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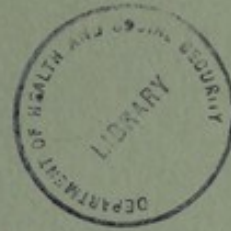
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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DUNMOW

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1970

together with the

REPORT

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DUNMOW
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ERRATUM

Since this Report was prepared notice has been received from the Registrar General that one extra death has been allocated to this District. Malignant neoplasm, stomach, should now read 2 male deaths, and total male deaths 139.

(page 8)

General Committee of the Board

Executive Committee of the Board

President, W. H. Wood, Esq.

Vice-President, E. J. Smith, Esq.

Secretary, J. H. Wood, Esq.

Director, J. H. Wood, Esq.

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Director, J. H. Wood, Esq.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health

E. J. VAUGHAN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

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

Public Health Inspector

R. M. SECKER, M.A.P.H.I.

Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

Meat Inspectors

W. G. MOODIE

D. F. M. FREEMANTLE


A. J. R. CAMDRON

Office Manager

G. H. MASON

Secretary

Miss I. M. HUME



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Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Braintree.

June 1971

The Chairman and Members of Dunmow Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

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 should like to thank Dr. A. Afnan, Area Medical Officer, West Essex for providing statistics of the duties undertaken at the various Essex County Council clinics in the area.

VITAL STATISTICS

The Registrar General's mid-year estimate of the district's population for 1970 was 23,940, an increase of 430 over 1969.

The corrected birth rate of 14.5 was below last year's figure of 16.8 and below the national average for 1970 of 16.0.

There were 16 illegitimate births in the area which was above last year's total of 11, and represented 5 per cent of the total live births. This figure was below the national average of 8 per cent.

There were 4 infant deaths giving an infant mortality rate of 12.0 per 1,000 live births compared with the national figure of 18.0. The causes of these deaths were hydrocephalus, multiple congenital abnormalities, apnoeic attack and prematurity, and acute respiratory (probably virus) infection.

With regard to the health hazards of cigarette dependence, it is alarmingly apparent that an all important message of preventive Medicine has not been successfully conveyed to many people in the area seen committing suicide in full public view. Cigarette smoking is the most important single cause of premature death in Britain today and the diseases it is related to include lung cancer, bronchitis, emphysema and also coronary heart disease, the commonest cause of death. Risk is reduced by ceasing to smoke however long the habit may have been established.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND ITS PREVENTION

Once again measles was the commonest cause of notification of infectious disease in 1970. There was, however, at 26 a considerable

reduction on the previous year's total of 125, and it is encouraging that the impact of vaccination is noticeable in the area. Nationally measles caused 300,000 childhood illnesses and at least 50 deaths which could have been prevented by vaccination. Complications of this disease include lung and ear infections which can cause permanent defects in unvaccinated children.

One case of paratyphoid fever occurred in the area in a patient who had travelled abroad. There were 3 cases of bacterial food poisoning and 3 of infective hepatitis. Two cases of tuberculosis were reported to me, one by the coroner being a man found dead, having lived alone in isolated surroundings.

STAFF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

Staff medical examinations continued to be carried out for Dunmow Rural District Council relating to the Superannuation Act 1937, to the Licensing of Heavy Vehicle Drivers and to fitness for undertaking certain hazardous duties.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. SECTION 47

No action was taken in 1970 but a certain amount of work was undertaken concerning elderly, vulnerable residents to prevent action being taken relating to this section of the Act.

REHOUSING ON MEDICAL GROUNDS

Home visits throughout the area have continued to be undertaken by your medical officer for the purpose of deciding the degree of priority in each case. It was satisfying to see one family rehoused where prolonged scabies had probably not responded to treatment because of overcrowded conditions.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

With reference to your public water supplies, it was brought to my notice in 1970 that the fluoride level in drinking water in the Dunmow and Felsted parts of the Council's area, averaging 1 p.p.m. in the natural state, which is the recommended amount necessary to prevent dental decay, was being reduced in the distribution system because of mixing with water from sources having a much lower fluoride level at Thaxted, Hatfield Heath and from Hertfordshire. Nationally there is still some opposition to artificially raising the natural level of

fluoride in water by certain individuals and councils. Regrettably, however, there seems little chance at the present time of effective opposition to the artificial lowering of natural fluoride in water by dilution, even to a level below that necessary to prevent dental decay in the community as at Dunmow and Felsted. Dunmow Rural District Council has tried but has not been successful in obtaining the co-operation of all the Local Authorities supplied by the Lee Valley Water Company in requesting addition of fluoride for all areas to the recommended level of 1 p.p.m. The Water Company will only consider taking action if all the Local Authorities concerned are in agreement.

Mr. Field has referred to the refuse collection service which was kept up in all weathers in spite of staffing difficulties. With regard to refuse disposal, the Council decided in 1970 to proceed with its plan to extend Merks Hill refuse tip. Your Chief Public Health Inspector has referred to the considerable opposition experienced in trying to obtain planning permission. There was predictable objection in Dunmow to extension of the refuse tip, sited as it is on high ground near the river and near to a housing estate in the town and also involving the destruction of a treasured spinney.

It is only necessary to consider the water-borne epidemics of cholera and typhoid fever which occurred in Britain in the last century and exist today in certain other countries to respect the efficiency of drinking water as a transmitter of disease. As long as unexplained disease continues to exist we must always consider the possibility of undiscovered noxious agents existing in our water, chemical and microbiological, and keep our rivers and water-gathering grounds near rivers and streams as free as possible from pollutants. These include contaminated refuse accumulations, industrial waste, sewage and discharges from intensive farming units, vegetable washing effluents in some areas and farm sprays.

Mr. Field has referred to the Council's plans in 1970 to improve Takeley Sewage Disposal Works and extend the sewers as well as to enlarge Hatfield Heath Disposal Works to deal with additional flows, also to cope with sewage from Hatfield Broad Oak.

During 1970, 75 Council houses were completed in the area and 45 were in the process of being built at the end of the year. Dwellings for elderly residents were being constructed in 1970 at Thaxted, Stebbing and Leaden Roding.

I have pleasure in recording my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and support in 1970. I am grateful too to other Officers for their help in preparing this report and to my secretary Miss Anness for her very considerable assistance throughout the year in the Public Health Department.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

ELIZABETH J. VAUGHAN

Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	...	72,834
Population (Registrar General's estimate mid-1970)	...	23,940
Number of houses according to rate books	...	8,496
Rateable value	...	£857,733
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	£3,401

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	179	143	322
Illegitimate	9	7	16
Total live births	188	150	338
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	14.1	
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	...	5.0	
Birth rate corrected by comparability figure of 1.03	...	14.5	
Birth rate for England and Wales per 1,000 population	...	16.0	

<u>Still Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2	-	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	6.0	
Total live and still births - 340			
Rate per 1,000 total births England and Wales	...	13.0	

<u>Infant Deaths</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths of infants under 1 year			
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	-	1	1
Total infant deaths	2	2	4

<u>Infant Mortality Rates</u>	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	... 12.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	... 9.0
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	... 63.0
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	... 6.0
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	... 6.0
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	... 12.0
Infantile Mortality for England and Wales per 1,000 live births	... 18.0

<u>Maternal Mortality (including abortion)</u>	
Number of deaths	... Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	... Nil

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	139	127	266
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	11.1	
Death rate corrected by comparability figure of 0.96	...	10.7	
Death rate per 1,000 population England and Wales	...	11.7	

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES 1970

The table below was compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar General and the classification is given under the sixty-five headings based on the International Abbreviated List 1968, with additional headings included to improve comparability with statistics published each year in the Registrar General's Statistical Review. Only those cause headings with deaths allocated to them are shown, headings with no deaths allocated to them are omitted.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases ...	-	1
Late effects of respiratory tuberculosis ...	1	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity etc. ...	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, cesophagus ...	2	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, intestine ...	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	11	3
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	-	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	-	2
Malignant neoplasm, prostate ...	1	-
Leukaemia ...	1	-
Other malignant neoplasms ...	10	12
Benign and unspecified neoplasms ...	-	1
Diabetes mellitus ...	2	2
Anaemias ...	-	1
Mental disorders ...	-	1
Other disorders of nervous system ...	1	-
Chronic rheumatic heart disease ...	1	2
Hypertensive disease ...	1	4
Ischaemic heart disease ...	37	28
Other forms of heart disease ...	2	6
Cerebrovascular disease ...	18	16
Other diseases of circulatory system ...	7	8
Influenza ...	1	1
Pneumonia ...	10	13
Bronchitis and emphysema ...	13	2
Asthma ...	-	2
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1	-
Other diseases of digestive system ...	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis ...	1	2
Other diseases, genito-urinary system ...	1	2
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system ...	2	-
Congenital anomalies ...	1	2
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc. ...	1	-
Symptoms and ill defined conditions ...	2	1
Motor vehicle accidents ...	2	-
All other accidents ...	2	5
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries ...	2	1
Total All Causes	138	127

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 1970:-

			<u>Attendances</u>
<u>GREAT DUNMOW</u> - Essex County Health Services Clinic, New Street			
Child Health	1st Friday	10 a.m.)	1,083
	Every other Friday	2 p.m.)	
Cytology Clinic	3rd Friday	9.30 a.m.	64
School Clinic	2nd and 4th Monday	9.30 a.m.	110
Dental Clinic	Thursday all day	10 a.m.	521
<u>FELSTED</u> - Memorial Hall			
Child Health	2nd Tuesday	2 p.m.	245
<u>GREAT EASTON</u> - Village Hall			
Child Health	Last Friday	2 p.m.	104
<u>HATFIELD BROAD OAK</u> - Village Hall			
Child Health	2nd Tuesday	2 p.m.	219
<u>HATFIELD HEATH</u> - Congregational Church Hall			
Child Health	3rd Tuesday	2 p.m.	173
<u>HIGH RODING</u> - Women's Institute			
Health Visitor's Advisory Clinic			
	1st Thursday	2 p.m.	81
<u>STEBBING</u> - Congregational Schoolroom			
Child Health	2nd Friday	2 p.m.	143
<u>TAKELEY</u> - Village Hall			
Child Health	2nd Monday	2 p.m.	271
<u>THAXTED</u> - Church Hall			
Child Health	1st Friday	2 p.m.	226

(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	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	3	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	3	-	-
Measles	26	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	2	2	-
Paratyphoid Fever	1	1	-
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	2	2	2
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	2	-	-
Totals	39	5	2

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	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Dysentery	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Encephalitis	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Food Poisoning	3	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Infective Hepatitis	3	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Measles	26	-	1	4	3	6	11	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Meningococcal Infection	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1
Paratyphoid Fever	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	39	1	2	5	3	6	13	3	3	1	-	-	2	-

Diphtheria	1	Total Notified
Dysentery	-	Aythorpe Roding
Encephalitis	-	Little Bardfield
Food Poisoning	3	Barnston
Infective Hepatitis	3	Broxted
Miscles	26	Great Canfield
Meningococcal Infection	2	Little Canfield
Paratyphoid Fever	1	Chickney
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	Great Dunmow
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	Little Dunmow
Scarlet Fever	-	Great Easton
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	2	Little Easton
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	-	Felsted
Whooping Cough	2	Great Hallingbury
Totals	39	Little Hallingbury
	-	Hatfield Broad Oak
	-	High Easter
	-	Hatfield Heath
	-	High Roding
	-	Leaden Roding
	-	Lindsell
	-	Margaret Roding
	-	Stobbing
	-	Takeley
	-	Thaxted
	-	Tilty
	-	White Roding

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED MONTH BY MONTH

DISEASES

	Total Notified	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Measles	26	-	-	-	3	13	4	1	1	-	3	-	1
Meningococcal Infection	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Totals	39	2	1	-	6	14	4	3	2	-	5	1	1

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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Age not known	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

<u>Primary Courses</u>	<u>By General Practitioners</u>	<u>By County Staff</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus	267	46	313
Diphtheria & Tetanus	8	1	9
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Tetanus	53	-	53
Poliomyelitis	353	49	402
Smallpox	219	-	219
Measles	329	17	346
Rubella	5	52	57
<u>Reinforcing Doses</u>			
Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus	121	8	129
Diphtheria & Tetanus	149	9	158
Diphtheria	-	2	2
Tetanus	147	-	147
Poliomyelitis	328	20	348
Smallpox	64	-	64

February 1971

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Public health is one of the Local Government services which attracts very little publicity. It has no monuments to mark its achievements like large blocks of high rise flats or large housing estates, but without continued inspection and enforcement of recognized public health standards our country would be a very unhealthy land in which to live. Refuse would lie uncollected, sewage would pollute water supplies and housing conditions would be very sub-standard - indeed primitive. We do not have to look back much more than three decades to find houses which could be called slums in the true sense of the word, meat uninspected, milk the purveyor of disease and services such as mains sewerage, water supply and refuse collection virtually non-existent in much of the rural areas and not a lot better in some of the towns. Now, except in the larger conurbations slum clearance is becoming a thing of the past no meat is sold which is not inspected and passed as fit for human consumption, milk is now a very safe product due to improved hygienic standards and pasteurisation. As regards services, no area will be denied refuse collection, large tracts of our countryside are provided with mains sewerage and lack of mains water is indeed a rare feature. Local Government has pioneered the provision of these services, but now in the wisdom of a management era, they are gradually being taken away from local authorities and given to larger organisations to operate. Milk and dairies was one of the first, being given to a Government Department, Water Boards were set up to amalgamate local undertakings and in the near future we shall undoubtedly see Regional Boards set up to administer the Sewerage and Refuse Services. The question to be answered is will the services be more efficient? One thing is certain, it is always more difficult to see or contact the Head of a Department in a large organisation than it is in a smaller one.

The 75 dwellings on the Council's development at Waldgroves, Great Dunmow were occupied and plastic bin liners were used for refuse storage, proving very successful - in my opinion better and cheaper than paper or plastic sacks on wall mounted holders. Dwellings for elderly persons were under construction at Thaxted, Leaden Roding and Stebbing involving a total of 42 1-bedroom units plus a Wardens Flat at each site.

The Council agreed to the proposals to improve the Takeley Sewage Disposal Works and extend the sewers, and also to improve and enlarge the Hatfield Heath Sewage Disposal Works to cater for the additional flows and at the same time to deal with sewage from Hatfield Broad Oak. Both schemes were submitted to the Department of the Environment for approval.

The technical and clerical staff of the Department remained unchanged and carried out their duties with their usual zeal and enthusiasm and I commend them all for the assistance which they have given me. I single out no particular officer as they have all in their respective ways been responsible for the smooth running of the Department.

I wish to express my appreciation to the Council for their continued support and to my Chief Officer colleagues and their staff for their ever ready help and assistance.

Yours faithfully,

G. L. FIELD

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

(a) Public Water Supplies

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	... 0.4 part per million
Dunmow	... 1 part per million
Hatfield Heath	... 0.4 part per million

Analysis

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

Private Water Supplies

Samples of water were taken from 4 private premises and 1 was found to be satisfactory. In the case of the unsatisfactory samples steps were being taken to provide a mains supply.

Swimming Pools

In addition to the pools at the Dunmow Secondary School, Dunmow Primary, Great Easton and Stebbing Schools and the Felsted School new pools were provided at Hatfield Broad Oak and the new Dunmow Primary School. Regular checks on the chlorine content and acidity of the water were made by the Public Health Inspectors as well as sampling the water for bacteriological examination.

Lee Valley Water Company

Tap over sink at Council Offices, Dunmow

Chemical Results in Parts Per Million

Appearance:	Clear and bright	Turbidity:	Nil
Colour	Nil	Odour	Nil
pH	7.2	Free Carbon Dioxide	38
Electric Conductivity	660	Dissolved Solids dried at 180°	470
Chlorine present as Chloride	46	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	290
Hardness: Total	330	Carbonate: 290 Non-carbonate	40
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.0	Nitrite Nitrogen	Absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.01	Oxygen Absorbed	0.20
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.00	Residual Chlorine	Absent
Metals: Iron, zinc, copper, lead; Absent			

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals. The water is very hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not considered excessive. The water conforms to the highest standard of organic quality and is also of very satisfactory bacterial purity.

These results indicate a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic uses.

2nd June 1970

Counties Public Health Laboratories

POPULATION IN EACH PARISH HAVING MAIN WATER SUPPLY

Parish	No. of Houses	Estimated Population (mid-70)	No. of houses on main supply	Estimated Population on main supply
Aythorpe Roding	80	237	73	213
Little Bardfield	89	214	74	192
Barnston	164	477	158	450
Broxted	200	563	197	558
Great Canfield	138	368	131	346
Little Canfield	116	329	113	323
Chickney	13	45	5	20
Great Dunmow	1,685	4,456	1,621	4,276
Little Dunmow	138	383	131	350
Great Easton	288	752	275	712
Little Easton	149	368	124	312
Felsted	857	2,991	796	2,834
Great Hallingbury	327	989	293	903
Little Hallingbury	429	1,307	410	1,218
Hatfield Broad Oak	966	2,701	948	2,415
High Easter	217	588	202	563
High Roding	148	394	142	346
Leaden Roding	119	343	119	343
Lindsell	79	211	77	204
Margaret Roding	70	219	69	201
Stebbing	416	1,191	398	1,128
Takeley	853	2,250	843	2,212
Thaxted	807	2,141	790	2,036
Tilty	22	70	18	55
White Roding	126	353	115	370
Totals	8,496	23,940	7,895	22,530

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION

(a) Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

I am grateful to the Engineer and Surveyor for this part of the report.

There are 16 sewage disposal works, 20 sewage pumping stations and 17 smaller works in the district. There are also approximately 60 miles of sewers.

Connections to sewers

During the year 120 new properties were connected to the Council's sewers.

Sewerage Contracts

The Lower Chelmer Valley Sewage Works were completed during the previous year and no further sewage proposals were put in hand during the current year.

Future Works

Hatfield Heath Sewage Works and Takeley Sewage Works

During the year detailed schemes for the enlargement and improvement of these two sewage disposal works were being prepared by the Council's consultants and it is hoped that both schemes will be going out to tender during 1971.

Lower Chelmer Valley Sewerage Scheme Phase III

At the end of the year the Council's consulting engineers were instructed to prepare and submit a report on Phase III of this sewerage scheme which is intended to cope with the anticipated growth in population in the drainage areas of Great Dunmow, Stebbing, Little Dunmow, Barnston and Felsted and their report was expected early in 1971.

HOUSING

Improvement Grants

The Housing Act 1969 which revised the structure for Improvement Grants putting the emphasis on encouraging the issue of such grants with a view to improving the housing stock of the country has now been in operation for a full year. National and local publicity on television and in the press has drawn attention, as never before, to the fact that house owners can obtain these grants to improve their homes. Householders have unfortunately misconstrued some of the publicity, getting the impression that the grants are available for carrying out repairs without doing improvements, such as repairing a leaking roof or defective windows, and also for the installation of central heating and replacement of sanitary fittings which are no longer thought to be quite up to the standard the occupier would like. There have of necessity been some disappointed owners who found that the Council could not help pay for the central heating system or the different coloured bathroom suite.

Despite this there was an increase of over 50% in the number of grants issued in 1970 as opposed to 1969. What is more significant whilst in 1969 there was a definite bias towards applications for Standard Grants (34) with Discretionary Grants (8) less popular, last year there was a complete reversal with 46 Discretionary Grants being approved and only 19 Standard Grants. Approval of the former type of grant results in a far superior house on completion and we now recommend application of this type of grant wherever possible.

Whilst the advantages of pursuing this branch of our work are very obvious it is also time consuming as 392 visits were made during the year carrying out inspections of properties and discussing proposals with applicants or their architects, surveyors or builders.

Maturity Loans

I remarked last year that the Council had adopted the provisions of the Housing Act 1969 empowering them to make maturity loans to aged house owners who are unable to afford to carry out major repairs. One such loan was made in respect of a house with an extremely dilapidated thatch roof, where the thatch was replaced with slates. These loans were also brought to the attention of a number of eligible owners who were contemplating carrying out major repairs.

Slum Clearance

As I reported last year the District is remarkably free from houses requiring to be dealt with in the Slum Clearance programme.

1 Demolition Order and 1 Closing Order were made and 1 Demolition Order was extended in order to allow the owner to recondition the property with a view to the Order being revoked on satisfactory completion of the work. 1 Undertaking not to relet and 1 Undertaking to carry out repairs were accepted. Notice of Time and Place had been served in respect of one other property for formal consideration in 1971.

5 properties which were subject to Undertakings were repaired and made fit for human habitation and the Undertakings cancelled.

Remedy of Defects and Disrepair to Private Houses

3 houses were made fit after informal action.

Housing Act 1969 - Rent provisions

Applications for Qualification Certificates were received in respect of 2 premises already provided with all the standard facilities. In both cases certain repairs needed to be attended to, these being brought to the attention of the owner. Following the execution of the repairs 1 Qualification Certificate was issued but the other was still pending.

9 Provisional Qualification Certificates were issued following the approval of Standard and Improvement Grants and 4 Qualification Certificates were issued on completion of the improvements and provision of standard amenities.

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)	...	315
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	345
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Regulations	...	199
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	299
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	5
(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	...	5

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 ... Nil

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 ... 1

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:

(a) By owners ... 1

(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 ... 1

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... Nil

(3) Number of written undertakings accepted ... 2

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

(1) Number of Closing Orders made ... 1

(2) Number of houses demolished ... 1

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 ... Nil

4. Overcrowding - Part IV, Housing Act, 1957

No action was necessary during the year.

The following information relating to Council and Private Housing has been supplied by the Engineer and Surveyor.

Council Housing

New Building during 1970 was as follows:-

Number of Council houses completed	... 75
Number of Council houses under construction at end of the year	... 45
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	... 675
Cottages purchased post-war	... 21
Post-War houses	... 1179
	<hr/> 1875

The houses by types are as follows:-

1-bed houses	... 2
2-bed houses	... 171
3-bed houses	... 1182
3-bed house/shop	... 1
4-bed houses	... 39
1-bed bungalows	... 87
2-bed bungalows	... 229
1-bed flats	... 16
2-bed flats	... 148

10 houses have been sold to tenants (5 pre-war and 5 post-war).

Housing Applications

There were 389 applications for Council houses at 31st December.

During the year there were 91 re-lettings.

Private Housing

New Building during 1970 was as follows:-

Number of Private houses completed	... 59
Number of houses built by other authorities	... Nil
Number of Private houses under construction at end of year	... 41
Number of Private houses with detail plans approved but not commenced at end of year	... 149
Number of Private houses covered by outline approvals other than single houses	... 153
Number of conversions completed	... 1
Number of conversions in progress at end of year	... 14
Number of conversions approved but not started	... 29
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	... 1179
Housing Associations	... 12
Private houses	... 1987
Essex County Council	... 30
	<hr/>
	3208
	<hr/>

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Staff

1 Foreman
1 Vehicle Mechanic
5 Driver/Loaders
10 Loaders
1 Tractor Driver
1 Cesspool Emptier Driver
1 Female Paper Baler

20 Total

Vehicles

2 No. Shelvoke & Drewry 50 cu. yd. Pakamatics
2 No. Shelvoke & Drewry 35 cu. yd. Fore & Aft Tippers
2 No. Karrier 25 cu. yd. "Dual Tip"
1 No. Shelvoke & Drewry 1100 gallon Cesspool Emptier
1 No. Morris 1000 Pick-up Truck
1 No. International B.T.D.8 Drott crawler tractor
with 4 in 1 bucket

Refuse Collection and Disposal

(i) Refuse Collection

The weekly service continued to be maintained throughout the year despite staff shortages resulting from holidays, sickness and men leaving for other employment. From June to December the service was regularly run with a third of the men not available and on occasions this deteriorated and on one day only 8 men out of 17 were available for refuse collection even including the Foreman and the Tractor Driver. The shortage of drivers was particularly acute and was accentuated when one left the Council's employ in September and a replacement was not obtained until 30th December. The introduction of Heavy Goods Vehicle Driver Licensing has undoubtedly added to the difficulties of obtaining drivers and it was decided that the only way to improve the position was to train our own. For the second half of the year the Tractor Driver was virtually employed full-time driving a refuse vehicle covering for drivers who were on holiday or sick and later covering the vacancy previously referred to.

139 new dwellings received a collection during the year including 75 at Waldgroves, Great Dunmow. At Waldgroves plastic bin liners were used and have proved successful; these properties were added to the Thursday round of the fifth vehicle making up a full day's work so that this vehicle is now only available on Friday for carrying out collections of bulky refuse. The remaining 64 properties were absorbed into the existing rounds with the appropriate bin bonus being paid.

A new Shelvoke and Drewry 35 cu. yd. Fore and Aft Tipper was brought into service in August, when the Dennis Paxit was sold for scrap and one of the Karriers put into reserve.

10 men left the Council's employ and 10 replacements were engaged.

1969 was considered to be a bad year for absenteeism due to sickness and no reason when 167 days were lost. This bears no comparison with this year when $277\frac{1}{2}$ days were lost, the worst months of the year being July, August and October with 50, $45\frac{1}{2}$ and $57\frac{1}{2}$ days lost respectively. These figures will emphasise my previous statement regarding the difficulties encountered in keeping the service running. The number of days absence are equivalent to one man being away for a whole year - from a male labour force of 19.

(ii) Refuse Disposal

Tipping continued to take place at the central refuse tip at Merks Hill, Great Dunmow and the space available was reduced at an alarming rate. An agreement was entered into with the owners of a pit at Widdington in the Saffron Walden Rural District allowing refuse to be taken there for disposal when the Merks Hill tip became full. An application was made to the Planning Authority for permission to extend the Merks Hill Tip into an adjoining area of rough woodland. Considerable opposition was experienced and the planning permission was refused, not on grounds of amenity however but solely for the reason that "the proposal if permitted would result in a greatly increased risk of pollution of surface waters draining into the River Chelmer." It was felt that this was an engineering problem which could be overcome and the Council asked its Consulting Engineers to investigate and report on the matter. This they did and advised collecting the exudate from the tip and pumping it into the public sewer. The River Authority accepted this solution and intimated that if this was done they would withdraw their objection on which the planning refusal was based. The Department of the Environment, with whom an appeal against the planning refusal had been lodged, were asked to give planning permission in view of the objection having been countered. The Department were unwilling to do this and stated that a Public Inquiry would be held at a date to be fixed in 1971.

Looking to the future the Council and Officers continued to hold the opinion that incineration of refuse was the long term solution. Whilst such a project would be undoubtedly too large for the Council to

embark on itself, an approach was made to the Braintree and Bocking U.D.C., Braintree R.D.C., Saffron Walden R.D.C. and Saffron Walden B.C., suggesting that representatives of the five authorities should discuss the provision of a central plant for their joint use. All authorities expressed interest and agreed to such a meeting.

As to the day to day control of the Merks Hill Tip, this at times made it necessary for the Tractor Driver to do this work in overtime when he was requested to drive a collection vehicle due to staff shortages. Whilst he kept the tip in a good condition I consider it essential that he should be working there full-time.

Salvage

Waste paper was again in great demand by the Mills. Collection was carried out as in previous years.

79 tons 18 cwt. were sent to the Mills resulting in a gross income of £867.9.3.

Litter

The requests for collection of bulky domestic refuse showed no abatement, no doubt because the work was done free of charge. 327 collections were made during the year, the majority of the work having to be done on Saturday mornings.

4 additional litter baskets were erected and 2 replacements provided. 102 litter baskets have now been erected in the district. Delivery of these baskets continued to be very poor despite ordering from an alternative supplier. To give an example litter baskets ordered in June had not, despite a continual flow of letters urging delivery, been delivered when the year closed.

Litter was collected as in the past from 8 lay-bys on the public highway on behalf of the County Highways Department, from which an income of £33.16.0. was derived.

Abandoned Vehicles

This problem continues to be with us and during the year 10 vehicles were removed to the scrap yard and broken up after the necessary investigations had been made.

Vehicle Maintenance

Maintenance of all the Council's vehicles continued by direct labour through most of the year. A disruption was caused by the mechanic leaving and getting a man to replace him, which meant that, for a period of $2\frac{1}{2}$

months, the Foreman carried out greasing and minor maintenance and more major work was done by one of the local garages or a fitter sent by Shelvoke & Drewry Ltd. who manufacture the large vehicles the Council operate. Fortunately the need to call in outside assistance was very little.

Major work carried out by the Council's staff included

1. Overhaul of gear box and renewing steering clutches on International Drott.
2. Replacing guides, rollers and wearing plates of packer boxes on both Pakamatics.
3. Replacing clutch of Land Rover.
4. Overhaul of braking systems of two Land Rovers.
5. Overhaul of steering and front suspension on Karrier 2.
6. Overhaul of steering on Land Rover.

Having a fleet of comparatively new vehicles - 5 of the 7 heavy vehicles were less than three years old - and carrying out routine maintenance paid dividends in reducing the time that vehicles were off the road for repair. On several occasions the spare refuse lorry was loaned to adjoining authorities, to help them out of difficulties whilst their own vehicles were undergoing repair.

A high pressure vehicle washer was purchased and as a detergent is used, this together with a water pressure of 500 lb./sq. inch resulted in an immediate improvement in the cleanliness of the vehicles compared with the use of the normal hose and brush. Not only was there an improvement to the cab and body of the vehicles but, in the case of heavy lorries, it was possible to properly cleanse the chassis. With the refuse lorries and cesspool emptier weekly washing is normal. It was proposed to construct a concrete vehicle washing bay in the yard at the Depot, but this was deferred due to the high cost involved.

Cesspool Emptying

The emptying of Council house cesspools and small sewage plants and the removal of sewage sludge from the major sewage works was continued. After harvest for a couple of months no difficulty is experienced in getting rid of the sludge and cesspool contents as it is discharged direct onto the land before ploughing. The other ten months present quite a problem as we were unable to get any farmers interested in having "straw beds" constructed on their land. We did, however, have permission

to dump on a disused airfield in the central part of the area and later get a similar permission in respect of an old airfield in the southern part of the district. We were asked to discontinue using the former in April and it became necessary to stop using the latter in October so that very great problems of disposal occurred. The matter was discussed with the Engineer and Surveyor and it was agreed that all cesspool contents and sewage sludge should be taken to the Felsted Sewage Works for treatment. This meant a restriction on the work output of the cesspool emptier due to the amount passed into the Works having to be restricted to prevent overloading of the plant.

In the field of private cesspool emptying the Council agreed to undertake this subject to the question of disposal of the cesspool contents being satisfactorily resolved. It was considered that all cesspool contents should be passed through the sewage works for proper treatment. The Council's Consulting Engineers reported on this and advised that the present capacity of the sewage works was inadequate to treat sewerage in excess of the quantities now being passed through and any increase in the loading would not be possible until improvements and enlargements had been carried out to the existing works at Hatfield Heath and Takeley. Therefore until the disposal problem can be dealt with, extension of the existing cesspool emptying arrangements to provide a service for private dwellings, has to be held in abeyance.

INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

The Council's Public Health Inspectors made 4,355 visits and inspections in the course of the year. Details of these are given below:-

Complaints received and investigated	... 126
<u>Inspections under Housing Acts</u>	
Housing inspections	... 178
Housing applications verified	... 2
Housing applications verified for other authorities	... 18
Improvement grants	... 372
<u>Inspections under Public Health Acts</u>	
Caravan Sites	... 134
Offensive accumulations	... 27
Water supplies	... 7
Drainage, cesspools, etc.	... 184
Ponds, ditches and watercourses	... 12
Refuse Collection and Disposal	... 393
Public conveniences	... 56
<u>Infectious Disease Prevention</u>	
Visits to private houses	... 99
<u>Factories, Shops and Schools</u>	
Factories	... 18
Schools	... 4
Outworkers	... 7
<u>Food and Drugs Act</u>	
Slaughterhouses	... 57
Knackers Yard	... 3
Cafes, restaurants and canteens	... 10
Hotels and Public Houses	... 9
Dairies	... 1
Other Food Premises (Grocers etc.)	... 36
Fishmongers	... 1
Butchers	... 5
<u>Sampling</u>	
Water	... 13
<u>Rodent Control</u>	
Visits	... 362
Treatments	... 312
<u>Clean Air Act</u>	
Visits	... 4

<u>Means of escape in case of fire</u>	...	15
<u>Abandoned Vehicles</u>	...	113
<u>Petroleum Regulations</u>		
Licensing and Pressure and Seepage tests	...	123
<u>Swimming Pools</u>	...	15
<u>Meat Inspection visits</u>	...	1602
<u>Animal Boarding Establishments</u>	...	1
<u>Offices, Shops and Railway Premises</u>	...	36
<u>Searches</u>	...	730
<u>Nuisances Detected and Notices Served</u>		
Nuisances detected	...	116
Informal notices served	...	27
Notices outstanding 1st January 1970	...	3
Notices outstanding 31st December 1970	...	5
Statutory Notices served	...	2
Legal Proceedings	...	1

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat Inspection

The animals slaughtered, all of which were inspected, again showed an increase over the previous year from 141,635 to 148,712. This is attributed to increased output at the Dunmow Fitch Bacon Factory and the Hatfield Heath Abattoir.

No change occurred in the meat inspection staff and they remained very much "back room boys" with members of the general public not knowing of their existence much less the importance of their work in ensuring a safe, disease free meat supply. How many people when eating roast beef, or for that matter any meat, realise the precautions taken for ensuring slaughtering under hygienic conditions and the thoroughness of the meat inspection, to make sure that none, which is unfit for human consumption, can find its way into the shops for sale?

One side effect of the Electrical Power Workers Dispute in December was that due to a power cut the production line at one premises ceased to function for some three hours and 45 pigs on the line were not eviscerated and had to be condemned involving a considerable financial loss.

Carcases inspected and condemned:

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
No. Slaughtered	11,383	53	65	10,767	126,449	-
No. Inspected	11,383	53	65	10,767	126,449	-
<u>All diseases except</u> <u>Tuberculosis and</u> <u>Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	9	1	7	6	149	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2,448	8	6	495	9,333	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	21.5%	16.9%	20.0%	4.6%	7.4%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	1,555	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1.2%	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	1	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	1	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

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

Slaughterhouses

The number of premises licensed remained unchanged. Regular inspections were made by Public Health Inspectors with visits at quarterly intervals by the Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Cold storage facilities were enlarged at the Hatfield Heath Abattoir and a similar increase was proposed for the Dunmow Flitch Bacon Factory.

The blood dewatering plant was installed at the Hatfield Heath Abattoir and was operational at the end of the year, appearing to work satisfactorily after initial teething troubles. Instead of blood being carted away in tankers at considerable expense the dewatered blood is sent away in polythene sacks and results in a satisfactory income from its sale.

Knackers Yard

The one knackers yard in use in the district which is at Little Hallingbury, continued to be run in a most satisfactory manner. The statutory returns under the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958 showed that 35 horses, 313 cattle and 1,446 pigs, calves and sheep were slaughtered there during the year.

The Meat (Sterilizing) Regulations 1969 which came into force last year resulted in knacker meat no longer being sold from these premises as all meat and offal is now sent to a plant situated outside the district for sterilization.

Licensing

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

Private Slaughterhouses	7
Knackers' Yard	1
Licensed Slaughtermen	35
Game Dealers	7

Food Inspection

Complaints were received as follows:

1. Dark staining of corned beef
2. Corned beef alleged to have caused food poisoning
3. Mouldy "Take and Bake" loaf

The first was found to be due to sulphide staining of the internal surfaces of the can and laboratory tests for food poisoning organisms

in the second showed none present so no action was taken in either case. The loaf of bread was however found to be mouldy and the bakers supplying it were successfully prosecuted by the Council resulting in their being fined £50 with costs of £10 being awarded to the Council.

Breakdowns in refrigerated storage cabinets continued to occur making it necessary in a number of cases to condemn the whole of the contents. This together with the considerable quantities of green-grocery condemned at a major wholesaler's in the District accounted for the majority of the condemned food previously referred to.

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

1 x 3 lb. 14 oz. tin chopped pork
123 x 1 doz. boxes cucumbers
contents of 8 shop refrigerators

Ice Cream

There are 128 premises registered under Section 16 Food and Drugs Act 1955 for the storage and sale of ice cream.

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	...	65
Works Canteens	...	9
School Canteens and Cooking Centres	...	16

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

Fish Frying	...	1
Manufacture of sausages and preserved food	...	18

Food Processing Premises

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

Waste Food

At the beginning of the year the following premises in the district were licensed for the boiling of waste food for animal feeding

Claremont, Hatfield Heath - Mr. Anderson

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

No nuisances occurred during the year and no plans of boiler installations requiring the checking of chimney heights were submitted.

Disinfestation

Five disinfestations were carried out, three in respect of fleas and two for scabies.

Section 60 National Assistance Act 1948 Burial of the Dead

During the year arrangements were made for the burial of two persons, one in Felsted and one in Stebbing, who died with no next of kin. The latter lived in a derelict caravan in deplorable conditions and as he had suffered from an infectious disease the caravan was destroyed by fire.

PETROLEUM

Licences were in force in respect of the following:-

Storage of petroleum spirit 138

Storage of petroleum mixtures 1

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

Before licences in respect of installations with electrically operated pumps were renewed the holders were required to submit a certificate from a competent electrical contractor stating that the electrical wiring and equipment complied with the licence conditions. Over six months notice of this requirement was given but three licensees had to be threatened with legal proceedings before the necessary certificate was produced.

The coin-operated self-service petrol pump referred to in last year's report was brought into operation during the year.

It came to our notice that in excess of 500 gallons of Toluene was being delivered to a premises in Great Dunmow where it was filled into 5 gallon cans. Although the substance was a derivative of petroleum spirit no application had been made for a licence and the occupier pleaded ignorance of the licensing law. After being advised of the offence and what work would be required to make the premises comply with the Council's licence conditions, he decided to discontinue the practice and all the Toluene was removed from the site.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Steady progress was again maintained in the inspection of premises registered under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 with 36 visits being made to registered premises for the primary purpose of ensuring compliance with the Act. In addition, of course, a very large proportion of the premises are visited frequently as a result of inspections for other purposes and this is a major factor in maintaining an acceptable standard.

The inspections are carried out on a rota system to ensure that all registered premises receive a regular general inspection.

In late 1969 the Post Office ceased to be a Crown Department and became a Public Authority, then the enforcement of the Act in all premises other than those occupied by the Crown became the responsibility of the Local Authority. The establishments in this district were all found to be satisfactory having previously been inspected by H. M. Factory Inspectorate.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

	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	1	30	4	146
Retail Shops	-	78	10	314
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	-	-	-	-
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens	1	11	5	93
Fuel storage depots	-	2	-	15
	2	121	19	568
			Total Males	250
			Total Females	318

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:

Apple Tree Cottage, Gaston Green, Little Hallingbury
The Chestnuts, Latchmore Bank, Little Hallingbury
Silver Pines, Little Hallingbury
Whitedale, Canfield Road, Takeley
Simpkins Farm, Church End, Lindsell
Normandale Farm, Little Hallingbury
Paddocks, Wrights Green, Little Hallingbury
Grange Farm, Sparrows Lane, Hatfield Heath

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 is 16.

RODENT CONTROL

Control of rats and mice in the district continued to be exercised by the Public Health Inspectors and the Cleansing Foreman. There were 312 rat and 50 mice infestations notified and inspected and in addition 157 other properties were inspected. 436 packets of poison were issued and 210 premises treated by the Council's staff.

Agricultural property continued to be treated either by the occupiers themselves or on their behalf by the Dunmow Rabbit Clearance Society.

The Council's refuse tip was treated when necessary but as in the past was rarely found to be infested. The Area Pest Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was asked to make an inspection of the Tip in November and he reported that there was no infestation. The Council's sewage disposal works continued to be treated by the Engineer & Surveyor's staff.

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	8,496	250	8,746
Premises inspected as a result of notification	362	-	362
Premises inspected as a result of Survey under the Act	-	-	-
Total number of inspections (including re-inspections and inspections primarily for other purposes)	362	-	362
Number of properties found to be infested with rats (common rats)	312	-	312
Major infestations	-	-	-
Minor infestations	312	-	312
Number of properties found to be seriously infested with mice	50	-	50
Number of infested premises treated by the Council's Public Health Inspectors	210	-	210
Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act	-	-	-

CARAVANS and other MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The caravan population continued to be the same as previous year with the majority concentrated on the three large sites at Takeley.

Improvements continued to be made to all these three sites with provision of roads, sewers, water supply and hardstandings on one, the improvement of hardstandings on another and provision of additional fire fighting facilities on the third.

It was, I am pleased to say, unnecessary to take formal action against any site owners during the year for either occupying an unlicensed site or for non-compliance with the Council's licence conditions.

The provision of a site for gipsies continued to be considered, but unfortunately with no marked success. Further sites were looked at by the Council and two, one at Stebbing Green and another at Takeley were submitted to the County Council as possible sites. The former was rejected and the County Council suggested that they should discuss with the Dunmow Rural District Council the proposed site at Takeley before any firm decision was made.

Parishes	Sites	Caravans	Tents	Huts
Barnston	3	3	-	-
Little Canfield	1	1	-	-
Great Dunmow	2	3	-	-
Great Easton	1	1	-	-
Felsted	1	1	-	-
Great Hallingbury	1	1	-	-
Little Hallingbury	1	1	-	-
Leaden Roding	1	1	-	-
Lindsell	1	1	-	-
Stebbing	2	3	-	-
Takeley	7	234	-	-
Thaxted	1	1	-	-
White Roding	1	2	-	-
Totals	23	253	-	-

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			
		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	15	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by local authorities (excluding out-workers premises?)	-	-	-	-
	126	18	-	-

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 1 notification of outworker was received.

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.

