

[Report 1968] / Medical Officer of Health, Stevenage U.D.C.

Contributors

Stevenage (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1968

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/q4ef9pgm>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.

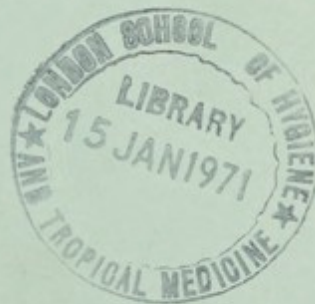
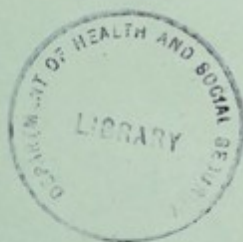


Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

AC. 421(3)



THE HEALTH OF STEVENAGE



1968



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30136866>

C O N T E N T S

	<u>PAGE</u>
MEMBERS OF HEALTH COMMITTEE	1
PREFACE	2
TYPHOID OUTBREAK	3
SECTION "A"	
Statistics of the Area	7
SECTION "B"	
General Provision of Health Services in the Urban District	13
SECTIONS "C" and "E"	
Sanitary Circumstances of the Area	27
Food Hygiene	29
Factories, Offices and Shops etc.	34

STEVENAGE

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Members as at 31st December, 1968

Chairman of the Council:

W.L. Lawrence

Vice-Chairman of the Council:

M. Cotter

Chairman of the Public Health Committee:

R.W.F. Fowler

Members of the Public Health Committee:

J.H. Cockerton

D. Devonald

Mrs. W.A. Boyd, C.C.

K.J.W. Fisher

D.C. Burr

V.J. Folbigg

N.J. Chapman

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. LAMEY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

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

P R E F A C E

Public Health Department,
Southgate House,
Stevenage.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1968.

The population increased in 1968 by a similar number to the previous year, again the greater proportion of this being due to the movement into the area and not to an increased number of births. The birth rate for Stevenage was in fact slightly lower than 1967 and for both England and Wales as a whole and the remainder of the county. There were no maternal deaths.

The number of deaths of children under the age of one year was exactly the same as that of the previous year. Again the higher proportion of these deaths occurred within the first four weeks of life., and were unavoidable. As in the previous year all the rates associated with infancy are lower than the national average, the remainder of the county and the division as a whole and are very satisfactory indeed. There was a decrease in illegitimate births.

The total number of deaths from all causes was slightly higher than the previous year and again the commonest cause of death was diseases of the heart and blood vessels, the second commonest being cancer. It is interesting to observe that in view of the population trends in this new town that there was a significant increase in the number of deaths in the over 75 age group.

The rates again were most favourable and lower than the country as a whole. There was again only one death from tuberculosis and no deaths from any other infective disease.

There were no serious outbreaks of epidemic disease and the state of the public health in Stevenage is most satisfactory.

An outbreak of typhoid occurred in June 1968 in the Hitchin area and a small number of contacts were traced to Stevenage, but no cases occurred. A summary of this outbreak follows as a matter of general interest.

TYPHOID OUTBREAK AT HITCHIN

"On Friday 31st May, 1968, an Indian (Sikh) boy, aged two years, was admitted to hospital, with diarrhoea, vomiting and some fever. He had recovered sufficiently to be discharged on Sunday 2nd June, 1968.

During his weekend stay in hospital, a wedding was celebrated at the patient's home: this was attended by all the members of household (fourteen persons, from two families), the bride and bridegroom (who were not members of the household), the officiating priest, and numbers of Indian wedding guests who came both from the immediate neighbourhood in Hitchin, and from other areas such as Stevenage and Leicester. The bride and bridegroom immediately went to live in Coventry.

Following the child's return home from hospital on Sunday 2nd June, it is clear that he did not remain well for long, for he was re-admitted on Tuesday 4th June with severe toxæmia, diarrhoea, vomiting and fever. Investigations initiated during the next few days gave a positive blood culture for the typhoid bacillus.

Treatment was commenced on Friday 7th June.

The following courses of action were now adopted:

- 1) Contacts of the case were traced with a view to placing them under surveillance.
- 2) Children at his home were excluded from school.
- 3) Three members of the household were excluded from work as they were food handlers: one of these people was a female who worked in a chicken packing factory in the rural district.
- 4) Guests at the wedding were traced with a view to placing them under surveillance.
- 5) It was decided that, in general, specimens of blood urine and faeces should be examined from all contacts.

On the third day of the episode (Friday 13th June) a typhoid carrier was detected bacteriologically, as the chicken packer who lived in the same house as the first case. Because of her association with the chicken packing factory, the factory was closed, and all the workers there were treated as contacts. This patient was admitted to St. Albans City Hospital Isolation Unit.

In the course of tracing the contacts of both the original case and the carrier, close attention was paid to five groups of people.

- 1) Relevant patients and staff at the hospital where the first case was hospitalised.

- 2) Guests at the wedding mentioned above: it will be recalled that the wedding occurred during the child's first clinical illness, before a diagnosis had been reached, or even suspected.
- 3) Members of the Household (fourteen persons) of the original case.
- 4) Staffs of local food shops from which members of the household purchased their food.
- 5) Staff at the chicken packing factory.

With the passage of time, contacts at the hospital and the chicken packing factory were cleared and it was re-opened in three days. Various members of the household from which both the confirmed case and the carrier originated were hospitalised, either because their blood sera gave suspicious reactions, or for social reasons. No further cases from this group were confirmed.

Only one food shop was relevant to the outbreak - a general store run by an Indian family: this family had not infrequent social and commercial contact with members of the household yielding the first case. The wife of the proprietor of this shop seemed vaguely unwell; and was admitted to hospital (together with her infant son), the shop was closed, and food and other samples examined. Contacts and food samples were cleared and the shop was re-opened in two days.

Guests and participants at the wedding were traced at Hitchin, Leicester, Coventry and Stevenage. All were quickly cleared except one - an Indian male resident in England for some years. His blood cultures however proved uniformly negative.

Observations:

- 1) At the onset it was thought that the general store run by the Indian family may have been the source of this typhoid outbreak; it became clear very soon that this was not the case. It will be recalled that the proprietor's wife had been admitted to hospital and that her infant son had been admitted to hospital with her.
- 2) At about the same time a small boy from the same house as the first case, who had been hospitalised for social reasons, was found to be harbouring a strain of Salmonella panama in his faeces.
- 3) The bride at the wedding was a young Indian who entered Britain on 2nd May 1968 from India, some five weeks prior to the start of the episode and had lived in the same house as both confirmed cases: because she was the only new entrant into the relevant part of the Indian community in Hitchin, and because of her close contact with both it was thought that she might herself be a carrier or more probably a convalescent case. The organism however was not isolated.

Source of the Outbreak:

The three possible sources of infection in this outbreak were food, a case, and a carrier; water was not seriously considered as a possible source.

- 1) Food: food samples from the shop supplying the Sikh community and from the household in which the cases occurred were sampled within the first few days and all were negative.

Chickens from the chicken-packing factory were also sampled and found to be negative within the same period.

- 2) A case: The bride, who arrived from India a few weeks before the first case occurred and lived in the closest possible contact was considered a likely source: she was young and likely to recover from typhoid without producing a carrier state. It is possible that she infected both the woman and the child as a convalescent case. Her bacteriological findings carried out in Coventry were, however, negative; but this is not necessarily contra-indicative of being the source.
- 3) A carrier: it is easiest to attribute the source of the outbreak to the woman found both bacteriologically and serologically positive within two days of the outbreak and living in the same house as the child and the bride: she had, however, lived in this country for some three years and had not re-visited India during that time. It might be postulated that the lack of a typhoid outbreak before June 1968 could be due to her intermittency as a carrier; she is, however, now a persistent excretor and must be considered a permanent carrier.

In my opinion the source of the outbreak as a choice between the bride and the present carrier cannot be made.

Summary:

A small outbreak of typhoid fever (one confirmed case and one carrier), restricted to the Indian (Sikh) community at Hitchin as described. After the main episode no secondary cases developed. Examination of the two isolates of Salmonella typhi showed them to be of 'phage type 0' (origin India).

Total number of Sikhs examined 167

Total number with positive serological findings 28

Percentage positive 17

Total number of contacts examined other than Sikhs 156

Total number with positive serological findings 9

Percentage positive 6

Number of contacts traced and sampled 223

The cost of this small outbreak to Hitchin Urban and Rural Districts should not be ignored, incurred by the closure of the chicken-packing factory for three days, and of a shop for two days. It would seem that a district, no matter its size, is vulnerable if it includes in its area a factory of this kind; had the Public Health Laboratory Service not been able to act in testing samples so expeditiously, the bill to the District Councils could well have been greater than they could reasonably stand. The present legislation, making each local district council responsible for debts of this kind, appears to be unrealistic.

I would record my gratitude for the advice and services given by the Director of the Public Health Laboratory Service at Luton, Dr. A. T. Willis, during the outbreak; for a period of five days - including a weekend - the laboratory staff, the staff of the local district councils (especially the public health inspectors) and the staff of the local health authority were working without remission in tracing and obtaining samples from contacts. I would also record my gratitude to the members and Clerks of the local authorities concerned for their support."

Attendances at the womens cervical cytology clinic decreased during the year and reflect a general decline in this service.

I would like to express my thanks to all the public health and health and welfare staff in Stevenage, 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"
NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(a) General Statistics

Area (in acres)	5,895
Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population Mid-1968.	60,370
Number of inhabited houses at 1.4.69.	26,249
Rateable Value at 1.4.68.	£3,951,432
Net Product of 1d rate - estimated Penny Rate 1968/69.	£16,050

(b) Physical and Social Conditions

The Registrar General's estimate of resident population for mid 1968 revealed an overall increase of 1,680. The natural increase of population i.e., the excess of births over deaths for the whole year was 901.

The employment position in Stevenage is most satisfactory. Few are employed outside the area. 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.

STEVENAGE VITAL STATISTICS 1968.

LIVE BIRTHS:

	Males	Females	TOTAL
Total	639	581	1,220
Legitimate	595	556	1,151
Illegitimate	44	25	69
Live Birth Rate (uncorrected) per 1,000 population	-	-	20.2
Live Birth Rate (corrected) per 1,000 population	-	-	14.8
Illegitimate live births percentage of total live births	-	-	5.6

STILL-BIRTHS:

Total	5	10	15
Rate per 1,000 live and still-births	-	-	12.1
Total live and still-births	644	591	1,235

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE:

Total	10	7	17
Legitimate	10	6	16
Illegitimate	-	1	1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	-	-	14.0
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	-	-	13.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	-	14.5
Neo-Natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	-	-	7.3
Early Neo-Natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	-	-	6.5
Perinatal mortality rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still-births).	-	-	18.6

MATERNAL MORTALITY, INCLUDING ABORTION

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

TOTAL DEATHS

Death Rate (uncorrected)	163	156	319
Death Rate (corrected)	-	-	5.3
Natural increase of population	-	-	12.3
Overall increase of population	-	-	901

**CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS
OF LIFE DURING 1968**

CAUSE OF DEATH

IN
THE URBAN DISTRICT OF STEVENAGE

		ages	weeks	under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75
				year.									and over.
B6 OTHER TUBERCULOSIS INCL. LATE EFFECTS	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19 (1) MALIGNANT NEOPLASM - STOMACH	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19 (2) MALIGNANT NEOPLASM - LUNG, BRONCHUS	M	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19 (3) MALIGNANT NEOPLASM - BREAST	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19 (4) MALIGNANT NEOPLASM - UTERUS	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19 (5) LEUKAEMIA	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19 (6) OTHER MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS, ETC.	M	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B20 BENIGN AND UNSPECIFIED NEOPLASMS	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B21 DIABETES MELLITUS	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B23 ANAEMIAS	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B46 (3) MENTAL DISORDERS	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B46 (4) OTHER DISEASES OF NERVOUS SYSTEM ETC.	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B26 CHRONIC RHEUMATIC HEART DISEASE	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS CARRIED FORWARD:-	M	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

CAUSE OF DEATH

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year.	AGE IN YEARS										75 and over.
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-			
TOTALS BROUGHT FORWARD:-	M	45	-	-	1	-	-	2	5	6	15	7	9		
	F	52	-	1	1	-	-	3	1	11	12	13	10		
B27 HYPERTENSIVE DISEASE	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3		
B28 ISCHAEMIC HEART DISEASE	M	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	15	12	9		
	F	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	5	11	14		
B29 OTHER FORMS OF HEART DISEASE	M	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4		
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4		
B30 CEREBROVASCULAR DISEASE	M	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	8	4		
	F	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	3	13		
B46 (5) OTHER DISEASES OF CIRCULATORY SYSTEM	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	3		
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2		
B32 PNEUMONIA	M	5	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3		
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6		
B33 (1) BRONCHITIS AND EMPHYSEMA	M	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	5	1		
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1		
B46 (6) OTHER DISEASES OF RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-		
	F	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
B34 PEPTIC ULCER	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1		
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
B46(7) OTHER DISEASES OF DIGESTIVE SYSTEM	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
B38 NEPHRITIS AND NEPHROSIS	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
TOTALS CARRIED FORWARD:-	M	133	-	1	2	-	-	2	7	14	37	34	36		
	F	137	-	1	1	1	1	3	5	16	24	32	53		

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 weeks	AGE IN YEARS										75 and over.
				4 weeks and under 1 year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-		
TOTALS BROUGHT FORWARD:-	M	133	-	1	2	-	-	2	7	14	37	34	36	
	F	137	-	1	1	1	1	3	5	16	24	32	53	
B46(8) OTHER DISEASES, GENITO-URINARY SYSTEM	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
B46(10) DISEASES OF MUSCULO-SKELETAL SYSTEM	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
B42 CONGENITAL ANOMALIES	M	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
	F	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
B43 BIRTH INJURY, DIFFICULT LABOUR, ETC.	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
B44 OTHER CAUSES OF PERINATAL MORTALITY	M	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
B45 SYMPTOMS AND ILL-DEFINED CONDITIONS	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	5	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BE47 MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BE48 ALL OTHER ACCIDENTS	M	7	-	3	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	2	1	
	F	9	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	
BE 49 SUICIDE AND SELF-INFLICTED INJURIES	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
BE 50 ALL OTHER EXTERNAL CAUSES	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	
<u>TOTAL ALL CAUSES</u>	M	163	6	4	2	1	-	5	11	18	38	35	43	
	F	156	3	4	1	1	4	3	6	16	25	35	58	

POPULATION STATISTICS

	District 1968 Stevenage U.D.C.	North Hertford- shire Division	Hertford- shire	England and Wales.
Population	60,370	154,550	892,470	48,593,000
Live Births (Crude)	20.2	18.0	16.2)	16.9
Live Births (Corrected)	14.8		15.2)	
Death Rate - All causes, Crude	5.3	8.9	9.5	11.9
Death Rate - All causes, Corrected	12.3		11.9	
Infective and Parasitic Diseases - excluding Tuberculosis, but including Syphilis and other V.D.	0.00	0.006	0.05	*
Tuberculosis:				
Respiratory	-	0.006	0.21	0.03
Other Forms	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.13
All Forms	0.01	0.02	0.25	*
Cancer: Lung and Bronchs.	0.34	0.40)	1.95	0.59
Other	0.94	1.46)		1.72
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	0.57	1.23	1.32	*
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	1.87	3.28	2.84	*
Respiratory Diseases	0.51	1.03	1.38	-
Maternal Mortality	0.00	-	0.14	0.24
Infantile Mortality	14.0	17.5	16.16	18.0
Neo-Natal Mortality	7.3	10.7	11.12	12.4
Early Neo-Natal Mortality	6.5	10.4	9.94	10.5
Perinatal Mortality	18.6	24.7	22.58	25.0
Still-Births	12.1	14.4	12.76	14.0

* Not available.

DIVISIONAL VITAL STATISTICS

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 but not England and Wales as a whole. The birth rate was higher than that for the remainder of the county and the country, and the population of the Division increased during 1968 by 3,770, natural increase being 1,398. 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.

DIVISIONAL VITAL STATISTICS 1968

	Males	Females	TOTAL
<u>LIVE BIRTHS:</u>			
Total	1,441	1,347	2,788
Legitimate	1,330	1,266	2,596
Illegitimate	111	81	192
Live Birth Rate (uncorrected) per 1,000 population	-	-	18.0
Live Birth Rate (corrected) per 1,000 population	-	-	-
Illegitimate live births percentage of total live births	-	-	6.9
<u>STILL-BIRTHS:</u>			
Total	18	23	41
Rate per 1,000 live and still-births	-	-	14.4
Total live and still-births	1,459	1,370	2,829
<u>DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE:</u>			
Total	29	20	49
Legitimate	28	17	45
Illegitimate	2	2	4
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	-	-	17.5
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	-	-	17.3
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	-	20.8
Neo-Natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births)	-	-	10.0
Early Neo-Natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	-	-	9.7
Perinatal mortality rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still-births)	-	-	24.0
<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY, INCLUDING ABORTION:</u>			
Number of deaths	-	-	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	-	-	-
<u>TOTAL DEATHS:</u>	677	713	1,390
Death Rate (uncorrected)	-	-	8.9
Death Rate (corrected)	-	-	*
Natural increase of population	-	-	1,398
Overall increase of population	-	-	3,770

SECTION "B"

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN STEVENAGE.

LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

Care of Mothers and Young Children - Section 22 - Stevenage.

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 practitioners' surgeries.

ATTENDANCES:

	No. of patients who attended 1968	No. of attendances 1968
Stevenage G.P. Surgeries	1,009	7,951

Ante-Natal Instruction Classes

In 1968 attendances remained at the same level as 1967. 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>	No. of Attendances 1968
Stevenage	1,002

Family Planning Clinic

Family Planning in the division is provided by the Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire Branch of the Family Planning Association, and I am most grateful to the Branch Organising Secretary, Mrs. K. Arger, both for the provisions she has made and for this report.

Sessions:

Hitchin, Bedford Road - Tuesday afternoon (double Doctor Session)
Wednesday evening (double Doctor Session)
Thursday morning (Single Doctor Session)

The training of doctors and nurses in family planning methods is carried out in this clinic. An I.U.D. session is also included.

Three hundred and fifty nine new patients attended during the year and a total of 2,800 patients attended.

Oral contraception was the most used method.

Stevenage Family Centre - Tuesday afternoon (Treble Doctor Session)
 Wednesday morning (Treble Doctor Session)
 Thursday evening (Treble Doctor Session)
 Friday morning (Treble Doctor Session)

Doctors and nurses are also trained at the Stevenage Family Planning Centre.
 No I.U.D. sessions are held.

Five hundred and thirty seven new patients attended during the year and a total of 7646 patients attended.

Oral contraception was the most used method.

Letchworth, Nevells Road, Health Centre - opened in June 1968, with a single Doctor session on Monday evenings. It has registered 115 new patients besides relieving the Hitchin Clinic by taking many transfers from there. It is proposed shortly to appoint a second Doctor.

Infant Welfare Clinics.

County Health Centre, Southgate, Stevenage.	Alternate Mondays 2-4 p.m.	Dr. P.T.Horder
	Alternate Mondays 2-4 p.m.	Health Visitor
	Tuesday 9 a.m. to 12 noon	Health Visitor
	Alternate Thursdays 2-4 p.m.	Dr. P.T.Horder
	Alternate Thursdays 2-4 p.m.	Health Visitor
	Friday 9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.	Health Visitor
Infant Welfare Centre, 27 High St., Stevenage.	Tuesday 2-4 p.m.	Dr. K.P. Bayles
	Friday 2-4 p.m.	Health Visitor
Lodge Farm Health Annexe, off Mobbsbury Way, Stevenage.	Alternate Mondays 2-4 p.m.	Dr. P.T.Horder
	Alternate Mondays 2-4 p.m.	Health Visitor
	Alternate Wednesdays 2-4 p.m.	Dr. P.T.Horder.
	Alternate Wednesdays 2-4 p.m.	Health Visitor
	Alternate Thursdays 2-4 p.m.	Dr. P.T.Horder.
	Alternate Thursdays 2-4 p.m.	Health Visitor
Peartree Health Annexe, off Hydean Way, Stevenage.	Tuesday & Wednesday 2-4 p.m.	Dr. A.T. Leaver
Infant Welfare Centre, St. Peter's Church Hall, Broadwater, Stevenage.	Monday 2-4 p.m. Friday 2-4 p.m.	Health Visitor Dr. K.P. Bayles

Clinic	Children Born in 1968	Children Born in 1967	Children Born in 1963-66	No. of attendances
Stevenage	1,131	789	786	15,754

Attendances at these clinics continue to increase.

CHILD HEALTH ASSESSMENT UNIT.

The Sheldon Report on the child health services recommended the setting up of special units or panels to which children with special medical problems could be referred.

This unit has now been established in North Hertfordshire with the approval of the local medical committee and general practitioners and commenced in September, 1968; weekly sessions are held alternating between the Southgate Outpatients Clinic, Stevenage and the Health Centre, Bedford Road, Hitchin. Dr. C.G. Fagg, Consultant Paediatrician, is in charge of the unit and is supported by the Assistant County Medical Officers and appropriate clerical staff. General Practitioners may refer any child to the unit themselves.

The establishment and maintenance of an Observation ("At Risk") Register is a necessary accompaniment to this unit and the special medical examination of children considered to be "At Risk" has been in operation for some time. Such children are those in the following categories:- family history of deafness; family history of diabetes; ante-partum haemorrhage; rhesus incompatibility; rubella in first four months of pregnancy; severe toxæmia; nephritis during pregnancy; difficult labour; anoxia; birth weight 5½lb or less; cerebral damage; neo-natal jaundice. These children are examined routinely at 3 months, one year, two years, three years and four years and any children found to be in normal health are removed from the register at the age of 18 months. Children who are found on examination to have a condition likely to affect their education or future are referred to the Child Health Assessment Unit and the Consultant Paediatrician is in a position to call on the most suitable agencies, including his Consultant colleagues for opinions or help.

It is hoped, therefore, that the setting up of this unit will enable a more thorough supervision of difficult problems to be maintained and that it will be of benefit to the community as a whole.

Attendances at this unit so far as follows:-

Children born in	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964 and over.
Stevenage	8	6	3	11	1

One medical officer reported an increase in napkin rashes during 1968 and considers this due to over-medication with proprietary creams and excessive use of detergents and special rinses.

At the recommendation of the Sheldon Report Infant Welfare Clinics are now renamed Child Health Clinics. It is hoped that a new clinic will shortly be opened at Trotts Hill Infant School in Stevenage. During the year four nurses have attended the County's District Nurse Training Course in Welwyn Garden City.

Premature Infants:

A premature infant is one which weighs 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb or less at birth.

PREMATURE INFANTS BORN IN 1968 STEVENAGE

District	Born Alive			Stillbirths			No. removed to Hosp. after birth.	Died under 28 days			No.who survived 28 days.		
	At Home	In Hosp.	Total	At Home	In Hosp.	Total		At Home	In Hosp.	Total	Born at Home	Born in Hosp.	Total
Stevenage	12	8 Twins 39	59	0	6	6	0	0	3	3	12	42	54

A total of 69 illegitimate births were, in fact, notified by the Registrar General during 1968.

Day Nurseries - North Herts.

Category	No.on Register.
1. Children of widows or widowers	1
2. Children of unmarried mothers	7
3. Children of deserted wives or husbands	24
4. Children of parents in prison	nil
5. Children of parents suffering from chronic illness or disablement	2
6. Temporary cases, for example, mother's illness or confinement	1
7. Children recommended by doctor or health visitor for temporary help.	1
8. Children of parents coming within the "Essential Services" categories; for example, teachers and nurses (Local Committee Members' approval required)	3
9. Children living in bad housing conditions	nil
10. Children of families where there was a risk of break-up in family.	2

The number of children on the register of the day nursery as at 31st December 1968 was 41.

MIDWIFERY - SECTION 23.

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.

Entonox (Gas and Oxygen) has now completely replaced gas and air and all the midwives have been instructed in its use. During the year 31 pupil midwives from North Herts Maternity Unit have been placed in Hitchin, Stevenage and Letchworth for part of their training and have had good experience working with the Approved Teaching Midwives.

The County Council's policy, with the decline in birth rate and of domiciliary confinements, to appoint district nurse/midwives continued during 1968.

All midwives are authorised to use their private motor cars on official business and the County Council, in common with other local authorities, operate an assisted car-purchase scheme for staff classified as "essential users."

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY. - STEVENAGE.

Ante-Natal visits to Expectant Mothers	5,357
Home Condition Reports for Hospitals	224
Ante-Natal Session - General Practitioner	602
Deliveries - Home	461
Deliveries - Hospital	759
Total - Live and Stillbirths	1,220
Early Hospital Discharge - 48 hours	41

HEALTH VISITING - SECTION 24 - STEVENAGE.

The work of the Health Visitor's has tended to expand during the year and developmental tests of young children are now routinely performed. Progress has also been made in the eye testing of school children with the introduction of the Keystone Machine, which also discovers latent squints and colour blindness.

Twelve health visitors were employed in Stevenage during 1968 with the assistance of one State Registered Nurse who attended school and infant welfare clinic sessions.

Health Visiting.

Child Welfare	Visits	19,299
Aged	Visits	1,648
Others	Visits	3,571
School Inspections	Sessions	822
Maternity and Child Welfare	Sessions	842.

HOME NURSING - SECTION 25 - STEVENAGE.

The staff of the home nursing service in the division at 31st December 1968, consisted of three full-time district nurses and seven part-time district nurses; seven full-time district nurse/midwives and four part-time district nurse/midwives. 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 1968. It will be seen that they made 16,542 visits to 848 patients; 45 per cent of the patients nursed were aged 65 or over and they were visited on 10,988 occasions; 66 per cent of all visits, therefore, were made to this age group.

HOME NURSING

Classification	No. of cases attended	No. of visits made.
Medical	608	14,480
Surgical	188	1,964
Tuberculosis	16	72
Others	36	26
TOTALS	848	16,542
Patients included above who were aged 65 or over	381	10,988
Children included above who were under 5 or less	42	183
G.P. Surgery		Sessions 358
G.P. Surgery		Treatments 807

AMBULANCE SERVICE - SECTION 27 NORTH HERTS

Number of patients conveyed	66,017
Number of journeys	24,182
Total mileage	436,031

DETAILS OF JOURNEYS:

Accidents	1,624
Sudden Illness	586
Removals	62,937
Maternity	870
TOTAL	66,017

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
NORTH HERTS.

The provision of the medical loans service continued to be delegated to the voluntary organisations of the British Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade. No charge was made and many items, such as back-rests, air-rings, bedpans, etc., were included. More expensive equipment was provided directly by County Hall and patients have benefited from the use of ripple beds, hydraulic hoists, bath-seats, etc.

Forty four patients were recommended by their family doctors for a convalescent holiday, of these 32 went to holiday homes.

CHEST CLINIC.

HEALTH VISITING:

Tuberculosis Households - Visits	319
B.C.G. Follow-up - Visits	64
Contacts - Visits	263
Non-Tuberculosis - Visits	116

NEW CASES:

Immigrants	10
Others	22
Contacts of New Cases	166
Heaf negative	59
B.C.G. vaccination	95

VENEREAL DISEASES - NORTH HERTS

SPECIAL CLINIC	Totals all Venereal Conditions	Number of new cases in 1968			
		Syphilis		Gonorrhoea	Other Venereal Conditions
		Primary and Secondary			
			Other		
Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.	22	1	-	-	21
Lister Hospital, Hitchin	226	-	2	44	180
TOTAL	248	1	2	44	201

All venereal conditions increased by 13% in 1968, this figure however, is probably not statistically valid and does not reveal the true incidence in North Hertfordshire.

CERVICAL CYTOLOGY
NORTH HERTS

CLINICS	No.1st Attend-ances	% Pop.at risk attending	Negative	Positive	Unsatis- factory Specimens	Inflam- etary Changes	Tricho- monas Vaginalis	Monilia Suspicious	Cell Irregu- larities.
HITCHIN	455	(i) 3 (ii) 4	No. 417 %	No. 1 %	No. 4 %	No. 13 %	No. 18 %	No. 3 %	No. 8 %
LEITCHWORTH	288	(i) 3 (ii) 3	No. 287 %	No. 1 %	No. 1 %	No. 75 %	No. 4 %	No. 1 %	No. 1 %
STEVENAGE	808	(i) 8 (ii) 11	No. 743 %	No. 5 %	No. 1 %	No. 144 %	No. 6 %	No. 8 %	No. 5 %
ROYSTON	49	(i) 0.53 (ii) 2	No. 49 %	No. Nil	No. -	No. 39 %	No. 69.59	No. -	No. -

CYTOLOGY CLINIC
"WELL WOMAN" CLINIC - JANUARY 1968

Hitchin
Letchworth
Stevenage
Royston

-
-
-
-

Every Wednesday a.m.
1st & 3rd Tuesdays a.m.
Thursday a.m. and Friday p.m.
Every 3rd Wednesday in the month a.m.

In 1968 attendances at the Cytoology Clinics showed a slight increase at Hitchin and Letchworth but were lower at Stevenage than in 1967. This continues to give some cause for concern and perhaps a publicity campaign during the coming year would renew public interest in these clinics.

In September 1968 a clinic was started at Royston. Attendance at this particular clinic has been satisfactory and the waiting list is long, so much so that consideration is being given to holding an extra session each month.

(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 (ii) 1,743	Hitchin U.D.	(i) 9,540 (ii) 7,900	Letchworth	(i) 9,480 (ii) 7,950
Royston U.D.	(i) 2,260 (ii) 1,860	Stevenage U.D.	(i) 16,200 (ii) 12,350	Hitchin R.D.	(i) 8,560 (ii) 7,200
TOTAL AT RISK (i) 48,120 (ii) 39,000					

MEALS ON WHEELS.

STEVENAGE

Meals on Wheels Services were in operation in all parts of the division in 1968. Under the provisions of the scheme meals are provided to people suffering from malnutrition or who are unable to cook their own meals due to disability or infirmity.

District	No. of Persons	Frequency	Total Meals
Stevenage	74	Three times weekly	10,362

The problems of organisation of a Meals on Wheels service are often very great and I would like to record my indebtedness to the following W.R.V.S. Centre organiser for her work during the year - Mrs. Q. Garner.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1949 - SECTION 47.

This section of the Act is concerned with the compulaory 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 1968.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, SECTIONS 21 - 36:

During 1968 the shortage of geriatric beds at Lister Hospital continued to cause difficulties in the admission of patients from County Council Old People's 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 eighteen men and sixty women. The position will not be eased by Governmental restrictions on new buildings.

BLIND WELFARE - STEVENAGE.

District	No.of Registered Blind Persons	No.of Registered Partially sighted Persons	No.of Registered Blind and partially sighted persons with other handicaps including deafness and mental subnormality.
Stevenage	55	38	11
Stevenage Rural	4	1	1

Patients were visted 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 wirelasses, 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 & 29 - NORTH HERTS

During 1968, 100 patients were admitted to mental hospitals on Compulsory Orders and 14 were admitted on an informal basis.

The Social Workers dealt with 375 mental health cases during 1968.

TRAINING CENTRES

Junior Training Centre, Bedford Road, Hitchin.

Special Care Unit	9
General Unit	43
Nursery	17
TOTAL	<u>69</u>

ADULT TRAINING CENTRE, LEYDEN ROAD, STEVENAGE.

Trainees on roll 1st January 1968.	35
" " " 31st December 1968.	43
12 Males) 9 Females) joined the centre during 1968.	
8 Males) 5 Females) left the centre during 1968.	

HEALTH EDUCATION

All members of the staff are involved in health education, whatever their appointment may be, but in addition the health visitors have given many talks, illustrated by films and film strips, these include:-

14	sessions with school children of all ages on general health and human biology.
2	" " Parent/Teacher's Association on Sex Education.
3	" " Couples hoping to adopt babies.
2	" " Expectant parents when the film "To Janet a Son" was shown and discussed.
2	" " Young Wives and Youth Leaders on the work of the Health Visitor and Adolescence.
7	" " Guides and Scouts on First Aid.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE - SECTION 29.

Number of Home Helps employed at 31.12.68. 62

Number of Good Neighbours employed at 31.12.68. 11

In March the Part-time Assistant Home Help Organiser, Mrs. E. C. Wigg retired, and it was decided not to appoint another Assistant - but to make a new establishment of Full-time Area Home Help Organiser to take over the Letchworth, Baldock and Royston areas, under the supervision of the Divisional Home Help Organiser, Mrs. O.M. Benton. Mrs. A. Eccles was appointed to this post in November.

GROUPS RECEIVING ASSISTANCE

	No. of Cases	No. of hours given
1. Maternity (including expectant mothers)	90	2,058½
2. Chronic sick:		
(a) Aged 65 plus	431	42,385¾
(b) Aged under 65 and T.B..	33	
3. Others:	95	5,710¾
Including:		
(a) Mental Health		
(b) Tuberculosis		
(c) Blind		
(d) Miscellaneous		
Acute Cases		
Accidents		
TOTAL	649	50,155

66% cases in 1968 were over 65 and 83% total hours was given to this age group. 13% cases were maternity absorbing only 4% total hours.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

In this division we have tried to improve the standard of the five year old medical by having M.C.W. records and up to date medical reports available at the first medical examination. School Health Consultation clinics are being used more as it is felt that these give the Head Teachers the opportunity to immediately refer children they are concerned about to the doctor. Audiometric screen-testing is now taking place in the Infant's schools and during 1968 1,747 six year olds were tested and 144 children failed this initial sweep test. Annual eye testing is now routinely performed in all schools and infants schools will be visited three times a year to test entrants eyes in their first term.

Special education facilities were extended in this area when the Brandles Close School opened in September 1968. Head Teachers are encouraged to refer children who are experiencing education difficulties so that early assessments can be made, and if necessary transfer to Longfield School at the age of six. There are 110 children at Brandles Close School (12 - 16 years) and 108 at Longfield (6 - 11 years). There are now five special classes for emotionally disturbed and retarded children attached to ordinary schools in the area.

There are now three speech therapists in this division, and if children do not respond favourably to therapy there is a special speech therapy unit at Trotts Hill Infants School for children with severe speech defects.

One School Medical Officer states that she is impressed with the school childrens standard of health including dental hygiene.

The medical staffing position in the division continues to be at a seriously low level and I would pay tribute to the hard work of the school medical officers under trying conditions. The whole time medical staff remain at three and efforts to recruit more have been unsuccessful.

TABLE 1 - STEVENAGE

INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN 1968:

Entrants including 8 year olds.	1,597
First Year Secondary	136
Last Year Secondary	860
Total	2,593
Number of special inspections	309
Number of re-inspections	2,286
Total	2,595
Total inspection	5,188

PHYSICAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED:

Satisfactory	2,589
Found to require treatment	4
Percentage	.15%

TABLE 11 - STEVENAGE

B.C.G. VACCINATION - 11,12 and 13 YEARS AND OLDER SCHOOL CHILDREN:

Number of children offered testing and vaccination if necessary	2,274
Number of acceptances	2,157
Percentage of acceptances	97.9%

PRE-VACCINATION TUBERCULIN TEST:

Number tested	1,918
---------------	-------

RESULT OF TEST:

Number previously converted by B.C.G.	90
Number positive	114
Number negative	1,714
Number not ascertained	-
Percentage positive	5.9%
Number vaccinated	1,636

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 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, Hitchin.

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.

SECTIONS C, D AND E HAVE BEEN COMPILED BY THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR,
MR. R.V. LAMEY.

SECTION C

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 boreholes at Whitehall pumping station which is situated just outside the Urban District boundaries and from Broomin Green pumping station within the Town of Stevenage.

In addition, there are boreholes at Rooks Nest within the Town of Stevenage, but this source is not at present used for public 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 1968	Water in Supply
Chemical	12	15
Bacteriological	186	411

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 67 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 only two houses in the Urban District which obtain their water from private boreholes. These boreholes are approximately 200 ft. deep and have always given satisfactory results on bacteriological examination.

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. The refuse is transported to the Broadfield Tip, Hertford, where it is disposed of by controlled tipping.

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

(iv) Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses in Stevenage.

(v) Rodent Control

The public continue to co-operate by reporting evidence of rodent infestations and I am pleased to record that at all times the situation in Stevenage has been kept well in hand. All complaints are normally investigated within 24 hours of reporting.

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

Total inspections	...	...	8,867
No. of infested properties found	..	..	2,142
No. of infested properties treated			2,142
Complaints received	...	...	393

The annual test baiting of the sewers revealed no infestations.

(vi) 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.

(vii) Poultry Processing Establishments

There are no establishments of this nature within the Town.

(viii) 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	21	21	21	21
Butchers	33	33	33	33
Cafes	20	20	20	20
Canteens (including Schools)	78	78	78	78
Confectioners	30	30	-	-
Fishmongers	11	11	11	11
Greengrocers	31	31	4	4
Grocers	43	43	43	43
Guest Houses	6	6	6	6
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	...	73
Sale of Preserved Food, etc.	...	37

(b) Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949/54

There are no registered dairies within the Town. Licences have been granted to 47 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 overleaf (Para. viii).

(vi) Disposal of Condemned Food

During the year, apart from meat condemned at the private slaughterhouse, 4 tons 18 cwt. 10 lbs. of foodstuffs were condemned at various food premises. All condemned food is stained with a naphthalene dye and removed from the food premises 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	70	Nil
Ice Cream	66	Nil

(ix) Food and Drugs Act, 1955

The Council instituted proceedings in the following eleven instances in respect of complaints regarding foreign matter in food. Convictions were obtained in each case and total penalties amounted to £340.

<u>Food</u>	<u>Contravention</u>	<u>Penalty</u>
Bread	Contained dark material.	£30
Pork Pie	" cigarette end.	£25
Chocolate Digestive Biscuit	" wire.	£25
Irish Stew	" stone.	£15
Beef sausages	" cigarette end.	£25
Sponge Bar cake	Mouldy.	£20
Individual Fruit Pie	Mouldy.	£20
Peanut Crackle Sweet	Contained wire spring.	£30
Milk	" horse chestnut.	£50
Milk	" fungus.	£50
Milk	" fungus.	£50

(x) Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspection

There is one privately-owned licensed Slaughterhouse in Stevenage and ten persons are licensed to act as slaughtermen.

25,121 animals were slaughtered during the year and 8 tons 9 cwt. of meat were condemned by the Council's Public Health Inspectors as being unfit for human consumption.

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 1968.

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

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
1968	1,949	68	20,996	2,143	25,121

Details of the carcasses inspected and condemned during 1968 are given on the following page.

(x) Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspection (Cont'd.)MEAT INSPECTIONCarcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
<u>NUMBER KILLED</u>	1,949	68	20,996	2,143	Nil
<u>NUMBER INSPECTED</u>	1,949	68	20,996	2,143	Nil
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS & CYSTICERCI</u> Whole carcasses condemned	1	2	19	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	686	1	2,861	304	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis & Cysticerci	35.2	4.4	13.4	14.1	Nil
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u> Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	6	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.2	Nil
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	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 1968 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	20	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	101	25	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	20	43	-	-
Total	126	88	-	-

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	Referred		
			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					
(c) Not separate for sexes					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)					
Total					

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.	32	-	-	-	-	-
Leather Goods	1	-	-	-	-	-
Total	33	-	-	-	-	-

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (2.1.)				
Overcrowding (2.2.)				
Unpleasant temperature (2.3.)				
Inadequate ventilation (2.4.)				
Defective drainage of floors (2.5.)				
Sanitary Conveniences (2.7.)				
a) Insufficient				
b) Unsanitary or defective				
c) Not separate for sexes				
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)				
Total				

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

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111	
	No. of Out-workers in August last reported 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	Not-entailed prosecutions
Leaving open, etc.	25	-	-	-	-
Leather Goods	1	-	-	-	-
Total	26	-	-	-	-

