# Contributors

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# MALDON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

# Annual Report

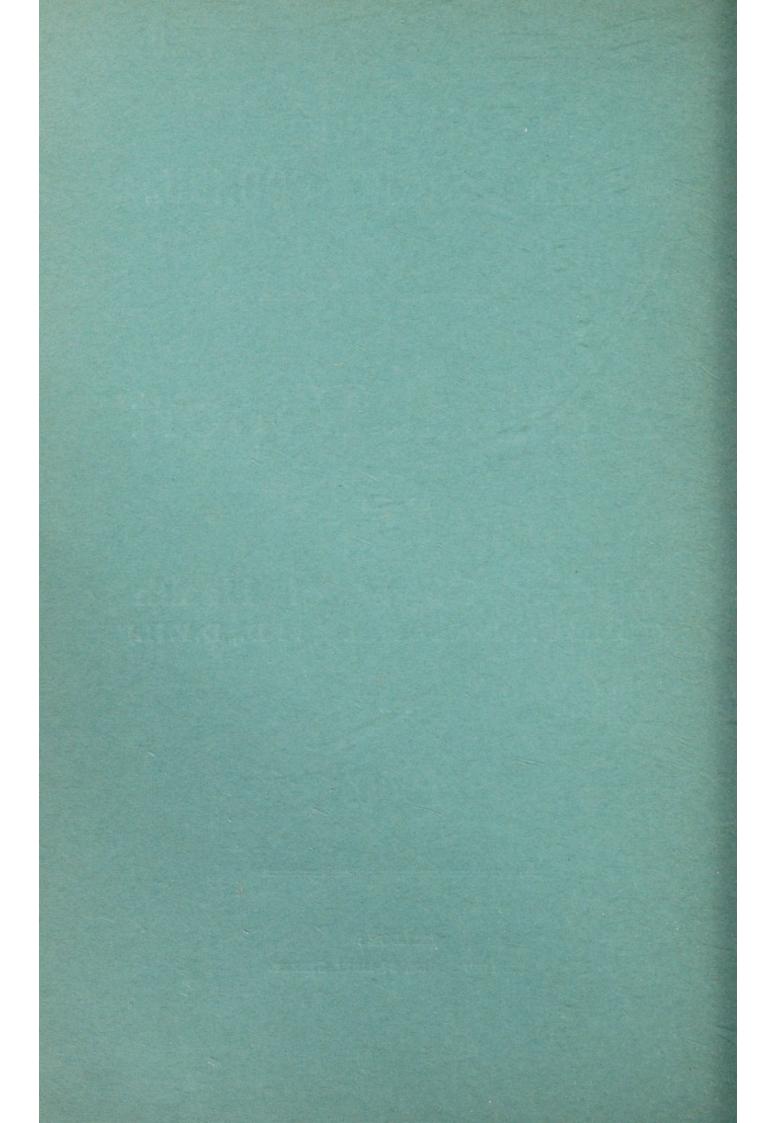
OF THE

# Medical Officer of Health (JOHN F. MACDONALD, M.D., D.P.H.)

FOR

# 1940.

MALDON : RICHARD POOLE, 37 HIGH STREET.



LONDON ROAD,

CHELMSFORD,

18th July, 1941.

# To the Chairman and Members of Maldon Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your consideration the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of your district during the year 1940.

In accordance with the Circular from the Ministry of Health the report has been considerably curtailed.

Owing to the abnormal conditions both before and since the outbreak of war, a great amount of time has had to be given to other than normal public health activities.

In spite of the considerable movement of population, no increase in the incidence of infectious disease occurred, and the general health of the community was maintained.

To my colleagues I am much indebted for valuable assistance in the preparation of this report.

For the sympathetic consideration and assistance received during the year, I beg to thank the Council.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN F. MACDONALD.

# Public Health Officers.

Clerk to the Rural District Council	A. W. Freeman, Solicitor.
Deputy Clerk	L. H. Hiscott.
Assistant Clerk	H. J. Freeman, Solicitor.
Medical Officer of Health	John F. Macdonald, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H., who also acts in this capacity for the Rural Districts of Chelmsford and Rochford.
Clerk to Medical Officer of Health	M. C. Barton (in H.M. Forces from September, 1939).
Surveyor and Senior Sanitary Inspec	etor W. Almond, A.R.SAN.I., who also acts as Water Engineer.
Second Sanitary Inspector	M. H. McIntosh, CERT.S.I.B., Qualified Inspector of Meat and other Foods.
Assistant Surveyor	A. G. E. Peters.

2

# REPORT

#### OF THE

# Medical Officer of Health

# For the Year 1940.

# STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

# Statistics.

Area (in acres)		78,507	(land and	l inland water-w	vays).
Registrar-General's	estimate of				
Civilian Popula	tion, mid 194	0		13,490.	
Rateable Value on 1	st April, 194	0		£72,984.	
The sum represente	d by a penny	rate			
year ending 31s	st March, 194	1		£345 : 9	: 10.

# Extracts from Vital Statistics of the year.

Live Births {Legitimate (B.R.) {Illegitimate Live Births {Legitimate (I.M. &c.) {Illegitimate	176	Males, 89 5 89 5 5	Females, 87 7 87 7	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated civilian
Still Births $\begin{cases} Legitimate \\ Illegitimate \end{cases}$	6	4	$\binom{2}{-}$	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 30.9
Deaths	207	104	103	*Death Rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population 15.3

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :----

n	Rat eaths. (live	e per 1,000 and still)	total
No. 29 Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis	1	5-1	orens.
No. 30 Other Maternal causes		Nil	
Number of deaths of infants under 1 year of ag Males 7 (illegitimate 1), Females 6 (illegit	ge :— imate 0).		
Deaths Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :			
All infants per 1,000 live births			53.2
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate liv	e births		51.1
Illegitimate ,, ,, ,, illegitimate	,, ,,		83.3
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)			29
", ", Measles (all ages)			Nil
", ", Whooping Cough (all ages)			Nil
", ", Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)			Nil

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES DURING THE YEAR 1940.

	Rate pe civilian p	Deaths under 1 year	
	Live Births.	Deaths from all causes.	per 1,000 registered live births.
England and Wales 126 County Boroughs and	14.6	14.3	55
Great Towns, including London 148 Smaller Towns	16.0	15.8	61
Resident Population of from 25,000 to 50,000	15.5		(mar mi) in the
(1931 Census) Maldon Rural District	15·7 13·9	12·8 15·3*	54 53·2

\*In order to render this figure comparable with the death rate for the Country as a whole, it must be multiplied by the "Comparability Factor," or as it is now styled the "Areal Comparability Factor (A.C.F.)," 0.77, which has been supplied by the Registrar General as requisite to redress the abnormal constitution of the local population from the point of view of sex and age components. Applying this factor, the corrected death rate is 11.7 as compared with 14.3 for the Country as a whole. The number of deaths exceeds the number of births by 19. This is the sixth year in succession in which deaths exceeded the number of births.

	No. of Deaths.
 	 10
 	 2
 	 1
 	 4
 	 1
 	 7
 	 9
 	 12
 	 20
 	 59
 	 82
···· ··· ··· ··· ···	 

CAUSES OF DEATH.		MALES.	FEMALES.	Totals.
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System		4	3	7
Other forms of Tuberculosis		1	1	2
Syphilitic Diseases /		1	1	2
Influenza		2		2
Cancer of the Buccal Cavity and Oesopha	igus	2		2 2
Cancer of Uterus			4	4
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum		3	3	6
Cancer of Breast			1	1
Cancer of all other sites		6	10	16
Which is a second			1	1
Intra-Cronial Vascular Lesions		8	11	19
Heart Disease		31	33	64
Other Diseases of Circulatory System		5	4	9
Bronchitis		6	7	13
Pneumonia		3	õ	8
Other Respiratory Diseases		3	1	4
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum		1	_	1
Other Digestive Diseases		1	2	3
Nephritis		3	2	õ
Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis			1	1
Premature Birth		3		3
Congenital Malformation, Birth Injur	v.			
Infantile Disease	· ·	2		2
Suicide		1	-	1
Road Traffic Accidents		4	-	4
Other violent causes		4	3	7
All other causes		10	10	20
Totals		104	103	207

# General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

LABORATORY FACILITIES. Additional facilities to supplement those already available have been provided by the Establishment of Emergency Public Health Laboratories, under the direction of the Medical Research Council.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES. These meet the needs of the district, and if they should be overworked they can now be augmented by arrangement with vehicles of the Emergency Medical Services.

NURSING IN THE HOME. Local Nursing Associations' arrangements remain the same ; one independent nurse has gone.

REGISTERED NURSING HOMES. There are now two in the district.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS; HOSPITALS, PUBLIC AND VOLUNTARY. Remain the same as last year.

# SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

#### Water Supply.

During 1940 the following works were carried out :--

A metered connection was made from the Southend Waterworks Company's 28-inch Pumping Main to the Council's 7-inch main near Hatch House, Hazeleigh, which is capable of giving a supply of about 10,000 gallons per hour in case of emergency.

A 7-inch by-pass, 273 yards in length, was made under the railway near Baron's Hall Halt in case there was any damage to the overhead road bridge in which is laid both a 7-inch and 4-inch main.

45 new Fire Hydrants were fixed in various parts of the district.

The total length of new mains in the southern area of the district, excluding the original Purleigh Scheme, but including all recent extensions, is :--

	16,140	yards	of	7-	inch
	24,774	,,	,,	6	**
	290	,,	,,	5	"
	18,941	,,	,,	4	"
	22,968	,,	,,	3	33
Total	83,113	yards	-	47	miles 393 yards.

Prior to these two schemes there were the following lengths of water mains in the district :---

		L	ength	
		Miles	Yards	
Althorne		2	1,736)	
Cold Norton		3	1,669	
North Fambridge		$\frac{2}{1}$	610	
Hazeleigh			960	
Latchingdon		4	18	
Mayland		3	846	Purleigh Scheme
Mundon		3	405	
Purleigh		15	462	5/5/10/00/07/22
Stow Maries		2	478	
Woodham Mortime	r	4	668	
Woodham Walter		1	137)	
		-		
		44	949	
Southminster		4	1,058	
Tolleshunts Knights Tolleshunt D'Arcy	\$ }	4	1,080	
Tollesbury		3	621	
	otal	57	188	
Add to above :			1	
The new mains in t		1 32	1,274	
2 schemes described	1	) 47	393	
Grand To	tal	137	95	yards

At the end of 1940 there were 3,800 properties with a main water sapply—75 per cent. of the total number of dwelling-houses in the district—as shown in the following table.

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF HOUSES IN EACH PARISH AND PROPERTIES TAKING WATER FROM THE MAINS AT END OF 1940.

Parish. Nu	umber of Houses.	Number of Properties taking Water from Mains.
Althorne	164	156
Asheldham	47	33
Bradwell	259	118
Braxted, Gt	104	20
Braxted, Lt	44	18
Cold Norton	141	141
Dengie	56	29
Fambridge, N	107	99
Goldhanger	143	106
Hazeleigh	47	47
Langford	50	23
Latchingdon	252	249
Mayland	155	149
Mundon	85	77
Purleigh	305	303
St. Lawrence	123	43
Southminster	482	431
Steeple	117	70
Stow Maries	53	53
Tillingham	240	153
Tollesbury	556	524
Tolleshunt D'Arcy	253	151
Tolleshunt Knights	137	132
Tolleshunt Major	120	66
Totham, Gt	365	271
Totham, Lt	85	53
Ulting	45	
Wickham Bishops	247	133
Woodham Mortimer	85	79
Woodham Walter	160	73
	5,027	3,800

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE; RIVERS AND STREAMS; CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. No material change has taken place.

PUBLIC CLEANSING. McLean's contract for the removal of unburnable refuse from 28 parishes in the district was continued throughout the year. Towards the end of the year, however, owing to labour shortage and the great demand for lorries, the regularity of the monthly collections was not maintained and many complaints were received.

Other scavenging arrangements remain the same.

#### Salvage.

PAPER. The Council's waste paper collection scheme commenced in April, and after consulting the Parish Councils the work of house-to-house collecting in each parish was delegated to various organisations such as the British Legion, the Women's Institutes, the Boy Scouts, etc. These bodies were given a receipt for weight collected and were paid out in that proportion after payment was received from the mills. There are 27 paper depots in the villages, and one central receiving depot in Maldon where baling and regrading is carried out. At the end of the year about 70 tons of paper had been collected, and payment has been received for 54 tons. The sum of £163 : 3 : 5 had been distributed to the local organisations in the various parishes.

VILLAGE DUMPS. About the middle of the year the Iron and Steel Control of the Ministry of Supply asked us to organise a scrap metal dump in each parish, and for that purpose 28 voluntary parish organisers were appointed and 35 village dumps were arranged. There was a good response and some of the dumps reached a remarkable size. The metal was from time to time removed by the Iron and Steel Control, and the proceeds were given to the Red Cross Agricultural Fund on behalf of the parishes concerned.

# Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The following table gives details of the work carried out. The work was considerably curtailed as a result of shortage of staff and the time taken up by salvage work.

Inspections	Notices					
Nature	Nature Number Informal Form		Formal	Complied with	Outstanding at end of year.	
Infectious Diseases Inquiries	172					
Disinfection	18					
Ordinary Nuisances	30	12		12		
Dwelling-Structural Defects	125	15	2	50	13	
Housing-Overcrowding Cases	3	10		1		
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	305	50		80	33	
Bakehouses	30	5			00	
Slaughtenhouses	40	1		5	••	
Privice and Pail Closets	52	6	•••	7		
Water Closets	18	5		26	20	
Defective Vard Paring	30	-	• •	5		
Drainage		2		18		
Water Supply	142	44		41	16	
	27	4		4		
Animals improperly kept	17	5		5		
Offensive Accumulations	89	22		10	12	
Other Nuisances	24	7		6	1	
Urinals	4					
Schools	12	3		3		
Food Shops	90	4		4		
Appointments and Interviews	380					
Factories and Workshops	39	5		5		
Rats and Mice	54	17		17		
Miscellaneous Inspections	210					
Tents, Vans, Sheds, Etc.	20	4		6		
Ice Cream Vendors						
Shops						
Dilapidated Buildings	12					
Salvage	750					
Totals	2693	212	11	305	88	

# FACTORIES.

I.-INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health. Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Theoreman	Number of					
Premises. (1)	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (4)			
Factories with mechanical power	17	1	-			
Factories without mechanical power	22	4	-			
	Concernal		_			
Total	39	5	_			

# 2.-DEFECTS FOUND.

	Nu	Number of Defects.						
Particulars.	Found. (2)	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	respect of which Prose- cutions were instituted. (5)				
	1-1							
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	4	-	-				
Overcrowding (S.2)	·			_				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-							
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)		-	-	-				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	1				
Sanitary (insufficient	-	-	-	-				
Conveniences defective (S.7) not separate for	1	1		-				
sexes	-			-				
Other Offences (not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the	—	-	1. K. T. M.	107				
Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers)		201107910	in and in	14 (9)				
Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories		and there	a solution					
Act. 1937)			10 1000	(44 (4)				
Tctal	5	5	-	_				

SMOKE ABATEMENT; SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS; ERADICATION OF BED BUGS; KNACKERS' YARDS. No alteration or action affecting these matters took place during the year.

CAMPING SITES. No licence to use land as camping sites were granted under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, during the year.

BAKEHOUSES. Remain the same.

SCHOOLS.

## HOUSING.

### Statistics for the Year 1940.

Number of new houses erected during the year :--

Total		 	7
(i) By	the Local Authority	 	Nil
(ii) By	other bodies and persons	 	7

# 1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :---

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for	
		housing defects (under Public Health or Housing	
		Acts)	95
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	240
(2)	<i>(a)</i>	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub- head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	
		and 1932	25
	( <i>b</i> )	Number of inspections made for the purpose	62
(3)	Nu	mber of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit	
		for human habitation	Nil
(4)	Nu	mber of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be	
		in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	80

<ol> <li>Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices :—</li> </ol>	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	67
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :	
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	1
<ul> <li>(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit by owners after service of formal notices</li> </ul>	1
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied by owners after service of formal notices	,,
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	"
(a) Undertakings to repair accepted under Sections 11 and 13 and work subsequently completed	"
(b) Undertakings to repair accepted	"
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936	Nil

Housing Act, 1936, Part IV. -- Overcrowding.

4.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the	
year	9
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	9
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	78
(iv) Equivalent number of persons dwelling therein	67
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during	
the year	1
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during	
the year	3
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	16
(iii) Equivalent number of persons concerned in such	
cases	14

Observation is kept of the records of border line cases so that when they become overcrowded due to the increasing ages of the inmates they are reported to the Public Health Committee.

CLEARANCE AREAS. No further work of demolition in respect of the 25 houses comprising the six Clearance Areas confirmed by the Ministry of Health in 1939.

14

		Numbe	er of houses during 1940.		Number of houses in course of erection at end of 1940.			
Parish.		By the District Council	By private persons with Subsidy	By private persons without Subsidy	By the District Council	By private persons with promise of Subsidy	By private persons without Subsidy	
Althorne		-	_	1	_	_	-	
Asheldham		-		-	-		-	
Bradwell				1	_			
Braxted, Great			_		-	_		
Braxted, Little			_		_		-	
Cold Norton				2	-			
Dengie			-		-		_	
Fambridge, Nort	h		-	-		_	1	
Goldhanger				-			-	
Hazeleigh			_	-		_		
Langford				_	_	-		
Latchingdon				1	-			
Mayland			-	-		_	-	
Mundon			-	-	-	_		
Purleigh		-		-				
St. Lawrence				-			5	
Southminster		_	-	- 1	_		_	
Steeple			-		_	_		
Stow Maries		-		-		-	_	
Tillingham		_				-	-	
Tollesbury		- 1		-	-			
Tolleshunt D'Ar	cy	-		_				
Tolleshunt Knig	hts			-				
Tolleshunt Majo	r	-	-	-			-	
Totham, Great		_	_	1		-		
Totham, Little		-	_	-		-		
Ulting		-	-	-		_		
Wickham Bishop		-	-	-	-			
Woodham Morti		-	-	-				
Woodham Walte	er			-		-	_	
Totals		- 1	_	7 1	- 1	- 1	6	

The number of houses owned by the Council at the end of 1940 was 397, the same as at the end of 1939.

PARISH.	Parloar Type.	Non-Parlour Type.	Totals.
		1 - 1	-
Asheldham	—		-
Bradwell-on-Sea .	12†	6	18
Braxted, Great .		6	6
Braxted, Little .	—	4	4
Cold Norton .		10	10
Dengie – .		8	8
Fambridge, North			
Goldhanger		28	28
Hazeleigh		6	6
		6	6
Latchingdon		26	26
Mayland		12	12
Mundon		12	12
Purleigh		18	26
St. Lawrence			
Southminster		16	38
Steeple		10	10
Stow Maries		12	12
Tillingham		6	6
Tollesbury	10	20	30
Tollochunt D'Anor	18	10	28
Tolleshunt Knights		10	10
Tolleshunt Major		16	16
Totham, Great	6	28	34
Totham, Little		6	6
Ulting		_	
Wickham Bishops	2	25‡	27
Woodham Mortimer		6	6
Woodham Walter		12	12
Totals		319	397

The following table classifies the houses erected and owned by the District Council into Parlour and Non-Parlour types.

(†) Of these, 6 are Coastguard cottages bought by the Council in 1925, but not erected by them.

(‡) Nine of these cottages were bought by the Council—3 already erected, and 6 partly erected were completed by the Council

### Inspection and Supervision of Food.

#### Milk Supply.

There are 187 cowkeepers in the district, 106 are licensed to produce accredited milk. Two supplementary licences to sell Pasteurised Milk and one to produce Tuberculin Tested Milk were granted during the year.

Below is a summary of notices served and work done in relation to improvements to Cowsheds and Dairies.

NUMBER OF NOTICES.

Outstanding at the end of 1938,	Informal.	Formal.	Completed.	Outstanding at the end of 1939.
59	50	9	80	38

In addition during the year three new cowsheds and three new dairies were built.

#### Meat and Other Foods.

Owing to the Ministry of Food Control and Centralizing of Slaughtering there are now no slaughterhouses in the district. There is one licensed Knacker's Yard at Purleigh. 152 visits have been made to the butchers' shops, vans and food shops. Early in the year there was cause for complaint concerning the distribution of meat from the central slaughterhouses in Maldon, but these unclean conditions were remedied after representations had been made to the Area Meat Agent.

#### Prevalence of and control over Infectious Diseases.

Nineteen cases of notifiable infectious diseases were notified during the year, a decrease of five on the preceding year. Measles and Whooping Cough became notifiable as from 23rd October, 1939.

The supply of diphtheria anti-toxin to medical practitioners is still available.

The following tables show the incidence of infectious diseases during the year, which shows that the district was comparatively free of infectious diseases throughout the year.

Notifiable Disease	Total Cases Notified	Under 1	1.2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10.15	15.20	20.35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Cases admitted to hospital	Total Deaths
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	 2					]	[	1		1				2	
Scarlet Fever	 7						1	1	1	4				7	
Diphtheria	 1						1								
Measles	 4	2		1		1									
Puerperal Pyrexia	 1									1					1
Pneumonia	 3		1								1	1			8
Erysipelas	 1											1			
Total	 19	2	1	1		1	2	2	1	6	1	3		9	9*

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR (EXCLUSIVE OF TUBERCULOSIS).

\* This figure includes inward deaths.

IMMUNISATION. During the year 537 children between 1-15 years were immunised against Diphtheria, but it is hoped that more parents will take advantage of the facilities provided.

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

1010

	NEW	CASES	AND	MORTALITY	DURING	1940.
			the second s	and the second se	the same state of the	and the second se
1						

HINGS MANUAL	26in	* New C	lases.		Deaths.					
Age Periods.	Respir	ratory.	Non-Re	spiratory.	Respir	atory.	Non-Respiratory.			
	М.	F.	М.	F.	М.	F.	М.	F.		
Under 1					1		-	1		
1 5					_	1		-		
5-10			1	_			1	-		
10 - 15	-						-			
15 - 20			-	-		1				
20 - 25				_	_			-		
25 - 35	2		-	_	3					
35 - 45		-	_	1						
45 - 55										
55-65	3			_				-		
65 & over	-	1		_	1	1	-	-		
Totals	5	1	1	1	4	3	1	1		

\* Not including cases of Tuberculosis removed into the district during the year, which had been previously notified elsewhere.

Parish.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Pneumonia.	Erysipelas.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Other forms of Tuberculosis.	Totals.
Althorne Asheldham Bradwell Braxted, Great Braxted, Little Cold Norton Dengie Fambridge, N. Goldhanger Hazeleigh Langford Latchingdon Mayland Mundon Purleigh Southminster Steeple St. Lawrence Stow Maries Tillingham Tollesbury Tolleshunt D'Arcy Tolleshunt Major Totham, Great Totham, Great Totham, Little Ulting Wickham Bishops Woodham						1				$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
Totals	2	7	1	4	1	3	1	6	2	27

TABLE SHOWING LOCAL DISTRIBUTION OF CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1940.

