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Contributors

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THE
HEALTH
OF
ROYSTON

1970



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ROYSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Members as at 31st December, 1970

Chairman of the Council:

H.G. Haddock

Members of the Public Health Committee:

Chairman: Mrs.M.E.Campbell-Ferguson

Councillors:

D.W.Bannister

Mrs.P.A.Rule

Mrs.A.M.Nicholls

G.W.Stevens

Members of the Royston Urban District Council:

A.F.Deards

F.J.Smith

D.S.Ferguson

W.J.Whitehead

J.Gavine

P.L.Gray

Medical Officer of Health:

J.D. Hall, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

D.G. Lord, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Printed and Published by the Clerk's Department,
Royston Urban District Council

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Mrs. A.M. Nicholas

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Medical Officer of Health:

J.D. Hall, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

D.G. Lamb, F.R.S.H., M.A.H.I.

P R E F A C E

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Royston, Herts.

To the Chairman and Members of the Royston Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1970.

The population showed an increase on the previous year due largely to movement into the area. The birth rate, although almost the same as 1969 is still higher than the remainder of England and Wales, the county and the division as a whole.

Two deaths occurred of children under the age of one year and there were two stillbirths.

The number of deaths from all causes decreased from the previous year, the commonest cause of death remaining diseases of the heart and blood vessels and the second commonest cause being cancer.

No deaths occurred from tuberculosis or any other infective disease.

The number of illegitimate births remained the same as that for 1969.

Royston remained free of outbreaks of serious epidemic disease during the year and the state of the public health continues to be very satisfactory.

The provision of essential family planning services in the area provided on behalf of the local health authority by the Family Planning Association has been maintained during the year at an increasing rate. The Family Planning Association has been handicapped by the shortage of doctors able to carry out this work and also by the shortage of suitable premises. Future family planning needs could not be foreseen when existing local health authority clinics were designed and those clinics are not always convenient for the staff - both medical and lay - of the Association. Family planning generally requires the use of several consulting rooms at the same time and health clinics, because of their difficult functions, were not designed in this way. Future planning, however, will recognise these needs and already new clinics in the area are being designed with family planning usage in mind. On the whole, however, the excellent co-operation which exists between local health authority and family planning staffs have minimised these difficulties and an adequate service is now available throughout the area.

The continuing and accelerating rate of increase in sexually transmitted diseases in this area is a matter for concern. It is neither alarmist nor exaggerated to describe this group of diseases as the most serious epidemic situation in this country today. In this area alone those diseases have increased annually since 1968 by 13, 11 and 51 per cent.

The increase is largely in the 20 and under age group and the number of cases in girls is ominous, since they provide the reservoir of infection. Unless the progressive enlightenment and liberation of the younger generation is not urgently retarded and commonsense be allowed equality of publicity, the public health will be further endangered and the health of those who will one day be middle-aged is threatened. It is not unreasonable to assert that certain forms of sex education which have been developed recently and applied without regard to the stage of physical and emotional development of the child and adolescent may be dangerous.

It is my conviction that venereal diseases must inevitably be made notifiable to the medical officer of health in exactly the same way as other dangerous infectious diseases for many years. At the present time a medical officer of health whilst statutorily responsible for the maintenance of a beneficial state of the public health in his area, is unable to exercise any control over the communication of those diseases since he is aware, neither of the identity nor the total numbers of the sufferers. Venereologists notify the medical officer of health for the area of the number of cases attending their particular clinic. Since, however, many patients travel outside their area for treatment, the true incidence cannot be known. It is argued that to make these diseases notifiable in law might deter those affected from seeking treatment because of an imagined loss of secrecy. It is my view that this argument can no longer be sustained. Venereal disease is subject to the same epidemiological laws as for example, smallpox and typhoid, and could be controlled, with energy, in the same way.

The present period and the next few years will be crucial in determining the quality of the health services in this country in the future. The health services are at the present time divided into those provided by the local health authority (the County Council), the local sanitary authority (the District Councils), and the hospital and general practitioner services under the National Health Service Act. The local authority health services are maternity and child welfare clinics, the school health service, ambulances, mental health, care of the elderly, control of epidemic disease, purity of food and water supplies, and general environmental hygiene.

The establishment of local authority social services departments under non-medical control has removed from local authority doctors direct responsibility for mental health and the care of the elderly inter alia and it is probable that within the next few years direct medical control of local sanitary authority functions will be removed also.

Plans for the replacement of the present National Health Service and local health authority functions by a single area health authority for Hertfordshire are now advanced and the intention of such plans is to unify under one central organisation these services. The present medical staffs of the County and District Councils will be transferred to the area health authority and will no longer be responsible to those authorities for the exercise of their present functions. This unification with the hospital and general practitioner services will not be achieved so long as those functions of the local health authority transferred to the new Social Services Department remain with the local authority. Additional and unnecessary complications will be added to what will, in any event, prove a difficult exercise.

The proposed division of responsibility for general environmental hygiene which includes the control of epidemic disease between the local authority without medical staff and the area health authority might well prove in the future, the most serious single error and it is not difficult to foresee some of the dangers.

It is to be hoped that sufficient time still remains for adequate discussions to take place before the proposed far reaching changes in the health services are implemented.

I would like to express my thanks to all the public health and health and welfare staff in Royston, including those concerned with administration, for their help and co-operation during the year.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

J. D. HALL

Medical Officer of Health

Divisional Health Office,
Bedford Road,
Hitchin,
Hertfordshire.

Telephone No. Hitchin 50411.

SECTION "A" - ROYSTON

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(a) GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	1,637
Registrar-General's estimate of Resident Population mid 1970	8,280
Number of inhabited houses at 31st December 1970	2,464
Rateable Value	£460,800

(b) PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The Registrar General's estimate of resident population for mid 1970 revealed an overall increase of 730. The natural increase of population, i.e. the excess of births over deaths was 97.

ROYSTON VITAL STATISTICS 1970

<u>LIVE BIRTHS:</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total	83	76	159
Legitimate	79	71	150
Illegitimate	4	5	9
Live Birth Rate (uncorrected) per 1,000 population	-	-	19.2
Live Birth Rate (corrected) per 1,000 population	-	-	18.4
Illegitimate live births percentage of total live births	-	-	6.0
<u>STILL-BIRTHS:</u>			
Total	-	2	2
Rate per 1,000 live and still-births	-	-	12.0
Total live and still-births	83	78	161
<u>DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE:</u>			
Total	1	1	2
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	-	-	13
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	-	-	13
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	-	0.0
Neo-Natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	-	-	13
Early Neo-Natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	-	-	13
Perinatal mortality rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still-births)	-	-	25
<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY, INCLUDING ABORTION:</u>			
Number of deaths	-	-	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	-	-	0.0
<u>TOTAL DEATHS</u>	28	34	62
Death Rate (uncorrected)	-	-	7.5
Death Rate (corrected)	-	-	7.4
Natural increase of population	-	-	97
Overall increase of population	-	-	730

CAUSES OF DEATH 1970

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	2	2	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	2	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	-	5	5
Diabetes Mellitus	-	1	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	12	8	20
Other forms of Heart Disease	2	2	4
Cerebrovascular Disease	4	4	8
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	-	2	2
Influenza	1	1	2
Pneumonia	1	2	3
Bronchitis and Emphysema	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	1	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	1	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System	-	1	1
Congenital Anomalies	-	1	1
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	1	-	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	-	2
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	28	34	62

DEATH IN AGE GROUPS

	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 year	1	1	2
1 - 4 years	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	-	-	-
15 - 24 years	1	2	3
25 - 34 years	-	1	1
35 - 44 years	1	1	2
45 - 54 years	2	1	3
55 - 64 years	5	4	9
65 - 74 years	9	9	18
75 years and over	9	15	24
	28	34	62

POPULATION STATISTICS

	District 1970 Royston	North Hertford shire	Hertford shire	England and Wales
Population	8,280	161,560	912,000	48,987,700
Live Births (Crude)	19.2	17.1	15.6	16.0
Live Births (Corrected)	18.4		14.7	16.0
Death Rate - all causes (Crude)	7.5	8.5	9.6	11.7
Death Rate - all causes (Corrected)	7.4		10.8	11.7
Infective and Parasitic Diseases excluding Tuberculosis, but including Syphilis and other V.D.	0.0	0.02	0.04	-
Tuberculosis:				
Respiratory	0.0	0.0)		
Other Forms	0.0	0.0)	0.02	*
All forms	0.0	0.0)		
Cancer:				
Lungs and bronchus	0.48	0.47)		
Other	1.08	1.39)	2.02	-
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	0.00	0.10	1.36	-
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	4.10	4.22	2.91	-
Respiratory Diseases	0.84	0.89	1.33	-
Maternal Mortality	0.00	0.00	0.06	-
Infantile Mortality	13.0	20.2	14.9	18.0
Neonatal Mortality	13.0	14.0	10.7	12.0
Early Neonatal Mortality	13.0	11.5	9.3	11.0
Perinatal Mortality	25.0	21.4	20.0	23.0
Still-Births	12.0	10.0	10.7	13.0

* not available

DIVISIONAL VITAL STATISTICS 1970

In any discussion on vital statistics it should be remembered that the population of each separate district of North Hertfordshire represents a relatively small basis for comparative purposes. Population of the North Hertfordshire Division, however, which exceeds 150,000 may be considered sufficiently large for valid statistical deductions to be made, and for this purpose the table giving the overall picture of the vital statistics also includes similar statistics for the Division as a whole for comparison with each individual district.

Briefly, from a divisional point of view all the rates may be considered satisfactory. The infant mortality rate slightly exceeds the remainder of Hertfordshire and England and Wales as a whole. The birth rate was higher than for the remainder of the county and the country, and the population of the Division increased during 1970 by 3,690, natural increase being 1,392. The continually increasing size of the Division, therefore, can be seen to be due to migration into the area rather than to any other factor.

<u>LIVE BIRTHS:</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Total	1,445	1,327	2,772
Legitimate	1,357	1,246	2,603
Illegitimate	88	81	169
Live Birth Rate (uncorrected) per 1,000 population	-	-	17.1
Live Birth Rate (corrected) per 1,000 population	-	-	-
Illegitimate live births percentage of total live births	-	-	6.0
<u>STILL-BIRTHS:</u>			
Total	13	15	28
Rate per 1,000 live and still births	-	-	10.0
Total live and still-births	1,458	1,342	2,800
<u>DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE:</u>			
Total	32	24	56
Legitimate	29	22	51
Illegitimate	3	2	5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	-	-	20.2
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	-	-	19.5
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	-	29.5
Neo-Natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	-	-	14.0
Early Neo-Natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	-	-	11.5
Perinatal mortality rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still-births)	-	-	21.4
<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY, INCLUDING ABORTION:</u>			
Number of deaths	-	-	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	-	-	-
<u>TOTAL DEATHS:</u>	707	673	1,380
Death Rate (uncorrected)	-	-	8.5
Death Rate (corrected)	-	-	*
Natural increase of population	-	-	1,392
Overall increase of population	-	-	3,690

SECTION "B"

LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

Care of Mothers and Young Children - Section 22 - Royston

ANTE-NATAL BOOKING-CLINICS

The completion of the attachment of midwives to groups of general practitioners made ante-natal booking sessions at some clinics unnecessary and ante-natal cases were seen at general practitioner's surgeries.

ANTE-NATAL INSTRUCTION CLASSES

In 1970 attendances were higher than in 1969. Ante-natal instruction classes are important, not only in their teaching of relaxation exercises but in the opportunity they afford for the general instruction of nursing mothers.

<u>Clinic</u>	<u>No. of attendances 1970</u>
Royston	379

INFANT WELFARE CLINICS

Infant Welfare Centre, Lady Dacre Rooms, Market Hill, Royston	1st Tuesday 2 - 4 p.m. 2nd 3rd and 4th Tuesdays 2 - 4 p.m. Friday 2 - 4 p.m.	Dr. J.K. Snell Dr. F.E. Woodthorpe Health Visitor
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Clinic	Children Born in 1970	Children Born in 1969	Children Born in 1965-68	No. of Attendances
Royston	135	191	233	3,025

CHILD HEALTH ASSESSMENT UNIT

<u>Children born in</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966 and over</u>
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Royston	-	-	-	-	8
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HEALTH VISITING - SECTION 24 - ROYSTON

One health visitor was employed during 1970 with the assistance of one State Registered Nurse who attended school and infant welfare clinic sessions.

Child Welfare	Visits	2,275
Aged	Visits	215
Others	Visits	1,025
School Inspections	Sessions	83
Maternity and Child Welfare	Sessions	212

The Health Visitors continued to give talks on Health Education illustrated by films and film strips.

HOME NURSING - SECTION 25 - ROYSTON

The staff of the home nursing service in Royston at 31st December 1970 consisted of two full time district nurse/midwives and one part time district nurse/midwife. The staff who are able to drive cars are either authorised to use their own vehicles on official business, or have been provided with county owned motor vehicles.

The following are statistics relating to the work of the home nurses in 1970. It will be seen that they made 4,988 visits to 193 patients. 69% of the patients nursed were aged 65 or over and they were visited on 3,683 occasions. 73% of all visits, therefore, were made to this age group.

HOME NURSING

<u>Classification</u>	<u>No. of cases attended</u>	<u>No. of visits made</u>
Medical	136	3,805
Surgical	55	1,180
Tuberculosis	-	-
Others	2	3
TOTALS	193	4,988

Patients included above who were aged 65 or over

135 3,683

Children included above who were under 5

3 5

LAUNDRY SERVICE

No laundry service is yet available in the area. Incontinent pads are available and each district nurse made her own individual arrangements for laundry.

MIDWIFERY - SECTION 23 - ROYSTON

Ante-natal Instruction classes continue to be held in all the clinics but the actual ante-natal care and supervision is provided either in the G.P.'s surgery or in the home.

The County Council's policy, with the decline in birth rate and of domiciliary confinements, to appoint district nurse/midwives, continued during 1970

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY

Ante-natal visits to Expectant Mothers	145
Home Condition Reports for Hospitals	66
Ante-natal Session - General Practitioner	-
Deliveries - Home	17
Deliveries - Hospital	85
Total - Live and Stillbirths	104
Early Discharge - Hospital - 48 hours	8

VACCINATION & IMMUNISATION STATISTICS BY COUNTY DISTRICT AS AT 31.12.70

SECTION 26

County District	Born in 1969	Born in 1968		
	Diphth/Tet. Two Imms.	Diphth/Tet. Primary	Measles	Smallpox
Baldock U.D.	97.6	95.9	53.4	68.5
Hitchin U.D.	81.9	87.1	43.5	55.7
Letchworth U.D.	88.3	90.1	40.7	56.6
Royston U.D.	85.8	91.7	58.6	68.6
Stevenage U.D.	82.1	84.8	41.6	53.5
Hitchin R.D.	82.4	81.0	43.0	51.2
	<u>518.1</u>	<u>530.6</u>	<u>280.8</u>	<u>354.1</u>
Average	86.3	88.4	46.8	58.5

VACCINATION & IMMUNISATION

The vaccination and immunisation rates for the districts are within the national average; those for measles vaccination however are disappointing and this has been reflected in the incidence of measles in this area for the past two years. Measles is a serious childhood disease and will not become as uncommon as diphtheria until all parents realise that their children must be vaccinated in infancy.

AMBULANCE SERVICE - SECTION 27

NORTH HERTS

Number of patients conveyed	65,997
Number of Journeys	30,297
Total Mileage	443,098

Details of Journeys

Accidents	1,607
Sudden Illness	664
Removals	63,022
Maternity	704

The divisional area is served by the County Ambulance Station at St. George's Way, Stevenage. The area Supervisor is Mr. J. Sweetman who has kindly supplied the above statistics.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS: CARE AND AFTER-CARE - SECTION 28

The Medical Loan Service continues to be delegated to the British Red Cross Society and St. John's Ambulance and those organisations play a large part in providing equipment and aids to the ill and handicapped at home. For this voluntary service we should like to express our thanks.

CHEST CLINIC - NORTH HERTS

Health Visiting:

Tuber culosis Households - Visits	374
B.C.G. Follow-up - Visits	44
Contacts - Visits	242
Non-Tuberculosis - Visits	93

New Cases

Immigrants	8
Others	13
Contacts of New Cases	96
Heaf Negative	49
B.C.G. Vaccination	34

The incidence of tuberculosis continued at a low level in this area.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Number of New Cases in 1970

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL ALL VENEREAL CONDITIONS</u>
Lister Hospital, Hitchin	259	112	381

All venereal conditions increased by 51% in 1970.

The return from Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, has been omitted since it refers to the whole of the geographical county of Hertfordshire. These figures are, therefore, deficient by an unknown number in addition to the deficiencies caused by the treatment of patients from this area in London and elsewhere.

30% of the cases were in females

Comment is contained in the preface of this report.

CERVICAL CYTOLOGY - NORTH HERTS

CLINICS	No.1st Atten- dances	% Pop.at risk attending	Negative		Positive		Unsatis- factory Specimens		Inflam- matory Changes		Tricho- monas Vaginalis		Monilia		Suspi- cious		Cell Irregu- larities
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
HITCHIN	478	i) 3 ii) 4	478	100	-	-	-	-	109	22.8	26	5.04	5	1.00	1	.2	-
LEITCHWORTH	242	i) 3 ii) 3	242	100	-	-	5	2.06	51	21	8	3.3	7	2.8	-	-	-
STEVENAGE	602	i) 8 ii) 11	576	95.6	-	-	-	-	110	18.29	31	5.1	6	.99	-	-	-
ROYSTON	75	i) 0.53 ii) 2	75	100	-	-	1	0.13	66	88	1	.13	-	-	-	-	-

CYTOLOGY CLINIC

"WELL WOMAN" CLINIC - JANUARY 1970

Hitchin	-	Every Wednesday a.m.
Letchworth	-	1st and 3rd Tuesdays a.m.
Stevenage	-	Thursday a.m. and Friday p.m.
Royston	-	Every third Wednesday in the month a.m.

From a total of 1,397 no positives were discovered.

In 1970 attendances at the Cytology Clinics showed a slight increase at Hitchin but were lower at Stevenage, Letchworth and Royston than in 1969.

Cervical Cytology continued:

- (i) Aged 20 and over
- (ii) Aged 30 and over

Population At Risk Women (Sample Census 1966) estimated error 1.6 per cent deficient.

Baldock U.D.	(i) 2,080	Royston U.D.	(i) 2,260
	(ii) 1,740		(ii) 1,860
Hitchin U.D.	(i) 9,540	Stevenage U.D.	(i) 16,200
	(ii) 7,900		(ii) 12,350
Letchworth U.D.	(i) 9,480	Hitchin R.D.	(i) 8,560
	(ii) 7,950		(ii) 7,200
TOTAL AT RISK		(i) 48,120	
		(ii) 39,000	

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948 - SECTION 47

This section of the Act is concerned with the compulsory removal of persons in need of care from their homes on a Court Order, or in emergency on an Order signed by two Medical Practitioners and a Justice of the Peace. Such a person may be removed to a County Home or hospital provided that all Sections of the Act are satisfied.

Such action was not necessary during 1970.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT SECTION 21 - 36

During 1970 the shortage of geriatric beds at Lister Hospital continued to cause difficulties in the admission of patients from County Council Old Peoples Homes despite the utmost help and co-operation from Dr. C. Firth - Consultant Geriatrician.

The heavy demand for residential accommodation continued - the waiting list being 12 men and 71 women in North Herts.

BLIND WELFARE - NORTH HERTS

The number of blind persons on the register at 31st December 1970 was 252 and of partially sighted 122.

Patients were visited at varying intervals throughout the year according to their separate needs. Lessons were given in typewriting, Braille and Moon and handicraft lessons. Applications were made for wireless, talking books, holidays and grants, and orders were made for R.N.I.B. apparatus. Other associations, etc., were contacted where necessary. Several outings to the seaside and country were arranged.

MENTAL HEALTH ACT, 1959 - SECTIONS 25, 26 and 29

During 1970, 78 patients were admitted to mental hospitals on compulsory orders and 32 were admitted on an informal basis.

The Social Workers dealt with 650 mental health cases during 1970.

TRAINING CENTRES

Junior Training Centre, Bedford Road, Hitchin

Special Care Unit	12
General Unit	39
Nursery	24
	75

Adult Training Centre, Leyden Road, Stevenage

Trainees on roll 1st January, 1970	60
Trainees on roll 31st December 1970	73

12 Males)	joined the Centre during 1970
14 Females)	
9 Males)	Left the Centre during 1970
4 Females)	

This report has been kindly submitted by Mr. Sindall, Manager of the Adult Training Centre.

Taking the year as a whole, the Centre programme has been successful, both from an industrial and social point of view, which has been shown by the standard of work produced and the results achieved. Whilst some old methods have been continued, new ventures have been embarked upon, particularly in the social training programme which is constantly under review, to give trainees confidence and a more adult outlook on life.

Two new innovations were introduced during the year. A Keep Fit Class for the females and badminton for all those able to participate. The Keep Fit Classes are very popular and it is hoped that a certain amount of weight will be lost by some young ladies. When dressed in their tunics they look quite an attractive class. Badminton has also proved most popular and there are some trainees who have achieved quite a high standard. A Tournament was held during the year and medals presented to the winning lady and gentleman. It is hoped to introduce a physical training class for the males in due course.

A new and more comprehensive social training programme is now being introduced which it is hoped will help the trainees to cope more fully with the responsibilities of adult life.

HOME HELP SERVICE - SECTION 29

Number of Home Helps employed at 31.12.70	76
Number of Good Neighbours employed at 31.12.70	12
Number of Night Sitters employed at 31.12.70	1

GROUPS RECEIVING ASSISTANCE

	No. of cases	No. hours given
1. Maternity (including expectant mothers)	48	987
2. Chronic sick (a) Aged 65 plus	533	50,252
(b) Aged under 65 and T.B.	35	
3. Others,	115	7,475
including (a) Mental Health, (b) Blind		
(c) Miscellaneous		
Acute cases		
Accidents		
Total	731	58,714

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

TABLE I - ROYSTON

Inspection School Children 1970

Entrants	131
First year selective and consultativ	102
Number of special inspections	26
Number of re-inspections	412

Physical condition of Pupils inspected

Satisfactory	671
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I am happy to record that the divisional education officers and the school heads have shown a ready appreciation of the current difficulties.

TABLE II - ROYSTON

B.C.G. Vaccination - 11 years and absentees from previous sessions

Number of children offered testing and vaccination if necessary	480
Number of acceptances	459
Percentage of acceptances	95.6%

Pre-Vaccination Tuberculin Test:

Number tested	424
---------------	-----

Result of Test:

Number positive	22
Number negative	363
Number not ascertained	39
Percentage positive	5.1%
Percentage negative	85.6%
Number vaccinated	363

Note: The percentage of acceptance is most satisfactory; no adverse re-actions to B.C.G. vaccinations were reported during the year.

The number of skin tests carried out during 1970 increased by 285 and of vaccinations by 253.

The Consultant Paediatrician for the area, Dr. C.G. Fagg, is always available for consultation and I am indebted to him for his help during the year.

I would also acknowledge the help and co-operation from Dr. C. Firth, Consultant Geriatrician, and Dr. B. Mallett - Consultant Psychiatrist.

Drs. Roper and Gabriel have played a large part in the School Health Service and I am grateful to them also

HOSPITAL SERVICES

The hospital services for the area are administered by the North West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board with the Luton and Hitchin Hospital Management Committee. Addenbrooke's Hospital is administered by the United Cambridge Hospitals.

GENERAL HOSPITAL SERVICES

North Hertfordshire Hospital, Hitchin

Lister Hospital, Hitchin

Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge

MENTAL HOSPITAL

Fairfield Hospital, Stotfold,

MATERNITY HOSPITAL SERVICES

North Hertfordshire Maternity Unit, Hitchin

CHEST CLINIC

Lister Hospital, Hitchin

LABORATORY SERVICES

Dr. A.T. Willis, Director, Public Health Laboratory, Luton and Dunstable Hospital, Lewsey Road, Luton, Beds.

Dr. G.R.E. Maylor, Director, Public Health Laboratory, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.

ROYSTON U.D.C. - TUBERCULOSIS

No. on Register at 31st December 1970:

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pulmonary	20	18	38
Non-pulmonary	6	3	9
	26	21	47

No. Removed from Register during 1970:

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	
Deaths	-	-	-	-	-
Other (cured, re-diagnosed transfers of area, etc.)	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-

Additions to Register during 1970:

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	
New Notifications	1	-	-	-	1
Other (cases restored to register, transfers etc.)	-	-	-	-	-
	1	-	-	-	1

SECTION "F"

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS & OTHER DISEASES

Infectious Diseases (Corrected) Royston - Age Distribution

Diseases	Total cases notified	Cases after correction	Under 1 year	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 & over	Age unknown
Whooping cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	49	-	-	4	4	4	7	29	1	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	50	-	-	4	4	4	8	29	1	-	-	-	-	-

SECTION "A"

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(a) General Statistics

Area (in acres)	1,637
Register-General's estimate of Resident Population Mid-1970	8,280
Number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1970	2,623
Rateable Value	£489,976
Net produce of 1d. rate	£1,977

Sample from San Mill, Madrid			
Taken by J.G.		Date 19th September, 1970	Page 1
Chemical Results Expressed in Milligrams per litre			
Appearance - Colour and Odour		Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.0
Colour (Pt-Co) - Low Temp		Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.0
Chemical Oxygen Demand		Nitrate	0.0
Chloride		Nitrite	0.0
Conductivity	450	Dissolved Oxygen	0.0
Total Solids	100	Fluoride - Low Temp	0.0
pH	7.5	Silica	0.0
Free Chlorine	0.0	Iron - Low Temp	0.0
Chlorinity (Cl ₂)	0.0	Copper	0.0
Calcium Hardness	100	Phosphorus	0.0
Magnesium Hardness	0.0	Removal Efficiency	0.0
Total Hardness	100	Temperature °C	0.0

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE
YEAR 1970.

S E C T I O N "C"

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

Water Supply

The Lee Valley Water Company supply piped water to the whole of the Urban District and there have not been any difficulties experienced in either the quality of the water or in the supply. Sampling of the water is undertaken in the main by the Company who have reported upon 165 bacteriological and 3 chemical samples of water as being satisfactory and of a purity suitable for a public water supply. Further samples were taken by the Public Health Inspector and submitted for bacteriological examination at the Cambridge Public Health Laboratory, these also were reported upon as being satisfactory.

The Lee Valley Water Company have kindly supplied the following as a typical report on the water supply to the district.

Sample from Sun Hill, Royston			
Taken by	J.C.	Date	14th September, 1970
		Time	10.25
Chemical Results Expressed in Milligrammes per Litre			
Appearance - Clear and Bright		Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.00
Colour (Burgess) - Less than 5		Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.00
Odour/Taste Nil/nil		Nitrate Nitrogen	6.0
Turbidity 0		Nitrite Nitrogen	0.00
Conductivity 450		Oxygen Absorbed	0.08
Total Solids 305		Fluoride - Less than	0.2
pH 7.3		Silica	16
Free CO ₂ 20		Iron - Less than	0.02
Alkalinity (CaCO ₃) 215		Other Metals	Absent
Carbonate Hardness 215		Phosphate	0.05
Non-Carbonate Hardness 35		Residual Chlorine	Nil
Total Hardness 250		Temperature °C	12

REPORT ON WATER SAMPLES (Continued)

CATION	Milli-grammes per Litre	Milli-equivalents per Litre	ANION	Milli-grammes per Litre	Milli-equivalents per Litre
Calcium	94.0	4.72	Carbonate	130	4.32
Magnesium	3.4	0.28	Sulphate	17	0.35
Sodium	6.2	0.27	Chloride	10	0.28
Potassium	1.6	0.04	Nitrate	27	0.43
TOTAL	105.2	5.31	TOTAL	184	5.38

<u>BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION</u>				
No. of Colonies	<u>1 day at 37°C</u>	<u>2 days at 37°C</u>	<u>3 days at 20°C</u>	
Developing on Agar	0 per ml	0 per ml	1 per ml	
	<u>Present in</u>	<u>Absent from</u>	<u>Probable No.</u>	
Presumptive Coli-Aerogenes	ml	100 ml	0 per 100 ml	
E. Coli	ml	100 ml	0 per 100 ml	
CI. Welchii	ml	ml		

Relative hardness of the water is indicated so that no problems of plumbo solvency should arise.

Fluoride as a natural constituent of the water is shown as less than 0.2 milligrammes per litre.

SWIMMING POOLS

The Green Plunge Swimming Pool now operated by the Council maintained its popularity during the year. Regular sampling was carried out by the Public Health Inspector and all samples were reported on as being satisfactory. Testing for chlorine and Ph was done by the Pool Superintendent at intervals each day and any departure from normal standards was immediately rectified.

Two School swimming pools remained in use both with filtration and chlorination plant and are regularly sampled by the County Health Inspector.

HOUSING

New Properties

New properties erected during the year numbered 159 houses by private enterprise.

GRANTS

The following tables show numbers of grants given together with amounts paid.

It will be seen that there was a reduction in the number of Standard Grant applications but a large increase in Discretionary Grant applications.

STANDARD GRANTS

	1959-64	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Number of applications received	53	10	14	15	15	23	15
Number of applications approved	49	10	14	15	14	22	12
Total paid by way of grant	£2,951. 10s.6d.	£1,055. 17s.8d.	£1,375. 4s. 4d.	£2,407. 1s. 3d.	£1,503. 12s.7d.	£4,180. 6s. 5d.	£3,524. 4s. 0d.

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

	1959-64	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Number of applications received	24	2	2	7	3	4	17
Number of applications approved	21	2	2	7	3	3	10
Total paid by way of grant	£4,687. 13s.8d.	£225.	£403. 5s. 0d.	£1,662. 19s.6d.	£836. 7s. 6d.	£800	£1,324. 5s. 0d.

CARAVANS AND GYPSIES

Three single sites only exist in the Urban District and no problems have arisen. Gypsies did not present any problem this year as their favourite site was in the hands of Contractors preparing the new industrial area and Council house building.

FACTORIES

An appendix to the Report gives the statistical information required by the Department of Employment and Productivity on the application of the Factories Act in the District.

Food manufacture and packing	1
Agricultural Engineering	1
Boat Building	1
Flour and seed mills	2
Lampshade manufacture	2
Light engineering	4
Motor vehicle repairs	5
Printing	3
Builders and Masons	3
Precious metal refiners	1
Fertilizer manufacture	1
Concrete products	2
Miscellaneous, including non-power factories and building sites	15
	—
	41
	==

Three outworkers have been notified during the year, all engaged in the making up of wearing apparel.

RODENT CONTROL

Properties other than Sewers

1. Number of properties in district
2. (a) Total number of properties
(including nearby premises)
inspected following notification
- (b) Number infested by
 - (i) Rats
 - (ii) Mice
3. (a) Total number of properties
inspected for rats and/or mice
for reasons other than
notification
- (b) (i) Rats
- (ii) Mice

Type of Property	
Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
3,351	20
277	8
184	8
3	-
93	4
48	4
8	-

Sewers

4. Were any sewers infested by rats
during the year?

A small number of
sewers were found to be
infested

There were 114 complaints about rat infestations and 2 regarding mice, this shows an increase on the previous years notification - 94.

Considerable trouble was experienced in the early part of the year with an infestation in a new house built some seven months ago. The infestation was first reported as being in the rear cavity walls and garden.

Investigation revealed defects in the brickwork at the point of entry of the drains; the builders attended to this and baiting was carried out at the house and adjoining properties.

This was followed by reports of rodent activity in the roof space, under the bedroom floors, in the front cavity wall, the side cavity walls and again at the rear. Considerable amounts of bait of different types have been used and together with the builders all possible access points have been sealed.

Still the complaints persisted particularly of activity in the roof space where the bait was being taken without any results and the suspicion arose that warfarin was not being effective.

At this stage the Public Health Inspector decided to contact the Ministry of Agriculture Pests Division who investigated the matter and were highly suspicious. A single rat was subsequently killed and the problem has not recurred.

Sewer infestations was again observed during the annual treatment but only on a very minor scale.

WASPS

The Council's Contractors for pest control in revising their charges, took wasp control out of the main contract and proposed making a charge of £2.50p. per nest destroyed. The Public Health Committee then resolved to pass their charge to the complainants and the Council would no longer provide a free service.

This fact coupled with a generally lower wasp population resulted in only 12 nests being complained about compared with 44 the previous year.

OTHER INSECTS

Complaints of cluster flies were received early in the year from occupiers of new houses on the Ridings Estate. It was thought that the flies had entered the partially built houses to over winter and when the new owners moved in and used the central heating systems, the flies appeared. The use of Lindane Smoke generators quickly cured the trouble.

RENT ACT, 1957

No Certificate of Disrepair were issued.

COMPLAINTS

Complaints from the public received during the year numbered 148 compared with 154 in 1969. They are made up as follows:-

Rats		114
Mice		2
Housing Conditions		8
Food		4
Insect Pests	4	
Wasps Nests	<u>12</u>	16
Miscellaneous		4

MARKET AND FAIR

The Street Market held on Wednesdays and Saturdays continued to thrive with only minimal variations in the traders present.

The Annual Street Fair reverted, this year, to its normal two day event with the result that the Saturday market traded normally and the Wednesday market moved to the lower end of Market Hill.

Food traders regularly attending are:-

	<u>Wednesdays</u>	<u>Saturdays</u>
Greengrocers	5	5
Wet Fish	1	0
Sweets	2	2
Meat or Poultry	1	2
Cakes	1	1

PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1965

The number of premises registered for the preservation of meat or manufacture of sausages is 3, consisting of two sausage manufacturers and one boiling of ham.

ICE CREAM

Samples of ice creams submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination were all returned as being Grade 1.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

Milk is supplied to the District by two large Dairies, sampling from which for compositional and keeping quality is undertaken by the County Council, who are also the Registration Authority for Dairies and Distributors.

The Local Council licences shops selling milk over the counter in the same containers as it was received by the shopkeeper. There are 3 such sellers of milk licensed.

FOOD PREMISES

The following list of food premises is classified according to main trade carried on, although with some of the larger multiple stores and supermarket it is difficult to decide what is the main trade.

All premises are properly fitted to comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations and again any infringements found have been of a minor nature and rectified on the spot.

Butchers	5
Grocers	11
Greengrocers	4
Wet Fish	3
Fried Fish	2
Sweet Shops	6
Bakers and Confectioners	3
Off Licences	2
Public Houses	7
Hotels	3

UNFIT FOOD

During the year the following amounts of food were inspected and voluntarily surrendered as being unfit:-

Tinned:-	
Meat	80 lbs.
Vegetables	40 lbs.
Fruit	120 lbs.
Miscellaneous	150 lbs.
Sausages	74 lbs.
Cheese	6 lbs.
Meat	2 lbs.
Total:	4 cwt. 24 lbs.

APPENDIX I

PREScribed PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspection	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
I. Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	3	-	-
II. Factories not included in (I) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority	33	14	1	-
III. Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers)	4	4	-	-
TOTAL	41	21	1	-

APPENDIX I (Continued)

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				
	Found	Remedied	Referred		Number of Prosecutions
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temp. (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Vent. (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	-	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	-	-	1	-

Outworkers

There are three outworkers reported in the District employed on the making of "Wearing apparel".

APPENDIX II

THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

TABLE A REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

	(2) Number of premises registered during the year	(3) Total number of registered premises at end of year	(4) Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	1	33	16
Retail Shops	-	67	41
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	1	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	6	6
Fuel Storage Depots	-	1	1

TABLE B

NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY)
INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES) 96

APPENDIX II (Continued)

TABLE C ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN
REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

(1) Class of workplace	(2) Number of persons employed
Offices	198
Retail Shops	343
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	2
Catering Establishments open to the public	49
Canteens	1
Fuel Storage Depots	6
Total	599
Total Males	183
Total Females	416

TABLE D

INSPECTORS

Number of inspectors appointed
under Section 52(1) or (5) of
the Act

1

Number of other staff employed
for most of their time on
work in connection with the
Act

Nil

TABLE C
ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN
ESTABLISHED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE
NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN EACH

(1) Class of workplace	(2) Number of persons employed	(3) Number of persons employed
Office	198	
Retail Store	203	
Wholesale Department, Warehouse	2	
Catering Establishments open to the public	49	
Continued		
Fuel Storage Depots		
Total	452	
Total Value		188
Total Persons		452

TABLE D
ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN ESTABLISHED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Number of persons employed in each of the following workplaces under Section 25(1) or (2) of the Act

Number of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act



