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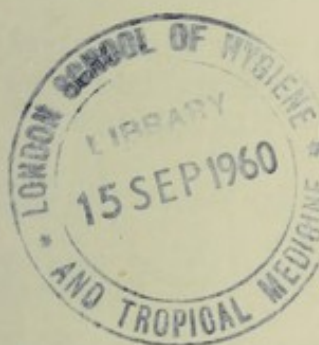
EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

ANNUAL REPORT

On the Health of

The


BOROUGH OF HERTFORD



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 1959.

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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1959.

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 have the honour to present the Annual Report upon the health of the Borough of Hertford for the year ending 31st December 1959.

It will be seen that the Report differs from previous reports in two respects. Firstly, in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular letter 1/60 of 8th of January 1960 there is a slight difference in the arrangement of the Vital Statistics, two additional items being included. These relate to the deaths of infants under one week. Secondly, in accordance with the requirements of the same Circular letter referred to above, particulars on the administration of the Factories Act 1937, Parts I and VIII are attached as an annex to the Report.

The health of the Borough was excellent during 1959. Apart from an outbreak of Measles which lasted from January until August and which reflected the customary biennial epidemic throughout the United Kingdom, the incidence of infectious disease was negligible. It is particularly gratifying to report that there were no cases either of Poliomyelitis or of Food Poisoning.

The Borough has also maintained its reputation for the longevity of its inhabitants. Out of 154 deaths in 1959, no fewer than 119 occurred in persons over the age of 65.

There were no maternal deaths and only 3 deaths in infants under one year of age. Of these 3, 2 were in infants under one week.

The total increase in the population was 120.

During 1959, 66 new houses were built, of which 16 were erected by the Borough Council. The Council anticipates considerable increase in its programme for 1960, and expects that this will be maintained over a period of years.

It will be seen in the body of the Report that emphasis has been placed upon the work of the Hertford Borough Accident Committee. In 1959, road accidents accounted for 5974 killed, 80,672 seriously injured and 246,261 slightly injured, while home accidents were responsible for 6920 fatalities.

In view of these staggering figures, it is obvious that everything which can be done to draw public attention to the prevention of accidents, either on the road or in the home, must receive the fullest possible support. Generally speaking deaths on the road receive much publicity. The fact must not be lost sight of that in 1959 deaths in the home exceeded those on the road by 946.



The electrification of the railway line between Liverpool Street and Hertford East Station, which it is anticipated will be completed by the summer of 1960 together with the proposed siting of new light industries in Hertford will have the probable effect of increasing the population progressively over the forthcoming years.

In the Autumn of 1959, Mr Peck's Assistant completed his National Service but instead of returning to Hertford accepted an appointment at Wimbledon. The Council decided to advertise for an Additional Public Health Inspector and it is hoped that this appointment will shortly be filled.

In conclusion I must thank the Council and particularly the Public Health Committee for the continuous support and consideration which I have received from them during the past year. This support and the keen interest they have shown in Public Health matters is very encouraging.

I wish also to thank my colleagues in other departments for their co-operation and record my gratitude for the help I have received from Mr. Peck and Mrs Kirby, both during the year and also in the preparation of this Report.

I have the honour to be,  
Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant

Gordon M. Frizelle.

Medical Officer of Health



## PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Gordon M. Frizelle, T.D., M.D., D.P.H.

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### Deputy (Part-time) Medical Officer of Health

Peter de Bec Turtle, V.R.D., M.A., B.M., B.Ch., D.P.H.  
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### PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

B. W. Peck, A.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspector. - Vacant.

Clerk to the Department Mrs. V. P. Kirby.

Public Health Department,  
28, Chambers Street,  
Hertford, Herts.

Telephone,- HERTFORD 2201

### PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Public Health and Town Planning Committee for the Session 1959/1960 comprised the following Members:-

Councillor G. W. Dale	(Chairman)
Councillor H. E. Gilby	(Vice-Chairman)

His Worship The Mayor (Alderman C. Vance Packman)  
Councillors Mrs P. G. Brooks, A. W. Bentley,  
J. J. Forrester, W. L. Foster, F. Herniman and  
F. L. Patmore.

## HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL DATA.

Hertford, the County Town of Hertfordshire, is one of the oldest Boroughs in England. It has a history going back to Roman times and was a royal fort of the East Saxons. Church history was made when in A.D. 673 a National Synod was held by Archbishop Theodore and this important event is commemorated by an inscription on an ancient stone still to be seen in the grounds of Hertford Castle.

The Castle was used as a residence by Plantagenets and Tudors alike and they and the Stuarts granted the town many privileges.

The town is well watered, being traversed by the Rivers Lea, Mimram, Bean and Rib, while the source of the New River which affords London much of its water supply springs from the intake on the upper River Lea at Kingsmead, Hertford and from Chadwell Spring (named after St. Chad) above Ware.

In and around Hertford are many wooded areas and open spaces which enhance its attractions as a residential area while in addition the town possesses many flourishing industries.

The subsoil is chalk and gravel, the water supply is abundant, there is a modern system of drainage and gas and electricity are installed in the town. There are two Railway Stations, one leading to Liverpool Street, the other to Kings Cross, while a frequent Green Line bus service to the centre of London starts from the middle of the town.

The Borough comprises 3,882 acres, has 15,210 inhabitants and though only approximately 25 miles from London lies in the middle of undulating, charming and unspoiled countryside.



SECTION A.GENERAL STATISTICS 1959.

(Table I)

(Figures for 1958 are shown in brackets)

POPULATION

Estimated Mid-Year Population Borough of Hertford:

15,210 (15,090)

Natural increase or decrease	...	+	61
Migration in or out	...	+	59
Total increase or decrease	...	+	120

GENERAL STATISTICS

<u>Area in acres</u>	...	...	...	3,882
----------------------	-----	-----	-----	-------

Number of inhabited Dwellings according to Rate Books  
(from Valuation Officers Statistical Analysis -  
as at 1st April 1959)

4,818

Number of Houses per acre	1.2
Number of Persons per acre	3.9
Number of Persons per dwelling	3.2

Rateable Value of District (31.3.59) £224,612

Sum Represented by a Penny Rate  
for year to 31st March, 1959. £937



VITAL STATISTICS

( Table 2 )

(Figures for 1958 are shown in brackets)

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	101 (121)	108 (89)	209 (210)
Illegitimate	3 ( 5)	3 ( 4)	6 ( 9)
Total Live Births	104 (126)	111 (93)	215 (219)
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population		14.14	(14.51)
Area Comparability Factor for Births		0.99	( 0.99)
Standardised Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population		13.99	(14.36)
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births		2.79	( 4.11)
<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1 (2)	1 (0)	2 (2)
Illegitimate	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Total Still Births	1 (2)	1 (0)	2 (2)
Still Births rate per 1,000 total live and still births		9.22	( 9.05)
<u>TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	102 (123)	109 (89)	211 (212)
Illegitimate	3 ( 5)	3 ( 4)	6 ( 9)
Total Live and Still Births	105 (128)	112 (93)	217 (221)
<u>COMPARISON RATES</u>	Hertford Borough	Hertford County	England & Wales
Live Birth Rate	14.14	17.67	
Area Comparability Factor	0.99	0.92	
Standardised Birth Rate	13.99	16.26	16.5
Still Births Rate	9.22	18.35	20.7

Vital Statistics  
Table 2 Continued

<u>INFANT DEATHS</u>	Male	Female	Total
Infants under one week, total	1 (1)	1 (0)	2 (1)
Legitimate	1 (1)	1 (0)	2 (1)
Illegitimate	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
<hr/>			
Infants under four weeks, total	1 (1)	1 (0)	2 (1)
Legitimate	1 (1)	1 (0)	2 (1)
Illegitimate	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
<hr/>			
Infants under one year, total	2 (1)	1 (2)	3 (3)
Legitimate	2 (1)	1 (2)	3 (3)
Illegitimate	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
<hr/>			

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births. Total	13.95	(13.70)
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	14.35	(14.29)
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0	( 0 )
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under four weeks per 1,000 total live births	9.30	( 4.57 )
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under one week per 1,000 total live births	9.30	( 4.57 )
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths of infants under one week combined - per 1,000 total live and still births	18.43	(13.57)



Vital Statistics  
Table 2 continued

MATERNAL DEATHS

Maternal Deaths, including abortion	0	( 0 )
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still-births	0	( 0 )

DEATHS (total)

Deaths of all ages	Males	65	(59)
	Females	89	(73)
	Total	154	(132)
Death Rate per 1,000 population		10.12	(8.75)
Area Comparability Factor for Deaths		1.04	(1.03)
Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population		10.53	(9.01)

COMPARISON RATES

	<u>Hertford Borough</u>	<u>Hertford County</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales</u>
Infant Mortality Rate	13.95	16.68	22.0
Legitimate	14.35		
Illegitimate	0		
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	9.30	12.27	15.8
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	9.30	10.83	
Perinatal Mortality Rate	18.43		
Maternal Mortality Rate	0	0.35	0.38
Death Rate	10.12	9.57	
Area Comparability Factor	1.04	1.09	
Standardised Death Rate	10.53	10.43	11.6



PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

(Table 3)

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>Over</u> <u>65</u>	<u>Age</u> <u>Unknown</u>
		<u>Under</u> <u>1</u>	<u>1-</u>	<u>5-</u>	<u>15-</u>	<u>25-</u>			
Scarlet Fever	10	-	4	6	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic (Acute)	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(Non-Paralytic	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	395	5	157	224	4	1	-	-	4
Acute Pneumonia	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
Dysentery	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Incidence of Disease during the different Months

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Month and Number of Cases.</u>
Scarlet Fever	January (1) February (2) September (1) December (6)
Measles	January (3) February (15) March (43) April (169) May (129) June (26) July (7) August (3)
Acute Pneumonia	February (1) December (1)

## CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1959.

(Table 4)

Line No.		M.	F.
	ALL CAUSES ... ..	65	89
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	0	0
2	Tuberculosis, other ... ..	0	0
3	Syphilitic disease ... ..	0	0
4	Diphtheria ... ..	0	0
5	Whooping Cough... ..	0	0
6	Meningococcal ... ..	0	0
7	Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	0	0
8	Measles ... ..	0	0
9	Other infective and parasitic disease	0	0
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach... ..	4	1
11	" " lung, bronchus ... ..	6	0
12	" " breast ... ..	0	4
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	0	3
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	13
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	1	1
16	Diabetes ... ..	0	0
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	11	12
18	Coronary disease, angina ... ..	5	14
19	Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	1	1
20	Other heart disease ... ..	6	13
21	Other circulatory disease ... ..	3	4
22	Influenza ... ..	1	3
23	Pneumonia ... ..	6	1
24	Bronchitis ... ..	1	3
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	1	3
26	Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum ... ..	4	0
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	0	0
28	Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	0	0
29	Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	0	0
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	0	0
31	Congenital malformation ... ..	1	0
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	12
33	Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	1	0
34	All other accidents ... ..	1	1
35	Suicide ... ..	0	0
36	Homicide and operations of war ... ..	0	0

\*\*\*\*\*



CAUSES OF DEATH - Comment.

Out of 154 deaths, 70 were caused by diseases of the heart and circulatory system, 40 by malignant conditions and 11 by pneumonia and bronchitis.

As is mentioned in the preface, 117 of the total number of deaths were to be found in persons over the age of 65 and of these 99 occurred in persons aged 70 or over.

Only 1 death was attributed to a motor vehicle and 2 to other accidental causes. There were no suicides.

DEATHS classified according to Ages

Ages (inclusive)	M	% of total male deaths	F	% of total female deaths	Total	% of total deaths
Under 1 week	1	(1.54)	1	(1.12)	2	(1.30)
1 - 4 weeks	-	-	-	-	-	(1.95)
4 - 52 weeks	1	(1.54)	-	-	1	(0.65)
1 yr - 14 yrs	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 29	1	(1.54)	-	-	1	(0.65)
30 - 34	1	(1.54)	2	(2.25)	3	(1.95)
35 - 39	1	(1.54)	2	(2.25)	3	(1.95)
40 - 44	1	(1.54)	-	-	1	(0.65)
45 - 49	4	(6.15)	-	-	4	(2.60)
50 - 54	1	(1.54)	2	(2.25)	3	(1.95)
55 - 59	4	(6.15)	7	(7.87)	11	(7.14)
60 - 64	6	(9.23)	2	(2.25)	8	(5.19)
65 - 69	11	(16.92)	7	(7.87)	18	(11.69)
Aged 70/71	3	(4.62)	3	(3.37)	6	(3.90)
72/73	6	(9.23)	6	(6.74)	12	(7.80)
74/75	8	(12.31)	5	(5.62)	13	(8.44)
76/77	4	(6.15)	9	(10.11)	13	(8.44)
78/79	2	(3.08)	9	(10.11)	11	(7.14)
Aged 80/81	3	(4.62)	7	(7.87)	10	(6.49)
82/83	4	(6.15)	7	(7.87)	11	(7.14)
84/85	-	-	7	(7.87)	7	(4.54)
86/87	-	-	5	(5.62)	5	(3.25)
88/89	-	-	3	(3.37)	3	(1.95)
Aged 90	-	-	1	(1.12)	1	(0.65)
91	2	(3.08)	1	(1.12)	3	(1.95)
93	1	(1.54)	-	-	1	(0.65)
94	-	-	1	(1.12)	1	(0.65)
95	-	-	1	(1.12)	1	(0.65)
97	-	-	1	(1.12)	1	(0.65)
	65	(100%)	89	(100%)	154 total.	100%



INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There Were 395 cases of Measles and 10 cases of Scarlet Fever in the Borough in 1959. Acute Primary Pneumonia was reported only twice.

As was already mentioned in the preface, there were no instances of poliomyelitis, and an intensive campaign of Antipoliomyelitis inoculations was carried out both by private practitioners and the County Medical Staff.

Over the past three years there has been a gradual diminution both in the cases and also in the deaths from poliomyelitis in England and Wales, as can be seen below:-

	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
<u>Cases</u>	5,440	2,362	1,338
<u>Deaths</u>	255	154	91

It is still too early to assert that this reduction is entirely attributable to the antipoliomyelitis vaccinations, but if subsequent years show a similar progressive fall, one can then assume that the anti-poliomyelitis campaign is achieving its object.

The enormous success of the antidiphtheria campaign has brought about a situation in which many doctors have not seen a case of diphtheria for years. This once dreaded scourge is now almost forgotten by the general public many of whom have been lulled into a sense of security. In the Borough of Hertford no cases of diphtheria have been reported for the past 13 years. Fortunately the acceptance rate for protective inoculations is reasonably high in Hertfordshire, but regard must be taken of the fact that in 1959 279 cases and 1 death from diphtheria occurred in ~~London~~ (England & Wales) which suggests that in places parents are neglecting to avail themselves of the available facilities for protecting their children. Because preventive medicine has virtually eliminated diphtheria and small pox in the United Kingdom, the means by which these results have been achieved must not be neglected. The means are always available, they must be used. The price of freedom is Eternal Vigilance.

FOOD POISONING

No Cases of Food Poisoning were reported during 1959.



Prevalence of, and control over Infectious Diseases (con)T U B E R C U L O S I SPulmonary    Non-Pulmonary

The year commenced with 96 names on the Register:-

Males	46	6
Females	35	9

Seven cases were added to the Register during 1959.

New Cases

Males	0	1
Females	3	0

Restored to Register

Males	0	0
Females	0	0

Inward Transfers

Males	2	0
Females	1	0

Eleven cases were removed from the Register during 1959.

Deaths

Males	2	0
Females	0	0

Outward Transfers

Males	0	0
Females	2	0

Patients Cured

Males	0	0
Females	1	1

Lost sight of

Males	1	3
Females	0	1

The year therefore ended with 93 cases on the Register.

Males	46	4
Females	36	7

Tuberculosis Prevention - B.C.G. Inoculations are given by the Health Services of the Herts County Council.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948 & 1951.

In January a widow of 88 years of age, without relatives and living alone, was found to be existing in very squalid conditions. She could not prepare her own food and was dependent upon the Meals on Wheels service and the kind offices of a neighbour.

She was visited on a number of occasions when it was seen that she was deteriorating both mentally and physically. As she refused to go away voluntarily, action was taken under Sections 47 and 1(3) of the above-named Acts and she was removed to Western House Hospital, Ware.

After her admission to Hospital she showed considerable improvement and expressed her willingness to remain there voluntarily.

Later, however, her condition became worse and she died ultimately on the 7th June, 1959.

It must be emphasized that during the course of a year quite a number of old people are seen who, in the words of the Act, are "in need of urgent care and attention". Every effort is made to look after them. If however the burden upon themselves and those looking after them becomes too great they are advised to enter a home voluntarily. Only if such advice is persistently refused is Statutory Action taken and then only with the utmost reluctance.

### HEALTH EDUCATION

Despite the long hot summer, flies did not contribute the nuisance which might have been anticipated, but in fact, Wasps turned out to be a much greater menace than flies.

None the less, during the last Spring and Early Summer an Anti-fly Campaign was instituted with a wide distribution of leaflets while stickers were applied to all dust-bins, warning of the dangers of leaving them with the lids off. Whether it was a case of "post hoc propter hoc" or not, no illness attributable to contamination by flies occurred.



## FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

Many inspections of Food Premises were carried out during the year but no infringements of the Regulations requiring prosecution were noted.

## HERTFORD MARKET

Visits made to Hertford Market during the year, led to the conclusion that much might be done to bring conditions up to modern standards. Recommendations regarding certain improvements were accordingly made to and accepted by the Public Health Committee and subsequently the Council.

It is anticipated that these improvements will come into being in 1960.

## DISEASES OF ANIMALS - ANTHRAX

During April a cow died of Anthrax at a farm at Hertingfordbury. The carcass was burnt, the premises disinfected and no further cases occurred.

## RADIOACTIVITY

The problem of ionising radiations is one which is, at the present time, very much in the public eye and cannot be overlooked by a Public Health Department. During the year a number of reports were made to the Council on this subject and in addition I attended a weeks course in London organised by the Services Group of the Society of Medical Officers of Health.

A Memorandum on Radioactivity issued on 29th October 1959 by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government together with a letter from the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health did much to clarify what, up until then, was rather a confusing situation regarding Governmental and Local Authority responsibilities.

Furthermore, the Radioactive Substances Bill, now before Parliament will, when passed, enable Local Authorities automatically to obtain information concerning the use of any radioactive material within the District. Such information will be of great value to Medical Officers of Health and Fire Departments.



## HERTFORD BOROUGH ACCIDENT PREVENTION COMMITTEE

This Committee has been in existence for the past 13 years and is representative of many diverse interests in the Borough. It was formed initially at the instance of the Borough Council under the Chairmanship of Alderman James F. Keeble then Mayor of the Borough. The Chairman is elected annually from among the Members of the Committee. Councillor W. L. Foster has been Chairman since March 1956. One of its Members is a representative of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents and the Committee, which has an active Junior Section interests itself both in Home and Road Safety.

Talks on Home Safety and Fire Precautions are organised and the local Police Force does much good work in the instruction of School Children regarding Road Safety in general and also in Safe Cycling.

In the Summer the Committee held a very successful Car Rally at which the entrants were tested for their driving skill and their cars were awarded marks for braking efficiency, correct tyre pressures, general maintenance and the efficacy of the batteries. Entries totalled 63 of which 58 passed the required marking of 80%. In December, an Exhibition largely organised by the Police was held in the Corn Exchange and during the 6 days it was open to the Public it was attended by 1,900 School Children and 700 Adults. Displays pertaining to Road Safety and Home Safety were organised and a Poster Competition amongst the School Children of Hertford produced over 100 original posters of a very high standard. Other activities during the year included a propaganda stall at the Hertford Trade Fair, Competition Quizzes supported by the Junior Committee and entrants in National events such as Window Dressing Competition on a Road Safety theme and participation in the National Junior Cycling Competition.

The Public Health Inspector, when visiting houses in the Borough, also acts as an Advisor regarding the prevention of Home Accidents, special attention being directed to the adequate guarding of fires.

The figures for deaths from Home and Road Accidents for 1958 and 1959 are given below:-

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
Road	5,451	5,974
Home	6,776	6,920

It will be seen that both are on the increase, with the deaths from home accidents much in the ascendancy. It is very difficult to obtain figures for injuries and incapacity due to home accidents.



SECTION 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.

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 a Welfare Centre, at Bull Plain.

Vaccinations, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis 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.

### Mental Health

Arrangements for mental treatment on the recommendation of a Medical Practitioner are made by the Duly Authorised Officer, Mr. J. H. Webster, 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 is 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. Infectious cases are admitted to Honey Lane Hospital, Waltham Abbey and also to St. Ann's Hospital, Tottenham.

### General Practitioner Medical Services.

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

### DENTAL SERVICE

There are 7 Dentists in Hertford.

### OTHER SERVICES

The Borough owns and manages a Mortuary.

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



S E C T I O N    CSANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA -  
REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORFor the Year 1959.28, Chambers Street,  
Hertford, Herts.

July, 1959

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

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I submit the following Report on the administration and work of the department for the year 1959.

The lack of an Assistant has been greatly felt during the year, and the effective work of the department has of course been reduced accordingly. Endeavours to fill this vacancy continue to be made. I would also record an appreciation of the work of Mrs Kirby, the Clerk in the Department whose very great interest in, and general knowledge of the work involved, is of considerable assistance in dealing with the many routine matters which otherwise would take up my own time in having to deal with them.

During the year it has been possible to keep abreast of matters arising, and some progress continues to be made with regard to housing matters. Nine families being rehoused by the Council allowed the demolition of one area and commencement of demolition of a second area, together with the taking over by agreement of a third area prior to demolition and re-development by the Council. Further tenants from the Councils property in Maidenhead Yard were rehoused prior to its eventual demolition as well as persons from private property dealt with by Closing Orders, details being set out in the body of the report.

No official action was called for under the Rent Act during the past year. A considerable amount of time is still being given to work in connection with food hygiene and food premises to maintain a high standard, and desirable improvements continue to be made.



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 continuing co-operation at all times. I would also like to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued support and for their personal interest in the work of the Department, and also to Dr. G. M. Frizelle, the Medical Officer of Health, for his unfailing cheerfulness, assistance and co-operation during the year.

B. W. PECK

Public Health Inspector.

#### DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

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

The existing sewers have been maintained with very little difficulty; one or two minor stoppages have occurred, but none of a serious nature.

The Activated Sludge Treatment at the Mead Lane Works has worked very efficiently during the year, and good analyses of effluents have been received. During the year a silencer was designed and erected to the air intake, and this has practically eliminated the noise made by the compressors. Maintenance has continued as usual.



## 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.

Future Developments - The policy of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in connection with the Re-Grouping of Water Undertakings, resulted in a 'Bill' being presented in Parliament to incorporate a new Company, to be known as 'The Lee Valley Water Company' and to transfer to that Company most of the present Undertakings in East Herts, including Hertford's. The Lee Valley Water Act received the Royal Assent on the 30th July, 1959, and the change over became effective on the 1st April, 1960.

Distribution - The Undertaking during the year continued to grow and expand, new connections to the system being in respect of 72 new houses and flats, a nurses teaching unit, a school as well as a further five miscellaneous properties. New mains were laid at the Sele Farm Estate on the west side of Thieves Lane in preparation for the building of Council houses and Flats.

- The Little Anwell Reservoir

Improvement Scheme was proceeded with during the year, this involving the preparatory work in the preparation of detailed plans of the reservoir and the new water mains required to enable the scheme to proceed.

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

- Chemical

- The Reports on the results of the analyses of the samples of water from each of the four sources of supply 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 mineral constituents, and apart from the negligible trace of iron from the Hartham supply it is free from metals. It is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.



Chemical - (Analyses in Parts per Million)

Samples taken 2.6.1959	Wadesmill Road	Hartham	Molewood	Port Hill
Appearance (opalescence)	Clear and bright	Clear and bright	Clear and bright	Bright with a few particles under 3
Turbidity	nil	nil	nil	
Colour	nil	nil	nil	nil
Odour	v.slight chlorinous	v.slight chlorinous	nil	nil
Taste	...	...	...	...
Re-action pH	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.3
Free Carbon Dioxide	35	30	30	24
Electric Conductivity	520	515	495	475
Alkalinity as $\text{CaCO}_3$	260	250	250	245
Dissolved Solids	385	380	365	350
Hardness:-				
Carbonate	260	250	250	245
Non-carb	35	35	35	30
Total	295	285	285	275
Nitrate Nitrogen	6.0	4.1	4.7	4.6
Nitrite Nitrogen	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.000	0.013	0.000	0.000
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Oxygen absorbed	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
Residual Chlorine	0.11	0.05	...	...
Metals				
Iron	Absent	Iron 0.04	Absent	Absent
Zinc, Copper, Lead	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Fluoride (F)	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10



REFUSE DISPOSAL

The Corporation has continued to use the Foxhole Farm Refuse Tip without difficulty for the 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 both as regards the number of bins to be emptied and the volume of the contents.

STATISTICAL RECORDS.1959.SUMMARY OF VISITS etc.Public Health etc. Acts.

Dwelling Houses, Inspections and revisits.	149
Sewers and Drains.	48
Sanitary Accommodation and fittings	63
Infectious Diseases, Contacts and Disinfections.	12
Verminous Articles, Premises and Disinfestations.	24
Disposal of Bedding, etc.	9
Licensed Premises, Sanitary Accommodation.	35
Music and Dancing Regulations	45
Hairdressers and Barbers	2
Schools, Sanitary Accommodation etc.	6
Smoke observations and visits	45
Offensive accumulations	15
Fly and other insect nuisances	8
Keeping of Animals	32
Shops and Offices	4
Common Lodging House.	8
Moveable Dwellings	6
Employment Agencies	2
Refuse Tips	11
National Assistance Act (Sections 47 and 50)	3
Other general Public Health visits.	54

Housing

Recorded Inspections	61
Reinspections and interviews	94
Certificates of Disrepair	-
General enquiries re. Certificates of Disrepair	4
Overcrowding	3

Factories

Factories with Mechanical Power	63
Factories without Mechanical Power	29
Other Premises under Factories Acts	4
Outworkers	8

Food Premises and Food Hygiene

Food Premises	
Retail Premises	193
Food preparation premises (Canteens, Kitchens)	39
Bakehouses	10
Dairies and Milk Shops	5
Food Stalls and Vehicles	25
Miscellaneous visits	10
Registered premises, Section 16.	
Ice Cream retail premises	42
Preserved Food premises	34
Food Inspections and Revisits	122

Rodent Control

Private Dwellings	10
Business Premises	22
Corporation Properties	6
Agricultural Properties	5

Miscellaneous

Road Traffic Act, 1956. Section 42	1
Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations	2
Pet Animals Act, Pet Shops.	3

Miscellaneous Visits and Inspections	94
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<u>Complaints</u> received during the year	160
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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 few 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.

A problem with regard to smoke emission having been overcome at an asphalt plant, its continuing problem of dust emission received further attention. Works involving the rearrangement of plant and the fitting of dust collecting cyclones etc. were already completed by the end of 1958, and in 1959 a specially made water washing plant was assembled on the site. The present working of the plant appears to be satisfactory, practically all the previous fine dust emission being retained by the washing plant and run to waste.

Towards the end of the year, the problem of smut from oil fired plant was encountered at two premises. Correct maintenance of the plant and cleansing of the stacks reduced the nuisance until early in 1960, in both cases the stacks were enclosed or shielded by aluminium and the nuisance overcome.

A complaint of smell arising from sewer ventilation was overcome by the offending man-hole covers being sealed. This occurred on the trunk sewer at its entry into the urban part of the town, the surrounding land in this area enclosing the site and not allowing the smell sufficiently to disperse, particularly during the evening-time.

Following epidemics of influenza with throat infections at two residential schools in the town, disinfection of dormitories to the wards and of the rooms of the school Infirmaries was undertaken by the Department.



Common Lodging HouseThe White House, 55, Railway Street, Hertford.

The registration of accommodation at the White House, Railway Street, the one Registered Common Lodging House within the Borough, was reduced in January 1959 from 32 men to 28, though the number actually using the premises nightly was only 7 men.

The White House, No. 55, Railway Street appears to have been used continuously as a Common Lodging House since before 1912, though the number of 'casuals' accommodated was so small as to escape notice, its main use being as a 'house-let-in-lodgings'. Following visit by the Council's then Sanitary Inspector, the premises were first officially registered on the 6th June 1928, for the accommodation of 25 persons. This number has since varied to 35, 39, 32 and again at the last registration in January of 1959 to 28. The average number originally accommodated nightly was about 24, and has gradually decreased to its present level of 7 lodgers. The majority using the premises have been doing so for many years as semi-permanent lodgers, practically no 'casuals' being accommodated.

At the time of considering the annual registration some four years ago the Keeper intimated that he was finding it difficult for the house to pay-its-way, and having been unable to obtain assistance by grant, and the premises being at the stage of requiring un-economic structural restoration, the several lodgers still remaining at the White House were given notice and the premises were closed as from the 27th June 1959.

The premises, though not up to modern standards, have been an asset in providing "private" lodgings and in considerable measure, a home-life, for its semi-permanent lodgers who otherwise would have been earlier forced into the County Institutions. As far as can be ascertained, The White House is the last of the privately owned Common Lodging Houses in this part of Hertfordshire, certainly the last in the East Herts. Combined Districts.

The premises were demolished in September 1959.



HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1935Refuse 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 Council in 1947.

Although since 1947 some regular tipping of non-putrescible matter in accordance with the conditions of consent has been undertaken, for the majority of this time the use of the area has been spasmodic. No use of the pit was made in 1959.

Employment Agencies (Section 74)

The conduct and management of the one Employment Agency, a Domestic Agency, has been in accordance with Part V of the above Act.

Moveable 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 is only one consent under the Act operative in the Borough, this being in respect of a single caravan, the occupation of which is concerned with that of a dwelling-house on the adjoining site.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Only one licence was in operation during the year, being in respect to a business carried on from a stall in the Hertford Covered Market. This was however discontinued during the year, but was later re-issued in respect of the same stall to another applicant.

HERTFORDSHIRE (MUSIC & DANCING) REGULATIONS, 1955.

Existing licences in respect of 22 premises were renewed by the County Council for the year 1959, and three new licences were also issued by the County Council during the year, no objection being made by the Borough Council on sanitary grounds on application being made under Regulation 5. 45 visits to these 25 premises were made during the year, these premises being, -  
Halls 13, Cinemas 2, and Licensed Premises 10.

1959.

HOUSINGExtract from Ministry of Housing  
and Local Government Return P.13Houses in Clearance Areas  
and Unfit Houses elsewhereHOUSES DEMOLISHEDIn Clearance AreasDemol- Displaced  
ished Persons Families

(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	6	13	6
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc	-	-	-
(3) Houses on land acquired under Sec. 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-

Not in Clearance Areas

(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec. 17 (1)	2	7	4
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the M.O.H.	3	4	3
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	-	-	-
(7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	-	-	-

UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED

Closed

(8) Under Sections 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1), Housing Act, 1957	2	7	2
(9) Under Sections 17 (3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
(10) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-



HOUSING ACT PROCEDURE ANALYSIS - 1959

12, Brewhouse Lane	Closing Order	Feb.1958	
14, Castle Street	Closing Order	Oct.1956	) Area under consideration
16, .. ..	Closing Order	Jul.1958	
18a, .. ..	Occupied		
41, Castle Street	Closing Order	Dec.1955	
2, Dimsdale Street	Closing Order	Feb.1957	Used for storage
38, Hertingfordbury	Rehoused	Apr.1959	) Area declared & Order confirmed during 1958. Demolition by Council in default of Owners commenced 1959.
40, .. Road	Closing Order	Mar.1956	
42, .. ..	Rehoused	Oct.1958	
44, .. ..	Closing Order	Dec.1956	
46, .. ..	Closing Order	Jul.1957	
48, .. ..	Vacated	Feb.1959	
48a, .. ..	Rehoused	Apr.1959	
9,13,17,19, Maidenhead Yard.	Empty on 1.1.59		) Council Controlled
5, Maidenhead Yard	Rehoused	Oct.1959	
11, .. ..	Rehoused	Jan.1959	
15, .. ..	Rehoused	Dec.1959,	
21, .. ..	Occupied		
23, 25, 27, Maidenhead Yard	Council controlled. Agreed as unfit.		) DEMOLISHED March 1959
31, 33, Molewood Road	Undertakings accepted that properties not to be used for human habitation Feb. 1955.		
18, North Road	Closing Order	May 1956	) Area under consideration
18a,18b, .. ..	Occupied		
32, Parliament	Closing Order	Mar.1958	) Area under consideration.
34, .. Square	Occupied		
30, .. ..	Shop premises.(Dwelling accommodation empty))		
4, Port Hill	Closing Order	- part of premises, May 1955.	
59, Port Hill	Closing Order	Dec.1959	) Area under consideration
63, .. ..	Closing Order	Oct.1958	
65, .. ..	Closing Order	Oct.1958	
61,67,69 ..	Occupied		



Housing Analysis Continued

71, Port Hill	Closing Order	Jul.1956	)	Area declared
73, .. ..	Rehoused	Feb.1959		January 1958
75, .. ..	Rehoused	Jan.1959	)	Order confirmed July 1958
77, .. ..	Rehoused	Feb.1959		
79, .. ..	Closing Order	May 1958	)	DEMOLISHED
81, .. ..	Closing Order	May 1958		
83, .. ..	Closing Order	May 1958	)	June 1959
The White House, 55, Railway Street.	Premises previously used as Common Lodging House.			DEMOLISHED Sept. 1959
77a, Railway Street	Closing Order	Jul.1958	)	Area under consideration
77b, .. ..	Closing Order	Dec.1958		
77d, .. ..	Closing Order	Dec.1956		
77e, .. ..	Occupied			
81, Railway Street	Closing Order	- part of premises, May 1956.		
48, St. Andrew	Closing Order	Dec.1959	)	Area under consideration
46, .. .. Street	Occupied			
15a, Talbot Street	Closing Order	May 1957		
15b, .. ..	Closing Order	Jun.1955		
15c, .. ..	Closing Order	Jul.1957		
13a, Ware Road	Closing Order	- part of premises, Jan.1953.		
1, 3, Water Lane	Undertakings accepted that properties not to be used for human habitation Feb.1935.			
24a, Ivy Passage	Rehoused	Aug.1959	)	Area considered by Council, and by agreement, purchased after vacation.
24b, ... West St.	Closing Order	Feb.1957		
24c, ... ..	Closing Order	Jul.1958		
24d, ... ..	Rehoused	Aug.1959		
24e, ... ..	Rehoused	Aug.1959	)	Area to be demolished and re-developed.
24f, ... ..	Closing Order	Jul.1957		
24g, ... ..	Closing Order	Apr.1956		
24h, ... ..	Rehoused	Sep.1959		
26, West Street	Empty			
28, .. ..	Closing Order	Mar.1957	)	



## Housing Analysis Continued

Clearance Area No. 4 (Port Hill) This area comprising 71 to 83, Port Hill was declared by the Council in January 1958, one property, number 71, Port Hill already being subject to a Closing Order. Closing Orders were however made on a further three of these properties prior to the visit of inspection by a Housing Inspector of the Ministry, there being no objections received and no Enquiry held. The Order was confirmed by the Minister in July 1958. Rehousing of the tenants from this area was completed in February 1959 and Demolition of the properties commenced in early April. Owing to the difficulty of the site being narrow and fronting direct on to the pathway at the point of a bend in the ascending roadway, the final clearance of the site was not completed until the end of June.

Clearance Area No. 2 (Hertingfordbury Road) This area comprising 38 to 48a, Hertingfordbury Road was declared by the Council in January 1958, three of the houses however already being subject to Closing Orders. Objections being received to the making of an Order, an Enquiry was held in August, though the Order was confirmed by the Minister in November 1958. Rehousing of the tenants from this area was completed in April 1959.

23 - 27, Maidenhead Yard These three properties, having been taken over by the Council and agreed as unfit, were, on vacation by, or rehousing of tenants, allowed to remain standing whilst in use by the Civil Defence Rescue Section for training purposes. The premises were demolished early in 1959.

24a - 24h, 26 and 28, West Street This area, although considered for a Clearance Area but never Declared, has mainly been dealt with by means of Closing Orders. The first Closing Order was made in April 1956, and at a later stage, agreements were made by the Council with the Owners of these 10 properties enabling the Corporation to purchase the sites for redevelopment for housing purposes on vacation by all the tenants of the houses. Closing Orders having been made on five houses and with one vacant, the remaining four occupiers were rehoused in August and September of 1959 and the Corporation entered into possession of the site.

The White House, 55, Railway Street This large house, in use for many years as a privately owned Common Lodging House, having been discontinued in use as such for economic reasons, and being at the stage of requiring un-economic major structural restoration, was demolished during the year.



HOUSING PROGRESSProgress during 1959

<u>New Dwellings erected</u>	
<u>During</u>	<u>Since</u>
<u>1959</u>	<u>1945</u>

Private Enterprise

New Dwellings erected during 1959 (total since 1945 includes war destroyed or damaged rebuilt or repaired)	45	(313)
.. .. erected by Housing Associations	5	( 12)
.. .. under construction at end of year (including 6 by Housing Assocs.)	38	

Hertford Borough Council

New Dwellings erected by Council	16	(935)
.. .. (Temporary prefabricated bungalows)	-	( 50)
.. .. under construction at end of year	62	

Other Authorities (County Council, Military, etc)

New Dwellings erected during 1959	-	( 41)
.. .. under construction at end of year	-	

Total new dwellings erected during 1959

...	66	
... .. under construction at end of year	100	
... .. completed between 1945 and 31.12.59		<u>1,351</u>

Total Properties Controlled by the Borough Council

Council Houses	1,570
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows	50
Sundry Cottages and Dwellings	32



RENT ACT, 1957

Particulars relating to the calendar year 1959  
(in the form as set out by Circular 32/1957)

PART I - Application for Certificates of Disrepair

(1) Number of applications for certificates	...	nil.
(2) Number of decisions not to issue certificates		nil.
(3) Number of decisions to issue certificates	..	nil.
(a) in respect of some but not all defects		nil.
(b) in respect of all defects	. ...	nil.
(4) Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule		nil.
(5) Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule		nil
(6) Number of Certificates issued	... ..	nil

PART II - Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

(7) Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates		nil
(8) Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates		nil
(9) Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objection		nil
(10) Certificates cancelled by Local Authority		nil

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Total number of Certificates of Disrepair issued  
under the Rent Act, 1957 (since 6th July, 1957) 3.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.Food Premises

The total number of food shops and other premises dealing with foodstuffs is 217. 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	6
Bakers and Cake Shops	9
Fishmongers (wet fish)	3
Fried Fish Shops (1 additional entered as cafe)	3
Butchers Shops	15
Sweet Shops	17
Greengrocers (including 1 wholesalers premises)	13
Dairies and Milk Shops	3
Cafes and Restaurants	14
Hotels and Licensed Premises serving meals	8
Public Houses	38
Wine Shops and Off Licences	3
Residential Institutional Kitchens	9
School and Industrial Canteens	24
Clubs	5
Vegetarian Foodshop	1
Chemists, pharmaceutical	5

Inspection of food premises under the Food Hygiene Regulations continued throughout the year. No special difficulties have been experienced and improvements continue to be made through informal action, the administration of the Regulations being assisted by the co-operation of the trades-people themselves.



There are now four self-service food shops supplying pre-packed goods only two of these being large multiple firms. A considerable number of shops now have the refrigerated cabinets for the sale of pre-packed frozen foods, and many of the smaller general shops are provided with the refrigerated storage and display counters.

The personal requirements of the Food Regulations relating to the food handlers themselves and also to the handling of food are generally being observed.

### Registered Food Premises

Sale and storage for sale of Ice Cream	52
Manufacture and sale of Ice Cream	-

The above 52 registered premises includes one new registration and one registration surrendered on discontinuance of sale during the year, together with three notifications of change in the occupation of the premises.

Preparation or manufacture of sausages	14
Preparation or manufacture of preserved food	3

The above 69 premises registered under section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act are generally well conducted, a total of 76 visits being made to the several premises.

### Ice Cream.

During the year 15 ice cream samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. The results were as follows,-

Provisional Grade	I	12	80%)	
..	II	3	20%)	100%
..	Grades III & IV	-	-	

The Public Health Laboratory Service advises that owing to the numerous factors governing the hygienic quality of ice cream, it is unwise to pay too much attention to the bacteriological results on any single sample, and that judgment should be based on a series of samples. It is suggested that it would be reasonable to expect about 50% of samples throughout the year to fall into Grade I, 80% into Grades I and II, not more than 20% into Grade III and none into Grade IV. - On this basis the sampling results for the year are satisfactory.



Milk and Dairies

Number of retail purveyors of Milk 3

Number of general shops at which milk is  
retailed for the convenience of customers,  
licences being issued and all milks being  
obtained from the above three purveyors. 6

Designated Milk Licences	Dealers Licences	Supplementary Licences
Tuberculin Tested	4	1
Pasteurised	3	1
Sterilised	6	1

Thirteen samples of milk were submitted to the laboratory for examination during the year, these being obtained on the public highway from the roundsman's van or after delivery at private houses, this enabling the cleanliness of the milk to be ascertained as it is delivered to the public. The 5 samples of Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk and the 8 of Pasteurised Milk were reported upon as all passing the prescribed tests.

There is one pasteurising plant within the Borough, this being licensed by the Herts County Council, and of the 52 samples taken from the plant only one failed to pass the prescribed test, the immediate follow-up sample to this proving satisfactory.

The County Council undertake sampling for the presence of tubercle bacilli and brucella abortus. No report of the presence of either of these organisms was received during the year.

Foodstuffs

Nine samples of miscellaneous foodstuffs, included being cream buns and bakers bulk cream, watercress, mincemeat and prawns, were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination and were reported upon as satisfactory.



Inspection of Meat and Other Foodstuffs

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

Canned Foodstuffs

Meat and Meat Products	10	containers	119	lbs
Ham	4	..	34	..
Pulses and Vegetables	94	..	71	..
Fruit	68	..	79	..
Milk	48	..	47	..
Fish and Fish Products	16	..	8	..
Miscellaneous (Soups & Jams etc)	11	..	11	..

Fish

Salmon	13	lbs
Dog Fish	56	..
Skate	28	..
Prawns	25	..

Miscellaneous

Beef (Home Killed) - Rump & Fillet	24	lbs
Total weight of foodstuffs	4 cwt 67	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 twenty properties are treated as required, these, together with other business premises treated, are charged for on a time and material basis.

The gradual decrease of sewer infestation during the past few years has been maintained, no evidence of infestation being found by the 16 per cent. annual test baiting of the man-holes on the system.

The summary of information as required on the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Form PDP R/10, but in respect of 1960, is set out below.



Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Report for 12 months ended 31st December, 1959	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Non-Agricultural				AGRI- CULTURAL
	LOCAL AUTHORITY	DWELLING HOUSES (including Council Houses)	ALL OTHER (including Business Premises)	TOTAL of Columns (1) (2) & (3)	
I No. of Properties in Local Authority's Area	14	4655	917	5586	21
II No. of properties insp- ected as a result of					
(a) Notification	-	56	1	57	-
(b) Survey under the Act	14	1949	334	2297	18
(c) Otherwise	-	412	247	659	1
III Total Inspections carried out, including re-inspections	62	4909	1130	6101	36
IV No. of properties found to be infested by					
(a) Rats					
Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	7	123	15	145	-
(b) Mice					
Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	2	37	4	43	-
V Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority	9	160	19	188	-
VI Total treatments carried out, including retreatmts.	17	188	35	240	-
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					1

NOTE - Number of properties taken from Valuation Officers Statistical Analysis, April 1959, a property being one which is entered separately in the Valuation Roll. Column 3, ALL OTHER, includes combined dwelling/business premises.



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 1959.

Part I of the Act.1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

Factories without Mechanical Power	...	...	16
Inspections	...	...	29
Written Notices	...	...	-
Factories with Mechanical Power	...	...	80
Inspections	...	...	63
Written Notices	...	...	2
<u>Other Premises under the Act (Electrical</u>			
<u>Stations, Institutions, Sites of Building</u>			
<u>Operations, Works of Engineering Constr-</u>			
<u>uction, but excluding Outworkers Premises)....</u>			
Inspections	...	...	4

<u>2. Cases in which defects were found</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)		
Separation for Sexes	1	1
Unsuitable or Defective	1	1
Intervening ventilated space	1	1
Lighting of convenience	1	1
Total Defects referred to H.M. Inspector	...	nil
.. .. . by ..	...	three

Part VIII of the Act3. Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

(i) Making of Wearing Apparel ... 160

Of the above 160 outworkers, 34 only are resident within the Borough, the remaining 126 being in the areas of 41 other Local Authorities - these Authorities all being notified in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

