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MALDON  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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*Annual Report*  
OF THE  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

(JOHN F. MACDONALD, M.D., D.P.H.)

FOR

*1944*

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SOUTHEND-ON-SEA :

W. H. Houldershaw, Ltd., Printers, 49-55, London Road,





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COUNCIL OFFICES,  
LONDON ROAD,  
CHELMSFORD  
19th July, 1945.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting for your consideration my Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of your district for the year 1944.

The Birth Rate for the year 1944, which was 19.5 per 1,000 of the population, was the highest since 1921 when it was 19.8.

By the end of 1944 the district Council had provided a piped water supply to 88 per cent of its population. This for a district of 122 square miles must be considered satisfactory. The only parish without a piped water supply it is hoped will soon receive this necessary service.

There is not an efficient sewerage system for the populous areas of Southminster and Tollesbury. The time has arrived when the night soil cart for these areas should not be necessary.

The problems during the years of reconstruction will be :—

Extension of water mains.

Provision of sewers and sewage disposal works for the more populous areas.

The provision of community centres—with cultural and recreational facilities.

The erection of new houses—to replace unfit houses and accommodation for the increased number of new families.

There is at present an urgent cry for more houses and still more houses.

For assistance rendered in the preparation of this report, I am indebted to my colleagues.

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

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN F. MACDONALD.

# INDEX.

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	PAGE(S)
Bakehouses ... ..	23
Dairies and Cowsheds ... ..	2
Drainage and Sewerage ... ..	20
Food Inspection and Supervision ... ..	12
Health Services in the Area ... ..	8—12
Housing ... ..	23—27
Infectious Diseases ... ..	28—30
Knackers' Yards ... ..	23
Laboratory Facilities ... ..	12
Meat Inspection ... ..	13
Public Cleansing ... ..	21
Public Health Officers ... ..	4
Rivers and Streams ... ..	20
Sanitary Inspection of the Area ... ..	22, 23
Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area ... ..	5—8
Vital Statistics ... ..	5—7
Water Supply ... ..	18—19



## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

<i>Clerk to the Rural District Council</i> ...	L. H. Hiscott.
<i>Assistant Clerk</i> ... ..	H. J. Freeman, Solicitor.
<i>Medical Officer of Health</i> ... ..	John F. Macdonald, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H., who also acts in this capacity for the Rural Districts of Chelmsford and Roch- ford.
<i>Clerk to Medical Officer of Health</i> ...	M. C. Barton (in H.M. Forces from September, 1939). Mrs. M. Marshall.
<i>Surveyor and Senior Sanitary Inspector</i>	W. Almond, A.R.San.I., who also acts as Water Engineer.
<i>Second Sanitary Inspector</i> ... ..	M. H. McIntosh, Cert.- S.I.B., Qualified Inspec- tor of Meat and other Foods. (Resigned, 26th May, 1944.)
<i>Sanitary Inspector</i> ... ..	G. F. Mellor, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I., A.M.Inst.P.C., Qualified Inspector of Meat and other Foods. Qualified Smoke Inspec- tor. Certificate in Sanit- ary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works. (Commenced duties 23rd Aug., 1944.)
<i>Assistant Surveyor</i> ... ..	A. G. E. Peters.

# REPORT

## OF THE

# Medical Officer of Health

### For the Year 1944

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#### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (acres)	...	...	78,507	(land and inland water)
Registrar General's estimate of civilian population 1944	13,070			
Census Population, 1931	...	...	13,348	(new area)
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1944	...	...	£72,180	
Product of a Penny Rate for the year ending				
1st April, 1944	...	...	...	£310 : 1 : 5

Except in certain centres, the district is very sparsely populated. Most of the population is directly or indirectly dependent upon agriculture, nearly 50 per cent of the adult male population being directly employed in the industry.

#### EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

		Total	Males	Females	
Live Births	Legitimate	237	117	120	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... 19.5
	Illegitimate	18	9	9	
Still Births	Legitimate	5	4	1	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births ... 24.6
	Illegitimate	1	—	1	
Deaths	...	174	82	92	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... 13.3



## Deaths from Puerperal and Post abortive sepsis :—

	Deaths
From sepsis ... ..	—
From other maternal causes ... ..	1

## Number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age :—

Males 2 (illegitimate 0), Females 3 (illegitimate 0) Total 5

## Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :—

Legitimate per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births ...	21.0
Illegitimate „ „ Illegitimate „ „ ...	Nil
All Infants „ „ Live Births ... ..	19.6

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... ..	31
„ „ Measles (all ages) ... ..	Nil
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..	Nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..	Nil

The following tabular statements give details of the number of deaths classified according to age and cause :—

## Deaths at various ages :—

Age	Occurring in district	Of non-residents occurring in district	Of residents occurring outside district	Allotted district
Under 1 year ...	5	—	—	8
1 and under 2 ...	1	1	—	1
2 „ „ 5 ...	1	1	1	—
5 „ „ 15 ...	1	—	1	3
15 „ „ 25 ...	8	8	1	3
25 „ „ 35 ...	7	7	2	2
35 „ „ 45 ...	5	2	3	3
45 „ „ 55 ...	2	—	6	9
55 „ „ 65 ...	19	—	11	34
65 „ „ 75 ...	30	1	12	50
75 and over ...	62	2	18	78
Age unknown ...	3	3	—	—
<b>TOTALS</b> ...	<b>144</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>174</b>

Causes of Death	Males	Females	Totals
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
Influenza ... ..	2	—	2
Acute Inf. Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System..	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	—	—	—
Syphilis ... ..	—	—	—
Cancer Malignant Disease ... ..	11	20	31
Diabetes ... ..	—	—	—
Intra Cranial vascular lesions ... ..	9	16	25
Heart Disease ... ..	35	33	68
Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	2	5	7
Bronchitis ... ..	4	1	5
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	1	4	5
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	1	—	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ... ..	1	—	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... ..	—	—	—
Appendicitis ... ..	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	1	2	3
Nephritis ... ..	—	—	—
Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis	—	—	—
Other Maternal causes ... ..	—	1	1
Malformation etc. ... ..	2	—	2
Premature Birth ... ..	—	1	1
Suicide ... ..	—	—	—
Road traffic accidents ... ..	2	—	2
Other violence ... ..	2	—	2
All other causes ... ..	9	9	18
<b>Totals</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>174</b>



**COMPARATIVE TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES  
DURING THE YEAR, 1944.**

	Rate per 1 000 civilian population		Deaths under 1 year per 1 000 registered live births
	Live Births	Deaths from all causes	
England and Wales ...	17.6	11.6	46
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London ... ..	20.3	13.7	52
148 Smaller Towns Resident Population of from 25 000 to 50 000 (1931 Census) ... ..	20.9	12.4	44
Maldon Rural District ...	19.5	13.3	21

The natural increase in the population, namely, the excess in the number of live births over the number of deaths, is shown in the following tabular statement for each of the five years 1937—1944.

Year	No. of Births	No. of Deaths	Natural Increase
1937 ...	165 ...	170 ...	— 5
1938 ...	174 ...	193 ...	—19
1939 ...	154 ...	185 ...	—31
1940 ...	188 ...	207 ...	—19
1941 ...	202 ...	201 ...	+ 1
1942 ...	205 ...	196 ...	+ 9
1943 ...	193 ...	204 ...	—11
1944 ...	255 ...	174 ...	+81

**GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR  
THE AREA.**

Hospitals provided or subsidized by the Local Authority or by the Essex County Council :—

FEVER HOSPITAL (administered by a Joint Hospital Board on which are representatives of the Rural District Council). The Isolation Hospital at Heybridge, which was completed during 1903, comprises an Administrative Block, a Ward Block for ten beds, and a Laundry and Disinfecting Block,



There is also a Porter's Lodge with five rooms. There are two wooden huts, built in sections, which can accommodate 18 beds.

**SMALLPOX HOSPITAL.** The Essex County Council is now the authority for providing accommodation for the treatment of cases of Smallpox in your area. Under an agreement between the County Council and the Borough of Colchester, a Smallpox Hospital has been erected by the latter and is available for cases occurring in your district. The agreement also includes ambulance services for Smallpox cases.

**TUBERCULOSIS.** A number of Sanatoria are available throughout the County, provided by the Essex County Council.

**MATERNITY.** Arrangements are made under the County Council's Scheme for certain Hospitals to admit :

- (a) complicated cases of confinement,
- (b) cases that cannot be safely left at home, and
- (c) cases of Puerperal Pyrexia.

Under (a) and (b) provision made at St. John's Hospital, Chelmsford, and Colchester Borough Maternity Home, and in addition for normal confinement cases accommodation is available at Danbury Park Maternity Home and Emergency Maternity Home, Writtle Park, near Chelmsford.

For patients suffering from puerperal pyrexia accommodation is available at :—

Colchester, Rush Green, Romford, Waltham Abbey, and Billericay, Isolation Hospitals.

**CHILDREN.** Arrangements have been made by the County Council to enable children under 5 years to attend the School Orthopaedic Ascertainment Clinic, and institutional treatment is available for suitable orthopaedic cases.

**OTHER HOSPITALS.** There is no General Hospital in the district, and cases requiring in-patient treatment at a General Hospital are sent to Chelmsford, Colchester or one of the London Hospitals.

In the Borough of Maldon there is St. Peter's Hospital provided by the Public Assistance Committee.



INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS AND HOMELESS CHILDREN IN THE AREA. Provisions made by the Public Assistance Committee at certain of their institutions. Suitable cases can be admitted to the Hostel for mothers and babies, Ardmore, Buckhurst Hill.

#### AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) For infectious cases a motor ambulance is stationed at the Heybridge Fever Hospital.

(b) For non-infectious and accident cases, use is made of Borough of Maldon Ambulance upon payment. There is an agreement in force for the reciprocal use of ambulances throughout the County of Essex. The provision of an ambulance for the rural district should be considered.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES (provided by the County Council).

#### *Maternity and Child Welfare Centres :*

Centre	Address	Session	Medical Officer
Mayland	Old School, Upper Mayland	1st Thursday in each month 2.30 p.m.	Dr. Evelyn Pirrie
Bradwell	Church School	4th Wednesday in each month 2.30 p.m.	Dr. Evelyn Pirrie
Southminster	Baptist Chapel School Room	4th Monday in each month 2.30 p.m.	Dr. Evelyn Pirrie
Tollesbury	Infant School	1st and 3rd Tuesdays in each month 1.45 p.m.	Dr. Rankine
Wickham Bishops	Church Room	2nd and 4th Wednesdays in each month 2.30 p.m.	Dr. Shaw

*Ante-Natal Clinics :*

Centre	Session	Medical Officer
Health Centre, Wantz Chase, Maldon	3rd Monday in each month 2 p.m.	Dr. Mary D. Rankine

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. Arrangements are made for hospital treatment or skilled nursing in the homes where found necessary. (Rush Green Isolation, Romford and Old Church County Hospital.)

*School Clinics :*

	Address	Hours of Session
Orthopaedic After Treatment Centre	Health Centre, Wantz Chase, Maldon	2nd and 4th Tuesdays in each month, 2 to 4.30 p.m.
Minor Ailments Clinic	do. do.	Fridays, 9—12 noon
After-Treatment Clinic	do. do.	2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 2 p.m.

Arrangements are made for children seen at these clinics requiring hospital treatment to be admitted to Runwell Emergency Hospital, Runwell.

Dental and Eye Clinics are also held at the Maldon Health Centre and other places in the district as and when required.

For operative treatment for the removal of Adenoids and enlarged Tonsils arrangements have been made by the Essex County Education Committee at the following hospitals:—

Chelmsford and Essex, Chelmsford; St John's, Chelmsford; Essex County, Colchester, and St Andrew's, Billericay.

*Treatment Centres for Venereal Diseases :*

Chelmsford, Colchester and a number of London General Hospitals



### PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) General. No arrangements have been made by the District Council, but for General Nursing there are a number of local Nursing Associations throughout the district which employ nurse midwives. These are under the supervision of the County Nursing Association and the District Council has no direct or indirect control over these Associations.

(b) Infectious Diseases. No arrangements have been made by the District Council.

REGISTERED NURSING HOMES. There is one in the district.

MIDWIVES. None is subsidized by the District Council. There were 10 midwives practising in the district at the end of 1944. Of these 9 are district nurses and 1 is in private practice.

LABORATORY FACILITIES. These services are provided by the Essex County Council Scheme and Emergency Medical Services.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

#### Milk Supply.

There are 181 cowkeepers and 9 retail purveyors of milk in the district, 74 are licensed to produce accredited milk, and 12 to produce Tuberculin Tested Milk. Two supplementary licences to sell Pasteurised Milk were granted.

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 1943	No. of Informal Notices Served	No. of Formal Notices Served	No. Complied with	Outstanding at the end of 1944
22	52	—	55	19

### **Meat and Other Foods.**

Owing to the Ministry of Food Control and Centralizing of Slaughtering there are now no slaughterhouses in use in the district. Visits have been made to the butchers' shops, vans and food shops.

### **WATER SUPPLY.**

By the end of 1944 a piped water supply from mains owned by the District Council was available to 88 per cent of the population. The figures for each parish is set out in the following table.

The supply was obtained from three local works :—

Springs at Woodham Walter.

Springs at Asheldham.

Deep well at Tollesbury.

The supplies from these three works are chlorinated.

During the year the extension of 2,770 yards of a 3-inch watermain in the parish of Little Braxted was commenced but had not been completed by the end of the year. It will provide a piped water supply to a dairy farm and a number of cottages.

Under the Southend Waterworks Act and the South Essex Waterworks Act, the District Council has certain legal rights to be supplied by these companies with a bulk supply of water. During 1944 the Council took over  $2\frac{1}{2}$  million gallons from Southend Water Works Co., mains.

During 1934 the Council reserved 150,000 gallons daily from the South Essex Waterworks Company.

During 1944 the Council took over 92 million gallons of water which is nearly 50 per cent in excess of the reservation quantity.



**Water Supply.**

The following table classified according to parish gives details of the piped water supply (under pressure) throughout the district.

	HOUSES			
	Total	With piped supply	With Mains within 100 yards	Where Mains are not available
Althorne ... ..	156	149	—	7
Asheldham ... ..	47	36	5	6
Bradwell-on-Sea ... ..	243	155	75	13
Braxted Great ... ..	103	23	23	57
Braxted Little ... ..	44	22	8	14
Cold Norton ... ..	129	128	1	—
Dengie ... ..	56	34	4	18
Fambridge North ... ..	93	91	—	2
Goldhanger ... ..	139	103	27	9
Hazeleigh ... ..	37	37	—	—
Langford ... ..	49	26	7	16
Latchingdon ... ..	231	231	—	—
Mayland ... ..	146	141	—	5
Mundon ... ..	79	79	—	—
Purleigh ... ..	294	291	—	3
St. Lawrence ... ..	90	45	3	42
Southminster ... ..	475	420	7	48
Steeple ... ..	113	84	9	20
Stow Maries ... ..	53	53	—	—
Tillingham ... ..	243	175	36	32
Tollesbury ... ..	543	508	12	23
Tolleshunt D'Arcy ... ..	253	154	57	42
Tolleshunt Knights ... ..	135	134	1	—
Tolleshunt Major ... ..	121	72	24	25
Totham Great ... ..	359	282	54	23
Totham Little ... ..	84	52	16	16
Ulting ... ..	46	—	—	46
Wickham Bishops ... ..	245	162	39	44
Woodham Mortimer ... ..	85	79	1	5
Woodham Walter ... ..	159	72	26	61
TOTALS ... ..	4850	3838	435	577

### Sample of Water from the South Essex Waterworks Company.

*Chemical results in parts per 100,000.*

				Winter	Summer
Appearance	...	...	...	Clear and bright	Clear and bright
Colour A.P.H.A.	...	...	...	1.1	0.9
Odour	...	...	...	Nil	Nil
Reaction pH	...	...	...	0.79	0.77
Free Carbonic Acid	...	...	...	0.04	0.04
Electric Conductivity at 20° C.	...	...	...	63.0	51.0
Total Solids, 180° C.	...	...	...	42.0	34.0
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	3.6	4.1
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...	...	...	0.4	0.04
Nitrites	...	...	...	Less than 0.0001	Nil
Hardness : Permanent	...	...	...	11.5	7.0
Temporary	...	...	...	18.0	16.0
Total	...	...	...	29.5	23.0
Metals	...	...	...	Absent	Absent
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	0.02	0.02
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	0.01	0.01
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs at 27° C.	...	...	...	0.17	0.13

Upwards of 3,000 chemical, bacteriological and biological samples are analysed yearly at the Company's laboratories at Langham and the bacteria coli is always absent in 100 ml., the water being invariably reported upon as wholesome and suitable for the purposes of a public supply.



# **Sample of Water from the Mains of the Southend Waterworks Company.**

## *Chemical results in parts per 100,000.*

Turbidity	...	...	...	...	...	Clear and bright
Colour	...	...	...	...	...	Normal
Odour	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Reaction pH	Ft.	Alkaline	...	...	...	8.5
Free Carbonic Acid	...	...	...	...	...	—
Electric Conductivity at 20° C.	...	...	...	...	...	525
Total Solids, 180° C.	...	...	...	...	...	35.0
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	...	...	4.1
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...	...	...	...	...	0.68
Nitrites	...	...	...	...	...	Less than 0.001
Hardness: Permanent	...	...	...	...	...	12.2
Temporary	...	...	...	...	...	2.0
Total	...	...	...	...	...	14.2
Metals	...	...	...	...	...	Absent
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	0.012
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	0.008
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27° C.	...	...	...	...	...	0.135
Free Chlorine reaction	...	...	...	...	...	Absent

## *Bacteriological results.*

No. of Bacteria per c.c. :—

On Agar in 3 days at 20° C.	...	21
„ „ 24 hours at 37° C.	...	0
The Bacillus Coli	...	Absent in 100 c.c.
Bacillus Welchii	...	Absent in 10 c.c.
(B. Enteriditis Sporogenes)	...	present in 100 c.c.

REPORT: This sample is clear and bright in appearance and contains no metals. It is slightly alkaline in reaction, has moderate hardness and contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution. The water is of satisfactory organic quality and of high standard of bacterial purity. The water is therefore considered pure and wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

# **Sample of Water from Asheldham Waterworks.**

## *Chemical results in parts per 100,000.*

Appearance ...	...	...	...	...	Clear and bright
Colour ...	...	...	...	...	Normal
Odour ...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Reaction pH ...	...	...	...	...	Acid 5.3
Free Carbonic Acid ...	...	...	...	...	6.4
Electric Conductivity at 20° C. ...	...	...	...	...	370
Total Solids, 180° C. ...	...	...	...	...	25.0
Chlorine in Chlorides ...	...	...	...	...	3.1
Nitrogen in Nitrates ...	...	...	...	...	2.0
Nitrites ...	...	...	...	...	Absent
Hardness: Permanent ...	...	...	...	...	12.0
Temporary ...	...	...	...	...	0.0
Total ...	...	...	...	...	12.0
Metals ...	...	...	...	...	Less than 0.003
Free Ammonia ...	...	...	...	...	0.000
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	...	...	...	...	0.000
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27° C. ...	...	...	...	...	0.005
Free Chlorine reaction ...	...	...	...	...	0.004

## *Bacteriological results.*

No. of Bacteria per c.c. or ml. :—

On Agar in 3 days at 20° C. ...	...	—
„ „ „ 1 day at 37° C. ...	...	1
„ „ „ 2 days at 37° C. ...	...	13
The Bacillus Coli ...	...	Absent in 100 c.c.
Bacillus Welchii ...	...	Absent in 100 c.c.
(B. Enteriditis Sporogenes)		

REPORT: These results are consistent with a wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.



### Sample of Water from Tollesbury Waterworks.

#### *Chemical results in parts per 100,000.*

Appearance ...	...	...	...	Bright
Colour ...	...	...	...	Normal
Odour ...	...	...	...	Nil
Reaction pH ...	...	...	...	Alkaline 8.0
Free Carbonic Acid ...	...	...	...	0.4
Electric Conductivity at 20° C. ...	...	...	...	2440
Total Solids, 180° C. ...	...	...	...	160.0
Chlorine in Chlorides ...	...	...	...	58.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates ...	...	...	...	Nil
Nitrites ...	...	...	...	Less than 0.001
Hardness : Permanent ...	...	...	...	0.0
Temporary ...	...	...	...	8.5
Total ...	...	...	...	8.5
Metals ...	...	...	...	Iron 0.010
Free Ammonia ...	...	...	...	0.044
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	...	...	...	0.002
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27° C. ...	...	...	...	0.040

#### *Bacteriological results.*

No. of Bacteria per c.c. or ml. :—	
On Agar in 3 days at 20° C. • ...	—
„ „ „ 1 day at 37° C. ...	—
„ „ „ 2 days at 37° C. ...	1
The Bacillus Coli ...	Absent in 100 c.c.
Bacillus Welchii ...	Absent in 100 c.c.
(B. Enteriditis Sporogenes)	

REPORT : These results are consistent with a wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

**Sample of Water from Tap in Engine Room,  
Woodham Walter Waterworks.**

*Chemical results in parts per 100,000.*

Appearance ...	...	...	...	Bright
Colour ...	...	...	...	Normal
Odour ...	...	...	...	Nil
Reaction pH ...	...	...	...	On the acid side of Neutrality : 6.4
Free Carbonic Acid	...	...	...	2.0
Electric Conductivity at 20° C.	...	...	...	330
Total Solids, 180° C.	...	...	...	22.0
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	2.8
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...	...	...	0.88
Nitrites	...	...	...	Absent
Hardness : Permanent	...	...	...	10.0
Temporary	...	...	...	1.5
Total	...	...	...	11.5
Metals	...	...	...	Absent
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	0.000
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	0.000
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27° C.	...	...	...	0.005
Free Chlorine reaction	...	...	...	0.005

*Bacteriological results.*

No. of Bacteria per c.c. or ml. :—

On Agar in 3 days at 20° C.	...	—
„ „ „ 1 day at 37° C.	...	—
„ „ „ 2 days at 37° C.	...	—
The Bacillus Coli	...	Absent in 100 c.c.
Bacillus Welchii	...	Absent in 100 c.c.
(B. Enteriditis Sporogenes)		

**REPORT :** These results are consistent with a wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.



## **RIVERS AND STREAMS.**

The Rivers Blackwater and Chelmer flow through the district. Neither of these rivers receives polluting matter to any extent while flowing through the Maldon Rural District. The Chelmsford Corporation Water Act, 1923, authorises the Corporation of Chelmsford to abstract water from the River Chelmer near Sandford Mill in the Rural District of Chelmsford—the quantity not to exceed 1,000,000 gallons per day. The Southend Waterworks Act, 1924, authorises the Southend Waterworks Company to abstract water from the River Chelmer near Rushes Lock and from the River Blackwater at Langford. The Southend Waterworks Act provides that the effluent from the Chelmsford Joint Sewerage Works be carried by a pipe past the point of intake at Rushes Lock and the effluent from the Witham Sewage Works beyond the point of intake from the River Blackwater at Langford. The discharge of such large volumes of sewage effluent into the rivers after a good deal of water has been extracted may cause a nuisance.

## **DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.**

There are sewers in the parishes of Southminster, Tolleshunt D'Arcy and Tollesbury. Full use is not made of these Sewers. It is doubtful if they are capable of dealing with all the sewage when existing pail closets are converted into water closets.

The Council have under consideration plans of sewerage schemes for the more populous areas of the district.

The Consulting Engineers are Messrs. Lemon and Blizard.

### PUBLIC CLEANSING.

At the end of 1944 scavenging was undertaken by the District Council through contractors as follows:—

Area		Work Undertaken
Southminster	...	Removal of contents of pail closets and house refuse.
Tollesbury	... ..	Removal of contents of pail closets and house refuse.
Tolleshunt D'Arcy	...	Removal of contents of pail closets.

Owing to difficulty of labour these services were curtailed.

On the whole these contractors carry out the work satisfactorily, but the time has approached when the District Council should undertake scavenging over a much larger area.

In addition to the above, arrangements were made for a monthly collection of tins, bottles and similar refuse and of salvage in 28 parishes.



## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following table, prepared by the Sanitary Inspector, is a classified statement of the number of premises visited, the defects or nuisances discovered, and the action and result of action taken in regard to these. The work was considerably curtailed owing to shortage of staff. The post of Sanitary Inspector was vacant part of the year.

INSPECTIONS		NOTICES				
Nature	Number	Informal	Formal	Total complied with	Outstanding at end of year	
					Informal	Formal
Infectious Diseases Inquiries ...	40	—	—	—	—	—
Disinfections ...	19	—	—	—	—	—
Houses Inspected and Recorded...	115	—	—	—	—	—
Re-Inspections ...	7	—	—	—	—	—
Re Overcrowding ...	2	—	—	1	—	—
Re Dirty Conditions ...	1	—	1	—	—	1
Re Structural Defects in Houses...	78	14	3	14	6	3
Re Nuisances in Houses ...	22	14	—	22	—	—
Re-Inspections for above Inquiries	20	—	—	—	—	—
Privies and Pail Closets ...	8	1	1	—	1	1
Water Closets ...	1	1	—	2	1	—
Urinals ...	1	1	—	1	—	—
House Drainage (all forms) ...	78	25	2	21	15	1
Water Supply ...	38	—	1	—	—	1
Schools ...	4	—	—	—	—	—
Food Shops ...	27	—	—	—	—	—
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milk Shops	319	52	—	55	19	—
Bakehouses ...	19	—	—	—	—	—
Offensive Accumulations ...	7	2	—	2	—	—
Other Nuisances ...	6	—	—	—	—	—
Factories ...	5	—	—	—	—	—
Rats, Mice and Insect Pests ...	52	5	—	5	—	—
Tents, Vans and Sheds ...	7	3	—	2	1	—
Salvage ...	86	—	—	—	—	—
Shops Act ...	3	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ...	73	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTALS</b> ...	<b>1038</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>7</b>

**Smoke Abatement.** No cause for action occurred during the year.

**Swimming Baths and Pools.** There is none in use in the district.

**Eradication of Bed Bugs.** No cause for action occurred during the year.

**Knackers' Yards.** There is one in the district, situated in the parish of Purleigh.

**Hostel for Land Workers.** Visits were made to the five hostels in the district. Drainage difficulties are experienced as the systems were originally arranged for the drainage from private households with few inmates.

**Camping Sites.** During the year two licences to use land as camping sites were granted under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

**Bakehouses.** There are 19 in the district, situated in the following parishes :—Bradwell 2, Goldhanger 1, Latchingdon 1, Purleigh 2, Southminster 1, Steeple 1, Stow Maries 1, Tillingham 2, Tolleshunt D'Arcy 1, Tolleshunt Major 1, Tollesbury 3, Wickham Bishops 2, and Woodham Walter 1.

Generally speaking these are kept clean, and minor improvements in construction have been made during the year.

## HOUSING.

Throughout the district the cry is for more houses and still more houses.

The District Council has appointed a Post-War Housing Committee. The following table shows the proposed number of houses to be erected during the first year, the extent of the sites, purchased or proposed to be purchased, and the number of houses that could be accommodated on these sites.



### Housing Proposals.

First Year's Programme			Acreage		Total No. of Houses that could be erected on site		
PARISH			SITE				
Great Braxted	...	6	The Village	...	2.00	8	Site not yet acquired.
Goldhanger	...	12	Corner of Maldon Road and Head Street	...	9.7	70	Site purchased.
Latchingdon	...	8	Church Meadow	...	9.5	56	Site Purchased.
Mayland	...	6	Grange Avenue	...	1.5	8	Site not yet acquired.
Mundon	...	6	Near Smithy	...	2.25	12	Site acquired by Compulsory Acquisition Order.
Purleigh	...	6	Walton Hall Lane	...	3.00	18	Site purchased.
Southminster	...	10	West House	...	2.5	18+	Site purchased.
						West House	
Steeple	...	6	Old Allotment Field	...	7.5	46	Site purchased.
Stow Maries	...	6	Opposite Post Office	...	1.00	6	Site purchased.
Tillingham	...	6	Brook Road	...	7.75	50	Site purchased.
Tollesbury	...	12	Elysian Gardens	...	6.00	26	Site not yet acquired.
Tolleshunt D'Arcy	...	6	Tolleshunt Major Road	...	7.00	50	Site purchased.
Great Totham	...	12	Near Bull Inn	...	13.7	64	Site acquired by Compulsory Purchase Order.
Wickham Bishops	...	6	Negotiations pending	...			
Woodham Mortimer	...	6	Negotiations pending	...			
Woodham Walter	...	8	Near Village Hall	...	2.5	12	Site purchased.
Little Totham	...	Nil	Opposite Evelyn Terrace	...	2.38	16	Site purchased.
122							

### Statistics for the Year, 1944.

Eighteen agricultural cottages were allotted to the district and erected by the end of the year (Southminster 4, Asheldham 4, Steeple 6, Tolleshunt D'Arcy 4).

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

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

A commencement was made upon the Rural Housing Survey and three parishes have been completed.

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) ... ..	223
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	256
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...	143
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	178
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	42
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	84

2. *Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices :—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	15
--	----

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	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit by owners after service of formal notices ... ..	—



## (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

- |  |     |     |     |   |
|--|-----|-----|-----|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| (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                | ... | — |
| (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  | ... | — |
| (c) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936                                    | ... | — |

**Clearance Areas.** Fifteen houses in the six clearance areas confirmed by the Ministry of Health in 1935 were still occupied at end of 1944, and five were derelict.

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

PARISH	Parlour Type	Non-Parlour Type	Totals
Althorne ... ..	—	—	—
Asheldham ... ..	5	2	7
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
Langford ... ..	—	—	—
Latchingdon ... ..	—	26	26
Mayland ... ..	—	12	12
Mundon ... ..	—	12	12
Purleigh ... ..	8	18	26
St. Lawrence ... ..	—	—	—
Southminster ... ..	14	28	42
Steeple ... ..	6	10	16
Stow Maries ... ..	—	12	12
Tillingham ... ..	—	6	6
Tollesbury ... ..	10	20	30
Tolleshunt D'Arcy ... ..	16	10	26
Tolleshunt Knights ... ..	—	10	10
Tolleshunt Major ... ..	4	12	16
Totham, Great ... ..	6	28	34
Totham, Little ... ..	—	6	6
Ulting ... ..	—	—	—
Wickham Bishops ... ..	8	25	33
Woodham Mortimer ... ..	—	6	6
Woodham Walter ... ..	—	12	12
TOTALS ... ..	89	323	412

The total is exclusive of six cottages erected by Parish Council in Tolleshunt D'Arcy; includes 6 Coastguard cottages (parlour) re-erected on a new site in Bradwell-on-Sea.

Nine cottages (non-parlour) purchased by Council (Wickham Bishops). 18 Agricultural cottages (parlour): Asheldham 4, Southminster 4, Steeple 6, Tolleshunt D'Arcy 4.



## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

### Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1944.

Ninety-seven cases of notifiable diseases (exclusive of Tuberculosis) were notified during the year as compared with 166 for the previous year.

Notifiable Disease	Total Cases	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
Scarlet Fever ...	31	—	1	—	2	3	8	11	—	5	1	—	—	19	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	8	—	1	—	1	—	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	36	2	3	4	4	6	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	1	—	5
Erysipelas ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Infective Jaundice...	15	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	—	5	2	1	—	—	—
<b>TOTALS</b> ...	<b>97</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>5</b>

The incidence of notifiable diseases in the area during the year is set out in the above table and the local distribution on the following page.

**Immunisation.** It is hoped that more parents will take advantage of the facilities provided. Assistance was rendered by the Health visitors and teachers which is appreciated.

The percentage of children immunised at the end of 1944 based on the estimated population was :—

Aged 1-15	...	...	77.1%
Aged 1-5	...	...	52.9%
Aged 5-15	...	...	88.8%

## Distribution of Infectious Diseases, 1944.

Table showing Local Distribution of Cases Notified during the year 1944.

Parish	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Infective Jaundice	Pul. Tuberculosis	Non-Pul. Tuberculosis	TOTALS
Althorne ... ..	—	3	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	5
Asheldham ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bradwell ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Braxted Great ... ..	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Braxted Little ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cold Norton ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	3
Dengie ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fambridge North ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Goldhanger ... ..	2	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Hazeleigh ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Langford ... ..	1	—	5	—	—	—	1	—	1	8
Latchingdon ... ..	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
Mayland ... ..	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	4
Mundon ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Purleigh ... ..	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Southminster ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	5
Steeple ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	3
St. Lawrence ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stow Maries ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Tillingham ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tollesbury ... ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
Tolleshunt D'Arcy ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Tolleshunt Knights ... ..	5	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	6
Tolleshunt Major ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Totham Great ... ..	5	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Totham Little ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Ulting ... ..	3	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
Wickham Bishops ... ..	8	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	11
Woodham Mortimer ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Woodham Walter ... ..	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4
TOTALS ... ..	31	8	36	1	5	1	15	3	3	103



# Tuberculosis.

## New Cases and Mortality during 1944.

Particulars are given in the following table of new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the area during 1944.

Age Periods	* New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15 ...	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
15—20 ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
20—25 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45 ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
45—55 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—

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

**Table showing Census Population 1921 and 1931, and  
Number of Houses Census 1931 and December, 1944.**

PARISH	Area in statute acres (land and inland water)	Tidal water and fore- shore	Num- ber of Houses 1931	Census Population		Number of Houses at end of Dec. 1944
				1921	1931	
Althorne ... ..	2080	255	117	401	390	156
Asheldham ... ..	1310	—	42	203	168	47
Bradwell-on-Sea ...	5221	4230	188	747	657	241
Braxted Great ...	2634	—	85	283	282	103
Braxted Little ...	622	—	36	109	116	44
Cold Norton ... ..	1692	—	102	326	384	129
Dengie ... ..	2856	1186	54	181	192	56
Fambridge North...	1242	107	50	177	168	93
Goldhanger ... ..	1622	—	107	361	353	139
Hazeleigh ... ..	991	—	33	121	114	37
Langford ... ..	991	3	49	167	169	49
Latchingdon ... ..	3992	207	122	420	419	231
Mayland ... ..	1870	—	99	343	360	146
Mundon ... ..	3076	—	60	269	251	79
Purleigh ... ..	5771	87	223	857	770	294
St. Lawrence ... ..	2139	324	20	132	71	90
Southminster ... ..	6512	828	439	1592	1403	475
Steeple ... ..	2709	47	94	391	343	113
Stow Maries ... ..	1610	82	48	147	165	53
Tillingham ... ..	4928	2593	211	836	670	243
Tollesbury ... ..	4839	2019	467	1721	1694	543
Tolleshunt D'Arcy...	4104	415	236	780	748	253
Tolleshunt Knights	1926	—	294	235	252	135
Tolleshunt Major ...	2253	2	96	338	370	121
Totham Great ... ..	3589	—	251	973	982	359
Totham Little ... ..	1281	—	85	301	293	84
Ulting ... ..	1034	—	37	144	143	46
Wickham Bishops...	1606	—	191	498	639	245
Woodham Mortimer	1387	—	69	229	268	85
Woodham Walter ...	2620	—	141	612	514	159
<b>TOTALS ...</b>	<b>78507</b>	<b>12385</b>	<b>4046</b>	<b>13894</b>	<b>13348</b>	<b>4850</b>









