	-	10	173	40	9	-	_		1000		_	8	94	3	175	14.3	10.7	90.0	0.25	1.18		60	522	38
Carata C		200'51	15,997	15,530	16,640	35	90	152	10	01	-				-	6	7	2	H	241	6.11	15.6		0.25	12		1114	186	54
The control of the co	NOK	200'00	19,418	19,830	20,460	38		222	11	11	-	1	1		_		8	25	8	225	17.2	11.1	0.10	10.0	0.00		90	281	22
		2000	13,348	13,530	13,740	3	00	22	-			_		2000	_		H	9	13	184	11.4	13.5	1	0.33	1.00	0.75	10.1	92	12
Turns 1359 14,579 15,000 20,113,0		200	11,323	12,610	13,340	174	6	131	10	15	-	_				_	8	34	4	139	13.8	8.6	20.0	0.01	1.00	0.00	90	173	3
Total Billion		28 500	13,950	16,920	17,300	251	13	181	12	20	04	-		_	_	-	7	¥	8	184	14.8	10.6	0.13	000		0.73	7	233	8
TOCATE TAKEN TAKEN TOCATE TAKEN TOCATE TOCATE TOCATE TOCATE TOCATE TOCATE TAKEN TAKE		(N 30)	290'01	13,790	16,220	308	*	221	9	9	-	-	-				%	3	8	223	19.1	13.6	1	0.18		0.74	10.1	500	8
700.402 1141,475 110, 400.300 2,677 110 2,456 54 54 57 13 50 50 117 33 55 14 57 15 50 50 14 50 15 50 1			1000	22,760	81 21	ñ	22	98	10	œ	1		101		-	-	8	12	130	200	11.5	12.5	10.0	-		0.81	101	364	81
TOTAL SECTION 1. TOTAL TOTAL SECTION 1.		702,412		195,680		1196	55	2,426	8	8	1	1 200	1	-	1 80	1	25	3	1 % S	19.430	187	12.0			10-0	0.00		1	1 3
900,464 1,180,004 1,1817.00 1,2817.00 2,467 730 730 730 730 730 730 730 730 730 73		206,982	1,004,325	1,222,300	1,152,500		复	11,288	-						- 8	_ CE				11,308	14.7	10			8.0	91		1 100	3 8
1.17.700 1.28.1.90 10.603 602 18.756 726 726 726 720 200 280 602 726 7.298 7.191 7.306 4192 13.756 1446 0-0 0-0 0-0 0-0 0-0 0-0 0-0 0-0 0-0 0-	COUNTY COUNTY CONTRACTOR	909,464	1 100 001	120,000	202,310	_		2,436	-	1	-				8	166	333	3	918	2,436		12.0	90.0		-	0.20		82.7	98
			Harrison .	1,417,900	1,291,900		200		-	-	-		-		_		191	28.5	1619	12 784	9.71	9							1

	BERRAIES, DEVINES,

17,703 2,739 10.0 9.6 1.65 1.05 0.30 0.20 0.20 0.20 1.10 0.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 0.80 0.83 0.70 ANNUAL RATES PER 1,000 - ENTINATED POPULATION. 87.0 92.0 0.48 9.40 0-40 0-12 0-10 0-10 0.10 0110 0020 0030 000 000 0.16 0.09 0.04 0.12 0.03 0.05 0.06 0.12 0.12 90.0 0.10 9.6 9.6 13.5 10.7 10.7 10.6 13.5 13.6 13.6 12.5 12.5 12.0 2,436 13.7 2,436 13.7 13,784 14·6 3,274 3,274 4,192 918 2,731 3 3,365 333 8 3 DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES 1,127 8 8 3 3 6 3 8 6 3 8 2 8 1,238 &co., 8 8 099 18 ANNUAL RATES, 421 £ E 655 212 3 8 3 8 TABLE VII. 83 2 8 8 6 9 4 4 6 2 1 175 13 81 82 22 22 21 2 2 8 84 DEATHS, 2 8 8 - 8 - 0 83 陈 5 5 5 6 6 1 1 4 8 3 3 3 3 3 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 7 8 8 9 8 1 6 8 8 85 88 75 35 88 98 1 25 11,258 2,426 BIRTHS. 105 B 8 200 2,677 8 2,677 3 2 8 8 8 8 4 4 8 8 16,710 17,150 16,010 16,010 18,740 13,740 17,300 17,300 16,220 16,220 1,004,225 1,222,300 1, 2 194,679 190,600 4 1,189,004 1,417,900 1 195,600 154,679 16,378 27,338 21,339 21,339 21,348 21 702,482 102,482 Total Boso & Unaan 23
Total Reaal Dermora 70
Total Abstructure 9 BANCHO B.
RESTIER
BILLERGA ...
BILLERGA AND BOOLING
BRANCHOOLE
BROWNINGOOLE
CANTH MAAND ...
CHEAMPORD B. RATION B.

RATION WAINER B.

THENDON WAINER B.

THENDON WAINER B.

WAINEROON WAINER B.

WAINEROON WOODEN
WHON MENSEL AND WOODEN
WHON MENSEL B.

WHEN MENSEL B. DACISSIAM B.
Epiess
Frince and Walton URBAN. SAFFRON WALDEN TENDRING CHEMNORD B.
CREOWELL
CREOWERL
CLACTOR ON SKA
COLCENERT B.
DAGESHAM B.

8

2 2 2

E Infant Montality Rade per 3,000 Births.

PART V

-					CAPACITATE DESCRIPTION.
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42

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND ATTACK RATES.

52 WEERS ENDED 30TH DECEMBER, 1939.

(Figures obtained from the Weekly Notification Returns).

	ESTIMATED POPULATION.	Seamer	Pavin.	Duran	mu.	ENTERIC	Faves.	PURIFERIAL PURIEXTA	Haven	PELAS.	OPETHALMA NEONATORESE.	Рикси	ONEA.	ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.	ACTUE POLICORVELITIS.	Maa	ISLES.	WHOOTE	so Coron.	Various.	To
	(DEATH-RATE).	No.	Per 1,000.	No.	Per 1,000.	No.	Per 1,000.	No.	No.	Per 1,000.	No.	No.	Per 1,000.	No.	No.	Up to 17-10-39.	From 23-10-39.		From 23-10-39.	No.	
URBAN.																					
ING B	73,880 16,920	192	2.00	91 22	0.12 1.30	3	0.03	10	28 6	0.38	3 1	76 5	0.30	=	1	1	2	1	1		1
RECAY	35,550	40	1.12	28	0.79	1	0.03	7 2	4	0.11		18	0.51	1	=	_	7	_	1 2	24	1
	28,570	26 80	2.80	28	0.08	-		3	7	0.24		16	0.56	1			-	-	4	82	
	4,435 3,621	1	0.23	1	0.23	Ξ			2	0.55		8	0.55			-			-	19	
XY ISLAND	6,204	35	0.16	6 9	0.97	9	0.78	4	5	0.15	7	13	0.40	1	12	=	1	=	3		
MESFORM BL	24,900	23	0.92	24	0.96 0.68	2	0.08	1	3 10	0.12		9 28	0.36		1	=	6 3	1		- 1	
DOX-OX-SEA	38,160	144	3.78 0.62	26 19	0.80	-	-	1	2	0.08	-	54	1.04		1			61	1 9	27 95	
HESTER B.	51,810	271	0.85	121	0.15	=	=	20 26	17 51	0.49	1	113	1.08			-	2		5	- 1	
80	6,012	35 12	5.82	10	1.66 0.51	7	0.13	4	10 2	1.66 0.26	7	29 5	4.82 0.64		1	=	1			4 7	
	6,102	- 6	0.98	-	-	1	0.16		5 3	0.82 0.24		-	0.56		=	=					
SCHTECH	12,570	210	0.87 2.58	27	0.16	1	0.12	7	21	0.26	6	86 185	1.05			-	4 6		14	38	
ко В	161,600	370 234	2.29	95 148	0.59	11	0.07	49 20	70 45	0.43	6	83	0.75	-	2	-	2		3	13.	
oon B	9,261	11	1.19	16	1.73	-	-	1 0	2 3	0.22		2 7	0.22		1	=	1			3	
rous B.	8,024 57,750	79	1.00	45	0.78	1	0.02	41	20	0.35	1	27	0.47		1	2	1	1	4	5	
PEON WALDEN B	6,589	190	0.30 2.86	5 53	0.76	ī	0.01	16	13	0.19		42	0.62				2		- 1	11	
THAN HOLY CROSS	123,900	31 192	4.29 1.55	35	0.41	3	0.02	38	53	0.28	3	147	0.56 1.19	=		6	2		- 3	6	
NATEAR AND WOODFORD B	53,200	52	0.98	22	0.41	3	0.06	8	12	0.23	3	28	0.53						3	-	
ST MERSEA	2,545	6 4	2.36 0.53	8	0.39	400	-	-	1	0.13	-	4	0.53				=				
ESHOE	2,945	- 6	2.67	2	0.89	-	_	1	1	0.45											
Total	,, 1,192,500	2,365	1.98	863	0.72	40	0.03	274	401	0.34	40	107	0.84	3	10	9	43	64	50	308	54
RURAL.																					
MINTREE	16,210	44	2.71	5 22	0.31		0.12	2 5	1 6	0.06	1	3	0.25				-		2	9	
EMSTORD	32,440 17,150	43 8	0.47	1	0.05	3	0.12	3 3	5	0.31	=	17	0.17			=	1		-		
HING	16,100	13	0.81	11	0.68	Ξ	=	3	1 -	-	200	3 19	0.18		-		- 1	-	3 1		
COEN AND WINSTERS	20,460	26	1.27	11	0.54	2	0.10	1	1 1	0.19	- 1	8	0.58	-	î		1			= 1	
048	13,340	16	1.20	9	0.67	1 2	0.07	6	15	0.45	-	13	0.52	=	1		1		1		
WOOD	17,300	19	1.10	28	1.62 0.18	-	and.	2	3	0.13	=	3	0.13				1			1	
SIMUSO	23,270	57	2.45	7	0,50	-	-	6	3	0.13							4	-	8	3	
TOTAL	202,300	263	1.30	102	0.50	11	0.54	30	42	0.21		82	0.61								
al-Borouges and Unean Distant	rs . 1,192,500	2365	1.98	863	0.72	40	0.03	274	401	0.34	40	997	0.84	3	10	9	43	61	50	3/6	34
TAL-RURAL DISTRICTS	202,300	263	1.30	102	0.50	11	0.54	30	42	0.21	5	82	0.41	-	.5						-
OTAL FOR ADMISSISSATIVE COUNTY				1000000		-	and the second second	304	443	0.32	45	1079	0.37	3	15	- 9	47	65	67	311	100

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