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THE HEALTH OF STEVENAGE

1970



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STEVENAGE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Members as at 31st December, 1970

Chairman of the Council:

J. Boyd

Vice-Chairman of the Council:

F.R. Keen

Chairman of the Public Health Committee:

D. Devonald

Members of the Public Health Committee:

Mrs. W.A. Boyd, C.C.,	J.G. Clarke
J. Boyd	J.H. Cockerton J.P.
D. Adams	R.W.F. Fowler
C. Barker	Mrs. B.M. Goble
D.C. Burr	

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 1970.

The population again increased in 1970 but as in the previous year this was mainly due to the movement into the area and not to an increased number of births. The birth rate for Stevenage was slightly lower than 1969. No maternal deaths occurred.

There was a slight increase in the number of deaths of children under the age of one year. As in the previous year the higher proportion of these deaths occurred within the first four weeks of life. The death rates associated with infancy were slightly higher than the national average, the remainder of the county and the division as a whole, although no significantly so. There was a slight decrease in illegitimate births.

The total number of deaths from all causes was again slightly higher than the previous year, the commonest cause of death being diseases of the heart and blood vessels and the second cancer.

In 1970 there was a slight increase in the number of deaths in the over 75 age group with quite a significant increase in deaths in the 65 - 74 age group, an indication of the yearly increase in the number of elderly residents. This trend represents the increasing normality of the population structure and is entirely beneficial.

No serious outbreaks of epidemic disease occurred and the state of the public health in Stevenage remains satisfactory.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

I would like to express my thanks to all the public health and health and welfare staff in Stevenage, including those concerned with administration for their help and cooperation 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)	5,995
Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population mid-1970	64,000
Number of inhabited houses at 1.4.71	30,200
Rateable Value at 1.4.70	£4,339,629
Net Product at 1d. rate - estimated new penny rate 1970	£45,250

(b) Physical and Social Conditions

The Registrar General's estimate of resident population for mid 1970 revealed an overall increase of 2,290. The natural increase of population, i.e. the excess of births over deaths for the whole year was 833.

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 1970

	Males	Females	Total
LIVE BIRTHS:			
Total	632	587	1,219
Legitimate	594	552	1,416
Illegitimate	38	35	73
Live Birth Rate (uncorrected) per 1,000 population	-	-	19.0
Live Birth Rate (corrected) per 1,000 population	-	-	13.9
Illegitimate live birth percentage of total live births	-	-	6.0
STILL BIRTHS:			
Total	7	4	11
Rate per 1,000 live and still-births	-	-	9
Total live and still-births	639	591	1,230
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE:			
Total	17	10	27
Legitimate	14	10	24
Illegitimate	3	-	3
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	-	-	22.0
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	-	-	21.0
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	-	41.0
Neo-Natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	-	-	15.0
Early Neo-Natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	-	-	11.0
Perinatal mortality rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	-	-	20.0
MATERNAL MORTALITY, INCLUDING ABORTION			
Number of deaths	-	-	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	-	-	-
TOTAL DEATHS	217	169	386
Death Rate (uncorrected)	-	-	6.0
Death Rate (corrected)	-	-	14.6
Natural increase of population	-	-	833
Overall increase of population			2,290

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1970

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	1	-	1
Measles	1	-	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	4	4	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	6	9	15
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	29	2	31
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	11	11
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	4	-	4
Leukaemia	4	1	5
Other Malignant Neoplasms	10	8	18
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	2	-	2
Diabetes Mellitus	2	1	3
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	1	2	3
Anaemias	-	1	1
Meningitis	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	3	3	6
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	5	9	14
Hypertensive Disease	1	3	4
Ischaemic Heart Disease	54	29	83
Other Forms of Heart Disease	5	11	16
Cerebrovascular Disease	16	28	44
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	7	7	14
Influenza	1	1	2
Pneumonia	8	10	18
Bronchitis and Emphysema	11	2	13
Asthma	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	3	1	4
Peptic Ulcer	2	-	2
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	2	1	3
Cirrhosis of Liver	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	3	4
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	-	2
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	-	2	2
Congenital Anomalies	6	4	10
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	4	1	5
Other Causes of Perinatal Morality	4	2	6
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	4	1	5
Motor Vehicle Accidents	6	1	7
All Other Accidents	5	8	13
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	1	-	1
All Other External Causes	11	-	1
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	217	169	386

DEATH IN AGE GROUPS

				Males	Females	Total
Under 1 year	...	...	...	17	10	27
1 - 4 years	...	...	...	4	2	6
5 - 14 years	...	...	...	3	2	5
15 - 24 years	...	...	...	8	1	9
25 - 34 years	...	...	...	3	2	5
35 - 44 years	...	...	...	6	5	11
45 - 54 years	...	...	...	26	13	39
55 - 64 years	...	...	...	36	19	55
65 - 74 years	...	...	...	72	47	119
75 years and over	...	...	...	42	68	110
All Causes	...	...	...	217	169	386

POPULATION STATISTICS

	District 1970 Stevenage U.D.C.	North Hertford shire Division	Hertford shire	England and Wales
Population	64,000	161,560	912,000	48,987,700
Live Births (Crude)	19.0	17.1	15.6	16.0
Live Births (Corrected)	13.9		14.7	16.0
Death Rate - All causes, crude	6.0	8.5	9.6	11.7
Death Rate - All causes, corrected	14.6		10.8	11.7
Infective & Parasitic Diseases - excluding Tuberculosis, but including Syphilis and other V.D.	0.04	0.02	0.04	*
Tuberculosis:				
Respiratory	0.00	0.00)		
Other Forms	0.00	0.00)	0.02	*
All Forms	0.00	0.00)		
Cancer: Lung and Bronchs.	0.48	0.47)		
Other	0.95	1.39)	2.02	*
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	0.10	0.10	1.36	*
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	2.73	4.22	2.91	*
Respiratory Diseases	0.59	0.89	1.33	-
Maternal Mortality	0.00	0.00	0.06	-
Infantile Mortality	22.0	20.2	14.9	18.0
Neo-Natal Mortality	15.0	14.0	10.7	12.0
Early Neo-Natal Mortality	11.0	11.5	9.3	11.0
Perinatal Mortality	20.0	21.4	20.0	23.0
Still-Births	20.0	10.0	10.7	13.0

* not available

DIVISIONAL VITAL STATISTICS 1970

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

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

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

SECTION "B"

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 1970	No. of attendances 1970
Stevenage G.P. Surgeries	843	5,798

Ante-Natal Instruction Classes

In 1970 attendances were 30% lower than in 1969. Ante-natal instruction classes are important, not only in their teaching of relaxation exercises but in the opportunity they afford for the general instruction of nursing mothers.

<u>Clinic</u>	<u>No. of Attendances 1970</u>
Stevenage	939

Family Planning

The policy of the County Council in regard to family planning is the utilization of the Family Planning Association as the principal agency in the provision of these services. The Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire Branch Organising Secretary, Mrs. K. Arger, is to be congratulated on carrying out these duties under difficult circumstances and further reference to these problems is made in the preface to this report.

Sessions:

Hitchin - Divisional Health Office, Bedford Road.	- Tuesday afternoon (Double Doctor Session) Wednesday evening (Double Doctor Session) Thursday morning (Single Doctor Session)
Letchworth - Health Centre, Nevels Road	- Monday evening (Single Doctor Session)
Stevenage - Family Centre	- Tuesday afternoon (Treble Doctor Session) Wednesday morning (Treble Doctor Session) Thursday morning (Treble Doctor Session) Friday morning (Treble Doctor Session)

1970

	No. of Doctors Sessions	No. of I.U.D. Sessions	No. of Marital Problems Sessions	No. of New Patients	Total No. of Attendances	No. of Cervical Smears	Positive	Negative
HITCHIN	233	41	-	297	3,272	479	2	471
LETCHWORTH	95	48	-	247	1,875	294	-	294
STEVENAGE	564	243	3	819	7,745	788	-	788

The majority of patients attending all clinics were in the 20 - 24 years age group

Infant Welfare Clinics

County Health Centre, Southgate, Stevenage.	Alternate Mondays 2-4 p.m.	Dr. A. Derola
	Alternate Mondays 2-4 p.m.	Health Visitor
	Tuesday 9 a.m. - 12 noon	Health Visitor
	Alternate Thursdays 2-4 p.m.	Dr. E. McClean
	Alternate Thursdays 2-4 p.m.	Health Visitor
	Friday 9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.	Health Visitor
Infant Welfare Centre, 27 High Street, Stevenage	Tuesday 2-4 p.m.	Dr. K.P. Bayles
	Friday 2-4 p.m.	Health Visitor
Lodge Farm Health Annexe, Mobbsbury Way, Stevenage	Alternate Mondays 2-4 p.m.	Dr. A. Derola
	Alternate Mondays 2-4 p.m.	Health Visitor
	Alternate Wednesdays 2-4 p.m.	Health Visitor
	Alternate Thursdays 2-4 p.m.	Dr. E. McClean
	Alternate Thursdays 2-4 p.m.	Health Visitor
Peartree Health Annexe, off Hydean Way, Stevenage	Tuesday & Wednesday 2-4 p.m.	Dr. A. Derola
Infant Welfare Centre, St. Peter's Church Hall, Broadwater, Stevenage.	Monday 2-4 p.m.	Health Visitor
	Friday 2-4 p.m.	Dr. K.P. Bayles
Trotts Hill Clinic, Wisden Road, Stevenage	Alternative Wednesdays 2-4 p.m.	Dr. F. Moynihan

Clinic	Children Born in 1970	Children Born in 1969	Children Born in 1965-68	No. of attendances
Stevenage	1,315	453	582	10,985

The attendance at these clinics has decreased by 17.6% in 1970

CHILD HEALTH ASSESSMENT UNIT

Children born in	1970	1969	1968	1967	1965 & over
Stevenage	-	12	12	25	94

Premature Infants

A premature infant is one which weighs 5½lbs. or less at birth.

The incidence of premature births again increased during 1970.

PREMATURE INFANTS BORN IN 1970

STEVENAGE

Born Alive			Stillbirths			Number referred to Hosp after birth	Died under 28 days			No. who survived 28 days		
District	At home	In Hosp.	Total	At home	In Hosp	Total	At Home	In Hosp	Total	Born at Home	Born in Hosp.	Total
Stevenage	12 1 Twin	69	82	0	5	5	0	9	9	13	60	73

Day Nurseries - North Herts.

<u>Category</u>	<u>No. on Register</u>
1. Children of Widows or Widowers	2
2. Children of Unmarried Mothers	12
3. Children of deserted wives or husbands	22
4. Children of parents in prison	Nil
5. Children of parents suffering from chronic illness or disablement	Nil
6. Temporary cases, for example, mother's illness or confinement	3
7. Children recommended by doctor or health visitor for temporary help	3
8. Children of parents coming within the "Essential Services" categories, for example, teachers and nurses (Local Committee Members' approval required)	1
9. Children living in bad housing conditions	Nil
10. Children of families where there was a risk of break-up in family.	3

The number of children on the register of the day nursery as at 31st December, 1970 was 46.

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.

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY - STEVENAGE

	<u>1970</u>
Ante-Natal visits to Expectant Mothers	3,920
Home Condition Reports for Hospitals	280
Ante-Natal Session - General Practitioner	685
Deliveries - Home	392
Deliveries - Hospital	600
Total - Live and Stillbirths	1,003
Early Hospital Discharge - 48 hours	79

HEALTH VISITING - SECTION 24 - STEVENAGE

Sixteen health visitors were employed in Stevenage during 1970 with the assistance of ten State Registered Nurses who attended school and infant welfare clinic sessions.

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

Health Visiting

Child Welfare	Visits	16,300
Aged	Visits	1,702
Others	Visits	3,624
School Inspections	Sessions	486
Maternity & Child Welfare	Sessions	886

The staff of the home nursing service in the division at 31st December 1970 consisted of 14 district nurse/midwives, 4 midwives, 4 district nurses and one state enrolled nurse. The staff who are able to drive cars are either authorised to use their own vehicles on official business or have been provided with county-owned motor vehicles.

The following are statistics relating to the work of the home nurses in 1970. It will be seen that they made 17,960 visits to 973 patients; 34 per cent of the patients nursed were aged 65 or over and they were visited on 12,091 occasions; 67 per cent of all visits, therefore, were made to this age group.

HOME NURSING

Classification	No. of cases attended	No. of visits made
Medical	666	14,793
Surgical	276	2,814
Tuberculosis	2	156
Others	29	197
TOTALS	973	17,960
Patients included above who were aged 65 or over	330	12,091
Children included above who were under 5	50	199

There has been a general increase during the year both in the number of visits paid and the number of patients attended.

VACCINATION & IMMUNISATION STATISTICS BY COUNTY DISTRICT AS AT 31.12.70

SECTION 26

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

VACCINATION & IMMUNISATION

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

AMBULANCE SERVICE - SECTION 27 - NORTH HERTS

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

Details of Journeys

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

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

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS: CARE AND AFTER CARE - SECTION 28

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

CHEST CLINIC

Health Visiting:

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

New Cases:

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

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

VENEREAL DISEASES

Number of New Cases in 1970

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL ALL VENEREAL CONDITIONS</u>
Lister Hospital, Hitchin	259	112	<u>384 371</u>

All venereal conditions increased by 51% in 1970

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

30% of the cases were in females

Comment is contained in the preface of this report.

CERVICAL CYTOLOGY - NORTH HERTS

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

CYTOLOGY CLINIC

"WELL WOMAN" CLINIC - JANUARY 1970

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

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

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

Cervical Cytology

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

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1949 - SECTION 47

The section of the Act is concerned with the compulsory removal of persons in need of care from their homes on a Court Order, or in emergency on an Order signed by two medical practitioners and a Justice of the Peace. Such a person may be removed to a county home or hospital provided that all sections of the Act are satisfied.

Such action was not necessary during 1970.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, SECTIONS 21 - 36

During 1970 the shortage of geriatric beds at Lister Hospital continues 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 12 men and 71 women.

BLIND WELFARE - NORTH HERTS

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

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

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

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

Training Centres

Junior Training Centre, Bedford Road, Hitchin.

Special Care Unit	12
General Unit	39
Nursery	24
	—
	75
	—

Adult Training Centre, Leyden Road, Stevenage.

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

12 Males)	joined the centre during 1970
14 Females)	
9 Males)	left the centre during 1970
4 Females)	

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

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

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

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

HOME HELP SERVICE - SECTION 29

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

GROUPS RECEIVING ASSISTANCE

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

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICETABLE IInspection of School Children 1970

Entrants	1,043
Secondary selective and consultative	553
Number of special inspections	406
Number of re-inspections	1,873

Physical condition of Pupils inspected

Satisfactory	3,875
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I am happy to record that the divisional education officer and the school heads have shown a ready appreciation of the current difficulties.

TABLE IIB.C.G. Vaccination - 11 years and absentees from other sessions

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
<u>Result of Test:</u>	
Number positive	204
Number negative	1,714
Number not ascertained	-
Percentage positive	5.9%
Percentage negative	89.3%
Number vaccinated	1,636

Results - continued

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

The number of skin tests carried out during 1970 decreased by 568 and of vaccinations by 399.

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

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

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

HOSPITAL SERVICES

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

GENERAL HOSPITAL SERVICES

North Hertfordshire Hospital, Hitchin

Lister Hospital, Hitchin

Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge

MENTAL HOSPITAL

Fairfield Hospital, Stotfold,

MATERNITY HOSPITAL SERVICES

North Hertfordshire Maternity Unit, Hitchin

CHEST CLINIC

Lister Hospital, Hitchin

LABORATORY SERVICES

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

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

1970	1970	1970
13	16	Chemical
107	102	Bacteriological

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

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 to supply.

Regular chemical analysis and bacteriological examination of the water supplied to Stevenage is made by the Water Authority and the results are forwarded to the Council. The number of water samples examined during the year were as follows, and all the treated samples were satisfactory in quality.

	Raw Water 1970	Water in Supply 1970
Chemical	16	13
Bacteriological	202	407

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. The water showed no indication of plumbo-solvency.

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 65 such samples were taken and all proved satisfactory.

The Swimming Bath waters are regularly sampled for bacteriological examination (70) and chemical analysis (8) 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, Stanstead Abbots, Nr. Ware. 46 properties remain connected to cesspools or septic tank installations and these will further decrease as extensions of the main sewerage systems take place with the development of the Town.

(iii) Refuse Collection

The Public Cleansing Service is controlled by the Council's Surveyor. The refuse is transported to Bulls Mill, Stapleford, 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	9,550
No. of infested properties found	1,995
No. of infested properties treated	1,995
Complaints received	518

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 but fish, shell fish, ice cream and refreshments may be obtained from mobile shops, which trade from the Market.

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

A new poultry processing plant is now operating within the District. During 1970 the use was limited to the processing of about 20,000 turkeys.

(viii) Knackers Yard

The licensed Knackers Yard is regularly inspected and is maintained in a satisfactory condition.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES

(i) Milk Supplies

All milk sold in Stevenage is either pasteurised, sterilised or ultra heat treated 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	23	23	23	23
Butchers	36	36	36	36
Cafes	21	21	21	21
Canteens (including Schools)	80	80	80	80
Confectioners	30	30	-	-
Fishmongers	12	12	12	12
Greengrocers	35	35	13	13
Grocers	47	47	47	47
Guest Houses	6	6	6	6
Hotels	4	4	4	4
Licensed Premises	40	40	40	40

(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	78
Sale of Preserved Food, etc.	40

(b) Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949/54

There are no registered dairies within the Town. Licences have been granted to 35 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 food. 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, 2 ton 7 cwt. 15 lbs. of foodstuffs was condemned at various food premises. All condemned food is removed from the food premises for staining and 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	62	Nil
Ice Cream	61	11

Of the 11 unsatisfactory ice cream samples, 5 were classified as Grade 3 and 6 as Grade 4. Immediate follow-up samples proved satisfactory in all cases.

(ix) Food and Drugs Act, 1955

The Council instituted proceedings in the following 4 instances. Convictions were obtained in each case as follows:-

<u>Food</u>	<u>Contravention</u>	<u>Penalty</u>
Steak Pudding	Mouldy	£20
Chicken and Ham Pie	"	£15
Pork Pie	"	£20
Cheese Slices	"	£30

(x) Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspection

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

21,089 animals were slaughtered during the year and 6 tons 4 cwt. 3 qts. 23 lbs. of meat was condemned by the Council's Public Health Inspectors as being unfit for human consumption.

Details of animals slaughtered during the year are as follows:

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
1970	1,746	8	19,335	Nil	21,089

Details of the carcasses inspected and condemned during 1970 are given on the following page.

MEAT INSPECTIONCarcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
<u>NUMBER KILLED</u>	1,746	8	19,335	Nil	Nil
<u>NUMBER INSPECTED</u>	1,746	8	19,335	Nil	Nil
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS & CYSTICERCI</u> Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	8	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	763	Nil	2,898	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis & Cysticerci	43.7	Nil	14.9	Nil	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	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	10	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 1970 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	108	41	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	35	60	-	-
Total	148	121	-	-

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	Referred 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)				Nil	
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.	59	-	-	-	-	-
Leather Goods	1	-	-	-	-	-
Total	60	-	-	-	-	-

SECTION "F"

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS & OTHER DISEASES

Infectious Diseases (Corrected) Stevenage - Age Distribution

Diseases	Total cases notified	Cases after correction	Under 1 year	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 & over	Age unknown
Whooping cough	13	-	1	1	9	-	-	6	-	-	1	-	-	-
Measles	523	-	17	59	76	93	103	164	8	2	1	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	34	-	-	2	3	2	2	16	8	1	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	575	-	18	62	88	95	105	186	16	3	2	-	-	-

STEVENAGE U.D.C. - TUBERCULOSIS

No. on Register at 31st December, 1970

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pulmonary	151	144	295
Non-pulmonary	12	15	27
	<u>163</u>	<u>159</u>	<u>322</u>

No. Removed from Register during 1970

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-pulmonary</u>		
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths	4	-	-	-	4
Other (cured, re-diagnosed transfers of area etc.)	8	10	-	-	18
	<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22</u>

Additions to Register during 1970

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-pulmonary</u>		
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
New Notifications	-	-	-	-	-
Other (cases restored to Register, transfers etc.)	4	2	-	-	6
	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6</u>



