

[Report 1957] / Medical Officer of Health, Hoddesdon U.D.C.

Contributors

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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED SANITARY DISTRICTS

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1957

HODDESDON URBAN DISTRICT

PREFACE

To the Chairman and Councillors,

Hoddesdon Urban District

ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On The Health of

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health of Hoddesdon for the year ending December 31st, 1957.

HODDESDON URBAN DISTRICT

John Wilkes, resigned to take up a Public Health appointment in Devon. I was invited by the East Hertfordshire Combined Sanitary Districts Committee to act as Locum Medical Officer of Health until a new appointment is made.

Doctor Wilkes has requested me, in presenting the Annual Report to say how For the Year 1957 the co-operation he has had from the staff of the Health Department, from his colleagues in other Departments and from the Public Health Committee during the nine years he has been your Medical Officer of Health. At the same time, I wish to express my appreciation of the invaluable kindness and courtesy I have met while carrying on in a temporary capacity.

The vital statistics are satisfactory in that they do not record any serious outbreak of disease, but reflect a generally healthy state of the District.

I have the honour to be

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant

R.P. GARRIN

Hoddesdon, July, 1958.



C 1451 (H) HODDSDON



ANNUAL REPORT

On The Health of

HODDSDON URBAN DISTRICT

For the Year 1951

Ok'd by P.C.
1.8.58 - mby

EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED SANITARY DISTRICTS

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1957

HODDESDON URBAN DISTRICT

P R E F A C E

To the Chairman and Councillors,
Hoddesdon Urban District,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health of Hoddesdon for the year ending December 31st, 1957.

On that date your Medical Officer of Health, Dr. John Wildman, resigned to take up a Public Health appointment in Devon. I was invited by the East Hertfordshire Combined Sanitary Districts Committee to act as Locum. Medical Officer of Health until a new appointment is made.

Doctor Wildman has requested me, in presenting the Annual Report to say how grateful he is for the help and co-operation he has had from the staff of the Health Department, from his colleagues in other Departments and from the Public Health Committee during the nine years he has been your Medical Officer of Health. At the same time, I wish to express my appreciation of the invaluable kindness and courtesy I have met while carrying on in a temporary capacity.

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Your obedient servant

R.P. GARROW

Hoddesdon, July, 1958.

EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED SANITARY DISTRICTS

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1927

HODDERSDON URBAN DISTRICT

P R E F A C E

To the Chairman and Councillors,
Huddersdon Urban District.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health
of Huddersdon for the year ending December 31st, 1927.

On that date your Medical Officer of Health, Dr. John Williams,
resigned to take up a Public Health appointment in Devon. I was
invited by the East Hertfordshire Combined Sanitary Districts Committee
to act as Locum Medical Officer of Health until a new appointment is
made.

Doctor Williams has requested me, in presenting the Annual
Report to say how grateful he is for the help and co-operation he has
had from the staff of the Health Department, from his colleagues in
other Departments and from the Public Health Committee during the nine
years he has been your Medical Officer of Health. At the same time,
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courtesy I have met while carrying on in a temporary capacity.

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record any serious outbreak of disease, but reflect a generally healthy
state of the District.

I have the honour to be

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant
R. P. GARRON

Huddersdon, July, 1928.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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

Central Office: Council Offices,
(East Herts Combined Districts) High Street,
HODDESDON, Herts.

Telephone: Office:- Hoddesdon 3061

Deputy (Part-Time) Medical Officer of Health

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

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.

Chief Public Health Inspector (Also Housing Manager) W.N. DAVID

Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.

Certificate for Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector (Also Deputy Housing Manager) A.C. GITTINS

Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.

Certificate for Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Diploma of The Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene.

Certificate of the Institute of Housing in Housing Management.

Additional Public Health Inspector M. PERRY

Certificate of P.H.I.E.B.

Certificate for Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Trainee Public Health Inspector - Mr. R.F. Coldham

Clerical Duties in the Public Health Department are in the charge of
Mr. F.R. Kempton, Housing Assistant.

Public Health Department: Council Offices,
High Street,
Hoddesdon, Herts. Telephone: HODDESDON 3061

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Public Health Committee for the Session 1957/58 was Councillor Mr. A.W.J. LARMAN. The Vice-Chairman was Councillor Mr. F.E. Rymill.

Also on the Committee were Councillors Mrs. C.F.E. Dutton, Miss A.M. OAKES, Mrs. E.J. TILLING, Mrs. W.M. WALSH, Councillor Dr. F.J. LANG, M.B.E., and Councillors Messrs. J.G. WATKIN, J.P., G.S.H. GIDDINGS, C.G. TILLING

VITAL STATISTICS AND GENERAL STATISTICS 1957

(Table 1)

(Figures for 1956 are shown in brackets)

POPULATION:

Estimated Mid-Year Population of Hoddesdon Urban District

16,040 (15,600)

Natural Increase or decrease	...	...	...	+ 136
Migration in or out	...	...	...	+ 304
Total Increase or decrease	...	...	...	+ 440

GENERAL STATISTICS:

Area in Acres 4,423 No Change.

Number of Inhabited Domestic Premises according to
Rate Books as at 30th June, 1957

4,830 (4,559)

Number of Houses per acre.	1.09
Number of Persons per acre.	3.6
Number of Persons per house.	3.3

Rateable Value of District £184,972

Sum Represented by a Penny Rate £754

VITAL STATISTICS AND GENERAL STATISTICS 1957

(Table 2)

(Figures for 1956 are shown in brackets)

BIRTHS.

Standardised Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population 16.5 (16.67)

Area Comparability Factor for Births 1.00 (1.00)

Number of Live Births

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Total</u>	135	130	265
Legitimate	131	125	256
Illegitimate	4	5	9
<u>Number of Still Births</u>	3	1	4

DEATHS.

Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population 9.12 (11.24)

Area Comparability Factor for Deaths 1.11 (1.11)

Number of Deaths

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>All Ages - Total:</u>	66	66	132
<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year</u>	1	2	3
No. under 4 weeks of age	1	0	1

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 related Live Births 23.08

COMPARISON WITH RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

BIRTH RATE. 16.1 (15.7)

DEATH RATE. 11.5 (11.7)

Infantile Mortality Rate 23.0 (23.8)

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) Notied during 1957

Disease	Total	Age Group in Years						
		Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65	Age Unknown
Scarlet Fever	7	-	1	6	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	19	-	11	7	-	-	-	1
Poliomyelitis (Acute)	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
	3	-	-	1	-	2	-	-
Measles	306	10	112	174	1	2	-	7
Acute Pneumonia	20	1	-	5	2	9	3	-
Erysipelas	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Infective Hepatitis	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING THE DIFFERENT MONTHS

Disease	First Quarter			Second Quarter			Third Quarter			Fourth Quarter		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Scarlet Fever	2	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	1	1	1	2	-	5	4	-	-	2	3
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	2	13	109	59	64	27	30	4	-	1	2
Acute Pneumonia	-	1	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	3	8
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS during 1957

<u>Tuberculosis</u>	Total all Ages	Under 5 Years	5 to 15	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and Over	Age not known
<u>New cases only</u>								
Respiratory	6	-	-	3	1	1	1	-
Meninges and C.N.S.	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-

<u>Tuberculosis</u>		Total	Males		Females	
<u>All Cases</u>			P.	N.P.	P.	N.P.
Cases on Register at 1st January, 1957		98	43	9	36	10
Cases added to Register	New Cases	7	3	-	3	1
	Restored to Register	0	-	-	-	-
	Inward Transfers	4	2	-	2	-
Cases removed from Register	Deaths	1	1	-	-	-
	Outward Transfers	2	1	-	1	-
	Patients Cured	2	-	-	2	-
Cases Remaining on Register at 31st December, 1957		104	46	9	38	11

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1957

Line No.		M.	F.
	ALL CASES	66	66
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	0
2	Tuberculosis, other	0	0
3	Syphilitic disease.	0	0
4	Diphtheria	0	0
5	Whooping Cough	0	0
6	Meningococcal infections.	0	0
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0
8	Measles	0	0
9	Other infective and parasitic disease ...	1	0
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	2
11	" " lung, bronchus	3	0
12	" " breast	0	0
13	" " uterus	0	2
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	7	6
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	0	0
16	Diabetes	1	1
17	Vascular Lesions of nervous system	9	8
18	Coronary disease, angina.	10	7
19	Hypertension with heart disease	0	3
20	Other heart disease	5	8
21	Other circulatory disease	0	1
22	Influenza	3	1
23	Pneumonia	2	2
24	Bronchitis	1	1
25	Other disease of respiratory system	0	0
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	2
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	1
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	0	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	3	0
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0
31	Congenital malformations.	0	1
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	11	14
33	Motor vehicle accidents	2	1
34	All other accidents	1	2
35	Suicide	1	2
36	Homicide and operations of war.	0	0
(a)	Still Births	3	1
(b)	Deaths of infants under four weeks of age	1	2
(c)	" " " four weeks to one year of age	1	0

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR HODDESDON

LABORATORY SERVICE.

Laboratory facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service 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 for Hoddesdon. Full details can be obtained from the County Medical Officer, County Hall, Hertford.

Home Nursing, Midwifery, Health Visiting and Welfare Centres

Number of Nurses: 5 Welfare Centres: 2.

Vaccinations, Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisations.

A Medical Officer at the Welfare Centres 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 Council Offices.

A charge may be made for both the above Services.

Ambulance Service.

There is an Ambulance Station at Hoddesdon; Telephone HODDESDON 3021. Except in emergency an ambulance should be ordered by a Medical Practitioner.

Day Nurseries.

There is a Day Nursery at Old Highway, Hoddesdon, also at Bowling Road, Ware and Waltham Cross.

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, Herts: (Telephone: WARE 541).

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

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

HOSPITAL SERVICES.

Hoddesdon is served chiefly by the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford.

Chronic Sick can receive hospital treatment at Western House Hospital, Collett Road, Ware.

All the above beds are managed by the Hertford Group Hospital Board.

Western House also provides beds under Part III of the National Assistance Act, 1948, on behalf of the Hertfordshire County Council.

GENERAL PRACTITIONER MEDICAL SERVICES.

There are 12 doctors in Hoddesdon. Practitioners from adjoining areas also have some patients in Hoddesdon.

DENTAL SERVICE.

There are now 5 dentists in Hoddesdon. There is also a School Dental Clinic at the Welfare Centre adjoining the Council Offices.

OTHER SERVICES.

There is a Mortuary managed by the Council.

Blood Transfusion Donor Sessions are held at the Welfare Centre adjoining the Council Offices.

There is a very active Old People's Welfare Service comprising an Over 60's Club, Meals Service, Visiting Committee, and Chiropody Service.

A Citizens Advice Bureau holds sessions on Mondays 7.30 - 9 p.m. and Wednesdays 2.30 - 4 p.m., at the Public Library, High Street, Hoddesdon. The Bureau, which serves a wide area around Hoddesdon, possesses a Legal Advisor and a Marriage Guidance Counsellor.

HODDSDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
Hoddsdon,
Herts.

16th July, 1958.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Public Health Committee.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1957

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit for your consideration my Report for the year ended
31st December, 1957.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

The post of Additional Public Health Inspector was filled by
the appointment on 4th November, 1957 of Mr. M. Perry who came to us
from Epping Urban District Council. Consequently on the resignation of
Mrs. G. Cowler as a For the year 1957 Miss J. Robinson was
appointed to the position on 7th December by transfer from the Clerk's
Department.

The amount of alien clearance work achieved during 1957 was not
as high unfortunately as that attained in the previous year, but a great
deal of work was done, the result of which will be reflected, it is
hoped in the figures for the year, 1958. In addition, the filling of
the post of Additional Public Health Inspector will further increase the
amount of work done in this particular field. In other respects steady
progress can be reported. There was an increase of approximately 75%
in the amount of food found to be unsound as compared with 1956. The
number of animals slaughtered was roughly the same and I am pleased to
say that 100% inspection was maintained. As the figures show on P. 50
there was a decrease in the proportion of meat condemned for tuberculosis
and for the presence of "other diseases". There was, however, an
increased proportion of cysticercus bovis found compared with previous
years although, at the time of writing, this has not continued into 1958.

Day Nurseries.

There is a Day Nursery at Old Highway, Hoddenden, also at Bowling Road, Ware and Waltham Cross.

Mental Health.

Arrangements for mental treatment on the recommendation of a Medical Practitioner are made by the Duty Authorized Officer, Mr. J.H. Webster, Collett Road, Ware, Herts. (Telephone: WARE 54).

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There are 12 Doctors in Hoddenden. Practitioners from adjoining areas also have some patients in Hoddenden.

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A Citizens Advice Bureau holds sessions on Mondays 7.30 - 9 p.m. and Wednesdays 2.30 - 4 p.m., at the Public Library, High Street, Hoddenden. The Bureau, which serves a wide area around Hoddenden, possesses a Legal Advisor and a Marriage Guidance Counsellor.

HODDESDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
Hoddesdon,
Herts.

16th July, 1958.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Public Health Committee.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1957

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

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31st December, 1957.

STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION

The post of Additional Public Health Inspector was filled by the appointment on 4th November, 1957 of Mr. M. Perry who came to us from Epping Urban District Council. Consequent on the resignation of Mrs. G. Cowler as a clerk in the Department, Miss J. Robinson was appointed to the position on 7th December by transfer from the Clerk's Department.

The amount of slum clearance work achieved during 1957 was not as high unfortunately as that attained in the previous year, but a great deal of work was done, the result of which will be reflected, it is hoped in the figures for the year, 1958. In addition, the filling of the post of Additional Public Health Inspector will further increase the amount of work done in this particular field. In other respects steady progress can be reported. There was an increase of approximately 75% in the amount of food found to be unsound as compared with 1956. The number of animals slaughtered was roughly the same and I am pleased to say that 100% inspection was maintained. As the figures show on P.30 there was a decrease in the proportion of meat condemned for tuberculosis and for the presence of "other diseases". There was, however, an increased proportion of cysticercus bovis found compared with previous years although, at the time of writing, this has not continued into 1958.

Council Offices,
Hoddeston,
Herts.

The detailed report for the year is given on the following pages.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Public Health Committee.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

I would like to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued support in the year and also to the Medical Officer of Health, Doctor J.H. Wildman who resigned his post with the East Herts Combined Sanitary Districts to take up a similar appointment in Devon in January, 1958. I also thank my fellow Chief Officers for their helpful assistance at all times and to place on record my deep appreciation of the work done by the staff of my own Department and to thank them for their loyal and unstinting service.

WATER SUPPLIES

PUBLIC MAINS SUPPLY:

With the exception of a few houses in the outlying parts of the district, water is derived from the public mains. This supply was sampled with satisfactory results. Two houses, which were supplied from wells, have been connected to the mains during the year.

PRIVATE SUPPLIES:

Eight samples of domestic water were taken during the year, of which four were derived from wells and four from a river.

At two of the premises involved samples proved to be unsatisfactory on bacteriological examination. In one case (a dwelling house) a storage tank was installed prior to filtering and in the other (a caravan) advice was given on the proper maintenance of the water filter.

FACTORY SUPPLIES:

The one factory supply sampled was bacteriologically unsatisfactory. Improvements were effected and subsequent samples proved satisfactory.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE

The greater part of the developed area of the district is sewered with outfalls at Broxbourne and Wormley which employ the broad irrigation, screening and settlement method, and at Hoddesdon where the sewage is treated at the Council's Rye Park Works.

It is hoped that work to the approved scheme for pumping the whole of the foul drainage into the Rye Meads Sewage Disposal Works at Rye House will be commenced in 1958.

Northern Drainage Area:

A sewer was constructed in Nursery Road and part of Stanstead Road during the year and nineteen dwellings have been connected to it. Seventeen more dwellings, at present on dry conservancy, are to be connected to this sewer, the Council making a contribution to the costs under Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936, in appropriate cases.

Cozens Lane, East.

During periods of heavy rain, the sewer in Cozens Lane East, Broxbourne becomes surcharged and overflows and on at least one occasion in the year some nuisance was caused to a small number of the prefabricated bungalows in this road. Every effort has been made to alleviate the trouble, but it is understood that no permanent solution is likely to be found until the Council's new sewerage scheme is put into operation.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Household refuse is collected weekly and special arrangements are made for a weekly collection of trade refuse. This part of the Council's work is supervised by the Engineer and Surveyor.

The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at the Lodge Hollow, Cock Lane, Hoddesdon gravel pit owned and operated by Messrs. Inns. The tip is also used for the deposit of household refuse from the Borough of St. Pancras.

HOUSING ACTS 1936-1937

SLUM CLEARANCE:

Due to pressure of other activities the number of areas represented in 1957 was fewer than anticipated. Some twenty-three dwellings were, however, inspected at the end of the year and will be represented in 1958.

The following areas, comprising five houses, were inspected and represented during the year:

- Nos. 1, 3, 5, Plumes Yard, Hoddesdon
- Nos. 60A, 62A, Burford Street, Hoddesdon

Confirmation of clearance orders on the following areas were received:

Nos. 104/108, Amwell Street, Hoddesdon
Nos. 4/8, Duke Street, Hoddesdon
Nos. 3/17, Pauls Lane, Hoddesdon
Nos. 18/24, High Road, Wormley.

Nos. 18, 20, 22 and 24, High Road, Wormley were purchased by the Council.

During the year 56 persons from slum clearance dwellings were re-housed and the following dwellings demolished:

Nos. 29 & 31, Duke Street, Hoddesdon
Nos. 1 & 2, River Cottages, Wormley
Nos. 36, 38 & 40, High Road, Wormley
Nos. 1 & 2, Thatched Cottages, Hailey Lane, Hoddesdon
No. 185, Lord Street, Hoddesdon.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS:

In the past few years there has been an influx of Italians into the district for employment, mainly in horticulture. Their stay in this country is conditional upon them being employed and employers are required to provide accommodation for them. For various reasons numbers of them have gravitated to houses in the district owned by their own countrymen already established here and it became apparent that there was a risk of overcrowding.

Inspections have been made and owners have been asked to keep the number of occupants below the statutory permitted number. In all except one case this has been done. In this case there was considerable overcrowding (in addition to contravention of Section 60 of the Public Health Act, 1936 as to means of escape in case of fire) which was only reduced after the owner had been prosecuted and fined. The chief difficulty was the finding of alternative accommodation for the occupants displaced as a result of the court order.

IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSING ACCOMMODATION:

Improvement grants were approved on the following 24 properties; 17 of which were occupied by tenants and 7 by the owners:

No. 54, Burford Street, Hoddesdon
No. 56, Burford Street, Hoddesdon
Nos. 50 & 52, Whitley Road, Hoddesdon
"Maghriasc", Hertford Road, Hoddesdon
No. 1, Cecil Road, Hoddesdon
Nos. 1-14, Macers Lane, Wormley
No. 16, Church Lane, Wormley
No. 96, Amwell Street, Hoddesdon
Nos. 1 & 2, Bury Farm Cottages, Church Lane, Wormley.

The scheme in respect of No. 1, Cecil Road, Hoddesdon was originally approved in 1956, but was amended and re-approved in the year under review. No. 16, Church Lane, Wormley had also been approved in 1956, but was not proceeded with at that time.

No. 96, Amwell Street was not proceeded with and the grants for 1 & 2, Bury Farm Cottages, Church Lane, Wormley were not taken up.

The following table compares 1957 with 1956 and shows the progress of the improvement schemes dealt with by the Department.

	1956		1957	
	No. of Dwellings	Value of Grants	No. of Dwellings	Value of Grants
Brought forward	7	£1,374.17.0.	6	£1,670.10.0.
Approved during Year	9	2,299.15.0.	24	4,893. 0.0.
Completed " "	8	1,674. 2.0.	11	2,383. 0.0.
Abandoned	2	330. 0.0.	1	174.10.0.
Carried Forward	6	1,670.10. 0.	18	4,006. 0.0.

One house on which a grant had been approved in 1955 was sold following the death of the owner. Repayment of the appropriate portion of the grant was accepted by the Council in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

HOUSING PROGRESS:

	<u>During 1957</u>	<u>Total since end of the war</u>
<u>By Private Enterprise.</u>		
New dwellings erected	150	768
War destroyed dwellings rebuilt	-	5
Repairs of war damaged houses	-	-
Conversions or adaptations in terms of family units	-	23
<u>By Local Authority.</u>		
New dwellings erected	86	703
Conversions or adaptations in terms of family units	-	8
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows	-	38
<u>By Other Authorities.</u>		
(including Police Cottages, etc.)		
New Dwellings erected	-	10

Properties Controlled by the Local Authority
at 31st December, 1957

Council Houses	1,063
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows	38
Sundry Other Properties	14
Shops	4

Sale of Council Houses.

Two pre-war Council houses were sold to tenants during the year, which brings the total sold to seventeen.

RENT ACT, 1957

On 6th July, 1957 the Rent Act became operative. The number of applications for certificates of disrepair was not what might have been anticipated. This may have been due to tenants accepting the rent increases with some informal undertaking by the owners to do repairs. The fact that small builders report no shortage of work reinforces this assumption.

There have been numerous enquiries from landlords and tenants as to their rights and duties under the Act, and as far as possible the necessary information has been given. Where the enquirer desired more than information he was referred to the local Citizens' Advice Bureau. Notwithstanding this, there have been difficulties due to the misunderstanding of procedure by landlords and tenants.

Application for certificates of disrepair were received and by the end of the year the position was as follows:

Application for certificates of disrepair	11
Certificates issued	6
Defects remedied before issue of certificate	1
Undertakings received from landlord to	
remedy defects in 6 months	2
Certificates pending	2

INSPECTIONS ETC.

The following visits for inspection or reinspection under the various Acts have been made:

PUBLIC HEALTH ETC. ACTS.

Dwelling houses (Section 92 Nuisances)	356
Dwelling houses (Drains and Sewers)	132
Dwelling houses (Closets)	6
Dwelling houses (Dustbins)	55
Dwelling houses (Vermin)	11
Dwelling houses (Water Supply)	23
Offensive Accumulation	8
Dust and effluvia	3

PUBLIC HEALTH ETC. ACTS. (Cont'd)

Work places	3
Ditches and watercourses	2
Atmospheric pollution	65
Inns, restaurants, cinemas (sanitary accommodation)	15
Infectious diseases	14
Food Poisoning	18
Moveable dwellings (Herts. County Council Act)	19.
Refuse tips	15
Fireguards (Domestic and business premises)	31
Swimming pool	6

HOUSING ACTS

Sections 11 and 12	1
Clearance	141
Overcrowding	46
Other	39
Improvement Grants	315
Rent Act	54

FACTORIES ACT

Power	28
Building Sites	5
Outworkers	1

SHOPS ACT

Section 38	6
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FOOD & FOOD HYGIENE

Food Premises	26
Food stalls and vehicles	12
Personal Hygiene	4
Food Hygiene Education	23
Ice cream retail	10
Preserved foods premises	2
Milk distribution	2
Meat slaughtering and distribution	4
Meat inspection	97
Other food inspection	11
Sampling	41

PESTS

Rodents - Domestic premises	1,076
" - Business premises	118
" - Other premises and houses	115
Insects	34

PETROLEUM ACTS & REGULATIONS

Regulation 5

75

MISCELLANEOUS

Miscellaneous inspections

120

Interviews with owners, agents, builders, etc.

82

Pet shops

1

3,271

Complaints received

264

Letters sent

573

Informal notices served

39

Statutory notices served

14

PUBLIC HEALTH

ANTI-FLY CAMPAIGN:

In January, the Public Health Committee decided that a campaign against flies should be conducted throughout the Urban District.

The campaign was carried out so as to make as much impact on the housewife and the food traders as possible since it was felt that the maximum effect could be achieved thereby. Food traders were asked to display anti-fly posters and to practice anti-fly measures in their premises. Advice was given on appropriate measures when required. Sticker strips exhorting action against the fly were placed on dustbin lids throughout the district; anti-fly stamps were placed on mail leaving the Council Offices and pamphlets were distributed on the Market Place.

An exhibition including models, live specimens and slogans was placed in the Market Place on market day and was later displayed in the County Council clinic in a modified form. A wall display was set up in the Public Library.

The local newspapers were informed of the campaign and some publicity was given to it in the newspaper columns. A local hardware store gave window space for some posters in conjunction with its insecticide display.

The campaign lasted from June to September and finished by the setting up of the exhibitions in the local Secondary Modern School supplemented with pamphlets to be used in biology lessons (the curriculum included the study of the fly) in the Autumn term.

The material used in the campaign included propaganda supplied by the Central Council for Health Education and models, slogans etc. made in the Department.

OFFENSIVE SMELLS, RYE MEADS SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS:

In June, 1957 during the period of fine weather, complaints were received from all parts of the district, of very offensive smells which it was found emanated from the Rye House Sewage Disposal Works. Strong representations were made to the management, who explained that it arose from the large quantities of undigested sludge which had accumulated before the sludge digestion plant was completed and brought into use. The management took energetic measures to deal with the nuisances and are of opinion that now a full treatment plant has been brought into use there should be no recurrence of this trouble.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION IN PUBLIC HALLS:

During the year improved sanitary accommodation was provided at Bushby Hall, Wormley.

HEATING APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952:

Tests of guards to electric, gas and oil fires were made to check their compliance with the Act and Regulations, and for this purpose the B.S. probes and test flannelette were used.

All the fires satisfied the tests, except in two instances where some doubt arose as to the efficiency of the guards. When further tested it was shown that the guards did in fact comply and the apparent failure had probably been due to the local electricity voltage level, the type of test flannelette used and the individual interpretation of the word "smoulder".

SWIMMING POOL:

The "Spinning Wheel", Swimming Pool in Hoddesdon which is owned by the Council and administered by the Engineer & Surveyor was open again in 1957 from 27th April to 30th September.

Water is supplied from the public mains and is treated by sand filtration and "break point" chlorination. The water is heated as required to a reasonable temperature.

Regular routine residual chlorine tests were made at the pool and 23 samples were taken for bacteriological examination by the Public Health Laboratory at Cambridge. All the tests showed the water to be satisfactory.

OFFENSIVE SMELL, RYE MEAD SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS:

In June, 1957 during the period of fine weather, complaints were received from all parts of the district, of very offensive smells which it was found emanated from the Rye House Sewage Disposal Works. Strong representations were made to the management, who explained that it arose from the large quantities of undigested sludge which had accumulated before the sludge digestion plant was completed and brought into use. The management took energetic measures to deal with the nuisance and are of opinion that now a full treatment plant has been brought into use there should be no recurrence of this trouble.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION IN FURZE HALLS:

During the year improved sanitary accommodation was provided at Bishop Hall, Worsley. 575

HEATING APPLIANCES (PITCHING) ACT, 1952:

Tests of guards to eliminate gas and oil fires were made to check their compliance with the Act and Regulations, and for this purpose the B.S. probes and test flammeters were used. 17-17A

As a result of this investigation it was found that the guards were some doubt as to their compliance with the Act and Regulations. When tested it was shown that the guards did in fact comply and the apparent failure to comply was due to the fact that the guards were not properly maintained. The guards were found to be in compliance with the Act and Regulations. 17-17B

SWIMMING POOL:

The "Swimming Pool" is situated in the basement of the building owned by the Council and administered by the Engineer & Surveyor was open again in 1957 from 2nd April to 30th September. The pool is situated in the basement of the building and is covered by a glass roof. The water is heated by a gas boiler and is circulated by a pump. The water is tested regularly and is found to be of a high standard. 17-17C

Health tests were carried out on the water at the pool and 3 samples were taken for bacteriological examination by the Public Health Laboratory at Manchester. All the tests showed the water to be satisfactory. 17-17D

By the Council the water is tested at regular intervals and is found to be of a high standard. The water is tested for bacteria and is found to be of a high standard. 17-17E

By the Council the water is tested at regular intervals and is found to be of a high standard. The water is tested for bacteria and is found to be of a high standard. 17-17F

CLEAN AIRNUISANCES

A nuisance arose during the year caused by smoke and fine dust from a road material asphalt-coating plant on the boundary of the district. The smoke nuisance was from the furnaces in which the asphalt was heated and the other nuisance was caused by the distribution by the wind of the fine dust used as a filler. By frequent observation and with co-operation from the owners in carrying out suggested alterations and improvements these nuisances were reduced to a minimum practicable with the continued operation of the plant. In the Autumn the plant was removed to another site out of the district.

MEASUREMENT AND RECORDING OF POLLUTION:

The existing two stations, one at New River Close, Rye Park and one on the roof of the Council Offices have been maintained. Each station consists of a deposit gauge for collecting soot, ash, grit, etc. and a lead peroxide instrument for measuring sulphur. Details of the results of samples taken during the year are given overleaf.

Month	Rain- fall mm.	Insoluble Deposit	Soluble Deposit	Total Solids	S03 mg./day/100 cm ³ of Batch A Lead Peroxide
		Tons per square mile			
<u>Station No.1</u>					
<u>Council Offices, High Street, Hoddesdon</u>					
January	23	3.02	2.65	5.67	0.97
February	64	3.29	1.81	5.10	1.45
March	25	3.59	2.42	6.01	1.33
April	2	2.78	3.09	5.87	0.73
May	14	3.93	2.21	6.14	0.70
June	25.	3.42	2.32	5.74	0.46
July	73	3.66	2.25	5.91	0.40
August	20	2.68	2.32	5.00	0.33
September	72	2.62	1.48	4.10	0.46
October	43	2.42	2.18	4.60	1.20
November	-	-	-	-	1.10
December	46	4.03	3.49	7.52	1.55

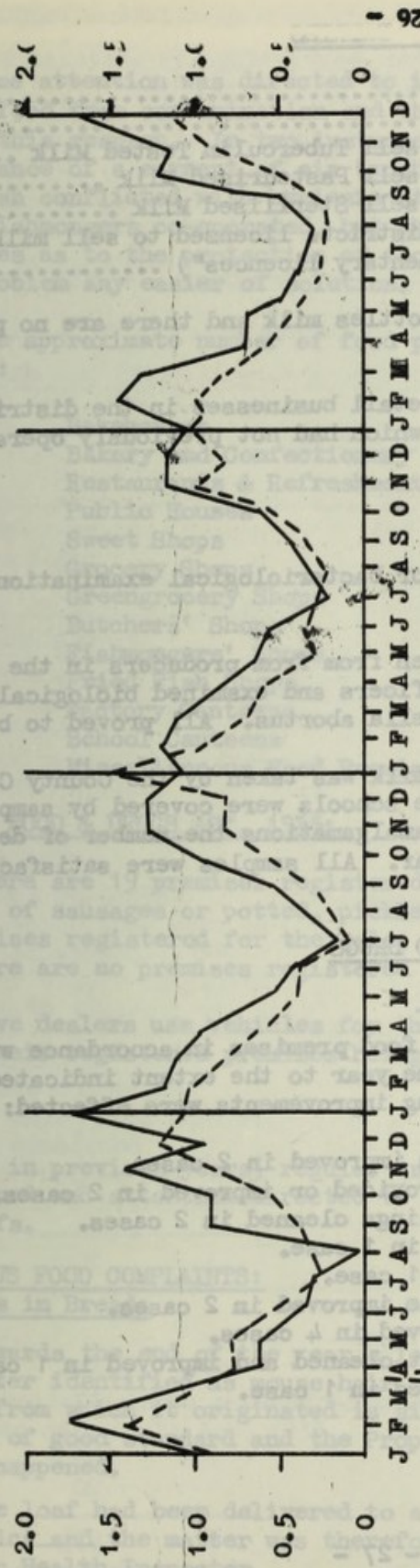
Month	Rain- fall mm.	Insoluble Deposit	Soluble Deposit	Total Solids	SO ₃ mg./day/100 cm of Batch Lead Peroxide
Tons per square mile					
<u>Station No. 2</u> <u>New River Close, Hoddesdon:</u>					
January	25	3.19	2.01	5.2	0.90
February	66	3.39	2.01	5.4	0.98
March	29	3.99	2.63	6.62	0.86
April	4	7.25	3.69	10.94	0.58
May	18	5.57	2.11	7.68	0.45
June	34	5.76	3.59	9.35	0.37
July	78	5.86	3.79	9.65	0.33
August	40	4.28	2.80	7.08	0.32
September	66	4.21	3.00	7.21	0.37
October	42	3.09	2.80	5.89	0.50
November	48	2.07	1.48	3.55	0.87
December	45	6.42	3.79	10.21	1.04

To supplement these instruments a suitable site was being considered for a smoke filter and volumetric sulphur dioxide apparatus.

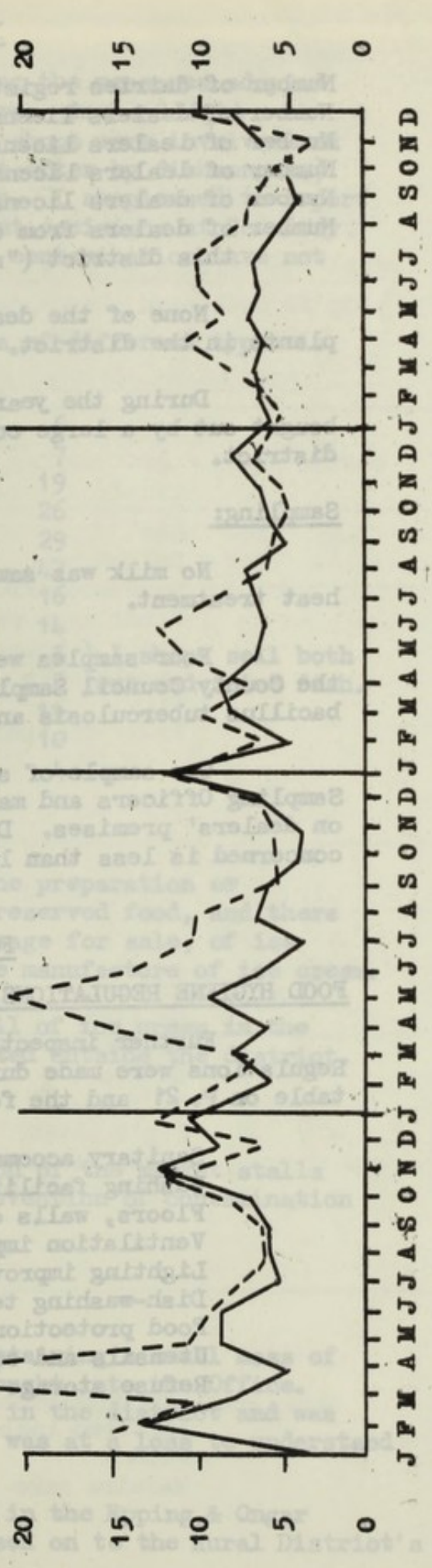
The following graph gives a comparison of the readings for 1957 with those for previous years and, as stated in last year's report, it has not been possible to find the cause of the abnormally high readings for April 1954 and May 1955.

Station No.1. ———
 Station No.2. - - - -

ESTIMATION OF SULPHUR BY LEAD PEROXIDE METHOD



DEPOSITED MATTER
 Tons per Sq. Mile



1954 1955 1956 1957

Number of dairies registered	
Number of dealers licensed	2
Number of dealers licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	
Number of dealers licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk	1
Number of dealers licensed to sell Sterilised Milk	2
Number of dealers from other districts licensed to sell milk in this district ("supplementary licences")	

None of the dealers bottles milk and there are no pasteurising plants in the district.

During the year two retail businesses in the district were bought out by a large concern which had not previously operated in the district.

Sampling:

No milk was sampled for bacteriological examination or check on heat treatment.

Four samples were taken from producers in the district by the County Council Sampling Officers and examined biologically for bacillus tuberculosis and brucella abortus. All proved to be negative.

One sample of school milk was taken by the County Council Sampling Officers and many more schools were covered by sampling of milk on dealers' premises. Due to amalgamations the number of dealers concerned is less than last year. All samples were satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955:

Further inspection of food premises in accordance with the Regulations were made during the year to the extent indicated in the table on P. 21 and the following improvements were effected:

- Sanitary accommodation improved in 2 cases.
- Washing facilities provided or improved in 2 cases.
- Floors, walls or ceilings cleaned in 2 cases.
- Ventilation improved in 1 case.
- Lighting improved in 1 case.
- Dish-washing technique improved in 2 cases.
- Food protection improved in 4 cases.
- Utensils and equipment cleaned and improved in 1 case.
- Refuse storage improved in 1 case.

Some attention was directed to improving the measures adopted to protect food from contamination and the figures show a slight advance in this respect. In two instances fish shops were involved and the maintenance of a current of air (much sought after by fishmongers) over the fish conflicted with hygienic standards. I am pleased to report that both fishmongers co-operated, but the recent decisions at Coventry and at Barnes as to the protection of food from contamination have not made the problem any easier of solution.

The approximate number of food premises of different types is given below:

Bakehouses	6	
Bakery and Confectionery Shops	7	
Restaurants & Refreshment Rooms	19	
Public Houses	26	
Sweet Shops	29	
Grocery Shops	47	
Greengrocery Shops	16	
Butchers' Shops	14	
Fishmongers' Shops	5	} 3 shops sell both wet and fried fish.
Fried Fish Shops	3	
Factory Canteens	11	
School Canteens	10	
Miscellaneous Food Premises	4	

SECTION 16, FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955:

There are 19 premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pickled or preserved food, and there are 52 premises registered for the sale, or storage for sale, of ice cream. There are no premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream.

Five dealers use vehicles for the retail of ice cream in the district, their registered premises being situated outside the district.

MARKET:

As in previous years, regular inspection of the market stalls was maintained and attention directed to the prevention of contamination of foodstuffs.

MISCELLANEOUS FOOD COMPLAINTS:

Rodent Hairs in Bread:

Towards the end of the year a loaf, containing a small mass of what was later identified as mouse hair, was brought into the Office. The bakery from which it originated is situated in the district and was known to be of good standard and the Proprietor was at a loss to understand how it had happened.

The loaf had been delivered to a house in the Epping & Ongar Rural District and the matter was therefore passed on to the Rural District's Chief Public Health Inspector.

UNFOOD FOOD:

Food surrendered as being unfit for human consumption is listed below. Most of the canned food was rejected because of decomposition, mould growth or damage to the container. Except in the case of carcase meat and offal encountered in the course of inspection at the slaughterhouse, food was surrendered by retailers.

Disposal of unsound food is by deep burial at the controlled tip in Cock Lane, Hoddesdon.

Canned Foodstuffs

	cwt.	lbs.
Ham		77
Corned beef		95 $\frac{1}{2}$
Luncheon meat		28
Other meat products		13
Whole chicken		18 $\frac{3}{4}$
Vegetables		6 $\frac{1}{4}$
Milk		6
Fruit and jam		14

2.	34 $\frac{1}{2}$.
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Fresh Meat

	cwt.	lbs.
Ox heads	1	33
Ox liver	1	33
Ox tongue		5
Ox heart		20
Ox lungs		31
Pig's liver		3
Pigs' heads	1	4
Pig's mesenteries		3

4.	20.
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Other Food

	cwt.	lbs.
Imported lambs liver in cartons		37
Imported lamb		3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fish		99
Madeira cake		20

1	47 $\frac{1}{2}$
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Total weight of all foodstuffs 7 cwt. 102 lbs.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE:

The existing slaughterhouse, which is a very old building, is licensed until 31st December, 1958. For some time the proprietor has been pressed to make improvements in the lay-out, structure and fittings so as to conform with current hygiene and lairage requirements. The probable cost and the likelihood of more stringent requirements based on the standards sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food being enforced in future, make it probable that he will not find it an economic proposition to ask for renewal of his licence beyond that date.

Details of carcasses inspected during the year are given below.

Carcasses and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle Ex. Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	145	-	1	238	226	-
Number inspected	145	-	1	238	226	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	16	-	-	-	8	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticerci	11.03	-	-	-	3.54	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	-	6	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis only	2.07	-	-	-	2.65	-
<u>Cysticercosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	6	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with cysticercosis	4.13	-	-	-	-	-

SLAUGHTERMEN:

There were three persons licensed to act as slaughtermen under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Private Dwellings:

Eighty-one complaints of infestation were received and the premises inspected and advice or treatment given free of charge.

Business Premises:

One contract for treatment of business premises was in operation during the year and twenty-three premises were treated and charged for on a time and material basis.

Agricultural Properties:

Infestations of agricultural land and buildings are referred to the County Agricultural Committee who, by agreement with this Council, carry out the necessary treatment.

Sewers:

Test baiting of the Council's three sewerage systems was carried out in June with the following results:

	<u>Hoddesdon & Rye Park</u>	<u>Broxbourne</u>	<u>Wormley</u>
Total No. of Sewer Manholes (approx.)	315	203	81
No. of Manholes Test Baited	48	29	8
No. of Manholes Showing "Takes"	-	3	-

Treatment was carried out as follows:

June, 1957:

No. of Manholes Baited	-	6	-
No. of Manholes showing "Takes"	-	-	-

Summary:

Details of inspections made, infestation recorded and treatments carried out during the year, are given in the table below:

TYPE OF PROPERTY					
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises	Agricultural	Total
I Number of Properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	2	60	17	2	81
(b) Survey under the Act	11	167	24	12	214
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited for some other purpose)	2	349	9	2	362
	15	567	50	16	657
II Total inspections carried out including reinspections	86	1075	116	27	1304
III Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats Major:	-	-	-	-	-
Minor:	9	91	17	3	120
(b) Mice Major:	-	-	-	-	-
Minor:	-	21	6	-	27
	9	112	23	3	147
IV Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	9	112	23	3	147
V Total treatments carried out including reinspections	15	150	36	4	205

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1935

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS:

Consent was given during the year to the placing of seven caravans on various sites in the Urban District. In all cases the consent was for the period to the end of the year.

Dobbs Weir Caravan Camp, Charlton Meadow, Dobbs Weir:

Consent exists in respect of 100 dwellings at this Camp until 1960. The camp continues to be well managed and the water supply (from a bore well) was satisfactory when subjected to bacteriological examination.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Three pet shops are licensed under the provisions of the Act and checks were made on the condition under which pets were being kept.

GAME ACT, 1831

Four persons were licensed to deal in game.

FACTORIES 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 1957.

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

Factories without Mechanical Power:

Number on Register	...	...	6
Inspections	...	...	-

Factories with Mechanical Power:

Number on Register	...	...	94
Inspections	...	...	28
Written Notices	...	...	-

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (Cont'd)

Other Premises under the Act:

(Electric Stations, Institutions,
Sites of Building Operations, Works
of Engineering Construction, but
excluding Outworkers' Premises).

Number on Register	...	...	...	15
Inspections	...	...	...	5
Written Notices	...	...	...	1

2. Cases in which Defects were Found

<u>Defects</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Want of Cleanliness	-	1
Sanitary Conveniences:		
(a) Unsuitable or defective	-	-
(b) Insufficient	-	1

Total Defects referred to H.M. Inspector -
Total Defects referred by H.M. Inspector -

Part VIII of the Act

OUTWORK (Sections 110 & 111)

<u>Nature of Work</u>	<u>No. of Outworkers in August List</u>
33. Paper Bags	16
34. Making of boxes or other receptacles of paper	9

