

**[Report 1953] / Medical Officer of Health, Maldon Borough.**

**Contributors**

Maldon (England). Borough Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1953

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/a5tcvrmm>

**License and attribution**

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

LIBRARY

BOROUGH OF MALDON.

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
ACTING MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

JOAN MACKENZIE  
M.B. Ch.B. B.Sc.



including the  
REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

RAYMOND A. HALLETT  
M.R.San.I. M.S.I.A.

for the year

1953

RECEIVED

NOV 10 1901

OF THE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WASHINGTON

NOV 10 1901

TO THE

SECRETARY OF THE AGRICULTURE

WASHINGTON

NOV 10 1901

NOV 10 1901

1901

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1953.

The Worshipful the Mayor

(Alderman E.C. Dines, J.P.)

Chairman: Councillor S. Hardy-King.

Deputy Chairman: Alderman, G.W. Free, J.P.

Alderman: C. C. Cowell.

Councillors: F.W. Brewster,  
D.R. Cargill.  
S.J. Collins.  
D.C. Fenn.  
Mrs. Keeble.

---

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH

Town Clerk and Solicitor: K.C. Robertson.

Acting Medical Officer of Health: Joan Mackenzie,  
M.B., Ch.B., B.Sc.

Sanitary Inspector: Raymond A. Hallett.  
M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

---



PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE - 1933

The following are the  
(Listed in 1933, 1934, 1935)

Chairman:	Colonel S. H. Hays
Deputy Chairman:	Colonel S. H. Hays
Assistant:	C. C. C. C.
Secretary:	W. H. H. H.
	C. C. C. C.
	C. C. C. C.
	C. C. C. C.
	C. C. C. C.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE - 1934

Town Clerk and Collector:	E. C. C. C.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health:	W. H. H. H.
Sanitary Inspector:	W. H. H. H.

BOROUGH OF MALDON.

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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on  
the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough for the year 1953.

Vital Statistics.

The Crude Birth and Death Rates per 1,000 of the  
population are given below:-

	1953.	1952.	1951.	1950.	1949.	1948.
<u>BIRTH RATE.</u>	13.3	15.8	15.8	17.8	18.9	16.3
<u>DEATH RATE.</u>	24.2	14.7	14.2	12.1	12.7	12.6

The Registrar General's Comparability Factor for deaths for the  
Borough is 0.75 which gives a corrected Death Rate of 18.1 per 1,000  
of the population. This is very high compared with the total death  
rate for England and Wales of 11.4, due to St. Peter's Hospital now  
being regarded as a Residential Hospital and the deaths which occur  
there not being transferred to their home areas.

Infectious Diseases.

	1953.	1952.	1951.	1950.	1949.	1948.
<u>Notifications.</u>	267	111	365	173	189	355
<u>Deaths From.</u>	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	7	5

There has been no serious outbreak of infectious disease during  
the year; a case of anterior poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) was  
notified and confirmed in August and, with co-operation from the  
Education Authorities, somewhat stringent isolation precautions were  
taken; no further case was confirmed. The death of one child was due  
to Whooping Cough.

Food Poisoning.

Four cases of food poisoning were notified during the year, but  
no evidence was available as to the source of infection.

# BOROUGH OF MALDON.

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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honor to present my Annual Report on  
the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough for the year 1953.

## Vital Statistics.

The Crude Birth and Death Rates per 1,000 of the  
population are given below:-

Year	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948
<u>Birth Rate</u>	13.8	13.8	13.8	17.8	18.9	16.3
<u>Death Rate</u>	24.8	14.7	14.8	12.1	12.7	12.6

The Registrar General's Comparative Factor for deaths for the  
borough is 0.75 which gives a corrected Death Rate of 18.1 per 1,000  
of the population. This is very high compared with the total death  
rate for England and Wales of 11.4, due to St. Peter's Hospital now  
being regarded as a residential hospital and the deaths which occur  
there not being transferred to their home areas.

## Infectious Diseases.

Year	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948
<u>Notifiable</u>	237	111	283	173	189	333
<u>Deaths from</u>	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	7	3

There has been no serious outbreak of infectious disease during  
the year; a case of anterior poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) was  
notified and confirmed in August and, with co-operation from the  
Maldon Sanatorium, thorough stringent isolation precautions were  
taken; no further cases were confirmed. The death of one child was due  
to Whooping Cough.

## Food Poisoning.

Four cases of food poisoning were notified during the year, but  
evidence was available as to the source of infection.



The policy of careful supervision of food hygiene has been continued.

A main drainage and sewerage system for the whole Borough is still its most urgent need for the safe-guarding of its public health and I would beg the Council to do all that is possible to further the completion of such a system.

An increase in drainage and sewerage will be followed by an increase in the amount of water used by the Borough, thus the Council must also consider the necessity for an increase in the main water supply.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the various Officers of the Maldon Borough Council for their help and co-operation, in particular your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. R. Hallett, who has always given me his help and support on matters of the public health; I feel that his present efficiency would be greatly assisted by the provision of independent transport which would give him speed of access to all corners of the Borough.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

Joan Mackenzie, M.B., Ch.B., B.Sc.





# REPORT

of the

Acting Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1953.

## Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area:	Land (acres) as extended 1st April, 1934	..	5946
	Inland Water	.. ..	13
	Tidal Water	.. ..	120
	Foreshore ..	.. ..	566

Total 6645

Population (Census 1931, Original Borough)	.. ..	6559
(Census 1952, Extended Borough)	.. ..	9725
(Estimated Midyear 1953)	.. ..	9749

Number of Inhabited Houses (End of 1953) .. .. 3042

Rateable Value .. .. .£59,500

Sum represented by a penny rate .. .. £ 239

Social Conditions: The Chief industries of the town are engineering, timber yards and flour milling. There is also a small amount of fishing and some agriculture.

## Extracts from vital Statistics of the Year.

	Total	Males.	Females	
Live Births (Legitimate.	120	66	54	} Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population, 14.2. (Comparability Factor 1.07)
(Illegitimate.	10	5	5	
(TOTAL.	130	71	59	
Still Births (Legitimate.	1	-	1	} Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still)
(Illegitimate.	-	-	-	
(TOTAL.	1	-	1	
Deaths.	235	110	125	} Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population 24.2.

REPORT  
of the  
Acting Medical Officer of Health  
for the year 1933.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area:	Land (Acres) as extended Jan April, 1934	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929
Land Water	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tidal Water	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Territory ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Total 8345

Population (Census 1931, Original Borough)	Population (Census 1933, Extended Borough)	Population (Estimated March 1933)
8339	9733	9749

Number of Inhabited Houses (End of 1933) 3042

Rates and Values .. .. . 159,300

Sum represented by a penny rate .. .. . 2 339

Social Conditions: The Chief Industries of the town are engineering, timber yards and flour milling. There is also a small amount of fishing and some agriculture.

Extracts from vital Statistics of the Year.

Deaths	Still Births (Legitimate)	Still Births (Illegitimate)	Total	Married	Female	Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population, 14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100
233	1	1	2	135	135	135



Registrar General's Comparability Factor for Deaths	0.75
Corrected Death Rate .. .. .	18.1 per 1,000
Death Rate for England and Wales .. .. .	11.4 per 1,000

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

Number of Deaths under one year of age .. .. .	4
All infants per 1,000 live births .. .. .	30.7
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	32.0
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil.

---

2 sheets of the census assigned to the Borough by the Registrar-General's return.



Registrar General's Compulsory Report for Deaths 0.75  
 Corrected Death Rate .. .. . 18.1 per 1,000  
 Death Rate for England and Wales .. .. . 15.4 per 1,000

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

Number of Deaths under one year of age .. .. . 4  
 All infants per 1,000 live births .. .. . 20.7  
 Registered Infants per 1,000 live births 22.0  
 Unregistered Infants per 1,000 live births 11.1

DEATHS CLASSIFIED BY AGE

Age.	Number in District	Outward Transfers.	Inward Transfers	No. Applying to District.
Under 1 year	3	1	2	4
1 and under 2	-	-	2	2
2 " " 5	-	-	1	1
5 " " 15	-	-	2	2
15 " " 25	-	-	-	-
25 " " 35	1	-	-	1
35 " " 45	3	-	1	4
45 " " 55	2	-	4	6
55 " " 65	15	-	5	20
65 " " 75	41	3	12	50
75 and upwards	136	1	10	145
TOTALS	201	5	39	235

2 short of the number assigned to the Borough by the Registrar Generals return.

# STATISTICS OF THE CANADIAN ARMY

Age	Number in Class	Outward Transfers	Inward Transfers	No. Applying to Discharge
Under 1 year	3	1	2	2
1 and under 2	-	-	2	2
2 " "	-	-	1	1
3 " "	-	-	2	2
4 " "	-	-	-	-
5 " "	1	-	-	1
6 " "	2	-	1	2
7 " "	2	-	4	2
8 " "	12	-	2	20
9 " "	41	2	12	20
10 and upwards	122	1	10	142
TOTALS	201	8	32	220

2 sheets of the number assigned to the foreign by the  
Registrar General's return.



DEATHS CLASSIFIED BY CAUSE AND SEX.

Cause of Death.	Males.	Females	Total.
Tuberculosis (Non-Respiratory)	2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	2	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	-	3
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	7	7
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	11	6	17
Diabetes	3	1	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system	16	14	30
Coronary disease, angina	8	14	22
Hypertension with heart disease	1	3	4
Other heart disease	34	54	88
Other circulatory disease	7	6	13
Pneumonia	4	4	8
Bronchitis	7	2	9
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	1	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	3	-	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	8	13
All other accidents	1	2	3
Suicide	2	-	2
Influenza	-	1	1
Whooping Cough	-	1	1
TOTALS	111	126	237

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

(i) Ambulance Facilities.

These are now provided by the County Council.

(ii) Hospitals.

(a) Infectious Diseases.

These are now transferred to the Chelmsford Isolation Hospital.



# DEATHS CLASSIFIED BY CAUSE AND SEX.

Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Tuberculosis (Non-respiratory)	2	--	2
Malignant neoplasms, stomach	2	2	4
Malignant neoplasms, lung, bronchus	2	--	2
Malignant neoplasms, breast	--	7	7
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	11	6	17
Diabetes	3	1	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system	16	14	30
Coronary diseases, angina	6	14	20
Hypertension with heart disease	1	3	4
Other heart disease	34	34	68
Other circulatory diseases	7	3	10
Pneumonia	4	4	8
Bronchitis	7	2	9
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	1	3
Hypertension of prostate	3	--	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	6	11
All other accidents	1	3	4
Scalds	2	--	2
Influenza	--	1	1
Whooping Cough	--	1	1
TOTALS	111	126	237

## General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

### (1) Ambulance Facilities.

These are now provided by the County Council.

### (ii) Hospitals.

#### (a) Infectious Diseases.

These are now transferred to the Chelmsford Isolation Hospital.

(b) Arrangements have been made with the North East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board for the treatment of patients suffering from Small-pox.

(c) Specialist Clinics are now held weekly at St. Peter's Hospital, Maldon, as follows:-

Monday: - Ante-Natal; Dental.

Tuesday: - Gynaecological.

Wednesday: - Physical Medicine.  
Afternoon. Chest Refill and Chest(Children.)

Thursday: - Surgical.

Friday: - Chest Diseases.

X-Ray Clinics are also held on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday by appointment.

(iii) Tuberculosis.

The North East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board provide a number of Sanatoria throughout the County. Patients are dealt with at the Chest Clinic on Friday's at St. Peter's Hospital.

(iv) Maternity and Child Welfare.

The County Council is the responsible authority for these services and full use can be made of the facilities offered through the County scheme. Adequate provision for hospital treatment and specialists services are similarly available where necessary.

Various Clinics in the above connection are provided at the Combined Treatment Centre, Wantz Chase, Maldon, where sessions are held as follows:-

Women's Welfare	5th Tuesday morning in each month at 10.a.m.
Child Welfare Clinic	Every Friday at 2.p.m. Doctor in attendance 1st, 3rd & 5th.
Ante Natal Clinic	3rd Tuesday in each month at 10.a.m.
Dental Clinic	By appointment.
Orthopaedic Clinic	By appointment.

(b) Arrangements have been made with the North East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board for the treatment of patients suffering from small-pox.

(c) Specialist Clinics are now held weekly at St. Peter's Hospital, Maidon, as follows:-

Monday: - Ante-Natal; Dental.

Tuesday: - Gynaecological.

Wednesday: - Physical Medicine, Chest Clinic and Chest (Children).

Thursday: - Surgical.

Friday: - Chest Diseases.

X-ray Clinics are also held on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday by appointment.

(iii)

Tuberculosis.

The North East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board provide a number of specialist treatment for Tuberculosis. Patients are dealt with at the Chest Clinic on Friday's at St. Peter's Hospital.

(iv)

Maternity and Child Welfare.

The County Council is the responsible authority for these services and will use all the facilities offered through the County Council. Appropriate provision for medical treatment and specialist services are similarly available where necessary.

Various Clinics in the above connection are provided at the Clinical Treatment Centre, West House, Maidon, where sessions are held as follows:-

Maternity's Welfare

2nd Tuesday evening in each month at 10.15 a.m.

Child Welfare Clinic

Every Friday at 10.15 a.m. Doctor in attendance 1st, 3rd & 5th.

Ante Natal Clinic

2nd Tuesday in each month at 10.15 a.m.

Ante Natal Clinic

by appointment.

Orthopaedic Clinic

by appointment.



Speech Therapy

By appointment.

Diphtheria Immunisation

1st, 3rd and 5th Fridays in each month at  
2 p.m. Wantz Road Child Welfare Clinic.  
2nd Tuesday in each month at 2.30 p.m.  
Heybridge Clinic.

A Child Welfare Clinic is also held at Heybridge on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday in each month at 2 p.m. (Doctor in attendance on 4th Tuesday).

There is one private nursing home in the town, which is registered by the Essex County Council.

(v) School Children.

The County Council is the Education Authority for both secondary and elementary schools in the Borough. Minor ailments, Orthopaedic, After-Treatment, Dental and Eye Clinics for school children are arranged by the County Council at the Combined Treatment Centre, Wantz Chase, Maldon.

(xi) Venercal Diseases.

Facilities exist for diagnosis and treatment in Chelmsford, Colchester and Southend.

(vii) Physio-therapy.

There are two physio-therapists in the Borough who are registered by the Essex County Council, as follows:-

Mrs. J.W. Bentall, "The Bower", London Road, Maldon.

Mr. H.A. Whitehall, 1a, Butt Lane, Maldon.

(viii) Chiropody.

There are two Chiropodists in the Town who are registered by the Essex County Council, as follows:-

Miss L. Coom, Cromwell Cottage, Cromwell Hill, Maldon.

Mrs. G. Campbell, 14, High Street, Maldon.

---



Speech Therapy

By appointment.

Hypnotic Treatment

Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Jones in each month at 2 p.m. at the Child Welfare Clinic. And Tuesday in each month at 1.30 p.m. at the Hypnotic Clinic.

A Child Welfare Clinic is also held at the Hypnotic Clinic on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday in each month at 2 p.m. (Doctor in attendance on 2nd Tuesday).

There is one private nursing home in the town, which is registered by the Essex County Council.

(v) School Children.

The County Council is the Education Authority for both secondary and elementary schools in the Borough. Minor ailments, orthopaedic, after-treatment, Dental and Eye Clinics for school children are arranged by the County Council at the Combined Treatment Centre, West Green, Malden.

(xi) General Practice.

Practitioner listed for diagnosis and treatment in Chelmsford, Chelmsford and Broomfield.

(vii) Physio-Therapy.

There are two physio-therapists in the Borough who are registered by the Essex County Council, as follows:-

Mrs. J. V. Bonnell, "The Bower", London Road, Malden.

Mr. J. A. Whitehead, 12, East Lane, Malden.

(viii)

Chiropody.

There are two Chiropodists in the town who are registered by the Essex County Council, as follows:-

Miss E. Gann, Grosvenor Cottage, Grosvenor Hill, Malden.

Mrs. G. Campbell, 14, High Street, Malden.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### 1. Water.

Almost all the houses in the Borough are served by a piped water service maintained by the Corporation. There are however, a considerable number of houses still supplied by a standpipe in the yard or garden, in some cases one draw off tap being shared by three or more houses

There are two deep wells in the Borough which yield about 700,000 gallons per week. This quantity is not sufficient to meet the demand and on an average one million gallons are purchased each week from the Southend Water Company. The maximum weekly consumption was 2,718,000 gallons.

For several years the annual report has included reference to the continued rise in the daily water consumption. This rise has continued throughout the year under review.

This factor needs very serious consideration by the Council, as the total available resources in the area are not large enough to provide any additional supplies. More positive hopes are now entertained of an early commencement of part of the water carriage system of sewage disposal at Heybridge and when this is installed the demand for water will increase very considerably. The Council should give priority to schemes which will provide additional sources of good drinking water.

Any scheme of this nature must also include additional reservoir construction. The present storage capacity is quite inadequate for the present day demand and this is particularly noticeable at Heybridge, Heybridge Basin and Mill Beach in the summer months. A further water tower in the Heybridge area would do much to solve this problem and also a low level covered reservoir in Maldon would be of great value.

Frequent samples of water from both wells are submitted for Bacteriological and Chemical Analysis and also service mains have been sampled from time to time. Typical reports on these samples, which have always proved to be of highest purity are given below.

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER received 18.2.53 from Borough of Maldon per E.C.C. labelled "Draw off tap at head of well, Spital Road Pumping Station, Maldon, Essex. Date: 17.2.53. 11.15 am.

#### CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION.

Appearance. Bright with a slight deposit of iron oxide.



- 10 -

SANITARY DISPOSITION OF THE AREA.

Water.

Almost all the houses in the Borough are served by a piped water service maintained by the Corporation. There are however, a considerable number of houses still supplied by a standpipe in the yard or garden, in some cases one draw off tap being shared by three or more houses.

There are two deep wells in the Borough which yield about 20,000 gallons per week. This quantity is not sufficient to meet the demand and on an average one million gallons are purchased each week from the Bedford Water Company. The maximum weekly consumption was 2,718,000 gallons.

For several years the annual report has included reference to the continued rise in the daily water consumption. This rise has continued throughout the year under review.

This factor needs very serious consideration by the Council, as the total available resources in the area are not large enough to provide any additional supplies. No positive hopes are now entertained of an early commencement of part of the water carriage system of sewage disposal at Haverhill and when this is installed the demand for water will increase very considerably. The Council should give priority to schemes which will provide additional sources of good drinking water.

Any scheme of this nature must also include additional reservoir construction. The present storage capacity is quite inadequate for the present day demand and this is particularly noticeable at Haverhill, Haverhill Basin and Mill Pond in the summer months. A further water tower at the Haverhill area would do much to solve this problem and also a low level covered reservoir in Malden would be of great value.

Frequent samples of water from both wells are submitted for bacteriological and chemical analysis and also service mains have been sampled from time to time. Typical results on these samples, which have always proved to be of highest purity are given below.

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER RECEIVED 10.2.33 FROM BOROUGH OF MALDEN  
per H.O.C. labelled "Draw off tap at head of well, Spiral Road Pumping  
Station, Malden, Essex. Date: 17.2.33. 11.15 am.

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION.

Appearance: Bright with a slight opalescence from oxide.



Colour .....	3	Turbidity	less than ..	3
pH .....	8.3	Odour .....		Nil
Electric Conductivity .....	1700	Free Carbon Dioxide ....		Absent
Chlorine present as chloride	330	Total Solids .....		1130
Hardness: Total ..45	Carbonate.45	Alkalinity as Cal.Carb,		365
		Non-carbonate.....		0
Nitrate Nitrogen .....	0.0	Nitrite Nitrogen Approx.		0.1
Ammoniacal Nitrogen .....	0.000	Oxygen Absorbed .....		0.85
Albuminoid Nitrogen .....	0.017	Residual Chlorine .....		Absent
Metals Iron: 0.40	Other metals absent.			

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance faintly alkaline in reaction and free from metals apart from a minute trace of iron. The water is soft in character and its content of mineral and saline constituents although somewhat high is not considered excessive. It is of satisfactory organic quality. These results are consistent with a water which is wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes, apart from the known high content of fluorine. being a disadvantage.

2nd March, 1953.

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

Analysis of a sample of water received on 27.10.53 from Borough of Maldon per E.C.C. labelled "Draw off tap at head of well Spital Road Pumping Station". Date 27.10.53 9.15 am.

Number of Colonies developing on Agar	1 day at 37° C.		2 days at 37° C.		3 days at 20° C.	
	0	per ml.	1	per ml.	...	per ml.
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes reaction	Present in		Absent from		Probable No.	
	-	ml.	100	ml.	0	per 100 ml.
Bact. coli (Type 1)	-	ml.	100	ml.	0	per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii reaction	...	ml.	...	ml.		

This sample is clear and bright in appearance and is of a high standard of bacterial purity.

These results <sup>are</sup> indicative of a water which is wholesome in character and suitable for public supply purposes.

30th October, 1953.

Color ..... 5  
 pH ..... 8.5  
 Electric Conductivity ..... 1700  
 Calcium present as sulphate 330  
 Hardness: Total ..... 45  
 Nitrate Nitrogen ..... 0.0  
 Ammoniacal Nitrogen ..... 0.000  
 Aluminous Nitrogen ..... 0.017  
 Nitrate Iron: 0.40 other metals absent.  
 Turbidity Less than 5  
 Total Solids ..... 1100  
 Alkalinity as CaCO<sub>3</sub> 335  
 Non-carbonate ..... 0  
 Nitrite Nitrogen approx. 0.1  
 Oxygen Absorbed ..... 0.35  
 Residual Chlorine ..... Absent

This sample is unusually clear and bright in appearance  
 faintly alkaline in reaction and free from metals apart from a  
 minute trace of iron. The water is soft in character and the  
 content of mineral and saline constituents although somewhat high  
 is not considered excessive. It is of satisfactory quality  
 for domestic use. These results are consistent with a water which is  
 wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic  
 purposes, apart from the known high content of fluorine, being  
 a disadvantage.

End March, 1955.

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

Analysis of a sample of water received on 27.10.55 from Borough  
 of Maidon per S.C.C. labelled "Brow off tap at head of well  
 Spital Road Pumping Station". Date 27.10.55 9.15 am.

Number of Colonies developing on Agar	1 day at 20° C.	2 days at 20° C.	3 days at 20° C.	Presumptive Coli- aerogenes reaction	Total Coli (Type I)	Col. welchii reaction	Probable No. 0 per 100 ml	0 per 100 ml
	per ml.	per ml.	per ml.	Present in	Absent from	...	...	...
0	0	0	0	0	100	...	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	100	...	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	100	...	0	0

This sample is clear and bright in appearance and is of  
 a high standard of bacteriological purity.

These results indicative of a water which is wholesome in  
 character and suitable for public supply purposes.

20th October, 1955.



## 2. Drainage and Sewerage.

Glimmers of hope that the actual work may begin in the reasonably near future on the provision of at least part of the Borough main drainage system shew through the mass of technical reports and correspondence concerned with this scheme. It is hoped that the portions of the scheme providing sewerage for the South House Farm Estate and part of Heybridge may be given a commencing date in the near future.

## 3. Rivers and Streams.

Until the main drainage scheme is complete the rivers, streams and ditches in the Borough will continue to act as open sewers for the disposal of sewage and other waste matters. There is no alternative method which can be adopted to prevent this unsatisfactory state of affairs.

## 4. Closet Accommodation.

Approximately 700 of the 3,000 inhabited houses in the Borough are fitted with pail closets, another 130 with cesspool drainage and 16 with earth closets.

There can be no improvement in these conditions until the Borough can be adequately sewered. The need for the abolition of the pail closets has been many times proved, but all the reasons advanced for this highly desirable scheme have not been sufficient to overcome the opposition to plans for the complete sewerage of the Borough.

Once again it is hoped that these arguments will be advanced with all their merit in order to secure the commencement of work to provide sewers for all houses at present without this elementary modern requirement.

## 5. Swimming Baths and Pools.

The Marine Lake, an open air salt water swimming pool of about 2½ million gallons capacity, is situated in the Recreation Ground and is owned by the Corporation. Water is drawn from the River Blackwater to supply the lake and from samples taken it has been demonstrated that this water is quite often polluted. Efforts are made to chlorinate the water to improve its purity, but as this has to be done manually it is not highly successful.

There is a considerable layer of muddy sediment at the bottom of the lake and this frequently causes the water to be cloudy and dirty and may very probably contribute to the poor bacteriological quality of the water. I consider that the lake bottom should be cleaned thoroughly during the winter and an impervious surface provided in order to keep the water clear. A further improvement



## 2. Drainage and Sewerage.

It is hoped that the present work may result in the reasonably near future on the provision of a sewerage system. The main drainage system shown in the map of the Borough is a preliminary one, and it is hoped that the portions of the scheme providing sewerage for the South House Farm Estate and part of Haverhill may be given a commencing date in the near future.

## 3. Rivers and Streams.

Until the main drainage scheme is complete the rivers, streams and ditches in the Borough will continue to act as open sewers for the disposal of sewage and other waste matters. There is no alternative method which can be adopted to prevent this unsatisfactory state of affairs.

## 4. Closed Sewerage System.

Approximately 700 of the 8,000 inhabited houses in the Borough are fitted with soil closets, another 100 with cesspool drainage and 10 with earth closets.

There can be no improvement in these conditions until the Borough can be adequately sewered. The need for the installation of the soil closets has been many times proved, but all the reasons advanced for this policy have not been sufficient to overcome the opposition to plans for the complete sewerage of the Borough.

Once again it is hoped that these arguments will be advanced with all their merit in order to secure the commencement of work to provide sewers for all houses at present without this elementary modern requirement.

## 5. Swimming Baths and Pools.

The Marine Lake, an open air salt water swimming pool of about 25 million gallons capacity, is situated in the Recreation Ground and is owned by the Corporation. Water is drawn from the River Rye for supply to the lake and from samples taken it has been demonstrated that this water is quite often polluted. Efforts are made to chlorinate the water to improve its quality, but as this has to be done manually it is not highly successful.

There is a considerable layer of sandy silt at the bottom of the lake and this frequently causes the water to be cloudy and dirty and may possibly contribute to the poor bacteriological quality of the water. It is desired that the lake bottom should be cleaned thoroughly during the winter and an improved surface provided in order to keep the water clear. A further improvement

would be the installation of pumping machinery and a waterfall at one side to aerate the water thoroughly.

#### 6. Diphtheria Immunisation.

As from the inception of the National Health Service this became the responsibility of the Essex County Council, through the agency of the Area Health Organisation. During the last 3 years it has been found almost impossible to establish how many children are immunised annually, or how many have secondary injections.

This absence of easily accessible and accurate records is very disturbing as unless the scheme embraces every child the danger of outbreaks of Diphtheria remains possible.

It is now nine years since a case occurred in the Borough, but this highly satisfactory state of affairs may not continue indefinitely, if many children are not immunised in the future.

During the year a simple scheme has been undertaken in the Health Department to improve propaganda in connection with immunisation. A circular letter has been prepared and this is sent to the parents of all children resident in the Borough who have registered the birth of a child six or nine months previously to the dispatch of the letter. The letter draws attention to the importance of immunisation and informs parents how this service may be obtained.

#### 7. Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been found necessary for the prevention or treatment of blindness.

#### 8. Schools.

The year has seen quite a number of improvements to the school premises in the Borough. Generally speaking these premises are now in a fairly satisfactory condition, but improvements to drainage and sewage disposal are still necessary to All Saints Junior School, Maldon and the County Primary School, Heybridge.

At the Secondary Modern Girls' School very extensive improvements and alterations have been undertaken to the school canteen. These were very necessary and have greatly improved the conditions there. A number of improvements were also carried out at All Saints Junior School and if this programme can be continued in 1954 we shall be in a position of having a good standard of school buildings throughout the Borough.



would be the installation of pumping machinery and a waterfall at the side to serve the water supply.

### 6. Diphtheria Immunization.

As from the inception of the National Health Service this became the responsibility of the Essex County Council, through the agency of the local health organization. During the last 3 years it has been found almost impossible to establish how many children are immunized annually, as many have necessary injections.

This absence of really accessible and accurate records is very disturbing as unless the records are kept every child the danger of contracting diphtheria remains possible.

It is a well known fact since a case occurred in the Borough, that this highly infectious state of affairs may not remain indefinitely, as many children are not immunized in the future.

During the year a single scheme has been undertaken in the Health Department to improve propaganda in connection with immunization. A circular letter has been prepared and this is sent to the parents of all children resident in the Borough who have registered the birth of a child six or nine months previously to the date of the letter. The letter draws attention to the importance of immunization and informs parents how this service may be obtained.

### 7. Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been found necessary for the prevention of treatment of blindness.

### 8. Schools.

The year has seen quite a number of improvements to the school premises in the Borough. Generally speaking these premises are now in a fairly satisfactory condition, but improvements to drainage and sewage disposal are still necessary at all Saints Junior School, Milton and the County Primary School, Hoxbridge.

At the two main schools, St. John's and St. Peter's, very extensive improvements and alterations have been undertaken to the school buildings. These were very necessary and have greatly improved the conditions there. A number of improvements have also been carried out at all Saints Junior School and it is hoped that these can be completed in 1954. We shall be in a position of having a good standard of school buildings throughout the Borough.



## 9. Tuberculosis - Mass Radiography

During September a further visit was made to Maldon of the Mass Radiography Unit. It is not known how many members of the public attended for X-Ray but the whole idea was very popular and much talked about. A number of previously undetected cases of tuberculosis were discovered and once again it must be strongly emphasised how valueable these visits are and how important it is to encourage the general public to take advantage of the service offered to them.

### New Cases of, and Mortality from Tuberculosis during 1953.

Age Periods	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 years.	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
5 - 15 "	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
15- 25 "	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25- 35 "	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35- 45 "	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45- 55 "	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55- 65 "	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & Over.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	5	2	2	-	-	-	2	-

## 10. Infectious Diseases.

School Notifications of suspected Infectious Diseases or of contacts are regularly received.

The table on the following page gives the number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified:-

9. Tuberculosis - Head Examination

During September a further visit was made to the Head Examination Unit. It is not known how many members of the public attended for X-ray but the unit was very popular and much talked about. A number of previously undetected cases of tuberculosis were discovered and also again it must be stressed emphasized how valuable these visits are and how important it is to encourage the general public to take advantage of the service offered to them.

New Cases of, and Mortality from Tuberculosis during 1953.

Age Periods	New Cases		Mortality	
	Primarily	Not Primarily	Primarily	Not Primarily
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 years	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 "	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 "	1	1	-	-
25 - 35 "	1	-	-	-
35 - 45 "	1	-	-	-
45 - 55 "	2	-	-	-
55 - 65 "	-	1	-	-
65 & Over	-	-	-	-
	2	1	-	-

10. Infectious Diseases.

School notifications of suspected infectious diseases or outbreaks are regularly received. The table in the following page gives the number of cases of infectious diseases notified:-



NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING 1952

Infectious Diseases.	CASES NOTIFIED.														Admitted to Hospital Deaths
	Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	15-20 yrs.	20-35 yrs.	35-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 & over	Age not known	At all ages	
Scarlet Fever.	1	-	-	-	-	5	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	9	
Whooping Cough.	2	5	4	5	10	17	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	45	1
Measles.	4	15	16	24	30	92	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	182	
Pneumonia	-	-	1	1	1	3	-	-	2	1	4	1	-	14	
Erysipelas.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	
Polio myelitis.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Food Poisoning.	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	4	







REPORT OF THE SANITARY  
INSPECTION OF THE BOROUGH

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The weeks and months of another year have come and gone and in consequence I have to set down on paper a record of the happenings of the past 12 months and formulate some ideas of the work which lies ahead in the year now beginning. A slow but gradual consolidation of progress and improvement has been made during the year, it has not been possible to undertake all the work which it was hoped would be commenced at the beginning of 1953 but nevertheless, new activities have been included.

Efforts have been made to further the improvement of food hygiene and although no spectacular progress can be reported many minor items have received attention. A few more unfit houses have been dealt with and work has continued in connection with the repair and improvement of other properties. The public press has continued its nation wide campaign to make the general public health conscious and this has had an effect on the local attitude to public health matters. When making routine inspections many questions are asked concerning public health administration and much useful discussion arises from these interviews.

The year now past also had its usual number of disappointments. These included no real progress towards the full scale sewerage scheme in the Borough, no improvement in the condition of the Marine Lake, and a general setback to the normally smooth running of the Public Health Department, inspecting flood claims and other allied matters and in consequence it was not possible to embark on many fresh activities. Not directly my concern, but part of the overall Public Health Service of the Borough is the collection and disposal of refuse and during the year the Council took delivery of a modern type refuse collecting vehicle. This vehicle is of an up to date design and should provide a more efficient and certainly more satisfactory service from the health point of view. It is also hoped that it will effect substantial economy in running costs.

FOOD HYGIENE I doubt if the time will come for the writer when compiling an Annual Report to be able to say that he is completely satisfied with the arrangements for hygienic handling and wrapping of food in any given district, and certainly I am not able to say this at the present time as regards the food premises in Maldon. The various traders have undoubtedly done much to improve standards but there is still very much to be done.

One can still find fault with the methods of handling cakes and other flour confectionery; the wrapping of meat and fish in newspaper; the presence of cats and sometimes dogs in various types of food shops; and the general attitude of carelessness on the part of many employees in food businesses when preparing or serving food of all kinds.



- 18 -  
REPORT OF THE SANITARY  
COMMISSION OF THE BOROUGH

Mr. Mayr, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The works and affairs of another year have come and gone and in consequence I have to set down on paper a record of the happenings of the past 12 months and formulate some ideas of the work which lies ahead in the year now beginning. A slow but gradual consolidation of progress and improvement has been made during the year, it has not been possible to undertake all the work which it was hoped would be commenced at the beginning of 1923 but nevertheless, new activities have been included.

Efforts have been made to further the improvement of food hygiene and although an appreciable progress can be reported many minor items have received attention. A few more unfit houses have been dealt with and work has continued in connection with the repair and improvement of street properties. The public press has continued its nation wide campaign to raise the general public health consciousness and this has had an effect on the local attitude to public health matters. When making routine inspections many questions are asked concerning public health administration and such useful discussion arises from these interviews.

The year now past also had its usual number of disappointments. These included no real progress towards the full scale sewerage scheme in the Borough, no improvement in the condition of the Marine Lake, and a general setback to the normally smooth running of the Public Health Department, inspecting food claims and other allied matters and in consequence it was not possible to embark on many fresh activities. Not directly my concern, but part of the overall Public Health Service of the Borough is the collection and disposal of refuse and during the year the Council took delivery of a modern type refuse collecting vehicle. This vehicle is of an up to date design and should provide a more efficient and satisfactory service from the health point of view. It is also hoped that it will effect substantial economy in running costs.

FOOD HYGIENE I doubt if the time will come for the writer when compiling an Annual Report to be able to say that he is completely satisfied with the arrangements for hygienic handling and wrapping of food in any given district, and certainly I am not able to say this at the present time as regards the food premises in Maldon. The various traders have undoubtedly done much to improve standards but there is still very much to be done.

One can still find faults with the methods of handling oysters and other fish delicacies; the wrapping of meat and fish in newspapers; the presence of cuts and sometimes bugs in various types of food shops; and the general attitude of carelessness on the part of many employees in food businesses when preparing or serving food of all kinds.



It is easy to criticise but nothing like so easy to find the remedy for these misdemeanours. Some say prosecute, some say don't prosecute, but I believe that the answer lies between these two extremes. Numerous prosecutions only bring the Health Officials into prominence as being persecutors and no prosecutions at all suggest that the job is not being done efficiently. The midway course is one which whilst not overlooking the faults which can easily be found, it at the same time entreats or cajoles the offender into a more efficient routine which does not give cause for unfavourable comment.

This persuasion can only be done by constant repetition of basic principles and example from the better standard set by others. Frequent and unexpected inspections of all premises are essential and when the opportunity arises during such inspections constant propaganda towards high standards.

Commercial necessities are forcing traders to adopt the standards of the Health Department. With the easing of the rationing system the customer is becoming much more selective and this is the real answer to food hygiene. The highest standard which the trader will offer is that which the customer demands and to this end food hygiene propaganda must be directed at the customers. This will ensure that they will demand the highest possible standards and in order to remain in business the trader must then provide such standards.

HOUSING A little more progress has been made during the year in connection with the removal of unfit houses and the improvement and repair of existing properties. One thing which was very encouraging was the rehousing of 19 families from condemned houses at Heybridge which were seriously flooded at the end of January. Many of these families had been living in these unfit houses for upwards of two years since the day they were condemned and it was very pleasing to see them removed to new accommodation.

Unfortunately there was no very marked progress in the provision of new housing accommodation during the year. The Housing Committee worked very energetically indeed to get new contracts placed for the erection of houses and at the end of the year work was in hand on just over 100 new houses at the St. Peter's Avenue Housing Estate. In view of this we can look forward to 1954 with the satisfaction that most of these houses should be ready for occupation by the end of that year. 1953 ended with a revision of the list of housing applicants and this revealed a considerable reduction in the number of families applying for accommodation. Although the list is still quite a lengthy one the end is at least in sight.

ADMINISTRATION I should like to say once again how much I appreciated the very sympathetic assistance and advice I have received from Dr. Joan Mackenzie your Acting Medical Officer of Health. Although we have not had many exciting happenings during the year Dr. Mackenzie and I have had many opportunities to undertake joint action and on all occasions the result has been entirely to the benefit of the community.







In the interval between the end of 1953 and the writing of this report, Dr. Mackenzie has resigned her appointment and in consequence I feel I must say how much my thanks are due to Dr. Mackenzie for her friendly co-operation during the 2½ years she has served with the Council.

On the 1st March, 1954 Dr. T. D. Blott, B.Sc., M.B., B.S., D.P.H., took up his appointment as Medical Officer of Health for the Borough.

I should also like to offer to the other Officers of the Council my appreciation and thanks for their help and friendly advice during the year. For several months at the beginning of the year I was without any clerical assistance, but at the end of July, Miss M.L. Jopson was appointed as General Clerk in the Health Department. She came straight from school and was not 16 when appointed, but I am very pleased to record that during the months she has been here she has given very efficient and satisfactory service. This is very essential to the smooth running of the Department.

The Council appointed me as a delegate to attend the Sanitary Inspector's Association Conference in September and have also given me the opportunity on several occasions to attend half day lectures and demonstrations connected with Public Health administration. I am very appreciative of the opportunities so provided and feel that they do give value for money since they offer an opportunity to keep up to date with technical changes and improvements.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

R. A. Hallett.

Borough Sanitary Inspector.

In the interval between the end of 1933 and the writing of this report, Mr. Macdonald has resigned his appointment and is now engaged in the study of the history of the Department of Health. I feel I must say how much I value his services and how much I regret his departure. He has been a most valuable member of the staff and his departure is a serious loss to the Department.

On the 1st March, 1934 Mr. T. D. Moffat, B.Sc., F.R.S., D.P.H., took up his appointment as Medical Officer of Health for the Borough.

I should also like to refer to the other Officers of the Council. My appreciation and thanks for their help and friendly advice during the year. For several months at the beginning of the year I was without any direct assistance, but at the end of July, Miss M.L. Taylor was appointed as General Clerk in the Health Department. She was assigned from 1933 and was not so when appointed, but I am very pleased to record that during the months she has been here she has given very efficient and satisfactory service. This is very essential to the smooth running of the Department.

The Council has asked me as a delegate to attend the Sanitary Inspector's Association Conference in September and have also given me the opportunity of several occasions to attend half day lectures and courses. I am very grateful for the facilities provided and feel that they are of great value to me since they offer an opportunity to keep up to date with technical changes and improvements.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

H. A. Moffat.

Borough Sanitary Inspector.



GENERAL SANITATION. The detailed summary which will be found on page 27 sets out all the various visits and inspections made during the year. There was a decrease in the number of general complaints received at the Health Department and these totalled 150. They were all investigated and appropriate action taken to remedy these nuisances. A total of 733 initial inspections and revisits were occasioned by these complaints, this is an increase on the previous year in spite of the fact that the number of complaints was somewhat lower.

I think this increased number of visits was due largely to the slowing down of repair work to privately owned houses which came about by the increased activity of local builders in constructing new houses. This increase of house building was very pleasant to see but it has had an effect on the speed at which minor house repairs are now being undertaken.

The year has seen the completion of a very encouraging effort on the part of one local landlord. Whilst war damage repairs, to a block of four of his houses, was being undertaken he gave instructions to the builder that he should make a general overhaul to the whole of the property including the improvement and rebuilding of water closet compartments. This work was completed during the year and these four small houses which were formerly in quite a poor condition are now very much improved. Such a scheme of improvement is one which I look forward to being repeated many times over in the near future. Many of the small cottage type houses are well worth renovating and if properly treated will provide satisfactory housing accommodation for many more years.

On pages 28 and 29 there is set out a record of the various repairs and improvements which have been effected at privately owned houses during 1953. Such a schedule has not been included in this report in past years and it is hoped that it will serve in the future as a useful indication of the gradual improvement of house property.

EAST COAST FLOOD DISASTER. On the night of the 31st January/1st February 1953 the Borough of Maldon together with so many other areas along the East Coast of England suffered flood damage. Maldon was extraordinarily fortunate in this respect, in that the flooding was by no means as serious as in many other places and something less than 100 houses were effected. Although the water remained in some of these houses for up to 36 hours the damage done was by no means as serious as one would have expected.

Fortunately some of the house occupants had received some warning that flooding was imminent and in consequence were able to remove many of their possessions to safety. In addition, many of them live in a low lying area which is liable to flooding at ordinary spring tides and therefore were able to deal with the invasion of water into their homes with less alarm than those who had never experienced such an occurrence before.



RAIL SANITATION. The detailed summary which will be found on page 20 sets out all the various visits and investigations made during the year. There was a decrease in the number of general complaints received by the Health Department and the total 150. They were all investigated and appropriate action taken to remedy these nuisances. A list of 100 initial investigations and revisits were occasioned by these nuisances, this is an increase on the previous year in spite of the fact that the number of complaints was somewhat lower.

I think this increased number of visits was due largely to the increasing amount of repair work to privately owned houses which came about the increased activity of local builders in constructing new houses. Increase of house building was very pleasant to see but it has had effect on the speed at which minor house repairs are now being undertaken.

The year has seen the completion of a very encouraging effort on the part of one local landlord. Whilst war damage repairs, to a block of 10 of his houses, was being undertaken he gave instructions to the other 10 that he should make a general overhaul to the whole of the property including the improvement and repainting of water closets and bathrooms. This work was completed during the year and these four houses which were formerly in quite a poor condition are now much improved. Such a scheme of improvement is one which I look forward to being repeated many times over in the near future. Many of the small cottage type houses are well worth renovating and if properly done will provide satisfactory housing accommodation for many more.

On pages 28 and 29 there is set out a record of the various repairs and improvements which have been effected at privately owned houses during 1932. Such a schedule has not been included in this report in the year and it is hoped that it will serve in the future as a useful record of the gradual improvement of house property.

COAST FLOOD DISASTER. On the night of the 31st January/1st February the Borough of Malden together with so many other areas along the coast of England suffered flood damage. Malden was extraordinarily fortunate in this respect, in that the flooding was by no means as serious as in many other places and something less than 100 houses were affected. Though the water remained in some of these houses for up to 24 hours damage done was by no means as serious as one would have expected.

Fortunately some of the house occupants had received some warning of the flooding was imminent and in consequence were able to remove many of their possessions to safety. In addition, many of them live in a low area which is liable to flooding at ordinary spring tides and therefore were able to deal with the invasion of water into their homes with some alarm than those who had never experienced such an occurrence before.



Active measures were taken in the days that followed to deal with the problems which the flooding occasioned.

When it became clear that all households which had suffered flood damage would eventually be able to make claims upon the Lord Mayors National Flood and Tempest Distress Fund I made inspections of these houses and noted the items of household furniture and structural damage which had been caused by the flooding. This work became greatly increased later in the year due to the inclusion of all caravan owners as being eligible to receive compensation from the flood relief fund. The approximate total number of claims which the Council received was 320 and it will be seen from this that some 250 caravans were included in the total.

Over 250 visits and inspections were made by me to cope with these various claims. In addition, the Council's Clerk of Works made over 100 inspections when assisting me during the height of the summer season when most of the caravan owners were in residence. I would like to record my appreciation to the Clerk of Works for his assistance in this matter.

At the end of the year there were still flood claims outstanding and it seems highly probable that this subject will feature in the Annual Report for 1954.

HOUSING The following figures show the trend of the average number of persons per house in the Borough over a period of years:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Average Number of Persons per house.</u>	
1901	4.28	
1911	4.35	Figures for years
1926	4.06	prior to 1934 refer
1936	3.32	to unextended Borough
1946	3.29	
1951	3.20	
1952	3.20	
1953	3.20	

There has been very much talk during the year concerning the problems of sub-standard houses but unfortunately not very much action to deal with them. It has only been possible to make one Demolition Order under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 in respect of one unfit house and also the Council have declared four houses in Heybridge to be a Clearance Area. The Order declaring this area was not confirmed at the

Active measures were taken in the days that followed to deal with the problems which the flooding occasioned.

When it became clear that all households which had suffered flood damage would eventually be able to make claims upon the Flood Relief National Fund and Tenant Distress Fund I made investigations of these funds and noted the items of household furniture and structural damage which had been caused by the flooding. This work became a priority for me later in the year due to the inclusion of all relevant claims being eligible to receive compensation from the Flood Relief Fund. The approximate total number of claims which the Council received was 20 and it will be seen from this that some 250 persons were included in the total.

Over 250 visits and inspections were made by me to cope with these various claims. In addition, the Council's Clerk of Works made over 100 inspections when assisting me during the height of the summer season most of the relevant claims were in residence. I would like to record my appreciation to the Clerk of Works for his assistance in this matter.

At the end of the year there were still flood claims outstanding and it seems highly probable that this subject will feature in the annual report for 1954.

USING The following figures show the trend of the average number persons per house in the Borough over a period of years:-

Year	Average Number of Persons per House
1901	4.28
1911	4.35
1921	4.08
1931	3.83
1941	3.29
1951	3.20
1952	3.20
1953	3.20

There has been very much talk during the year concerning the claims of sub-standard houses but unfortunately not very much action has been taken. It has only been decided to make one demolition at under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936 in respect of one unit and also the Council have declined to make any further steps to be taken under the Act. The order demolishing this house was not confirmed at the time.



end of the year and a public enquiry was then pending. In view of the very poor condition of these four houses it is hoped that this Order will eventually be confirmed.

The rehousing of nine families was greatly accelerated by the disastrous floods of January 31st/February 1st, 1953. All these nine houses had previously been dealt with under the Housing Acts and the families living in them had been placed in the highest priority group of housing applicants. As one of the principal reasons why these houses had been considered unfit was flooding by sea water from time to time, it was not surprising that during this extremely serious flooding the occupiers suffered very badly. In consequence the Council acted promptly and by various improvised means were able to offer these families new accommodation within two or three weeks after the flooding. These families, in their new houses were put to some inconvenience because at that time the road and footpaths were unmade but they cheerfully accepted these difficulties for the security which the new houses provided. It will be seen from this that even the disaster of a flood can be turned to the benefit of at least some people.

During the year the Council have reviewed the whole of the applications for Council accommodation and as a result of this review and a request from the applicants for a renewal of their applications it was found at the end of the year that the number of families then applying for alternative accommodation was approximately 240. This total is a reduction of between 70 and 80 families as compared with the total at the end of the previous year and in consequence the picture of housing requirements in the Borough becomes much clearer.

At the same time there was 43 families living in requisitioned premises and therefore the approximate requirement of new housing accommodation was 280 housing units. The Council had under contract at the time 104 houses at the St. Peter's Avenue Estate most of which were already under construction. A further 160 houses are planned for the Primrose Mead Estate for which the Council have acquired the land. It will be seen from these figures that when these two Estates are completed accommodation will have been provided for almost all of the families which require rehousing at the end of 1953.

These facts and figures give us great encouragement for the future concerning the general housing problem in the Borough. Nevertheless, we must not because of this encouraging situation rest on our oars and be content that the problem has been almost solved. It is now some 15 years since any intensive action was taken to deal with unfit properties under the Housing Acts and with the prospect of new housing law to enliven the scene I look forward to 1954 as the beginning of a long term and comprehensive period of general housing improvements.



and of the year and a public enquiry was then pending. In view of the very poor condition of these four houses it is hoped that this order will eventually be confirmed.

The rehousing of nine families was greatly accelerated by the disaster floods of January 31st/February 1st, 1953. All these nine houses had previously been built under the Housing Acts and the families living in them had been placed in the highest priority group of housing applicants. As one of the principal reasons why these houses had been considered unfit was flooding by sea water from time to time, it was not surprising that during this extremely serious flooding the occupants suffered very badly. In consequence the Council acted promptly and by various improved means were able to alter these families new accommodation within two or three weeks after the flooding. These families, in their new houses were put to some inconvenience because at that time the road and footpaths were unmade but they cheerfully accepted these difficulties for the security which the new houses provided. It will be seen from this that even the disaster of a flood can be turned to the benefit of at least some people.

During the year the Council have reviewed the whole of the applications for Council accommodation and as a result of this review and a request from the applicants for a renewal of their applications as found at the end of the year that the number of families then applying for alternative accommodation was approximately 240. This total is a reduction of between 70 and 80 families as compared with the total at the end of the previous year and in consequence the picture of housing requirements in the Borough becomes much clearer.

At the same time there was 43 families living in requisitioned premises and therefore the approximate requirement of new housing accommodation was 280 housing units. The Council had under contract at the time 104 houses at the St. Peter's Avenue Estate most of which were already under construction. A further 150 houses are planned for the Princess Mary Estate for which the Council have acquired the land. It will be seen from these figures that when these two Estates are completed accommodation will have been provided for almost all of the families which require rehousing at the end of 1953.

These facts and figures give us great encouragement for the future concerning the general housing problem in the Borough. Nevertheless, we must not become of this encouraging situation rest on our oars and content that the problem has been almost solved. It is now some 15 years since any intensive action was taken to deal with unfit properties under the Housing Acts and with the prospect of new housing law to enable me since I took forward to 1954 as the beginning of a long term and comprehensive period of general housing improvements.



Such a scheme will inevitably mean the demolition and clearance of quite a number of unfit houses and this programme must be planned and organised in such a way that the sites which are cleared are sufficiently large and adaptable for use for rebuilding new housing accommodation.

The following tables summarize the position regarding action under the Housing Act:-

HOUSING ACTS, 1936 - 49.

CLEARANCE AREAS.

Name of Area	Date of Order becoming operative	Number of Houses Involved	Number of Houses Occupied	Number of Houses Vacant	Number of Houses Demolished
Spring Lane & Hall Road (Heybridge) Clearance Order, 1949.	September 1950.	8	1	-	7
Wantz Road (Maldon) Clearance Order, 1951	December 1951.	4	1	3	-
Wharf Road (Heybridge) Clearance Order, 1951.	March 1952.	3	-	-	3

(Excluding the Almshouses Numbered 178-186, High Street).

CLEARANCE AREAS

RETURNING ACTS, 1930 - 49.

The following tables summarize the position regarding return to the service Act:-

Such a scheme will inevitably mean the destruction and replacement of the number of units houses and this programme must be planned and organized in such a way that the sites which are cleared are suitably adapted for the use for rebuilding new housing accommodation.

Area	Date of Order becoming operative	Number of houses involved	Number of houses occupied	Number of houses vacant	Number of houses demolished
Area 1 (1930-1931)	September 1930	6	1	-	7
Area 2 (1931-1932)	December 1931	4	1	3	-
Area 3 (1932-1933)	March 1932	3	-	-	3

(Excluding the almshouses numbered  
178-180, High Street).



INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES

Name of Property	Date of Order becoming Operative	Number of Houses Involved	Number of Houses Occupied	Number of Houses Vacant	Number of Houses Demolished	Under-takings accepted
33, Church Street, Maldon	15.10.50.	1	-	1	-	-
13, The Street Heybridge.	-	1	-	1	-	Not to re-let for human habitation. Feb. 1951.
2 & 4, The Street, Heybridge.		2	-	2	-	Not to re-let for human Habitation. Jan. 1951.
5 6 & 10, Spring Lane Heybridge.	12.10.52	3	-	-	3	-
40 & 42, The Street, Heybridge		2	-	2	-	Not to be used for human habitation 20.9.52.
5, Cromwell Lane, Maldon.		1	1	-	-	Demolition Order. 24.6.52.
6, Fullbridge, Maldon.		1	1	-	-	Demolition Order. 21.4.53.





CAMPING GROUNDS. At Mill Beach on the north bank of the river Blackwater there are four licensed Camping Sites all within the Borough boundary. All these sites are generally well maintained and efficiently run and the owners have made continuous efforts during the year to improve the standards of sanitation and layout.

One of the smaller camps has been acquired by a new owner during the year. In the autumn he began to install a new block of water closet accommodation and other general drainage improvements in order to bring the camp up to a similar standard to that of the others in the area. This camp was the only one using pail closets and in 1954 we shall be able to commence the summer season with all our camping sites provided with a water carriage system of drainage.

There has been no decrease in the families permanently living in individually licensed caravans. The year has seen a number of changes in the actual occupiers of such caravans but the general housing shortage still makes it necessary for families to resort to a caravan as a means of providing themselves with a separate home. The use of a caravan for permanent housing accommodation is not necessarily unhealthy or unsatisfactory but the limited accommodation it provides is certainly not a desirable form of housing accommodation, especially where there are children.

SMOKE ABATEMENT Although there are a number of industrial premises in the Borough, generally speaking no problems arose concerning smoke nuisances. Householders are becoming much more constant offenders with chimney fires. The number of such incidents that I have noted during the year must well have reached a total of 50.

Whether this is due to insufficient chimney sweeping or the use of smokey fuel such as green logs and nutty slack I do not know but undoubtedly householders should give attention to this question and endeavour to avoid causing a nuisance of this sort.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. One case of infestation with bed bugs was found during the year and the necessary measures were taken to deal with it. No reinfestation has been observed.

CONTROL OF OTHER INSECTS. The year has seen the usual numbers of complaints concerning flies, wasps, beetles, etc. Various methods have been adopted to deal with these problems and it has been possible to remedy the complaints without any difficulty.

RODENT CONTROL. There has been some increase in the number of complaints of rats and mice during the year and in consequence work in this connection has been more intensive. Only one part-time operative is employed and he undertakes treatments following the methods recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.



LASTING GROUND. At Mill Beach on the north bank of the river  
last year there are four licensed camping sites all within the Borough  
limits. All these sites are generally well maintained and efficient  
and the owners have made continuous efforts during the year to improve  
the standards of sanitation and layout.

One of the smaller camps has been acquired by a new owner during  
the year. In the autumn he began to install a new block of water closed  
sanitation and other general drainage improvements in order to bring  
the camp up to a similar standard to that of the others in the area.  
His camp was the only one using portable toilets and in 1955 we shall be  
able to commence the summer season with all our camping sites provided  
with a water carriage system of drainage.

There has been no decrease in the families permanently living in  
advisably licensed caravans. The year has seen a number of changes  
in the actual occupiers of such caravans but the general housing shortage  
still makes it necessary for families to resort to a caravan as a means  
of providing themselves with a separate home. The use of a caravan for  
permanent housing accommodation is not necessarily unhealthy or un-  
desirable but the limited accommodation it provides is certainly not  
desirable form of housing accommodation, especially where there are  
children.

ONE AGREEMENT. Although there are a number of industrial premises in  
the Borough, generally speaking no problems arise concerning smoke  
nuisance. Householders are becoming much more constant offenders with  
chimney fires. The number of such incidents that I have noted during  
the year must well have reached a total of 50.

Whether this is due to inefficient chimney sweeping or the use of  
poor fuel such as green logs and wetty sticks I do not know but  
advisably householders should give attention to this question and  
endeavour to avoid causing a nuisance of this sort.

INDICATION OF THE YEAR. One case of infestation with bed bugs was found  
during the year and the necessary measures were taken to deal with it.  
Infestation has been observed.

CONTROL OF OTHER INSECTS. The year has seen the usual number of reports  
concerning flies, wasps, beetles, etc. Various methods have been adopted  
to deal with these problems and it has been possible to remedy the  
complaints without any difficulty.

GENERAL CONTROL. There has been some increase in the number of complaints  
of rats and mice during the year and in co-operation with the  
Council has been more intensive. Only the part-time operative has  
employed and no undertakes treatment following the methods recommended  
by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.



One or two business premises constantly became re-infested and the only reason which can be attributed for this is that in each case large packing cases containing merchandise or sacks of potatoes are received at these premises which must contain adult mice upon arrival, in this way the premises become re-infested and further treatment has to follow. The prevention of such re-infestation is very difficult although those organisations affected do everything they can to separate incoming stores until such times as they can be inspected.

The number of complaints during the year was 35 and of these 19 referred to business premises.

PUBLIC CLEANSING The collection of house refuse and night soil and the sweeping of the streets is the responsibility of the Borough Engineer. A weekly collection of house refuse is maintained and a twice weekly collection of night soil from some 700 houses fitted with pail closets is provided.

One of the most pleasing features during the year was the delivery and taking into service of a new Bedford "Eagle", rear loading refuse collecting vehicle of 12/20 cubic yards capacity. The vehicle is a vast improvement on the old type freighter which had previously been used and with this larger carrying capacity it is hoped to effect economies in the general cost of refuse collection. In order to keep a weekly time table it has still been necessary to use a 2 ton open lorry on certain days of the week. This practice is unhygienic and also expensive and should be discontinued as soon as possible.

The combined gully emptying and night soil collection vehicle which the Council purchased during 1952 has been of outstanding service during the year. The number of complaints which were formerly received concerning this collection have almost entirely been eliminated and the whole system now works very smoothly.

The refuse tip which is in a very prominent position near to the Council's Recreation Ground and River Promenade needs very careful supervision to prevent any nuisance.

The cessation of the collection of salvage has added much combustible material to the refuse and as the tip is not securely enclosed by a fence children and irresponsible adolescents can easily gain admission. On several occasions they have set fire to this paper and other materials and this has caused a number of problems. Care must be taken in the future to cover all burnable materials as far as possible and steps should also be taken to enclose the tip area by a secure fence.

One of the business promises constantly become re-injected and the  
my reason which can be attributed for this is that in some cases  
locking cases containing information or notes of persons are received  
in these promises which must contain some kind of material, in this  
the promises become re-injected and further treatment has to follow  
the prevention of such re-injection is very difficult although these  
agencies affected by everything they can to separate incoming  
with such cases as they can be inspected.

The number of complaints during the year was 33 and of those 19  
referred to business promises.

WATER CARRYING The collection of house refuse and night soil and the  
keeping of the streets is the responsibility of the Borough Engineer.  
Weekly collection of house refuse is maintained and twice weekly  
collection of night soil from some 700 houses fitted with ball closets  
provided.

One of the most pleasing features during the year was the delivery  
and taking into service of a new Bedford "Eagle", four foot long refuse  
collecting vehicle of 12/15 cubic yards capacity. This vehicle is a  
great improvement on the old type lighter which had previously been  
used and with this larger carrying capacity it is hoped to effect  
economy in the general cost of refuse collection. In order to keep  
weekly time table it has still been necessary to use a 2 ton open  
carry on certain days of the week. This practice is unsatisfactory and  
the expensive and should be discontinued as soon as possible.

The combined daily emptying and night soil collection vehicle which  
the Council purchased during 1932 has been of outstanding service during  
the year. The number of complaints which were formerly received concern-  
ing late collection have almost entirely been eliminated and the whole  
system now works very smoothly.

The refuse tip which is in a very prominent position near to the  
London's Recreation Ground and River Promenade needs very careful  
supervision to prevent any nuisance.

The cessation of the collection of refuse has added much comfort  
to the town and as the tip is not severely encroached by  
once children and irresponsible adolescents can easily gain admittance.  
Several occasions they have set fire to this paper and other material  
and this has caused a number of problems. There must be taken in the  
future to collect all burnable materials as far as possible and steps  
should also be taken to ensure the tip is kept by a secure fence.



RAG AND BONE DEALERS Following upon the conviction which was obtained for an offence under Section 154 of the Public Health Act, 1936 of rag and bone dealers giving away gold fish in exchange for rags during 1952, a close watch was maintained for any similar transactions during the year under review. Two instances were noted of a similar practice and upon verbal warning to the offenders they promptly amended their actions and gave gold fish to the adults.

In view however, of the High Court. decision that a gold fish is not an "Article", action under the above Section in respect of such transactions can not be contemplated. It is to be hoped that an amendment of the definition of "article" will be forthcoming in the near future so that this undesirable practice can definitely be prevented.

CONTROL OF HOUSEBOATS. Under the provisions of the Essex County Council Act, 1952 very considerable powers were given to local authorities to control and regulate the use of houseboats as living accommodation. These provisions came into force in Maldon in April 1953 and have been put into operation.

Before the Act was actually set in motion the seaboard Local Authorities in the County had one or two meetings in order to formulate a uniform set of conditions which they proposed to apply to the houseboats. This action was undoubtedly a success since it means that generally speaking all houseboats will conform to a uniform standard throughout the County.

Many of the houseboats in the Borough were already known to the Health Department but it was necessary to make a detailed inspection of all the river banks and frontages throughout the Borough to check on the stray boat here and there. As far as possible the name of the owner or occupier was discovered and a summary of the provisions of the Act together with an application form was then addressed to that person.

Twenty-four houseboats came to the knowledge of the Department by these various means and then followed a detailed inspection of each boat and it was found helpful to prepare a diagrammatic plan of each boat, which establish a record of the boat at the time of inspection and serve as a very useful reminder when discussing details relating to the licence.

Eight houseboats were found to be lived in permanently and the remainder for varying periods, usually holiday time, during the year. Of these 8 permanently occupied houseboats only one was considered to be unsatisfactory from a structural point of view and three were required to provide their own individual stand pipe for the supply of drinking water. Those used for part time occupation are all mostly in a satisfactory condition. The only condition which did not satisfy the requirements of the Council was their means of obtaining drinking water. The majority of them are moored in the Ballast Hole, Heybridge Basin and the occupiers have to walk upwards of 400 yards to collect water from a stand pipe. This distance was considered unreasonable and at the close of the year negotiations were being undertaken to arrange for a stand pipe to be set up within 50 yards of the majority of boats.



and some dealers following upon the conviction which was obtained for an offence under Section 134 of the Public Health Act, 1936 and had been advised giving away gold fish in exchange for eggs during the above season was maintained for any similar transactions during the next under review. Two instances were noted of a similar practice and up to a verbal warning to the offenders they promptly ceased their actions and gave up fish to the public.

In view however, of the High Court decision that a gold fish is not an "article", action under the above Section in respect of such transactions can not be contemplated. It is to be noted that the maintenance of the definition of "article" will be forthcoming in the future so that this unsatisfactory practice can definitely be prevented.

CONTROL OF HOSPITALS. Under the provisions of the Essex County Council Act, 1935 very considerable powers were given to local authorities to control and regulate the use of hospitals as living accommodation. These provisions came into force in Malden in April 1938 and have been in operation.

Before the Act was actually put in motion the resident local authorities in the County had one or two meetings in order to formulate uniform set of conditions which they proposed to apply to the houses. This action was admittedly a success since it means that uniformly speaking all houses will conform to a uniform standard throughout the County.

Many of the houses in the Borough were already known to the Health Department but it was necessary to make a detailed inspection of all the river banks and bridges throughout the Borough to check on the way boat house and other. As far as possible the name of the owner was discovered and a summary of the provisions of the Act together with an application form was then addressed to that person.

Twenty-four households came to the knowledge of the Department by one various means and then followed a detailed inspection of each boat. It was found helpful to prepare a diagrammatic plan of each boat, which established a record of the boat at the time of inspection and served as a very useful reminder when discussing details relating to the boats. Eight households were found to be lived in permanently and 16 in temporary periods, usually holiday time, during the year. 5 permanently occupied households only one was considered to be satisfactory from a structural point of view and three were required to provide their own latrine and stand pipe for the supply of drinking water. The only condition which did not satisfy the requirements of the Council was their means of obtaining drinking water. The majority of them are moored in the Millers Mill, Haywards Basin and the majority to be walk upwards of 400 yards to collect water from a stand pipe. This distance was considered unreasonable and at the close of the year applications were being undertaken to arrange for a stand pipe to be put within 50 yards of the majority of boats.



SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES.

Inspections.	Notices.					
	No.	Infor- mal.	Formal	Total Comp- lied with.	Outstanding at end of year.	
					Informal	Formal
Houses Inspected						
re: overcrowding.....	161	-	-	-	-	-
re: Dirty con- ditions & Vermin.....	43	3	-	3	-	-
re: Structural defects and nuisances.....	241	38	1	42	2	1
re: inspections in con- nection with above....	381	-	-	-	-	-
House drainage (inc. nuisances from drains and ditches).....	111	2	-	-	-	-
Water Supply (sampling and inspections).....	54	-	-	-	-	-
Food Shops (incl. ice cream premises, cow sheds, dairies, canteens etc.).....	630	41	-	36	5	-
Licensed Premises.....	41	3	-	2	-	-
Shop Inspections.....	57	7	-	7	-	-
Offensive Accmltns.....	6	1	-	1	-	-
Gas Works.....	1	-	-	-	-	-
Rats, Mice & Insect Pests.....	42	6	-	6	-	-
Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings.....	74	4	-	4	-	-
Disinfections.....	3	-	-	-	-	-
Infectious Disease Inquiries.....	4	-	-	-	-	-
Swimming Pool (Sampling and Inspections).....	16	-	-	-	-	-
Nuisances from keeping poultry animals etc.....	10	1	-	1	-	-
The Market.....	36	-	-	-	-	-
Complaints re: dangerous structures, defective sewers, refuse collection, etc. dealt with departmentally	41	-	-	-	-	-
	1807	106	1	102	7	1





DETAILS OF REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS COMPLETED.

Roofs repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
Chimney stacks repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Gutters, rainwater pipes, etc. repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
External walls repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Window and door arches repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
External window and door sills repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Damp-proof course provided or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Rendering to external walls	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Sub-floor ventilation provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Sub-floor ventilation repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Yard or passage surfaces paved or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Boundary walls and fences repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Refuse receptacle provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Ceiling plaster repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Ceilings cleansed and redecorated	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Waterproofing of internal walls	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Wall-plaster repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Walls cleansed and redecorated	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Floors repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Windows repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Window fasteners renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Sash Cords renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Doors repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Door frames repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Door furniture renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Firegrates/ranges provided or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Hearths repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Stairs repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Ventilated food-store provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Food-store repaired or improved	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Washing copper repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Washing accommodation provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Water service repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Water supply provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Drains tested	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Drains cleansed	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Drains repaired or reconstructed	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Soil pipe and vent shaft repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Inspection chamber provided or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Fresh Air Inlet	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
New gullies provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Repairs to benching or fenders to gullies	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
New covers fitted	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
New W.C.'s provided complete	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
New W.C.'s pans provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
W.C. cistern repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
W.C. compartment repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
W.C. compartment rebuilt	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
W.C. compartment cleansed	..	..	..	..	..	..	5







4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Now sink provided
3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Now sink west and trap provided
11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ultimate recommendations provided
3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Recommendations from working committee dated
1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Some main road dated
12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Recommendations from working committee dated
3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Later supply provided to company since
3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Company recommended to company since
3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Refuse regulations provided to company since



Inspection and Supervision of Food.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN The year has seen further slow but gradual progress in the improvement and hygienic handling of all foodstuffs. There have been no outstanding or revolutionary improvements in the Borough but a general consolidation and a fuller understanding of the needs of clean food handling has taken place.

This is a good thing as it is a common happening that sudden bursts of enthusiasm are followed by long depressions of waning interest. It became increasingly obvious to members of the Public Health Service that education in its broadest sense is probably the greatest factor in improving public health standards. This educational revolution must unfortunately be a slow one because the people that need to be educated are almost entirely of adult age and have a set routine of habit; habit which is very often governed by conditions in which they work and the financial circumstances of their business. In an old world town like Maldon the majority of the premises which are used for the sale and preparation of foodstuffs are themselves very old and in most cases were never constructed with the intention of being food premises. In consequence they have usually been ill adapted for their present use and many conversions have been made to fit them in with the requirements of modern business, this conversion has been done piece-meal and in consequence the present unit is by no means economic of administration or well suited for present day hygienic requirements.

In spite of all these difficulties and above all the general distrust of modern ideas the food traders have done good work in maintaining their standard. They constantly express interest in the matter and are always willing to listen to good advice. However, improvements are no doubt necessary and I feel confident that the time is coming when many of these necessary requirements will be fulfilled. Quite a number of food traders realise that they have to undertake a long term reconstruction of their premises. In many cases this will mean the gutting of buildings and considerable expense in renovation.

For the third year in succession I must repeat that everyone is a food handler at some time or other and it is up to us as food handlers, and above all as customers at food shops to insist that the highest possible standard of food hygiene is maintained. It has been frequently said "the customer is always right" and with regard to food hygiene standards this is particularly true. If the customers will complain personally to the shop keeper he will inevitably do something about the complaint.

During the year a total of 671 inspections were made to all types of food premises. These figures reveal a slight drop in the number of inspections as compared with 1952. The difference is very small, but is unfortunate, as it was hoped that there would have been an increase.



# Inspection and Supervision of Food.

LEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN The year has seen further slow but gradual progress in the improvement and hygienic handling of all foodstuffs. There have been no outstanding or revolutionary improvements in the handling of foodstuffs, but a general consolidation and a better understanding of the need of clean food handling has taken place.

This is a good thing as it is a common happening that sudden bursts of enthusiasm are followed by long depressions of waning interest. It is interestingly obvious to members of the Public Health Service that education in the broadest sense is probably the greatest factor in improving public health standards. This educational revolution must unfortunately be a slow one because the people that need to be educated are almost entirely of adult age and have a set routine of habits; habits which is very often governed by conditions in which they work and the financial circumstances of their business. In an old world town like London the majority of the premises which are used for the sale and preparation of foodstuffs are themselves very old and in most cases were never constructed with the intention of being food premises. In consequence they have usually been ill adapted for their present use and any conversions have been made to fit them in with the requirements of modern business. This conversion has been done piecemeal and in consequence the present unit is by no means economic of administration or well suited for present day hygienic requirements.

In spite of all these difficulties and above all the general attitude of modern ideas the food traders have done good work in maintaining their standards. They constantly express interest in the matter and are always willing to listen to good advice. However, improvements are no doubt necessary and I feel confident that the time is coming when many of these necessary requirements will be fulfilled. Quite a number of food traders realize that they have to undertake a long term reconstruction of their premises. In many cases this will mean the closing of buildings and considerable expense in renovation.

For the third year in succession I must report that everyone is food handler at some time or other and it is up to us as food handlers to advise all our customers at food shops to insist that the highest hygienic standard of food hygiene is maintained. It has been said that "the customer is always right" and with regard to food hygiene standards this is particularly true. If the customers will complain reasonably to the shop keeper he will inevitably do something about the complaint.

During the year a total of 671 inspections were made to all types of food premises. These figures reveal a slight drop in the number of inspections as compared with 1932. The difference is very small, but unfortunately, as it was hoped that there would have been an increase.



Continuous efforts are made to keep up the number of such visits, but during the year various other urgent tasks arose which needed attention and in consequence the time available for these duties was restricted. Another factor which lessened the opportunities for outside duties was that the Health Department was without any Clerical assistance for some four months and I had to undertake much routine office work.

In continuation of the policy begun last year with regard to particular types of premises, the following items are worthy of comment.

(a) Licensed Premises.

The various outstanding items which were necessary to improve conditions at these premises have now been almost completed. Further public houses were fitted with hot water heaters for washing up purposes and a number of improvements have been made to the sanitary accommodation.

The sanitary accommodation at many of the licensed houses still falls short of modern requirements and it is very encouraging to learn that the Licensing Justices have made inspections of all licensed premises during the year and they intend to draw the attention of the Brewers to improvements considered necessary when licences are renewed.

(b) Butchers Shops.

Some further improvements have been introduced in these premises and there is a general awareness on the part of the traders that standards need still further improvement.

Some of the butchers in the town continue to use newspaper for wrapping purposes. This I do not consider is necessary, and in the coming year attention should be directed to the clean food byelaws and their requirements regarding the use at all times of clean wrapping paper.

(c) School Canteen.

The work which I reported was envisaged at one of the school canteens in the Borough in the report for 1952 has now been put in hand. Many of the improvements which will result from this work are considered to be normal requirements in food preparation premises nowadays and it is pleasing to note that this canteen will be something of a model as compared with similar types of premises in commercial use in the town.

(d) Cafe Premises.

During the latter end of the year I have had talks with a number of proprietors of cafes and snack bar businesses on the question of the improvement and reconstruction of their premises. In many cases this must be a long term policy, since it will mean complete reconstruction of large parts of their buildings. To a business man to have to contemplate spending a considerable sum of money for which he can see no immediate



Continuous efforts are made to keep up the number of such visits during the year various other urgent tasks which needed attention and in consequence the time available for these duties was restricted. Another factor which lessened the opportunities for outside duties was that the Health Department was without any clerical assistance for some four months and I had to undertake much routine office work.

In continuation of the policy begun last year with regard to particular types of premises, the following items are worthy of comment.

(a) Licensed Premises.

The various outstanding items which were necessary to improve conditions at these premises have now been almost completed. Further public houses were fitted with hot water heaters for washing up purposes and a number of improvements have been made to the sanitary arrangements.

The sanitary arrangements at many of the licensed premises still in want of modern requirements and it is very encouraging to learn that the licensing justices have made inspections of all licensed premises during the year and they intend to draw the attention of the brewers to improvements considered necessary when licenses are renewed.

(b) Butchers Shops.

Some further improvements have been introduced in these premises and there is a general awareness on the part of the traders that standards should still further improvement.

Some of the butchers in the town continue to use newspaper for wrapping purposes. This I do not consider is necessary, and in the coming year attention should be directed to the clean food systems and air requirements regarding the use of all types of clean wrapping paper.

(c) School Canteen.

The work which I reported was envisaged at one of the school canteens in the Borough in the report for 1955 has now been put in hand. Many of the improvements which will result from this work are of a technical nature in food preparation premises and the main object being to note that this canteen will be something of a model canteen for similar types of premises in commercial use in the town.

(d) Cafe Premises.

During the latter end of the year I have had talks with a number of proprietors of cafes and small business on the question of the improvement and reconstruction of their premises. In many cases this is a long term policy, since it will mean complete reconstruction of the parts of their buildings. To a business man to have to contemplate a considerable sum of money for which he can see no immediate



financial return such a project is not one to commend itself. However, I have been very pleased to note that those to whom I have spoken are not unfavourably inclined towards these ideas.

### GENERAL FOOD PREMISES.

(a) The following details are given of the varying types of food premises in the Borough and their respective numbers. For a population of just under 10,000 this appears to be quite a lengthy list but it should be borne in mind that Maldon is a shopping centre for a very large rural area.

Bakers	..	..	..	..	..	7
Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	11
Catering Premises and Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	41
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	5
Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	10
Greengrogers	..	..	..	..	..	14
Grocers and General Stores	..	..	..	..	..	40
Public Houses and Hotels	..	..	..	..	..	34
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	6

(b) The following premises, which are included in the above total, come within the provisions of section 14 of the food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Manufacturers of Sausages and Preserved meats etc.	..	..	..	9
--	----	----	----	---

(c) Whenever visits are made to these premises no opportunity is lost of furthering clean food education. Inspections are concentrated on the premises where either food is manufactured or unwrapped food is broken down from bulk. Very many of the general stores only sell wrapped goods and in consequence the need for constant vigilance is not so essential.

It will be seen from the figures contained in paragraph (a) above that there are no less than 168 food premises of all types in the Borough. In my opinion the absolute minimum number of visits which should be paid to food premises during a year is 4 i.e. one visit each 3 months. In order to do this it is essential to visit at least 2 premises every working day, and at the present time this is not a practical possibility. This state of affairs is one which is to be regretted and there is only one satisfactory remedy for it.

(d) The majority of food which is condemned as being unfit is either the tinned or bottled variety and these are disposed of by burial at the Council's refuse tip under the supervision of Council staff. Any small quantities of fresh meat are burnt in a portable incinerator.

financial return such a project is not one to commend itself. However, I have been very pleased to note that there is a growing interest in the food premises and it is hoped that these premises will be able to give a very satisfactory return.

# GENERAL FOOD PREMISES.

(a) The following details are given of the various types of food premises in the Borough and their respective numbers. For a population of just under 10,000 this appears to be quite a lengthy list but it should be borne in mind that Malden is a shopping centre for a very large rural area.

7	..	..	..	..	..	Bakers
11	..	..	..	..	..	Butchers
41	..	..	..	..	..	Catering Premises and Cafes
5	..	..	..	..	..	Confectioners
10	..	..	..	..	..	Fish Shops
14	..	..	..	..	..	Grocers
40	..	..	..	..	..	Grocers and General Stores
34	..	..	..	..	..	Public Houses and Hotels
0	..	..	..	..	..	Miscellaneous

(b) The following premises, which are included in the above total, come within the provisions of section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

9	..	..	..	..	..	Manufacturers of Sausages and Preserved meats etc.
---	----	----	----	----	----	--

(c) Whenever visits are made to these premises no opportunity is lost of furthering clean food education. Inspections are concentrated on the premises where either food is manufactured or unwrapped food is broken down from bulk. Very many of the general stores only sell wrapped goods and in consequence the need for constant vigilance is not so essential.

It will be seen from the figures contained in paragraph (a) above that there are no less than 168 food premises of all types in the Borough. In my opinion the absolute minimum number of visits which should be paid to food premises during a year is 1, i.e. one visit each 3 months. In order to do this it is essential to visit at least 2 premises every working day, and the present time this is not a practical possibility. It is one of the things which is one which is to be regretted and there is only one satisfactory remedy for it.

(d) The majority of food which is condemned as being unfit for either the tinned or bottled variety and these are disposed of by burial at the Council's refuse tip under the supervision of Council staff. Any small quantities of fresh meat are burnt in a portable incinerator.



MILK AND DAIRIES ADMINISTRATION. The number of premises used as Cowsheds and Dairies within the area of the Local Authority, as follows:-

Wholesale Producers .. ..	13
Retail Purveyors .. ..	5
Accredited Producers .. ..	8
Pasteurised Milk Dealers .. ..	5

Frequent inspections are made to all premises retailing milk and these have been kept in a satisfactory condition. The County Health Inspectors take regular samples of milk for biological and bacteriological examination.

ICE CREAM In accordance with the provisions of the Essex County Council Act, 1933 persons manufacturing or selling ice cream in the Borough have been registered by the Council. The present Register shows that there are

Manufacturers and Vendors ..	3
Vendors only .. ..	38

One manufacturer employs the Holder process of Pasteurisation and the other two use the Complete Cold Mix method. During the year one manufacturer who used the complete cold mix method has discontinued manufacturing and is now a vendor only of one of the popular brands of ice cream.

In the course of the year 96 inspections and visits were made to ice cream premises and every opportunity was taken to impress upon traders the need for strict cleanliness. A continued policy of sampling was carried out as an indication that the Council regarded ice cream as an important food item during the summer months.

This increased sampling activity resulted in 58 samples of ice cream being submitted to the laboratory for examination by the Methylene Blue Reduction test. A summary of the results is as follows:- (Ministry of Health Provisional grading)

Grade I .. ..	33
Grade II .. ..	17
Grade III .. ..	6
Grade IV .. ..	2

These results show that 57 per cent. of the samples were placed in Grade I and if grades I and II are added together the total is 87 per cent.

THE AND DAIRIES ADMINISTRATION. The number of premises used as  
dairies and dairies within the area of the Local Authority, as follows:

Wholesale Producers .. ..	13
Retail Producers .. ..	7
Associated Producers .. ..	8
Associated Milk Dealers .. ..	3

Frequent inspections are made to all premises retelling milk and  
have been kept in a satisfactory condition. The County Council  
also take regular samples of milk for biological and bacteriological  
examination.

IN ORDER to conform with the provisions of the Food and Drug Act,  
1937, persons manufacturing or selling ice cream in the County have  
to be registered by the Council. The present register shows that there

Manufacturers and Vendors .. ..	5
Vendors only .. ..	38

One manufacturer employs the higher process of pasteurization and  
the other two use the O'Connell Cold Milk method. During the year 1937  
the manufacturer who used the O'Connell cold milk method has discontinued  
manufacturing and is now a vendor only of one of the popular brands of  
ice cream.

In the course of the year 36 inspections and visits were made to  
all premises and every opportunity was taken to impress upon traders  
the need for strict cleanliness. A continued policy of sampling was  
carried out as an indication that the Council regarded ice cream as an  
important food item during the summer months.

This increased sampling activity resulted in 55 samples of ice cream  
being submitted to the laboratory for examination by the Microscopic Bacteriological  
Section. A summary of the results is as follows:- (Microscopic Bacteriological  
Examination)

Grade I .. ..	15
Grade II .. ..	17
Grade III .. ..	8
Grade IV .. ..	5

These results show that 57 per cent. of the samples were placed in  
the I and II grades and 43 per cent. in the III and IV grades.



In my report last year I stated that although the results of the samples were generally quite satisfactory I wanted to see at least 90% of all samples placed in grades I and II. The figures given above tells us that we are getting near to that goal and perhaps 1955 will see it reached and well surpassed. The traders are very anxious themselves to have their samples placed in grades I or II and will I think always do their utmost to achieve such a result. The samples placed in grade III and IV i.e. 8 samples, came almost entirely from one manufacturer (not in Maldon). This ice cream will not be retailed in Maldon during 1954 and therefore I look forward to a season without any grades III and IV.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. With the exception of pigs belonging to "self suppliers" the slaughter of food animals in the Borough was discontinued under the Livestock (Restriction on Slaughtering) Order, 1940. One slaughterhouse remains in use for the killing of pigs and during the year the figures for these premises were:-

Number of pigs slaughtered	.. .. .	31
Number of whole carcasses condemned	.. .. .	1
Carcasses of which some part was condemned	.. .. .	nil
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	.. .. .	nil

In consequence with the above restriction, all meat which is retailed in the shops comes either from slaughterhouses in the areas of adjoining local authorities, or is imported. A tribute is due to my colleagues at the respective slaughterhouses for their high efficiency in meat inspection at the place of slaughter, as I have only had to take action on three occasions in respect of meat which was unfit when delivered in Maldon and all these cases were of such a nature as to be impossible of detection until the carcass was cut up ready for retail sale.

Tinned foods do not give very much trouble, the traders are very helpful and draw my attention to any consignments which they think may be unfit and in this way an efficient control is maintained. A summary of the principle items of food found to be unfit and condemned follows:-

Tinned Cooked Hams	..	81 lbs
Tins	.. .. .	673
Sausages	.. .. .	72 lbs
Macaroon Paste	.. .. .	20 lbs
Biscuits	.. .. .	16 lbs
Fowls	.. .. .	2
Pork Luncheon Meat	..	16 lbs & 93 tins.
Beef	.. .. .	221 lbs
Pork	.. .. .	16½ lbs
Veal	.. .. .	31 lbs
Fresh Meat	.. .. .	60 lbs





REGISTRATION OF FOOD HAWKERS. The Essex County Council Act, 1952 contains provisions requiring the hawkers of food from stalls, barrows and vehicles to be registered by the local authority. This section of the Act came into force in Maldon in April 1953.

At the close of the year, 5 such traders had been registered under the Act and a number of other applications had been received. This section should prove very useful in dealing with the itinerant vendors of food stuffs and make the control of such sales much more effective.

ADULTERATION. The Essex County Council are responsible for the administration of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 in respect of food adulteration. Close contact is maintained with the County Council staff and this results in satisfactory supervision.

PREScribed PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE  
FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

1. Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health, including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector.

Premises (1)	M/C line No. (2)	Number on Register. (3)	Inspections (4)	Number of Written Occupiers Notices Prosecuted (5)	(6)
(i) Factories in which Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authority.	1	8	7	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the local authority.	2	61	40	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding out-workers premises).	3	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	69	47	-	-

REGISTRATION OF FOOD PREMISES. The Essex County Council Act, 1933 contains provisions regarding the registration of food premises, and vehicles to be registered by the local authority. This section of the Act came into force in April 1935.

At the close of the year, 5 such traders had been registered and the Act had a number of other applications had been received. This section should prove very useful in dealing with the increasing number of food stalls and make the control of such sales much more efficient.

REGISTRATION. The Essex County Council are responsible for the registration of the food and drink Act, 1933 in respect of food premises. Close contact is maintained with the County Council and this results in satisfactory supervision.

REGISTRATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE  
FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

1. Inspectors for the purpose of provisions as to health and safety inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector.

Provision	No. of Factories in which Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are enforced by local authority.	Number on Register.	Inspection of Factories Act, 1937.
(1) Factories in which Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are enforced by local authority.	1	8	-
(11) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the local authority.	2	51	40
(11) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding out-works premises).	2	-	-
TOTAL	-	59	40



Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	M/C Line No. (2)	No. of cases in which defects were				No. of Cases in which prosecution were instituted. (7)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (5)	by H.M. Inspector. (6)	
Want of Clean- liness (S.I.)	4	2	2	-	1	-
Sanitary Conven- iences (S.7)						
(a) Insufficient	9	2	2	-	2	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	10	2	2	-	1	-
(c) not separate for sexes.						
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	1	1	-	-	-
		7	7	-	4	-

Outwork.

Nature of Work. (1)	M/C Line No. (2)	Section 110		No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists. (5)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises. (6)	Notices served. (7)	No. of Prosecutions (8)
		Number of Outworkers in August list reqd by Sect. 110(L)(C) (3)	Number of cases of default in sending lists to Council (4)				
Wearing Apparel Making etc.	13	44	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	13	44	-	-	-	-	-







