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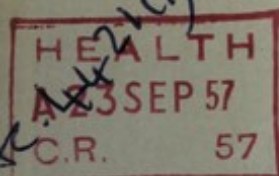
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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED SANITARY DISTRICTS



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~~Miss Margaret Rute.~~  
~~Miss Boon~~  
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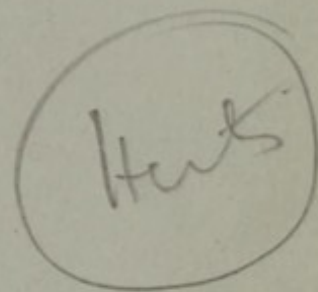
ANNUAL REPORT

On the Health of

The

BOROUGH OF HERTFORD

For the Year 1956



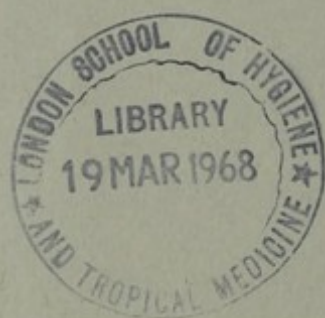
Report presented by

The Medical Officer of Health and the Public Health Inspector,

Borough of Hertford

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BOROUGH OF HERTFORDAnnual Report on the Health of the District for the Year 1956.

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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED SANITARY DISTRICTS

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1956.

B O R O U G H     O F     H E R T F O R D

P R E F A C E

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
Borough of Hertford.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present herewith my Report on the Health of the District in 1956.

The Report has been drawn up on the lines suggested by the Ministry of Health.

Following my Report is the Report of the Public Health Inspector on the Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough.

Cost of Printing the Report

Because of the high cost of printing the Annual Report each year, the appropriate Committee of the East Hertfordshire Combined Sanitary Districts decided by a majority vote that the Annual Report for 1956 should be produced separately, in stencilled form, for each separate District. Thus my Report for 1956 for East Herts is in seven parts.



So far as I can trace the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the East Hertfordshire Combined Districts has appeared in printed form ever since the Combined Districts were formed late last Century. Furthermore it has, with the exception of the year 1894, appeared as a Combined Districts Report. In 1894 Dr. George Turner, Medical Officer of Health, reported that the Ware Urban Sanitary Authority alone decided to have a separate Report, There is then a gap in my Records, but the next Report in my possession, for the year 1899, shows that Ware Urban District has thought better of its earlier decision and is reported along with the other six Districts.

Let's hope History will repeat itself, and that it will be possible to produce the M.O.H. Annual Report in Combined Form once more. I think that a comment made by Dr. George Turner in his Report for 1894 is applicable to the present day position, and I make no apologies for reproducing his remarks:

" A common report possesses many advantages, since it prevents useless repetition, much of the advice given to any one Sanitary Authority being more or less applicable to all. " . . . . . and as the conditions of life are very similar in all the Districts any deviation from the general average should attract attention and lead to enquiry. "

### Vital Statistics

The population of the Borough showed only a slight total increase during 1956.

The Birth Rate shows a drop since the previous year. The Death Rate also dropped considerably, and is proportionately much lower than the rate for England and Wales, than during 1955. There were also fewer deaths of infants under the age of 1 year.



Notifiable Disease

Generally speaking 1956 was a satisfactory year, there being very few cases of Notifiable Disease. Two cases of Acute Poliomyelitis developed severe paralysis. A third suspect case was subsequently diagnosed as a non-infectious illness, and not poliomyelitis.

Nine new cases of Tuberculosis (7 Pulmonary: 2 Non-Pulmonary) were notified for the first time, and 1 other case was pronounced cured. After allowing for inward and outward transfers the Year ended with 92 cases on the Tuberculosis Register; an increase of 2 cases since 1955.

National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951.

One elderly lady was found to be living in a very dirty and neglected state, and in August the Borough Council obtained a Justice's Order to have her removed to an Institution.

Environmental Hygiene

Your Public Health Inspector has been kept busy inspecting food premises, at which, generally speaking he has found a high standard of cleanliness.

Inspection of substandard dwellings has progressed, and during 1956 your Council considered eight Official Representations with regard to dwellings unfit for human habitation, the details being as set out later in the Report.

In conclusion I wish to thank the Staff of the Health Department, and the Public Health Committee, for all the help and co-operation received during the Year.

*John Silberman*

Medical Officer of Health.

Hoddesdon, June 1957.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

John H. Wildman, M.R.C.S., (Eng), L.R.C.P., (Lond), D.P.H.

Central Office: Council Offices,  
High Street,  
HODDESDON, Herts.

(Office telephone: Hoddesdon 3061. Private: Hodd. 2908)

Deputy (Part-time) Medical Officer of Health

Peter de Bec TURTLE, V.R.D., M.A., B.M., B.Ch., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

B.W. PECK. Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J. Board.

Public Health Department,  
28, Chambers Street,  
HERTFORD, Herts

Telephone: Hertford 3070.

Pupil Assistant to Public Health Inspector: J.E. STACEY

Clerk to the Department: Mrs V.P. KIRBY

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Public Health and Town Planning Committee for the Session 1956/57 comprised the following Members:-

Alderman C. VANCE PACKMAN	(Chairman)
Councillor G.W. DALE	(Vice-Chairman)

Her Worship The Mayor (Councillor Mrs P.G. BROOKS)  
Alderman G.C. MANSFIELD; Councillors E.A. BENNETT,  
H.S.D. BRYANT, F. HERNIMAN, Mrs M.E. MARTIN and  
Councillor F.L. PATMORE.



SECTION A.VITAL STATISTICS AND GENERAL STATISTICS 1956.

(Table 1)

(Figures for 1955 are shown in brackets)

POPULATION

Estimated Mid-Year Population Borough of Hertford:

14,830

(14,800)

Natural increase or decrease	...	+	83
Migration in or out	...	-	53
Total increase or decrease	...	+	30

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	3,882
---------------	-----	-------

Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books

4,728

Number of Houses per acre	1.2
Number of Persons per acre	3.8
Number of Persons per house	3.1

Rateable Value of District	...	£226,809
----------------------------	-----	----------

Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	£865
---------------------------------	------

VITAL STATISTICS AND GENERAL STATISTICS 1956.

( Table 2 )

(Figures for 1955 are shown in brackets)

BIRTHS

Standardised Live Birth Rate  
per 1,000 population: 13.95 (16.45)

Area Comparability Factor  
for Births 0.99 ( 0.99)

<u>Number of Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Total:</u>	104	105	209
Legitimate:	98	101	199
Illegitimate:	6	4	10
<u>Number of Still Births</u>	3	1	4

- - - - -

DEATHS

Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population 8.80 (10.18)

Area Comparability Factor for Deaths 1.04 ( 0.96)

<u>Number of Deaths</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
All Ages - Total	55	71	126
<u>Deaths of infants under 1 year</u>	2	1	3
<u>No. under 4 weeks of age</u>	1	1	2

- - - - -

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 related Live Births: 14.35

COMPARISON WITH RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

BIRTH RATE: 15.7 (15.0). DEATH RATE: 11.7 (11.7)

Infantile Mortality Rate: 23.8 (24.9)



PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)  
Notified during the year:-

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>all</u> <u>Ages</u>	<u>Age Group in Years</u>					
		<u>Under</u> 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	<u>Over</u> 65
Scarlet Fever	6	-	-	5	-	1	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic (Acute) (Non-Paralytic)	2 0	- -	- -	1 -	- -	1 -	- -
Measles	2	1	-	1	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	5	-	-	2	1	2	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Infective Jaundice	14	-	-	8	3	3	-

Incidence of Disease during the different Months.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Month and No. of Cases.</u>
Scarlet Fever	February(4), March(1), June(1)
Whooping Cough	August (1).
Acute Poliomyelitis	November (2)
Measles	April (2)
Acute Pneumonia	February(1), April(2), June(1), December (1).
Erysipelas	November (1)
Meningococcal Infection.	November (1)
Food Poisoning	December (1)
Puerperal Pyrexia	December (1)
Infective Jaundice	February(3), March(4), April(3), May(1), September(1), October(2).

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES -continued:-Prevention of Illness - Poliomyelitis Innoculations.

The Hertfordshire County Council carried out a series of innoculations against poliomyelitis during the year.

T U B E R C U L O S I STuberculosis Notifications etc. during 1956:-

The year commenced with 90 names on the Tuberculosis Register:-

	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>
<u>Males:</u>	39	6
<u>Females:</u>	33	12

Nine new cases were notified for the first time.

<u>Males:</u>	4	1
<u>Females:</u>	3	1

There were 4 inward transfers, from other areas.

<u>Males:</u>	2	0
<u>Females:</u>	2	0

Two patients died:-

<u>Males:</u>	1	0
<u>Females:</u>	1	0

Eight patients left the District (Outward Transfers)

<u>Males:</u>	3	0
<u>Females:</u>	3	2

One Patient was pronounced CURED.

<u>Female:</u>	1	0
----------------	---	---

The year therefore ended with 92 cases on the Register:-

<u>Males:</u>	41	7
<u>Females:</u>	33	11

Tuberculosis Prevention

The County Council had not started B.C.G. Innoculations in Hertford in 1956.



CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1956

Line No.		M.	F.
	ALL CAUSES ... ..	55	71
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	0	1
2	Tuberculosis, other ... ..	0	0
3	Syphilitic disease ... ..	0	0
4	Diphtheria ... ..	0	0
5	Whooping Cough ... ..	0	0
6	Meningococcal infections ... ..	0	0
7	Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	0	0
8	Measles ... ..	0	0
9	Other infective and parasitic disease	0	0
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	1	1
11	" " lung, bronchus ... ..	4	0
12	" " breast ... ..	0	3
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	0	3
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	6	7
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	0	0
16	Diabetes ... ..	0	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	7	14
18	Coronary disease, angina ... ..	13	8
19	Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	0	2
20	Other heart disease ... ..	7	5
21	Other circulatory disease ... ..	3	3
22	Influenza ... ..	0	1
23	Pneumonia ... ..	1	2
24	Bronchitis ... ..	4	2
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	0	2
26	Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum ... ..	1	0
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	0	0
28	Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	0	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	0	0
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	0	0
31	Congenital malformations ... ..	0	0
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	14
33	Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	0	0
34	All other accidents ... ..	0	1
35	Suicide ... ..	0	0
36	Homicide and operations of war ... ..	0	0

\*\*\*\*\*

CAUSES OF DEATH - Comment

Almost half the total number of deaths arose from diseases of the Heart and Circulation ( 62 cases ). This finding is similar in the rest of the Country. Much heart and circulatory disease is now thought to be preventible. Overweight contributes to this group of diseases by causing the heart and circulation to work under difficulties.

Approximately one fifth of the deaths were caused by Cancer ( 25 cases ), and a further 10% were due to diseases of the Lungs and Air Passages ( 12 cases ).

Three infants died under the age of 1 year. Prematurity was the cause of 2 of the infant deaths, and the third was from a disease which is invariably fatal.

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NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951.Person in Need of Care and Attention.

On August 17th, 1956 it became necessary to remove an elderly lady to Western House Hospital, at Ware.

The old lady who was 78 years of age lived in very dirty conditions, and was suffering from malnutrition. In spite of great efforts by voluntary organisations, as well as the Meals on Wheels Service in the Borough, her condition, and state of mind deteriorated.

The removal was carried out in accordance with an Order signed by a Justice of the Peace, who paid a personal visit to the Old lady beforehand.

The old lady died four days later.

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S E C T I O N   BGENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR HERTFORDLABORATORY SERVICE

Facilities for the examination of public health specimens and samples are offered by the Public Health Laboratory at Cambridge.

In emergency, certain (medical) specimens can be examined at the Laboratory of the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford.

No progress has been made with the construction of a Public Health Laboratory in Hertford, on a site already 'earmarked' for that purpose.

COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES

The following County Council Services under the National Health Service Act, 1946, are available in the District. Full details can be obtained from the County Medical Officer, County Hall, Hertford.

Home Nursing, Midwifery, Health Visiting and Welfare Centres.

Hertford Borough is served by the equivalent of 5 full time Nurses.

There is 1 Welfare Centre, at Bull Plain.

Vaccinations, Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisations.

Medical Officers at the Welfare Centre will vaccinate or immunise babies at the request of parents. Family Doctors will also provide this prophylaxis free of charge.

Home and Domestic Help.

Applications for this Service should be addressed to the Local Organiser at 27, Bull Plain, Hertford (Telephone: Hertford 3232). A charge may be made for this Service, in accordance with the County Council's assessment scale.

Care and After-Care

Applications for recuperative holidays, if recommended by the Medical Attendant, should be made to the County Medical Officer.



Equipment can be issued on loan to patients being nursed at home. A Medical Loan Depot has been established at The Durrant Hall, Mill Bridge, Hertford.

A charge may be made for both the above Services.

#### Ambulance Service

Except in emergency an Ambulance should be ordered by a Medical Practitioner. The Ambulance Station telephone number is HERTFORD 3013.

#### Day Nursery

The nearest Day Nursery is at Bowling Road, Ware.

#### Mental Health

Arrangements for mental treatment on the recommendation of a Medical Practitioner are made by the Duly Authorised Officer, Mr. W. T. Medhurst, Collett Road, Ware (Telephone: WARE 541.)

Help in respect of Mentally Defective persons can be obtained by application to the County Medical Officer.

An Occupation Centre for defective children has been established in Hertford.

#### HOSPITAL SERVICES.

Hertford is served chiefly by the Hertford County Hospital as well as by other hospitals within the Area of the Hertford Group Hospital Management Committee.

#### General Practitioner Medical Services.

There are 6 General Medical Practices in Hertford ( 8 Doctors ).

#### DENTAL SERVICE

There are 8 Dentists in Hertford.

#### OTHER SERVICES

The Borough owns and manages a Mortuary.

Blood Transfusion Donor Sessions are held at St. John's Hall.

There is a very active Old People's Welfare Service in Hertford; with a Meals-on-Wheels Service managed by the W.V.S.



SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA -  
REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
For the Year 1956.

28, Chambers Street  
Hertford, Herts

July, 1957.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Hertford.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have great pleasure in presenting my Annual  
Report for the year 1956.

The Report is in respect to the calendar year with  
the exception of the tabulated figures of Rodent Control  
which relate to the Financial Year ending 31. 3. 1957.

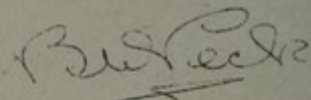
During the year the Public Health Department moved  
from The Castle into its present office at 28, Chambers  
Street.

I am indebted to the Council's other officers, both  
for the additional information supplied by them and included  
in the Report, and for their co-operation during the year.

I have to thank the Chairman and members of the  
Public Health Committee for their continued support.

I am,

Your obedient servant,



Public Health Inspector.



## DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Council Sele Farm Housing Estate has continued to develop throughout the year, all properties being connected to the sewage system.

The existing sewers have been maintained, and a few difficulties experienced, tests and analyses have been taken regularly at the Activated Sludge Treatment Works in Mead Lane, and the results have been satisfactory with effluent up to the Ministry standards of requirements.

Maintenance works at the Sewage Works have been continued throughout the year, although repairs have had to be carried out to the compressing units, the plant has continued to function satisfactorily.

## REFUSE DISPOSAL

The Corporation has continued to use the Foxholes Farm Refuse Tip without difficulty or complaint for control tipping of domestic refuse. The weekly collection of refuse has continued and also the Corporation's policy of disposing of salvage at the best price, although the monthly output of waste paper has to be limited by agreement with the merchants.

The volume of refuse to be collected continues to increase and on the 31st December the smaller refuse collecting vehicle was withdrawn from service and the New Year commenced with its replacement by the larger compressing type collecting vehicle.

## WATER SUPPLY.

### Source

All the Water is obtained from five Boreholes sunk in the chalk, at Molewood Road, Wadesmill Road(2), Hartham Lane and Port Hill. From these boreholes sufficient water can be obtained to meet the needs of the Borough for many years.

### Distribution

During the year the distribution system has been further extended at the Sele Farm Housing Estate on the West Side of Thieves Lane and Services laid at 110 new houses and bungalows, and 23 houses 2 industrial premises and one school have been connected to the mains on other parts of the Borough.

With reference to the proposed improvement scheme preparations are still proceeding and negotiations are in progress for the acquisition of a plot of land at Hertford Heath on which to erect a reservoir.



Quality

Bacteriological - Samples of the Mains Water from all four pumping stations, were submitted to bacteriological examination each month. B.Coli were absent from 100ml. in each case and the water was passed as satisfactory for drinking purposes.

Chemical - (Analyses in Parts per Million)

Samples taken 27.2.56	Wadesmill Road	Hartham	Molewood	Port Hill
Appearance (opalescence)	Slight. With	Slight.	Very faint.	Bright
Turbidity	3	3	Less than 3	3
Colour	Under 3	nil	nil	under 3
Odour	nil	nil	nil	nil
Taste	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Re-action pH	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.3
Free CO <sub>2</sub>	30.4	29	24	22
Electric Conductivity	510	540	500	475
Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	260	260	245	240
Total Solids	400	390	350	340
Hardness:- Carbonate	260	260	245	240
Non-carbonate	35	30	40	35
Total	295	290	285	275
Nitrate Nitrogen	4.8	3.0	3.4	4.4
Nitrite Nitrogen	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.000	0.091	0.026	0.000
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Oxygen absorbed	0.10	0.40	0.30	0.40
Residual Chlorine	...	...	...	...
Metals	Iron: 0.04 ( Other metals	Iron: 0.14	Iron: 0.03 absent	Absent )
Fluoride (F)	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10

The Reports of Water from the four sources are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

The water is neutral in reaction, hard in character but not to an excessive degree, contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution and it is free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. It is of the highest standard of organic quality.

STATISTICAL RECORDS1956

<u>SUMMARY OF VISITS etc.</u>	1,872
Dwelling Houses inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts	203
Housing re-inspections of works in progress and Interviews with Owners and Builders	191
General Inspections	109
Visits re cases of Infectious Diseases, Contacts, and Disinfections	33
Factories	117
Outworkers Premises	18
Food Premises - Food Hygiene Regulations etc.	285
Explanatory and miscellaneous re Food Regulations	211
Food Inspections and Control Visits	83
Section 16 Registrations, - Ice Cream Premises	34
Sausage Making and Preserved Food Premises	22
Licensed Premises	31
Moveable Dwellings	11
Employment Agencies	2
Hairdressers	3
Refuse Dumps	34
Music and Dancing Regulations	68
Offices and Shops	5
Pet Shops	9
Common Lodging House	12
Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations	1
Rodent Control	32
Smoke Observations	28
Miscellaneous visits and revisits	330
Complaints Investigated	154



PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Normal work of the Department under the Public Health Acts was carried out during the year, this including a considerable amount of minor repairs to property and works of drainage maintenance and cleansing, which, together with the majority of complaints which required action under the above Acts, were dealt with informally. There were no special problems of note which required to be dealt with during the year.

The periodic cleansing of the remaining pail closets from Hertingfordbury and from the few more scattered premises within the Borough boundary was undertaken by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor's Department.

Because of nuisance and damage to the Corporation property, trapping of pigeons continues. It was originally estimated that there were some 80 to 90 birds in the town. During the year 63 pigeons were caught and of this number over half (39) were rung birds, these being taken over by a member of the Hertford Pigeon Club for disposal in accordance with the official procedure.

Common Lodging Houses.

There is only one Registered Common Lodging House within the Borough. The White House, Railway Street, capable of providing nightly accommodation for 32 men. The number of accommodations during the year was 3756, the average number using the premises nightly being 10 men.

The number of lodgers accommodated nightly started to decrease prior to the last war and by the end of the war had dropped to 19 nightly, and for 1956 down to 10 nightly. Although accommodation is available for 32 men, practically no casual lodgers are now received, those now using the premises are all elderly and have used the premises for many years. The decrease is now mainly due to deaths or semi-permanent removal to institutions or hospitals of these semi-permanent lodgers.

The premises have been kept under observation and the house is generally well conducted. No case of infectious disease was notified at the house.



Vermin

Disinfestation was carried out at six premises during the year, D.D.T. or B.H.C. preparations being used in each case. Pressure sprays are held by the department for loan where liquid preparations are to be used. At the majority of these premises the infestation was light.

Infectious Diseases and Disinfections

In one case during the year, following disinfection of premises, it was necessary to require the cleansing and redecoration of rooms. Three disinfections were also carried out on request following the death of aged persons; and in each case, after receipt of formal application, a small quantity of bedding and clothing was removed and destroyed.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1935.Refuse Dumps (Section 26)

In addition to the Corporation's refuse tip, there is only one other refuse dump in the Borough, this being situate in the Old Clay Pits, Hertingfordbury, consents for its use being given to the Southgate Borough Council in 1947.

Regular tipping of non-putrescible matter in accordance with the conditions of consent continues to be made though the amount of tipping is very small.

During the early part of the year an outbreak of fire which was discovered in the tip was successfully dealt with by isolating the fire which was near the face of the tip and not too deep seated. Following this the tip was generally 'straightened up' and a ramp made down to the floor of the pit for future tipping to be made at this level, the only approach to the area being from the top. The remainder of the pit area was later cleared of brushwood and undergrowth, thus facilitating later use of this area.

Employment Agencies (Section 74)

The conduct and management of the two Employment Agencies in the Borough, a Domestic Agency and an Agency for Office and Shop Workers, have been in accordance with Part V of the above Act.



Movable Dwellings (Section 93)

There is one camping-caravan site within the Borough, this site belonging to and controlled by an organisation holding a certificate of the Ministry of Health, and who, by reason of their own camping rules, are exempt from the similar provisions of the Hertfordshire County Council Act.

There are no consents operative at the present time in respect of individual sites within the Borough. Two applications for such Consents were however received and agreed as being in accordance with the public health and sanitary requirements of the Act, but one application was then withdrawn and the second was refused on a Town Planning Act application.

Occasional parking of caravans for a 2 - 3 day stay was discovered, these being made on the Corporation's own land under development at the Sele Farm Estate, and appropriate action was taken in conjunction with the Clerk of Works. One other small encampment was however found to have been made on farmland in an isolated part of the Borough, the occupants temporarily working for the farmer concerned. These caravans were moved and the site was cleared within the permissive period of the Act.

HERTFORDSHIRE (MUSIC & DANCING) REGULATIONS, 1955.

Following the coming into operation of the above Regulations, a "Code of Practice" was approved by the Council as a basis for consideration of the sanitary circumstances in connection with the Corporations representations in respect of the issue of Licences.

The 17 premises already licensed by the County Council were each inspected during the year with particular reference to the Code of Practice. It was found that where works were required, these were generally of a minor nature and completion was possible before the renewal of the Licences at the end of the year. Where larger structural works were required and were uncompleted in October when the Council were considering renewals of Licences for 1957, no objections were raised in order to allow this additional period for their completion.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

In addition to the renewal of the Licence of the one Pet Shop in the Borough, a further licence was issued later in the year in respect of a stall in the Hertford Market.



HOUSING

<u>Housing Progress</u> - 1956		since 1945
New Dwellings erected by Private Enterprise	28	175
New Dwellings erected by the Borough Council	62	770
.. .. Temporary prefabricated bungalows	-	50
New Dwellings erected by Other Authorities (County Council, Military, etc.)	1	33

Total Properties Controlled by the Borough Council

Council Houses	1,406
Temporary prefabricated bungalows	50
Sundry Cottages (including 7 shops)	45

Housing Acts, 1936 - 1954

<u>Houses Demolished</u>		<u>Persons Displaced</u>	<u>Families</u>
As a result of Formal or informal procedure under Section 11.	1	2	1
<u>Unfit Houses Closed</u>			
Under Sec. 11 Housing Act, 1936 & Sec. 10(1) and 11 (2) Loc.Govt. (Misc.Prov) Act, 1953	7	20	7
Under Sec. 3(1) and 3 (2), 1949 Act.-	-	-	-
Parts of buildings closed under Section 12, Housing Act, 1936	1	-	-
<u>Unfit houses made fit</u>		<u>by Owner</u>	<u>by Loc.Auth.</u>
After informal action by Local Authority	62	-	-
By formal notice (a) Public Health Acts	nil	nil	nil
(b) Housing Act, 1936	nil	nil	nil
Under Sec. 5 Housing Repairs and Rents Act.	nil		



FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.Food Premises

The total number of food shops and other premises dealing with foodstuffs is 222. This number is made up as follows, the separate premises being included under the main trade being carried on.

Grocers and Provision Merchants (including small general shops retailing groceries)	41
Bakehouses	8
Bakers and cake shops	10
Fish shops (including Fried Fish Shops)	7
Butchers Shops	15
Sweet Shops	18
Grocmgrocers (including 1 wholesalers premises)	14
Dairies and Milk Shops	4
Cafes and Restaurants	14
Hotels and Licensed Premises serving meals	9
Public Houses	40
Wine Shops and Off Licences	3
Residential Institutional Kitchens	9
School and Industrial Canteens	18
Clubs	6
Vegetarian Foodshop	1
Chemists, pharmaceutical	<u>5</u>

Excluding inspections and control visits for the examination of foodstuffs, a total of 341 visits were made to food premises during the year, these mostly being concerned with the 1955 Regulations.

Apart from the improvements required by the new Regulations, increasing numbers of the smaller retail shops continue to be provided with refrigerated display counters.



Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

In order to facilitate the operation of the Food Regulations, a circular letter setting out in plain terms the various requirements was delivered to all food premises. In addition to explanatory visits, the explanatory articles in the various trade journals was of considerable assistance to the trades generally with regard to what was required.

Generally no special difficulties have been experienced though it was found that the completion of structural works was slow, being dependent on the availability of the local builders to carry them out.

The personal requirements of the Regulations relating to the food handlers themselves are generally being observed, and only in isolated instances was it necessary to draw attention to these, and then only in regard to the compulsory use of waterproof first aid dressing and the prohibition of smoking.

It is pleasing to record that the 1955 Regulations have generally been welcomed, the administration of them by the Department has been greatly assisted by the co-operation of the trades-people themselves.

Registered Food Premises

Sale and storage for sale of Ice Cream	45
Manufacture and sale of Ice Cream	-

The above 45 registered premises includes three new registrations during the year together with three notifications of change in the occupation of registered premises. A total of 34 visits were made in connection with these registered premises.

Preparation or manufacture of sausages	13
--	----

Preparation or manufacture of preserved food	4
--	---

These premises are generally well conducted, a total of 22 visits being made during the year.

Milk and Dairies.

Number of retail purveyors of milk	4
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Designated Milk Licences

	Dealers.	Supplementary
Tuberculin Tested	4	1
Pasteurised	3	1
Sterilised	6	1



## Inspection of Meat and Other Foods

The amount of foodstuffs surrendered as unfit and disposed of by burial at the Corporation's refuse tip at Foxholes, continues to diminish. The unsound foodstuffs dealt with during the year are as follows,-

Canned Foodstuffs			
Corned Beef, Ham and other meats.	54 containers	120 lbs.	
Pulses and Vegetables	67 ..	95	
Fruit	64 ..	89	
Milk	40 ..	36	
Miscellaneous (Soups, Jam, Fish etc)	26 ..	24	
Fish			
Skate		28 lbs	
Prawns		88	
Miscellaneous			
Beef, Imported Frozen	Internal Decomposition	73 lbs	
Lamb, English (Leg trimmings)	.. ..	3	
Lambs livers, Imported Frozen.	Decomposition	20	
.. ..	Tyrosin Deposits	20	
Turkeys	Decomposition	177	
Chickens	..	21	
Total weight of foodstuffs		7 cwt 10 lbs	

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

In view of the advantages and convenience for use, practically all treatments for surface infestations continued to be carried out with the use of Warfarin bait. Treatment of private dwellings continues without charge in order to encourage occupiers to give early notifications of infestations. With regard to Business premises, agreements are in operation whereby eighteen properties are treated as required, these, together with other business premises treated, are charged for on a time and materials basis.

A 16 per cent test baiting of the Corporation sewers was carried out during the year as well as the normal two treatments. The gradual decrease of infestation during the past few years has been maintained, slight infestation being found in only two areas.

The summary of information already supplied to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, as set out below, is in respect of the Financial Year ending 31st March, 1957.



Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Report for 12 months ended 31st March, 1957	T Y P E   O F   P R O P E R T Y				
	Non-Agricultural				AGRI- CULTURAL
	LOCAL AUTHORITY	DWELLING HOUSES (including Council Houses)	ALL OTHER	TOTAL of Columns (1) (2) & (3)	
I No. of Properties in Local Authority's Area	14	4728	553	5295	41
II No. of properties insp- ected as a result of					
(a) Notification	--	55	1	56	--
(b) Survey under the Act	14	1567	173	1754	28
(c) Otherwise	--	418	299	717	6
III Total Inspections carried out, including re-inspections	36	2822	941	3799	36
IV No. of properties found to be infested by					
(a) Rats					
Major	--	--	--	--	--
Minor	3	97	14	114	--
(b) Mice					
Major	--	--	--	--	--
Minor	--	52	4	56	--
V Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority	3	149	18	170	--
VI Total treatments carried out, including retreatments.	5	187	31	223	--
VII, VIII & IX. Number of Notices served under S.4. Number of cases in which default action was taken. Legal Proceedings					nil
X Number of "Block" control schemes carried out					3



SECTION DFACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948

The following is a summary of information already supplied in detail to the Ministry of Labour and National Service on Form 572 (Revised), in respect of the Year 1956.

Part I of the Act1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

<u>Factories without Mechanical Power</u>	...	...	19
Inspections	...	...	41
Written Notices	...	...	1
<u>Factories with Mechanical Power</u>	..	...	94
Inspections	...	...	70
Written Notices	...	...	1
<u>Other Premises under the Act</u> (Electrical Stations, Institutions, Sites of Building Operations, Works of Engineering Construction, but excluding Outworkers Premises)			5
Inspections	...	...	6

<u>2. Cases in which Defects were found</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Want of Cleanliness (S.I)	...	1
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	..	1
Unsuitable or Defective	...	1
Total Defects referred to H.M. Inspector	...	nil
" " " by " "	...	nil

Part VIII of the Act

## 3. Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

(i) Making of Wearing Apparel	...	...	217
(ii) Brush Making and Packing	...	...	17

Of the above 234 outworkers, 61 only are resident within the Borough, the remaining 173 being in the areas of 51 other Local Authorities - these Authorities all being notified in accordance with the provisions of the Act.





