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ROCHFORD
RURAL DISTRICT
COUNCIL

ANNUAL
REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH

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


(Barrister-at-Law)

FOR

1944

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

W. H. HOULDERSHAW, LTD., PRINTERS, 49-55, LONDON ROAD



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INDEX

	Page
Ambulance Facilities	14, 15
Bakehouses	81
Clinic Centres	16
Committees	11
Dairies and Cowsheds	29, 30
Drainage and Sewerage	23, 24
Food Inspection	29
Health Services in Area	11—17
Hospitals	12—14
Housing	32—35
Infectious Diseases	36—40
Laboratory Facilities	17
Meat Inspection	30, 31
Midwives	17
Milk Supply	29
Overcrowding	34
Professional Nursing in the Home	17

	Page
Public Cleansing	25, 26
Public Health Staff	5
Sanitary Inspection of Area	27
Statistics and Social Conditions	6—11
Vital Statistics	8
Water Supplies	18—22

LONDON ROAD,
CHELMSFORD.

24th May, 1945.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Rochford
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 problems facing the council in the reconstruction period are improvement of existing houses, the erection of new houses, extension of water mains especially to the parish of Paglesham, extension of sewers and the extension of refuse collections. Provision of village community centres. One of the difficulties of carrying out Social Services in the district is handicapped by the long lengths of unmade roads. For much assistance in the preparation of this report I am indebted to your Sanitary Inspector.

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

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN F. MACDONALD.

STAFF

S. C. Harris, Clerk to the Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health : John F. Macdonald, M.D., D.P.H., (also Medical Officer of Health for the Rural Districts of Chelmsford and Maldon).

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health : M. C. Barton, (in Forces since September, 1939). Mrs. M. Marshall.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT

Chief Sanitary Inspector : G. W. Yearsley, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector : R. E. Smith.

Temporary Clerk to the Sanitary Inspector : D. G. Stripp.

ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT

Engineer and Surveyor : A. N. Box, M.INST.M.CY.E., A.M.T.P.I.

Deputy Surveyor : G. Page

Building Inspector : G. Watson,

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (acres)	...	...	36,080	...	(land and inland waters)
Resident Population mid. 1944			14,800	...	(estimated by Registrar General)
1931 census population (prior to County review	...		17,046	...	(8,300 males, 8,746 females)
Number of inhabited houses at 1931 census (prior to County review)	...	...	3,844		
Estimated number of houses at the end of 1944		...	5,432		
The Rateable value of the District for the half-year ended 31st March, 1944 was			£93,350		
Product of a penny rate, year ended 31st March, 1944,			£363/6/0		

To a limited extent brick-making used to be carried on, there are no large factories or works of any kind.

The industries carried on in the district cannot be said to be detrimental to the health of those engaged therein.

Extracts from vital statistics of the year.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate ..	256	134	122	Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population—18.5
	Illegitimate ..	19	11	8	
Still Births	Legitimate ..	11	4	7	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 38.4
	Illegitimate ..	—	—	—	
Deaths	..	191	102	89	Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population.* 12.8.

	Deaths
Puerperal and Post abortive sep is	—
Other maternal causes	1
Number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age :—	
Males 3(illegitimate 1), Females 5(illegitimate—). Total 8	
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age—	
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	27.3
Illegitimate „ „ „ illegitimate „ „ ..	52.6
Total „ „ „ total „ „ ..	28.7
Death from Measles (all ages)	Nil
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
„ „ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	Nil
„ „ Cancer [all ages]	32

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

	Rate per 1,000 civilian population.		Deaths under one 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 with estimated resident population of from 25,000 to 50,000 (1931 Census)	20.9	12.4	44
Rochford Rural District ..	18.5	12.8	28

The following table classifies the deaths according to cause and sex—

Causes of Death							Males	Females	Totals
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	2	2
Acut Inf. Encephalitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	—	3
Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
Syphilis	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
Cancer, Malignant Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	13	32
Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Intra Cranial vascular lesions	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	7	9
Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	28	29	57
Other Circulatory Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	8
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	2	11
Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	9	16
Other Respiratory Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
Ulcer of stomach of Duodenum	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Appendicitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	4
Nephritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
Puerperal and Post abortive sepsis	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Other Maternal causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Malformation, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
Premature Birth	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	2	2
Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	—	2
Road traffic accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	—	3
Other violence	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	4	6
All other causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	7	20
Totals							102	89	191

NUMBER OF DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES

Age		Occurring in district	Of non-residents occurring in district	Of residents occurring out- side district	Allotted to district				
Under 1 year	...	48	...	40	...	—	...	8	
1 and under 2	...	2	...	1	...	—	...	1	
2	„ 5	...	3	...	3	...	—	...	—
5	„ 15	...	5	...	4	...	2	...	3
15	„ 25	...	14	...	13	...	2	...	3
25	„ 35	...	27	...	26	...	1	...	2
35	„ 45	...	22	...	20	...	1	...	3
45	„ 55	...	67	...	60	...	2	...	9
55	„ 65	...	113	...	84	...	5	...	34
65	„ 75	...	218	...	170	...	2	...	50
75 and over	...	297	...	229	...	10	...	78	
Age unknown	...	1	...	1	...	—	...	—	
Totals		<u>817</u>		<u>651</u>		<u>25</u>		<u>191</u>	

The natural increase in the population, namely, the excess of the number of births over the number of deaths, is shown in the following tabular statement for the years 1938-1944.

During 1938 there were	218	births and	183	deaths, giving a natural increase of	35
" 1939	251	"	183	"	68
" 1940	215	"	220	"	decrease of 5
" 1941	238	"	205	"	increase of 33
" 1942	249	"	220	"	29
" 1943	280	"	209	"	71
" 1944	275	"	191	"	84

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The District Council consists of 22 elected members who meet monthly.

The following Committees deal directly or indirectly with health matters :

Public Health

Housing

Town Planning and Plans

Finance

Sewerage

Pleasure Grounds

General Purposes

Fire Brigade

The Council is represented on the South-East Essex United District (Medical Officer of Health) Committee, Isolation Hospital Joint Board, South-East Essex Superannuation Joint Committee, South-Eastern Essex Assessment Committee and the South-Eastern Area Guardians Committee.

Reports of the Committees are sent out to all members before each Council Meeting.

The minutes of the Council are circulated.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY OR BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL :—

- (1)—Tuberculosis Hospitals. A number of Sanatoria are available throughout the county. These are provided by the County Council. None of the Institutions so provided is in Rochford Rural District.
- (2)—Maternity. Arrangements are made under the County Council's Scheme with certain Hospitals to admit :—
 - (a) Complicated cases of confinement, (Municipal Hospital, Rochford, St. John's Hospital, Chelmsford and Colchester Borough Maternity Home).
 - (b) Cases of Normal Confinement (at Danbury and Writtle Park Maternity Homes).
 - (c) Cases of Puerperal Pyrexia, (Colchester, Rush Green, Waltham Abbey and Billericay Isolation Hospitals).
 - (d) Expectant mothers for whom Hospital treatment is necessary.
In connection with (c) an Obstetric Specialist for consultations with medical practitioners is available.

(3)—Children. Arrangements are made by the County Council for :

- (a) The examination of children at an Orthopædic Ascertainment Clinic and for institutional treatment of cases recommended by the Orthopædic Surgeon. (Pitsea held twice a year and Grays held approximately every two months).

After-treatment clinic held at Rochford on 2nd Tuesday morning in the month commencing at 9.30 a.m.

When, Hospital Treatment is recommended children can be admitted The Lodge Hospital, Orsett or Runwell Emergency Hospital, Wickford.

- (b) Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—Arrangements are in force for the admission of children suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum to Rush Green Isolation Hospital, Romford; and Oldchurch County Hospital Romford. Where if for some particular reason the infant cannot be admitted to hospital, the County Council has an arrangement with the Essex County Nursing Association for the provision of a trained nurse at the patient's home.

- (c) Hospital treatment for children suffering from minor ailments, such as tonsils and adenoids made by the Essex Education Committee (Chelmsford and Essex Hospital, Chelmsford;

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

(4)—Other Hospitals. Cases requiring treatment in a General Hospital are admitted to Southend Municipal Hospital, Rochford, under an arrangement with the County Borough of Southend-on-Sea and the Essex County Council. Residents in the district are also admitted for treatment to voluntary hospitals in Southend and London.

(5)—Isolation Hospital. The Hospital situated in Billericay is administered by a Joint Hospital Board on which the district Council is represented.

(6)—A Small-pox Hospital is provided by the Essex County Council. For this purpose the County Council has entered into an agreement with the Borough of Colchester for the provision of Hospital treatment, including ambulance services for small-pox cases.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES. (a) For infectious diseases there is a motor ambulance which is housed at the Isolation Hospital Billericay.

(b) For non-infectious and accident cases arrangements have been made with the St. John Ambulance Brigade (Southend Division), and

the Rayleigh Ambulance Committee for their ambulance to be available for cases in the Rural District. There is an agreement in force for the reciprocal use of ambulances throughout the County of Essex.

Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children in the Area:—
Accommodation is that provided by the Public Assistance Committee at certain of their institutions and suitable cases can be admitted to the Hostel at Ardmore, Buckhurst Hill.

Maternity and child Welfare centres for the district are set out in the following table .

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES (All provided by the County Council).
Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Centre	Address	Sessions (Monthly)	Medical Officer
Rochford	Roche Way, Rochford	2nd & 4th Mondays	Dr. J. B. Ratcliffe
... ..	" "	4th Friday afternoon	
(ante natal Clinic)	" "	2nd & 4th Thursdays	
Great Wakering	Village Hall	1st Thursday 2.30 p.m.	
Great Wakering	" "		
(ante natal Clinic)	" "		

16

Weighing Centre.

Foulness Island.

3rd Wednesday, 2.30 p.m.

Address

Hours of Sessions

School Minor Ailments

Rochford Combined Treatment

Fridays, 10 a.m.

Clinics.

Centre, Roche Way

Dental Clinic.

Do.

do.

Held as and when required.

Ophthalmic Clinic.

Do.

do.

Do.

do.

Treatment Centres for Venereal Diseases:

Facilities available at Southend, Chelmsford and at a number of London 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 that employ nurse-midwives. These are under the supervision of the County Nursing Association.

(b) For Infectious Diseases.—No arrangement has been made by the District Council.

Midwives.—There were seven midwives practising in the district at the end of 1944. (Six are district nurses and the remaining one is independent practice.

Registered Nursing Homes.—There are none in the district.

Laboratory Work.—Water analysis is undertaken by the District Council County Council and Emergency Public Health Laboratories. Bacteriological examinations are undertaken by the County Council.

WATER SUPPLY

At the present time, with the exception of Foulness and Havengore, all the water mains in the district belong to the Southend Waterworks Company. This company has statutory powers to supply water throughout the district.

From time to time the service mains of the company are extended.

(a) On the Company's own initiative.

(b) Under a contract with the District Council who guarantee an agreed income from water rates as a result of the extension. This guarantee, continues until, on three consecutive years, the amount collected by the Company, by means of water rates, is equal to the annual guaranteed sum.

Excluding the parishes of Foulness and Havengore (supplied by private water mains). The Southend Waterworks Company provide 89 per cent of the dwelling houses in the district with a piped water supply.

In outlying areas, of the district a number of premises —many not worthy of the designation of dwelling house,—

used for human habitation has to depend on rain water collected from the roofs. The supply gives out during periods of drought.

Whenever possible the district council should prevent the erection of these unsatisfactory dwellings. As a rule they are of the cheapest possible form of construction, unpleasant to the eye and internally without modern facilities for the use of the housewife.

Moreover, these dwellings as a rule are a liability to the rest of the inhabitants of the district. Sooner or later they become 'slums' and the only difference between them and town 'slums' is that in the country there is usually ample air space round the buildings.

The following table shows the approximate number of dwelling-houses in the parishes and the number supplied from the Southend Waterworks Company's mains on 31st December, 1944.

PARISH	Number of Houses on 31st December, 1944	
	In Parish (Estimated)	Supplied from Mains
Ashingdon	306	306
Barling	110	62
Canewdon	209	173
Great Wakering	826	725
Hawkwell	928	861
Hockley	997	979
Little Wakering	145	95
Rochford	1384	1355
South Fambridge	88	53
Stambridge	150	76
Sutton	65	53
Totals	5208	4738

The following is a copy of the analysis of a recent sample taken from the mains.

Chemical Results in parts per 100,000

Appearance	Clear and Bright.
Colour	Normal.
Odour	None.
Reaction pH.	Ft. Alkaline, 8.5.
Free Carbonic Acid	Absent.

Chemical Results in Parts per 100,000.			
Electric Conductivity at 20° C.			525
Total Solids, 180° C.			35.0
Chlorine in Chlorides			4.1
Alkalinity as Calcium Car-			
bonate			4.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates			0.40
Nitrites			Absent
Hardness : Permanent			12.2
Temporary			2.0
Total			14.2
Metals			Absent
Nitrogen in Nitrates			0.68
Nitrogen in Nitrates			less than 0.001
Free Ammonia			0.012
Albuminoid Ammonia			0.008
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours 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
„ „ „ 1 day at 37° C.	0
„ „ „ 2 days at 37° C.	6
The Bacillus Coli ... Present in—	Absent in 100 c.c.
Bacillus Welchii ... Present in 100 c.c.	Absent in 10 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 high standard of bacterial purity.

The water is therefore considered pure and wholesome in character, and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes."

(Signed) CHARLES W. MARTIN F.R.I.C.

GORDON MILES B.Sc. F.R.I.C.

Particulars of the water supplies of the remaining areas in the district not at present served by the Southend Waterworks Company are as follows:—

In the parishes of Foulness and Havengore the owners have provided a piped water supply to most of the dwelling houses.

The parish of Paglesham with its iii dwelling houses has no piped water supply. Its inhabitants have to rely on shallow wells and as is well known such a source is always liable to pollution.

Although the cost of providing a piped water supply to Paglesham, with its limited number of houses, is likely to prove comparatively high nevertheless, the time has arrived when the council should face the problem and provide this last parish with a modern water supply.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

There are two sewage disposal works in the District.

One of these disposal works is situated within the parish of Stambridge and deals with sewage from the parish of Rochford (including the Anne Boleyn Estate) and parts of the parishes of Ashingdon, Hawkwell and Hockley. Sewage from outside the Rural District is also treated at Stambridge, namely the area of Eastwood transferred to the County Borough of Southend-on-Sea and part of the parish of Thundersley in the Urban District of Benfleet.

The standard of the effluent from the Stambridge Disposal works into the tidal water has been uniformly high and well within the limits of purity required by the standard adopted by the Essex County Council for inland waterways. The programme for the reconditioning of the sludge beds was continued with very satisfactory results and should be completed in 1945.

The other sewerage purification works which is situated within the parish of Great Wakering treats sewage from the more populous parts of that parish.

Except after heavy rains, the standard of this effluent has been uniformly high, similar to that of the Stambridge works. Rectification of the existing defects cannot properly be dealt with during the period of war, but it is probable

that this matter which is mainly one of overloading will have to receive attention in due course. Replacement of the existing Diesel oil engines by electrification is considered necessary.

Drainage and Sewerage. The number of house drainage connections made to the main sewers during the year was :— HOCKLEY—2.

The Council's policy is to extend sewers from time to time in areas which appear to them to be insanitary, but no areas were dealt with during the year owing to war-time restrictions.

Difficulties and regular expense have been experienced with drainage from Council Houses which have been erected in unsewered areas. Attempts to deal with drainage of cesspools, into ditches or by means of ground percolation invariably create serious nuisances with consequent litigation risks. It seems unwise to erect Council Houses in large numbers except where main drainage is available.

The unsuitability of drainage in the past should be taken as an object lesson to indicate the need for discouraging residential development where main drainage cannot be made available. The new Water Act will automatically make sewage provision essential for health.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

During the year the parts of the district previously being dealt with by Contract were taken over by Direct Labour and Night Soil collection was extended to include the Greensward Lane area.

The following are particulars of the House Refuse and Night Soil Collection Services at the end of 1944 :—

Parish	Scheme	House		Night Soil Pails
		Refuse	Bins	
Ashingdon	Direct Labour	135		9
Barling	" "	108		76
Canewdon	" "	181		127
Fambridge, South	" "	54		40
Foulness Island	" "	83		—
Hawkwell	" "	733		8
Hockley	" "	705		66
Paglesham	" "	88		—
Rochford	" "	1338		12
Stambridge	" "	108		86
Sutton	" "	53		—
Wakering, Great	" "	826		71
Wakering Little	" "	155		83
Totals		4567		578

The Salvage scheme inaugurated in 1939 was continued and the following materials were salvaged and returned to industry during the year :—

				Tons	cwts	qrs	lbs
Waste Paper	..	..	..	49	11	1	13
Ferrous Scrap	..	..	..	7	17	3	—
Non Ferrous Metals	..	..	..	—	19	2	23
Textiles	..	..	..	6	17	2	—
Bottles and Jars	..	..	..	5	13	2	—
Rubber	..	..	..	1	17	—	—
Bones	..	..	..	5	14	2	6
Concrete Slabs	..	..	..	1	—	—	—
Total				79	11	1	14

Value : £514 11s. 3d.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following table gives details of the inspections carried out and notices served during the year 1944 :—

Nature of Inspection	Total Inspec- tions	Notices Served	
		Informa	Formal
Housing	307	52	1
Caravans	29	1	1
Verminous or dirty premises	16	5	—
Disinfestations	3	—	—
Infectious Diseases	51	—	—
Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics	17	—	—
Scabies	3	—	—
Water Supplies	59	7	2
Drainage	39	14	—
Cesspool Nuisances	21	1	—
Bakehouses	6	—	—
Dairy Farms	79	10	—
Dairies (other than farms)	16	1	—
Food premises	39	—	—
Slaughterhouses	3	1	—
Knacker's Yards	1	—	—
Piggeries	4	1	—
Rats and Mice	40	—	—
Polluted Watercourses and Ditches	16	—	—
Nuisances (miscellaneous)	5	3	—
Refuse Tips	3	—	—
Dust Bins	3	19	—
Petrol and Carbide Storage	9	—	—
Miscellaneous visits	84	—	—
Totals	853	115	4

Smoke Abatement:

No action taken during the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools:

None in the area but the tidal rivers in the district are used for this purpose,

Eradication of Bed Bugs:

Three dwellings were fumigated with sulphur and sprayed with "Zaldecide." In a number of cases of infestation by fleas, sulphur candles were supplied free of cost to householders.

Schools:

There are thirteen schools in the area and a number of inspections have been made in respect of drainage and sanitary accommodation.

Camping Sites:

During the year seven licences were granted to station and use Moveable Dwellings.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) **Milk (Special Designations).**

Six Supplementary Licences to sell milk under the (Special Designations) Orders 1936 and 1938 were issued during the year—three in respect of “Tuberculin Tested” and three in respect of “Pasteurised.”

There are seventeen producers of “Accredited” Milk and three producers of “Tuberculin Tested” Milk in the District.

(b) **Dairies and Cowsheds.**

At the end of the year there were forty Cowkeepers and in addition seventeen Retail Purveyors of Milk, making a total of fifty-seven.

Five Wholesale and Retail Purveyors (Cowkeepers) gave up retailing, but retained business as Wholesale Purveyors while four new Cowkeepers and Wholesale Purveyors were registered, and four gave up business during the year.

One Cowkeeper and Retail Purveyor was registered, but gave up his Wholesale business while one Cowkeeper and Retail Purveyor gave up business.

REGISTRATIONS OF COWKEEPERS AND PURVEYORS OF MILK IN RESPECTIVE PARISHES.

Parish	Cowkeepers' premises			Not Cow-keepers	Totals
	Wholesale Purveyors of Milk	Wholesale and Retail Purveyors	Retail Purveyors	Retail Purveyors of Milk	
Ashingdon	2	1	1	2	6
Canewdon	4	—	1	—	5
South Fambridge	3	—	1	—	4
Foulness	—	—	—	2	2
Hawkwell	1	—	—	—	1
Hockley	6	—	—	7	13
Paglesham	—	2	—	—	2
Rochford	4	1	—	5	10
Stambridge	2	2	—	—	4
Sutton	4	—	—	—	4
Wakering, Gt.	2	2	—	1	5
Wakering, Lt.	—	1	—	—	1
Totals	28	9	3	17	57

(c) Meat and other Foods.

Eight private Slaughterhouses and one Knackers Yard were licenced for the year but the Slaughterhouses were little used except for emergency killing and slaughtering of a limited number of pigs under Ministry of Food Permits. There is no Government Slaughterhouse in the District.

The following foodstuffs were inspected and found unfit for human food. The Ministry of Food Salvage Department was notified in accordance with Food Salvage Regulations :—

Fish—98lbs; Pork—127lbs; Bovine Livers—24lbs;
Smoked Bacon—108lbs; Sugar—452lbs; Tea—27lbs;
Cheese—81lbs; Irish Eggs—144.

Tinned Foods: Corned Beef—107½lbs; Cooked Ham
23¾lbs; Luncheon Meat—15¼lbs; Evaporated Milk
—115¾lbs; Condensed Milk—24¼lbs; Soup—57½lbs;
Vegetable Stew—14lbs; Fish—10½lbs; Marmalade
—3lbs.

Bakehouses.

There are 9 bakehouses in the district. No action has
been taken for infringements during the year.

Petroleum and Carbide of Calcium Licences.

Twelve licences were issued to store petroleum and one
to store Carbide of Calcium.

HOUSING

The following table gives details of the housing work carried out during the year.

Number of new houses erected during the year (Agricultural Cottages)		10
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) ...		247
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose		307
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925		117
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose		129
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation,		80

(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	52
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	28
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
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
	By owners	1
	(B)—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	12

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners 2

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners. Nil

(C)—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... 3

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding :—

(a)—(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 13

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein 13

(iii) Number of persons (equivalent units) dwelling therein 85½

(b)—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... 2

(c)—(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... 1

(ii) Number of persons (equivalent units) concerned in such cases ... 8½

**NUMBER AND TYPE OF HOUSES OWNED BY THE
DISTRICT COUNCIL AT END OF 1944.**

PARISH	Number of Non- Parlour Type	Number of Parlour Type	Totals
Ashingdon	—	—	—
Barling	16	—	16
Canewdon	43	6	49
South Fambridge ...	—	—	—
Foulness	—	—	—
Havengore	—	—	—
Hawkwell	—	—	—
Hockley	—	2	2
Paglesham	12	—	12
Rochford	92	58	150
Stambridge	28	—	28
Sutton	—	—	—
Great Wakering ...	98	2	100
Little Wakering ...	—	—	—
Totals	289	68	357

Includes Agricultural Cottages (Parlour type Canewdon 6, Hockley 2, Great Wakering 2) and 3 cottage non-parlour in Canewdon (purchased by council).

Small Bungalows for aged (Rochford 8, Great Wakering 8) and ordinary Bungalow Canewdon 6,

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Infectious Diseases Generally

During the year 186 cases of infectious diseases (exclusive of Tuberculosis) were notified, as compared with 464 during 1943.

The decrease of cases compared with the previous year is due to fewer cases of measles.

In the tables following, cases of infectious diseases are classified according to age, disease, and locality.

The immunisation of children against Diphtheria was continued during the year. The prophylactic used throughout was A.P.T. The following table shows the position at the end of 1944.

Number of children immunised during 1944.

Under 5 years	...	...	...	122
Between 5-15 years	...	...	...	41
				Total
				163

With the number prior to 1944 the total number of children immunised at end of year was

Under 5 years	...	...	...	961
Between 5-15 years	...	...	...	1874
				Total
				2835

The total child population is

Under 5 years	...	...	...	1180
Between 5-15 years	...	...	...	2270
				<hr/> 3450 <hr/>

This gives the following percentage of immunised children in the district at end of 1944.

Under 5 years	...	...	81.4%
Between 5-15 years	...	...	82.5%
Total under 15 years	...	...	82.1%

Scabies: The First Aid Post is equipped for treating cases of Scabies. For cases requiring Hospital treatment, arrangements were made with Southend Corporation.

Throughout the year forty-five cases were treated at the First Aid Post.

Males under 15 years	...	...	13 cases.
Males over 15 years	...	...	1 case.
Females over 15 years	...	...	18 cases.
Females over 15 years	...	...	13 cases.

In addition, in order to assist residents in Hullbridge who found it inconvenient to attend at Rochford, the personnel of the Rayleigh First Aid Post kindly arranged to treat a few cases in this area. Six cases were treated in this way.

Males under 15 years	...	...	3 cases.
Females under 15 years	...	...	1 case.
Females over 15 years	...	...	2 cases.

Pediculosis Capitis.

One case, a female over 15 years, was treated at the Rochford First Aid Post.

Notifiable Diseases during 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
Scarlet Fever ..	42	—	—	4	3	6	21	5	1	—	2	—	—	16	1
Diphtheria ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyæmia ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia ..	14	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	1	4	—	—	5	—	—
Erysipelas ..	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	1	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	48	7	4	9	4	5	14	1	—	2	—	—	—	2	—
Measles ..	8	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	1	1	1	—	—	2	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	55	2	2	4	2	2	7	1	1	20	2	8	4	13	—
Opht. Neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hepatitis ..	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
Malaria ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Totals ..	186	9	6	19	9	14	48	10	6	32	10	12	11	36	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year 4 deaths were registered as due to Tuberculosis—2 Pulmonary and 2 Non-Pulmonary.

One case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was not notified. Two cases of non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were not notified, the patients having died from Tubercular Meningitis which was not diagnosed until shortly before death.

New Cases and Mortality during 1944.

The following table shows the new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from this disease in the area during 1944, classified according to sex and age :—

Age	†New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1—5	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	..
5—10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10—15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15—20	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
20—25	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25—35	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
35—45	..	3	1	..	2	..	..	..
45—55	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
55—65	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
65 and over	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	10	8	2	1	2	..	2	..

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

TABLE SHOWING LOCAL DISTRIBUTION OF CASES NOTIFIED
DURING 1944.

Parish	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Erysipelas	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Dysentery	Pneumonia	Diphtheria	Malaria	Hepatitis	Pulmonary T.B.	Non Pul.	Totals
Ashington ..	3	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	7
Barling ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canewdon ..	1	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	7
Fambridge, South	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Foulness ..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Havengore ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hawkwell ..	5	5	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	..	..	4	..	..	18
Hockley ..	4	29	3	..	..	1	..	1	3	..	..	3	..	..	44
Paglesham ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rochford ..	22	9	2	1	..	3	..	52	4	..	..	..	..	..	93
Stambridge ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Sutton ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
Wakering, Great	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	9
Wakering, Little	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	42	48	8	2	..	7	..	55	14	1	1	8	..	..	186

For inclusion cases of Tuberculosis removed into the district during the year which had been previously notified elsewhere.



