

[Report 1971] / Medical Officer of Health, Hoddesdon U.D.C.

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Hoddesdon Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1971

EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1971

H O D D E S D O N U R B A N D I S T R I C T

P R E F A C E

To the Chairman and Members of the
Public Health Committee

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the Urban District of Hoddesdon for the year ending 31st. December 1971.

The death rates due to various causes are similar to the national averages. This is important, for when a local hazard exists, it may show in figures of mortality.

Compared to the reports of thirty years ago, the lack of reported communicable disease is staggering. The low incidence of reported disease caused by unhygienic food, unclean water or impure air, is accepted as normal throughout the country.

This state of affairs has neither occurred by chance nor because we live in a developed country. Many benefits that we may overlook - as one overlooks air-conditioning - stem directly or indirectly from the work of Public Health Inspectors, in their task of applying and interpreting the Laws. These qualified men are at present members of a Public Health Department. They are represented in the Local Authority by the Chief Public Health Inspector and by myself. Their current work is outlined in the Chief Public Health Inspector's Report and I agree in principle with what has been said.

Although this Report is concerned with the conditions of 1971, it is prudent to consider 1974, when the reorganisation of Local Government and the National Health Service takes place.

In some areas, I understand that the draft plans envisage that Public Health Inspectors will form an Environmental Health Department. I understand that this is not planned in East Hertfordshire.

It seems reasonable to expect that the able young men and women who seek a career as Public Health Inspectors may look in several directions. They may be attracted to Authorities with an Environmental Health Department, to industry, or they may be lost to this country by working abroad.

In this part of the County we may possibly attract only the second-best, by contrast with the first-class Inspectors of the present. It takes a good man to ensure that standards are maintained. We may expect a fall in the quality of public protection at a time when the threat of pollution from industry is increasing.

PREFACE (cont'd)

As you may know, the position of Medical Officer of Health is to be terminated in 1974. Then, there will be an Area Health Board, and Doctors known as Community Physicians, or Community Medical Specialists, will be appointed.

At the time of writing (July 1972) it is not clear how or if members of the future Health Boards will relate to the elected representatives of the people in the many fields of medicine that are relevant to the health and well-being of the public.

There was a change of staff in the Public Health Inspectorate. Mr. Philip Baxter joined the staff in August 1967. He trained in the department, and qualified as a Public Health Inspector in July 1971. He left in January 1972 to take up a position with the Harlow Urban District Council. He was a well-liked young man and I was sorry to see him go. This move will enable him to broaden his experience.

Mr. Gerry Cockerill commenced his duties as Student Public Health Inspector in July 1971.

Mr. Colin Sparrow joined the staff as a District Public Health Inspector in March 1972.

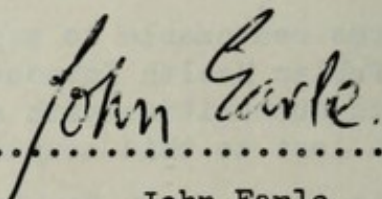
It is not a duty, but a pleasure to record the cheerful and efficient work that Mrs. Guest has performed during the year.

Likewise I thank the Chief Officers for their help and the Members of the Public Health Committee for their stimulating, relevant and sometimes rather difficult questions.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

.....

John Earle
Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Council Offices, High Street, HODDESDON, Herts. Telephone No. Hoddesdon 68331

STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

John V. Earle, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., D.I.H., M.F.C.M.

Private Telephone No. Hoddesdon 62467

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (full time)

Eric C. Howarth, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

From - 1. 5. 72

Private Telephone No. Welwyn 4199

CENTRAL OFFICE - EAST HERTS COMBINED DISTRICTS

Council Offices, High Street, HODDESDON, Herts

Telephone No. Hoddesdon 68331, Exts. 32 and 66

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (part time)

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

To - 30. 4. 72

Haileybury & Imperial Service College, HERTFORD, Herts

Telephone No. Hoddesdon 62040

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Chief Public Health Inspector (also Housing Manager)

W. SCOTT,
M.A.P.H.I.
M.R.S.H.
A.I.H.M.

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

Certificate for Inspector of Meat and other Foods

Diploma of the R.I.P.H.&H.

Certificate of the Institute of Housing in
Housing Management.

District Public Health Inspector

T.J. PRICE,
M.A.P.H.I.
M.R.S.H.

Certificate of Public Health Inspectors'

Education Board

Certificate for Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

District Public Health Inspector

C. SPARROW

Diploma of the Public Health Inspectors'

Education Board

From - 1. 3. 72

Public Health Assistant appointed

P. BAXTER

District Public Health Inspector

From - Sept. 71

Student Public Health Inspector

G. COCKERILL

From - July 71

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Public Health Committee for the Session 1971/72 was Councillor C.W.H. Goldie; the Vice-Chairman was Councillor P.C. Madsen.

The Committee were Councillors Mrs.J.C.Andrews (who resigned in January 1972) Mrs.C.E.Birtwistle; G.D.Barnes; A.D.Bates; J.E.Gray; J.S.Hastings; K.A.Sandison; D.C.Smith; R.C.Vincent and H.C.Waller.

SECTION "A"

GENERAL STATISTICS 1971

(TABLE 1)

(Figures for 1970 are shown in brackets)

POPULATION

Estimated mid-year population of Hoddesdon Urban District

	26,310	(23,400)
Natural increase or decrease	+ 358	(+ 228)
Migration in or out	+ 2,552	(+ 1,082)
Total increase or decrease	+ 2,910	(+ 1,310)

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres 4,430

Number of Inhabited Domestic Premises according to Rate Books as at 1st. April 1972

	8,475	(8,112)
Number of houses per acre	1.91	(1.83)
Number of perscns per acre	5.94	(5.28)
Number of persons per house	3.1	(2.88)
Rateable value of District 1st. April 1971	£1,650,981	(£1,533,369)
Sum Represented by Penny/Pence Rate 1971/72	£17,250(1p)	(£6,500)(1d)

VITAL STATISTICS (TABLE 2)		Local authority area			England & Wales (Total)
		Males	Females	Total	
Estimated mid-year home population		-	-	26,310	48,815,000
Live births	Total	263	296	559	783,165
	Legitimate	253	291	544	717,491
	Illegitimate	10	5	15	65,674
Stillbirths	Total	3	-	3	9,898
	Legitimate	3	-	3	8,826
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	1,072
Total live and stillbirths	Total	266	296	562	793,063
	Legitimate	256	291	547	726,317
	Illegitimate	10	5	15	66,746
<u>Deaths of Infants</u>					
Under 1 year of age	Total	7	1	8	13,726
	Legitimate	7	1	8	12,140
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	1,586
.....					
Under 4 weeks of age	Total	5	1	6	9,113
	Legitimate	5	1	6	8,121
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	992
.....					
Under 1 week of age	Total	4	1	5	7,750
	Legitimate	4	1	5	6,903
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	847
<u>Maternal Deaths</u> - including deaths following abortion		-	-	-	
<u>Deaths</u> - all ages		113	88	201	567,345

<u>VITAL STATISTICS</u> (TABLE 2) - cont'd -	Local authority area	Hertford County	England and Wales
<u>Live birth rates, etc.</u>			
Livebirths per 1,000 home population(crude rate)	21.2	15.1	16.0
Area comparability factor	.90	.94	1.00
Local adjusted rate	19.1	14.2	16.0
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	1.19		1.00
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births	3		8
<u>Stillbirth rate</u>			
Stillbirths per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	5	9.9	12
<u>Infant mortality rates</u>			
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births	14	15.1	18
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births	15	14.6	17
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	24.2	24
<u>Neonatal mortality rate</u>			
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births	11	10.8	12
<u>Early neonatal mortality rate</u>			
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	9	8.6	10
<u>Perinatal mortality rate</u>			
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 total live and still births	14	18.3	22
<u>Maternal Mortality</u> (including deaths following abortion)			
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	-	0.2	
<u>Death rates, etc - all ages</u>			
Deaths per 1,000 home population(crude rate)	7.6	9.0	11.6
Area comparability factor	1.18	1.13	1.00
Local adjusted rate	9.0	10.2	11.6
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	.77		1.00

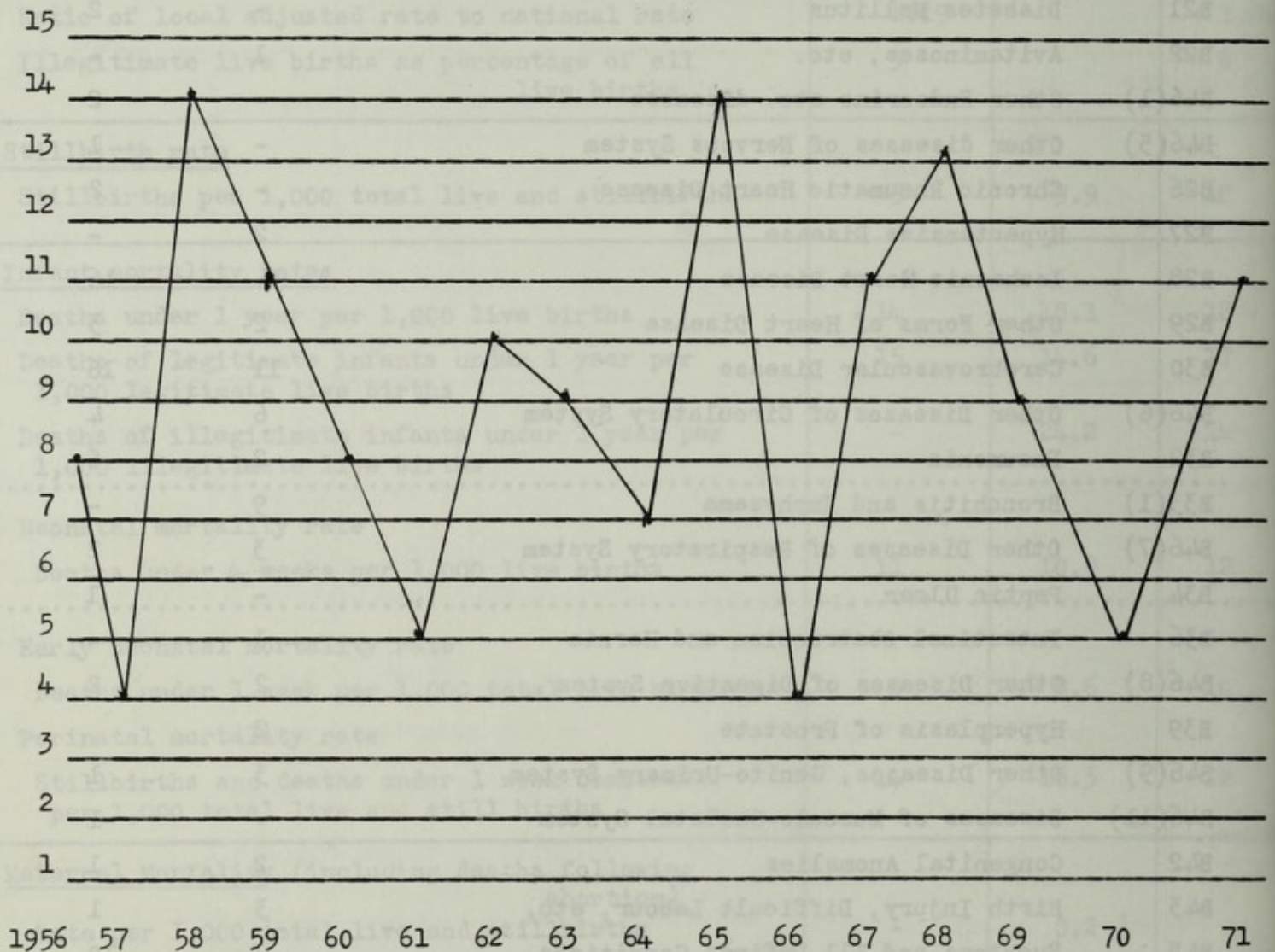
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1971

<u>ALL CAUSES</u>		<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
B19(2)	Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	1	-
B19(3)	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	3	3
B19(4)	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	3	1
B19(6)	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	10	1
B19(7)	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	3
B19(9)	Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	1	-
B19(10)	Leukaemia	-	4
B19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	3	2
B21	Diabetes Mellitus	-	2
B22	Avitaminoses, etc.	1	-
B46(1)	Other Endocrine etc. diseases	-	2
B46(5)	Other diseases of Nervous System	-	1
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	2
B27	Hypertensive Disease	2	-
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	34	16
B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	2	3
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	11	16
B46(6)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	6	4
B32	Pneumonia	2	6
B33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	9	-
B46(7)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	3	2
B34	Peptic Ulcer	-	1
B36	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	-
B46(8)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	2	2
B39	Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-
B46(9)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	3	1
B46(11)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	1
B42	Congenital Anomalies	2	1
B43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	3	1
B45	Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	7	10
BE47	Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	3
BE48	All Other Accidents	1	-
		<u>113</u>	<u>88</u>

= 201

L U N G C A N C E R D E A T H S

FROM 1956 - 1971



PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

(Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) Notified during 1971)

(TABLE 3)

Disease	Total	Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65	Age unknown
Measles	46	5	29	11	1	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE DIFFERENT MONTHS

(TABLE 4)

Disease		First Quarter			Second Quarter			Third Quarter			Fourth Quarter		
	1971	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Measles	46	5	-	1	12	2	8	16	-	1	1	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS DURING 1971

(TABLE 5)

<u>Tuberculosis</u> <u>New cases</u> <u>only</u>		Total all ages	Under 5 years	5 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and over	Age not known
Respiratory		1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Meninges and C.N.S.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other		1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
<u>Tuberculosis</u> <u>All cases</u>		Total	Males		Females				
			P	NP	P	NP			
Cases on Register at 1st. January 1971		51	23	-	24		4		
Cases added to Register	New Cases	2	-	1	1		-		
	Restored to Register	-	-	-	-		-		
	Inward Transfers	-	-	-	-		-		
Cases removed from Register	Deaths	-	-	-	-		-		
	Outward Transfers	-	-	-	-		-		
	Patients Cured	4	3	-	1		-		
Cases remaining on Register at 31.12.71		49	20	1	24		4		

GENERAL STATISTICS

The estimated mid-year population for 1971 was 26,310, compared with a figure of 23,400 for 1970. This is an increase of nearly 3,000 people in one year, and is largely due to migration into the area.

The density of population has increased from 5.28 persons per acre in 1970 to 5.94 persons per acre in 1971.

VITAL STATISTICS

During the year there were 559 live births and 3 stillbirths in the area. The birth rate locally was nearly one fifth higher than the national average.

DEATHS & CAUSES OF DEATH

There were 201 deaths, which represent a crude death rate of 7.6 per 1,000 population.

Preventable deaths 35 people died due to Cancer of all causes. Of these nearly one third (11 people) died due to Cancer of the Lung. Of these 11 people 2 were under 55 years of age and 2 more died before the normal age for retirement. The link between cigarette smoking and Lung Cancer has been clearly demonstrated.

Road traffic accidents killed 2 people before their 25th. birthday. This follows the pattern in all developed countries. Accidental death is the commonest cause of death under the age of 40, when taken apart from inevitable deaths in infancy.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

46 patients were notified as suffering from Measles. There is no doubt that the National programme of vaccination against Measles is paying dividends. In the County, there were about 32,000 patients in the years 1965-66-67. In 1968-69-70, there were about 6,000 patients. The number of complications have been reduced together with the overall suffering of the patient and his family. Not least important, the amount of time spent by Doctors and their helpers has been reduced.

Dysentery and Salmonella Food Poisoning. No cases were notified during the year under review.

TUBERCULOSIS

There were 51 cases on the Tuberculosis Register in January 1971, and 2 cases less in December 1971. During the year 2 new patients were put on the Register and 4 were removed as cured.

TUBERCULOSIS(cont'd)

Mass X-Ray Unit

This Service has been reduced as part of Government policy. However, a Mobile Unit visits Cheshunt (Old Drill Hall, Crossbrook Street) every Friday, between 10a.m. and 2p.m. Anyone can attend, without appointment.

Another Mobile Unit covers the whole of the area of the North East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board. This is used in East Herts for the X-ray examination of special groups (namely, teachers, those working with children, and those considered at particular risk) and also for those patients sent by a General Practitioner.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948-51

No action was required under Section 47 of these Acts during 1971.

WORKROOMS FOR THE ELDERLY

Mrs.I.D. Harnett, the Organiser of the Workrooms for the Elderly reports that the members are now meeting on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, between 10 and 12 o'clock, in the old School Hall, St. Paul's Lane, Hoddesdon.

The Workrooms are running satisfactorily but unfortunately their financial position is not good, mostly because it is difficult to get as many items of work as could be done. The Workrooms receive a yearly contribution from the Hoddesdon Urban District Council, for which they are most grateful.

One of the members died during the year and one member was no longer well enough to attend. Three new members joined, and the total attending remains between 22 and 24. Many of these are over 80 years of age, 4 being over 86 years old.

During the year two outings were arranged and proved most successful. At the Birthday celebration in March (1972) a Certificate was awarded to 7 members by the Fellowship of Endeavour, for ten years' attendance, and these were presented by the Vice Chairman of the Workshops, Mr.L. Eyre.

The Workrooms are undoubtedly of real value to the elderly people who attend and renewed efforts are being made to find more work for members to do. The enthusiasm of the members is evident by their good attendance, and the continued devotion to their needs by the Organiser is appreciated by all concerned.

HOME SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Committee met regularly throughout the year. The Chairman was Councillor A.D.Bates, Hon.Treasurer, Mr. W. Scott and the Safety Officer, Mrs. A. C. Crozier.

HOME SAFETY COMMITTEE (cont'd)

Mrs. Crozier attended a week-end Conference of the London Red Cross on Safety in the Home in January 1971. Mr. Scott and Mrs. Crozier attended the Area 9 Home Safety Committee meetings.

A visit to the Building Research Station at Garston, Nr. Watford, was arranged for September.

A firework publicity campaign was again carried out by means of posters and the distribution of literature.

MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR LONG-STAY IMMIGRANTS

This is a difficult problem. When an immigrant comes into a recognized Port of Entry he is given a card. He is advised to register with a General Practitioner, and the Local Authority is notified.

When an immigrant moves into a new area, the new Local Authority is NOT notified. Our main danger-point is with food-handlers. Food establishments in the area are routinely visited by the members of the Public Health Department, and any necessary examinations are subsequently carried out. The Inspectors are dealing with people who sometimes have a poor grasp of English and a fear of doctors.

SPECIAL REPORTS

On a number of occasions the Public Health Committee has been an informal discussion group on many matters of public health interest. I think that is admirable. It means that members know that they are able to ask questions, without having to seek out some unknown official. The post of Medical Officer of Health finishes in 1974. I trust some alternative consultative machinery will be set up by then.

Written reports were made on Hypothermia, Ambulance Service, Smallpox Vaccination, Mass X-Ray and Cholera.

SECTION "B"

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR
HODDESDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

The County Council is responsible for providing the Maternity and Child Welfare and School Health Services, Health Visiting and Home Nursing. Full details can be obtained from the Divisional Medical Officer, East Herts Division, Council Offices, High Street, Hoddesdon. (Tel. No. Hoddesdon 68331)

CLINICS WHICH SERVE HODDESDON URBAN DISTRICT

<u>Health Centre, High Street, Hoddesdon</u>	<u>Tel. No. Hoddesdon 66351</u>
Child Guidance	Daily, 9a.m. - 5p.m.
Dental	Daily, 9.30a.m. - 4p.m.
Speech Therapy	Tuesday & Friday, 9a.m. - 12noon.
Cytology	Tuesday, 9.30a.m. - 11.30a.m. (Telephone any time for appointment)
School Children's Consultations	First Wednesday in every month, 10a.m.
Infant Welfare	Wednesday, 2p.m. - 4p.m.
Ante-natal; Relaxation & Mothercraft	Thursday & Friday, 2.30p.m. - 4p.m.
Assessment	Second Wednesday in every month, 2.15p.m. - 3.45p.m. (Telephone any time for appointment)
Audiology (Audiometry and extra Audiology Sessions - arranged as necessary)	Third Thursday in every month, 10a.m.-4p.m. (Telephone for appointment to :- Secretary, Health Centre, St. Albans - Tel. St. Albans 59211, Ext. 236)
Family Planning Association	Tuesday, 7p.m. - 8.30p.m. Thursday, 9.30a.m. - 11a.m.
IUD. Clinic	First, third (& fifth) Monday in every month, 6p.m. - 8p.m. (Telephone during these times only for appointment)
Marital Problems	Second and fourth Thursday in every month, 9.30a.m. - 11a.m. (Telephone during these times, or to F.P.A. Office, Hertford 2800, for appointment).
Blood Donor Sessions (Arranged by the North-East Metropolitan Regional Blood Transfusion Centre, Crescent Drive, Brentwood, Essex)	Held at intervals of three months, Mondays, 2.30p.m. - 4.30p.m. and 5.30p.m. - 7.30p.m.

SECTION "B" (cont'd)

<u>Health Centre, Rye Road, Rye Park</u>	<u>Tel. No. Hoddesdon 64980</u>
Infant Welfare	Monday, 2p.m. - 4p.m.
Physiotherapy	Monday to Friday, 9a.m. - 12 noon Wednesday & Friday, 1.30p.m. - 4.30p.m. (Tel. No. Hoddesdon 62611)
Orthopaedic	Second and fourth Friday every month, 1.30p.m. - 4.30p.m.
Orthopaedic fitter	2.30p.m. - 4.30p.m. (Telephone any day for appointment)
<u>Wormley Health Suite</u>	<u>Tel. No. Hoddesdon 69664</u>
Wormley Community Centre, Fairfield Drive, Wormley.	(Opened in June 1972)
Child Health Clinic	Second and fourth Tuesday morning each month from 10a.m.
Relaxation & Mother Classes	Friday, 2p.m. - 4p.m.
.....	
<u>Day Centre</u> (Old Health Centre)	<u>Tel. No. Hoddesdon 66351, Ext. 16</u>
<u>Administered by the Divisional Social Services Officer.</u> <u>To close in September 1972 and other premises used.</u>	
Social Services Department activities	Tuesday - Handicapped Thursday - Blind Friday - Housebound and lonely elderly
"Opportunity Class"	Wednesday a.m. - Children under 5 years.
(Transfer of this class has been arranged as follows: -	To: Drill Hall, Crossbrook St. Cheshunt. From: Tuesday, 19th. September 1972. To be held twice weekly - Tuesday and Thursday, 9.30a.m. - 12 noon)
Local Home Help Office	<u>Tel. No. Hoddesdon 67080</u>
	Monday to Friday, 8.30a.m. - 1p.m. 2p.m. - 5p.m.
British Red Cross Society	<u>To Sept. 1972</u> <u>From Sept. 1972</u>
and	Day Centre - Health Centre - Meetings and Wednesday evening equipment storage. meetings only.
St. John's Ambulance Brigade	- do -
Hoddesdon Mothers' Club	Second and fourth Thursday, 8p.m.

SECTION "B" (cont'd)

Immunisation & Vaccination

All parents are advised to take advantage of this service, which can be obtained from their family doctors or at Infant Welfare Centres.

<u>APPROX. AGE</u>	<u>VACCINE</u>
6 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
8 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
13 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
15 months	MEASLES
School entry	COMBINED diphtheria, and tetanus POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
13 years	B.C.G. Vaccination against TUBERCULOSIS

This is NOT a rigid time-table. Many Doctors hold slightly differing views, and prematurity or ill-health in a child may mean the schedule has to be altered to meet individual needs.

Note: During 1971, the Department of Health and Social Security ceased to advise routine vaccinations against Smallpox. Children can still be vaccinated at the wish of their parents.

Home Help Service (Operated by the Social Services Department)

Enquiries regarding the Home Help Service should be made to -

Mrs.P.J.Castle, Area Organiser (covering Wormley, Broxbourne,
Hoddesdon, Ware, Standon and Puckeridge) at
The Day Centre, High Street, Hoddesdon. (Tel.No.Hoddesdon 67080).

After September 1972 this Service will be transferred to other premises.

Cervical Cytology Service

The number of attendances at the Hoddesdon Clinic rose from 113 in 1970 to 192 in 1971, the ages ranging from 25 to 65 years. No suspected cases of malignancy were discovered. These were patients who attended the Clinic at their own wish. The Doctors in the area arrange for a test of their own patients as needed.

SECTION "B" (cont'd)

Family Planning

Family Planning Services in the area have increased. The details are listed on page 14 together with the other Clinic services.

Dental Services

Hoddesdon Urban District is served by nine Dental Practitioners. Details regarding School Dental Clinics are also shown on page 14.

Ambulance Service

There is an Ambulance Station in Hoddesdon. Except in an emergency, an ambulance should be ordered by a Medical Practitioner.

Hospital Services

Hoddesdon Urban District is served by the County Hospital, Hertford, the Herts & Essex Hospital, Bishop's Stortford, and the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow. Chronic sick can receive treatment at Western House Hospital, Collett Road, Ware.

Patients suffering from infectious diseases can be treated either at St. Ann's General Hospital, South Tottenham, London.N.15 (Tel.No. 01-800 0121) or at Highlands Hospital, Winchmore Hill, London.N.21. (Tel.No. 01-360 8151).

General Practitioner Services

Hoddesdon Urban District is served by fifteen General Practitioners, all of whom work in partnerships. Health Visitors are attached to these partnerships.

Health Visitors and Nurses

Hoddesdon Urban District has 5 District Nurse/Midwives; 2 District Nurses and 1 part-time District Nurse; 1 District Midwife; 5 Health Visitors and 2 Health Visitor Assistants, and 1 Auxiliary Helper.

Medical Loan Depot

This Depot is run by the British Red Cross Society at the Hoddesdon Health Centre, and at present is open at the following times:-

Monday to Friday - 10a.m. - 11.30a.m. Wednesday - 7p.m. - 8p.m.

Chiropody Service

This service is available on alternate Fridays, at the Hoddesdon Over 60's Centre, Stanstead Road, Hoddesdon. Domiciliary visits can also be arranged.

SECTION "B" (cont'd)

Hoddesdon Old People's Welfare Committee

Secretary : Mrs.M.B. Suggitt, 6, Barclay Court, Hoddesdon.

The Hoddesdon Over 60's Centre, Stanstead Road, Hoddesdon,
(Tel. No. Hoddesdon 62379) is open daily.

The Wormley Over 60's Centre, Bushby Hall, Wormley, was transferred to the new Community Centre, Fairfield Drive, Wormley, in April 1972. Members meet every Wednesday, between 2 and 3.45p.m.

The respective Hon.Secretaries are as follows :-

Hoddesdon Over 60's Centre - Mrs.M.G.Curtis, 25A, Park Lane, Broxbourne.
(Tel. No. Hoddesdon 62449)

Meals Service - Mrs.M. Lythall, 277, Stanstead Road,
Hoddesdon.
(Tel. No. Hoddesdon 62549)

Luncheon Club - Mrs. J. Pickering, 40, Woodstock Road,
(Every Thursday at Broxbourne.
12.30p.m.) (Tel. No. Hoddesdon 62006)

Wormley Over 60's Centre - Mrs.L.E. Syer, 30, St.Laurence Drive,
Wormley.
(Tel. No. Hoddesdon 67483)

SOCIAL SERVICES

The Social Services developed their own administrative structure as from 1st. April 1971.

I am grateful to Miss M.Copleston, the Divisional Social Services Officer, for the following details of available services in the area :-

Divisional Office - Social Services Department, Tel.No. Hertford 7041
Westfield, West Street, Hertford.

Divisional Social Services Officer - Miss M.Copleston

Assistant Divisional Social Services Officer - Mr. H. W. Scott

Senior Social Worker - Miss D. Baulch

Social Workers - Mrs.C.Welch, Occupational Therapist (covering
Hoddesdon U.D. & Cheshunt U.D)

- Mrs. L. Baynes - Mon.&Fri. 9 - 1; Tues. & Thurs. 9 - 4.

- Mr. P. Barker; Mrs.S. Bell; Mr.R.Matthews and
Mrs.J.Wright.

INTRODUCTION

The Stockholm Conference (1972) on the Human Environment has taken place. The public has become more conscious of environmental limitations. It was thought worthwhile, therefore, to present the present day functions and brief history of the Public Health Inspectorate to enable one to understand their part in the British system of Public Health Administration. It must be remembered that this is only the aspect of a very complex subject.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1971

Consider a few of the diseases which were widespread in the mid nineteenth century in Britain:-

Typhoid fever, cholera, tuberculosis, smallpox, influenza, measles, scarlet fever and diphtheria.

The quality of life, apart from the mental and social qualities, had deteriorated due to poor urbanisation, to give a life expectancy of only nineteen years.

Urbanisation has now been totally checked and in many less developed countries.

The Public Health Act of 1848 gave the appointment by all Local Boards of Health of an Inspector of Nuisances, a position which changed in 1875 to Sanitary Inspector. The spread of disease was the main function of the Inspector when the position was first established.

In 1875 the Public Health Act was passed. Section 9 is of special interest.

"The Local Authority shall, for the purposes of this Act, appoint and employ, or cause to be appointed and employed, a Sanitary Inspector, who shall reside at a convenient place for his or their office, and may allow in every such person an amount in respect of his employment a proper salary".

This was the first occasion at which the term "Sanitary Inspector" was substituted for that of "Inspector of Nuisances", and Local Authorities were empowered to appoint more than one Inspector.

The Act said very little about the powers and duties of sanitary inspectors. The first was the giving of notice to the Local Authority of the existence of nuisances; and the second, which set out at some length, was the duty of inspectors to detain or expel any person who was found to be in breach of the Act.

There are now over 20 Acts and several hundreds of Regulations administered by Public Health Departments in the British Isles. These require considerable staff space, a photographic camera to remember them all and it is not intended to go into further voluminous details. Even the present control exercised is not as good as many would like it to be.

INTRODUCTION

The Stockholm Conference (1972) on the Human Environment has taken place. The public has become more conscious of the world's limitations. It was thought worthwhile, therefore, to give an outline of the present day functions and brief history of the Public Health Inspectorate to enable one to understand their part in the British system of Public Health Administration. It must be remembered that this is only one aspect of an exceedingly complex subject.

All civilisations throughout the ages have required some form of sanitary control. Lack of this has caused illness and death.

Consider a few of the diseases prevalent in the mid nineteenth century in Britain:-

Typhoid fever, typhus fever, cholera, tuberculosis, smallpox, anthrax, botulism, scarlet fever and dysentery.

The physical quality of life, apart from the mental and social qualities, had deteriorated due to mass urbanisation to give a life expectancy of only nineteen years in the centre of some of our large cities at one time. This urbanisation has not yet been totally checked and in many less developed countries is only beginning.

The Public Health Act of 1848 was the genesis of modern public health legislation. The Act required the appointment by all Local Boards of Health of fit and proper persons to be "Inspectors of Nuisances", a designation changed in 1921 to "Sanitary Inspector" and in 1956 to Public Health Inspector. Prevention of the spread of disease was the main function of the Inspector when the office was first established.

In 1855 the Nuisance Removal & Disease Prevention Act was passed. Section 9 is of special interest:

"The Local Authority shall, for the purposes of this Act, appoint and employ, or join with other Authorities in appointing and employing a Sanitary Inspector or Inspectors, and may appoint a convenient place for his or their office, and may allow to every such person an account of his employment a proper salary".

This was the first occasion on which the term "Sanitary Inspector" was substituted for that of "Inspector of Nuisances", and Local Authorities were empowered to appoint more than one inspector.

The Act said very little about the powers and duties of sanitary inspectors, but it is of interest to note that it specially mentioned two duties. The first was the giving of notice to the Local Authority of the existence of nuisances; and the second, which set out at some length, was the duty of inspecting articles intended or exposed for sale for the food of man.

There are now over 200 Acts and several hundreds of Regulations administered by Public Health Departments in the British Isles. These require considerable shelf space, a photographic memory to remember them all and it is not intended to go into further voluminous details. Even the present control exercised is not as good as many would like it to be.

From experience I would say that "Food poisoning" alone would be causing as much misery as do the 24 million working days lost through industrial accidents if correct surveillance of food premises was not carried out. The numerous new highly suspect foods require an up-to-date knowledge of production techniques, bacteriology and chemistry. Education of the food handler needs patience, time enthusiasm and dedication on the part of Public Health Inspectors. If there is apathy the public are the only ones that suffer.

I have mentioned very briefly some past and present aspects of our work. A summary of the present day functions is set out below in order for one to realise how the control is exercised to enable one to lead tolerable lives and eat wholesome food.

THE ROLE OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR IN:

1. SAFE ENVIRONMENT

- a) New structures and alterations to existing ones requiring Planning and Building Regulations control.
He ensures that they will comply with the relevant legislation, as far as possible, when they become occupied.
The following are the main points which are considered when plans are deposited with the Local Authority:-

Food hygiene, heating, lighting, ventilation, sanitary accommodation, noise, air pollution, refuse collection and storage, pest control, storage of petroleum spirit and petroleum mixtures.

- b) Protection from injury by machinery, lifts and hoists, in warehouses, offices and shops.
- c) Investigation of accidents and prevention of accidents by ensuring healthy working conditions for employees in O.S.R. premises.

2. CLEAN AND WELL MAINTAINED ENVIRONMENT

- a) Achievements of standards through inspection, identification and supervision.
- b) Cleansing by collection and disposal of refuse.
- c) Street cleansing.
- d) Removal of rubbish from sites and preventing dumping.
- e) Controlling dumping of toxic wastes.
- f) Controlling noise level (not aircraft or road vehicles).
- g) Cleaning of premises or articles by disinfection.
- h) Securing personal cleanliness by providing cleansing station.

3. HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

- a) Preventing unhealthy or insanitary conditions arising at premises - i.e., defective drainage, water supply pipes, multi occupation, statutory nuisances, unfitness, etc.
- b) Preventing incidence of disease by septic tank and gully cleansing.

- c) Prevention of spread of disease by controlling pests and rodents.
- d) Prevention of consumption of unhealthy water and checking purity - including swimming pools.
- e) Prevention of consumption of infected food by food hygiene and examination.
- f) Controlling atmospheric pollution up to a certain level - domestic and industrial.

All of these functions are statutory and liaison with other departments is essential where the Public Health Inspector does not have control over the service in order to prevent nuisances etc. occurring. Suffice it to say that were it not for the co-operation on the part of the public, other departments and professions outside Local Government, the task of fulfilling our present day functions would be most difficult.

During 1971 it was not possible to achieve inspection of all premises situated within the Loddlesdon U.D. Nevertheless, there are many premises which do not require continuous surveillance as the occupiers are fully conscious of their responsibilities for which one is grateful.

2. FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970

The following table shows the numbers and categories of food premises in the Urban District subject to these regulations:-

<u>CLASS OF PREMISES</u>	<u>No.</u>
Supermarkets	4
Grocery - General Stores	32
Greengrocers	12
Butchers	12
Fishmongers, inc. fried fish shops	7
Sweets & confectionery	26
Bake-houses	4
Bread & flour confectionery	8
Cafes & restaurants	18
Factory canteens	12

contd....

<u>CLASS OF PREMISES</u>	<u>No.</u>
School canteens	18
Milk distributors	3
Public houses	20
Miscellaneous food premises	21
Market stalls	6
TOTAL	203

New Premises

All proposals for the provision of new premises, or for alterations to existing premises where food is to be stored, sold or manufactured, are scrutinised in order to ensure that such premises will conform to the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations. Discussions and consultations with architects, surveyors, builders and representatives in advance of construction, invariably result in agreement on the necessary requirements being incorporated.

Inspections

Routine inspections were made of food premises during the year and any infringements of the Regulations were pointed out to those concerned to ensure compliance.

Legal proceedings were taken against a local supermarket following a complaint that a packet of mouldy walnuts had been sold to a local resident. This resulted in a fine of £20 plus £2 costs.

Section 2

Numerous complaints of unsound food being purchased were received during the year; the following list gives some indication of their nature.

- Insects in tin of apricots
- Mouldy Scotch eggs
- Mould on lid of jar of baby food.
- String in a loaf of sliced bread
- Mouldy pork sausages
- Leaking centres in a box of chocolates
- Metal strip in a sliced loaf
- Lubricating grease in an uncut loaf
- Wax lumps in a packet of cereal
- Paper in a granary loaf
- Out-of-code baby food
- Adulterated milk
- Unfit steak and kidney pieces
- Unsatisfactory can of rhubarb
- Contaminated sugar

Metal in a packet of pork sausages
Mouldy raspberries
Rancid butter
Sawdust on sliced corned beef
Black grease on tinned beef loaf
Unsound tomatoes in a blown can

Every complaint was fully investigated and where necessary the retailers, wholesalers or manufacturers were approached for their observations and comments; warning letters were sent where appropriate.

Section 16

16 premises are registered for the preparation and storage of sausages, or potted, pickled or preserved food, and there are 56 premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream. There are no premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream.

Poultry processing premises

There are no premises of this type in the area.

Storage and transportation of food - temperature control and stock rotation

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970 and the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966, do not cover this particular problem as the food would not have been "so placed as to be at risk of contamination", contrary to the regulations. It is quite obvious, however, that an increase in temperature of cooked meats in transport will increase bacterial activity of spoilage organisms present, lower quality and keeping time, and in extreme cases, where the time in transit is exceedingly long, a state of unfitness could be reached.

During the month of May it was discovered that 6 vehicles sited on the forecourt of a garage at Wormley were being used for the distribution and storage of meat products. These vehicles contained steak pies, steak and kidney pies, pork pies, sausages, chicken and ham pies, cornish pasties, sausage rolls, bacon, cooked hams, etc. The vehicles had neither insulation nor refrigeration and many of the meat products were found to be not only out of code (which would have been sold to retailers the following day) but were at temperatures higher than any recommended code of practice, and by the firm's own code of practice given out to retailers.

The firm in question was unable to give an immediate satisfactory answer to this state of affairs. Nevertheless, the system of stock rotation was radically changed and the food carried forward to be sold the following day was kept under cool conditions by the use of dry ice as a temporary measure.

After consultations with the firm concerned, the Council was promised that by the middle of 1972 these retail sales vehicles would be replaced by new ones which would be not only insulated but also refrigerated.

3. HOUSING ACTS 1957 - 1969

5, 15, 27, Lord Street, Hoddesdon

Closing orders were made during the year on the above properties considered unfit for human habitation.

13, Roman Street, Hoddesdon

The above property, previously the subject of a Closing Order, was made fit for human habitation and improved with the aid of an improvement grant. The Closing Order was accordingly determined.

HOUSING PROGRESS

By Private Enterprise

New dwellings, including dwellings provided by conversion and war destroyed dwellings rebuilt

<u>During 1971</u>	<u>Total since end of the war</u>
251	3,720

By Local Authority

New dwellings including conversions or adaptations in terms of family units.

17 1,283

By Other Authorities

(including Police cottages, etc.)

- 14

New dwellings erected

- -

Properties controlled by the Local Authority at 31st December 1971

Council houses	1632
Sundry other properties	9
Shops	5

Municipal Housing - no new schemes were commenced during 1971.

HOUSING ACTS, 1958/1969

45 Applications for improvement grants received approval throughout the year and works of improvement were completed at 37 dwellings during 1971. Approval was also given to one discretionary improvement grant for the conversion of one house into two flats.

During the period 1955 - 1971 grants totalling some £46,645 have been paid in respect of the improvement of 254 dwellings. During 1971 only, standard improvement grants totalling £9,422 have been paid.

4. CLEAN AIR

The control of air pollution in Great Britain is essentially a team effort involving Local Authorities, the Department of the Environment (including the Alkali Inspectorate), Police Authorities (in respect of road vehicle emissions) and the Factory Inspectorate (in respect of dusts and toxic fumes, etc., in factory atmospheres).

The principal legislation is contained in the Clean Air Acts 1956 and 1968, but some of the "Nuisance" provisions of the Public Health Act 1936, extended and amended by the Public Health Act 1961 and the Public Health (Recurring Nuisances) Act 1969, are applicable.

The domestic smoke control area provisions of the Clean Air Act 1956 were amended by Section 95 of the Housing Act 1964 and further amended by the Clean Air Act, 1968.

The Control of Smoke

Section 3 of the Clean Air Act, 1956 requires all new furnaces (other than domestic boilers with a rating less than 55,000 Btu/hr.) to be, so far as practicable, capable of operating continuously without emitting smoke when burning fuel of a type for which the furnace was designed.

It is a requirement of this section that the proposed installation of all new furnaces must be notified to the Local Authority and if one wishes to do so, one may apply for the Local Authority approval that the proposed unit is capable of substantially smokeless operation. This approval does not, however, allow indiscriminate smoke emission and the furnace must be operated to ensure that permissible emissions are not exceeded.

The Control of Chimney Heights

At whatever height smoke and flue gases are discharged, gravity will eventually bring the larger particles of grit, dust and soot to the ground. Additionally, because of the natural turbulence of the atmosphere, a proportion of the gases and of the freely suspended fine particles will reach the ground although not affected by gravity. The higher the point of discharge and the greater the total heat content of the discharge gases, the more widespread and diluted will be the fine particles, and gases by the time they reach the ground.

Industrial Premises in the Hoddesdon U.D.

In 1971 seven new chimneys were given approval under Section 6 of the 1968 Act. Since the Act came into operation, 39 new chimneys have been approved. This gives a good indication of the new industrial development since that date, especially the growth of the Estate at Essex Road and adjoining land.

There have been numerous technical problems concerning the burning of wood waste at two factory premises. One was overcome by good boilerhouse management and the second where two boilers were operative, by considerable modification to the incinerator and boiler.

This meant experimentation (at considerable cost) and liaison with the German manufacturers over a period of 18 months to obtain a satisfactory emission from the 2 chimneys concerned.

It is hoped that there will be no further problems from these two premises.

Numerous complaints of the burning of waste materials causing black smoke on sites within the Urban District were also dealt with and it was not found necessary to take formal action.

5. OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Annual Report for the period 1st January 1971 to 31st December 1971

The Act requires that the Local Authority shall submit an Annual Report to the Department of Employment every year. The report for the year 1971 is given below:-

Class of premises	<u>Registrations and General Inspections</u>		
	Number of premises registered during year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving general inspection during the year
Offices	3	74	13
Retail Shops	8	165	98
Wholesale Shops	-	5	18
Catering establishments open to public, canteens	2	14	25
Fuel storage depots	0	0	0
<u>Totals</u>	13	258	154

Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises - 195

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace

<u>Class of Workplace</u>	<u>No. of persons employed</u>
Offices	735
Retail Shops	922
Wholesale Dept., warehouses	94
Catering establishments open to public	102
Canteens	9
Total Males - 862. Total Females - 1,000	TOTAL 1,862

Exemptions

Section 5(2) Space; Section 6 Temperature; Section 9 Sanitary Conveniences; Section 10 Washing Facilities:-

In each of these categories there were no current exemption certificates at 31st December; no exemptions were granted or extended during the year. There were no cases of employees opposing applications and no appeals against any refusal to grant or extend an exemption or against the withdrawal of an exemption.

Prosecutions

No prosecutions were instituted during the year.

There were no complaints made under Section 22 of the Act, and there were no interim orders granted.

Accidents

During 1971 there were 14 accidents, an increase of 6 on the previous year. It is absolutely important, therefore, that surveillance and advice to employees be continued, especially since the majority of accidents occur in food premises.

<u>Type of Premises</u>	<u>Cause of Accident</u>	<u>No.</u>
Food Shop	Slippery floor	2
"	Laceration due to glass	1
"	Fall of racking	1
"	7lb weight dropped on toe	1
"	Slicing machine	1
"	Knife	3
"	Pushing loaded cabinet	1
Non-food Shop	Caught leg on shelf causing severe laceration	1
Warehouse	Material handling	1
"	Materials falling off stack	1
Catering Premises -	occupier fell in trench during building operations	
<u>Stacking of Goods in Warehouses</u>		

Concern over the mechanical handling and storage of goods in warehouses, resulted in a report being submitted to the Secretary of State regarding our inability to enforce certain provisions of the Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, due to lack of regulations, standards and technical information.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES (HOISTS & LIFTS) REGULATIONS, 1968

The above regulations came into operation in May 1969 and impose requirements as to the construction, maintenance and examination of lifts in registered premises.

No difficulties have been experienced with regard to the implementation of the regulations and no lift accidents occurred during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections 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 S.1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) which S.7 is enforced by the L.A.	122	82	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which S.7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding out workers' premises)	18	8	-	-
TOTAL	142	90	1	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1961 (cont'd)

2. (Contd.)

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Ineffective drainage of floors. (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	6	-	-	-	-

PART VIII of the Act
Outwork
(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)	No. of Cases of Default in sending lists to the Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Paper bags	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wearing Apparel	2	-	-	-	-	-
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	15	-	-	-	-	-
Light Engineering	2	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	20	-	-	-	-	-

6. WATER SUPPLIES

Public Mains Supply

This district is within the Statutory Area of supply of the Metropolitan Water Board. All properties have an internal supply from the Board's mains, except for a small number referred to below.

No complaints of the inadequacy or poor pressure of the public supply were received by this Department during the year.

The Director of Water Examination of the Metropolitan Water Board has kindly supplied the following information so far as it relates to the Board's supply:-

1. a) The supply was satisfactory both as to (i) QUALITY, and (ii) QUANTITY throughout 1971.
- b) All new and repaired mains are disinfected with chlorine; after a predetermined period of contact the pipes are flushed out and refilled; samples of water are then collected from these treated mains; and the mains are returned to service only after the analytical results are found to be satisfactory.

The quality control from these laboratories is carried out by means of daily sampling from sources of supply, from the treatment works or well stations, from the distribution system, and through to the consumer. Any sign of contamination or any other abnormality is immediately investigated.

- c) (i) The Board has no record of the number of structurally separate dwellings supplied in your area, but the population supplied direct accordingly to the Registrar-General's estimates at 30th June 1971, was 25,941.
(ii) No houses were permanently supplied by stand-pipe.
 - d) No artificial fluoride is being added, and where the fluoride content is indicated in the analyses it represents the naturally occurring fluoride in the water.
2. a) The supply was derived from the following works and pumping stations:-
Well water from Rye Common and Broxbourne pumping stations.
No new sources of supply were instituted and there were no changes to the general scheme of supply in your area.
The number of samples collected and the bacteriological and chemical analyses of the supply from the above sources after treatment are shown on the following pages.
 - b) On account of their hardness content and alkaline reaction the Board's river and well water supplies are shown to be not plumbo-solvent. It should, however, be appreciated that all types of water pick up varying amounts of metal from the material of water piping particularly when it is newly installed; this applies to copper, zinc, iron and also to lead.

METROPOLITAN WATER BOARD - Water Examination Department

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS - YEARLY AVERAGES, 1971

BEFORE TREATMENT

Source of Supply	Number of Samples	Agar plate count per ml		Coliform count		Escherichia coli count	
		20-24 hours at 37°C	3 days at 22°C	Per cent. samples negative in 100 ml.	Count per 100 ml.	Per cent. samples negative in 100 ml.	Count per 100 ml.
Broxbourne	247	60.1	1015	0.0	1277.5	30.00	349.1
Rye Common	248	15.3	212	48.39	64.8	60.48	12.1

AFTER TREATMENT

Source of Supply	Number of Samples	Agar plate count per ml		Coliform Count		Escherichia coli count	
		20-24 hours at 37°C	3 days at 22°C	Per cent. samples negative in 100 ml.	Count per 100 ml.	Per cent. samples negative in 100 ml.	Count per 100 ml.
Broxbourne	252	18.6	80	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Rye Common	257	4.3	131	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

METROPOLITAN WATER BOARD - Water Examination Department

AVERAGE RESULTS OF THE CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER SUPPLY TO HODDESDON

(Milligrammes per litre - unless otherwise stated)

Description of the Sample	Number of samples Day of the month	Ammoniacal Nitrogen	Albuminoid Nitrogen	Nitrate Nitrogen	Oxygen abs. from KMnO_4 4 hrs at 27°C	Hardness (total) CaCO_3	Hardness (non carbonate) CaCO_3	Chloride as Cl	Natural Fluoride as F	Turbidity units	Colour (Burgess units)
BROXBOURNE	4	0.067	0.043	3.8	0.36	306	94	30	0.25	1.4	9
RYE COMMON	5	0.009	0.025	5.0	0.21	318	78	27	0.25	0.3	6
	pH value	Electrical Conductivity (micromhos)									
BROXBOURNE	7.3	590									
RYE COMMON	7.2	620									

Drinking water in Schools

Continuing concern was felt over the unsatisfactory method of storing drinking water in large storage cisterns in schools. Another survey was carried out similar to that of 1970 and it was found again that the majority of the tanks were not covered or insulated satisfactorily, and overflows were not protected from insects, small mammals, dust or other extraneous matter which could enter and contaminate the supply.

The storage tanks were not always emptied during the school holidays and after these prolonged periods, the water was most unpalatable. Chemical and bacteriological samples taken were found to be completely satisfactory. However, the water had a musty taste and temperatures as high as 72°F were recorded in the stored water.

Briefly, the history regarding drinking water in schools in this area is:

Until 1965 drinking water was available for children direct from the mains supply. At about that time this practice came under review as the County Architect was anxious to achieve every possible saving he could in school construction costs. The water companies were consulted and (in agreement with the County Architects department, providing certain precautions were taken and maintained) the practice was changed and schools built since that date have drinking water drawn from storage tanks.

Experience has shown that the new arrangements are not completely satisfactory and consultation has taken place with the County Officers and the Metropolitan Water Board. It is hoped that the outcome of all this will be the provision of drinking water direct from the mains in all new schools and alterations carried out to existing schools where tanks have been provided.

Private Water Supplies

It is the duty of every local authority to ascertain the sufficiency and wholesomeness of water supplies within their district for the purpose of securing so far as is reasonably practicable that every house and school has available within a reasonable distance, a sufficient supply of wholesome water for domestic purposes.

To this Authority's knowledge, no inhabited domestic premises situated within the urban district has an insufficient or unwholesome supply (after treatment) of water for domestic purposes.

There are approx. 34 properties in the urban district still connected to private water supplies, including 14 industrial premises and 2 holiday caravan sites.

16 samples were taken during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination. One of these was unsatisfactory but after installing a suitable filter, subsequent samples proved satisfactory.

With regard to the holiday caravan site situated in Wharf Road, Wormley, it has been established that the water obtained from the wells supplying individual caravans is unsafe for domestic purposes. Consequently, the majority of site owners bring their own drinking water supply in suitable containers.

New site owners are warned of the danger involved in using the wells.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

Sewage purification and disposal are undertaken at the Rye Mead Sewage Works after being pumped through a series of pumping stations.

In the more remote and thinly developed areas of the town, where sewers are not available, there are approximately 125 cesspools and septic tanks. The Council provide a free emptying service twice a year.

7. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

A total of 212 properties were inspected during the year following notification that infestations of rodents were present. Of these, 105 were rats and 107 were mice infestations. Treatment was carried out in each case and advice given where necessary.

Insect Pests

21 notifications were received of various insect infestations, including fleas, ants and several species of beetle. All the premises were inspected and treatment carried out where necessary or advice given.

Wasps

Due to mild conditions experienced early in the year a greatly increased number of wasps nests were reported. A total of 152 nests were eradicated by the Rodent Operative.

8. PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928 The Petroleum Spirit (Conveyance by Road) Regs. 1957

There were 29 premises licensed to store petroleum spirit under the Act. These were all inspected before the licences were issued.

No accidents or contraventions occurred during the year.

9. NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

The number of complaints received during the year was 11. One of these necessitated taking evening and night measurements due to shift working in the factory concerned. Consultations with the management resulted in modification of night production, the simple closing of certain doors and windows and baffling of extract fans and their ancillary ducting.

The remainder were dealt with by consultation and advice; in only two cases were we unable to satisfy the complainants.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967

The containers situated in 3 sites within the urban district were used to such an extent that considerable nuisance was caused by smoke, rodents, flies and wind blown debris. This necessitated the removal of the sites and re-location at the Council's Pindar Road Depot as from 1st January 1972.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Licenses authorising the keeping of pet shops were issued in respect of two premises.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

One licence was issued for the keeping of a boarding establishment at premises in Wormley.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACTS 1964 & 1970

Licenses were issued to three Riding Schools during the year.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

There are 5 registered scrap dealers in the district whose licenses are renewed every three years. During the year two were extended for a further three years up to 1974.

10. SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, VISITS ETC. DURING 1971

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

Food premises	275
Mobile food vehicles	69
Food complaints	51
Market stalls	19
Canteens	8
Ice cream vehicles	10
Food handlers	3
Notifiable infections	1
Imported food containers	1

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Drains and sewers	149
Offensive accumulations	61
Refuse tips and skip sites	47
Water supplies and samples	42
Moveable dwellings	27
Infectious diseases	22
Dwelling houses	20
Verminous premises	14
Swimming baths	6
Public conveniences	6
Hairdressers	3
Inns, restaurants, etc.	2
Dust and effluvia	2
Animals kept	2
Closets	1
Ditches and water courses	1

CARAVANS

11

CLEAN AIR ACT

Industrial premises	39
Domestic premises	10
Miscellaneous	8

HOUSING ACTS

Improvement grants	334
Qualification certificates	93
Individual unfit	42
Disrepair	35
Overcrowding	29
Other	25
Means of escape from fire	1

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Shops	98
Visits	41
Catering/canteens	25
Warehouses	18
Offices	13

OTHER ENACTMENTS

Rodent control	176
Factories	90
Petroleum	81
Noise	50
Insects	37
Riding establishments	8
Pet animals	4
Sewer treatment	3
Court cases	3
Animal boarding	2
Interviews (office)	91
Miscellaneous visits	147
TOTAL	<u>2,356</u>

10. SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, VISITS ETC.		OTHER ACTIVITIES
<u>FOOD & DRUG ACT, 1961</u>		
Food premises	88	Food control
Mobile food stalls	63	Factories
Food complaints	57	Petroleum
Market stalls	8	Noise
Canteens	4	Insects
Ice cream vans	2	Hiding establishments
Food handlers	5	Pet animals
Wholesale & retail		Sewer treatment
Importers of foodstuffs	9	Court cases
	74	Animal boarding
<u>PUBLIC HEALTH ACT</u>		Interviews (Office)
	2,252	Miscellaneous visits
TOTAL		
Drain and sewage	44	
Miscellaneous nuisances	16	
Refuse tips and pits	47	
Water supply and sewage	24	
Removable dwellings	27	
Industrial establishments	22	
Dwelling houses	20	
Various premises	4	
Other nuisances	6	
Public houses etc.	6	
Workshops	3	
Laundries, etc.	2	
Other premises	2	
Other premises	2	
Other premises	1	
Other premises	1	
<u>ENVIRONMENTAL ACT</u>	11	
<u>WATER ACT</u>		
Industrial premises	39	
Domestic premises	10	
Miscellaneous	2	
<u>HOUSING ACT</u>		
Improvement grants	234	
Qualification certificates	29	
Individual notices	42	
Disrepair	33	
Overcrowding	29	
Other	25	
Means of escape from fire	1	
<u>OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963</u>		
Offices	98	
Shops	41	
Catering/canteens	25	
Warehouses	8	
Offices	13	



