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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DUNMOW

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1967

together with the

REPORT

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DUNMOW
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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health

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

Chief Public Health Inspector:-

G. L. FIELD, M.A.P.H.I.

Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:-

D. R. JONES, M.A.P.H.I.

Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

Pupil Public Health Inspector:-

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G. WEBSTER

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Shorthand Typist/Clerk:-

Miss I. M. HUME

Public Health Offices,
Town Hall,
Braintree.

May, 1968.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again I have pleasure in presenting for your information the annual report on the health, vital statistics and sanitary circumstances of the Dunmow Rural District.

I have to thank Dr. Yule, the Area Medical Officer West Essex for providing statistics of the work done at the various Essex County Council Clinics.

VITAL STATISTICS

The Registrar General's population estimate is 23,250 an increase of 380 on 1966.

The corrected birth rate at 19.1 per 1,000 is the same as last year and the corrected death rate is down from 9.5 per 1,000 to 8.2. This figure compares with the national average of 11.2.

There were 9 infant deaths and 7 still births.

The infant deaths were due to: Prematurity 3, Bronchopneumonia 1, Intracranial haemorrhage 1, Microcephalus 1, Enlarged thymus 1, Asphyxia and prematurity 1, Respiratory infection 1.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Measles was prevalent throughout the first half of the year, the highest total was recorded in May when there were 128 cases. Altogether 423 cases of notifiable disease were reported including 402 of measles. Work has been going on on the measles vaccine for some years and a satisfactory vaccine has now been produced and it is expected that immunisation will start in 1968. Measles in the young is so common that many people think of it as a necessary concomitant of childhood and not to be taken seriously. It is true that it is generally a mild complaint but throughout the whole country some 80 deaths a year are attributed to measles which is twice the annual deaths from typhoid, dysentery, scarlet fever, diphtheria, poliomyelitis and smallpox added together.

We had a clean sheet with regard to dysentery but 7 cases of food poisoning. These were all isolated cases of Salmonellae and in no instance was it possible to trace the source of the infection in spite of full investigation. There are many different types of Salmonellae and as my farming friends will know the infection is commonly found in cattle and poultry.

IMMUNISATION

There was no change in the arrangements for immunisation and the figures will be found later in this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

I am grateful to your Chief Public Health Inspector for his exhaustive survey in this field.

1967 was a year of considerable progress. Plans were laid for the commencement of a weekly refuse disposal service to start in April 1968. The principle of operating a cesspool emptying service was agreed to but not the date of commencement. The Leaden Roding Sewerage Scheme was completed and good progress made on the Lower Chelmer Valley Scheme.

Only 17 Council houses were completed during the year and 79 by private enterprise. Both figures are down on the previous year. The number of applicants on the Council's Housing waiting list has shown a slight drop, from 384 to 362. A fair number of these are probably not very urgent but judging from the number of applicants with medical certificates there is still a need for more Council houses, and the Council is about the only landlord that has houses to let.

The completion of the block of flatlets for six elderly people at Little Hallingbury in Barkers Mead has provided excellent accommodation for some of the people most in need and should indirectly help to ease the general housing shortage. I hope more will be built.

There is a warden at Little Hallingbury who exercises general control and gives help in emergency but it must be emphasized that these flatlets are for the able bodied elderly who can and prefer to look after themselves and not for the sick and infirm who need special medical or nursing care.

The 3 water samples analysed were all satisfactory, these are in addition to the 449 bacteriological and 28 chemical samples analysed by the Lee Valley Water Company. They too were all satisfactory.

I would like to afford my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their sustained interest and help and to the Chief Public Health Inspector and his staff and to my colleagues in other departments for their co-operation at all times.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

C. R. C. RAINSFORD

Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	... 72,834
Population (Registrar General's estimate mid-1967)	... 23,250
Number of houses according to rate books	... 7,948
Rateable value	... £801,551
Sum represented by a penny rate	... £3,090
Number of marriages during the year	134

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	409	201	208
Illegitimate	20	10	10
Total live births - 429			
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	18.5	
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	...	4.7	
Birth rate corrected by comparability figure of 1.03	...	19.1	
Birth rate for England and Wales per 1,000 population	...	17.2	

<u>Still Births</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	7	4	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	16.0	
Total live and still births - 436			
Rate per 1,000 total births England and Wales	...	14.8	

<u>Infant Deaths</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Deaths of infants under 1 year			
Legitimate	8	6	2
Illegitimate	1	1	-
Total infant deaths - 9			

<u>Infant Mortality Rates</u>	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	... 21.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	... 19.6
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	... 50.0
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	... 11.7
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	... 11.7
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	... 27.5
Infantile Mortality for England and Wales per 1,000 live births	... 18.3

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths	...	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	Nil

Deaths

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
	196	109	87	
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	...			8.4
Death rate corrected by comparability figure of 0.98	...			8.2
Death rate per 1,000 population England and Wales	...			11.2

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES 1967

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.

			<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	-	1
4.	Diphtheria	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8.	Measles	1	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases		2	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	6
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus		10	1
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms		14	6
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
16.	Diabetes	-	-
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system		12	13
18.	Coronary disease, angina	20	20
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	1	-
20.	Other heart disease	1	5
21.	Other circulatory disease	5	5
22.	Influenza	-	-
23.	Pneumonia	10	6
24.	Bronchitis	11	4
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system		-	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum		1	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea		-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	1	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases		10	8
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	2	2
34.	All other accidents	3	-
35.	Suicide	1	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war	-	-
All causes			<u>109</u>	<u>87</u>

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
1st January to 31st December 1967:-

				<u>Attendances</u>
<u>GREAT DUNMOW</u> - Essex County Health Services Clinic, New Street				
Child Welfare	1st Friday	10 a.m.)	}	1,728
	Every other Friday	2 p.m.)		
Women's Welfare Clinic	Every six weeks	10 a.m.		39
	Thursday			
Cytology Clinic	3rd Friday	9.30 a.m.		78
School Clinic	2nd & 4th Monday	9.30 a.m.		74
Dental Clinic	Tues. & Wed. all day	10 a.m.		785
<u>FELSTED</u> - Memorial Hall				
Child Welfare	2nd Tuesday	2 p.m.		380
<u>GREAT EASTON</u> - Village Hall				
Child Welfare	Last Friday	2 p.m.		198
<u>HATFIELD BROAD OAK</u> - Village Hall				
Child Welfare	2nd Tuesday	2 p.m.		317
<u>HATFIELD HEATH</u> - Congregational Church Hall				
Child Welfare	3rd Tuesday	2 p.m.		547
<u>HIGH RODING</u> - Women's Institute				
Weighing Session	1st Thursday	2 p.m.		97
<u>STEBBING</u> - Congregational Schoolroom				
Child Welfare	2nd Friday	2 p.m.)	}	244
Weighing Session	4th Thursday	2.30 p.m.)		
<u>TAKELEY</u> - Village Hall				
Child Welfare	2nd Monday	2 p.m.		501
<u>THAXTED</u> - Church Hall				
Child Welfare	1st Friday	2 p.m.		331
<u>WHITE RODING</u> - Village Hall				
Child Welfare	4th Wednesday	2.15 p.m.		21
	(Closed after			
	February Clinic)			

(ii) Home Help Service:-

This useful service is administered from the Area Health Office, Moot House Annexe, The Stow, Harlow.

(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; Herts and Essex General Hospital, Bishop's Stortford; and Saffron Walden General Hospital, and cater for the needs of the Dunmow population.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

DISEASES	Total Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	7	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-
Measles	402	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	5	5	-
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	1	1	-
Whooping Cough	7	-	-
Totals	423	6	-

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE

DISEASES	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 19	20 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 64	65 and over	Age unknown
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	7	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	402	8	34	51	50	37	203	6	7	-	-	-	-	6
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	-
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Whooping Cough	7	1	1	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	423	9	36	51	51	40	206	6	8	5	1	4	-	6

INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1967

DISEASES	Total Notified	Aythorpe Roding	Little Bardfield	Barnston	Broxted	Great Canfield	Little Canfield	Chickney	Great Dunmow	Little Dunmow	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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	3	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	402	16	-	2	1	4	2	-	35	5	7	1	69	3	29	3	22	9	16	18	1	2	61	72	4	-	20
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	7	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	423	16	-	2	1	5	2	-	36	5	8	1	73	4	31	5	22	10	16	19	1	2	63	75	6	-	20

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED MONTH BY MONTH

DISEASES	Total Notified	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	7	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	402	16	41	96	70	128	30	12	5	2	-	-	2
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	5	-	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	3
Totals	423	20	43	96	70	131	31	13	8	2	-	3	6

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 34	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	2	3	1	-	-	-	-	-

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

<u>Primary Courses</u>	<u>By General Practitioners</u>	<u>By County Staff</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus	231	102	333
Diphtheria & Tetanus	1	1	2
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Tetanus	-	-	-
Polionyelitis	243	108	351
Smallpox	238	4	242
<u>Reinforcing Doses</u>			
Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus	81	71	152
Diphtheria & Tetanus	117	19	136
Diphtheria	1	-	1
Tetanus	128	2	130
Polionyelitis	173	124	297
Smallpox	17	-	17

Council Offices,

Dunmow.

January, 1968

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I present my second annual report on the work of the Public Health Department.

Staff changes figures prominently in my report for 1966 but I am pleased to say that in the year now under review no changes took place. As the Pupil Public Health Inspector completed his period of practical training at the end of the year, it was decided not to refill this post but instead appoint an Additional Public Health Inspector. Mr. Jones was successful in passing the examination for the Diploma in Smoke Inspection.

Meat inspection continued to figure prominently in the Department's work and there was again a rise in the number of animals inspected from 109,989 to 115,864. Although one Authorised Meat Inspector was away as a result of an injury for 15 weeks, partly during the holiday period, 100% inspection was maintained by the remaining staff.

Three major steps were taken in the field of Public Cleansing, firstly the decision to undertake weekly refuse collection throughout the whole district from 1st April, 1968, secondly the undertaking of all vehicle maintenance by direct labour and thirdly the decision to undertake cesspool emptying at a subsidised charge.

Infestations of rats were fortunately less evident than in 1966 and control was helped by employing the Public Cleansing Foreman part-time on rodent control.

Concern must be expressed at the number of cases of unsound food brought to our notice. Two cases were successfully prosecuted and in respect of two further cases legal proceedings were pending at the end of the year.

The Leaden and Margaret Roding Sewerage Scheme was completed and considerable progress was made with constructional work on the Lower Chelmer Valley Sewerage Scheme which is due for completion in 1968. It was decided to modernize and enlarge the Hatfield Heath Sewage Works so that it can also treat the sewage from Hatfield Broad Oak and then make the old sewage works in that village redundant.

I wish to record my thanks to the Council for their support and to the other Chief Officers and their staffs for their assistance during the year. I also wish to express my appreciation to my Deputy Mr. D. R. Jones for his capable assistance and to all members of the Department's Technical, Clerical and outside staff for their help and co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

G. L. FIELD

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER

Water supplies in the district are provided by the Lee Valley Water Company. During the year supplies were adequate and given on a subsequent page are details of the population served by mains water by parishes.

Fluoride

The Fluoride content of the water supply was as follows:-

Thaxted (Borough Bridge)	... 0.45 part per million
Dunmow	... 1.0 part per million

Analysis

3 samples of water were taken for analysis and all were found to be satisfactory. A copy of a report on a sample by the Counties Public Health Laboratory appears on a following page.

Swimming Baths

There are no public swimming baths in the district but there are swimming baths at the Dunmow Primary School, Dunmow Secondary Modern School, Great Easton Primary School and Felsted School. These were inspected regularly and samples taken for bacterial content. The chlorine content was also checked at weekly intervals which is in addition to regular checks before use by the Schools staff and conditions proved to be satisfactory.

Lee Valley Water Company

Tap over sink, "Saddlers", Watling Street, Thaxted

Chemical Results in Parts Per Million

Appearance: Bright with a few particles		Turbidity:	less than 3
Colour	Nil	Odour	Nil
pH	7.6	Free Carbon Dioxide	16
Electric Conductivity	730	Dissolved Solids dried at 180°	520
Chlorine present as Chloride	34	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	300
Hardness: Total	400	Carbonate: 300 Non-carbonate:	100
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.0	Nitrite Nitrogen	approx. 0.01
Ammoniacal Nitrogen*	0.12	Oxygen Absorbed	0.50
Albuminoid Nitrogen*	0.00	Residual Chlorine	0.10
Metals: Iron, Zinc, Copper			
Lead	absent		

*To convert to Ammonia multiply by 1.21

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, on the alkaline side of neutrality and free from iron and other metals. The water is very hard in character though not excessively so and it contains no excess of mineral constituents. It is of very satisfactory organic quality.

From the aspect of the chemical analysis these results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

21st February, 1967

Counties Public Health Laboratory

POPULATION IN EACH PARISH HAVING MAIN WATER SUPPLY

Parish	No. of Houses	Estimated Population (mid-67)	No. of houses on main supply	Estimated Population on main supply
Aythorpe Roding	79	218	74	201
Little Bardfield	90	247	71	200
Barnston	134	396	129	340
Broxted	199	578	199	578
Great Canfield	138	356	130	346
Little Canfield	115	356	110	340
Chickney	12	32	5	25
Great Dunmow	1,584	4,298	1,504	4,138
Little Dunmow	135	397	116	347
Great Easton	274	708	259	686
Little Easton	138	340	119	310
Felsted	823	2,958	788	2,870
Great Hallingbury	325	935	287	920
Little Hallingbury	419	1,250	397	1,200
Hatfield Broad Oak	911	2,478	874	2,240
High Easter	216	615	199	563
High Roding	143	397	131	318
Leaden Roding	119	343	115	336
Lindsell	79	218	76	212
Margaret Roding	70	204	68	200
Stebbing	400	1,153	377	1,100
Takeley	621	2,294	418	1,896
Thaxted	778	2,078	773	1,980
Tilty	20	57	19	55
White Roding	126	349	118	317
	7,948	23,250	7,356	21,718

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION

(a) Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The report of this subject has been prepared by the Engineer & Surveyor who is responsible for the service and I am grateful to him for his assistance.

There are 14 sewage disposal works and 16 sewage pumping stations in the district and these serve the more heavily populated areas in 16 of the 25 parishes. There are also 7 plants on Council House estates.

Connections to sewers

During the year 110 new properties were connected to the Council's sewers.

Sewerage Contracts

Lower Chelmer Valley Sewerage Scheme

This scheme was continued during the year and after a somewhat slow start progress speeded up and by the end of the year considerable work had been done, 14 months of the 21 months contract period having expired. Work on the new sewage disposal works at Felsted was well advanced and sewer laying in Barnston and Great Dunmow was completed.

Leaden and Margaret Roding Sewerage Scheme

This scheme was completed during the year and the Leaden Roding Sewage Works was inspected by a number of members of the Health, Estates and Works Committee when it was commissioned.

Hatfield Heath Sewage Works

The Council have approved in principle a scheme for the enlarging and improvement of these works and preparatory work is now in hand by the Council's consulting engineers.

Oxygest Sewage Disposal Plant at Broxted

After initial operating problems this plant has settled down and is now running satisfactorily and without the constant supervision and adjustments previously required.

Duck Street Pumping Station, Little Easton

This pumping station completely flooded once again and expensive repair works were necessary to get the plant in operation. The question of whether change of pumps can obviate this happening on a further occasion is being looked into.

Sewer, Mill Road, Felsted

The Council agreed to extend the sewer in Mill Road, Felsted and a survey is at present being carried out so that this work can be done.

Trade Waste Agreements

Arrangements were made for samples to be taken from premises at the Sweet Factory, Thaxted and the Dunmow Fritch Bacon Company to see that the premises trade waste agreements were being complied with. A scheme for trade waste from the British Sugar Corporation factory at Felsted to be accepted into an enlarged Felsted Sewage Disposal Works is at present being considered.

Surface Water

As a result of negotiations with the County Council and the Parish Council arrangements were made to improve the surface water drainage in Dunmow which flows to the Doctors Pond.

Annual Inspection

The annual inspection of the sewage works took place on 27th July, 1967 and all works were considered to be properly managed for the purposes of the County grants scheme.

(b) Pail Closet Conversion

3 applications were made under Section 47 Public Health Act, 1936 for financial assistance in the conversion of pail closets to water closets and in each case the Council agreed to pay half of the reasonable expense incurred. During the year 2 conversions were carried out at an average cost to the Council of £81.

(c) Private Drainage

The usual crop of complaints was received of pollution of ditches by septic tank overflows and leaking cesspools. Where the subsoil provides poor drainage there is always a grave risk of septic tank irrigation systems failing to function efficiently. If a ditch is in the near vicinity it is not long before an overflow, either by pipe or rubble drain, appears and discharges the effluent from the septic tank into the ditch and very soon complaints are made by nearby householders. It must be remembered that a drainage system requires maintenance like any other equipment and it is necessary to have it emptied periodically to prevent sludge choking the irrigation system, replacement of which is far more costly than the fee for cesspool emptying. One notice under section 17 Public Health Act, 1961 was served, which required the owner to clear a blocked drain within 48 hours. As this was not done by the owner the work was carried out by the Council in default.

(d) Cesspool Emptying

Over the years the Council have on a number of occasions considered carrying out the emptying of cesspools. This was again reviewed in 1967 following which I was instructed to submit a report on the subject. This resulted in the Council agreeing in principle to undertake cesspool emptying for the whole of the district and that the cost of the service be subsidised by the rates to enable householders, who although contributing towards the sewerage of the district are unable, for one valid reason or other, to connect to the sewer, to receive some assistance. It was also decided to consider a report and estimate of cost of doing the work by Direct Labour and at the same time invite tenders for carrying out the work by contract. This was still under review at the end of the year.

(e) Disposal of Farm Wastes

In common with most Rural Districts complaints are received from time to time of the offensive smell which occurs when certain farm wastes are disposed of. This particularly applies to piggeries and intensive chicken rearing units. The manure is collected in underground storage tanks which have to be pumped out at intervals with a vacuum/pressure tank drawn by a tractor. When this is full it is driven over the fields and the contents sprayed on the land; this is when a most offensive odour occurs which can last for several days. Efforts are made to secure co-operation from farmers employing this method, to spray the manure on land well away from houses and discharge from sprays set near ground level to prevent the odour being carried by the wind as it is when the spray is set at high level, and to plough the manure in immediately after spraying.

Periodic nuisance was caused by the emptying of a blood pit at a slaughterhouse. Emptying was arranged to take place in the early morning at about 6.30 a.m. and the cesspool emptier used was fitted with a deodouriser employing a chemical compound for masking the smell. As a result of the measures taken only one further complaint was received, which on investigation was found to be caused, not by the emptying of the blood pit, but, by removal of manure from a nearby intensive chicken rearing unit.

Nuisance from smell and noise will always at some time emanate from the most efficiently run slaughterhouse or farm and it is inconceivable that expensive dwelling houses are still being built on land immediately adjoining this class of premises, for it is inevitable that complaints will increase.

HOUSING

(a) Slum Clearance

The Slum Clearance Sub-Committee was not appointed this year as the Slum Clearance programme had been virtually completed and any houses deemed to be unfit for human habitation were considered by the Health, Estates and Works Committee.

Confusion by the standards of fitness applied when considering the fitness of a dwelling is still evident. The man-in-the-street and more so his wife cannot understand why lack of a bathroom, water closet and hot water system should not be included in the Definition of Standards of Fitness set out in section 4 Housing Act, 1957 particularly when new Council dwellings have to be built to Parker Morris standards which include all these facilities and from 1st January, 1969 will have prescribed standards of space heating. There is a need for a "new look" to be applied to the Standards of Fitness and it is unfortunate that despite considerable pressure from professional and other organizations that this particular legislation has not been brought more up to date with more emphasis placed on the necessity to provide at least some of the facilities now generally taken for granted.

5 unfit dwellings were demolished during the year and 19 were made fit and removed from the records. 2 Demolition Orders were made and Undertakings were accepted in respect of 9 properties.

In 1937 a Clearance Area was declared in respect of property at Woodside Green, Great Hallingbury. One property had continued to be occupied under licence granted by virtue of section 53 Housing Act, 1957 but this expired on 30th August, 1967. Fortunately the Elderly People's Flatlets at Little Hallingbury were completed at that time and the tenant was rehoused there by the Council.

(b) Remedy of Defects and Disrepair to Private Houses

As a result of informal action defects or disrepair at 12 properties were attended to by the owners.

In the case of an outstanding Abatement Notice served under section 93 Public Health Act, 1936 it was necessary to apply to the Courts for a Nuisance Order and this was granted.

(c) Houses in Multiple Occupation

A notice was served under section 15 Housing Act, 1961 requiring the provision of facilities for the storage of food and separate sanitary

accommodation at the only premises in the district known to be in multiple occupation.

(d) National House Condition Survey

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government carried out a sample survey of houses in selected areas, to obtain an up to date assessment of the condition of houses throughout the country. This district was one of those chosen and, a selected cross section, of 22 houses were inspected by the Ministry's Inspector, accompanied by one of your Public Health Inspectors.

(e) Rent Act, 1957

No applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair.

Given below are tabulated details of housing action taken during the year:-

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)	... 120
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	... 145
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Regulations	... 87
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	... 96
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	... 6
(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	... 16

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	... 12
---	--------

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year

A - Proceedings under Public Health Acts, 1936 and 1961

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

B - Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

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

C - Proceedings under Sections 16 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... 2
- (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... 2
- (3) Number of written undertakings accepted ... 8

D - Proceedings under Sections 17, 19 and 27 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

- (1) Number of Closing Orders made ... Nil
- (2) Number of houses demolished ... Nil

E - Proceedings under Section 27 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

- (1) Number of Demolition Orders revoked ... Nil

F - Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

- (1) Number of Closing Orders revoked and Demolition Orders substituted ... Nil

G - Proceedings under Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

- (1) Number of houses in confirmed clearance areas demolished ... Nil

H - Proceedings under Sections 34 and 53 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

- (1) Licences in force for temporary occupation ... 1

4. Overcrowding - Part IV, Housing Act, 1957

No action was necessary during the year.

The information contained in the remainder of this section on Housing has been supplied by the Engineer and Surveyor.

Council Housing

New Building during 1967 was as follows:-

Number of Council houses completed	...	17
Number of Council houses under construction at end of the year	...	30
Number of Council houses approved but not commenced at end of year	...	Nil

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

Pre-War houses	...	673
Cottages purchased post-war	...	6
Post-war houses	...	1,032
		<hr/>
		1,711

12 houses have been sold to tenants (7 pre-war and 5 post-war)

The houses by types are as follows:-

1-bed houses	...	2
2-bed houses	...	157
3-bed houses	...	1,131
3-bed house/shop	...	1
4-bed houses	...	39
1-bed bungalows	...	87
2-bed bungalows	...	192
1-bed flats	...	10
2-bed flats	...	92

Housing Applications

There are 362 applications for Council houses at 31st December. During the year there were 67 re-lettings.

Private Housing

New Building during 1967 was as follows:-

Number of Private houses completed	...	79
Number of houses built by other authorities	...	Nil
Number of Private houses under construction at end of year	...	65
Number of Private houses with detail plans approved but not commenced at end of year	...	159
Number of Private houses covered by outline approvals other than single houses	...	116
Number of conversions completed	...	Nil
Number of conversions in progress at end of year	...	6
Number of conversions approved but not started	...	16
Number of houses under construction by other authorities	...	Nil

Total building since the War

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

Council houses	... 1,025
Housing Associations ...	12
Private houses	... 1,825
Essex County Council ...	30
	<hr/> 2,892 <hr/>

Grants

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959

Housing Acts, 1961/1964

	<u>Discretionary Grant Schemes</u>	<u>Standard Grant Schemes</u>
(a) Number of Applications received	13	27
(b) Number of Applications approved by Council	9	28
(c) Number of Improved dwellings resulting from works at (b)	9	28
(d) Number of Improved dwellings completed	11	29
(e) Total amount involved in Grants approved	£3,098	£6,780
(f) Actual amount paid in respect of the Standard Grant Schemes completed at (d)		£5,548

Since the issue of grants began in 1949 the Council have approved applications totalling £262,113 in respect of 1,031 properties.

Agricultural Dwellings

No applications for agricultural grants were made during the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection and Disposal and Vehicle Maintenance

Staff 1 Foreman
1 Vehicle Mechanic
3 Driver/Loaders
6 Loaders
1 Tractor Driver
1 Female Paper Baler

Vehicles 3 No. 25 cu. yd. Karrier "Dual Tip"
1 No. 18 cu. yd. Dennis Paxit Ram Loader (reserve)
1 No. Morris 1000 Pick-up Truck
1 No. International B.T.D.8 Drott crawler tractor

Collection

Arrangements for the collection of refuse were as in the previous year, with a weekly service provided for the built up areas of Great Dunmow and a fortnightly service elsewhere. Minor adjustments were necessary to some of the rounds by allotting additional time in which to carry out the work, this being entirely due to new housing development. It is a sign of the times that rounds no longer stay static even in a rural area and adjustment of the work load is a continuing process. One reason for this has already been mentioned but another is the bulk of refuse which is now put out for collection. It is appreciated that with centrally heated houses there will be an increase, but this even occurs where open fires are still in use where cartons and other such combustible refuse could so easily be burnt. With the continuous increase in packaging of food and other products this problem will undoubtedly get worse.

Staffing of the refuse vehicles created the usual problems during periods of holidays and sickness but this was made less difficult with the employment of a "spare" man who was also employed on special collections of bulky refuse, refuse disposal and rodent control.

The whole question of refuse collection was considered early in the year and it was decided to provide a weekly collection to the whole of the district from 1st April, 1968. To do this it would be necessary to increase the number of vehicles and men employed and an order was placed for two 50 cu. yd. Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatics; all the existing vehicles will be retained, the two newer ones being used on the rounds and the other two being kept as reserve vehicles. An additional 5 men will be employed on the service. At the time weekly collection starts the present "skep" system will cease, the bin will be taken from the rear of the premises, emptied and returned to just inside the boundary of the property.

Supervision of the collection rounds was improved as a result of the purchase of a Morris 1000 Pick-up truck for use by the Foreman for this purpose. It also proved most useful for collecting the odd bin of refuse that had been missed and for use in connection with rodent control and vehicle maintenance.

At a housing site for 75 dwellings to be developed by the Council at Newton Green, Dunmow, it was decided that a sack system of refuse storage be adopted, but it has not yet been decided whether paper or plastic sacks will be used.

The Report of the Working Party on Refuse Collection was published by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in May which made a number of far reaching recommendations for the improvement of the refuse collection service in the country as a whole. It is pleasing to be able to report that the Council's decision to improve its services ensures that the majority of the Working Party's recommendations will be complied with. The only matter in which the Council's refuse collection service will fail to satisfy the recommendations of the Ministry's Working Party is on dustless loading, but as has been previously mentioned a start is to be made with the use of the paper or plastic sack system and this will no doubt be extended to the whole of the district in the course of time.

I consider that it is far more important to first of all implement a weekly collection and the Council are to be commended on accepting the far reaching proposals for improving the service, which will result in considerable capital outlay and increased annual expenditure.

Disposal

Controlled tipping continued at Merks Hill, Dunmow and the tipping area in use was almost full at the end of the year. Not unnaturally the shortage of tip space caused considerable concern and no effort was spared to find another site. Several possible sites were considered and a planning application made in respect of some 25 acres of low lying land at Thaxted. Planning permission was however refused and an appeal was lodged which should have been heard on 19th December, but was deferred due to precautions relating to the Foot and Mouth Epidemic. Consideration was also given to tipping at Widdington outside the Council's area but was not pursued, owing to the greatly increased travelling involved which would incur an additional cost of £4,500 per annum on refuse collection. However a small additional area of land adjoining the existing refuse tip at Merks Hill, Dunmow, was procured

and as planning permission was forthcoming the tipping problem was temporarily improved. Despite this, tip space is only available for some two years, so this is not a problem which can be "brushed under the carpet" and forgotten, but a determined and continued effort must be made to find a site with long term potential. Many people have criticised the Council for not providing a weekly refuse collection, this will very shortly be in existence, but it will entail the collection of more rubbish, an increase from the present 4,400 tons a year to an estimated 6,000 tons but inevitably many object to any suggestion of a refuse tip in their locality. It is still not realised by many that the days of indiscriminate tipping are past and Councils are controlled in this duty not only on public health grounds but by conditions attached to the planning permission. Before any land is considered for use as a refuse tip the Planning Authority consult the County Health Department, Highways Department, Water Undertakers and River Authority, this ensures that there are no problems of access, health risks or pollution of underground or surface water.

The International B.T.D.8 Drott continued to be most satisfactory and was capable of doing all that was required, not only of levelling the refuse but also digging cover for the tip. It proved the wisdom of purchasing a machine with slightly more power than is required to do a job. 2,000 tons of soil were purchased at a cost of £300 for tip cover from the local Beet Sugar Factory.

Salvage

The salvage of waste paper passed through three phases during the year. The female paper baler retired at the end of March and for the next three months the refuse collectors baled paper on a bonus system. Later in the year a third system was effected where paper was baled on piece work at a rate per bale.

81 tons 3 cwts. were sent to the Mills resulting in a gross income of £703.

Litter

The Anti-Litter Campaign was run in June and July when 350 collections were made resulting in 97 lorry loads of refuse. This is the last year that the Campaign will take this form as the Council decided that with the advent of weekly refuse collection, special collections of bulky refuse would be

made free of charge on receipt of a request from householders, at any time throughout the year.

7 additional litter baskets were erected during the year.

Abandoned Cars

A new Contractor was appointed to remove abandoned vehicles from the highway on behalf of the Council under the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Act, 1960 and Removal of Vehicles (England and Wales) Regulations, 1961. 11 vehicles were removed during the course of the year under review.

The Civic Amenities Act, 1967 came into force during the year and arrangements were made for residents in the district to dump old cars free of charge, at car breakers yards in Felsted and Takeley. Similarly it was decided that refuse covered by the Act could be dumped by residents, without charge, during normal working hours in the Council's Refuse Tip.

Public Conveniences

The Council continued to maintain the public conveniences at Great Dunmow, Thaxted, Felsted and Hatfield Heath, the premises at the first two parishes being purpose built and in the case of the last two are existing conveniences which the Council have taken over by agreement and maintain for the use of the public.

Vandalism was again very evident resulting in damaged ceiling tiles and fittings and defaced paintwork. The interior of the Thaxted conveniences was completely redecorated in the Spring.

Vehicle Maintenance

With the decision to provide weekly refuse collection and the consequent increase in vehicles the question of vehicle maintenance was also considered. It was decided that it would be to the Council's advantage to do this work by direct labour and as the majority of the vehicles are operated by the Public Health Department it was decided that this Department should be responsible for the maintenance of all the Council's transport. Alterations were made to the existing Depot by formation of a workshop, store, pit and additional garage space, a vehicle mechanic was engaged and the necessary maintenance equipment purchased and from May all repair and maintenance work on Council vehicles was carried out by the Council's own staff. Not only has routine servicing been carried out but also major repairs such as a complete engine overhaul on the Crawler Tractor, and the fitting of new

clutches and gearbox on the other vehicles and the fitting of a new braking system on the Dennis Paxit to comply with the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations, 1966.

Seat belts were fitted on all vehicles and heater/demisters were fitted where not already provided. It was also decided to fit hand washing units with hot water on all refuse vehicles, which resulted in considerable favourable publicity in the local press and even on Anglia Television, as comparatively few Local Authorities provide these facilities.

In the interests of safety it was decided to change the colour of the vehicles from the existing green to light grey and the refuse vehicles to also be painted with black and yellow diagonal chevrons on the rear. All new vehicles have been so painted and the mechanic will, when time allows, repaint all the other vehicles.

The Austin A40 Pick-up truck used on Housing was replaced with a Morris 1000 Pick-up truck and the Ford Thames 15 cwt. Van used by the Sewerage Mobile Gang was replaced with a Ford Transit 22 cwt. Van. A Morris 1000 Pick-up truck was purchased for the Public Health Department for use in connection with Refuse Collection, Vehicle Maintenance and Rodent Control.

INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

The Council's Public Health Inspectors made 3,013 visits and inspections in the course of the year. Details of these are given below:-

Complaints received and investigated	... 128
<u>Inspections under Housing Acts</u>	
Housing inspections	... 120
Housing applications verified	... 60
Housing applications verified for other local authorities	... 44
<u>Inspections under Public Health Acts</u>	
Caravan Sites	... 163
Offensive accumulations	... 54
Water supplies	... 3
Drainage, cesspools, etc.	... 121
Ponds, ditches and watercourses	... 66
Refuse disposal	... 193
<u>Infectious Disease Prevention</u>	
Visits to private houses	... 36
<u>Factories, Shops and Schools</u>	
Factories	... 4
Schools	... 5
<u>Food and Drugs Act</u>	
Slaughterhouses	... 61
Bakehouses	... 6
Cafes, restaurants and canteens	... 15
Hotels and Public Houses	... 16
Dairies and Milk Roundsmen	... 2
Other Food Premises (Grocers etc.)	... 12
<u>Sampling</u>	
Water	... 9
Other Foods	... 12
<u>Rodent Control</u>	
Visits	... 348
Treatments	... 318
<u>Clean Air Act</u>	
Visits	... 5

Petroleum Regulations

Licensing and Pressure and Seepage tests	...	128
Swimming Pools	...	28
Still Boiling Plants	...	6
Dangerous Structures	...	8
Meat Inspection visits	...	920
Animal Boarding Establishments	...	4
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	...	118
Searches	...	571
<u>Nuisances Detected and Notices Served</u>		

Nuisances detected	...	128
Informal notices served	...	12
Notices outstanding 1st January, 1967	...	10
Notices outstanding 31st December, 1967	...	2
Statutory Notices served	...	2
Legal Proceedings	...	5

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat Inspection

Slaughtering continued to be carried on at the Dunmow Flitch Bacon Factory, the Hatfield Heath Abattoir and at 5 smaller slaughterhouses. One other slaughterhouse is licensed but no animals were killed there during the year. The bulk of the inspection was carried out at the two first mentioned premises and to a lesser degree at the slaughterhouse in Dunmow operated by Messrs. Archer & Low. Three full time Authorised Meat Inspectors were employed, although there was a period of four months when only two were available as the third was undergoing hospital treatment for an industrial injury.

The restriction of hours of slaughter which became operative on 5th November, 1966 undoubtedly ensured that the hours worked by the Inspectors were compatible with their appointment. Considerable consideration was given to the hours worked by these Officers and by reorganization a satisfactory solution was reached.

There was as usual an increase in the number of animals inspected from 109,989 to 115,864 (a rise of 5.34%).

Carcases inspected and condemned:

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
No. Slaughtered	9,115	47	60	11,083	95,559	-
No. Inspected	9,115	47	60	11,083	95,559	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	3	2	59	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2,268	8	10	604	10,404	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	24.8%	17%	21%	5.4%	10.9%	
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	6	-	-	-	722	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	.01%	-	-	-	0.7%	
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	5	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	2	-	-	-	-	-

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

Slaughterhouses

All licensed slaughterhouses are inspected regularly by the Public Health Inspectors to ensure that the provisions of the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958 and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958 are complied with. In addition occasional advisory visits are made by Veterinary Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Some concern was expressed when the Council were informed that these visits were to take place at monthly intervals and even as often as weekly if the slaughterhouses were not considered satisfactory. The matter was taken up with the Ministry and following a conference with the Regional Veterinary Officer it was agreed that the advisory visits should be carried out at quarterly intervals. The Council then decided that Public Health Inspectors should inspect all premises once a fortnight.

There has been a general improvement in all slaughtering establishments during the year and several premises have already provided water sprays as an alternative to the unhygienic wiping cloths which will become illegal on 1st November, 1968.

Knackers Yard

The only knackers' yard in use in the district at Little Hallingbury, continued to be run satisfactorily. The statutory returns under the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958 showed that 39 horses, 322 cattle and 1,500 pigs, calves and sheep were slaughtered there during the year.

Licensing

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

Private Slaughterhouses	8
Knackers' Yard	1
Licensed Slaughtermen	34
Game Dealers	8

Other Food

During the course of the year the following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption and were condemned.

	Frozen Foods
40 tons of potatoes	111 pkts. vegetables
1 x 10 lb. shoulder of lamb	60 " fish
1 x 12 lb. 5 oz. tin cooked ham	70 " meat
4 x 6 lb. tins corned beef	16 " pies
1 x 13 lb. 2 oz. tin cooked ham	9 " cakes
4 lbs. of tinned cooked ham	12 " pastry
35 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwts. carrots	33 " mousse
2 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. tins luncheon sausage	12 " chips
1 x 10 lb. tin apricot	1 ice cream
	9 orange drinks

It was necessary to take two prosecutions for the sale of unsound food, one case was in respect of the sale of a mouldy pork pie and the second for the sale of mouldy egg galantine. The prosecutions were successful and in each case a fine of £25 was imposed. The Council decided to institute legal proceedings in respect of the sale of a bread roll containing a rusty nail and a bottle of soft drink containing glass and the hearing of these cases was pending at the end of the year.

I was perturbed by the number of reports we received on the sale of mouldy bread, all in respect of wrapped loaves. Unfortunately in our investigations we could not specifically prove if the fault lay with the manufacturer or retailer and in these cases warnings were given. In my opinion, much of the fault is due to bread being wrapped before it is adequately cooled.

The following instances were brought to the attention of the Department during the year:

- 1) Mouldy loaves
- 2) Mouldy galantine
- 3) Glass particles in bottle of Coca Cola
- 4) Bent nail in bread roll
- 5) Milk bottle containing a note
- 6) Worms in fish
- 7) Mould in pork pie

One aspect of food storage which causes the Department much concern is the overloading of deep freeze storage cabinets, although this is, I know, a matter not confined only to this district. Some shopkeepers tend to store much more frozen food in the cabinet than it is designed to take, consequently it is overloaded and the freezing unit is incapable of maintaining the correct temperature for all the contents. This together

with the more frequent defrosting which then occurs results in unsatisfactory storage and possible deterioration of the foodstuffs. As a result of this it was necessary to condemn the entire contents of one deep freeze cabinet.

Ice Cream

There are 127 premises registered under Section 16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955 for the storage and sale of ice cream.

At one restaurant ice cream is manufactured for consumption on the premises.

10 samples of ice cream were taken and the laboratory results are as follows:

Grade I - 10

Food premises by type of Business

Grocers and General Provisions	...	67
Bread and Confectionery	...	12
Butchers	...	13
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	4
Fishmongers	...	3
Sweets	...	12
Cafes and Restaurants	...	24
Public Houses and Hotels	...	66
Works Canteens	...	9
School Canteens and Cooking Centres	...	15

Included in the above lists are the following premises as registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955:-

Fish Frying	...	3
Manufacture of sausages and preserved food	...	18

Food Processing Premises

Sweet Factory	...	1
Bacon Curing Factory	...	1
Beet Sugar Factory	...	1
Breweries	...	2
Egg Packers	...	2
Banana Ripening Plant	...	1

Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing plants in the District.

Food Hygiene

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

	Complying with Regulation 16 (1)	Regulation 19 Applicable (2)	Complying with Regulation 19
Bakeries and Confectioners	12	8	8
Butchers	13	13	13
Catering Establishments	24	24	24
Cooking Centres and Canteens	24	24	24
Grocery and General Stores	74	70	68
Public Houses	66	66	66

(1) Provision of wash hand basin with hot and cold running water.

(2) Provision of sink with hot and cold running water.

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district (The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963).

51 inspections of food premises were made during the year but no formal action was necessary, informal action being taken where appropriate.

The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls & Delivery Vehicles) (Amendment) Regulations, 1966 came into operation on 1st January, 1967. A summary of the general requirements of the Regulations was sent to every trader in the District affected by them, to ensure that they were well aware of their responsibilities.

Milk

2 inspections were made of dairies in the District.

There are 23 persons registered in the District as Distributors of Milk and 10 Dairies (not being Dairy Farms) were also registered.

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

The Bacon Factory at Dunmow disposes of condemned meat by digestion in steam vats to produce inedible fats; condemned carcasses and offal from all slaughterhouses are collected by processors for boiling down for inedible fats or fertilisers.

No special arrangements for disposal of condemned food were necessary during the year.

WASTE FOOD

The only premises in the district licensed for the boiling of waste food for animal feeding under the Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957 were:-

Claremont, Hatfield Heath - Mr. Anderson

Bridgefoot Farm, Hatfield Broad Oak - Mr. Hockley

Both premises are maintained and operated in accordance with the Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

This district is fortunate to be comparatively free from atmospheric pollution. Complaints were however received in January and February of smut emission from the Beet Sugar Factory at Felsted, but on investigation it was found to be powdered beet pulp which had passed through the cyclone extractors. Following consultation with the management, as the beet season finished in February, modifications were made to the extractor fans, during the close season and when the factory recommenced operations in September no further complaints were received. It is pleasing to record the co-operation and assistance given by the factory management.

With the popularity of central heating in private houses, there are the occasional complaints of smut emission particularly from oil fired systems. The fault is invariably found to be either the result of badly adjusted burners or lengths of cold flues causing condensation.

CONTROL OF INFECTION

Visits were made as required to private houses following cases of Infectious Disease which during 1967 were mainly as a result of food poisoning a subject on which the Medical Officer of Health has commented.

DISINFESTATION

One case of Scabies was brought to our attention by the Health Visitor who arranged for the cleansing of the individual whilst this Department arranged for the steam disinfestation of the clothes and bedding.

NOISE ABATEMENT

No formal action was called for under the Noise Abatement Act, 1960. Complaints were received however but where these were found to be justified on investigation it was possible to obtain a reduction in the sound level by informal action.

Circular 22/67 on Noise and Industrial Noise was issued in April by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and amongst other things advised that Local Authority technical staff be given the opportunity to attend courses in the subject. The matter was taken up with the local Technical Colleges, at one of which a course was arranged and the Council agreed that the two Public Health Inspectors should attend.

PETROLEUM

At the end of the year the following licences were in force:-

Storage of petroleum spirit	167
Storage of petroleum mixtures	1
Storage of calcium carbide	2

3 new installations were brought into use after passing a pressure test and complying with the Council's licensing conditions. 12 installations were taken out of use when the tanks were filled with weak mix concrete and the pipelines and electrical supplies disconnected.

In May it was decided to invoke the licence condition that all underground petrol storage tanks which had been in position for more than 30 years should be subjected to a nitrogen pressure test and the licensees of these installations were notified that they would be required to have the test carried out. By the end of the year 21 tanks had been tested; 10 were found to be leaking and had to be made safe. In addition 4 more installations were found to have either defective suction or ventilation pipes and these were renewed after the tank itself had been proved satisfactory. It is now proposed to test tanks which have been installed for over 25 years and then those over 20 years old.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES

Greatly improved progress was made in the inspection of premises falling within the purview of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963. Of the total of 180 premises originally registered it was found on inspection that 70 were not in fact registerable leaving a total of 110 premises to which the Act applied. 76 premises received an initial inspection during the year making a total of 99 which have been fully inspected. Thus 90% of registered premises have now been inspected. 31 premises were found on original inspection to comply with the requirements of the Act and as a result of informal action this had been improved so that by the end of the year 67 premises complied. 42 follow up inspections were made to secure this improvement. The majority of contraventions were of a minor nature such as no abstract of the Act exhibited, no thermometer and lack of first aid kits.

Two accidents were reported. One concerned an employee who was struck by a rolling electric cable drum. The second involved a bacon slicing machine, where an employee attempted to remove a piece of bone from a side of bacon whilst it was still on the machine; his coat caught on the handle of the machine and turned the blade, removing the tip of his finger. No negligence was found on the part of the employers.

Set out on the following page is a table giving statistics of premises registered under the Act.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Class of Premises	Number of Premises Registered During Year	Total Number of Registered Premises at end of year	Number of Registered Premises Receiving General Inspection	Number of Persons employed
Offices	3	20	12	74
Retail Shops	-	81	59	348
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	-	-	-	-
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens	-	7	6	30
Fuel storage depots	-	2	1	8
	3	110	78	460
Total Males				128
Total Females				332

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS

The Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963 came into force on 1st January, 1964. Standard conditions were approved by the Council and following a prior inspection premises were licensed as under:

Benhooks Kennels, Oxen End, Little Bardfield.
The Chestnuts, Latchmore Bank, Little Hallingbury.
Whitedale, Canfield Road, Takeley.
Normandale Farm, Great Hallingbury.
Paddocks, Wrights Green, Little Hallingbury.
Appletree Cottage, Gaston Green, Little Hallingbury.
The Paddocks, Blocks Corner, Hatfield Heath.
Greenacres, Thaxted.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS

The Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964 came into force on 1st April, 1965. This requires all dealers to be registered. The number registered was 21.

RODENT CONTROL

Rat infestations were fortunately less serious than in the previous year when grave concern was felt at the number of rats not only in this district but in the whole of East Anglia. The temporary decline gives no cause for complacency as it is a known fact that fluctuations of the rodent problem do occur from year to year depending on the weather conditions and the availability of food and cover.

It was decided that improvements should be made to the rodent control service and this was borne in mind when the re-organisation of the refuse collection service was considered. The purchase of a van for the use of the Cleansing Foreman made it possible to broaden his duties to include a certain amount of rodent control. From the beginning of August until the end of December he visited and inspected 137 properties, and carried out treatments at 29. At 108 properties he advised the occupier on the treatment necessary and left poison giving advice on its use.

There was virtually no evidence of rats at the refuse tip, but despite this regular baiting was carried out to ensure that no infestation occurred.

The sewers in Great Dunmow were test baited but no takes were recorded. All the Council's sewage disposal works are regularly treated by the Engineer & Surveyor's staff.

169 complaints of rats were received during the year and 673 bags of poison were issued.

The following details of action taken under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 are given in the form required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food:-

	Type of Property		
	Dwelling Houses (ii)	Agri-cultural (iii)	Total (iv)
Number of properties in Area	8,276	250	8,526
Premises inspected as a result of notification	169	-	169
Premises inspected as a result of Survey under the Act	179	-	179
Total number of inspections (including re-inspections and inspections primarily for other purposes)	348	-	348
Number of properties found to be infested with rats (common rats)	318	-	318
Major infestations		-	
Minor infestations	318	-	318
Number of properties found to be seriously infested with mice	2	-	2
Number of infested premises treated by the Council's Public Health Inspectors	320	-	320
Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act	-	-	-

FACTORIES

Particulars of the premises registered by the Council under the Factories Act, 1961, and the inspections made are to be found as follows:-

1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	45	3	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by local authorities	81	1	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by local authorities (excluding out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
	126	4	-	-

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)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences (not including offences relating to out-workers)	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	-	-	-	-

Outworkers Section 133

5 notifications of outworkers were received.

CARAVANS and other MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

It was reported in last year's report that the owners of a Caravan Site at Takeley appealed to the Dunmow Magistrates against the additional conditions the Council attached to the site licence and that the Appeal was dismissed. After this discussions took place between Officers of this Department and the Owners and their Surveyors, following which plans were prepared and approved. The Site Owners then obtained tenders for the carrying out of the work, but then made a second Appeal against the Licence Conditions. The Appeal was heard at the Dunmow Magistrates Court on 6th December, 1967 but after a hearing taking the majority of a day and including a visit to the Site the Magistrates again discussed the Appeal and upheld the Council's Licence Conditions awarding costs to the Council. The Appellants subsequently gave notice of Appeal to the High Court.

Legal proceedings were taken against the owner of an unlicensed site and a conviction obtained and occupation of the caravan ceased. Legal proceedings were pending at the end of the year in respect of two further sites being occupied without site licences or planning permission.

Itinerant caravan dwellers as in the past and as in many areas, continued to cause concern. There are two types who come to this district, the seasonal farm worker and the gypsy type scrap dealer. The former are exempt from licensing under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 when their caravan is stationed on land owned by the farmer who employs them during a particular crop season, such as potato picking or lifting sugar beet. The problem arises that the terms of the exemption are ignored and the caravan remains on one site while the occupants work on other farms and at the lifting, picking or planting of other crops and if the situation is not watched a permanent site develops.

The second class of dweller mentioned, the itinerant scrap dealer, presents a very different problem. They park their caravans on any roadside lay-by, green lane or waste land with no thought of seeking the owners permission and very little consideration for hygiene. Old motor vehicles, refrigerators, electric cookers, etc., are broken up for the components of value and the remainder is left to litter the site. This particularly occurs on the lay-by at Leaden Roding Bridge where there are inevitably caravans on

site despite action by the Police; when they move on the refuse collection staff clean up the site and often two 25 cubic yard lorry loads of old metal and rubbish are removed. The Ministry of Housing and Local Government recommended Local Authorities to consider the provision of properly laid out caravan sites for gypsies and this was under consideration at the end of the year.

Parishes	Sites	Caravans	Tents	Huts
Barnston	3	3	-	-
Broxted	2	2	-	-
Little Canfield	1	1	-	-
Great Dunmow	2	3	-	-
Great Easton	2	2	-	-
Felsted	3	3	-	1
Great Hallingbury	2	3	-	-
Hatfield Broad Oak	1	5	-	-
Leaden Roding	1	1	-	-
Stebbing	7	10	-	-
Takeley	10	247	-	-
Thaxted	3	4	-	-
White Roding	2	4	-	-
Totals	39	288	-	1

OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERS

Burial of the Dead

No burials were arranged during the year under the provision of Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1958. A total of 22 burials has been arranged by the Council since the passing of the Act.

Bakehouses

The number of bakehouses in operation at the end of the year was 8.

Massage or Special Treatment

The Essex County Council licensed the following establishments for massage or special treatment in this District:-

R. A. Roper Ltd., 9 High Street, Great Dunmow.

W. S. McConkey, 5 Market Place, Great Dunmow.

Miss D. N. Perreau, 23 Stortford Road, Great Dunmow.

These premises are inspected at least once a year prior to licensing.

BYELAWS

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

Byelaws with respect to new streets.

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

Byelaws for the sanitary conditions and management of private slaughterhouses.

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

Byelaws as to Hairdressers and Barbers.

NEW LEGISLATION

The following legislation affecting the Council or of interest to them was passed during the year:-

Civic Amenities Act, 1967

The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966 (As amended)

