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ROCHFORD
RURAL DISTRICT
COUNCIL


ANNUAL
REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH

(W. J. MOFFAT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.)

FOR
1948

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
ROCHFORD.

July, 1949.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present for your consideration the Annual Report for 1948 on the health and sanitary conditions of the Rochford Rural District.

During the whole of the period under review in this report my predecessor, Dr. J. F. Macdonald, was in office and the work of compiling the report was undertaken by him, assisted by Mr. Jepson, Chief Sanitary Inspector, although, when submitting to you his Annual Report for 1947, Dr. Macdonald had indicated that that would be his final report.

On Dr. Macdonald's behalf I would like to express appreciation to the staff of the Council for their willing assistance and to thank the Council for their consideration.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. J. MOFFAT.

STAFF

S. C. HARRIS, *Clerk to the Council.*

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health : John F. Macdonald, M.D., D.P.H., Barrister at Law (also Medical Officer of Health for the Rural Districts of Chelmsford and Maldon) (until 19th June, 1949). W. J. Moffat, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., (also Area Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer South East Essex, Essex County Council) (from 20th June, 1949).

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT.

Chief Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods and Petroleum Inspector : H. Jepson, M.S.I.A.

Clerk and Typist : Miss P. M. Ferguson.

Temporary General Assistant : D. G. Stripp.

ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR.

Engineer and Surveyor and Town Planning Officer : A. N. Box M.Inst.M.Cy.E., A.M.T.P.I., M.R.San.I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (acres)	...	...	...	36,080	...	(land and inland waters)
Resident Population mid. 1948	18,550	...				(estimated by Registrar General)
1931 census population (post County review)	...	13,969	...			(6,864 males, 7,105 females)
Number of inhabited houses at 1931 census (post County review)	...	...	...	4,250		
Estimated number of houses at the end of 1948	...	5,999				
The Rateable value of the District for the half-year ended 31st March, 1948, was		£104,475				
Product of a penny rate, year ended 31st March, 1948	...	£417 0s. 4d.				

Social Conditions. A large proportion of the adult population is engaged in agriculture, and owing to the railway facilities an increasing number of people engaged in business in Greater London reside in the district.

The brick making industry is resuming its pre-war activity

Consideration is being given to the question of the establishment of light industry within the District.

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.

Live Births	Legitimate	Total	Male	Female	Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population—17.8
	Illegitimate	317	182	135	
Still Births	Legitimate	4	2	2	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 12.1
	Illegitimate	—	—	—	
Deaths	... ..	218	114	104	Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population 11.8

Deaths from Puerperal and Post abortive sepsis ... Nil
 „ „ Other maternal causes Nil

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

Males 2 (Illegitimate Nil), Females 3 (Illegitimate Nil) Total 5

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age :—

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 16
 Illegitimate „ „ „ illegitimate „ „ Nil
 Total „ „ „ total „ „ 16

Death from Measles (all ages) Nil
 „ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) Nil
 „ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... Nil
 „ „ Cancer (all ages) 41

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES DURING THE YEAR 1948.

	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	17.9*	10.8*	34**
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	20.0	11.6	39
148 Smaller Towns with estimated resident population of from 25,000 to 50,000 (1931 Census)	19.2	10.7	32
Rochford Rural District	17.8	11.8	16

*Provisional.

**Rate per 1,000 related births.

The following table, compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar General, classifies the deaths according to cause and sex. The classification is given under the new abridged list of causes of death, as used in England and Wales, contained in the Manual of the International List of causes of Death—

Causes of Death	Males	Females	Totals
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Influenza	—	—	—
Acute Inf. Encephalitis	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	7	3	10
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	—	1
Syphilitic Diseases	—	3	3
Cancer	23	18	41
Diabetes	—	2	2
Intra Cranial vascular lesions ...	10	14	24
Heart Disease	41	37	78
Other Circulatory Diseases	3	6	9
Bronchitis	2	4	6
Pneumonia (all forms)	6	3	9
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	2	3
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	1	1	2
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—	—	—
Appendicitis	1	—	1
Other Digestive Diseases	1	—	1
Nephritis	5	1	6
Puerperal and Post abortive sepsis ...	—	—	—
Other Maternal causes	—	—	—
Malformation, etc.	—	2	2
Premature Birth	—	1	1
Suicide	—	—	—
Road traffic accidents	2	—	2
Other violent causes	2	—	2
All other causes	8	7	15
TOTALS ...	114	104	218

NUMBER OF DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES.

		Occurring in district	Of non- residents occurring in district	Of residents occurring outside district	Allotted to district
Under 1 year ...	...	41	38	2	5
1 and under 2 ...	...	—	—	1	1
2 " " 5 ...	...	1	1	3	3
5 " " 15 ...	...	3	2	—	1
15 " " 25 ...	...	9	9	—	—
25 " " 35 ...	...	19	15	3	7
35 " " 45 ...	...	23	20	3	6
45 " " 55 ...	...	46	37	1	10
55 " " 65 ...	...	139	108	5	36
65 " " 75 ...	...	225	170	7	62
75 and upwards ...	...	364	281	4	87
Totals ...	...	870	681	29	218

The large proportion of deaths of non-residents is accounted for by there being a large institution and a hospital formerly belonging to another local authority situated in Rochford.

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 1938-48.

During 1938 there were 218 births and 183 deaths, giving a natural increase of 25									
"	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
"	1945	"	264	"	220	"	"	"	44
"	1946	"	317	"	245	"	"	"	72
"	1947	"	380	"	255	"	"	"	125
"	1948	"	330	"	218	"	"	"	112

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The district Council consists of 22 elected members who meet monthly. (After the 1949 election the Council will consist of 30 members).

The following Committees deal directly or indirectly with health matters :—

- Public Health
- Housing
- Town Planning and Plans
- Plans Sub-Committee
- Finance
- Sewerage
- Pleasure Grounds
- General Purposes
- Fire Brigade
- Rating and Valuation

The Council is represented on the—

- South-East Essex Health Area Sub-Committee
- South Eastern A.R.P. Area Committee
- South-East Essex Superannuation Joint Committee
- South-Eastern Essex Assessment Committee
- South-Eastern Area Guardians Committee
- Rural District Council's Association (Essex Branch)
- Rochford Library Sub-Committee
- National Savings Committee
- South-East Essex Divisional Executive (Education)
- East Central Essex Area Planning Sub-Committee.
- Southend Local Employment Committee.
- Rochford Council and Staff Joint Committee
- Rochford District Road Safety Organisation
- Joint Advisory Committee on Rural Housing

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

The Minutes of the Council are circulated.

Since the 5th July, 1948, in accordance with the National Health Service Act, the services are as follows :—

Hospitals.

These are now vested in the North Eastern Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board. Similar facilities to those outlined in the 1947 report were available to residents of the District.

Ambulance Facilities.

These are now provided by the Essex County Council, who are the Local Health Authority. Arrangements were on similar lines to those prevailing in 1947 and previous years.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

There are 6 home nurse-midwives practising in the area under the supervision of the Essex County Council, as the Local Health Authority.

Registered Nursing Homes.

There are none in the district.

Laboratory Facilities.

These are provided by the Essex County Council and the Public Health Laboratory Service under the control of the Medical Research Council. Bacteriological laboratories were available at St. Andrew's Hospital, Billericay and at Balmoral Isolation Hospital, Southend-on-Sea.

Facilities for the examination of foodstuffs, including ice cream, water supplies and sewage effluents were available at the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

Clinics.

A list of those in the district, or serving the district, is given in the table on page 9.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

No action was required to be taken under Section 47 of the above Act from 5th July when the Act came into force, until the end of the year.

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

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Centre	Address	Sessions (Monthly)	M.O. in attendance
Hullbridge Rochford	Free Church Hall Rocheway, Rochford	2nd Monday 2 p.m. ... Mondays 2 p.m. ...	Yes Yes Attends 2nd, 4th and 5th Mondays
Rochford (ante natal Clinic)...	Rocheway, Rochford	2nd and 4th Friday afternoons 1.30 p.m.	Yes
Great Wakering	Village Hall	2nd and 4th Thursday afternoons 2 p.m.	Yes
Great Wakering (ante natal Clinic)	Village Hall	1st Thursday 2 p.m. ...	Yes
Foulness	The Hut	3rd Wednesday 2 p.m. (ante natal patients seen prior to Child Welfare Clinic)	Yes
Canewdon (Weighing Centre)	Village Hall	2nd Wednesday 2 p.m. ...	No
Hockley	Methodist Hall	1st and 3rd Fridays 1.45 p.m. ...	Yes
Barling (Weighing Centre)	Institute	3rd Friday 2 p.m. ...	Attends 1st Friday No

	Address	Hours of Sessions
SCHOOL MINOR AILMENTS CLINICS	Rochford Combined Treatment Centre, Rocheway	4th Friday, 10 a.m.
SCHOOL MINOR AILMENTS CLINICS	Great Wakering Village Hall	1st Thursday, 10 a.m.
DENTAL CLINICS	Rochford Combined Treatment Centre, Rocheway.	Held as and when required.
OPHTHALMIC CLINIC ...	do.	do.
TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY	Southend Dispensary, Warrior Square	1st and 3rd Wednesday, 10 a.m. Every Tuesday, 10 a.m.— 12 noon.

TREATMENT CENTRES FOR VENEREAL DISEASES:—

Facilities are available at Southend, Chelmsford, Romford, and at a number of London Hospitals.

WATER SUPPLY

At the present time, with the exception of Foulness (including 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 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 (including Havengore), which is supplied by private water mains, the Southend Waterworks Company provide 87 per cent of the dwelling houses in the District with a piped water supply.

In outlying areas of the District a number of premises used for human habitation have had to depend on rainwater collected from the roofs. The supply gives out during long periods of drought.

Six standpipes have been installed by the Council in agreement with the Water Company at the following points :—

<i>Hazekwell</i>	<i>Hockley</i>	<i>Ashingdon</i>
White Hart Lane	Wellington Ave.	New Hall Road
York Road	Pooles Lane	
	Beckney Corner	

The Council is responsible for the recovery of the water rates in respect of these standpipes.

Details of the Council's proposed water main extensions scheme were given in the Annual Report for 1946.

During the year the Ministry of Health further considered the scheme. The Ministry decided that the Council should instal the extensions by levying a water rate on the District, as no grant would be available under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944.

The Council decided to levy a 2d. rate for this purpose and, in the first instance, to proceed with the extension to Paglesham, the only parish then without a mains supply. This extension was commenced early in 1949. The remainder of the extensions have been placed in order of priority with the exception of a few cases, where the cost per house is excessive. These will receive further consideration at a later date.

The following table shows the approximate number of dwelling-houses in the various parishes and the number supplied from the Southend Waterworks Company's mains on the 31st December, 1948. The information as to supplies derived from the mains has been given by the Southend Waterworks Company.

PARISH	NUMBER OF HOUSES ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1948			
	In Parish (Estimated)	Supplied from Mains Domestic	Non- Domestic	Without Mains Water Supply
Ashingdon	361	347	29	14
Barling Magna	292	175	13	117
Canewdon	227	183	31	44
Foulness**	108	108	—	—
Great Wakering	835	771	36	64
Hawkwell	968	916	38	52
Hockley	1469	1185	75	284
Paglesham	106	No Main	No Main	106
Rochford... ..	1433	1456	55	12
	31*			
Stambridge	139	92	10	47
Sutton	61	60	9	1
TOTALS	5999	5293	296	741

* Business premises with living accommodation

** Supplied from War Dept. Mains.

Routine samples of the water in supply are taken by the Southend Waterworks Company for chemical and bacteriological examination at three monthly intervals, and copies of the results are furnished to the Council.

The following is a copy of the analysis of a recent sample taken from the mains on the 5th October, 1948 :

Chemical results in parts per Million.

Appearance	...	Clear and Bright
Turbidity (Silica Scale)	...	Nil.
Colour (Hazen)	...	Nil.
Odour	...	Nil
Reaction pH	...	8.1
Free Carbon Dioxide	...	Trace
Electric Conductivity at 20° C.	...	495
Total Solids, dried at 180° C.	...	330
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	74
Alkalinity as in Calcium Carbonate	...	20
Hardness : Total	...	110 Carbonate
Temporary	...	20 non-Carbonate
Permanent	...	90
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...	4.0
Nitrogen in Nitrites	...	Absent
Free Ammonia	...	0.010
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27° C.	...	0.65
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	0.066
Residual Chlorine	...	Absent
Metals Iron :	...	Less than 0.03
Other Metals	...	Absent

Bacteriological Results

No. of Colonies deveopling on Agar per c.c. or ml. in 1 day at 37° C.	0
" " " "	2 days at 37° C. 0
" " " "	3 days at 20° C. 0
Pres. Coliform Reaction	Present in —Absent from 100 ml.
Bact. Coli	Present in —Absent from 100 ml.
Cl. Welchii Reaction	Present in —Absent from 100 ml.

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality, and is free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The hardness of the water and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are very moderate. Its organic quality is very satisfactory and its bacterial purity is of the highest standard.

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

Signed. ROY C. HOATHER.

The Counties Public Health Laboratories.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There are two sewage disposal works in the District, the outfalls in each case being to tidal waters.

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 was completed in 1945.

Additional provisions have, however, become necessary with regard to dealing with the increased volume of sludge. Consideration was given to schemes for sludge digestion (and alternatives) but for the time being, excess raw sludge is being disposed of experimentally by direct application to adjacent agricultural land.

The other sewage purification works which is situated within the parish of Great Wakering treats sewage from the more populous parts of the 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 at the present time, but this matter, which is mainly one of overloading will receive attention in the near future.

The number of house drainage connections made to the main sewers during the year was :—

EXISTING DWELLINGS.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>No. of</i>	<i>Connections</i>
Barling Magna	...	1
Hawkwell	...	1
Hockley	4
Rochford	...	1
Great Wakering	...	1

NEW DWELLINGS.

Hawkwell	...	3
Hockley ...	...	6
Rochford	...	82
Great Wakering	...	4

In connection with the Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944, the Council are applying for Ministry of Health consent to provide additional main sewers to enable a number of existing communities to be soil drained to such sewers, the estimated cost of which is approximately £100,000.

The Council has decided that, wherever possible, surface water drainage would best be dealt with on the separate system and so avoid serious overloading on the soil sewerage pumping systems.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

All collections are dealt with by direct labour.

The following are particulars of the House Refuse and Night Soil Collection Services at the end of 1948 :—

Parish	No. of Houses 14 day Refuse Collection	Night Soil	
		Twice Weekly	Weekly
Ashingdon	178	62	4
Barling Magna	282	142	—
Canewdon	217	130	16
Foulness Island	108	—	—
Hawkwell	671	9	—
Hockley	935	60	17
Paglesham	103	56	—
Rochford *	1422	14	12
Stambridge	134	82	—
Sutton	58	7	—
Wakering, Great	828	98	—
Totals ...	4936	660	49

* A weekly collection was commenced during October, 1948 from 366 properties in the parish of Rochford.

NIGHT SOIL COLLECTION

This has been continued during the day with a Dennis Cess-pool vehicle with night soil attachment

UNMADE ROADS.

The majority of these roads are impassable to motor traffic,

Details were given in the Annual Report for 1947 of bins in holders having been placed at the end of 30 such roads. During the year 4 more were provided upon request from residents in such roads.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

This has caused some concern during the year. As a temporary measure an old brickfield off Ashingdon Road, Rochford, has been used since April, and by March, 1949 this will have

been filled. At first a few occupiers of the nearby houses objected to this tipping. The tipping, however, was well controlled, and the Council were fortunate in obtaining soil from numerous contractors for covering.

The Council have decided to continue tipping at the Depot yard in order to raise the level there. This site has a limited capacity, and it is anticipated that two years tipping will be the maximum possible there. The Council will require to give earnest consideration to the provision of additional tipping space in the near future.

SALVAGE

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

						<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Paper	...	...	...	...	...	42	11	2	—
Bones	...	...	...	...	...	1	9	2	—
Non Ferrous Metals	...	...	...	...	...	—	18	—	22
Heavy Iron	...	...	...	...	...	6	10	—	—
Bottles	...	...	...	...	...	9	8	—	—
Textiles	...	...	...	...	...	3	7	—	—
TOTAL ...						64	4	—	22

In addition 18 gross of jars were sold.

TOTAL VALUE : £454 16s. 10d.

As in the past 25% of this has been distributed to the refuse collectors in the form of a bonus.

During December, in conjunction with the Board of Trade, a salvage campaign was organised in the District.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following table gives details of the inspections carried out and notices served during the year 1948 :—

Nature of Inspection	Total Inspections	Notices Served	
		Informal	Formal
Housing Acts & Public Health Acts	534	151	21
Rural Housing Survey	577	—	—
Moveable Dwellings	88	30	—
Verminous or dirty premises ...	35	17	—
Disinfestations	25	5	—
Infectious Diseases	43	—	—
Infectious Contacts	10	—	—
Water Supplies	45	10	—
Drainage	7	7	2
Cesspool Nuisances	190	83	1
Bakehouses	6	3	—
Dairy Farms	26	5	—
Food premises	32	2	—
Slaughterhouses	10	—	—
Knacker's Yards	9	1	—
Rats and Mice	67	—	—
Polluted Watercourses and Ditches	6	6	—
Nuisances (miscellaneous) ...	9	2	—
Refuse Tips	91	—	—
Dust Bins	142	142	4
Petrol and Carbide Storage ...	20	—	—
Miscellaneous visits	162	—	—
Disinfections	8	—	—
Ice Cream Premises	17	5	—
Factories	13	1	—
Shops and Food Premises ...	54	6	—
Licenced Premises	15	3	—
Totals ...	2241	479	28

Smoke Abatement :

One complaint was received about a portable boiler used for sterilising soil in greenhouses. This only lasts for a few weeks each year, and, following advice to the stoker, the nuisance was overcome.

Swimming Pools :

There is one at Wallasea Bay, Canewdon, adjoining the tidal River Crouch. The water is changed during tides.

The tidal rivers in the district are also popular for bathing.

Rodent Destruction :

As from the 1st April the Council resolved to employ the Pests Officer of the Essex Agricultural Executive Committee and the Minister of Agriculture agreed to this arrangement and undertook to reimburse the Council 50% of this expenditure, in accordance with Circular N.S.19.

Sewers and sewage works, as well as refuse tips are treated directly by the Council's employees.

Schools :

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

Cesspools at 3 schools are emptied by the Council as requested by the Essex County Council.

Movable Dwellings :

During the year twenty-one licences were granted to station and use Moveable Dwellings on individual sites.

The majority of these dwellings are used throughout the year owing to the present Housing shortage.

Camping Site :

Early in the year the Council granted a Licence, under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for a site at Pooles Lane, Hullbridge and adjoining the River Crouch.

Main water supply is laid on, W.C's have been erected for both sexes, and a drainage system installed.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk (Special Designations).

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

There are sixteen producers of “Accredited” Milk and twelve producers of “Tuberculin Tested” Milk in the District.

(b) Dairies and Cowsheds.

At the end of the year there were 46 Cowkeepers and in addition 18 Retail Purveyors of Milk, making a total of 64 in the Rural District.

Three Wholesale Purveyors were registered during the year.

REGISTRATIONS OF COWKEEPERS AND PURVEYORS OF MILK IN RESPECTIVE PARISHES.

Parish	Cowkeeper's premises			Not Cow-keepers	Totals
	Wholesale Purveyors of Milk	Wholesale and Retail Purveyors	Retail Purveyors	Retail Purveyors of Milk	
Ashingdon ...	5	1	1	1	8
Canewdon ...	9	—	—	—	9
Barling Magna ...	—	1	—	—	1
Foulness ...	—	—	—	3	3
Hawkwell ...	1	—	—	1	2
Hockley ...	9	—	—	5	14
Paglesham ...	—	1	—	—	1
Rochford ...	4	1	—	6	11
Stambridge ...	2	2	—	—	4
Sutton ...	4	1	—	—	5
Wakering, Great	3	1	—	2	6
Totals ...	37	8	1	18	64

(c) **Meat and other Foods.**

Six 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 for privately owned pigs. 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 :—

TINNED FOODS			FRESH FOODS		
Cod Roe Paste	...	38 tins	Fish	...	6 stone
Milk	...	70 tins	Oranges	...	152 lbs.
Cod Roe	...	4 tins	Bacon	...	20 lbs. 9 oz
Fish	...	9 tins	Home killed Meat	...	18 lbs.
Beans	...	7 tins	Fat	...	20 lbs.
Marmalade	...	8 tins	Eggs	...	4 doz.
Apple Jelly	...	6 tins			
Jam	...	4 tins			
Fruit	...	9 tins			
Pudding	...	1 tin			
Tomatoes	...	13 tins			
Soup	...	3 tins			
Pickled Cabbage	...	22 jars			
Vegetables	...	6 tins			
Grapefruit	...	4 tins			
Bacon	...	1 tin			
Dried Egg	...	1 pkt.			
Peas	...	5 tins			
Stewed Steak	...	1 tin			
Meat	...	42 tins			

Bakehouses :

There are 10 bakehouses in the district. Informal action has been taken for three minor infringements of the Food and Drugs Act during the year.

Ice Cream :

There are five small scale manufacturers registered in the district. One did not manufacture during the year and has since given up.

Sampling was carried out under difficulties in 1948 by reason of the lack of suitable containers in which to send ice cream to the laboratory in a condition suitable for examination. Of the samples which arrived at the laboratory in proper condition, four were of ice cream manufactured locally three of which were in Grade III and the other in Grade I of the Ministry of Health's Provisional Grading based on the Methylene Blue Reduction Test. One sample of ice cream manufactured elsewhere but taken from a retailer in the District was reported upon as being in Grade I.

PETROLEUM LICENCES IN FORCE DURING 1948

Name of Licensee	Parish	Storage in Gallons
Murrell, H. S. G.	Barling Magna	500
Great Wakering Brick Co. Ltd.	"	1,250
Stacey, J.	Canewdon	500
Davey & Armitage Ltd. ...	"	1,000
Ayres, E.	Hawkwell	500
Hooker, G. E.	"	500
Gregory, E.	"	500
Baker, E. J.	Hockley	250
Hooton, H. E.	"	500
L.N.E. Railway.	"	100
Morling, W. V.	"	1,000
Potter, I. G.	"	500
Withers, S. G.	"	1,000
Cottis & Sons.	Rochford	1,000
Hurst, F. J. & Sons.	"	500
Marshall, F. H. & Co. Ltd. ...	"	20
Marshall, F. H. & Co. Ltd. ...	"	70 (cellulose)
Milton Hall Brick Co. Ltd. ...	"	100
Rochford R.D.C.	"	500
Roughton, W. P.	"	500
Southend-on-Sea Corporation ...	"	10,000
Southend-on-Sea Corporation ...	"	100 (cellulose)
Squier, A. W. Ltd.	"	500
Warren, C. & F. Ltd.	"	2,500
Whittingham, W. H. & Sons ...	"	2,000
Rankin, A. M. & H. Ltd. ...	Stambridge	1,500
Smith, Mrs. D.	"	500
Steel, A.	Sutton	500
Great Wakering Engineering Co.	Great Wakering	1,000
Church, J.	"	500
Rayner, C.	"	500
Rayner, C.	Lt. Wakering	500
	Total	30,890

Total number of licences in force in 1948 ... 32.

Carbide of Calcium Licences.

One licence to store Carbide of Calcium was issued during the year as follows.

Name of Licensee	Parish	Storage in Cwts.
Alp, W.	Great Wakering ...	5

HOUSING.

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

Number of new houses erected during the year		
By the Council	...	80
By private enterprise	...	27
. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—		
(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	190
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	210
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ...	12
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	14
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	9
(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 ...	107
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 ...	87
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	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
	By owners ...	Nil

(B)—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	21
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—					
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	21
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners					Nil

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

(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	6
(b) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	1
(c) Number of dwelling-houses undertakings excepted	...	1

TABLE SHOWING POPULATION AND NUMBER OF HOUSES AT CENSUS 1931, AND THE NUMBER AT THE END OF DECEMBER, 1948.

Parish	Area in statute acres (land and inland water)	Census, 1931		Number of Houses at end of 1948	
		Houses	Popula- tion	Gross	With £20 and under Rateable Value
Ashingdon ...	2513	274	786	361	324
Barling Magna...	3435	231	800	292	274
Canewdon ...	6801	188	634	227	220
Foulness ...	7123	112	426	108	104
Great Wakering	2542	780	2498	835	758
Hawkwell ...	1361	600	1744	968	899
Hockley ...	3643	820	2016	1469	1226
Paglesham ...	1867	105	311	106	97
Rochford ...	3023	939	3968	1433	1204
Stambridge ...	2231	140	549	139	127
Sutton ...	1541	61	237	61	53
Totals ...	36080	4250	13969	5999	5286

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Infectious Diseases Generally.

During the year 176 cases of infectious diseases (exclusive of Tuberculosis) were notified as compared with 204 during 1947.

In the tables on pages 27 and 28 cases of infectious diseases are classified according to age, disease and locality.

Although two cases of diphtheria and two cases of poliomyelitis were notified, in no instance was the diagnosis confirmed. The comparatively large incidence of puerperal pyrexia is accounted for by cases notified from the maternity block at the hospital which serves a considerably greater population than that of the Rochford Rural District.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

As from the 5th July, 1948, the Essex County Council became responsible for all immunisation, with the coming into operation of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

The District Council, however, carried on diphtheria immunisation until the 20th April, 1949. The prophylactic used throughout was A.P.T. (Alum Precipitated Toxoid) and for "boosting," T.A.F. (Toxoid-Antitoxin Floccules). The tables on pages 29 and 30 show the position at the end of 1948 and the number of Diphtheria notifications and deaths in relation to Immunisation.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1948.

During the year, 11 deaths were registered as due to Tuberculosis 10 being Pulmonary and 1 Non-Pulmonary.

The following table shows the numbers of new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from this disease in the area during 1948, classified according to age and sex:—

Age	*New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1—5 ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
5—10 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15 ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25 ...	2	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
25—35 ...	—	2	—	1	1	2	—	—
35—45 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 ...	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 and over ...	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	5	4	—	2	7	3	1	—

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

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1948 (EXCLUSIVE OF TUBERCULOSIS)

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
Erysipelas ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	15	—	—	—	16	—
Scarlet Fever ...	20	—	—	—	3	2	13	1	—	—	—	1	—	7	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia ...	12	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	2	—	—
Measles ...	27	1	2	4	2	3	12	1	1	1	—	—	—	2	—
Whooping Cough ...	74	6	6	7	14	8	28	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	—
Dysentery ...	11	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	7	6	—
Meningococcal Meningitis ...	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—
Typhoid Fever ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Paratyphoid ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—
Infective Hepatitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Polionmyelitis ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
TOTALS ...	176	12	9	12	19	14	54	8	5	22	4	8	9	40	—

Table Shewing Local Distribution of Cases Notified During 1948.

PARISH	Acute Polio-myelitis	Dysentery	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Infective Hepatitis	Measles	Paratyphoid	Typhoid	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other Forms of Tuberculosis	Totals
Ashington ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	6
Barling Magna	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Canewdon ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	4
Foulness ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	—	—	20
Hawkwell ...	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	7
Hockley ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	—	—	1	—	1	3	2	1	14
Paglesham ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
Rochford ...	—	6	2	1	2	1	6	2	1	1	16	13	2	2	2	57
Stambridge ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sutton ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Wakering, Gt.	—	5	—	—	2	—	11	—	—	8	—	1	45	1	—	73
Wakering, Lt.	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
TOTALS ...	2	11	2	2	6	1	27	2	1	12	16	20	74	7	4	187

Diphtheria Notifications and Deaths in relation to immunisation.

NOTIFICATIONS			DEATHS		
Age at date of Notification	Number of Cases Notified	Number of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation	Age at date Death	Number of Deaths	Number of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation
Under 1			Under 1	—	—
1			1	—	—
2			2	—	—
3			3	—	—
4	1	*1	4	—	—
5 to 9			5 to 9	—	—
10 to 14			10 to 14	—	—
Totals	1	*1	Totals	Nil	Nil

* Reported as being a Streptococcal throat infection and not Diphtheria.

IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION

	Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1948.							
	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5 to 9 1939-1943	10 to 14 1934-1938	Total under 15
Age at 31.12.48 i.e. Born in year ...								
Number of children im- munised	10	192	162	144	189	1140	1133	2970
Number of births regis- tered	—	330	317	264	275	1004	1072	—
Estimated Mid-year popu- lation 1948			1598			2472		
Percentage Immunised ...			43.6%			92%		

**NUMBER AND TYPE OF HOUSES OWNED BY THE
DISTRICT COUNCIL AT END OF 1948.**

PARISH	Number of Non- Parlour Type	Number of Parlour Type	Totals
Ashingdon	—	—	—
Barling Magna	16	—	16
Canewdon	43	6	49
Foulness	—	—	—
Hawkwell	—	—	—
Hockley	—	2	2
Paglesham	12	—	12
Rochford	110	120	230
Stambridge	28	—	28
Sutton	—	—	—
Great Wakering	106	30	136
Totals ...	315	158	473

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 persons (Rochford 8, Great Wakering 8) and ordinary Bungalows (Canewdon 6.)

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1. **Inspections** for the purposes of provisions as to health including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	10	17	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	41	7	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	6	—	—
Total ...	54	30	3	—

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Found	Number in which defects were found			Number of cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted
		Reme'd	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	3	3	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences { (a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	2	2	—	3	—
(S.7) { (c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	5	5	—	3	—