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Contributors

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HITCHIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORTS



of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1962

HITCHIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1962 - 1963

COUNCILLORS :

Chairman of the Council

A. R. G. PRICE J.P.

Vice-Chairman

F.A. MILLARD. J.P.

Chairman - Public Health Committee - S.C.L. Ashford.

A. J. Boore.	Mrs. P.L.M. Price.
R. Foster.	W. K. Purdie.
E. Harding.	J. Reilly.
R. Harper.	J. H. Sayer.
G. F. Hendry.	Mrs. E.L. Swinburne.
W. A. Hill. J.P.	K. B. Warwick.

W. WILSON, F.C.C.S.

Clerk of the Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1962.

Medical Officer of Health

VICTOR R. WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.
(Also Divisional M.O. for North Herts.)

Senior Public Health Inspector :

NORMAN HOLT, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.,
Certs. R.S. Health (1. Meat and Foods 2. Smoke)

--- oOo ---

Additional Public Health Inspectors :

DONALD ALFRED FOGG, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.
Certs. R.S. Health (1. Meat and Foods 2. Smoke)

HARRY FORREST M.A.P.H.I.
Certs. R.S. Health (Meat and Foods)

Pupil Public Health Inspector :

ANTHONY SWAIN.
(From 20th Aug. 1962.)

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HITCHIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

1961-62

CLERICAL STAFF :

MR. J.D. DAVIDSON.

MISS. G. CHALKLEY.
(From 3rd May, 1962)

MISS. E. HALL.
(to 2nd April, 1962.)

OFFICES :

Medical Officer of Health :

Divisional Health Office, Bedford Road, Hitchin. TEL. 50411/4

Senior Public Health Inspector :

Council Offices, Brand Street, Hitchin. TEL. 4471/5

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Director of Health

June, 1962

HITCHIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1962

To the Chairman and Members of the Council,

Mrs. Price and Gentlemen,

I submit the above annual report on the direction of Ministry Circular 1/63.

For 1962 the local death rate of 13.4 considerably exceeds the figure for England and Wales (11.9); this must mainly be due to a higher-than-average proportion of middle aged and elderly residents. Scrutiny of tabulated causes showed increases in Angina and other Heart Diseases, Malignant Diseases, and Respiratory Diseases. Application of the local comparability factor (0.77) supplied by the Registrar gives a standardised death rate of 10.3.

After relatively low local birth rates for some years the marked rise since 1961 is again evident; here a probable factor is the recent completion of several new housing estates with inflow of younger families.

Local stillbirth and infant mortality rates are seen when combined to be favourable and there was during the year no local occurrence of serious infectious disease.

I would acknowledge having received during the year every assistance from your Council and its chief officers; particularly from Mr. Holt, your Senior Public Health Inspector, who is responsible for the attached report on sanitary matters.

Your obedient servant,

V.R. WALKER.

District Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1963.

SECTION A.

LOCAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	3,850
Home Population - Registrar General's estimate for mid-1962.. .. .	24,070
Number of inhabited houses at 1st April, 1963.. .. .	8,056
Rateable value as at 1st April, 1963	£1,238,587
Estimated Product of a Penny Rate for 1963/4	£5,420

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR
THE YEAR 1962.

HITCHIN Comparable
URBAN Rate for
 ENGLAND
DISTRICT. AND WALES.

LIVE BIRTHS.

	<u>Totals</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	459	223	236
Illegitimate	29	12	17
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	488	235	253

Rate per 1,000 population 20.3 18.0
 Illegitimate live births per cent of
 total live births 5.9%

STILLBIRTHS.

	<u>Totals</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	5	3	2
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	6	3	3

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 12.1 18.1

TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS.

HITCHIN
URBAN
DISTRICT Comparable
Rate for
ENGLAND
AND WALES.

<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
494	238	256

DEATHS

<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
322	161	161

Rate per 1,000 population

13.4 11.9

INFANT DEATHS.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Under 1 week	6	1	5
1 - 4 weeks	4	3	1
4 - 52 weeks	1	1	-
	<hr/>		
	11	5	6

Infant Mortality Rates.

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total
live births 22.5 20.7

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000
legitimate live births 24.0

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000
illegitimate live births 0.0

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate
(deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000
total live births) 20.5 15.1

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate
(deaths under 1 week per 1,000
total live births) 12.4

HITCHIN Comparable
 URBAN Rate for
 ENGLAND
 DISTRICT AND WALES.

Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths
 and deaths under 1 week combined per
 1,000 total live and still births) .. 24.3

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)
 Number of deaths None
 Rate per 1,000 total live and still
 births 0.0 0.35

COMMENT ON LOCAL VITAL STATISTICS.

The estimated local mid-year population shows a further considerable rise of 250 while local live births (488) are just above the figure of 481 for 1961.

Deaths from Cancer (all sites) numbered 50, of which total 10 (all males) were from Cancer of the lung or bronchus. 4 deaths (3 males and 1 female) among local residents occurred from motor vehicle accidents, against figures of 3 for 1961 and 6 for 1960.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

These are unchanged.

SECTIONS C - E.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA, HOUSING AND INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

Full reports on the above are contained in the attached report of your Senior Public Health Inspector.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Totals of notified infectious diseases for the whole year 1962 (after correction) were; Measles 420, Acute pneumonia 2, Scarlet fever 1, Food poisoning 1, and Acute poliomyelitis 1.

The single case of paralytic poliomyelitis occurred in a 9 year old unvaccinated child; all four other children of the same family were found to be symptomless excretors of the APM Virus (Type 1), while the parents were negative.

The one case of food poisoning (causal organism Salm. Heidelberg) could not, after enquiry, be linked with any definite or probable source of infection.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

During the early Spring months the Bradford outbreak had considerable impact in North Herts, with follow-up of remote contacts, a general increased acceptance of primary vaccination, and the special protection of health service personnel likely to make the first contact with any introduction of that disease into the area. Public concern and alarm also lead to a great volume of work connected with certificates for persons proceeding abroad.

IMMUNISATION

The standard use of a TRIPLE antigen - against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus - has continued available for infants from both welfare centres and practitioners, with a continued high rate of acceptance and remarkable freedom from complaints of reaction. A "booster" dose against diphtheria and tetanus - omitting the whooping cough fraction - continues on offer at the time of infant school entry and is widely accepted.

Against anterior poliomyelitis, in the early summer the Ministry of Health offer of one dose of ORAL (SABIN) vaccine was made available to all children of primary school age previously vaccinated with SALK vaccine, issued in schools on a lump of sugar. Since then the ORAL vaccine, in 3 doses at 4 - 6 weeks interval, has been almost generally adopted for infant immunisation in North Herts, to give a probably more lasting and permanent type of immunity than the previous injections of SALK vaccine. Essentially an attenuated living vaccine given by mouth has replaced a killed virus given by injection.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Deaths during the Year 1962.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1								
2 - 5	1							
5 - 15								
15 - 25	1	2			1			
25 - 35		1						
35 - 45	1							
45 - 55		1						
55 - 65	2							
65 & over	2							
Not known								
TOTALS	7	4	-	-	1	-	-	-

COMMENT:

New notifications during the year give a total for respiratory forms of disease of 11 cases, against 6 for the previous year; the age distribution of the increase is seen to fall mainly in males in the elderly age groups.

One (male) death is recorded during the year from respiratory disease.

V.R. Walker,
District Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1963.

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1962

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Lady and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my twenty first Annual Report upon the work carried out by the Public Health Department during the year ending December 31st 1962.

During 1962 the department commenced to operate the multiple occupation provisions of the Housing Act 1961 and it is already apparent that if this considerable problem, now present in Hitchin, is to be solved, the department will be involved in a great deal of work e.g. service of notices, inspections and revisits, often in the evenings. Many sub-standard houses were represented as unfit for human habitation and dealt with under the individual house provisions of the Housing Act 1957. Other houses continue to be improved with the aid of improvement grants, principally standard grants, and at the present time the number of grants made is rapidly increasing with a consequent increase in the amount of administrative and supervisory works by the department.

Regarding refuse collection the conversion to the paper sack system was still in progress at the end of the year and at that time approximately 5,000 premises were on the new system. This new method of collection is rapidly becoming more popular throughout the country and since Hitchin pioneered the scheme in 1960 enquiries have been received by me from 103 local authorities of which 21 have sent members and officials to actually view the scheme in operation.

I again express my thanks to the staff for their valuable assistance and to all the Council's officials for their continued co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

N. HOLT.

Senior Public Health Inspector.

June, 1963.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' VISITS
AND NOTICES SERVED DURING
THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st 1962

NATURE OF VISIT OR INSPECTION

GENERAL SANITATION

Water supply	3
Drainage	227
Stables and piggeries	2
Caravans	177
Factories	22
Workplaces	1
Refuse and salvage collection	525
Refuse disposal	104
Rats and mice	30
Smoke observations and other visits	22
Boiler plants	11
Shops	31
Petroleum installations	54
Swimming pools	22
Miscellaneous	401

HOUSING

Under Public Health Acts :-

Number of houses inspected	64
Visits paid to above houses	109

Under Housing Acts :-

Number of houses inspected	45
Visits paid to above houses	794

Overcrowding :-

Number of houses inspected	4
Visits paid to above houses	13

Houses in Multiple Occupation :-

Number of houses inspected	12
Visits paid to above houses	91

Rent Act 1957:-

Inspections in connection with certificates of disrepair	1
All revisits	10

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Inquiries in case of Infectious Diseases	20
Inquiries in case of Food Poisoning	1
Other visits re Food Poisoning	1

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Inspection of meat :-

Visits to slaughterhouses	569
Visits to shops and stalls	8

Food Inspection :-

Visits to shops and stalls	82
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Visits to :-

Butchers	34
Fishmongers and poulterers	8
Grocers	80
Greengrocers and fruiterers	27
Dairies and milkshops	8
Ice cream premises	18
Bakehouses	13
Market stalls	51
Restaurants	45
Canteens, etc.,	55
Street vendors and hawkers carts	6
Licensed premises	14

Visits in connection with sampling (bacteriological):-

Milk	67
Ice Cream	139

NOTICES SERVED

Number of Informal Notices served	41
Number of Informal Notices complied with	47
Number of Statutory Notices served	16
Number of Statutory Notices complied with . ..	5

IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE PUBLIC

HEALTH INSPECTORS

HOUSES, ETC.,

Roofs repaired	33
Chimney stacks pointed or repaired	11
Chimney pots provided	6
Flashings repaired or replaced	19
Eavesgutters repaired or renewed	43
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	19
Rainwater pipes disconnected from drains	1
Roof timbers repaired or replaced	9
Walls pointed or repaired	12
Walls cement rendered	4
Windows repaired	10
Windows provided or replaced	53
New window sashcords provided	15
New window fasteners provided	6
Doors repaired (external).. .. .	11
Doors provided or replaced (external).. .. .	15
Doors provided (internal)	52
Doors repaired (internal)	2
Door fasteners repaired or replaced	8
Door steps provided or repaired	2
New yard surfaces provided	5
Yard surfaces relaid or repaired	7
Yard surfaces where proper means of drainage provided	4
Ceilings where plaster, etc. repaired or replaced	44
Ceilings cleansed	2
Rooms where walls cleansed	3
Floors relaid or repaired	63
Rooms where skirting board repaired or replaced	18
Firegrates repaired	3
New firegrates provided	21
New ranges provided	3
Hearths repaired or replaced	6
Chimney flues repaired	6
Staircases repaired	8
Rooms where lighting improved	29
Rooms where ventilation improved	3
Rooms where dampness remedied	15
New sinks provided	17
Sinks repaired	4
Trapped sink waste pipes provided	17
New washbasins provided	38

continued :-

IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE PUBLIC
HEALTH INSPECTORS - continued:

HOUSES, ETC.,

Trapped washbasin waste pipes provided	38
New baths provided	36
Trapped bath waste pipes provided	36
Rooms where wallplaster etc. repaired or replaced	68
Rooms decorated	15
Washing boiler flues repaired	1
Hot water systems provided	41
Houses where water service pipes repaired . . .	14
Houses where water supply provided inside the house	1
Ventilated food stores provided	37
Houses painted externally	9
Fuel Stores provided	2

Drainage :-

New drains constructed	19
Old drains reconstructed	25
Drains repaired	4
Drains cleansed	28
Inspection chambers provided	25
Inspection chambers repaired	5
Inspection chamber covers provided	34
Self-cleansing gullies provided	16
Soil pipes provided or repaired	5
Vent pipes provided or repaired	5

Waterclosets :-

New basins fixed	37
Cisterns repaired or renewed	26
New flush pipes fixed	7
Doors repaired or renewed	14
W.C. seats repaired or replaced	7
Floors repaired	4
W.C's. decorated	8
W.C's. where lighting improved	4

MISCELLANEOUS

New dustbins provided	3
Accumulations of refuse removed	11

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) Water.

With the exception of a few outlying houses, which have satisfactory private sources, Hitchin obtains its water from piped supplies controlled by the Lee Valley Water Company.

Water is obtained from three wells (1) Temple End, Charlton, (2) Oughton Head and (3) Offley Bottom. The latter two are situated in the rural district just outside the urban boundary. An adequate supply was maintained from the above sources and no restrictions were necessary during the year. The water is satisfactory in quality. 93 bacteriological and 15 chemical samples of the water supplied in the district were taken during the year and examined at the Company's own laboratory. All the samples were found to be satisfactory. The water from the wells is hard and therefore no trouble is experienced due to plumbo-solvency.

The number of dwelling houses supplied with water from public mains direct into the house is 8,005 serving approximately 23,919 persons, whilst the number of dwelling houses supplied with water from public mains by means of stand-pipes is 34, serving approximately 101 persons. In the case of 17 houses the water supply is provided in an outbuilding.

(ii) Drainage and Sewerage.

Extensions to the soil and stormwater sewers were carried out during the year on the Rosehill and Westmill Estates.

2. Rivers and Streams.

No action taken.

3. (i) Closet Accommodation.

With the exception of 4 of the 23 houses comprising the main village of Charlton, and a few outlying premises, the whole of the district is provided with waterclosets, which, excluding a few waterclosets discharging into cesspools, are connected to the Council's sewers. The 4 houses mentioned above are provided with pail closets.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA. Continued:-

3. (ii) Public Cleansing - Refuse Collection.

The conversion to the paper sack system continued during the year and approximately five eighths of the district, excluding the central shopping area, were on the system by the end of 1962.

Once the householder has had a week or two to experience the new method of refuse collection the great majority like the paper sack system. The refuse collectors themselves also very much favour paper sacks to dustbins as the collection of refuse by the new system has become a clean, light, noiseless and more hygienic operation. One has only to watch a team of men on paper sack collection to realise that each workman now feels that he is carrying out a responsible and essential job and because of that he becomes a happier individual.

House and trade refuse were disposed of by controlled tipping using a bulldozer. Approximately 392 tons of waste paper were sold during the year to the board mills.

(iii) Public Health Inspection of the Area.

See pages 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11.

(iv) Shops and Offices

Numerous visits were made to shops and offices and the following works were carried out after written or verbal notices :-

Separate sanitary conveniences for sexes provided	2
Existing sanitary accommodation reconstructed	2
No. of new w.c. basins fixed	9
No. of w.c.'s where walls repaired or renewed	4
" " " " floor renewed or repaired	4
" " " " roof renewed or repaired	3
" " " " ceiling renewed or repaired	3
" " " " lighting improved	2
" " " " permanent means of ventilation provided	2
" " " " intervening space provided(ventilated)	1
No. of sanitary conveniences decorated	1
Means of heating provided or improved	1
Means of ventilation provided or improved	1

(v) Caravans.

At 31st December 1962, eleven licences had been granted authorising the use of land as sites for caravans. The number of caravans covered by the licences is 114.

As mentioned in the 1961 Report serious problems again arose due to the unauthorised parking of caravans, etc., by gipsies and other travellers on certain sites such as Oughton Head Common, Oughton Head Lane, The Meads, Icknield Way and Stotfold Road. The department is constantly urging these people to move along, sometimes with police cooperation, but nearly always they return to continue their undesirable habits.

Two major removals of these individuals and their caravans took place early in 1963 and it is hoped that sufficient obstruction works have now been carried out at these two sites to prevent the return of any unauthorised caravans.

(vi) Clean Air.

5 observations of chimneys were made during 1962 together with 11 advisory visits to the boiler plants concerned. Satisfactory liaison still continues with the Surveyor's Department regarding the height of chimneys when new boilers are to be installed and the necessary plans, etc., are submitted.

(vii) Swimming Baths.

There are two swimming baths in the district, (a) a public open-air swimming bath maintained by the Council, comprising a main and children's pool, and (b) a private open-air swimming bath at the Girls' Grammar School.

104 samples of water in the two pools at the Council's baths were taken, 52 being submitted to a bacteriological examination and 52 to a residual chlorine test. All the samples were reported upon as satisfactory.

The two pools at the public baths are filled from a main water supply. The water is continuously circulated and purified by pressure sand filtration and chlorination. The filtration plant has a turnover period of about four hours.

The County Health Department took samples of the water in the Girl's Grammar School bath during the year.

(viii) Inspection of Common Lodging houses

There are no common lodging houses registered in Hitchin.

4. Schools.

No action taken.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	109
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	903
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	42
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	42
3.		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	42
4.		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	38

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

		Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	59
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(A)		Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957 :	
(1)		Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	-

continued:-

(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By Owners	-
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	-
(B)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By Owners	4
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	-
(C)	Proceedings under Sections 16,17, 23 and Part 3 of the Housing Act, 1957 :	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	26
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were revoked	-
(3)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	37
(4)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings to make fit were accepted from owners, etc.	-
(5)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings not to use for human habitation until made fit were accepted from owners, etc.	-
(6)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Clearance or Compulsory Purchase Orders	-

continued:-

(D)	Proceedings under Sections 16, 17, 18 and 28 of the Housing Act, 1957:	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	-
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	-
(3)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	4
(4)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the house having been rendered fit	1
(5)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were revoked and Demolition Orders made	-
(6)	Number of dwelling houses owned by local Authority certified as unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	1

4. OVERCROWDING.

(a)	(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	1
	(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	2
	(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	6
(b)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year	2
(c)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	2
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases ..	9
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding :	
	(1)	Number of cases	-
	(2)	Number of families concerned	-
	(3)	Number of persons	-

5. IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

(1)	Number of discretionary improvement grants made	3
(2)	Number in (1) above made to owner/occupiers	2
(3)	Number of houses where discretionary improvement grant works completed	20
(4)	Number of standard improvement grants made .	25
(5)	Number in (4) above made to owner/occupiers	23
(6)	Number of houses where standard improvement grant works completed	26

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

There are six distributors of milk in the district and three premises are used as dairies.

Inspections of the dairies were made during the year under the Milk and Dairies Regulations.

During the year 143 samples of milk were taken and submitted to bacteriological examination with the following results :-

<u>Number of Samples</u>	<u>Class of Milk</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>	<u>Percentage Satisfactory.</u>
59	Pasteurised	57	2	96.6%
66	Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	64	2	97%
18	Sterilised	18	-	100%

The majority of the samples were bottled milks taken in the course of delivery to the consumer.

(b) Meat and Foods.

One slaughterhouse is licensed by the Council to slaughter animals, i.e. the Herts. and Beds. Co-operative Bacon Factory, where extensive slaughtering of pigs is carried out, 47,383 pigs were killed and inspected at the Bacon Factory during the year. A system of detention is in operation at this slaughterhouse.

The following table gives details of the number of animals killed, inspected and found to be diseased, unsound or unfit for food. The diseased or unsound meat is voluntarily surrendered and disposed of so as not to be used for human consumption.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	-	-	-	-	47,383	-
Number inspected	-	-	-	-	47,383	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned,	-	-	-	-	63	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	-	-	-	-	30.1	-
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	802	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1.69	-
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

The following table gives summarised information relating to the carcasses, offal, etc., condemned at the Herts. and Beds. Co-operative Bacon Factory.

		<u>TUBERCULOSIS</u>								Lb.	
595	Pigs' heads	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,694	
172	Pigs' stomachs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,376	
12	Pigs' lungs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	
22	Pigs' livers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	88	
	Trimnings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	
										8,204	
		<u>OTHER DISEASES</u>									
18	Pigs' carcasses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Fevered	1,952
19	Pigs' carcasses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Moribund	2,419
2	Pigs' carcasses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Emaciation	77
3	Pigs' carcasses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Jaundice	476
1	Pigs' carcass	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Multiple Cysts	260
11	Pigs' carcasses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Acute Septic Peritonitis	1,445
1	Pigs' carcass	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Dropsy	23
5	Pigs' carcasses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Multiple Abscesses	875
2	Pigs' carcasses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Erysipelas	366
1	Pigs' carcass	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Pyelonephritis	282
1,324	Pigs' hearts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Pericarditis	661
9,177	Pigs' lungs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Congestion	27,541
1,661	Pigs' livers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Cirrhosis	6,644
301	Pigs' stomachs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Inflammation	2,428
178	Pigs' heads	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Abscesses	2,068
2	Pigs' sides	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Broken & Bruised	181
855	Pigs' kidneys	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Cysts	215
376	Pigs' flares	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Inflammation	1,128
60	Pigs' fillets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Inflammation	46
55	Pigs' fore legs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Broken & Bruised	617
75	Pigs' hocks	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Broken & Bruised	214
135	Pigs' back legs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Broken & Bruised	1,597
	Trimnings etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Bruised	1,907
										53,422	
TOTAL		27 tons. 10 cwts. 0 qrs. 26 lb.									

Numerous visits were made to butcher's shops, food shops and other food preparing premises where the following quantities of foodstuffs were found to be unsound, unfit for food, and were voluntarily surrendered by the owners and disposed of so as not to be used for human consumption.

<u>Meat from Butcher's Shops.</u>		lb.
Beef	.. .. .	Decomposition 22
Chickens	.. .. .	Decomposition 56
TOTAL	2 qrs. 22 lb.	

General.

Miscellaneous tinned and packed foods	.. .. .	627
Miscellaneous tinned meats	.. .. .	410
Fish	.. .. .	14
TOTAL	9 cwts. 1 qr. 25 lb.	

Grand total of foodstuffs condemned. (All classes)

28 tons. 0 cwts. 1 qr. 17 lb.

ICE CREAM.

The number of premises registered under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the storage and sale of ice cream is 94. Frequent visits were made to the foregoing premises to enforce the provisions of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1959, and for the purpose of sampling. Regarding sampling 68 samples of ice cream and 27 of "soft" ice cream were taken.

Ice Cream

Grade I	..	..	..	..	..	..	60	} Satisfactory.
Grade II	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	
Grade III	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	} Unsatisfactory.
Grade IV	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	

"Soft" Ice Cream.

Grade I	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	} Satisfactory.
Grade II	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	
Grade III	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	} Unsatisfactory.
Grade IV	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	

Nine of the unsatisfactory samples of "soft" ice cream were taken from one particular mobile vendor.

One of the main problems which presents itself when "soft" ice cream is manufactured on a vehicle is the cleaning and sterilisation of the soft serve machine. In most cases this operation has to be carried out by the salesman at the end of a long day's work when he is less likely to take the necessary care.

Unfortunately at the present time there is no power to require the registration of a mobile vehicle manufacturing and retailing ice cream as is the case with shops, stores, etc. because a vehicle does not constitute "premises" within the meaning of Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

1. There are 275 food premises in the area consisting of 56 grocers, 28 confectioners (sweets), 12 confectioners (cakes etc), 22 greengrocers, 5 fish-friers, 7 fishmongers, 2 poulterers, 21 butchers, 49 restaurant kitchens (including industrial and school canteens), 8 food factories, 9 bakehouses, 54 licensed premises and 2 warehouses, the latter being used for the storage of food only.

continued:-

2. The following premises are registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act 1955; 18 butchers (for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pickled, pressed or preserved food) 1 butcher (for the pickling of meat), 2 fishmongers (for the preservation of fish), 4 food factories (for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pickled, pressed or preserved food) 2 grocers (for the cooking of ham) 1 grocer and 1 fish monger (for the roasting of chickens). Regarding ice cream 94 premises are registered for the storage and sale of ice cream; 39 grocers, 8 green grocers, 24 confectioners (sweets) and 23 general premises. 1 premise is licensed for the storage of ice cream only.
3. Regarding inspection of food premises see (5) below.
4. Condemned food is disposed of at the premises of the Herts. and Beds. Co-operative Bacon Factory, where it is processed in a digester plant.
5. The following improvements were carried out during the year to premises used for preparation, sale, etc., of food :-

Washing Facilities.

Number of new sinks provided	7
Number of new washbasins provided	7
Number of new draining boards provided	9
Number of double sink units provided	4
Number of trapped waste pipes provided	13
Number of defective sinks renewed	5
Number of fitments provided with running hot and cold water	16

Structural Work.

Number of rooms where walls repaired or improved ..	18
Number of rooms where floors repaired or renewed ..	17
Number of rooms where walls decorated	55
Number of rooms where ceilings repaired or renewed ..	13
Number of rooms where ceilings decorated	35
Number of rooms where woodwork decorated	37
Number of rooms where new floor coverings provided ..	13
Number of rooms where lighting improved	8
Number of rooms where ventilation improved	3

continued:-

Equipment.

Number of premises where new equipment provided	7
Number of premises where equipment renovated	6
Number of premises where new counter tops installed	11
Number of premises where new shop fronts provided	4
Number of premises where refrig: display cabinets provided	9
Number of premises where food storage improved	6
Number of premises where new dustbins provided	6
Number of premises where equipment cleansed	1

Food Hygiene.

Number of premises where glass screening provided	-
Number of premises where suitable overalls and head covering provided	-
Number of premises where suitable cloakroom facilities provided	1
Number of premises where suitable sterilising agent provided	-
Number of premises where suitable soap and towels provided	5
Number of premises where first aid box provided	4
Number of rooms where walls and floors, etc., cleansed ..	7

Kitchen Utensils - Bacteriological Swabs.

During 1962, 386 swabs of kitchen utensils were taken for bacteriological examination.

Each swab is cultivated for two different times and temperatures and bacterial counts made. No official standard is laid down but a utensil is regarded as satisfactory if the average of both counts is not more than 100 organisms per utensil and faecal coliform is absent. 258 samples passed the unofficial standard and 128 failed.

Utensil cleansing techniques are constantly under supervision and methods, materials and equipment are consequently improving.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1962.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

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PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	21	1	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	161	21	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	6	1	-	-
TOTAL -	188	23	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of case in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	4	4	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7) :-					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL :-	5	5	-	1	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK (SECTIONS 133 and 134).

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	Number of outworkers in August list required by Section 133 (1)(c)	Number of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Clothing manufacture	38	-	-	-	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWELL (SECTIONS 133 and 134).

Particulars.

Found

Not found

Number of cases of

Number of cases of

Section 133

Section 134

Particulars.	Section 133		Section 134		Number of cases of default in supply lists to the Council	Number of outworkers in August list referred by Section 133 (1)(c)	Number of cases of default in August list referred by Section 134
	Number of instances of risk in supply lists	Number of instances of risk in supply lists	Number of instances of risk in supply lists	Number of instances of risk in supply lists			
(a) Not referred for	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Referred for	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other cases of default in supply lists	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of cases of default in supply lists to the Council	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of outworkers in August list referred by Section 133 (1)(c)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of cases of default in August list referred by Section 134	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-