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24611(3) Dunmow

# Dunmow Rural District



# REPORT

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

**A. P. KALRA**

M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H., D.C.H.

FOR THE YEAR

**1950**

TOGETHER WITH THE

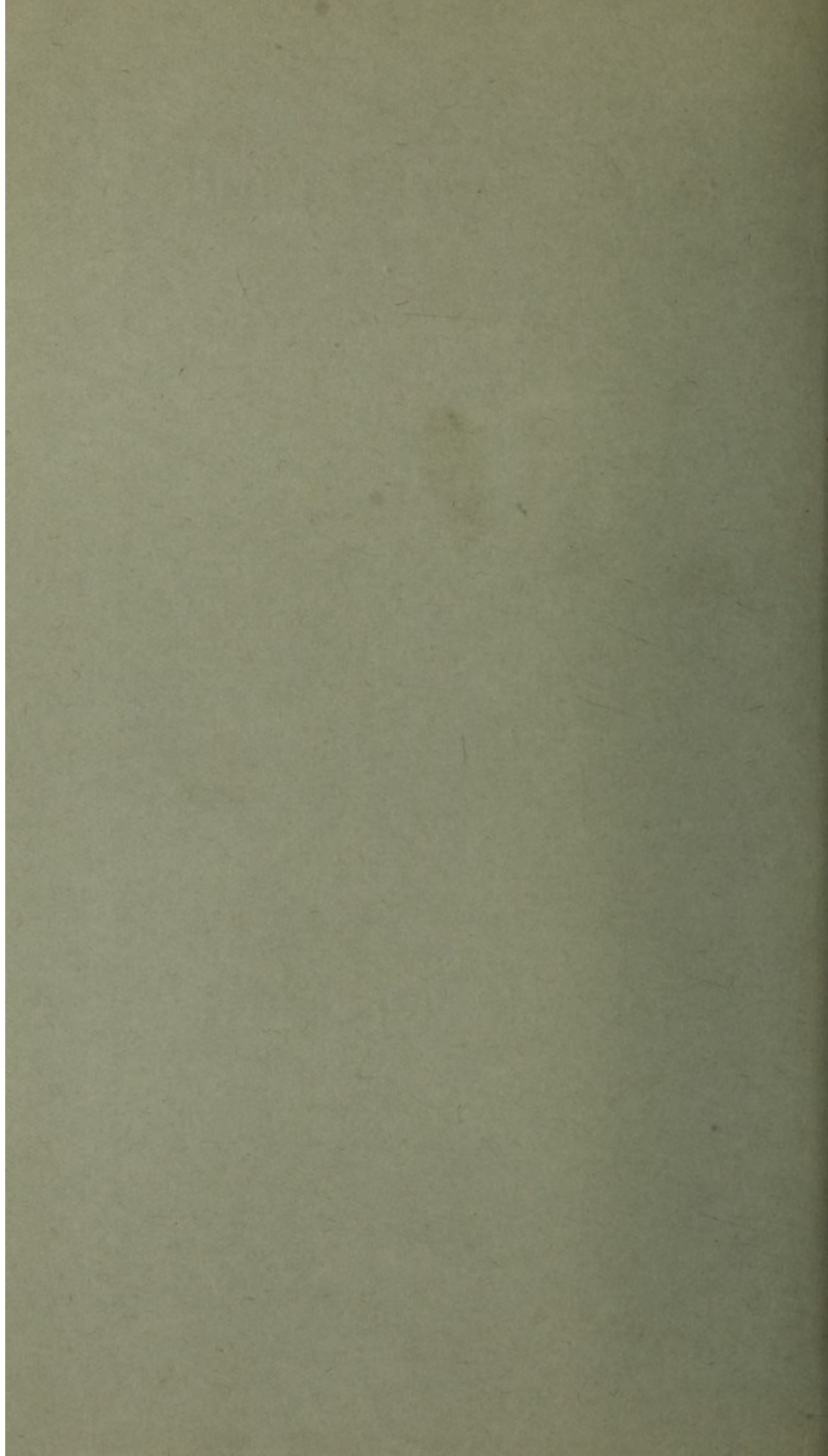
# REPORT

OF THE

**Chief Sanitary Inspector**

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N. G. Davey,  
16 High Street, Dunmow





# Dunmow Rural District Council

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Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

### Additional Sanitary Inspector:

R. P. MAY, CERT.R.SAN.I. & S.I.E.J.B.  
Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

### Additional Sanitary Inspector:

J. E. FANNON, CERT.R.SAN.I. & S.I.E.J.B.  
Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

### Housing Inspector:

J. P. BURTON

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### Chief Sanitary Inspector

H. B. GARDNER, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector of Milk and Other Foods

### Additional Sanitary Inspectors

R. T. MAY, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector of Milk and Other Foods

### Additional Sanitary Inspectors

J. A. BAKER, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector of Milk and Other Foods

### Housing Inspector

J. B. HUTTON

### Chief Clerk

M. H. LARSON



PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,  
TOWN HALL,  
BRAINTREE.

July, 1951

MR CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1950, on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Dunmow Rural District.

The birth rate was 15.6 and the death rate 11.7 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

The total number of infectious diseases notified during the year was less than in 1949 and the most prevalent disease was whooping cough.

The section on the General Provision of Health Services sets out the services provided by the Essex County Council, the North East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board and the Essex Executive Council.

The care of old people in the district is becoming an increasing problem, especially those old people living by themselves in unsatisfactory accommodation. The need for more old people's dwellings must be seriously considered in the future building programme.

A certain amount of progress has been made by local voluntary workers in the parishes in looking after old people living in their homes. The problem becomes really acute when an aged person is unable to look after himself or herself, is living in insanitary conditions, and it becomes necessary to apply to a Magistrate's Court for an Order to remove the said person from his home to a hospital or an old people's home. Such a case actually occurred in March, the details of which appear in the report.

An experiment in Health Education was made in Dunmow, in May, by holding a film show and exhibition in connection with Food Hygiene, but the number of persons who attended was disappointing.

In conclusion, I should like to thank the members of the Council, the Council's Officers, and in particular, the staff of the Public Health Department, for their help and co-operation throughout the year.

I am, Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. P. KALRA



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
THE COUNCIL OFFICES,  
DUNMOW,

June, 1951

MR CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you the annual report of the work of the Department during the year of 1950.

Progress on Housing almost maintained the rate of the previous year, 76 houses being completed against 78 in 1949. At the end of the year 42 houses were under construction and 80 houses were allocated but were not in contract, making a total of 122 houses.

With regard to Water Supply, the laying of some 26 miles of new main under Contract P.L.15 was completed. The trial borehole at Elsenham Road, Thaxted failed and a new site near Armitage Bridge was explored and appeared to be satisfactory. The diesel driven ram pump at Dunmow Waterworks was removed and an automatic electrically operated submersible pump was installed in its place.

No change in Sewerage and Sewage Disposal took place during the year but a tender for the Stebbing scheme was approved and a tender for the modernisation of Dunmow Sewage Disposal Works was submitted to the Ministry for approval.

In conclusion I would like to thank the Council for their confidence and the staff for their loyalty and assistance during the year.

I remain, Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. B. GARDNER,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.



## General Statistics

Area (in acres) ... ..	72,511
Estimate of Resident population in mid-1950 ...	18,870
Number of Inhabited Houses according to rate books (as at 31st March, 1950)	6,123
Rateable Value ... ..	£83,180
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (as at 31st March, 1950)	£348 10s. 1d.

### Social Conditions.

In the Rural District the main industry is agriculture. There are also a few factories in the district, such as the Beet Sugar Factory at Felsted, the Sweet Factory at Thaxted, and the Bacon Factory and the Brewery at Great Dunmow, and some Service Department installations, which provide employment for considerable numbers in the respective neighbourhoods.

In the summer and autumn there are numbers of migratory workers in the District temporarily engaged in agricultural work.

As was to be expected in such a Rural District, unemployment was almost totally absent apart from seasonal changes of occupation. There was no evidence that any industry gave rise to conditions prejudicial to health.

## Vital Statistics

On page 8 are set out extracts from the Vital Statistics of the District for the ten-year period 1941-1950 in regard to the estimated mid-year populations, and the local and national birth and death rates for each year during that time.

### Births.

In the year 1950 there were 294 live births in the Rural District and these were as follows:—

	Males	Females
Total	138	156
Legitimate	130	149
Illegitimate	8	7

The birth rate was 15.6 per 1,000 of estimated resident population and is higher than that of last year.



### Still Births.

There were 5 still births registered in 1950 and these were as shown below:—

	Males	Females
Total	4	1
Legitimate	4	1
Illegitimate	—	—

### Deaths.

The number of deaths relating to the Rural District during 1950 was 221, of which 124 were males and 97 were females. The death rate was 11.7 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, this rate being higher than the previous two years but lower than that of 1947. The details of the nett deaths in the district in 1950 are given on page 7.

It will be seen that the percentage of deaths occurring in the age group from 65 years upwards was 75% and that Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory system accounted for nearly half of the total deaths and that cancer was again the next important cause of death.

### Infant Deaths.

There were 5 deaths of infants under 1 year of age and of these 4 occurred during the first four weeks of life.

The infant mortality rate was 17.1 per 1,000 live births and was the lowest for 10 years.

The causes of infant deaths were prematurity, pulmonary atelectasis, and broncho-pneumonia.

## DEATHS

### DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING THE YEAR 1950

All	under	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75
Ages	1										& up
221	5	2	—	1	3	—	5	13	27	47	118

### DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, 1950

The Table below was compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar-General and the classification is given under the 36 headings based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948.

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	3	2
2. Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease ... ..	—	—
4. Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
5. Whooping cough ... ..	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—
8. Measles ... ..	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	5	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..	5	3
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	3
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	20	4
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	1	3
16. Diabetes ... ..	—	3
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	7	18
18. Coronary disease, angina ... ..	18	11
19. Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	1	2
20. Other heart disease ... ..	17	18
21. Other circulatory disease ... ..	6	5
22. Influenza ... ..	—	—
23. Pneumonia ... ..	8	3
24. Bronchitis ... ..	4	2
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..	3	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	1	—
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	—	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	1	—
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	7	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	—
31. Congenital malformations ... ..	—	—
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	13	13
33. Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	1	—
34. All other accidents ... ..	2	4
35. Suicide ... ..	—	—
36. Homicide and other operations of war ... ..	1	—
All causes ... ..	124	97



# EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1950 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

YEAR	BIRTHS			DEATHS												
	Population estimated mid-year	NETT			Total number registered in District	TRANSFER- ABLE		Under 1 year of age				NETT				Natural increase (excess of births over deaths)
		Number	Rate	Rate—England and Wales		Of Non- residents registered in District	Of Residents not registered in District	Number	Rate per 1,000 net. births	Rate—England and Wales	Number	Rate	Rate—England and Wales			
														At all ages		
1941	18,970	247	13.0	13.9	162	8	44	15	53	x60	246	12.9	13.5	1		
1942	18,210	270	14.8	15.6	137	5	101	15	55.5	x51	231	12.7	12.3	19		
1943	17,920	310	17.3	16.2	122	7	96	12	38.7	x49	211	11.8	13.0	99		
1944	18,060	302	16.7	17.7	180	26	79	19	62.9	x45	233	12.9	12.7	69		
1945	17,760	266	14.9	15.9	146	16	95	14	60	x46	225	12.7	12.6	41		
1946	17,810	342	19.2	19.1	146	5	84	12	35.1	x43	225	12.1	12.0	117		
1947	17,980	345	19.2	20.5	154	7	90	7	20.3	x41	237	13.2	12.3	108		
1948	18,490	309	16.8	17.9	126	1	73	8	25.9	x34	198	10.7	10.8	111		
1949	18,740	270	14.4	16.7	119	3	83	7	25.9	x32	199	10.7	11.7	71		
1950	18,870	294	15.6	15.8	116	6	111	5	17.1	x29.8	221	11.7	11.6	73		

x Rate per 1,000 "related" births



# **General Provision of Health Services**

## **PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS**

For List see page 1.

The Medical Officer of Health is also the Medical Officer of Health for the Urban Districts of Braintree and Witham and for the Rural District of Braintree, and Assistant County Medical Officer to the Essex County Council.

The Braintree and Bocking Urban District Council, by arrangement with the other local authorities concerned, provide office accommodation for the Medical Officer of Health, in the prefabricated annexe of the Town Hall, Braintree.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector also holds the appointment of Surveyor to the Council.

There were no changes in the Staff of the Public Health Department in 1950.

## **SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL**

### **Care of Expectant Mothers.**

Regular ante-natal clinics are held at the Dunmow Combined Treatment Centre, and advice given to expectant mothers by a lady doctor in attendance.

### **Care of Young Children up to School Age.**

Child Welfare Clinics are held in the large villages, and immunisation against diphtheria given with the parents' consent. Children requiring treatment are referred to the local general practitioners, hospitals, or appointments given for the Orthopaedic and Eye Clinics in Braintree or Chelmsford. The dental clinic continued to function at the Combined Treatment Centre in Great Dunmow during the year.

### **Care of School Children.**

Regular school medical inspections are carried out and children with defects are referred for treatment. Reinforcing doses of diphtheria prophylactic are offered to all school children.

### **Health Visiting.**

The Health Visitors visit the homes of young children, act as school nurses and help at the clinics.



### **Home Nursing and Domiciliary Midwifery.**

These services are carried out by the District Nurse Midwives resident in the area.

### **Domestic Help Service.**

Applications for domestic help should be made to the County Medical Officer, County Hall, Chelmsford. This service is not provided free of cost.

### **Ambulance Facilities.**

The whole of the Ambulance Services are now under the control of the Essex County Council and a 24 hour service is available.

### **Care of the Aged and Infirm.**

Residential accommodation is provided at St. Michael's Hospital, Braintree, and at Haymeads Hospital, Bishop's Stortford.

#### **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, SECTION 47**

An application was made, under the provision of the above section of the National Assistance Act, 1948, by the Dunmow Rural District Council, at the Braintree Magistrates' Court in March, 1950, for the removal of a retired farmer, aged 84 years, from his home at Felsted.

The man was aged and infirm and living in insanitary conditions and was in need of care and attention. The case was contested by his Trustees and the Court accepted an undertaking that he would be properly looked after and the house kept clean by a resident housekeeper.

### **Laboratory Services.**

The Essex County Council provide a laboratory service which includes the bacteriological and chemical analysis of water samples, the chemical analysis of sewage effluents and the bacteriological examination of milk and ice cream, and the examination of other foods for pathogenic organisms. These examinations are carried out by the Counties' Public Health Laboratories, 66 Victoria Street, London, S.W. Examination of milk samples from the District are also arranged by the Essex County Council and the service is provided by the Essex Institute of Agriculture at Writtle, near Chelmsford.

Chemical examinations of foodstuffs are undertaken by the Public Analyst to the Essex County Council.



## **SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE NORTH EAST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD**

The hospitals are managed by the Regional Hospital Board and provide medical, surgical and special treatment. The hospitals which serve the Dunmow population are those in Chelmsford, Braintree, Bishop's Stortford and Saffron Walden. The latter is administered by a different Regional Hospital Board. Usually patients are admitted to the particular hospital nearest to their homes.

Two Chest Clinics are available for the population of the Rural District. The one in Bishop's Stortford is used by most of the district, whereas the patients from Felsted, Stebbing and Little Bardfield attend the Clinic at Braintree.

Treatment for Venereal Diseases is provided at the Clinics in Bishop's Stortford and Chelmsford.

## **SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE ESSEX EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, this Council provides the general medical, dental, pharmaceutical and the supplementary ophthalmic services through the family doctors, dentists, chemists and opticians in the area.

## **Prevalence of and Control Over Infectious Disease**

The table on page 13 shows the incidence and age distribution of cases of notifiable disease other than tuberculosis, notified in the Dunmow Rural District during 1950. The particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and deaths from the disease are given separately.

A few brief comments are made on the occurrence of some of the infectious diseases.



### **Diphtheria.**

For the second year running there were no cases of diphtheria in the District. This is the reward for a high degree of immunity among infants and school children as a result of the Diphtheria Immunisation Scheme. Local figures show the remarkable achievement of the Public Health Service in preventing diphtheria by offering free immunisation at the Welfare Clinics and Schools.

During the 10 year period 1931 to 1940 there were 30 cases of diphtheria, with one death, whereas during the 10 year period 1941 to 1950, when the Diphtheria Immunisation Scheme was operating, there were only 10 cases of diphtheria with one death.

It is also interesting to note that of the latter cases, with one exception, none of these cases had been immunised and, in the exception it could not be determined if the child had been immunised or not.

### **Measles.**

The incidence of this disease during 1950 was low.

### **Whooping Cough.**

This was the main infectious disease in the district during the year, and only one case was admitted to hospital for treatment.

### **Acute Poliomyelitis.**

Only one isolated case occurred during August in Hatfield Heath. The patient was admitted to an Isolation Hospital for treatment.

### **Scarlet Fever.**

On the whole, the disease was of a mild character and only one case required admission to hospital.

### **Non-notifiable Diseases.**

Of these 26 cases of chicken-pox were notified as occurring among school children.

# NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED IN 1950

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED													Cases admitted to Hospital	Total number of deaths
	At Ages—Years														
	At all under Ages	1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & over		
Scarlet Fever ...	11	—	—	—	1	—	7	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Whooping Cough ...	120	10	9	16	14	22	45	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Measles ...	69	1	5	4	6	8	37	3	2	2	1	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia ...	15	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	1	1	2	5	1	1
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Erysipelas ...	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Infective Hepatitis ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	—	1	1	—	—
Total	227	12	14	21	21	31	93	10	4	7	5	3	6	6	1



## Tuberculosis.

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis reported during the year, and of deaths from the disease in the District are set out in the table below.

Age Periods (Years)		New Cases				Deaths			
		Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25	...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
35-45	...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	...	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
65 and upwards	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Total	...	6	3	—	1	1	2	—	—
		9		1		3		—	

At the end of the year there were 99 cases on the Tuberculosis Register of the District and these were as follows:—

Males		Females	
Respiratory	Non-respiratory	Respiratory	Non-respiratory
33	22	30	14

The Council have continued their policy of giving some measure of priority in housing to families in which there are cases of infective tuberculosis, or cases whose recovery is prejudiced by unsatisfactory housing conditions. Disinfection of premises and bedding, after death or removal from a household of an active case of pulmonary tuberculosis, is offered free by the Council.



## **Health Education**

A special film show and exhibition was held in Dunmow in May, in connection with Food Hygiene. The films shown were "Another Case of Food Poisoning" and "Fly About the House." In the interval a short lecture was given by the Medical Officer of Health and questions answered at the end of the programme. The occasion was an attempt to show the food handlers and the public in the District the basic principles of Food Hygiene.

The exhibition was supplied by the Central Council of Health Education, the Central Public Health Laboratory and the Health Education Department of the Essex County Council.

The Health Education Officer and the Sanitary Inspectors gave considerable assistance in making the show a success, although the number of persons who attended was small.

## **Sanitary Circumstances of the Area**

### **WATER**

The water supplies in the area were adequate and were obtained from the Council's Waterworks at Dunmow and Thaxted, and from the Herts and Essex Water Company.

Regular samples were taken throughout the year and these were found to be satisfactory. Reports on three of these samples by the Counties Public Health Laboratories appear below:

#### **DUNMOW WATERWORKS**

"This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals. The water is very hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. Its organic quality and bacterial purity are of a high standard.

"These results are indicative of a water which is pure and wholesome in character and suitable for public supply purposes."

#### **THAXTED WATERWORKS**

"This sample shows opalescence and deposit due to the presence of a very appreciable trace of iron. The water is neutral in reaction, and free from other metals. It is very hard in character, but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. Its organic quality and bacterial purity are of a high standard.

"These results are consistent with a water which is wholesome in character and suitable for public purposes, apart from the presence of iron, and the disadvantage of the high hardness."



## HERTS & ESSEX WATER COMPANY

"This sample is reasonably clear and bright in appearance, although showing faint opalescence due to the trace of iron present. The water is free from other metals and is neutral in reaction. It is very hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. Its organic quality and bacterial purity are of a high standard.

"These results are indicative of a water which is pure and wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes."

Contracts for mains extensions which were operating in the previous year were completed in 1950. Below is a list of the mains laid:—

- 3" Buttles to Wheats, High Easter  
Newhouse to Pharisee Green, Dunmow  
Trutons, Dunmow  
Hollow Road, Felsted  
Bambers Green to Frogs Hall, Takeley  
Smiths Green to Goodwins, Takeley  
Hamilton Road, Takeley  
Bustard Green to Oxen End, Little Bardfield  
Warwicks to Walkers, White Roding  
Mascallsbury to Waterloo Farm, White Roding  
Hunts to Peppers Green, Margaret Roding  
Tilty to Tilty Grange
- 4" Gatehouse to Philpot End, Dunmow
- 6" Tilty to Broadfans

The total length of mains laid was 18,107 yards.

The trial borehole on land at Totmans Farm, Thaxted was found to be unsatisfactory and a further site was under negotiation at the end of the year at Armitage Bridge. At the close of the year the Minister had not been able to issue authority for loan sanction for £34,000 which was applied for in December, 1949, for the next instalment of main laying, as the Council's proposals for a borehole were not yet settled.

### Quantities of Water pumped:

Thaxted	...	...	124,814,100 gallons
Dunmow	...	...	25,228,600 gallons
			<hr/>
			150,042,700 gallons
			<hr/>

### New connections:

No. of houses connected to the Council's water mains	during 1950			173
No. of metered supplies	...	...	...	26
No. of repaired services	...	...	...	68
No. of main repairs	...	...	...	20

## RAINFALL

The rainfall as recorded at Thaxted Waterworks is given below:

January	0.66	Heaviest Fall: 0.8 inch on 6th May
February	3.57	
March	0.45	
April	1.44	
May	2.37	
June	1.67	Longest period of drought: 17 days from 28th February to 16th March
July	3.20	
August	1.30	
September	3.23	
October	0.45	
November	3.95	
December	1.35	
<hr/>		
23.64 inches		
<hr/>		

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

During the year, 44 premises were connected to the sewer:

Great Dunmow	12	Thaxted	12
Hatfield Broad Oak	1	Little Canfield	2
Hatfield Heath	13	Little Dunmow	4



### **Stebbing Sewerage Scheme.**

Tenders for the carrying out of Stebbing Sewerage scheme were obtained and the Minister's approval to accept a tender of £62,000 was given on 28th November, 1950.

### **Great Dunmow Sewage Works—Modernisation.**

The Minister's approval was given to the acceptance of a tender of £31,000 for this work but the tender was subsequently withdrawn.

Neither of the above schemes had been awarded a starting date by the end of the year.

### **Upper Chelmer Valley Scheme.**

At the close of the year your Consultants were busily engaged in preparing documents for inviting of tenders for the construction of this scheme.

Pollution of streams were as set out in the Report for 1949, as under:—

#### **CHELMER WATERSHED.**

Chelmer at Thaxted, Duton Hill, Great and Little Easton and Great Dunmow.

Barnston Brook at Barnston.

Stebbing Brook at Bran End, Church End and Town Mill, Stebbing.

#### **LEE WATERSHED.**

Pincey Brook at Takeley Street.

With regard to the Lee Watershed the position was somewhat complex, as the Lee Conservancy Catchment Board and the Metropolitan Water Board were unable, having regard to the general state of the River Lee, to permit the Council to discharge sewage effluent into the Pincey Brook, so that whilst the Council are prepared to take steps to abate the pollution of the Pincey Brook in their area they are in fact prevented from doing so.

Samples from Felsted Sewage Works continued to be of a borderline character. Dunmow and Thaxted were very unsatisfactory but Hatfield Heath and Hatfield Broad Oak yielded very satisfactory samples.



## PUBLIC CLEANSING

The collection was maintained during the year:—Weekly in Lighting Areas; Fortnightly in the Non-Lighting Areas.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The Council's Sanitary Inspectors made 2,179 visits and inspections in the course of the year. Details of these are given below:—

Housing and Public Health Acts ... ..	993
Complaints (other than dwelling houses) ... ..	66
Slaughterhouses ... ..	159
Other Meat and Food visits ... ..	46
Shops Acts ... ..	110
Milk and Dairies ... ..	21
Factories ... ..	41
Tents, Vans and Sheds ... ..	233
Places of Amusement ... ..	1
Schools ... ..	24
Offensive Accumulations ... ..	5
Infectious Diseases Prevention ... ..	16
Water supplies ... ..	50
Drainage ... ..	46
Cesspools, Septic Tanks, and Pail closets ... ..	7
Sewage Disposal ... ..	137
Refuse Disposal ... ..	13
Rodent Control ... ..	211

### Nuisances Detected and Notices Served.

Nuisances detected ... ..	117
Informal notices served ... ..	63
Notices outstanding 1st January, 1950 ... ..	36
Notices outstanding 31st December, 1950 ... ..	28
Statutory Notices served ... ..	Nil
Legal Proceedings ... ..	Nil

### Shops.

No formal action was necessary during the year.



## FACTORIES

Particulars of the premises registered by the Council under the Factories Act, 1937, and of the inspections made are to be found as follows:—

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	35	34	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. ..	69	43	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Total	104	77	—	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

PARTICULARS	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	1	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperatures (S.3.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) ... ..	2	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7.) ... ..					
(a) insufficient ... ..	3	1	—	1	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ... ..	8	2	—	2	—
(c) not separate for sexes ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to out-workers) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Total	14	3	—	3	—

## TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

At the end of the year, in addition to seasonal workers in agriculture, sites were used at:

				Type of Dwelling				Total No. of Occupants	
PARISH		No. of Sites	No. of Sites in use pre-war	Caravans	Tents	Huts	Buses	Adults	Children
Takeley	...	11	1	14	3	2	—	27	13
Great Dunmow	...	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
Great Canfield	...	3	1	4	—	—	—	7	—
Hatfield Broad Oak	...	2	1	6	2	1	—	10	8
Stebbing	...	3	3	5	1	3	—	15	7
Little Canfield	...	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
Felsted	...	8	3	9	—	1	—	17	4
Barnston	...	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	—
Lindsell	...	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
Thaxted	...	5	—	3	—	1	1	9	3
White Roding	...	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
Total		37	9	45	6	9	1	94	35

Thirty-five of the sites have access to main water supply and lavatory accommodation is a Pail Closet in each case. On the remaining two sites the water supply is from wells.



## **RODENT CONTROL**

The Council's officers dealt with some 37 complaints regarding infestations by rats.

## **VERMIN**

Ten premises were disinfested during the year, two for flies, six for fleas and two for bugs. The standard form of treatment was spray with a 5% solution of D.D.T. and Gammexane Smoke Generators. No major problem occurred.

## **Housing**

During the year 269 houses were inspected and recorded, the work being mainly confined to the parishes of High Easter, Tilty and Great Easton.

The number of Council houses completed during 1950 was 76. Those built by private enterprise numbered 21 and there were also 24 conversions by private enterprise. At the close of the year there were 42 houses actively under construction. A further 80 were authorised but not under construction. The number of applications for Council houses at 31st December, 1950, was 376.

## **Inspection and Supervision of Food**

### **MEAT INSPECTION**

No change took place in this branch of Public Health work. The Dunmow Bacon Factory continued to kill and the inspections were carried out by the Council's meat and food Inspectors.

Amount of Carcase meat condemned in Butchers' shops was 128 lbs.

### Carcases inspected and condemned:

	Dunmow Bacon Factory Pigs	Pigs	Private Slaughterhouses Sheep	Calves
Number killed	52,176	619	4	4
Number inspected	52,176	619	4	4
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis</i>				
Whole carcases condemned	38	1	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	7,342	3	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	14.10%	0.65%	—	—
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>				
Whole carcases condemned	132	1	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,630	8	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	3.40%	1.45%	—	—

### OTHER FOOD

During the year the following foodstuffs were found upon inspection in shops, etc., to be unfit for human consumption:—

Fish	10½ stone	Tinned Milk	137 tins
Bacon	6½ lbs.	Tinned fish	15 tins
Cheese	11½ lbs.	Tinned meats	57 tins
Dried Fruit	40 lbs.	Tinned fruit	49 tins
Butter	89 lbs.	Tinned vegetables	40 tins
Eggs	48 doz.	Miscellaneous	
Ham	22 lbs	Tinned Foods	31 tins
Ice Cream		50 bricks	



## BAKEHOUSES

The number of Bakehouses in operation at the end of the year was 15. No unsatisfactory conditions existed other than occasional neglect of limewashing which was dealt with as a routine matter.

## FOOD HYGIENE

The Council decided to adopt Model Byelaws, relating to the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air, made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Regular visits were made to food premises and advice given to food handlers. There were no cases of food poisoning in the district during the year.

## OTHER FOOD

During the year the following foodstuffs were found upon inspection in shops etc. to be unfit for human consumption.

Fish	101 stone	Tinned Milk	137 tins
Bacon	64 lbs	Tinned fish	12 tins
Chicken	111 lbs	Tinned meats	27 tins
Dried Fruit	40 lbs	Tinned fruit	49 tins
Butter	89 lbs	Tinned vegetables	40 tins
Eggs	48 doz	Miscellaneous	
Ham	22 lbs	Tinned Foods	31 tins
Ice Cream		20 bricks	

