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Contributors

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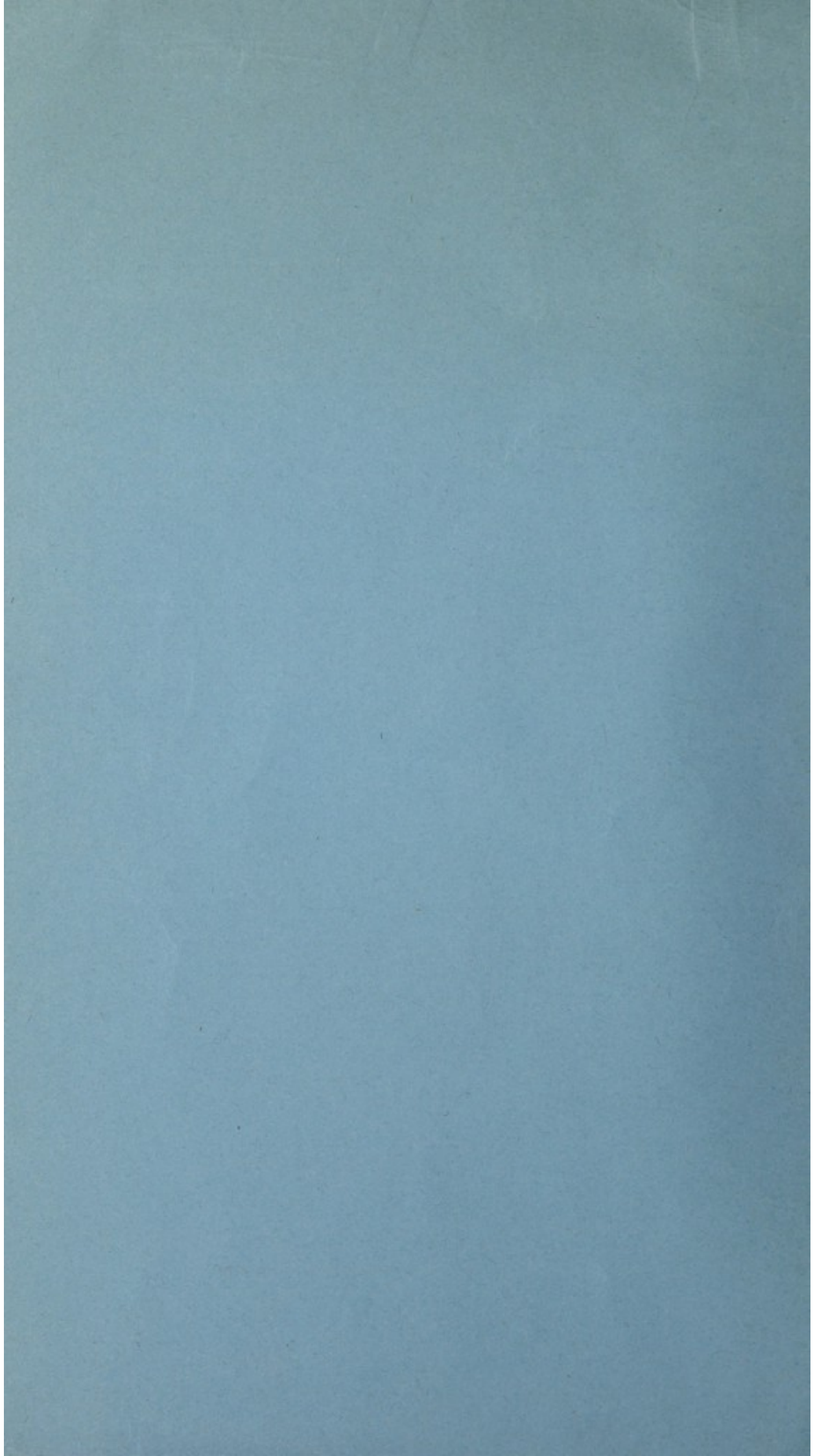
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STEVENAGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



THE HEALTH
OF
STEVENAGE

1966



STEVENAGE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Members as at 31st December, 1966

Chairman of the Council:

P.T. Ireton, J.P., C.A.

Chairman of the Public Health Committee:

J.H. Cockerton, J.P.

Members of the Public Health Committee:

G.S. Carrott	R.W.F. Fowler
D.C. Burr	F. Schofield
K.J.W. Fisher	Mrs. B.J. Shea
V.J. Folbigg	

Medical Officer of Health:

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

Chief Public Health Inspector:

R.V. LANEY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Public Health Inspector:

A.E. FLINTOFF, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.



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P R E F A C E

Public Health Department,
Southgate House,
Southgate,
STEVENAGE.

To the Chairman and Members of
Stevenage Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I include in this annual report of the health of your district details of the County Council health and school health services.

I would acknowledge in this preface my debt to Dr. Walker who retired in May, 1966. Some of the work, therefore, in this report was carried out under his direction.

The population showed a natural increase of 987 and an overall increase of 2,390 according to the Registrar General's estimate of the resident population for mid-1966.

There were no maternal deaths in the district, a most satisfactory situation.

Sixteen deaths were recorded in children under one year of age from a total of 1,267 live births, fifty-five of which were premature. Six of these deaths were associated with prematurity, eight were respiratory diseases, and one with a congenital anomaly. Five of the total of infant deaths were under the age of one month, seven of whom died within one week of birth. Eleven of the sixteen were born in hospital and fifteen died in hospital. These deaths were all unavoidable.

The infant mortality rate (deaths under one year of age per thousand live births) was 12.5, the remainder of Hertfordshire 13.9, England and Wales 19.0 (mean of the North Hertfordshire division 11.6) and this can be considered a very satisfactory rate.

The perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week per thousand live and stillbirths) was 17.1, Hertfordshire 19.5, England and Wales 26.3 (the mean of the North Hertfordshire division 16.0).

The stillbirth rate (births at or over twenty-eight weeks not live-born per thousand births live and still) was 12.4, Hertfordshire 11.7, England and Wales 15.4, (mean of the North Hertfordshire division 11.6). Both these rates may be considered satisfactory.

The corrected birth rate was 16.2, Hertfordshire 16.3.

The corrected death rate was 11.5, slightly higher than that for Hertfordshire (10.1).

The total deaths were 280, of which eighty-seven were due to diseases of the heart and blood vessels, seventy-one to cancer of varying sites, thirty-seven to vascular lesions of the nervous system, and thirty-two to respiratory diseases. These correspond to rates of 1.5 (Hertfordshire 3.1, mean of the North Hertfordshire division 2.9), 1.25 (Hertfordshire 1.9, mean of the North Hertfordshire division 1.8), 0.65 (Hertfordshire 1.3, mean of the North Hertfordshire division 1.2), 0.56 (Hertfordshire 1.2, mean of the North Hertfordshire division 0.7). These rates are all most satisfactory and all are lower than the national average, a reflection of the favourable population distribution in a new town.

There were two deaths from tuberculosis and four from other infective and parasitic diseases.

Eight deaths were due to motor vehicle accidents; three deaths to other accidents; and there were three deaths from suicide.

There were sixty-five illegitimate births with no deaths. The illegitimate birth rate was therefore 4% of the total births.

Proceedings were taken as a result of complaints with the following food items: oyster sauce, a buttered bun containing aluminium wire, a stick of rock containing metal, apple pie filling containing a wasp and two mouldy pork pies. These proceedings all resulted in convictions. It is a most important part of the work of your Chief Public Health Inspector that all food complaints should be fully investigated and if necessary Court proceedings instituted.

The construction of a new private abattoir reported in the Annual Report for 1965 has unfortunately had to be delayed due to the general economic situation.

In the period September to December, 1966, two deaths from Leptospirosis (Weil's Syndrome) occurred in a one mile area of North West Hertfordshire. Both were in men of late middle age, and both were farm labourers. Their deaths were due to infection by a bacterium *Leptospira*, a genus of the Order Spirochaetales.

In January, 1967, two further suspected cases were reported, one in the same area as the two deaths and one three miles to the North. These cases recovered and blood tests showed no conclusive evidence of active infection.

Leptospirosis is one of the zoonoses, a group of diseases naturally transmitted between vertebrate animals, into which animal cycle man intrudes incidentally. The death rate in man from this disease varies between 10-30%, a rate greatly higher than, for example, typhoid fever and equal to that of smallpox, and is dependent on such factors as the dose of infection, the virulence of the particular strain of infecting *leptospira*, the resistance and immunity of the infectee, and the latter's age and general state of health.

Although many different animals are hosts (vectors) of *leptospira*, outbreaks of Weil's Syndrome in man are almost invariably associated with the common brown rat (*rattus norvegicus*), infection being transmitted by rats' urine to food, soil, water and then to man.

An abnormally high infestation of rats in every district of North Hertfordshire was known since the first death, and the second death occurred in spite of the concentration of all resources upon rat destruction. Higher infestations elsewhere in England have been reported to me by the Ministry of Agriculture, but this area was unique in its two deaths within a confined area.

It remained, therefore, to confirm the hypothesis that within a circumscribed area an epidemic of Leptospirosis was present in the rats themselves and that elsewhere in the County the condition was a quiescent or endemic one in those animals. It remained also to discover whether, in fact, undiagnosed cases had occurred elsewhere.

To test this possibility live rats were trapped in random areas of Baldoek, Letchworth, Royston, Stevenage, and the areas of Hitchin Rural District surrounding those towns and examined for the presence of live *leptospira*. The tested rats were positive and were heavy excretors of *leptospira*. Enquiries were made throughout North Hertfordshire to discover missed cases of leptospirosis; none were found.

It is not possible therefore to explain the misfortune of the two isolated deaths. It may be presumed however, that both received a particularly heavy dose of infection with a virulent strain of *leptospira*.

The public were asked in a special press release to take the following precautions:

1. House surrounds, gardens and out-buildings to be kept tidy, clean and swept. All accumulations of rubbish likely to harbour rats to be destroyed.

2. No food remnants to be placed in open dustbins and no food to be thrown on the ground for birds or pets.
3. Agricultural workers and gardeners to take special care not to eat any food after work without washing and scrubbing the hands. Water from ponds, ditches, surface springs, etc., not to be drunk or allowed to come into contact with a wound, and all cuts etc. to be covered. The washing of gumboots etc. to be performed with main's supply water only.
4. The hands to be thoroughly washed after contact with any animal; dead rats not to be picked up with ungloved hands and the presence of rats to be reported to the Public Health Department.

A tribute must be paid to the Editors of the local newspapers for the most valuable co-operation I was given at this time.

There is no doubt that rat infestation throughout England is now a bigger problem than ever before. Numbers of rats in 1966 were known by the Ministry of Agriculture to have reached alarming proportions. Significant factors are diminishing numbers of rat predators for example hawks, falcons, pole cats, stoats and weasels; ample food supplies in the fields due to combine harvesting methods, and regrettably in certain areas a lack of attention paid by farmers to rat eradication. In this area, for example, infestation of a stretch of the Great North Road, which must have been apparent to road workers and farmers, was not reported to any public health authority, and was revealed only by a personal visit by a Chief Public Health Inspector.

It is quite impossible for any Medical Officer of Health or Public Health Inspector to control rats without the co-operation of such members of the public as farmers. I am however, grateful for the large number of cases of rats reported to me by ordinary inhabitants of the area and this help was of fundamental importance.

I would draw your attention to the comments of your Chief Public Health Inspector on rodent control contained in a later part of the report.

During 1966 cervical cytology clinics were established in the division. The public responded to such an extent that in certain areas waiting lists for appointments were as long as four months. The number of clinics that can be established for this purpose are limited by the availability of medical staffs and by the number of smears that the hospital can examine. Medical recruitment to the Public Health Service has for some time presented a problem which is not easing. It should be remembered also that the Medical Officers carrying out this work require special training.

The Health Visitors, District Nurses, and Midwives are now attached to family doctors. It is hoped that this attachment will be to the benefit of the community in creating a better understanding of the latter's needs. The closer association of both hospital and general practitioner services with the local authorities, has been a welcome development over the past few years. The suspicion with which many family doctors in the past regarded the establishment of Health Centres would appear to be disappearing, and during the year plans were formulated to establish a group of general practitioners in a new clinic to be built in the area. There is no doubt that the trend in the health services as a whole is to the ever closer co-operation between its three main branches.

A case of paralytic poliomyelitis occurred at the end of July in the divisional area. Forty-six contacts were traced and all were given oral vaccine and kept under surveillance by the health visitors. Several of the contacts were resident in London and other areas outside the County, and their Medical Officers of Health were informed. No further cases have occurred.

During this outbreak certain members of the public became unduly alarmed, and use of the swimming baths was questioned: such recreation is not contra-indicated in the minor epidemics of poliomyelitis.

Clinical surveillance of poliomyelitis contacts is the most important single measure in controlling an outbreak; the giving of oral vaccine is unlikely to affect the course of an epidemic of a disease in which the incubation period is variable and may be extremely short. The closure of swimming baths, cinemas, schools etc. in general serves no purpose.

Measles is now the commonest infectious disease of childhood. Although it only rarely produces deaths it is responsible for much school absence and in certain cases is followed by complications which may be long lasting. Vaccination against measles became possible following the isolation of the measles virus and the development of an attenuated strain. The early vaccine made from this strain was accompanied by rashes and a rise of temperature in many cases. Further vaccines have been produced which would appear not to have these side effects and the possibility of measles vaccination on a wide scale now exists. Discussions as to its use are still taking place but it would appear that after further trials, measles vaccination may become a routine part of the childhood immunisation and vaccination programme.

I wish to record my thanks to Mr. Lamey, Chief Public Health Inspector, for his work and co-operation during the year. I am most grateful for the help I received on my arrival to take up my appointment. In this short preface it is not possible to mention all those members of the medical and administrative staffs, both of your district and of the County Council, whose efforts I have so greatly appreciated. My thanks are particularly due to the staff of the Divisional Health Office who have made the preparation of this report possible.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

J.D. HALL,

Medical Officer of Health.

Divisional Health Office,
Bedford Road,
HITCHIN, Hertfordshire.

(Tel. No. Hitchin 50411).

SECTION "A"

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(a) General Statistics

Area (in acres)	.....	.....	5,895
Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population Mid-1966	.....	.....	56,760
Number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1966	.....	.....	16,819
Rateable value	.....	.....	£3,752,797
Net product of ld. rate	.....	.....	£14,900

(b) Physical and Social Conditions

The Registrar General's estimate of resident population for mid-1966 revealed an overall increase of 2,390. The natural increase of population i.e. the excess of births over deaths for the whole year was 987.

There were 152 houses built by private enterprise during the year, 119 built by the Stevenage Urban District Council, and 921 built by the Stevenage Development Corporation.

The employment position in Stevenage is most satisfactory. The population is largely concerned in vehicle manufacturing and electro-engineering. The majority are engaged in professional and scientific services, and others are employed in the distributive trades, construction building and civil engineering, and other manufacturing industries.

The six hills of Stevenage are thought to be burial mounds; but it is not known from which age - Danish, Roman or Celtic - and it is from these ancient monuments that the Saxons named it: meaning Hills by the Highway.

The charter for the great September Fair was granted in 1280 and renewed in 1624; and in 1281 the market came into existence. For many centuries the people lived almost entirely by its agriculture. The church, mostly of Norman structure, was once the nucleus of medieval Stevenage; but no doubt the attractions of the Highway, and possibly a disastrous fire, encouraged the inhabitants to move three quarters of a mile south-west of this area. It was during the coaching era that more prosperity came to Stevenage and some of the surviving inns bear testimony to this.

A school is known to have existed in Stevenage as early as 1312, but no details are known. In 1558 Alleyne's Grammar School was founded by the Rector, Thomas Alleyne; and it has been enlarged and altered on many occasions.

In 1873, the landowners and ratepayers constituted the parish an Urban Sanitary District, the first step in municipal organisation under the Local Government Act, 1858; in 1894, the present Urban District Council was formed.

Before the first World War there was only one sizable factory in Stevenage. A number of factories opened in the inter-war period and many more followed during the war. By 1945 Stevenage was no longer a village nor yet a full-fledged town.

The greatest change in Stevenage however, was to take place in more recent times. It was in 1946 that it was decided under the New Towns Act that Stevenage should be the first satellite town. Stevenage was no doubt chosen because it was in a convenient position to attract industry. The road and rail communications with the industrial North were good; and it was on the side of London where the greatest amount of overcrowding existed. There was much opposition from the inhabitants and it was not until 2nd February, 1951, that the first London family moved to Stevenage New Town.

It was decided that the industrial estate should be on the west of the town between the now diverted Great North Road and the railway. A railway station for the New Town was envisaged; and this will no doubt be of great benefit to those who find the railway station in the Old Town inconvenient. Now there is a thriving industrial area manufacturing numerous products - machinery large and small - offering opportunities for those engaged in electronics, computer manufacture and operation, production of aircraft and many other branches of engineering.

A vast number of houses and flats have been built; and for those who wish to purchase their own houses there are many of pleasant and modern design to cater for their needs. Today the town provides a pleasant place to live for those working in the nearby industrial area and its situation is convenient for those wishing to commute to London. Around the Town Square, with its impressive Clock Tower, is the pedestrian shopping precinct, claimed to be the largest in Europe. The wide, canopied pavements without the hazards of traffic, make shopping a pleasure - especially for mothers with young children.

STEVENAGE - VITAL STATISTICS 1966

LIVE BIRTHS-

	Males	Females	TOTAL
Total	639	628	1,267
Legitimate	603	599	1,202
Illegitimate	36	29	65
Live Birth Rate (uncorrected) per 1,000 population	-	-	22.3
Live Birth Rate (corrected) per 1,000 population	-	-	16.2
Illegitimate live births percentage of total live births	-	-	5.1

STILL-BIRTHS-

	Males	Females	TOTAL
Total	7	9	16
Rate per 1,000 live and still-births	-	-	12.4
Total live and still-births ..	646	637	1,283

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE-

	Males	Females	TOTAL
Total	12	4	16
Legitimate	12	4	16
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	-	-	12.5
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	-	-	13.3
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	-	0.00
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	-	-	7.1
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	-	-	4.7
Perinatal mortality rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still-births) ..	-	-	17.1

MATERNAL MORTALITY, INCLUDING ABORTION-

Number of deaths	-	-	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	-	-	0.00

TOTAL DEATHS	161	119	280
Death Rate (uncorrected) ..	-	-	4.9
Death Rate (corrected)	-	-	11.5
Natural increase of population	-	-	987

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1966 IN THE
URBAN DISTRICT OF STEVENAGE.

General Register Office, Somerset House, Strand, London, W.C.2.

ICD No.	CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks and Under 1 year	1-	5-	AGE IN YEARS						
								15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & Over
010-019	2. Tuberculosis, Other	M F	- 2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- -
REM 001-038	9. Other Infective & Parasitic Disease	M F	3 1	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
151	10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	M F	2 3	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- 1	2 -	- 1
162-163	11. Malignant Neoplasm, lung, Bronchus	M F	21 5	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 2	- 1	3 -	9 -	7 1	2 1
170	12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M F	- 6	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- 1	- -	- 2	- 2	- -
171-174	13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
REM 140-205	14. Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	M F	18 13	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	2 2	1 1	4 -	2 -	7 7	2 2
204	15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -
260	16. Diabetes	M F	1 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- 1
330-334	17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M F	16 21	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	3 1	2 1	5 6	5 13

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1966 IN THE
URBAN DISTRICT OF STEVENAGE

General Register Office, Somerset House, Strand, London, W.C.2.

ICD No.	CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks and Under 1 year	1--	5--	15--	AGES IN YEARS					75 & Over
									25--	35--	45--	55--	65--	
610	29. Hyperplasia of Prostrate	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
750-759	31. Congenital Malformations	M F	6 -	1 -	2 -	2 -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -
001-795	32. Other Defined & Ill-Defined Diseases	M F	12 9	4 2	1 -	- -	- -	2 -	- -	- -	1 1	1 1	1 1	2 4
E810- E835	33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	M F	5 3	- -	- -	1 -	- -	2 1	- -	- -	1 1	- -	1 -	1 1
RM E800- E899	34. All Other Accidents	M F	3 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	1 -	1 -	- -	- -	- -
E970- E979	35. Suicide	M F	1 2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	1 -	- 1	- -	- -
TOTAL ALL CAUSES		M F	161 119	7 2	5 2	5 -	1 -	5 4	4 6	10 5	28 9	25 11	41 32	30 48

I N F A N T D E A T H S

STEVENAGE

Place of Birth	Date of Death	Cause of Death	Age	Birth Weight	Age of Mother	Died at	Sex	Legit.	Illegit.
North Herts. Maternity Unit	30.1.66	Chicken Pox Prematurity	1 week	4lbs. 14ozs.	20	North Herts. Hospital	M	-	
North Herts. Maternity Unit	8.2.66	Cerebral Haemorrhage	2 days	5lbs. 9ozs.	27	North Herts. Hospital.	M	-	
Home	20.2.66	Bronchiolitis	9 months	7lbs. 6ozs.	21	Lister Hospital	M	-	
North Herts. Maternity Unit	20.2.66	Atelectasis Neonatorum	1 day	8lbs. 15ozs.	24	Lister Hospital	F	-	
Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, Welwyn Garden City.	10.3.66	Broncho- pneumonia	3 months	6lbs. 8ozs.	21	Lister Hospital	F	-	
North Herts. Maternity Unit	21.3.66	Broncho- pneumonia	1 month	7lbs. 6ozs.	29	Lister Hospital	F	-	
Home	1.4.66	Heart Failure Congenital Cyanotic. Heart Disease	1 month	7lbs. 14ozs.	Not known	Lister Hospital	M	-	

I N F A N T D E A T H S

STEVENAGE

Place of Birth	Date of Death	Cause of Death	Age	Birth Weight	Age of Mother	Died at	Sex	Legit.	Illegit.
North Herts. Maternity Unit	29.4.66	Prematurity	1 week	3lbs. 2ozs.	24	North Herts. Hospital	M	-	
North Herts. Maternity Unit	26.8.66	Respiratory Syndrome	1 day	5lbs. 10ozs.	23	North Herts. Hospital	F	-	
North Herts. Maternity Unit	9.9.66	Meningitis & Pneumonia	1 week	7lbs. 10ozs.	28	Lister Hospital	M	-	
North Herts. Maternity Unit	22.9.66	Broncho-pneumonia	4 months	8lbs. 9ozs.	25	Lister Hospital	M	-	
North Herts. Maternity Unit	28.9.66	Prematurity Twin Pregnancy	9 hrs 1 day	2lbs. 7ozs. 2lbs. 9 ozs.	19	North Herts. Hospital	M M	- -	
North Herts. Maternity Unit	24.11.66	Prematurity	15 hrs	3lbs. 8ozs.	25	North Herts. Hospital	M	-	
Home	11.11.66	Staphylococcal Broncho-pneumonia	1 month	8 lbs.	31	Home	M	-	
Home	15.4.66	Adrenal Hyperplasia	1 month	6lbs. 10ozs.	26	Hospital for Sick Children Holborn.	M	-	

S T E V E N A G E

	District 1966	North Hertfordshire Division	Hertfordshire	England and Wales
Population	56,760	147,470	872,100	48,075,300
Live Births (Crude)	22.3	19.2	17.3	17.7
Live Births (Corrected)	16.2	*	16.3	*
Death Rate -- All Causes Crude	4.9	8.4	9.1	11.7
Death Rate -- All Causes Corrected	11.5	*	10.1	*
Infective & Parasitic Diseases - excluding Tuberculosis, but including Syphilis and other V.D.	0.07	0.06	0.03	*
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	0.00	0.04	0.03	0.04
Other Forms	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.01
All Forms	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.05
Cancer	1.25	1.8	1.9	2.2
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	0.65	1.2	1.3	*
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	1.5	2.9	3.1	*
Respiratory Diseases	0.56	0.7	1.2	*
Maternal Mortality	0.00	0.00	0.3	0.3
Infantile Mortality	12.5	11.6	13.9	19.0
Neo Natal Mortality	7.1	6.3	9.3	12.9
Early Neo Natal Mortality	4.7	4.5	7.9	11.1
Perinatal Mortality	17.1	16.0	19.5	26.3
Still-births	12.4	11.6	11.7	15.4

* not available.

Location	Distance from station	Direction of flow	Water level	Water level	Water level
Station 1	100	100	100	100	100
Station 2	200	200	200	200	200
Station 3	300	300	300	300	300
Station 4	400	400	400	400	400
Station 5	500	500	500	500	500
Station 6	600	600	600	600	600
Station 7	700	700	700	700	700
Station 8	800	800	800	800	800
Station 9	900	900	900	900	900
Station 10	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Station 11	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100
Station 12	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200
Station 13	1300	1300	1300	1300	1300
Station 14	1400	1400	1400	1400	1400
Station 15	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500
Station 16	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600
Station 17	1700	1700	1700	1700	1700
Station 18	1800	1800	1800	1800	1800
Station 19	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900
Station 20	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000

SECTIONS C, D & E HAVE BEEN COMPILED BY THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR, MR. R.V. LANEY

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

i) Water Supply

The Lee Valley Water Company is the water undertaking for the area and an adequate supply of water is maintained.

Apart from a small bulk supply of water taken from the Watton Road Pumping Station at Knebworth, the Town's water supply is obtained from bore holes at Whitehall Pumping Station, Aston, which is situated just outside the Urban District boundaries.

In addition, there are bore holes at Rooks Nest and Broomin Green within the town of Stevenage but these sources are not at present used for general supply.

The water from the pumping stations is subjected to chlorination, de-chlorination and aeration before going into supply.

Chemical analysis and bacteriological examination of the water supplied to Stevenage are made by the Water Authority and the results are forwarded to the Council. Details of these samples taken during the year, all of which proved satisfactory, are as follows:-

	Raw Water	Water in Supply
Chemical	7	15
Bacteriological	23	231

In addition, your Public Health Inspectors regularly sample water at domestic and business premises and these are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Luton, for bacteriological examination. During the year 62 such samples were taken and all proved satisfactory.

Routine tests were made throughout the year on the distributive system and on examination the fluoride content was found in all cases to be less than 0.2 parts per million and showed no indication of plumbo-solvency.

There are now only 2 houses in the Urban District which obtain their water from private bore holes. These bore holes are approximately 200ft. deep and have always given satisfactory results on bacteriological examination.

SWIMMING POOL

The Swimming Bath waters are regularly sampled for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis and a satisfactory standard has been maintained throughout the year.

ii) Sewage Disposal

All main foul water drainage is dealt with at the Ryemead Sewage Works near Harlow. Few properties remain connected to cesspools or septic tank installations, and these will further decrease as extensions of the main sewerage systems take place.

iii) Refuse Collection

The Public Cleansing Service is controlled by the Council's Surveyor and all refuse is transported 12 miles to a tip at Bramfield Lane, near Hertford.

In addition to the normal household refuse collection, the Council also operate a Trade Refuse and Junk Collection Service.

iv) Petroleum Installations

59 Licences permitting the storage of 154,278 gallons of Petroleum and Petroleum Mixtures have been issued during the year.

v) Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses in Stevenage.

vi) Rodent Control

There was a considerable increase in the number of complaints of rat infestation received during the year and in order to deal effectively with this increased work it was necessary for a period to provide the Council's Rodent Operator with additional assistance.

It was interesting to note that complaints did not decrease to their normal level during the summer months and this situation was apparently common to many other areas in the South East of England. There was also a marked increase in the number of complaints towards the end of the year when it became known that two fatal cases of leptospirosis had occurred in a neighbouring District.

I am pleased to report that the situation has at all times remained under control in Stevenage.

Details of Rodent Control work carried out during the year are as follows:-

Total inspections	4,968
No. of infested properties found	892
No. of infested properties treated	892
Complaints received	806

The annual test baiting of the sewers revealed no infestations.

vii) Open Air Market

The Council operate an Open Air Market in the Town Centre on Fridays and Saturdays. No open food, other than fruit or vegetables, is permitted to be sold from the stalls. Fish, shell fish, ice cream and refreshments may be obtained from three mobile shops, which each satisfy the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Hot and cold water supplies, together with sinks, are provided for the washing of stallholders' equipment, and a public convenience, with hot and cold washing facilities and hand drying equipment, is also available.

The Market is administered by the Public Health Department and complies with the provisions of the Food Hygiene (Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966.

viii) Poultry Processing Establishments

There are no establishments of this nature within the Town.

ix) Knackers Yard

The licensed Knackers Yard is of model design and is maintained in a satisfactory condition. The premises are regularly inspected.

SECTION E

Inspection and Supervision of Food Premises

i) Milk Supplies

All milk sold in Stevenage is either pasteurised or sterilised and there are no bottling plants. Samples of raw milk have, therefore, not been taken.

ii) The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district and no liquid egg is being used at the local bakehouses.

iii) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

All food premises, which are, in the main, of modern construction, satisfy the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations, and the hygienic standard maintained is generally good.

Details of the food trades, including those contained in the Supermarkets, are as follows:-

<u>Trade</u>	<u>No. of Premises</u>	<u>No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg.16.</u>	<u>No. of Premises to which Reg. 19 applies</u>	<u>No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19.</u>
Bakehouses	5	5	5	5
Bakers	18	18	18	18
Butchers	33	33	33	33
Cafes	19	19	18	18
Canteens (including Schools)	74	74	74	74
Confectioners	28	28	-	-
Fishmongers	10	10	10	10
Greengrocers	31	31	4	4
Grocers	41	41	41	41
Guest Houses	7	7	7	7
Hotels	4	4	4	4
Licensed Premises	38	38	38	38

iv) Registration of Food Premises

(a) Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Premises registered under Section 16 of this Act are as follows:-

Sale of Ice Cream	...	...	...	71
Sale of Preserved Food, etc.	...	...	...	36

(b) Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949/54

There are no registered dairies within the Town. Licences have been granted to 41 dealers, in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.

v) Inspection of Registered Food Premises

Regular visits were made to premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream and the preparation or manufacture of sausages and other foods. Those premises selling Ice Cream, but excluded from registration under the Food and Drugs Act, were also inspected. Details of the ice cream samples taken are given below (Para. viii).

vi) Disposal of Condemned Food

During the year, apart from meat condemned at the private slaughterhouse, 4 tons 5 cwts. of foodstuffs were condemned at various food premises. All condemned food is stained with a naphthalene dye and removed from the food shops for disposal under supervision at the Council's tip.

vii) Ice Cream Heat Treatment Regulations

There are no manufacturers of Ice Cream in Stevenage but a regular check is made of the many Ice Cream vendors operating within the district and their products are regularly sampled.

viii) Sampling

The following samples were taken during the year:-

	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Milk	97	10
Ice Cream	89	-

The 10 samples of milk which failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue Test were all found to have been sold several days after bottling; the retailers were immediately warned to improve their stock rotation and avoid over-ordering. Further check samples taken from these premises during the year all gave satisfactory results.

ix) Food and Drugs Act, 1955

As a result of complaints received from members of the public and from formal sampling by your Public Health Inspectors, the Council instituted proceedings in accordance with the provisions of the above Act in six instances during the year.

Convictions were obtained in all cases and brief details of these contraventions and the penalties imposed are given below.

<u>Food</u>	<u>Contraventions</u>	<u>Penalty</u>
Oyster Sauce	Contained 836 parts per million of Benzoic Acid. (Sec.113(1) Food & Drugs Act, 1955).	Fined £30
Buttered Bun	Contained 2 pieces of aluminium wire. (Sec.113(3) Food & Drugs Act, 1955).	Fined £20
'Stick of rock'	Contained jagged metal pieces. (Sec.2 Food & Drugs Act, 1955).	Fined £50
Sweet Biscuits	Contained fibre. (Sec.113(3) Food & Drugs Act, 1955).	Fined £20
Apple Pie Filling	Contained wasp. (Sec.113(3) Food & Drugs Act, 1955).	Fined £40
Pork Pies (2)	Mouldy. (Sec.2 Food & Drugs Act, 1955).	Fined £10 on each of 2 charges.

x) Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspection

There is one privately owned licensed Slaughterhouse and 9 persons are licensed to act as slaughtermen.

22,371 animals were slaughtered during the year and 6 tons 15 cwt. of meat were condemned by the Council's Public Health Inspectors as being unfit for human consumption.

The Council are operating the maximum charges permissible under The Meat Inspection Regulations, but nevertheless in view of the considerable time spent by the Inspectors at the slaughterhouse, particularly at evenings and week-ends, the charges can only be considered as a partial contribution to the cost of this service.

The Council have maintained a 100% meat inspection service since the re-opening of private slaughterhouses in 1954 and I am pleased to report that this service has again been maintained during 1966.

In 1965 I reported it was likely that a new private abattoir would be constructed and last year, after some delays, new plans were being drawn up. However, because of the general economic situation, I regret to report that the project has now been temporarily deferred.

Details of animals slaughtered during the year are as follows:-

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
1966	1,438	166	16,812	3,955	22,371

Details of the carcasses inspected and condemned during 1966 are given on the following page.

MEAT INSPECTIONCarcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
<u>NUMBER KILLED</u>	1,438	166	16,812	3,955	Nil
<u>NUMBER INSPECTED</u>	1,438	166	16,812	3,955	Nil
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS & CYSTICERCI</u> <u>Whole carcasses condemned</u>	Nil	2	9	2	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	437	2	1,980	832	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis & Cysticerci	30.3	0.8	11.8	21.0	Nil
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u> <u>Whole carcasses condemned</u>	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	28	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.7	Nil
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN
RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1966 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF
STEVENAGE IN THE COUNTY OF HERTFORD

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

(PART 1)

INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspect- ions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	26	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	97	20	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	24	53	-	-
Total	126	99	-	-

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1	1	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT
OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel making etc.	57	-	-	-	-	-
Leather Goods	1	-	-	-	-	-
Total	58	-	-	-	-	-

SECTION 'F'

SEAVTAGAL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL. YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1966

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Infectious Diseases(Corrected) 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 and Over	Age Unknown
Whooping Cough	11	-	-	1	3	2	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	977	-	41	106	154	156	136	374	6	4	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	23	-	-	-	2	3	4	5	1	5	3	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	27	-	-	-	2	2	5	14	3	1	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	1,038	-	41	107	161	163	148	395	10	10	3	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSISSTEVENAGE

No. on Register at 31st December, 1966.

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	133	142	275
Non-Pulmonary	12	14	26
	145	156	301

No. Removed from Register during 1966.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M	F	M	F	
Deaths	1	2	-	-	3
Other (cured, re-diagnosed transfers of area etc.)	11	13	-	-	24
	12	15	-	-	27

Additions to Register during 1966.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M	F	M	F	
New Notifications ...	5	2	1	2	10
Other (cases restored to Register, transfers etc.)	3	1	-	-	4
	8	3	1	2	14

New Notifications.

			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
Age Groups.			M	F	M	F	
5 - 9	...	...	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	...	...	-	2	-	-	2
35 - 44	...	...	5	-	1	1	7
55 - 64	...	...	-	-	-	1	1
65 - 74	...	...	-	-	-	-	-
			5	2	1	2	10

