

**[Report 1955] / Medical Officer of Health, Dunmow R.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Great Dunmow (England). Rural District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1955

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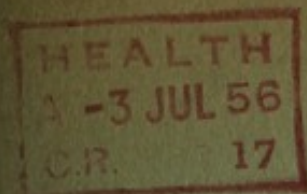
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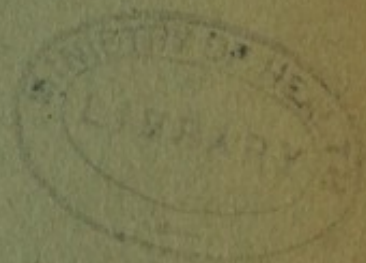
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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DUNMOW

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ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
for the year  
1955  
together with the  
REPORT  
of the  
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR







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J. J. J. J.

J. J. J. J.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health:

C.R.C. RAINSFORD, M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

H.B. GARDNER, M.R.S.H., Cert.R.San.I. and S.I.E.J.B.  
Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

R.P. MAY, Cert.R.San.I. and S.I.E.J.B.  
Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

J. Ward, Cert.R.San.I. and S.I.E.J.B.  
Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

Chief Clerk:

G.H. MASON

Junior Clerk:

Mrs D.E. SANDERS

— — — —

The Chief Sanitary Inspector is also Surveyor to the  
Council.



Public Health Offices,  
Town Hall,  
Braintree.

June, 1956.

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report on the health, vital statistics and sanitary circumstances of the district for 1955. Included is the report of your Chief Sanitary Inspector and, through the courtesy of the Area Medical Officer, I am able to give some particulars with regard to the Child Welfare and Maternity Centres throughout the district. The work done at these Centres is of great value to the district and I feel sure that, although they are no longer under your control, you will find the records of interest.

1955 was a healthy year, the incidence of Infectious Disease was low, the Birth Rate was slightly higher than that of England and Wales, and the Death Rate considerably lower. Further details will be found later in this report.

Housing, water supplies and sewage disposal are dealt with by your Chief Sanitary Inspector and he has mentioned atmospheric pollution. This may surprise some for, as a nation, we are only just beginning to realise that clean air, like clean food and clean water, is important to health. The national campaign against atmospheric pollution is hampered by lack of accurate information and Local Authorities have been asked to set up recording stations to collect data.

In housing you will notice that there is still a fairly acute shortage of houses in parts of the district and there are reckoned to be 767 unfit houses for clearance.

Progress has been made in extending the piped water supply and nearly all areas are now adequately served. All 38 samples analysed proved satisfactory.

To some extent the excellence of your water supplies throws into relief the deficiencies in your sewage disposal works; there are still a number of villages that have to make do with cesspools and other unhygienic contrivances.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

It has not been necessary to take any action under the provisions of this Act during the year.

I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their courtesy and help since I assumed office in May. My thanks also go to the officers of the Council and especially to your Chief Sanitary Inspector whose detailed knowledge of the district I have found so valuable.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

C.R.C. Rainsford

Medical Officer of Health.



## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	...	72,834
(The area of the district was increased during the year by the alteration of boundaries between Great Bardfield in the Braintree Rural District and Little Bardfield)		
Population (Registrar-General's estimate)	...	19,420
Number of houses according to rate books (of which 271 were empty on 10th October)	...	6,333
Rateable value (as at 31st March)	...	£97,358
Sum represented by a penny rate (estimated at 31st March)	...	£400.2.5.

### VITAL STATISTICS

#### Live Births:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Legitimate	301	165	136	
Illegitimate	15	8	7	
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population				... 16.2
Birth rate corrected by comparability figure of 1.05				... 17.01
Birth rate for England and Wales per 1,000 population				... 15.0

#### Still Births:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Legitimate	6	3	3	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	
Rate per 1,000 total births	...			... 18.6
Rate per 1,000 total births England and Wales				... 23.1

#### Maternal Mortality:

Pregnancy, child birth and abortion	...	NIL
-------------------------------------	-----	-----

### Infantile Mortality:

Deaths of infants under 1 year:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Legitimate	6	1	5	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	
Mortality rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	19.9	
Total infantile mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	18.9	
Infantile mortality for England and Wales per 1,000 live births	...	...	24.9	

### Deaths:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
	219	111	108	
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	11.27	
Death rate corrected by comparability figure of 0.82			9.24	
Death rate per 1,000 population England and Wales	...	...	11.7	

All the above rates are calculated on the estimated population given by the Registrar General.



# DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, 1955

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

		Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	1	2
2.	Tuberculosis, other ...	-	-
3.	Syphilitic Disease ...	-	1
4.	Diphtheria ...	-	-
5.	Whooping cough ...	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections ...	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis ...	-	1
8.	Measles ...	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	2	2
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	-	1
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	-	6
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	-	3
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	10	7
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	-	1
16.	Diabetes ...	-	-
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	12	13
18.	Coronary disease, angina ...	37	6
19.	Hypertension with heart disease ...	-	2
20.	Other heart disease ...	15	20
21.	Other circulatory disease ...	4	8
22.	Influenza ...	-	-
23.	Pneumonia ...	2	10
24.	Bronchitis ...	3	4
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	4	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis ...	1	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate ...	2	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations ...	-	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	11
33.	Motor vehicle accidents ...	3	-
34.	All other accidents ...	2	4
35.	Suicide ...	1	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war ...	-	-
All Causes		111	108



## NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS

The estimated 1955 population is 19,420, an increase of 170 on 1954. In 1939, it was 17,150. There were 316 live births, an increase of 5 over 1954 and deaths numbered 219 compared with 192.

Of the 6 infant deaths 3 were premature, one was from heart disease, one from suffocation and one from acute poliomyelitis. The latter was the child of an American service man, whose wife also contracted the disease; she recovered.

Analysis of the general mortality figures show that out of a total of 219 deaths, 117 were due to disease of the cardio-vascular system, and 32 to cancer or other malignant growths. 3 deaths were recorded from pulmonary tuberculosis and 12 from pneumonia, while there were no deaths from influenza, whooping cough or measles.



# GENERAL PROVISIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

(a) Under the control of the Essex County Council:-

(i) Clinics were held at the following Centres during the year:-

			<u>Attendance</u>
GREAT DUNMOW - Essex County Health Services Clinic, New Street.			
Child Welfare.	Every Friday	2 p.m.	1,316
Ante Natal and Women's Welfare.	1st & 3rd Thursdays	10 a.m.	108
Minor Ailments Clinic.	2nd, 4th & 5th Mondays	10 a.m.	1,320
FELSTED - Memorial Hall.			
Child Welfare	2nd & 4th Tuesdays	2.15 p.m.	545
GREAT EASTON - Village Hall.			
Child Welfare	Last Friday	2.15 p.m.	253
HATFIELD HEATH - Trinity Hall.			
Child Welfare	4th Wednesday	2.15 p.m.	276
HIGH EASTER - Village Hall.			
Child Welfare	2nd Wednesday	2.15 p.m.	224
HIGH RODING - Women's Institute.			
Weighing Centre	1st Thursday	2.15 p.m.	250
MARGARET RODING - The Hut.			
Child Welfare	4th Wednesday	2.15 p.m.	227
STEBBING - Congregational Schoolroom.			
Child Welfare	2nd Friday	2.15 p.m.	194
TAKELEY - Congregational Church.			
Child Welfare	2nd Monday	2.15 p.m.	210
THAXTED - Church Hall.			
Child Welfare	1st Friday	2.15 p.m.	268

(ii) Home Help Service:-

This useful service is administered from the Area Health Office,  
Springfield Road, Chelmsford.

(iii) Ambulance Service:-

The Ambulance Station is situated in New Street, Dunmow. A full  
24 hour cover is provided.

(b) Under the control of the North-East Metropolitan  
Regional Hospital Board:-

(i) Chest Clinics:-

These are held at St. Michael's Hospital, Braintree; Haymeads  
Hospital, Bishop's Stortford; and Saffron Walden General Hospital,  
and cater for the needs of the Dunmow population.

(ii) Orthopaedic Clinics:-

The Orthopaedic Specialist from Haymeads Hospital, Bishop's  
Stortford, attends the Dunmow Clinic on 1st Tuesday of the month.



## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

113 cases of Measles were reported during the year; of these, 17 came from Great Dunmow, 22 from High Easter and 19 from Stebbing.

Whooping Cough notifications numbered 22 compared with 106 in 1954; not more than 5 cases were reported from any one village.

The 6 cases of Food Poisoning all came from Great Dunmow. 2 of the sufferers almost certainly picked up the infection, salmonella typhimurium, at a wedding feast outside the district. The other 4 occurred in one family and the cause was not discovered.

3 cases of Enteric Fever were reported. All were treated at home and one patient probably contracted the disease abroad. Enteric Fever is comparatively rare these days, but cases do occur and should remind us to look to our water supplies and sewage disposal.

The 4 cases of Paralytic and 1 of non-paralytic Poliomyelitis all occurred in different parts of the district and it was impossible to find any connection between them. One case, an infant of 6 weeks old died and another child of 2 years died in hospital from a complication.

The prevalence of Infectious Disease, deaths and admissions to hospital is shown in table (a) and for comparison table (b) gives the incidence from 1950 - 1955. Information with regard to age, locality and month by month incidence is shown in tables (c) (d) and (e).

TABLE APREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

DISEASES	Total Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-
Encephalitis	1	1	-
Enteric Fever	3	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	6	1	-
Infective Hepatitis	7	-	-
Measles	113	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-
Pneumonia	12	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	-
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	4	4	1
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	1	1	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	14	7	3
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	22	-	-
Totals	185	15	4



TABLE B

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	19	3	3	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	1	1
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	3
Erysipelas	2	-	-	-	3	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	2	-	-	6
Infective Hepatitis	7	2	2	2	14	7
Measles	69	329	292	294	9	113
Meningococcal Infection	1	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	15	15	13	28	21	12
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	1	1	1
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	2	3	-	4
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	1	1	3	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	11	9	14	14	7	1
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	9	7	14	11	15	14
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	1	3	-	2	2	-
Whooping Cough	120	82	22	114	106	22
Totals	237	449	384	472	182	185

TABLE C  
INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE

DISEASE	At all Ages	Under 1	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 20	20 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 65	65 and over	Age unknown
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Enteric Fever	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	1	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	7	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	1	-	2	-	-
Measles	113	1	16	13	14	6	56	4	1	1	1	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	12	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	3	1	2	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	5	2	1	-
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	22	3	-	2	3	-	13	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Total	185	4	16	16	17	6	73	9	4	16	13	7	3	1



TABLE D  
INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1955

	Total Notified	Aythorpe Roding	Little Bardfield	Barnston	Broxted	Great Canfield	Little Canfield	Chickney	Great Dumow	Little Dumow	Great Easton	Little Easton	Felsted	Great Hallingbury	Little Hallingbury	Hatfield Broad Oak	High Easter	Hatfield Heath	High Roding	Leaden Roding	Lindsell	Margaret Roding	Stebbing	Takeley	Thaxted	Tilty	White Roding
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Measles	113	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	17	1	-	-	5	9	12	4	22	11	2	-	-	-	19	5	4	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	12	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	8	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	14	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	22	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	5	2	-	-	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	2
Totals	185	-	2	2	3	-	2	-	38	2	3	6	11	11	14	11	22	15	2	-	-	-	20	13	5	1	2

TABLE E

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED MONTH BY MONTH

DISEASE	Total notified	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	3	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	6	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	3
Measles	113	20	20	7	21	3	25	14	2	1	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	12	4	2	2	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	14	-	2	-	1	3	4	1	-	1	-	-	2
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	22	-	7	9	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	2
Totals	185	25	32	22	27	6	31	17	6	4	2	3	10



## Tuberculosis

14 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis with 3 deaths were reported in 1955, compared with 14 in 1954. There were no cases of non-pulmonary Tuberculosis. Details are given in the following table

Age Periods		New Cases				Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 2	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 3	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 - 4	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 - 5	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 15	...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 20	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 35	...	4	3	-	-	-	1	-	-
35 - 45	...	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 65	...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	...	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Totals		6	8	-	-	1	2	-	-

Of these cases 6 were cases re-notified on taking up residence in this District.



## Diphtheria

No case of diphtheria was reported during the year; indeed the last case occurred in 1948.

The great decline in the incidence of diphtheria throughout the country is due to the success of the immunisation campaign carried on in past years. There is every reason to believe that a higher immunisation rate would reduce still further the incidence of the disease. There is a risk of complacency and it is necessary to constantly remind parents to have their children immunised. To this end posters and leaflets were distributed throughout the district.

Many parents are also having their children immunised against whooping cough and it is generally agreed that the newest whooping cough vaccine gives a considerable degree of protection.

Immunisations against diphtheria and whooping cough are carried out by general practitioners and by Assistant County Medical Officers. Figures are given below.

### Immunisation against Diphtheria

Children who completed a full course of primary immunisation during the year.		Children who were given a reinforcing injection during the year.	
By General Practitioners	By County Staff	By General Practitioners	By County Staff
(a) 149	104	26	232
Total = 253		Total = 258	



## Immunisation against Whooping Cough

Children who completed a full course of immunisation under the County Scheme		Records of combined diphtheria pertussis immunisation received
By General Practitioners	By County Staff	
21	26	(b) 148
Reinforcing injections -	-	4

Figure (b) is included in (a)

## Vaccination against Smallpox

No. vaccinated during the year = 209

No. re-vaccinated " " " = 55



Public Health Department,

The Council Offices,

Dunmow.

May, 1956.

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you the annual report of the work of the Department during the year of 1955.

The year was somewhat disappointing in the erection of houses. Despite the ending of building licensing the previous year, the number of private houses erected was slightly less than in 1954. The number of council houses built (25) was the lowest since 1946 and compares with 121 built in 1954 and 111 in 1953. This was entirely due to the severe restrictions imposed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government when an allocation of only 30 houses was made for the year. These restrictions were lifted in November and the Council may now build as many houses as they are able. A special meeting to discuss the whole housing position is to be held with special reference to the problems raised by the new Housing Subsidies Bill and the removal of housing allocations.

A comprehensive slum clearance programme was agreed by the Council during the year and was submitted to the Ministry for approval. This envisages the demolition of 767 unfit houses in 10 years. There was a considerable increase in the number of applications for housing improvement grants under the amended provisions of the Housing Act 1949 and this may mean that a number of these unfit houses may be improved and the total problem may be smaller than appears at the moment.

With the practical completion of water main laying contract P.L.17 and the erection of the new water tower at High Easter during the year, the Council's comprehensive scheme for water supply covering the whole district which was first visualised over 20 years ago, was nearing final completion.



Progress in sewerage and sewage disposal was also disappointing and once again no actual work of construction was started during the year. The Upper Chelmer Valley scheme was approved and there is every hope that a start on this work will be made in 1956 but authority to proceed on other schemes is not likely to be given before 1957.

The heavy meat inspection duties of the department continued during the year although the total number of carcasses inspected decreased slightly to 65,897 compared with 79,000 in the previous year. The work included certification duties at deadweight certification centres at two slaughter-houses.

In the field of atmospheric pollution the Council agreed to set up and maintain recording instruments in the district to co-operate in the general scheme in the county for the measurement and recording of pollution.

There was no change in the staff of the Department during the year. Details of the work carried out are set out in the following pages.

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



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER

The water supplies in the area were adequate and were obtained from the Council's boreholes at Mill Lane, Great Dunmow; Borough Bridge, Thaxted and Armitage Bridge, Thaxted. The parishes of Hatfield Broad Oak, Great Hallingbury and Little Hallingbury were supplied by the Herts and Essex Water Company.

38 samples were taken during the year for bacteriological and chemical examination and these were found to be satisfactory. Reports on four of these samples by the Counties Public Health Laboratories appear below:-

#### Dunmow Pumping Station supply

Tap in Dunmow Waterworks 6.12.55.

#### Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance:	Bright with a few mineral particles.	Turbidity:	less than 3
Colour:	Nil	Odour:	slight chlorinous
pH	7.2	Free Carbon Dioxide:	28
Electric Conductivity:	675	Total Solids:	470
Chlorine present as Chloride:	39	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate:	305
Hardness: Total	330	Carbonate	305
		Non-carbonate	25
Nitrate Nitrogen:	0.0	Nitrite Nitrogen:	Absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen: <sup>+</sup>	0.028	Oxygen Absorbed:	0.20
Albuminoid Nitrogen: <sup>+</sup>	0.000	Residual Chlorine:	0.23
Metals:	Absent		

<sup>+</sup> to convert to Ammonia multiply by 1.21

#### Bacteriological Results

No. of Colonies developing on Agar:	1 day at 37°C	2 days at 37°C	3 days at 20°C
	0 per ml.	0 per ml.	... per ml.
	Present in	Absent from	Probable number
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes			
Reaction	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact.coli. (Type I)	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction	... ml.	... ml.	

This sample is practically 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.

15th. December, 1955.

Counties Public Health Laboratories.



Thaxted Pumping Station supply  
(Borough Bridge)

Tap on pumphouse, Thaxted Waterworks

6.12.55.

Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance: Opalescent with a few particles. Microscopic examination shows shows amorphous iron hydroxide with a few threads of Gallionella.

Colour:	filtered: Nil.	Turbidity:	50
Odour:	Slight sulphuretted hydrogen	pH:	7.2
Free Carbon Dioxide:	27	Electric Conductivity:	725
Total Solids:	485	Chlorine present as Chloride:	32
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate:	295	Hardness: Total	410
Carbonate:	295	Non-carbonate:	115
Nitrate Nitrogen:	0.0	Nitrite Nitrogen:	absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen: <sup>+</sup>	0.15	Oxygen Absorbed:	0.60
Albuminoid Nitrogen: <sup>+</sup>	0.035	Residual Chlorine:	...

Metals: Iron: 2.8, Manganese: 0.04, other metals absent.

<sup>+</sup> to convert to ammonia multiply by 1.21

Bacteriological Results

No. of Colonies developing on Agar:	1 day at 37°C 0 per ml.	2 days at 37°C 0 per ml.	3 days at 20°C ... per ml.
	Present in	Absent from	Probable number
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes			
Reaction	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. (Type I)	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction	... ml.	... ml.	

This sample shows opalescence and deposit associated with the appreciable content of iron. The water is neutral in reaction and free from other metals apart from a very minute trace of manganese. It is very hard in character but contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It is of satisfactory organic quality and of a high standard of bacterial purity.

These results are indicative of a water which is wholesome in character and suitable for public supply purposes apart from its content of iron.

15th. December, 1955.

Counties Public Health Laboratories.

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Thaxted Pumping Station supply  
(Armitage Bridge)

Thaxted Pumping Station, Armitage Bridge borehole. 20.6.55.

Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance:	Bright with very few mineral particles.	Turbidity:	less than 3
Colour:	Nil	Odour:	Nil
pH:	7.0	Free Carbon Dioxide:	41



Electric Conductivity:	700	Total Solids:	470
Chlorine present as Chloride:	27	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate:	285
Hardness: Total	410	Carbonate:	285
		Non-carbonate:	125
Nitrate Nitrogen:	0.0	Nitrite Nitrogen:	less than 0.01
Ammoniacal Nitrogen: <sup>+</sup>	0.091	Oxygen Absorbed:	0.05
Albuminoid Nitrogen: <sup>+</sup>	0.000	Residual Chlorine:	0.07
Metals: Iron: 0.08, other metals absent.			

<sup>+</sup> to convert to Ammonia multiply by 1.21.

#### Bacteriological Results

Number of Colonies developing on Agar	1 day at 37°C 0 per ml.	2 days at 37°C 0 per ml.	3 days at 20°C ... per ml.
	Present in	Absent from	Probable number
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes			
Reaction	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. (Type I)	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction	... ml.	... ml.	

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a minute trace of iron. 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, although softening of this water would be advantageous.

29th. June, 1955.

Counties Public Health Laboratories.

#### Herts and Essex Water Company Supply

Tap over sink (main), 11 The Grove, Great Hallingbury. 2.11.55.

#### Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance:	Slight opalescence with a slight light brown flocculent deposit. Microscopic examination shows amorphous iron hydroxide.		
		Turbidity:	3
Colour: filtered:	Nil	Odour:	Nil
pH:	7.2	Free Carbon Dioxide:	27
Electric Conductivity:	640	Total Solids:	430
Chlorine present as Chloride:	26	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate:	300
Hardness: Total	355	Carbonate:	300
		Non-carbonate:	55
Nitrate Nitrogen:	0.0	Nitrite Nitrogen:	absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen: <sup>+</sup>	0.000	Oxygen Absorbed:	0.15
Albuminoid Nitrogen: <sup>+</sup>	0.000	Residual Chlorine:	absent
Metals: Iron: 0.44, other metals absent.			

<sup>+</sup> to convert to Ammonia multiply by 1.21.



### Bacteriological Results

Number of Colonies developing on Agar	1 day at 37°C 4 per ml.	2 days at 37°C 6 per ml.	3 days at 20°C ... per ml.
	Present in	Absent from	Probable number
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes			
Reaction	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. (Type I)	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction	... ml.	... ml.	

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a trace of iron. 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 drinking and domestic purposes.

16th. November, 1955.

Counties Public Health Laboratories.

### Main Water Supplies

On the following page will be found a schedule showing by parishes the houses and estimated population which have main water supplies. The number of houses and estimated population (mid - 1955) supplied by standpipes are also shown.



POPULATION IN EACH PARISH ON MAIN SUPPLY

Parish	No. of houses	Est. Pop. (mid-55)	Houses on main supply	Est. pop. on Main Supply	Houses with Standpipes	Est. pop. supplied by Standpipes
Aythorpe Roding	62	196	41	144	1	3
Little Bardfield	75	231	57	180	1	3
Barnston	99	297	85	270	2	7
Broxted	189	490	158	460	1	4
Great Canfield	127	371	101	323	5	17
Little Canfield	109	338	90	295	3	10
Chickney <sup>+</sup>	11	33	-	-	-	-
Great Dunmow	1185	3674	1086	3460	9	30
Little Dunmow	129	374	96	326	8	27
Great Easton	250	716	207	670	5	17
Little Easton	119	340	84	291	5	17
Felsted	648	2043	553	1920	8	27
Great Hallingbury	262	782	158	551	5	18
Little Hallingbury	277	898	254	814	4	16
Hatfield Broad Oak	660	2013	517	1806	6	21
High Easter	212	602	170	513	12	44
High Roding	120	383	106	351	4	13
Leaden Roding	98	281	94	242	2	7
Lindsell	74	228	71	210	6	21
Margaret Roding	66	195	62	185	4	13
Stebbing	357	1088	291	952	17	58
Takeley	389	1329	336	1282	5	18
Thaxted	679	1891	632	1770	2	7
Tilty	24	79	9	31	-	-
White Roding	112	344	91	287	-	-
Totals	6333	19216	5349	17333	115	398

<sup>+</sup>Supplied from Saffron Walden R.D.C.



## Waterworks Undertaking

### Quantities of Water pumped:

Dunmow Waterworks	...	42,111,000 gallons
Thaxted Waterworks	...	155,352,000 gallons
		<u>197,463,000 gallons</u>

### Water Consumption:

The water consumption for the past seven years is as follows:-

	<u>Gallons</u>	<u>Consumption per day - gallons</u>
<u>1949</u> Total consumption	147,106,700	403,416
Domestic	101,329,700	277,615
Metered	45,777,000	125,801
<u>1950</u> Total consumption	150,402,700	412,496
Domestic	99,225,700	271,851
Metered	51,177,000	140,645
<u>1951</u> Total consumption	165,170,300	452,574
Domestic	117,659,300	322,354
Metered	47,511,000	130,220
<u>1952</u> Total consumption	172,226,600	471,518
Domestic	128,463,600	351,924
Metered	43,763,000	119,594
<u>1953</u> Total consumption	156,276,144	428,153
Domestic	112,151,144	307,263
Metered	44,125,000	120,890
<u>1954</u> Total consumption	180,274,900	496,393
Domestic	136,916,900	375,114
Metered	43,358,000	121,279
<u>1955</u> Total consumption	197,463,000	541,000
Domestic	151,677,000	416,000
Metered	45,786,000	125,000



### Repairs and connections:

No. of new domestic connections to mains	...	81
No. of new metered supplies	...	22
No. of repaired services	...	95
No. of repaired mains	...	17

### Main extensions:

The following extensions were made to the Council's water mains during the year:-

Windmill Close, Great Dunmow	152 yards (3")
The Gossetts, Margaret Roding	120 yards (3")
St Martin's Close, White Roding	116 yards (3")
Cutlers Green Tower to Broadfans Farm, Great Easton (part only)	1440 yards (6")
Police Cottages to Fox & Hounds, Thaxted	288 yards (3")
Fox & Hounds to Terriers Farm, Thaxted	1373 yards (3")
Bury Farm, High Roding	640 yards (3")
Hounslow Green to Sholdo Hall, Barnston	574 yards (4") 120 yards (3")
Axe & Compasses to Loves Farm, Aythorpe Roding	1818 yards (3")
Keeres Green, Aythorpe Roding	1370 yards (3")
Station Road, Great Dunmow	895 yards (6")
Watch House to Stones Farm, Stebbing	2807 yards (3")
Tilty to Cox Hill, Great Easton	1394 yards (6")
Cox Hill to Duck Street, Little Easton	1056 yards (4")
Stebbing Green to Gransmore Green, Felsted	1668 yards (3")
Gransmore Green to Greenfields Farm, Felsted	497 yards (3")
Church End, Great Dunmow to Bran End, Stebbing	3117 yards (4")
Bartholomew Green, Felsted	609 yards (3")
Langthornes, Little Canfield	1129 yards (3")

### Rainfall:

Details of the year's rainfall are given at the end of the Report on page 49.

### Dunmow and Thaxted Pumping Stations

The plants at these stations worked satisfactorily throughout the year.



## Comprehensive Post-War Water Scheme

### Armitage Bridge Borehole, Thaxted

This new borehole which came into operation during 1954 worked satisfactorily throughout the year.

### Poplar Water Tower, High Easter

Work of construction of this new 250,000 gallon water tower continued during the year, and by the end of the year the tower was completed except for sterilization and water tightness tests and various items of painting and erection of fencing.

### Main laying Contract P.L.17.

Some 12 miles of mains were laid under this contract during the year as shown earlier in the report. At the end of the year there only remained 436 yards of 3" main at Bartholomew Green, Felsted, and 1119 yards of 3" main at Langthornes, Little Canfield, to be laid. This will complete the Council's proposals for main laying contained in their comprehensive scheme.

### Water Softening

The remaining proposals in the comprehensive scheme are the Water Softening Plants at Dunmow and Thaxted Pumping Stations. A report by the Council's Consultants was considered in October and in view of the high capital cost and yearly running costs of the proposed softening schemes the Council decided that the whole question should be deferred.

### National Water Policy - Co-ordination of the Water Industry Consolidation of Water Undertakings

During the year the Council agreed to co-operate with the Borough of Chelmsford and other local authorities in participating in a joint organisation to consider the co-ordination of their water undertakings. After considering the matter the Borough of Chelmsford, who initiated the proposal, decided that there was no purpose in pursuing the matter further at that time.

Also during the year an Engineering Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government held an enquiry into the Council's water undertaking with regard to source of existing supplies, works quality, quantity,



distribution and extent to which the area is not yet served by piped supplies.

No doubt more will be heard in the future regarding the co-ordination of the water industry.

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

### Pollution of Streams

Streams which have been polluted for years continued to be polluted. The main areas of pollution were:-

#### Chelmer Watershed

River Chelmer at Thaxted, Duton Hill, Great Easton and Little Easton.  
Barnston Brook at Barnston.

#### Lee Watershed

Pincey Brook at Takeley Street.

The Upper Chelmer Valley Scheme is expected to start next year when most of the pollution in the Chelmer Watershed should cease. Barnston and Takeley schemes are likely to be further delayed and stream pollution in those areas will continue.

### Extensions of Sewers

The following extension was made to the Council's sewer network during the year:-

Broomfields, Hatfield Heath	191 yards (6")
-----------------------------	----------------

### Connections to Sewers

During the year 78 premises were connected to the Council's sewers as shown below:-

Broxted	8	Felsted	4
Hatfield Broad Oak	7	Hatfield Heath	11
Stebbing	28	Thaxted	5
Great Dunmow	15		

### Sewage Works

Satisfactory effluents were obtained from Great Dunmow Sewage Works and the sewage works at Hatfield Heath and Hatfield Broad Oak and these installations worked satisfactorily throughout the year.



Thaxted Sewage Works continued to yield unsatisfactory effluents and these works will be abandoned when the Upper Chelmer Valley Scheme is carried out.

Unsatisfactory effluents were also obtained from Felsted Sewage Works and the sewage treatment plants at Duton Hill, Broxton and Little Easton. Action was taken to remedy these unsatisfactory conditions.

The works at Great Easton were not in use. The disposal plant at Little Canfield and the pumping stations at Church End, Dunmow; Cage End and Feathers Hill, Hatfield Broad Oak; Bran End, Stebbing and Swards Hall, Felsted, all worked satisfactorily.

#### Comprehensive Sewerage Scheme

##### Stebbing Sewerage Scheme - Contract 7

Most properties on the line of the new sewers were connected during the year. Some complaints were made of smell arising from the ventilated manhole covers and certain of these covers were filled-in.

##### Upper Chelmer Valley Scheme - Contract 9

The additional information required by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government was sent to them during the year and they gave approval to the commencement of the work of laying the Valley sewer. With regard to the sewerage of Duton Hill and Great Easton and Monk Street, and the improvement of the ex-R.A.F. Works at Great Easton, as these were new proposals a local enquiry was held by the Minister in July and in his decision he agreed to the inclusion of Monk Street but deleted the eastern parts of Duton Hill and Great Easton from the scheme. A revised tender based on these amendments was accepted by the Council and submitted to the Ministry whose reply was awaited at the end of the year. It was not possible to proceed with any works of construction.

##### Barnston - Contract 10

An Engineering Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government held a visit of investigation into this scheme and his decision was awaited at the end of the year. A tender for this scheme was obtained as long ago as 1952 and permission to proceed with the work is still awaited.



## Takeley and Little Hallingbury - Contract 11

The Minister in his decision on these schemes gave approval to them to go forward subject to certain parts being deleted. The amended documents were prepared and tenders for the work were invited and received by the end of the year.

## Felsted Sewage Works

The Council decided to postpone the construction of an access road to these Works. A tender for the remaining work of converting the Works to electricity and installing an additional pump is to be negotiated with the Contractor for Contract 9 as soon as that Contract is finally approved.

## Causeway End, Felsted

The Ministry have promised to consider this scheme again during the financial year 1956/7. It is a gravity sewer from Causeway End to the existing works at Felsted.

## Bannister Green, Felsted, and Duck Street, Little Easton

An Engineering Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government held a visit of investigation into these two schemes and his decision was awaited at the end of the year.

## High Easter

The District Valuer's report on the proposed sewage works site was still awaited at the end of the year so that the documents for the scheme now with the Ministry could be completed.

## Willows Green, Felsted

Agreement was reached on a site for the proposed sewage works during the year and in November the documents for the scheme were submitted to the Ministry for their approval.

## High Roding

Agreement was reached with the land owner for a pumping station site and this was submitted to the Planning Authority for approval. In November the Council made a compulsory purchase order for the land for the proposed



sewage works. The scheme was held up pending the result of these negotiations.

#### Monk Street, Thaxted

The Ministry approved the carrying out of this scheme as part of Contract 9 and a tender including the Monk Street proposals was with the Ministry for approval by the end of the year.

#### Hatfield Broad Oak and Hatfield Heath

Agreement was reached with a land owner and approval was obtained to a pumping station site at Stonebridge, Hatfield Heath. The documents for this scheme, as described in the 1954 report, were submitted to the Ministry with the exception of the District Valuer's report and the comments of the County Council which were still awaited at the end of the year.

#### White Roding

The drawings and documents for this scheme were completed during the year and were submitted to the Ministry for approval.

#### Broxted

Approval to the pumping station site at Woodgates End was given during the year and the Council's Engineers were preparing the details of the scheme.

#### Leaden Roding and Margaret Roding

The land owners of the proposed sites for sewage works in these two parishes were approached and the sites were submitted for planning approval which was awaited at the end of the year.

#### Other Schemes

The Council's Consulting Engineers were engaged in the preparation of schemes for Lindsell, Little Bardfield, Aythorpe Roding and Great Hallingbury, at the end of the year.

Once again it was not possible to start any actual work of construction although a number of schemes had reached the stage when a start would be possible once the restrictions on capital expenditure are eased. As far as can be foreseen only Contract 9 (the Upper Chelmer Valley Scheme) is likely to be commenced during 1956. The acquisition of land and the



preparation of drawings etc. is going ahead so that everything is ready for further schemes to be carried out should authority be given.

-----

### PUBLIC CLEANSING

The collection of house refuse was maintained during the year. The work was done by a crew of 7 men with three rear loading compressing vehicles. One of these vehicles (a Dennis Diesel) was purchased during the year. The oldest vehicle was used as a relief and each vehicle received maintenance on one day each week.

The collection is once weekly in the Lighting Areas of Great Dunmow, Felsted and Thaxted, and once fortnightly in the remainder of the District. 11,580 yards of refuse were collected compared with 8,604 yards in 1954. There were 83 extra houses to collect from during the year. The refuse was tipped in the disused gravel pits at Merks Hill, Great Dunmow, by arrangement with the owner who arranged for bull-dozing as necessary. A wire compound was erected around the pit to keep the surroundings tidy and unauthorised people out. During suitable weather a pond at Felsted was used for tipping.

### Salvage

The collection of waste paper was continued during the year and baling was carried out in the garage in the Council Yard. 59 tons 10 cwts of waste paper were collected and despatched to the Mills at Purfleet and credits for £471.0.0. were received. The amount collected is less than in 1954 and the hope that 100 tons would be collected during the year was not realised. Some difficulty in collection was encountered as the new Diesel collecting vehicle had very little space to carry paper. At the end of the year the makers were designing a rack to be fitted on the top of the vehicle to carry paper.

During the year the Council co-operated in the "Keep Britain Tidy" campaign and posters were distributed throughout the district.



## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

The Council's Sanitary Inspectors made 3,659 visits and inspections in the course of the year. Details of these are given below:-

Complaints received	...	157
Inspections under Housing Acts	...	172
Housing applications verified	...	64
Inspections under Public Health Acts	...	907
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	170
Places of Amusement	...	8
Schools	...	14
Offensive accumulations	...	22
Water supplies	...	134
Drainage	...	119
Sewage disposal	...	55
Cesspools, Septic Tanks and Pail Closets	...	69
Urinals	...	7
Stables and Pig Sties	...	7
Ditches	...	76
Refuse disposal	...	25
Infectious Disease prevention	...	26
Factories and Workshops	...	45
Shops	...	48
Bakehouses	...	11
Slaughter-houses and Knackers' Yards	...	1,171
Other Meat and Food Visits	...	43
Cafes and Restaurants	...	8



Dairies	...	8
Hotels and Public Houses	...	13
Rodent Control visits and re-visits	...	270
Conversion of Earth Closets	...	3
Petroleum Acts	...	2
Hairdressers	...	2

#### Nuisances detected and Notices served

Nuisances detected	...	87
Informal notices served	...	14
Notices outstanding 1st. January, 1955	...	56
Notices outstanding 31st. December, 1955	...	37
Statutory Notices served	...	3
Legal proceedings	...	Nil

#### SHOPS

The inspection of shops under the Shops Act, 1950, was carried out during the year but no formal action was necessary. There were 173 shops entered in the Council's register. No Certificates of Exemption were granted during the year.

#### SMOKE ABATEMENT

During the year the Council agreed to co-operate with the Essex County Council in a scheme for the measurement of atmospheric pollution in the District and for this purpose they are to provide and set up the necessary equipment for Lead Peroxide Instruments at Great Dunmow and Thaxted and a Daily Instrument at Felsted. Further instructions are awaited from the Fuel Research Station.



## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Public Conveniences are situated in Great Dunmow and Thaxted. An income of some £85 was received from them during the year.

## BURIAL OF THE DEAD

### Burial Acts 1852 - 1906

These Acts have not been adopted by any parish in the District.

### National Assistance Act 1948, section 50

It was not necessary to make arrangements under this Act for the burial of any person during the year. Arrangements for the burial of 11 persons have been made since the passing of the Act.

### Crematorium

The Chelmsford Borough Council prepared drawings and a model of the proposed Crematorium at Writtle Road, Chelmsford and representatives of the Council were invited to a meeting to view these. This meeting was to take place in January, 1956.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Disinfections after cases of Infectious Disease were carried out as under:-

Private houses ... 4

## VERMIN

7 premises were disinfested during the year after complaints of infestation by fleas, bugs, flies and ants. The standard form of treatment was spray with a 5 per cent solution of D.D.T., or Gammexane Smoke Generators. No major problem occurred. Disinfestation of bedding was carried out as necessary in the plant maintained by Braintree R.D.C. or at Haymead's Hospital, Bishop's Stortford.



## PETROLEUM AND CARBIDE OF CALCIUM

At the end of the year there were 133 licences issued for the storage of petroleum (including 30 for re-sale), and 5 licences for the storage of Carbide of Calcium.

## RODENT CONTROL

The following are details of action taken under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949:-

Details	Type of Property				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	Business premises	
Premises inspected as a result of notification	-	74	5	12	91
Premises inspected as a result of survey under the Act	8	4	2	4	18
Number of properties found to be infested with rats:					
Major infestations	-	-	-	-	-
Minor infestations	8	32	2	12	54
Number of properties found to be seriously infested with mice	-	4	-	6	10
Number of infested premises treated by the Council's Sanitary Inspectors	8	36	2	18	64
Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act	-	-	-	-	-

161 re-visits were also carried out.

In addition to the above, treatments were carried out at the refuse tips at Merks Hill, Great Dunmow, which are privately owned.

The sewer systems in Hatfield Broad Oak, Hatfield Heath, Felsted, Little Dunmow, Little Canfield and Broxted were free from infestation and no tests or treatments were necessary during the year. The Council's mobile sewerage gang carried out tests and treatments of part of the public sewers in Great Dunmow and Thaxted.



## 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	Inspections	Number of	
			Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	47	15	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	74	30	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
Totals	121	45	1	-

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	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	4	3	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperatures (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	3	-	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	1	-	-	1	-
Other offences (not including offences relating to out-workers)	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	9	4	-	1	-

### OUT-WORKERS

There is 1 out-worker in the district.



# TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

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

Parish	Sites	Vans	Tents	Huts	Adults	Children
Wythorpe Roding	1	2	1	1	4	4
Barnston	2	2	-	1	4	1
Broxted	2	2	-	-	2	-
Little Canfield	3	4	-	1	7	1
Great Dunmow	4	5	-	-	8	4
Belsted	6	6	-	4	12	5
Great Hallingbury	5	5	-	1	9	2
Latfield Broad Oak	1	1	-	-	2	-
Latfield Heath	3	11	-	2	20	14
High Roding	1	1	-	-	2	-
Headen Roding	2	2	-	-	3	-
Tebbing	5	10	-	2	18	7
Takeley	7	44	-	-	89	41
Waxted	8	8	-	1	14	9
White Roding	3	5	-	3	6	2
Totals	53	108	1	16	200	90

52 of the sites have access to main water supply and 1 site has a water supply from a well. The sanitary accommodation is 44 earth or chemical closets, and 10 water closets.

Approximately one-half of the vans are situated in the two parishes of Tebbing and Takeley.

There are camping sites at High Wood, Great Dunmow; Daviron, Lindsell and Hawkspur Green, Little Bardfield, but these are not used at the moment.



## HOUSING

### New Building

New building during 1955 was as follows:-

Number of Council houses completed	...	25
Number of private houses completed	...	61
Number of Council houses under construction at end of year	...	24
Number of Council houses approved but not commenced at end of year	...	4
Number of conversions completed	...	1
Number of private houses under construction at end of year	...	46
Number of private houses with plans approved but not commenced at end of year	...	66

### Housing Act, 1949 (as amended) - Improvement Grants

During the year improvement grants for 88 private dwellings were approved totalling £23,383.0.0.

### Housing (Financial & Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1946

During the year, grants under this Act were approved for the erection of 8 houses for agricultural workers.

### Housing applications

There were 348 applications for Council houses at 31st. December, 1955. During the year there were 37 re-lettings.

### Council houses

The total number of houses owned by the Council at the end of the year was:-

Pre-War houses	676
Cottages purchased post-war	5
Post-War houses	673
	<u>1354</u>

3 houses had been sold to tenants (1 post war house, 1 pre war house,



and 1 pre-war cottage) and 1 post-war house is being sold to the Essex County Council.

During the year 349 Council houses were painted externally; 24 hot water systems were installed and 12 houses were wired for electricity.

Total new building since the War

The total number of houses built since the War in the District is:-

Council houses	...	673
Housing Associations	...	12
Private houses	...	316
Essex County Council	...	18
		<u>1019</u>

Housing Acts - Slum Clearance Programme

The Council's programme as required by Section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, was prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. It involves the demolition of 767 unfit houses in 10 years, 214 of which are to be demolished in the first 5 years from September 1955.

The unfit houses which have not yet been represented to the Council are to be submitted altogether and the owners are to be informed of grants and other facilities available so that a proportion of these houses may be improved and made fit.

The tabular statement required by the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, as extended, is now submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in another form but I give the following statement for the information of the members:-



1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	173
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	467
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	73
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	168
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	21
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	...	24

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices

	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...	16
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year

A - Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	0
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-		
(a)	By owners	...	0
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	...	0

B - Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	3
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-		
(a)	By owners	...	0
(b)	By Local Authorities in default of owners	...	0

C - Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	5
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(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	4
(3) Number of written undertakings accepted	...	15
D - Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-		
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	0
E - Proceedings under Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936:-		
(1) Number of houses in confirmed clearance areas demolished	...	0
F - Proceedings under Housing Act, 1949:-		
(1) Closing Orders made under Section 3(1)	...	0
(2) Demolition Orders determined and Closing Orders substituted under Section 3(2)	...	0
G - Proceedings under Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953:-		
(1) Closing Orders made under Section 10(1)	...	2
H - Proceedings under Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954:-		
(1) Certificates of Disrepair issued under Section 26(1)	...	0
(2) Licences issued for temporary occupation under Section 6	...	2

#### 4. Overcrowding - Part IV, Housing Act, 1936

No action was taken under this Part during the year.

#### NEW LEGISLATION

The following Acts, which affect the duties of the Council, were passed in 1955:-

Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1955.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 (into force on 1st. January, 1956).

Rating and Valuation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1955.

Requisitioned Houses and Housing (Amendment) Act, 1955.



## Byelaws

The Council's Byelaws for securing Sanitary Conditions, Management and Keeping of Records for Knackers' Yards were confirmed and came into operation on 1st. August, 1955.

The following is a list of the Council's Byelaws now in force:-

Byelaws with respect to Slaughter-houses.

Byelaws for securing cleanliness in premises of hairdressers or barbers.

Byelaws with respect to houses occupied by persons of the working classes.

Byelaws with respect to new streets.

Byelaws for the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air.

Building Byelaws.

Byelaws for preventing waste, undue consumption, misuse or contamination of water.

Byelaws relating to sanitary conditions, management and keeping of records for Knackers' Yards.

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### RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

#### PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

There were no pet shops in the district nor any premises where rag flock is manufactured or where filling materials are used.

#### PARKING PLACES

The question of an additional parking place in Thaxted was discussed during the year but no decision was reached.

#### NAMING AND NUMBERING OF STREETS

The Council agreed to erect a nameplate for Highfields, Great Dunmow, and also to number the new private housing estate at Windmill Close, Great Dunmow, and arrangements for this work were being carried out at the end of the year.

#### LIGHTING AND WATCHING ACT, 1833

Street lighting powers are held by the parishes of Barnston, Felsted, Great Dunmow and Thaxted.



# INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

## Meat Inspection

Slaughtering was carried out regularly during the year at the Sunnow Bacon Factory and at the 8 private slaughterhouses in the District.

Carcases inspected and condemned:

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	1,729	-	88	710	63,370+	-
Number inspected	1,729	-	88	710	63,370	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	4	-	-	-	118	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	95	-	-	7	7,560	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	.573%	-	-	.985%	12.4%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	1	-	-	-	21	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	35	-	-	-	1,507	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	.208%	-	-	-	2.42%	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

+ Pigs which arrived dead or died in lairs were examined for scheduled diseases but were not inspected for food.

## Butchers' Shops

65lbs. of carcase meat was inspected and condemned in butchers' shops during the year.



## Deadweight Certification Centres

The slaughterhouse at Hatfield Heath owned by Mr N.G.Reynolds was approved as an ordinary deadweight certification centre for pigs in November 1954. During 1955 the slaughterhouse at High Street, Stebbing, owned by Mr H.Barnard, was similarly approved, and the duties of certification were carried out by the Council's Meat Inspectors.

## Slaughter of Animals

The number of licences at the end of the year was:-

Private Slaughterhouses	...	9
Knackers' Yards	...	1
Licensed Slaughter-men	...	33

## Knackers' Yards

Action was taken during the year to get the Knackers' Yard at Great Hallingbury up to the standard required by the Council's new byelaws for the control and management of Knackers' Yards.

## Other Food

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

Milk	7 tins	Meat	23 tins
Fruit	14 tins	Vegetables	4 tins
Preserves	4 jars	Fish	1 tin
	Tinned Ham	25½ lbs.	

## Game Dealers

6 persons were licensed to deal in Game during the year.

## Milk

8 inspections were made of the Dairies in the District. No samples of milk were taken.



There were 16 persons registered in the District as Distributors of Milk and 7 Dairies (not being Dairy Farms) were also registered. Milk Dealers' licences were in force as under:-

to use special designation "Tuberculin tested"	...	8
to use special designation "Pasteurised"	...	8
to use special designation "Sterilised"	...	5

#### Supplementary licences

to use special designation "Tuberculin tested"	...	3
to use special designation "Pasteurised"	...	3
to use special designation "Sterilised"	...	2

#### Ice Cream

There were 77 premises registered under the Food and Drugs Acts for the storage and sale of ice cream in the District. No samples were taken. No manufacture of ice cream was carried on in the District.

#### Bakehouses

The number of bakehouses at the end of the year in operation was 11. No unsatisfactory conditions existed other than occasional neglect of lime-washing which was dealt with as a routine matter.

#### Food Premises

There were 19 premises in the District registered for the manufacture or preparation of sausages; pressed, pickled and preserved food, and fish frying.

There were also 16 cafes and restaurants and 73 licensed premises (hotels and public houses) in the District. Inspections were made during the year but no formal action was necessary.

#### Food Hygiene

There were 6 cases of food poisoning in the District during the year.

No Clean Food Campaigns were carried out although posters were distributed throughout the District emphasising the need for cleanliness in the handling of food.

The Council adopted Byelaws for the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air in 1951.



## RAINFALL

The rainfall as recorded at Thaxted Waterworks during the year is given below:-

		<u>inches</u>
January	...	2.13
February	...	1.48
March	...	1.23
April	...	0.29
May	...	3.78
June	...	2.296
July	...	2.16
August	...	0.79
September	...	1.84
October	...	4.36
November	...	0.64
December	...	1.41
		<hr/> 22.406 inches <hr/>

The heaviest fall was 1.3 inches on 15th. July.

The longest period without rain was the 20 days from 6th.

April to 25th. April.







