

**[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Bexley].**

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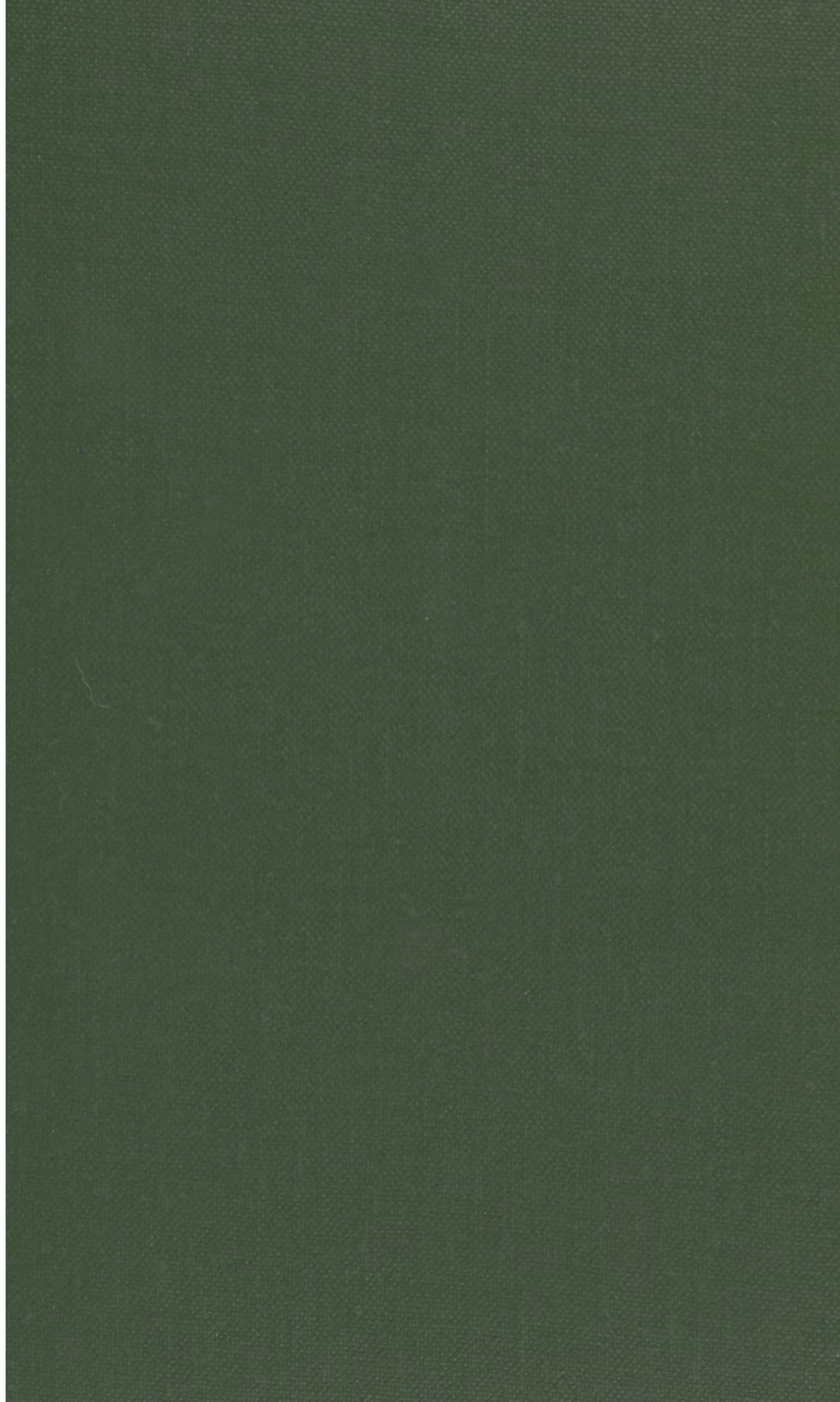
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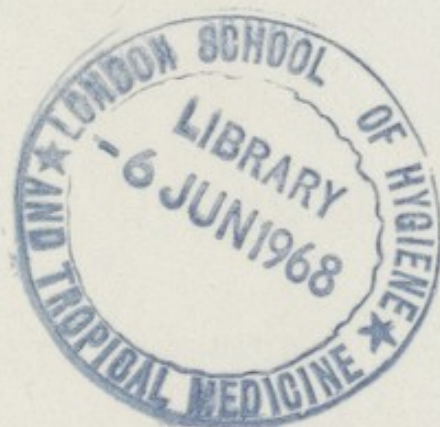
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BOROUGH OF BEXLEY

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# Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

For the Year 1945

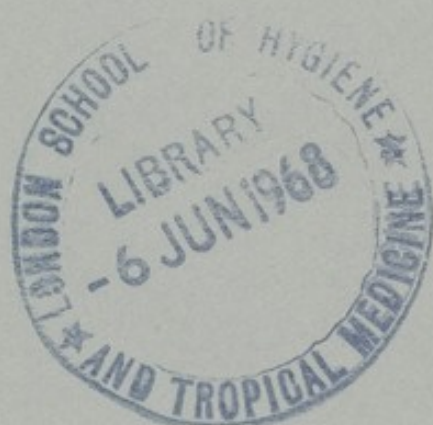
and

Statistical Report

For Years 1939-44.

GEO. F. BRAMLEY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health.

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BOROUGH OF BEXLEY

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# Annual Report

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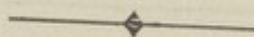
GEO. F. BRAMLEY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health.



# Borough of Bexley.

Mayor: Alderman J. C. McLean, J.P.

Deputy Mayor: Alderman J. T. H. Ashmore.



## HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman: Alderman Mrs. A. Welch.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor A. S. Groome.

Alderman A. R. Potter, J.P., C.C.	Councillor J. Duffus.
Councillor F. H. Bond, J.P.	Councillor D. C. E. Gorringe.
Councillor Mrs. E. Boswell.	Councillor Mrs. M. Hall.
Councillor W. Carter.	Councillor Mrs. A. E. Lawrence.
Councillor M. J. Corr.	Councillor R. C. Swallow.

# PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF,

1945.

Medical Officer of Health and Superintendent of the Maternity and Child Welfare Services. Medical Superintendent Corporation Maternity Home.	Geo. F. Bramley, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Released for service in R.A.M.C. Hygiene Section for Civil Affairs 10/2/45).
Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Medical Officer Corporation Maternity Home.	Mary Love, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Acting M.O.H. from 10/2/45).
Temporary Assistant Medical Officer of Health.	Mary H. Westlake, M.B., D.P.H. commenced 29/1/45.
Assistant Medical Officer at Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics (part-time temporary).	Isobel Johnson, M.B., <del>Ch.B.</del> , Ch.B.
Chief Sanitary Inspector, Public Cleansing Officer and Shops Acts Inspector.	*† R. J. Rayner, F.R.S.I.
Assistant Chief Sanitary Inspector.	*† G. Hind.
District Sanitary Inspectors.	*† F. W. Willington. *† J. T. Boocock.
Assistant Sanitary Inspectors ...	*† G. F. Lovegrove (on military service) Inspector. One Temporary Inspector.
Senior Health Visitor ...	J. Ormandy (Miss), S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitor's Certificate.
Health Visitors ...	N. Feeley (Miss), S.C.M. and Health Visitor's Certificate. K. V. Birmingham (Miss), S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitor's Certificate. G. M. Blackmore (Mrs.), S.R.N., S.C.N. and Health Visitor's Certificate. D. G. Stanley (Miss), S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitor's Certificate. K. M. Miller (Miss), S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitor's Certificate. C. Darby (Miss), S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitor's Certificate. E. M. Gibson (Mrs.), S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitor's Certificate.
Matron of Corporation Maternity Home, Lavernock Road, Bexleyheath.	F. H. Hammond (Miss), S.R.N., F.R.N., S.C.M. Midwife's Teachers' Certificate.



Chief Clerk	...	...	...	M. Bentley (Miss).
Clerks	...	...	...	G. A. Pearson. N. E. Broom. R. V. Hoad. R. A. Milligan (On Military Service but reported missing June 1944). M. J. E. Hoad (Mrs.) Five Temporary Female Clerks.
Consultant for Puerperal Pyrexia and for Ante-Natal and Obstetric Complications.				J. V. O'Sullivan, M.D., M.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., M.C.O.G. (part-time).
Dental Surgeon	...	...	...	H. Wade, L.D.S., (part-time). On Military Service until 3/7/45.
Temporary Dental Surgeon	...			H. Warner, L.D.S. (part-time). Resigned 30/6/45.
Public Analyst	...	...	...	F. W. Arnaud, F.I.C. (part-time).
Other Staff	...	...	...	Two Food Sales Clerks (part-time). One Disinfector and Mortuary Attendant (On Military Service until 12/11/45). One Temporary Disinfector and Mortuary Attendant. One Ambulance Driver. One Ambulance Driver (On Military Service until October 1945). One Relief Driver (On Military Service). One Ambulance Driver (temporary).

\* Certificate for Inspection of Meat and other Foods.

† Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.

‡ Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1939-1944.

Medical Officer of Health and Superintendent of the Maternity and Child Welfare Services. Medical Superintendent Corporation Maternity Home.	Geo. F. Bramley, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Medical Officer Corporation Maternity Home.	Mary Love, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officer at M. & C. W. Clinics (part-time).	Mary Anderson, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (1939).

Assistant Medical Officer at M. & C. W. Clinics (part-time, temporary).	Isabel C. Johnson, M.B., Ch.B. (1940-1942).
Assistant Medical Officer at M. & C. W. Clinics (part-time, temporary).	Beatrice Mary Kidd, M.B. (1943 resigned May 1944).
Assistant Medical Officer at M. & C. W. Clinics (part-time, temporary).	Charlotte Himsworth, M.B., B.S. (1943 resigned July 1944).
Assistant Medical Officer at M. & C. W. Clinics (part-time, temporary).	Isabel C. Johnson, M.B., Ch.B. (Recommenced July 1944).
Chief Sanitary Inspector, Public Cleansing Officer and Shops Acts Inspector.	*† R. J. Rayner, F.R.S.I.
Assistant Chief Sanitary Inspector.	*† G. Hind.
District Sanitary Inspectors ...	*† F. W. Willington. *† J. T. Boocock. *† A. V. Griffith (resigned 30/6/39).
Assistant Sanitary Inspectors ...	*† G. F. Lovegrove (Apptd. 1/7/39 Military Service 3/9/39). One temporary Assistant Sanitary Inspector appointed 1940.
Health Visitors ... ..	J. Ormandy (Miss), S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitor's Certificate. K. V. Birmingham (Miss), S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitor's Certificate. G. M. Froggatt (Miss), S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitor's Certificate. D. G. Stanley (Miss), S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitor's Certificate. C. Darby (Miss), S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitor's Certificate. (Absent through sickness 1942 and 1943. Part-time Jan.-March 1944; Full-time April 1944). K. M. Miller (Miss), S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitor's Certificate. E. M. Gibson (Mrs.), S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitor's Certificate, appointed 9.2.42. N. M. Marshall (Miss), S.R.N., C.M.B. and Health Visitor's Certificate; Certificate of Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board (resigned 14/1/39). N. Feeley (Miss), S.C.M. and Health Visitor's Certificate.



Matron of the Corporation Maternity Home, Lavernock Road, Bexleyheath.	F. H. Hammond (Miss), S.R.N., F.R.N., S.C.M.
Chief Clerk ... ..	M. Bentley (Miss).
Clerks ... ..	G. F. Lovegrove (resigned 30/6/39). G. A. Pearson (on military service from January 1941). N. E. Broom (on military service from 3/9/39). R. V. Hoad (on military service from 3/9/39). M. J. Priestland (Miss). R. Milligan (on military service from May 1941. Reported missing June 1944). M. J. Knox (Mrs.) nee Williams (resigned 30/9/43). Three temporary Female Clerks. Two temporary Female Clerks (part-time).
Consultant for Puerperal Pyrexia and for Ante-Natal and Obstetric Complications.	J. V. O'Sullivan, M.D., M.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., M.C.O.G. (part-time).
Dental Surgeon ... ..	H. Wade, L.D.S., (part-time). (On military service from 1940).
Temporary Dental Surgeon ...	H. Warner, L.D.S. (part-time).
Public Analyst ... ..	F. W. F. Arnaud, F.I.C. (part-time).
Other Staff ... ..	Two Food Sales Clerks (part-time). One Disinfector and Mortuary Attendant (on military service). One Disinfector and Mortuary Attendant (temporary). One Ambulance Driver. One Ambulance Driver and relief driver (on military service 1941). One Temporary Driver.

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## **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, 1945.**

In presenting the annual report for 1945 the opportunity has been taken of including the statistical material from the department which has not been presented to the Council during the years 1939 to 1944 inclusive. It is felt that this should now be placed in a composite form for the Council's information, for reference and for the normal work of the Health Department.

A summary of vital statistics for 1945 follows on these opening remarks and is based on an estimation from the Registrar General of the population for mid-year 1945 of 70,040. By the end of 1945 the population was 81,110. This is a return to the pre-war figures as a result of the return of evacuees and men and women from the forces plus the natural increase in population.

Despite 6 years of war conditions the general health of the Borough as compared with the rest of the country was good in 1945.

The Infantile Mortality rate of 33.9 is quite comparable with the figure for 1944 of 31.37, but we know that a goal of 25 can be reached in this area.

The stillbirth rate also compares favourably with that of England and Wales.

The low death rate of 9.27 is due to the youth of the population, but is somewhat artificially raised by the number of air raid casualties early in the year.

The birth rate shews a slight decrease on that of 1944, but is relatively high considering the extreme upset in domestic conditions during the VI and V2 attacks in the late summer of 1944 and early months of 1945.

The low notification rate for Diphtheria justifies the large amount of work which has been done in immunisation against Diphtheria since it first commenced in this Borough in 1937.

Inoculation against whooping cough ceased during 1945 as it became impossible to obtain what is considered a suitable material but although the notification rate is much lower than in the rest of the country I am not prepared to state categorically that the whooping cough vaccination campaign which resulted in a total of 4,703 children under the age of 5 being vaccinated since 1942, is the cause.

There were no deaths in 1945 in connection with childbirth.



547 mothers were accommodated for their confinements in the Corporation Maternity Home during the year and it was not until towards the end of the year that shortage of nursing staff began to be felt. Until then the position had been favourable compared with most maternity units in the country.

Clinic attendances rose again to pre-war levels, but the continued high pressure on the Bexleyheath Clinic means that provision in the Long Lane area for an additional Clinic cannot be long delayed. The needs for Cold Blow and Old Bexley are not so urgent until housing development in that area proceeds.

The Day Nursery attendances continued to fall in the early months, but in the later months of the year 4 of the 6 nurseries had waiting list. Despite the fact that the 24 hour nursery was still well used in Welling throughout the year the Ministries of Health and Labour & National Service insisted on closing the night nursery in December.

The collection of house refuse was again not maintained on a weekly basis owing to shortage of labour and three weeks, and longer, sometimes elapsed between collections. The controlled tips suffered from lack of suitable covering material and shortage of labour. There was a cricket infestation in one tip and the other was set on fire and burned for many months. With an easing of the labour situation in 1946 these difficulties will be overcome.

During practically the whole of the year under review I was absent in the Army and I must express my appreciation of the way in which Dr. Love took over the duties at a difficult time and successfully began the change back to peace time working of the department.

I have also to acknowledge the fullest help of the Health Committee and the Chief Officers of the other Departments.

In thanking the staff of the Health Department for their excellent co-operation and hard work I wish to take the opportunity of welcoming back those members of the staff who have now returned from the Forces.

G. F. BRAMLEY,

*Medical Officer of Health*

# SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1945.

	England and Wales.	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census.	London Adminis- trative County.	Borough of Bexley.
*Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.					
<b>Births—</b>					
Live ... ..	16.1†	19.1	19.2	15.7	18.81
Still ... ..	0.46‡	0.58	0.53	0.40	0.41
<b>Deaths—</b>					
All Causes... ..	11.4†	13.5	12.3	13.8	9.27
Typhoid and Para- typhoid ... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough... ..	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.00
Diphtheria ... ..	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01
Influenza ... ..	0.08	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.03
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.					
Deaths under one year of age ... ..	46†	54	43	53	33.9
Deaths from Diarr- hoea and Enteritis under two years of age ... ..	5.6	7.8	4.5	7.6	3.53
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :					
<b>Notifications—</b>					
Typhoid Fever ... ..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.04
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1.89	2.02	2.03	1.57	1.99
Whooping Cough... ..	1.64	1.65	1.47	1.25	0.92
Diphtheria ... ..	0.46	0.52	0.56	0.31	0.28
Erysipelas... ..	0.25	0.28	0.24	0.31	0.41
Smallpox ... ..	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	—
Measles ... ..	11.67	10.89	11.19	9.03	6.01
Pneumonia ... ..	0.87	1.03	0.72	0.78	0.44
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still).					
(A) Notifications :—					
Puerperal Fever } Puerperal Pyrexia }	9.93	12.65	8.81	3.60 ‡15.87	18.0
(B) Maternal Mortality—England and Wales :—					Bexley
No. 140 Abortion with Sepsis.	No. 141 Abortion without Sepsis.	No. 147 Puerperal Infections.	Nos. 142-6 148-50 Other.		
0.25	0.08	0.24	1.22	0.00	
Abortion :—Mortality per million women aged 15-45—England and Wales :—					
No. 140 With Sepsis.		No. 141 Without Sepsis.		Bexley.	
18		6		0.00	

\*A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths.

†Per 1,000 related births.

‡Rates per 1,000 total population.



**SECTION A.**  
**STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH.**

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Area (acres) ... ..	4,869	4,869	4,869	4,869	4,869	4,869	4,869
<b>Population.</b>							
Registrar General's Estimate mid-year :—							
(a) Figure for calculating birth rates ...	80,110	77,670	72,080	77,020	76,740	71,130	75,040
(b) Figure for the calculation of death rates, etc. ... ..	78,880	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>New Houses.</b>							
Erected ... ..	1,002	113	nil	5	5	nil	2
Number of inhabited houses according to rate books (estimated) ... ..	24,748	24,866	24,350	24,302	24,246	23,969	23,873
Rateable value ... ..	£601,847	£603,611	£591,174	£597,392	£597,716	£593,103	£592,910
Sum represented by Penny Rate ... ..	£2,350	£2,340	£2,200	£2,300	£2,400	£2,400	£2,350
<b>Unemployment.</b>							
31st December—Men ... ..	712	151	21	66	57	24	122
Women ... ..	986	529	146	32	23	2	43
Boys ... ..	107	34	16	11	18	10	38
Girls ... ..	215	57	24	39	11	22	42
Total ... ..	1,620	771	207	148	109	58	245

### **Social Conditions.**

The above figures reflect movements of the population associated with air raids except the first evacuation of September, 1939. They also shew the amount of housing accommodation available.

Because of Bexley's position sleeping in public shelters was fairly extensive in the winter 1939/40 and 1944/45 (probably 5,000 people nightly at a maximum) but with almost every house having its own garden, sleeping in Anderson shelters was more the rule. There is no evidence that general health suffered. With food shortages there was a well developed scheme for allotment holders and there is no doubt that in common with the rest of the country more fresh vegetables were consumed in the war years than previously.

The Council sponsored the Holidays-at-Home Scheme from 1942 and a full use was made of the amenities especially those provided in the Parks.

Scabies was to be more frequently found from 1940 and whether its increased existence was due to the greater communal life developed in war time or whether due to a phase in the cycle of this disease is not clear. Scabies has shewn no tendency to decrease during the years under review.

In 1943 overcrowding began, not on the standards of the Housing Act, but chiefly in two or more families sharing accommodation often for convenience, because of absence of husbands in the Forces or a tendency to move out from Central London.

Bexley's population is young, there was relatively a higher proportion of husbands and young women in the Forces. The increase in the number of tuberculosis people on the Register is associated with the youth of the population and a high proportion of the population who stayed at home working long hours in factories and offices to and from which a moderately long journey had to be made daily.

Bexley's social conditions during the war can be appreciated from the following summing up of its position and population. It was almost at the terminus of 'bomb alley,' its population had increased at the quickest rate from 1931 to 1939 of any population in England and Wales and comparable with the growth of Dagenham in the preceding decennial census period. It has the highest proportion of young married people in Kent. It is a modern working class dormitory Borough.



# EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	1939		1940		1941		1942		1943		1944		1945	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
<b>Births.</b>														
Total ... ..	747	676	632	647	601	544	727	742	707	677	786	712	728	685
Legitimate ... ..	730	660	620	636	585	529	706	726	674	659	750	685	695	650
Illegitimate ... ..	17	16	12	11	16	15	21	16	33	18	36	27	33	35
Total ... ..	1,423		1,279		1,145		1,469		1,384		1,498		1,413	
Legitimate ... ..	1,390		1,256		1,114		1,432		1,333		1,435		1,345	
Illegitimate ... ..	33		23		31		37		51		63		68	
Birth Rate per 1,000 of Estimated resident population ... ..	17.76		16.46		15.88		19.07		18.03		21.06		18.81	
Rate per 1,000 for—														
England and Wales ... ..	15.0		14.6		14.2		15.8		16.5		17.6		16.1	
County Boroughs and Great Towns including London ... ..	14.8		16.0		14.7		17.3		18.6		20.3		19.1	
Smaller Towns (estimated populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931) ... ..	15.6		15.7		16.4		18.4		19.4		20.9		19.2	
London Administrative County ... ..	12.3		13.7		8.9		14.0		15.8		15.0		15.7	
<b>Stillbirths.</b>														
Total ... ..	18	23	20	12	21	14	28	10	17	12	15	15	12	19
Rate per 1,000—	41		32		35		38		29		30		31	
Total Live and Stillbirths ... ..	28.0		24.4		29.6		25.2		20.5		19.0		21.4	
Population ... ..	0.51		0.41		0.48		0.49		0.37		0.42		0.41	
For England and Wales ... ..	0.59		0.55		0.51		0.54		0.51		0.50		0.46	
For County Boroughs and Great Towns including London ... ..	0.59		0.64		0.58		0.66		0.63		0.64		0.58	
For Smaller Towns (estimated populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931) ... ..	0.57		0.55		0.60		0.62		0.61		0.61		0.53	
For London Administrative County ... ..	0.44		0.44		0.33		0.48		0.45		0.42		0.40	
Number of Stillbirths registered as illegitimate ... ..	1		—		2		2		1		—		4	
	1939		1940		1941		1942		1943		1944		1945	

Number of Stillbirths registered as illegitimate		1		2		2		1		1944		1945	
		1939		1940		1941		1942		1943		1944	
<b>Deaths.</b>		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
All Causes	...	246	284	426	382	374	324	372	301	378	329	382	363
Total	...	630		808		698		673		707		726	696
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	7.98		10.40		9.68		8.73		9.21		10.2	9.27
Death Rate of Country—Rate per 1,000 for—													
England and Wales	...	12.1		14.3		12.9		11.6		12.1		11.6	11.4
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	...	12.0		15.8		14.9		13.3		14.2		13.7	13.5
148 Smaller Towns (estimated populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931)	...	11.2		12.8		13.0		12.1		12.7		12.4	12.3
London Administrative County	...	11.9		17.8		16.3		13.9		15.0		15.7	13.8
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth from Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis	...	—		—		1		1		1		—	—
From other Puerperal causes	...	1		1		2		1		1		2	—
Rate per 1,000 total Live and Stillbirths	...	0.69		0.79		2.77		1.32		1.41		1.30	—
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	...	38	18	25	31	23	14	38	10	28	8	23	23
Total	...	56		56		37		48		36		47	48
Legitimate	...	38	17	24	31	22	14	36	10	26	8	21	21
Total	...	55		55		36		46		34		44	43
Illegitimate	...	—	1	1	—	1	—	2	—	2	—	2	2
Total	...	1		1		1		2		2		3	5
Death Rate of infants under 1 year of age :—													
Total per 1,000 Live Births	...	40.1		45.4		35.4		32.6		26.01		31.37	33.9
Legitimate per 1,000 Live Births	...	40.3		45.5		35.5		32.1		25.5		30.66	31.97
Illegitimate per 1,000 illegitimate Live Births	...	31.2		43.4		30.0		54.0		39.2		47.61	73.5
Deaths from Measles, all ages	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—
Total	...	—		—		1		1		1		—	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough	...	2	—	—	—	2	1	3	—	1	—	—	—
Total	...	2		—		3		3		1		2	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	1	3	3	2	1	—	2	1	2	1	4	1
Total	...	4		5		1		3		3		4	5
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	49	48	45	40	53	48	62	48	57	61	48	65
Total	...	97		85		101		110		118		101	118



The Registrar General supplied a comparability factor for the area in 1939 and 1940 by which the death rate of the area should be multiplied in order to make it comparable with other parts of the country, but for the years 1941-1945 no comparability factor was given owing to the movements of population. The figures were as follows:—

	1939	1940
Comparability Factor ...	1.07	1.26
Standardised Death Rate ...	8.53	13.01

### BIRTHS AND STILLBIRTHS IN WARDS.

The figures relate to live births and stillbirths notified but not necessarily registered in the same year.

#### LIVE BIRTHS. NUMBER OF BIRTHS.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Christchurch ...	186	173	187	184	206	235	220
St. Mary's ...	239	229	172	247	237	244	228
Brampton ...	276	200	136	248	276	223	247
Danson ...	182	145	133	209	175	168	187
Falconwood ...	198	174	137	210	179	228	191
St. Michael's ...	310	261	209	307	300	286	300
Total ...	1391	1182	974	1405	1373	1384	1373

#### STILLBIRTHS. NUMBER OF BIRTHS.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Christchurch ...	4	5	5	6	5	6	3
St. Mary's ...	4	5	2	2	8	4	2
Brampton ...	6	6	4	4	4	5	3
Danson ...	6	8	5	7	2	1	3
Falconwood ...	8	2	4	4	2	7	3
St. Michael's ...	8	7	9	8	4	4	13
Total ...	36	33	29	31	25	27	27

#### ANALYSIS OF NOTIFICATIONS OF LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS.

Births notified from Institutions ...	881	723	632	934	959	1021	1033
Births notified by Midwives ...	459	406	344	461	398	356	341
Births notified by Doctors, etc. ...	87	86	27	41	41	34	26

### DEATHS IN WARDS.

The figures given relate to deaths actually occurring but not necessarily registered.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<b>Wards.</b>							
Christchurch ... ..	148	159	126	169	154	142	140
St. Mary's ... ..	94	132	100	100	123	135	126
Brampton ... ..	84	125	101	103	91	85	105
Danson ... ..	97	98	112	90	110	111	110
Falconwood ... ..	76	92	96	72	91	89	84
St. Michael's ... ..	128	182	150	145	137	164	127
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>685</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>706</b>	<b>726</b>	<b>692</b>

### CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BOROUGH REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR 1939.

Causes of Death.	M.	F.
All Causes ... ..	346	284
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—
2. Measles ... ..	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—
4. Whooping Cough ... ..	2	—
5. Diphtheria ... ..	—	1
6. Influenza ... ..	4	2
7. Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	1	—
8. Cerebrospinal Fever ... ..	—	—
9. Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	35	13
10. Other tuberculous diseases ... ..	4	0
11. Syphilis ... ..	—	—
12. General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis ... ..	—	—
13. Cancer, malignant disease ... ..	49	48
14. Diabetes ... ..	4	4
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc. ... ..	18	17
16. Heart disease ... ..	58	107
17. Aneurysm ... ..	3	0
18. Other circulatory diseases ... ..	22	15



Causes of Death.				M.	F.
19.	Bronchitis	...	...	8	5
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	20	11
21.	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	9	5
22.	Peptic Ulcer	..	...	8	0
23.	Diarrhoea, etc. (under two years)	...	...	1	3
24.	Appendicitis	...	...	1	1
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	1	0
26.	Other diseases of liver, etc.	...	...	2	0
27.	Other digestive diseases	...	...	10	4
28.	Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	6	4
29.	Puerperal sepsis	...	...	—	—
30.	Other puerperal causes	...	...	—	1
31.	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformation, etc.	...	...	21	13
32.	Senility	...	...	4	3
33.	Suicide	...	...	2	4
34.	Other violence	...	...	19	5
35.	Other defined diseases	...	...	34	17
36.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	0	1
Special causes (included in No. 35 above):—					
	Small-pox	...	...	—	—
	Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	...	...	—	—

The years 1940/45 appear under a combined table under the new Registrar General's classification.



# CAUSES OF DEATHS IN THE BOROUGH REGISTERED DURING 1940-1945.

CAUSES OF DEATH	1940		1941		1942		1943		1944		1945	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
All causes ... ..	426	382	374	324	374	305	378	329	382	344	333	363
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	1	1	4	1	2	1	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough ...	—	—	2	1	3	—	1	—	—	2	—	—
5. Diphtheria ...	3	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	28	30	26	14	24	10	24	20	33	23	22	15
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	5	3	6	7	4	7	2	2	2	2	5	3
8. Syphilitic Diseases ...	3	1	6	1	2	1	3	1	2	1	3	—
9. Influenza ...	3	1	1	—	1	—	4	8	—	2	2	—
10. Measles ...	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Cancer of Body Cavity and Oesophagus (M) and Uterus (F) ...	7	3	4	4	4	2	4	8	5	6	2	11
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	7	6	11	7	13	5	11	11	6	10	10	11
15. Cancer of Breast ...	—	11	—	8	—	11	—	12	—	13	—	15
16. Cancer of all other sites	31	20	38	29	45	31	42	30	37	24	41	28
17. Diabetes ...	2	3	2	—	2	4	1	5	1	3	—	4
18. Intracranial Vascular Lesions ...	21	33	26	32	28	36	34	35	28	36	27	32
19. Heart Disease ...	89	93	76	80	87	86	80	78	100	68	78	107
20. Other Diseases of the Circulatory System ...	14	15	14	6	15	12	17	12	12	8	7	7
21. Bronchitis ...	26	20	20	21	23	13	26	17	19	9	27	14
22. Pneumonia ...	21	23	18	22	19	15	19	20	12	13	15	7
23. Other Respiratory Diseases ...	6	2	4	2	6	2	5	10	10	5	4	2
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	16	1	5	1	8	3	10	2	8	1	8	2
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	3	2	1	—	2	1	2	1	4	—	4	1
26. Appendicitis ...	—	—	4	3	4	1	2	3	2	—	1	2
27. Other Digestive Diseases	9	5	3	8	6	11	3	6	9	13	8	8
28. Nephritis ...	9	9	16	6	5	7	6	5	11	6	8	11
29. Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
30. Other Maternal causes	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—
31. Premature Birth ...	8	10	5	2	8	1	10	1	6	11	10	5
32. Congenital malformation; Birth Injuries and Infant Diseases	8	9	10	2	23	3	12	3	10	6	8	12
33. Suicide ...	4	3	2	7	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	2
34. Road Traffic Accidents	9	1	5	—	7	1	2	2	6	—	6	2
35. Other Violent causes ...	63	63	32	23	3	4	11	5	35	48	12	20
36. All other causes ...	29	22	36	33	27	28	44	25	22	30	24	41

### DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS IN 1939.

These relate to deaths occurring in 1939, but not necessarily registered in that year.

Short List of Causes of Death in Use in General Register Office.	Total	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 30	30 to 35	35 to 40	40 to 45	45 to 50	50 to 55	55 to 60	60 to 65	65 to 70	70 to 75	75 and over
<b>ALL CAUSES.</b>	627	60	4	2	1	2	6	2	12	11	12	21	15	22	26	35	44	50	59	71	164
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ... ..	—																				
2. Measles ... ..	—																				
3. Scarlet Fever ... ..	—																				
4. Whooping Cough ... ..	2	2																			
5. Diphtheria ... ..	1									1											
6. Influenza ... ..	5	2																	1	1	1
7. Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	1							1													
8. Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	—																				
9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..	49								5	9	7	4	1	7	3	5	4	1		1	
10. Other Tuberculous Diseases	5		1						1		1			2							
11. Syphilis ... ..	—																				
12. General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	—																				
13. Cancer, Malignant Disease	95						1				1	2	4	4	7	9	12	12	11	15	17
14. Diabetes ... ..	5											1	1				1	1	1	1	
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	33			1								1					3	2	3	11	8
16. Heart Diseases ... ..	83									2	1		1	2	5	3	1	7	11	8	42
17. Aneurysm ... ..	1																		1		
18. Other Circulatory Diseases	109														4	2	7	11	17	20	48
19. Bronchitis ... ..	21																3	5	5	2	11



[illegible]

### DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS IN 1940.

These relate to deaths occurring in 1940, but not necessarily registered in that year.

Short List of Causes of Death in Use in General Register Office.	Total	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 30	30 to 35	35 to 40	40 to 45	45 to 50	50 to 55	55 to 60	60 to 65	65 to 70	70 to 75	75 and over
<b>ALL CAUSES.</b>	788	51	8	5	2	2	10	11	18	12	29	32	35	41	48	38	57	65	65	87	172
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—																				
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	2						1			1											
3. Scarlet Fever ...	—																				
4. Whooping Cough ...	—																				
5. Diphtheria ...	4				1		3														
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	49																				
7. Other Tuberculous Diseases	8	1	1					1	8	2	6	7	4	7	5	2	3			2	2
8. Syphilitic Diseases	—							1	1		1	1	1						1		
8a. General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	1																				
9. Influenza ...	4														1						
10. Measles ...	—												1					3			
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—																				
12. Acute Encephalitis	—																				
13 to 16. Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	83						1					1	2	7	4	7	12	12	9	14	14
17. Diabetes ...	6								1		1									1	1
17a. Aneurysm ...	3																				
18. Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	52	1											1		2	1	6	4	5	11	16



[illegible]

### DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS IN 1941.

These relate to deaths occurring in 1941, but not necessarily registered in that year.

Short List of Causes of Death in Use in General Register Office.	Total	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 30	30 to 35	35 to 40	40 to 45	45 to 50	50 to 55	55 to 60	60 to 65	65 to 70	70 to 75	75 and over
<b>ALL CAUSES.</b>	685	35	5	5	4	3	2	12	14	16	16	18	30	31	32	52	36	46	83	69	176
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—																				
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	—																				
3. Scarlet Fever ...	—																				
4. Whooping Cough ...	3	3																			
5. Diphtheria ...	—																				
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	42		1	1				1	2	7	5	4	3	3	3	4	2	4	1	1	
7. Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	11		2	1				3	1	3			1								
8. Syphilitic Diseases ...	6															2		2	1	1	
9. Influenza ...	1	1																			
10. Measles ...	—																				
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ...	—																				
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis ...	1													1							
13 to 16. Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	97												2	10	9	8	11	6	16	16	19
17. Diabetes ...	1							1													
18. Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ...	63					1					1	1	2	4	1	3	6	3	14	10	17
19. Heart Disease ...	148								1			3	3		7	10	4	12	26	18	64



[illegible]

### DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS IN 1942.

These relate to deaths occurring in 1942, but not necessarily registered in that year.

Short List of Causes of Death in Use in General Register Office.	Total	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 30	30 to 35	35 to 40	40 to 45	45 to 50	50 to 55	55 to 60	60 to 65	65 to 70	70 to 75	75 and over
<b>ALL CAUSES.</b>	679	48	6	3	2	2	6	5	9	6	13	17	24	27	32	39	54	69	74	83	160
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—																				
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	5	1	1				1							1							1
3. Scarlet Fever ...	—																				
4. Whooping Cough ...	3	3																			
5. Diphtheria ...	2						2														
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	38																				
7. Other Tuberculous Diseases	9		1	1					4	2	4	5	6	3	6	3	3	1	1		
8. Syphilitic Disease	3								2	2						2	1			1	
9. Influenza ...	1			1												1	1				
10. Measles ...	1			1																	
11. Acute Poliomyelitis ...	2													2							
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis ...	1								1												
13 to 16. Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	116											3	2	4	8	11	16	16	19	21	16
17. Diabetes ...	5														1		2	2		1	1
18. Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ...	70				1								2	1	4	3	4	10	11	17	17
19. Heart Disease ...	166							1			2	2	2	6	3	6	14	19	18	25	68



[illegible]

### DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS IN 1943.

These relate to deaths occurring in 1943, but not necessarily registered in that year.

Short List of Causes of Death in Use in General Register Office.	Total	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 30	30 to 35	35 to 40	40 to 45	45 to 50	50 to 55	55 to 60	60 to 65	65 to 70	70 to 75	75 and over
<b>ALL CAUSES.</b>	706	36	6	5	1	2	6	2	15	9	8	19	24	25	39	35	51	66	72	87	197
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	45	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	7	3	5	7	4	3	4	4	1	2	—	2	—
7. Other Tuberculous Diseases	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Syphilitic Diseases	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
9. Influenza ...	10	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	4
10. Measles ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13 to 16. Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	121	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	3	3	14	10	12	17	19	19	18
17. Diabetes ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
18. Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ...	81	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	3	2	3	6	11	12	14	27
19. Heart Disease	162	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	3	2	4	4	7	17	14	27	79





### DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS IN 1944.

These relate to deaths occurring in 1944, but not necessarily registered in that year.

Short List of Causes of Death in Use in General Register Office.	Total	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 30	30 to 35	35 to 40	40 to 45	45 to 50	50 to 55	55 to 60	60 to 65	65 to 70	70 to 75	75 and over
<b>ALL CAUSES.</b>	726	46	4	2		2	8	7	11	16	10	29	21	35	44	56	52	59	60	85	179
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—																				
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	1						1														
3. Scarlet Fever ...	—																				
4. Whooping Cough ...	2	1					1														
5. Diphtheria ...	1						1														
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	54								4	6	4	9	3	5	10	6	3	1	1	1	1
7. Other Tuberculous Diseases	4		1			1							1			1					
8. Syphilitic Diseases	3														1				1		
9. Influenza ...	2						1								1						1
10. Measles ...	—																				
11. Acute Poliomyelitis	—																				
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis ...	—																				
13 to 16. Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	101						3			1		2	1	2	13	15	8	10	16	11	19
17. Diabetes ...	4							1											1	1	1
18. Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ...	69											1		1	3	4	6	6	9	15	24
19. Heart Disease ...	174								2	2	2	3	5	6	2	5	13	19	19	31	65



20. Other Diseases of Circu- latory System ... ..	23													1	2		4	1	3	12
21. Bronchitis ... ..	21	2											1			2	1	4	3	8
22. Pneumonia ... ..	31	3	1	1			1			1		1	2	1		3	5	1	3	8
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	11								1					2	2	2		3	1	
24. Ulcer of the Stomach or Duodenum ... ..	8												1		1	1	1		3	1
25. Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) ... ..	4	4																		
26. Appendicitis ... ..	2					1				1										
27. Other Digestive Diseases	21	1	1								2		3	6	2	1	1	2	2	
28. Nephritis ... ..	17					1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	2	1		1	1	5
29. Puerperal and Post-Abor- tive Sepsis ... ..	—																			
30. Other Maternal Causes ...	3								1		1	1								
31. Premature Birth ... ..	17	17																		
32. Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease ... ..	15	15																		
33. Suicide ... ..	2																	1		1
34. Road Traffic Accidents ...	3							1									1			1
35. Other Violent Causes ...	83	1	1	1		1	3	4	4		10	4	14	7	11	4	7	2	5	4
36. All Other Causes ... ..	50	2				1			1	1	2	1		1	1	6	2		5	26

### DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS IN 1945.

These relate to deaths occurring in 1945, but not necessarily registered in that year.

Short List of Causes of Death in Use in General Register Office.	Total	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 30	30 to 35	35 to 40	40 to 45	45 to 50	50 to 55	55 to 60	60 to 65	65 to 70	70 to 75	75 and over
<b>ALL CAUSES.</b>	692	49	3	3	1	2	7	1	10	7	9	15	21	22	28	38	56	56	76	90	198
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—																				
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	—																				
3. Scarlet Fever ...	—																				
4. Whooping Cough ...	—																				
5. Diphtheria ...	1					1															
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	39																				
7. Other Tuberculous Diseases	7	1	1				1		3	2	4	5	6	3	1	3	5	3	2		2
8. Syphilitic Diseases ...	—								2			1	1								
9. Influenza ...	3											1									
10. Measles ...	—																	1			1
11. Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—																				
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis ...	—																				
13 to 16. Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	116																				
17. Diabetes ...	3									1		1		4	8	11	13	17	12	18	31
18. Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ...	64									1		1	1				1	1			1
19. Heart Disease ...	188						1		1	1	1	1	4	4	3	6	7	5	8	12	20
															6	8	14	15	19	32	81



20. Other Diseases of Circulatory System ... ..	16														1	1		1	2	3	4	4
21. Bronchitis ... ..	20	1																1	1	5	3	10
22. Pneumonia ... ..	41	6	1					1							1	1	1	2	4	7	7	10
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	11	1								1					1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1
24. Ulcer of the Stomach or Duodenum ... ..	9										1	1					3	1	1		2	
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..	5	5																				
26. Appendicitis ... ..	3					1						1						1				
27. Other Digestive Diseases	15											2	1	1	1			2	3	2	4	
28. Nephritis ... ..	21					1			1			1		1	3	5			1	6	2	
29. Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis ... ..	—																					
30. Other Maternal Causes ... ..	—																					
31. Premature Birth ... ..	18	18																				
32. Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease ... ..	11	11																				
33. Suicide ... ..	4									1	1								2			
34. Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	4						1					1	1								1	
35. Other Violent Causes ... ..	33	2	1	2	1		1	1	3		1	3	2	2	4	2	1		3	1	3	
36. All Other Causes ... ..	60	4		1		1	1			1	2		4	2	1	2	3	3	7	3	25	

# Infantile Mortality.

1939.

## DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

CAUSES OF DEATH AS CERTIFIED.	Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 9 months	9 to 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Whooping Cough ...								1	1	2
Accident ...							1			1
Broncho-pneumonia ...		1		1	2	2	4		1	9
Congenital Malforma- tion, Premature Birth and Convulsions ...	25	4	1		30	1	1	5		37
Influenza ...							1	1		2
Gastro Enteritis ...							3		1	4
Purpura ...						1				1
Umbilical Infection ...			1		1					1
Urinary Infection ...						1				1
Intussusception ...								1	1	2
Totals ...	25	5	2	1	33	5	10	8	4	60



# Infantile Mortality. 1940.

## DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

CAUSES OF DEATH AS CERTIFIED.	Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 9 months	9 to 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Marasmus ... ..						1				1
War Operations ...						1			1	2
Broncho-pneumonia ...		1			1	5	2	1		9
Intracranial Hæmorrhage and Convulsions	4	1			5	1				6
Congenital Malformation, etc. ... ..	2		1		3	1				4
Premature Birth and Inanition ... ..	17	1			18					18
Atelectasis of Lungs ...	2				2					2
Gastro Enteritis ...						1	1	1	1	4
Intussusception ...							1			1
Tuberculous Meningitis							1			1
Meningitis ... ..			1		1			1	1	3
Totals ... ..	25	3	2	—	30	10	5	3	3	51

# Infantile Mortality.

1941.

## DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

CAUSES OF DEATH AS CERTIFIED.			Under 1 week	1 week and under 2 weeks	2 weeks and under 3 weeks	3 weeks and under 4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 month and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Whooping Cough	...	...						2			1	3
War Operations	...	...						1				1
Broncho-pneumonia	...	...						6	2			8
Intracranial Hæmorrhage	...	...	2				2	1				3
Congenital Malformation, etc.	...	...	1			1	2	1				3
Premature Birth and Inanition	...	...	6	1	1		8					8
General Toxæmia, Pyelitis	...	...								1		1
Gastro Enteritis	...	...								1		1
Heart Failure	...	...	1				1					1
Suffocation	...	...	1				1	1				2
Meningitis	...	...						1				1
Convulsions—Spina Bifida	...	...	1									1
Convulsions—With Enlarged Thymus	...	...						1				1
Influenza	...	...							1			1
Totals	...	...	12	1	1	1	15	14	3	2	1	35



DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS  
AGES UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

CAUSES OF DEATH AS CERTIFIED.			Under 1 week	1 week and under 2 weeks	2 weeks and under 3 weeks	3 weeks and under 4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 month and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Whooping Cough	...	...						2		1		3
Broncho-pneumonia	...	...	1			1	2	5	2		1	10
Bronchitis	...	...							1			1
Intracranial Hæmorrhage	...	...	4				4	1	1			6
Congenital Malformation, etc.	...	...	6	2		1	9	3			1	13
Premature Birth and Inanition	...	...	8		2		10					10
Gastro Enteritis	...	...							3			3
Meningitis	...	...							1			1
Convulsions	...	...								1		1
Totals	...	...	19	2	2	2	25	11	8	2	2	48

# Infantile Mortality.

1943.

## DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

CAUSES OF DEATH AS CERTIFIED.	Under 1 week	1 week and under 2 weeks	2 weeks and under 3 weeks	3 weeks and under 4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 month and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Whooping Cough ...							1			1
Measles ... ..								1		1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...							1		1	2
Broncho-pneumonia ...	2		1		3	2				5
Bronchitis ... ..								1		1
Congenital Malforma- tion, Birth Injury, etc. ... ..	5	1	1		7	1				8
Premature Birth and Inanition ... ..	13				13	2				15
Suffocation ... ..						1				1
Meningitis T.B. ...								1		1
Encephalomyelitis ...								1		1
Totals ... ..	20	1	2		23	6	2	4	1	36



# **Infantile Mortality.                      1944.**

## **DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.**

CAUSES OF DEATH AS CERTIFIED.	Under 1 week	1 week and under 2 weeks	2 weeks and under 3 weeks	3 weeks and under 4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 month and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Broncho-pneumonia ...		2			2		1			3
Whooping Cough ...									1	1
Bronchitis ... ..						1	1			2
Congenital Malforma- tion, Birth Injury, etc. ... ..	9	1			10	4	1			15
Premature Birth and Inanition ... ..	16	1			17					17
Intussusception ...						1				1
Gastro Enteritis ...						1	3			4
Septicæmia ... ..						1			1	2
War Operations ...							1			1
Totals ... ..	25	4	—	—	29	8	7	—	2	46

DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS  
AGES UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

CAUSES OF DEATH AS CERTIFIED.	Under 1 week	1 week and under 2 weeks	2 weeks and under 3 weeks	3 weeks and under 4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 month and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Broncho-pneumonia ...	1	1			2	3	1			6
Bronchitis ...						1				1
Premature Birth and Inanition ...	18				18					18
Mental Deficiency and Inanition ...						1				1
Miliary T.B. ...						1				1
Gastro Enteritis ...				1	1		1	2	1	5
Congenital Malforma- tion, etc. ...	5	3			8	2				10
War Operations ...								1		1
Misadventure (asphyxi- ated under bedclothes)						1	1			2
Septicæmia ...				1	1					1
Infected Eczema ...							1			1
Septic Meningitis ...						1				1
Acute Lymphatic Leukæmia ...								1		1
Totals ...	24	4	—	2	30	10	4	4	1	49



### Infantile Mortality.

Year.	Registered.	Rate per 1,000 Live Births.	Deaths in neonatal period, i.e., within one month of birth.	
			Deaths.	Percentage.
1939	56	40.1	33	55
1940	56	45.4	30	53
1941	37	35.4	15	42
1942	48	32.7	25	52
1943	36	26.01	23	63
1944	47	31.37	29	63
1945	48	33.9	30	61.2

### Maternal Deaths.

Year.	Deaths.	Puerperal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live & Stillbirths.
1939	1	0.69
1940	1	0.79
1941	3	2.77
1942	2	1.32
1943	2	1.44
1944	2	1.30
1945	nil	nil

It will be noticed that in 1941 the mortality rate increased in comparison with that of 1940. This large variation is always liable to appear in local statistics due to a relatively small population as compared with the rest of the country.

## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH.

#### Isolation Hospital Accommodation.

This has always been available at the Bow Arrow Hospital of the Dartford Joint Hospital Committee of which the Council is the largest contributent member. The policy of not sending in scarlet fever cases unless the clinical or home conditions require admission, has been followed. The shortage of nursing staff in the year 1945 has required that the necessity for any admission should be well scrutinised.

#### General Hospitals.

Bexley Cottage Hospital	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Patients Admitted ...	546	357	257	251	280	207	224
Patient Days... ..	5019	4757	4581	5633	5126	4839	5225
Outpatient Attendances	674	668	728	748	3304	919	1093
X-Ray examinations...	Figures not available.		389	485	575	571	585

### AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

#### Infectious Diseases.

This ambulance service has continued to be supplied by the Dartford Joint Hospital Committee.

#### Non-Infectious Diseases.

From 1944 and until the Civil Defence Services were disbanded a second ambulance for urgent cases was manned by that Service. Since July, 1945, two ambulances have been manned by Corporation staff. Agreements are still maintained with the neighbouring authorities except Erith Borough for mutual aid when cases require urgent removal and no Borough ambulance is available.



## Cases removed by Corporation Ambulances.

Cases.	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Sickness ... ..	666	623	611	974	974	1362	1144
Accidents ... ..	224	173	201	134	149	141	159
Illness in street ...	39	50	62	78	65	72	53
Maternity ... ..	227	283	255	416	473	622	549
Malicious calls ...	3	1	2	4	5	7	6
Ambulance not required	39	34	24	4	7	17	26
Air Raid Casualties ...	—	10	—	—	—	6	—
Collecting Blood ...	—	—	—	15	1	1	1
Conveying children to Special School ...	—	—	—	6	—	—	—
Sitting Car Cases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>1198</b>	<b>1174</b>	<b>1155</b>	<b>1631</b>	<b>1674</b>	<b>2228</b>	<b>1941</b>
<b>No. of Calls on Outside Ambulances.</b>							
Crayford Ambulance...	82	107	114	208	173	51	87
Erith Ambulance ...	—	4	10	50	59	1	—
Sidecup Ambulance ...	12	6	1	19	16	14	47
L.C.C. Ambulance ...	—	—	—	3	5	3	7
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>141</b>
<b>Cases.</b>							
Sickness ... ..	30	41	55	160	125	21	60
Accident ... ..	43	54	31	43	39	22	36
Maternity ... ..	19	22	39	77	81	25	42
Miscellaneous ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Not required ... ..	—	—	—	—	8	1	3
<b>Total Calls ...</b>	<b>1292</b>	<b>1291</b>	<b>1280</b>	<b>1911</b>	<b>1927</b>	<b>2297</b>	<b>2082</b>

## PUBLIC MORTUARY.

The Public Mortuary, which is maintained by the Corporation, is situated on land at the south side of the Council Offices.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
No. of occasions used	42	48	38	34	44	39	80
No. of Post Mortem Examinations ...	37	42	29	31	37	35	71
No. of Inquests ...	2	6	2	3	9	5	17

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

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### Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Bexleyheath—315, Broadway.

Child Welfare Sessions — Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.

Ante-natal Sessions—Friday, 2.30 p.m.

Welling—Station Approach.

Child Welfare Sessions — Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.

Ante-Natal Sessions—Friday, 10.30 a.m.

Bexley—Murchison Avenue.

Child Welfare Sessions — Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.

Ante-Natal Sessions—Wednesdays, 10.30 a.m.

Welling—Wrotham Road (opened May, 1943).

Child Welfare Sessions — Mondays and Tuesdays, 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.

Ante-Natal Sessions — Wednesdays, 10.30 a.m.

Welling—Falconwood Parade, The Green (opened April, 1944).

Child Welfare Sessions—Wednesdays and Fridays, 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.

Ante-Natal Sessions — Mondays, 10.30 a.m. with the exception of the first Monday in each month.

Maternity Home—Lavernock Road.

Ante-Natal Sessions — Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10.30 a.m.

Post-Natal Sessions—Thursdays, 11.30 a.m.

Dental Clinic—315, Broadway, Bexleyheath.

Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, a.m.

Sunlight Clinic—315, Broadway, Bexleyheath.

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m.

### School Clinics and Dental Clinics.

Little Danson, Welling and Mayplace Road East, Bexleyheath.

Doctor's Clinics are held at both the above places weekly as follows:—



3 sessions at Mayplace Road East, 1 of which is Asthma Clinic.

2 sessions at Little Danson  $\frac{1}{2}$  day of which is Asthma Clinic.

Tuberculosis Dispensaries at Overy Street, Dartford and Bexley Road, Erith.

Venereal Disease Clinics at the County Hospital, West Hill, Dartford.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

### (i) Midwifery and Maternity Service.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
(a) <b>Ante-Natal Care.</b>							
Expectant mothers attended Clinics ...	638	484	745	981	859	926	851
Percentage of notified Births ...	45.9	39.8	74.2	68.0	60.7	65.6	60.8
No. of expectant mothers received ante-natal care at clinics attached to other Hospitals ...	364	249	135	382	386	334	358
No. of women received ante-natal care from own doctors ...	83	84	89	80	104	90	112
Total percentage	78.0	67.2	96.6	94.8	95.5	95.6	97.0
(b) <b>Co-operation with General Practitioners.</b>							
No. of General Practitioners' cases admitted to Corporation Maternity Home ...	86	84	89	80	104	90	112
(c) <b>Consultant Service.</b>							
No. of Clinics ...	10	12	12	12	12	12	12
No. of cases seen ...	79	135	164	252	168	196	184
No. sent by General Practitioners ...	4	20	20	36	33	34	18
No. sent by Midwives	2	1	6	11	3	7	4
No. of calls for domiciliary visits ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
No. of calls to Maternity Home ...	11	8	11	18	11	13	16

#### (d) **Maternity Accommodation.**

This is provided in the Corporation Maternity Home (26 beds) and during 1945 the Council made an agreement with the K.C.C. for payment for Bexley mothers admitted to the County Hospitals. Accommodation has become available again in the Memorial Hospital, Woolwich, and has continued to be available in the British Hospital for Mothers and Babies, Woolwich, and local Nursing Homes. A few births occur in the Inner London Hospitals.

From the outbreak of war until mid 1944 part of the Borough only was scheduled as an evacuation area. Facilities were available under the K.C.C. Scheme for expectant mothers resident in this area to go to hostels and later to temporary Maternity Homes in Kent for their confinements. With the advent of the flying bomb the whole of the Borough was included in the Government Scheme and expectant mothers were then also evacuated in parties to safer areas for maternity accommodation under the L.C.C. Scheme.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<b>(e) Ante-natal Clinics.</b>							
No. of Sessions (weekly)	5	5	5	6	6	7	7
Average attendance ...	24.0	12.0	13.7	18.4	21.3	17.0	15.0
<b>(f) Post-natal Clinic.</b>							
No. of attendances at Maternity Home ...	287	191	238	372	320	312	272
No. of Post-natal examinations at other clinics ...	10	29	10	19	22	40	112
<b>(g) Home Helps.</b>							
No. of applications ...	32	33	28	37	54	64	63
No. cancelled or not proceeded with ...	18	19	13	16	10	27	25
No. of homes attended	32	33	28	37	54	37	38
No. of attendances (days) ...	430	402	558	585	668	520	526

This essential service has varied in demand and supply, depending on air raid conditions and supply of labour. Supply of labour has always been difficult, but with Ministry of Health support the service is gradually being built up.



	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<b>(h) Dental Clinic</b>							
No. referred to dental clinic by M.O.'s ...	428	386	469	415	426	278	346
No. found to be in need of treatment ...	422	386	350	375	318	278	346
No. who received treatment ...	394	341	292	375	318	276	331
No. made dentally fit	215	315	100	202	146	229	298
<b>Number of treatments—</b>							
(a) Fillings :							
(1) In temporary teeth ...	121	222	221	136	260	164	75
(2) In permanent teeth ...	114	212	192	204	452	409	537
(b) Teeth extracted...	1633	1658	930	1233	1468	1064	857
(c) Administration of general anæsthesia	381	209	119	159	216	120	102
(d) Local anæsthesia	67	86	63	94	118	140	139
Patients supplied with dentures ...	39	67	52	58	70	67	84
Dentures supplied ...	73	102	95	103	127	118	129
No. of scalings and gum treatment ...	—	—	48	136	477	342	439

The number of dental sessions per week was increased to three in 1944 and the figures show a policy of conservation of teeth by the greater number of fillings and the reduction of extractions.

## (ii) Institutional Provision for Mothers.

### (a) Maternity Home.

Since 1939 the staff has been on a 96 hour fortnight and despite all the difficulties of air raids the Home has carried on and now admits and deals with abnormal cases in view of the difficulties in obtaining admission for these cases to London Hospitals. Increased staff has been difficult to recruit but not until 1945 has the shortage been felt. The Home has continued as a training school for the State Certified Midwives Part II examination.

Priority admission is given to primiparae, previous or expected abnormal cases, cases from overcrowded homes and unmarried mothers.

<b>Maternity Home Statistics.</b>	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
No. of patients in Home 1st January ...	20	22	19	22	17	27	25
No. of patients admitted during year ...	494	500	497	574	551	549	541
No. of patients discharged during year ...	490	502	493	567	536	551	547
No. of patients died during year ...	—	1	1	1	2	2	—
No. of patients remaining at 31st December ...	24	19	23	16	27	25	19
No. of patient days ...	7273	7306	7430	8171	7994	7636	8148
Average duration stay in days ...	14.7	14.61	14.94	14.41	14.50	13.91	15.55
No. of cases delivered by nursing staff (midwives) ...	408	403	400	465	443	441	420
No. of cases delivered by Doctors ...	86	94	97	102	107	108	121
No. of cases delivered before patients admitted ...	—	3	—	—	1	1	—
No. of primiparæ ...	278	273	308	335	306	278	246
No. of multiparæ ...	216	227	189	232	245	271	295
Twin pregnancies ...	6	12	3	6	4	5	—
No. of calls on Consultant—							
Ante-natal ...	4	5	9	15	11	12	15
Post-natal ...	7	2	1	1	—	1	—
Intra-natal ...	—	1	1	2	—	—	1
No. of Cæsarean sections	—	—	—	10	8	12	10
No. of cases medical assistance sought ...	70	80	72	109	116	100	97
No. of cases notified—							
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	8	7	14	11	12	18	23
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	1	2	1	1
Pemphigus Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
No. of Maternal Deaths (after discharge) ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
No. of infant deaths ...	11	7	5	7	8	6	8
Causes—							
(1) Prematurity ...	6	2	3	2	5	2	4
(2) Atelactasis of Lungs ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
(3) Jaundice ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
(4) Asphyxia Pallida ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
(5) Forceps ...	1	—	—	—	—	2	—
(6) Convulsions ...	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
(7) Pneumonia ...	—	1	—	1	1	—	—
(8) Toxæmia ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
(9) Intracranial hæmorrhage ...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
(10) Congenital Heart Disease ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—



	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
(11) Erythroblastosis	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
(12) Congenital Malformation ...	—	1	—	—	2	1	2
No. of Stillbirths ...	12	11	17	10	11	15	10
Causes—							
(1) Toxæmia ...	1	2	5	—	2	—	3
(2) Breech ...	2	1	1	—	1	—	1
(3) Unknown ...	2	4	3	2	3	3	1
(4) Macerated ...	7	1	3	2	—	3	—
(5) Instrumental ...	—	2	3	—	—	—	1
(6) Prematurity ...	—	1	1	3	2	2	—
(7) Prolapsed Cord...	—	—	1	1	1	1	—
(8) Hydrocephalic	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
(9) Anencephalic ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
(10) Ante partum Hæmorrhage	—	—	—	—	1	3	—
(11) Malformed ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
(12) Transverse Lie ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
(13) Spina Bifida ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
(14) Cæsarian Section	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
(15) Prolapsed arm ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
No. of Cases sent to Other Hospitals—							
Ante-natal ...	8	8	—	—	—	—	3
Early Intral Natal...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post Natal ...	—	—	—	1	4	1	3
Baby ...	—	—	—	1	5	2	4
No. of Borough Cases	494	490	470	552	447	537	539
No. of out-district cases	—	10	27	15	4	12	2
No. of practitioners' private booked cases	83	84	89	80	104	90	112
Forceps deliveries. Rate	3.9%	4.25%	5.83%	4.3%	3.3%	2.7%	2.9%
<b>Feeding.</b>							
Breast alone ...	402	404	403	472	440	436	404
Breast supplemented by artificial Food ...	55	52	42	60	60	56	70
Artificial food alone ...	20	45	33	24	36	47	52
No. of babies born alive (including twins) ...	488	501	483	563	543	539	536

### (b) Other Institutional Provision for Mothers.

The County Council Home for convalescent mothers has been available but post natal homes have not held any attraction for mothers who have usually been unable to find any person to care for the baby in their absence.

### (c) Care of Illegitimate Children.

Since 1944 stress has been laid on this subject and the Day Nursery and Maternity Home provisions were

the most concrete aids given to help the mother to stay with her child. Close co-operation between the Health Visitors and the Moral Welfare Workers of the Rochester Diocese has continued. The Council contributes to the residential care of the mother before the birth and mother and baby after birth in Institutions provided by the Diocesan Council.

### (iii) **Health Visitors and Clinics.**

The marked increase in Ante-Natal attendances in 1941 necessitated the holding of regular weekly clinics at Bexleyheath instead of four per month and two clinics each week at Welling instead of four per month. The reason for additional attendances is probably and mainly due to the notice brought to the department of expectant mothers which began with the issue of clothing coupons to such mothers for the expected baby. This is a notification of pregnancy and advantage has been taken of it by the Health Visitors following up each expectant mother who applies for clothing coupons.

The high clinic attendances have in the main continued and despite air raids and evacuation additional sessions have been held at Wrotham Road, Welling and The Green, Falconwood. At Wrotham Road the building used is a Public Gas Cleansing Station which is well adapted to Clinic work and at Falconwood a Co-operative Hall is used which is not very convenient but until building is recommenced it can be used. A Centre in Long Lane, Bexleyheath is required to relieve the Broadway Clinic.



	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<b>Ante-Natal Sessions.</b>							
Maternity Home, Lavernock Road—							
Mothers ... ..	51	45	54	60	50	56	49
Attendances ...	1325	1252	1354	1664	1917	1322	1601
Bexleyheath Clinic—							
Mothers ... ..	211	117	241	310	313	284	253
Attendances ...	837	632	828	1433	1246	1202	1113
Bexley Clinic—							
Mothers ... ..	106	105	107	112	154	127	123
Attendances ...	473	487	466	695	715	772	652
Welling Clinic (Station App.)—							
Mothers ... ..	270	257	343	489	272	233	220
Attendances ...	1080	917	1114	1977	1609	1308	1062
Wrotham Road Clinic—							
Mothers ... ..	—	—	—	—	70	154	135
Attendances ...	—	—	—	—	348	716	672
Falconwood Clinic—							
Mothers ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	24	71
Attendances ...	—	—	—	—	—	159	303
<b>Child Welfare Sessions.</b>							
<b>Bexleyheath Clinic.</b>							
Total No. of attend- ances—							
(a) Under 1 year ...	5898	4680	4997	5806	6780	5993	6280
(b) Between 1-5 yrs.	2814	1991	2333	2609	2761	2373	2934
Average attendance ...	58	44	48	54	62	52	60
No. of children attend- ing first time—							
(a) Under 1 year ...	380	380	417	455	376	432	460
(b) Between 1-5 yrs.	122	127	146	118	109	47	92
No. of children medi- cally examined ...	2322	1864	1624	1659	2025	1871	1627
<b>Welling Clinic.</b>							
Total No. of attend- ances—							
(a) Under 1 year ...	8225	5400	5938	8856	9125	6033	5296
(b) Between 1-5 yrs.	3370	2777	2789	2757	2734	2029	2187
Average attendance ...	57	40	43	55	57	46	48
No. of children at- tending first time—							
(a) Under 1 year ...	560	489	525	651	388	342	337
(b) Between 1-5 yrs.	194	166	166	233	19	40	32
No. of children medi- cally examined ...	3512	2624	2495	3036	3500	1756	1708

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<b>Bexley Clinic.</b>							
Total No. of attendances—							
(a) Under 1 year ...	3087	3199	2191	3078	3755	2983	3136
(b) Between 1–5 yrs.	1978	1563	1662	1983	2181	1636	1921
Average attendance ...	52	45	37	48	57	45	49
No. of children attending first time—							
(a) Under 1 year ...	209	215	167	216	174	223	193
(b) Between 1–5 yrs.	83	88	73	116	69	33	65
No. of children medically examined ...	1322	1418	1076	1155	1147	795	554
<b>Wrotham Road Clinic.</b>							
Total No. of attendances—							
(a) Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	1661	2533	3113
(b) Between 1–5 yrs.	—	—	—	—	743	1178	1205
Average attendance ...	—	—	—	—	45	38	42
No. of children attending first time—							
(a) Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	131	170	224
(b) Between 1–5 yrs.	—	—	—	—	21	54	51
No. of children medically examined ...	—	—	—	—	390	422	637
<b>Falconwood Clinic.</b>							
Total No. of attendances—							
(a) Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	1698	3041
(b) Between 1–5 yrs.	—	—	—	—	—	433	999
Average attendance ...	—	—	—	—	—	30	39
No. of children attending first time—							
(a) Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	131	192
(b) Between 1–5 yrs.	—	—	—	—	—	17	13
No. of children medically examined ...	—	—	—	—	—	306	586
<b>Births Registered :</b>							
Live Births ...	1423	1279	1145	1469	1384	1498	1413
Stillbirths ...	41	32	35	38	29	30	31
<b>(iv) Assisted Milk, etc.</b>							
No. of families supplied with Food free or at reduced cost ...	395	387	73	48	21	26	25
Approximate cost ...	£1462	£1120	£98	£46/8	£39/10	£32/12	£54/4
Liquid Milk (gallons)...	—	8217½	178	11¼	—	—	—
No. of lbs. of Dried Milk at cost price ...	16129	18423	21303	30569	35189	28278	32670
No. of lbs. of Virol, Cod Liver Oil and Malt, etc. ...	2860	2743	4209	3280	3057	1910	2084
Marmite cartons ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1007

The National Scheme of the Ministry of Food accounts for the fall in cost to the Council of this Scheme since 1941.



<b>Supply of Sheets for Expectant Mothers.</b>	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Since Nov., 1944—							
No. of applications...	—	—	—	—	—	—	225
No. of dockets ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	649

<b>(v) Orthopædic Treatment.</b>							
No. of children attended first time ...	40	39	36	27	25	20	55
No. of children previously on the Register	54	20	18	25	21	12	15
No. of Total attendances made ...	633	384	392	367	242	223	466
No. referred for in-patient treatment ...	3	1	2	1	1	1	1
No. referred for Ultra Violet light treatment ...	3	1	2	—	—	6	11
No. of appliances recommended ...	37	39	19	20	22	16	50

The majority of these cases are mild diversions from the normal. The increase in 1945 may be due to the greater willingness of mothers to travel to Hospital to seek advice.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<b>(vi) Child Life Protection.</b>							
No. of persons receiving children under 9 years for reward—							
(a) At beginning of the year...	56	32	38	37	43	27	12
(b) At the end of the year ...	32	38	37	43	27	12	22
No. of children—							
(a) At beginning of the year...	72	40	45	43	49	32	16
(b) At the end of the year ...	40	45	43	49	32	16	25
No. of foster children who died ...	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
No. of inquests held ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<b>(vii) Maternity Outfits.</b>							
No. of sterilised outfits issued ...	2	5 2 free	4 2 free	1	—	—	—
<b>(viii) Compensation to Midwives.</b>							
No. of midwives received compensation for loss of booked maternity cases ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
<b>(ix) Sunlight Clinic.</b>							
No. of cases treated including any outstanding from previous year ...	74	114	212	188	144	177	261
No. of treatments ...	950	1529	2149	2293	1756	1811	3495
No. still being treated at end of year ...	17	11	27	29	19	32	36
Average number of treatments per patient	13.0	12.2	10.1	12.2	12.1	12.0	12.0
<b>Diseases Treated.</b>							
Ante-natal acne ...	2	—	—	—	1	8	8
Ante-natal rheumatism	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sub-acute rheumatism (school children) ...	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets ...	13	21	11	13	11	19	12
Knock Knees ...	3	20	33	5	4	12	36
General Atonia ...	44	70	168	156	109	109	168
Anæmia ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Asthma ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Flat Feet ...	—	—	—	2	—	—	5
Curved Legs ...	—	—	—	12	19	29	32
<b>(x) Ear and Eye Defects.</b>							
Referred to Aural Clinic for chronic ear discharge ...	5	6	10	10	19	7	4
Referred to Ophthalmic Clinic for squint or other defect ...	9	20	32	25	16	13	2
Speech Clinic ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2



# (xi) **Special Classes.**

These were cookery and sewing classes for expectant and nursing mothers. Owing to difficulties associated with the war these were only held spasmodically up to June, 1944, and then discontinued.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
(xii) <b>Provision of Insulin to Persons suffering from Diabetes.</b> (M.O.H. Circular 2735).							
No. of patients supplied	—	—	—	—	—	3	—

## **Registration of Nursing Homes Public Health Act, 1946.**

(Authority of Registration transferred from Kent County Council to the Bexley Borough Council. 17/4/39.)

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
No. of Homes on the Register at beginning of year ...	7	7	6	5	5	5	5
Number of patients provided for—							
Maternity ...	—	—	6	6	6	6	4
Others ...	—	—	50	45	45	44	52
Total ...	—	—	56	51	51	50	56
No. of Homes first registered during year	1	1	—	—	1	—	2
Number of patients provided for—							
Maternity ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Others ...	—	—	—	—	7	—	17
Total ...	—	1	—	—	7	—	19
No. of Homes on the Register at end of year ...	7	6	5	5	5	5	6
Number of patients provided for—							
Maternity ...	—	6	6	6	6	4	6
Others ...	—	50	45	45	44	52	62
Total ...	—	56	51	51	50	56	68
No. of inspections made during year ...	—	13	6	10	13	10	11
No. cancelled on request of applicant ...	1	2	1	—	1	—	1

## **Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939.**

This Act came into force June, 1943.

	1943	1944	1945
(a) No. of persons who gave notice under Section 7 (3) during the year ... ..	9	18	55
(b) Total number of children in respect of whom notice was given under Section 7 (3) during the year ... ..	9	19	56
(c) No. of children notified under Section 7 (3) ...			
(i) Under supervision at end of year ... ..	—	10	26
(ii) Who died during the year ... ..	—	—	1
(iii) On whom inquests were held ... ..	—	—	1
Number of children adopted during the year ...	1	16	33

## **PROFESSIONAL DOMICILIARY NURSING AND LABORATORY FACILITIES.**

### **War-Time Nurseries. Care of young children of women war workers.**

The attendances were good throughout the year. Four of the six nurseries had a waiting list by the end of the year. The 24 hour nursery had to cease its night service at the end of the year as the Ministry of Health and Labour and National Service were satisfied that it was no longer required to enable women to engage in industry on night shifts. But in the absence of Public Health Residential Nursery provision and the inadequacy of that supplied by the Public Assistance Committee it was continuing to fulfil a useful purpose and children in the 24 hour nursery were noticed to be progressing less well when they could only use the Day Nursery.

Accommodation at the end of 1945 in the six nurseries was available for 318 children by day (Mondays to Saturdays) and 18 by night (Mondays to Fridays).

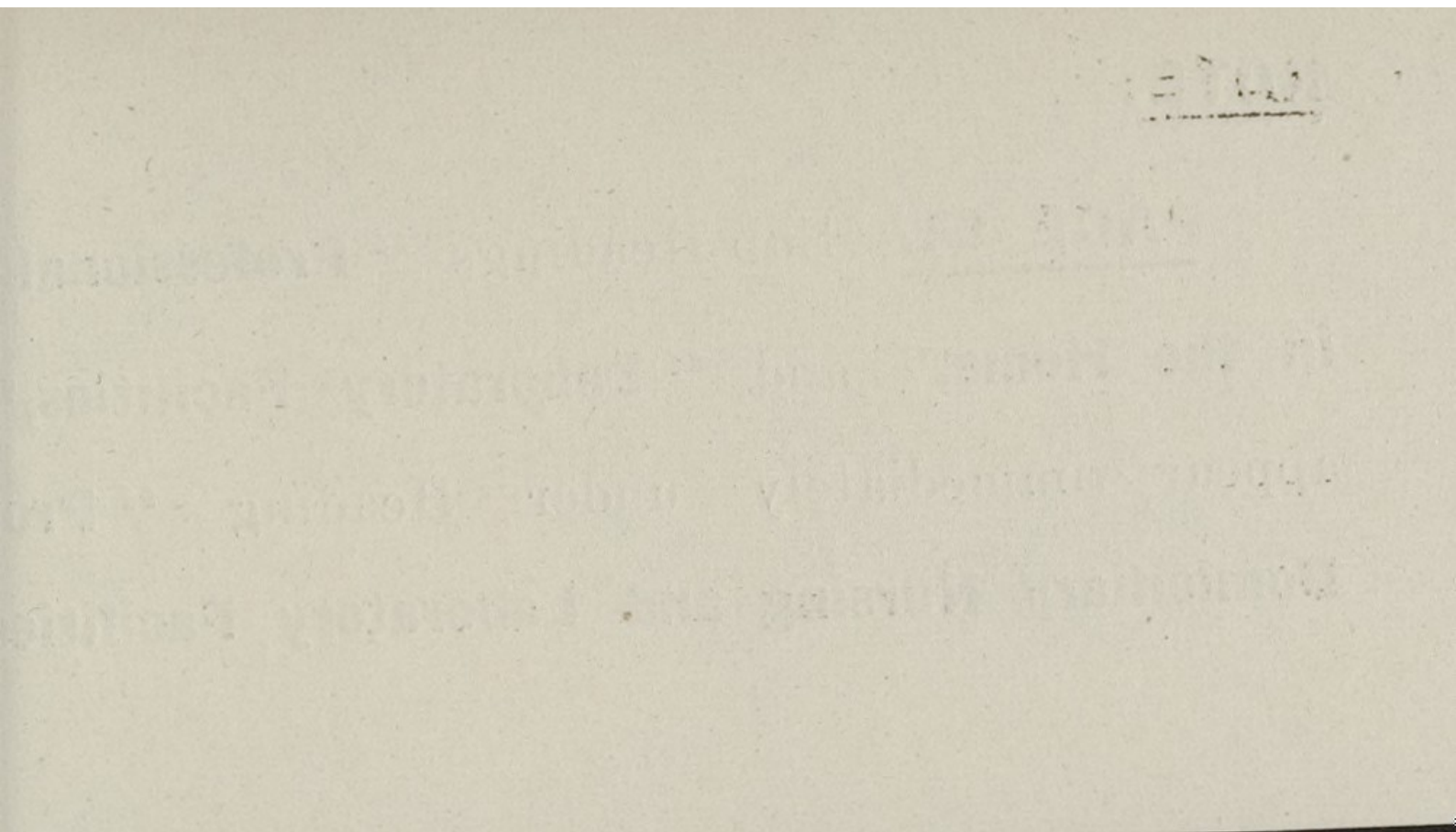
### **Professional Nursing in the Home.**

Home Nursing is provided by three Nursing Associations in the area, namely, Bexleyheath, Bexley, Welling and East Wickham. These are very useful services and the nurses are to be complimented on their work.

### **Laboratory Facilities.**

Pathological and bacteriological work for the area is carried out by the K.C.C. at the Public Health Department, County Hall, Maidstone.





**NOTE:**

**PAGE 54.** Sub Headings “Professional Nursing

in the Home,” and “Laboratory Facilities,”

appear immediately under Heading “Professional

Domiciliary Nursing and Laboratory Facilities.”



### Average daily attendance per month.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
<b>Christchurch—</b>												
Opened January, 1942 ...	—	19.0	30.0	32.0	39.0	37.7	37.8	23.6	36.6	31.4	30.6	33.0
1943 ... ..	22.8	26.0	26.6	26.0	37.0	34.5	36.0	34.9	41.3	37.4	36.5	30.8
1944 ... ..	32.9	31.8	34.4	34.8	37.9	33.09	23.4	21.6	24.8	31.4	30.9	30.7
1945 ... ..	25.49	27.2	28.6	30.4	30.29	32.9	31.34	21.95	32.04	30.81	32.41	32.93
<b>St. Michael's—</b>												
Opened January, 1942 ...	—	17.0	25.0	32.0	26.0	27.6	29.8	31.4	39.0	31.5	34.5	39.6
1943 ... ..	39.3	43.75	42.1	42.5	49.5	49.6	57.6	50.5	57.8	56.3	54.7	49.7
1944 ... ..	46.6	52.6	55.6	52.4	55.4	54.7	46.5	40.0	44.2	48.9	52.4	46.8
1945 ... ..	33.9	41.0	47.6	52.05	52.45	55.7	54.0	51.35	57.15	59.1	65.73	49.15
<b>St. Michael's (Nights)—</b>												
Opened May, 1943 ...	—	—	—	—	6.9	7.4	4.9	8.3	11.5	11.6	10.6	10.2
1944 ... ..	12.2	11.09	12.4	12.8	15.1	16.4	15.8	15.9	16.3	15.6	17.3	15.8
1945 ... ..	15.0	13.0	14.9	16.95	12.4	13.7	15.3	13.1	12.0	10.7	13.7	11.36
<b>Brampton—</b>												
Opened October, 1942 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25.8	36.6	33.76
1943 ... ..	40.6	54.7	57.1	53.5	50.8	56.1	59.2	60.8	66.0	60.9	52.2	47.9
1944 ... ..	34.9	41.8	44.0	50.0	55.5	56.9	43.2	35.6	31.2	40.8	43.2	46.4
1945 ... ..	33.3	46.35	47.32	51.25	57.2	61.7	55.91	57.1	53.41	56.34	51.59	44.38
<b>Falconwood—</b>												
Opened November, 1942	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27.48
1943 ... ..	27.0	42.08	38.7	42.0	31.8	51.5	46.9	46.0	53.0	58.8	56.0	42.63
1944 ... ..	36.8	40.2	46.4	44.5	48.3	43.0	20.4	17.7	23.2	19.7	25.8	25.4
1945 ... ..	21.67	24.2	28.8	29.4	22.1	34.1	53.7	42.3	43.51	44.3	48.54	56.16
<b>St. Mary's—</b>												
Opened January, 1943 ...	10.5	11.83	19.4	25.1	29.2	27.0	33.0	35.3	40.1	40.6	23.0	30.08
1944 ... ..	29.1	35.1	33.4	35.9	34.3	31.0	27.2	14.3	13.0	22.5	27.0	23.2
1945 ... ..	22.1	25.7	21.4	34.6	39.4	43.7	41.1	35.9	39.94	42.27	39.17	36.28
<b>Okehampton—</b>												
Opened January, 1944 ...	15.6	30.1	31.6	28.4	35.3	35.5	26.1	14.4	16.9	26.7	32.0	28.7
1945 ... ..	30.19	29.9	31.65	33.6	33.8	38.68	39.67	36.75	42.2	47.2	49.89	41.1

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE WORK DONE.

Year	Registered		No. of Health Visitors	Visits made to				Children 1 to 5	Centres (Children)				% of Births	Centres (ante-natal)		
	Live Births	Still Births		Expectant Mothers		Children Under 1			No. of Attendances		First Attenders			Attendance	Expectant Mothers	% of Births
				First	Total	First	Total		Under 1	1 to 5	Under 1	1 to 5				
1939	1423	41	*7	447	691	1323	5142	9798	17210	8162	1149	399	80.7	3715	638	44.8
1940	1279	32	7	487	792	1108	4739	10277	13279	6331	1084	381	86.6	2036	584	44.8
1941	1145	35	7	518	855	797	3707	8635	13126	6784	1109	385	96.9	3762	745	63.1
1942	1469	38	7	636	1109	1440	4445	8242	17740	7349	1322	467	90.0	5769	981	65.0
1943	1384	29	7	716	975	1664	4444	5995	21321	8419	1069	368	76.5	5835	859	60.7
1944	1498	30	†8	604	865	1491	4163	5089	19240	7649	1298	191	84.9	5479	926	60.6
1945	1413	31	8	664	884	1519	4722	6174	20866	9246	1426	253	100.9	5403	851	58.9

\*6 for 2 months.

†7½ for quarter of year.



## SECTION C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH.

#### List of Adoptive Acts, etc., in force.

Acts.	Date Adopted.
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890	
Parts 1, 2, 3 and 5 ... ..	Apr. 1891
Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890	Apr. 1891
Public Libraries Act, 1892-1919 ... ..	Oct 1893
Private Street Works Act, 1892 ... ..	Jan. 1899
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907,	
Parts 8 and 9 ... ..	Apr. 1909
Part 2—the whole ... ..	May 1909
„ 4—Secs. 53 and 54 ... ..	
„ 6—the whole ... ..	
„ 10—Sec. 95 ... ..	
Public Health Act, 1925, Part 2 ... ..	Jan. 1926
Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 ... ..	Jan. 1934

#### Byelaws.

Wireless Loudspeakers, Gramophones, etc.	Jan. 1939
Fouling by Dogs of Footpaths ... ..	July 1938
Baths, Wash-houses, Swimming Baths and Bathing Places ... ..	Aug. 1938
Parks and Pleasure Grounds ... ..	May 1939
Building ... ..	June 1939
Defacing of Pavements ... ..	Nov. 1939
Deposit of Litter to the Detriment of Public amenities ... ..	„
Deposit of Dangerous Substances ... ..	„
Organs ... ..	„
Loitering at Church Doors ... ..	„
Indecent Language, etc. ... ..	„
Noisy Hawking ... ..	„
Touting ... ..	„
Noisy Animals ... ..	„
Violent Behaviour, etc. on School Premises	„
Nursing Homes ... ..	June 1940

The Byelaws relating to: Cleansing of Earth Closets and Cesspools; Common Lodging Houses; Hop Pickers' and Fruit Pickers' Lodgings; Cleansing of Privies; Removal of Offensive and Noxious Matters; Nuisances;



Offensive Trades (Fish Frying); Tents, Vans, Sheds, and Similar Structures; Lodging (Housing Act, 1925) Sec. 6; New Streets and Buildings adopted 1927; New Streets and Buildings adopted 1931 and Slaughterhouses; lapsed in 1940 as under the Borough Charter of 1937 all Byelaws then in existence had to be re-made within three years of October, 1937. Application was made to the Ministry of Health for renewal of certain of the lapsing Byelaws which it was deemed necessary to have in effect, but in view of the war the Minister refused to sanction the proposed Byelaws put forward.

So far it has been possible to continue sanitary work without these Byelaws, but if a difficult offender is met it is not possible to forecast how a remedy for the nuisance or defect can be obtained where such is not covered in the general legislation.

#### 1. (i) **Water Supply.**

The supply to the Bexleyheath district is a mixture of water from Wilmington, Darenth, Wansunt, Crayford, Bexley and Deptford Wells, and Thames-derived filtered water. All the water is chlorinated as it leaves the works.

Bacteriological analyses are made five times per week of all supplies and consistently satisfactory results have been obtained. In the case of Bexley the water is also tested before chlorination but owing to the conditions of treatment at the other stations this is not possible. Water derived from the Thames is sampled at each stage of the purification process.

All new and repaired mains are chlorinated before being restored to use and samples of water from them are tested bacteriologically.

None of the supplies is plumbo-solvent.

The examination of samples of water from piped supplies to houses at least monthly has given the following results:—

#### **Bacteriological.**

No. of organisms per c.c. capable of growth on Agar at—

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
37°C.	0.28	0.7	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.5
22°C.	0.30	0.60	0.2	0.87	0.8	0.4	0.158



## B.coli presumptive

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Absent in c.c.	100	100	100	100	100	100	90
Absent in c.c.	70	80	—	—	—	—	—
Present in c.c.	*80	*90	—	—	—	—	†100

\* A—typical organism. † Further test proved that these were not typical B.coli. Satisfactory water.

## (ii) Drainage and Sewerage.

During the war years very little new drainage or sewerage work was carried out. Repairs were carried out to a number of sewers damaged by enemy action.

The following is a summary of new work during the years 1939-1945.

### 1939—

South Welling and Rochester Way.  $1\frac{1}{3}$  miles foul sewer.

Rochester Way between Westwood Lane and Curren Avenue and Hook Lane, Welling. Surface water sewers laid.

Sewers laid by private developers. Foul sewers—2.21 miles. Surface water sewers 2.66 miles.

### 1940—

South Welling and Rochester Way. Sewer scheme completed.

Oakhouse Road. New surface water sewer.

Marwood Close, Welling. Surface water sewer relaid.

### 1942—

Bellegrove Road, Welling. 1,061 feet of foul sewer relaid.

### 1945—

East Wickham, near Council's Controlled Refuse Tip. Approx. 37 yds. 15 ins. diameter. Surface water sewer laid.

## 2. Rivers and Streams.

During the years under review only one serious case of river pollution was found. This was due to debris from a bombed dockside warehouse being tipped near the River Cray just before it entered the Borough. The tipping was stopped and the channels cleared.

## 3. (i) Closet Accommodation.

With few exceptions the whole of the closet accommodation in the area is on the water carriage system.

## (ii) Public Cleansing.

No. of cesspools emptied:—

1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
11	9	8	5	4	5	10

## Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The work of collection and disposal of house refuse was seriously affected during the war years owing to the difficulty in obtaining the necessary labour. A large proportion of the men engaged on this work prior to the war were either called up or directed to other employment, with the result that it was found impossible to maintain a regular collection.

In addition to this, the collection of salvage added to the work of the department. Kitchen waste is collected by means of street bins, which are cleared twice weekly.

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at two tips.

## CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
14, BRAMPTON ROAD,  
BEXLEYHEATH.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Bexley.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I submit my Annual Report as Sanitary Inspector to your Council for the year 1945.

The report consists of a tabulated record of the work carried out. Tabulated records are also included for the six years 1939 to 1944.



**TABLE No. 1.**

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
No. of complaints received and investigated ... ..	457	335	506	427	399	282	410
No. of informal notices, letters, etc. ... ..	461	374	462	554	480	304	418

**TABLE No. 2.**  
**Details of Inspection Work Carried Out.**

Houses inspected (all particulars recorded)	622	—	—	34	9	15	14
Houses inspected (defects only recorded)	946	671	504	904	739	522	645
Houses inspected (Housing Act, 1936, Overcrowding) ...	108	154	17	278	448	129	199
Houses inspected re Infectious Disease (including Scabies) ...	374	204	146	425	771	531	499
<b>Inspections.</b>							
Factories with mechanical power ... ..	62	31	190	70	173	192	120
Factories without mechanical power ...	47	60	92	51	114	102	62
Schools ... ..	20	83	29	15	11	—	5
Refuse Tips ... ..	161	295	246	261	207	165	179
Van Dwellers ... ..	30	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bakehouses ... ..	56	38	68	83	82	63	41
Slaughterhouses ... ..	721	140	3	5	—	—	6
Meat Shops and Premises where food is prepared ... ..	1224	1700	2016	2126	1957	1895	1864
Cowsheds and Dairies	55	36	107	62	110	38	37
Ice Cream premises ...	—	71	65	113	—	—	18
Fried Fish premises ...	250	188	278	297	330	192	231
Common Lodging House	12	24	20	19	16	23	15
Tents, Vans and Sheds	—	—	—	12	9	8	5
Re Offensive accumulation ... ..	87	72	56	51	67	41	46
Re Keeping of Animals	69	73	133	107	77	50	40
Re Rats ... ..	322	184	779	491	1084	952	815
Re Verminous premises	110	90	244	186	160	139	140
Re Insufficient Ashplace Accommodation ...	141	62	99	242	151	45	165
Re Smoke Observations	84	—	—	—	—	—	—
Drains inspected ...	1023	1685	3031	2145	1407	1378	1830
Drains tested (water, smoke or grenade) ...	69	18	50	54	33	11	16
Visits re refuse removal and salvage	2755	932	1518	1812	1476	1035	1054
Miscellaneous Inspections ...		2491	3391	3356	3169	2274	3010
Food and Drugs Act re samples ... ..	69	228	253	273	263	224	254
Removal of unnecessary railings ... ..	—	—	—	949	142	—	—
Shops Acts 1912-1936—							
No. of inspections and re-inspections	1340	1075	769	857	1065	292	313

**TABLE No. 3.**  
**Improvements effected and defective sanitary conditions remedied.**

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Houses—							
Provided with sufficient w.c. accommodation ...	73	48	90	78	27	30	47
Provided with sufficient ashplace accommodation ...	62	28	27	52	63	16	41
Provided with sufficient water supply ...	—	—	19	—	—	—	—
Houses Improved Internally—							
Dirty rooms cleansed ...	176	56	21	11	27	—	4
Walls and ceilings repaired ...	124	28	42	63	60	36	86
Dampness in rooms remedied ...	166	141	53	63	66	32	61
Defective floors repaired ...	31	11	20	9	47	19	28
Ventilation of rooms improved ...	94	14	23	6	6	7	—
Windows repaired ...	96	15	37	3	22	2	9
Coppers repaired ...	18	5	8	2	4	—	1
Stoves, fireplace, etc., provided or repaired ...	59	22	41	12	17	9	16
Houses Improved Externally—							
Roofs repaired ...	64	29	38	15	18	17	9
Eaves, gutters and down spouts fixed or repaired ...	86	38	15	16	14	7	19
Yards paved or repaired ...	29	4	18	2	—	—	—
Chimney stacks repaired ...	28	—	—	—	2	2	—
Walls repointed or repaired ...	93	19	13	—	2	1	1
Miscellaneous repairs ...	115	18	60	5	5	6	10
Yards cleansed ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Drainage—							
Drains cleansed or repaired ...	378	492	863	837	562	576	681
New drains constructed ...	25	7	7	—	—	—	10
New gullies provided ...	14	2	4	1	—	—	1
Ventilation of drainage system improved ...	24	14	9	2	5	3	2
Inspection chambers built or improved ...	14	14	16	7	10	10	6
New sinks provided ...	13	4	1	2	1	—	2
Waste pipes provided or improved ...	7	9	12	9	7	6	4
Offensive accumulation removed ...	15	10	23	19	7	21	2
Nuisances from animals abated ...	6	5	6	3	1	2	1
Tents, Vans and Sheds, nuisance abated ...	—	82	—	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances abated ...	101	21	78	207	179	40	51
Verminous premises ...	15	—	—	—	—	—	—



**TABLE No. 4.**

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<b>Infectious Diseases.</b>							
Cases removed to Isolation Hospitals ...	252	99	108	210	204	98	113
Houses visited including revisits ...	374	204	146	425	771	531	499
Rooms disinfected ...	379	144	76	44	58	53	83
Notices delivered to Education Authorities, etc. ...	967	243	102	259	367	550	512
Houses at which defective sanitary conditions were found ...	6	1	4	7	—	—	—

**TABLE No. 5.****Food Inspection.**

The following is a summary of animals slaughtered at the slaughter-houses in the area during the years 1939 and 1940.

	1939	1940
Cattle ...	103	9
Sheep and Lambs	718	4
Pigs ...	3223	785
Calves ...	250	14
Total ...	4293	812

**Details of meat condemned in connection with the above.**

	1939 Weight in lbs.	1940 Weight in lbs.
<b>Tuberculosis—</b>		
Cattle ...	428	—
Pigs ...	1354	435
Calves ...	74	35
Total ...	1856	470

## Other Diseases—

	1939	1940
	Weight in lbs.	
Cattle ... ..	286	15
Sheep and Lambs	38	—
Pigs ... ..	1806½	3603½
Calves ... ..	195	—
Total ...	2325½	3618½

The slaughter-houses were all closed during 1940, and with the exception of an occasional emergency slaughter, have not been used since.

## Summary of Unsound Food surrendered 1939-1945.

### From the Meat Depot—

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Beef ... ..	67	613¾	11411	858	390	396	1488½
Mutton and Lamb	271	1204	542½	—	52	108	62
Pork ... ..	—	—	5	—	141	502	90
Veal ... ..	—	—	8	51	—	—	—
Offal ... ..	1684½	11332¼	2307½	19½	12½	386	280
Tinned Meat ...	—	—	—	3312	10128¾	—	4143¼

### From Shops, Stores, etc.—

#### 1939

12 lbs. Beef.  
12 lbs. Mutton and Lamb.  
25 lbs. Offal.  
27 lbs. Rabbits.  
15 lbs. Poultry.

175 lbs. Fish.  
49 lbs. Mushrooms.  
1 x 6 lbs. Tin Jellied Veal.  
750 Tins Fish and Fruit.

#### 1940

227½ lbs. Beef.  
74 lbs. Mutton and Lamb.  
5¾ lbs. Pork.  
6 lbs. Veal.  
65½ lbs. Offal.  
40 lbs. Rabbits.  
448 lbs. Fish.

26 lbs. Bacon.  
10 lbs. Butter.  
30 lbs. Corned Beef.  
4 lbs. Tinned Brisket.  
5½ bags Vegetables.  
1 Barrel Dripping.



**1941**

76 lbs. Meat.  
 514 lbs. Fish.  
 184 lbs. Sausage Meat.  
 28 lbs. Cooked Meat.  
 12 lbs. Bacon.  
 77 $\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. Cheese.  
 168 lbs. Corned Beef.  
 273 lbs. Butter.  
 328 lbs. Cake.  
 42 lbs. Dried Apricots.  
 7 Tins Meat.

27 Tins Milk.  
 75 Tins Fish.  
 36 Tins Fruit and Vegetables.  
 2,593 Rabbits.  
 20 Boxes Milts.  
 5 Meat Pies.  
 4 Jars Pickles, etc.  
 2 lbs. Jam.  
 51 lbs. Pearl Barley.  
 350 lbs. Potatoes.

**1942**

57 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. Beef.  
 48 lbs. Offal.  
 889 lbs. Fish.  
 25 lbs. Butter.  
 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. Lard.  
 30 $\frac{1}{4}$  lbs. Bacon.  
 15 lbs. Sausage.  
 298 lbs. Jam, Marmalade, etc.  
 18 lbs. Haricot Beans.  
 89 lbs. Tomatoes.  
 6 lbs. Sugar.  
 15 lbs. Oranges.  
 510 $\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. Flour.  
 1 lb. Rice.  
 30 lbs. Bread.

273 Tins Meat.  
 15 Tins Corned Beef.  
 227 Tins Fish.  
 24 Tins Meat and Vegetables.  
 812 Tins Vegetables.  
 70 Tins Soup.  
 517 Tins Milk.  
 305 Tins Fruit.  
 197 Tins Coffee.  
 19 Jars Pickles, etc.  
 829 Eggs.  
 7 Meat Pies.  
 12 Cakes.  
 1 Bottle Horlicks.

**1943**

259 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. Meat.  
 12 lbs. Sausages.  
 2,002 lbs. Fish.  
 25 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. Bacon.  
 346 $\frac{1}{4}$  lbs. Cheese.  
 37 lbs. Fats.  
 439 Tins Meat.  
 444 Tins Fish.  
 511 Tins Fruit.  
 979 Tins Vegetables.  
 125 Tins Soups.

1,060 Tins Milk.  
 89 Tins Preserves.  
 8 Tins Coffee, etc.  
 34 Tins Egg Substitute.  
 640 Eggs.  
 2 Cases Rabbits.  
 107 Packets Cereals.  
 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. Cereals.  
 1 Packet Cake Mixture.  
 5 Jars Fish Paste.  
 5 Jars Pickles, etc.

**1944**

72 Tins Soup.  
 126 Tins Beans.  
 854 lbs. Dried Beans.  
 285 Tins Meat.  
 16 Sets of Cow heels.  
 52 lbs. Sausage Meat.

178 Stone Fish.  
 355 Tins Canned Fish.  
 50 Tins Fruit.  
 28 lbs. Fresh Fruit.  
 129 Tins Vegetables.

# 1944—continued.

349 Tins Milk.	452 lbs. Butter and Margarine
110 Jars & Tins Jam and	8 Bottles Spreads.
Marmalade.	28 lbs. Cake.
5 Jars Pickles.	298 lbs. Rabbit.
455 Eggs.	22 lbs. Sugar.
155 Packets Cereals.	4 lbs. Sultanas.
12 lbs. Flour.	50 lbs. Apple Rings.
8½ lbs. Rice.	2 Tins Paste.
195 lbs. Cheese.	144 Tins Barley Powder.
123 lbs. Bacon.	72 Packets Pudding Mixture.

# 1945

30 lbs. Beef.	459 Eggs.
137 lbs. Mutton and Lamb.	285 Tins Meat.
78 lbs. Pork.	723 Tins Fish.
1,702 lbs. Fish.	705 Tins Milk.
210 lbs. Dates.	441 Tins Vegetables.
15 lbs. 10 ozs. Bacon.	168 Tins Soups.
60 lbs. Rabbits.	5 Tins Meat and Vegetables.
452½ lbs. Tea.	5 Tins Fruit.
172½ lbs. Cheese.	130 Tins Preserves.
155 lbs. Flour.	48 Jars Pickles.
120 lbs. Butter & Margarine.	340 Tins
2 lbs. Lard.	38 Packets } Cake Mixture.
130 lbs. Rice.	134 Tins
114 lbs. Peas and Beans.	103 Packets } Cereals.
14 lbs. Lentils.	6 lbs.
69 lbs. Pearl Barley.	19 Jars Pastes.
840 lbs. Potatoes.	4 Packets Dried Egg.
5½ lbs. Barley Sugar.	7 Packets Chocolate Spread.
317 lbs. Dried Fruit.	2 Packets Gravy Powder.

## Foodstuffs damaged by enemy action.

A considerable amount of time was spent by the Inspectors during 1944 and 1945 in dealing with foodstuffs at stores which had suffered damage through enemy action. The following table shows the amounts of foodstuffs surrendered from this cause.

1944	4 tons. 19 cwts.	3713 Tins, bottles, jars and packets.
1945	9 cwts. 62 lbs.	3410 Tins, bottles, jars and packets.



**TABLE No. 6.**  
**Factories Act, 1937.**

**1939.**

**1. Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health.  
Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.**

Premises. 1	Number of :—		
	Inspec- tions. 2	Written Notices. 3	Prose- cutions. 4
<b>Factories</b> with mechanical power ... ..	68	3	—
<b>Factories</b> without mechanical power ... ..	97	2	—
* <b>Other Premises</b> under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises) ... ..	—	—	—
*Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories.			
<b>Total</b> ... ..	165	5	—

**2. Defects Found.**

Particulars. 1	Number of Defects.			Number of Prose- cutions. 5
	Found. 2	Remedied. 3	Referred to H.M. Inspector. 4	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	21	15	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..				
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ... ..				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)				
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—				
Insufficient ... ..				
Unsuitable or defective ... ..	4	4	—	—
Not separate for sexes ... ..				
Other Offences ... .. (Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)	6	5	—	—
<b>Total</b> ... ..	31	24	—	—

**TABLE No. 6.**  
**Factories Act, 1937.**

**1940.**

**1. Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health.  
Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.**

Premises. 1	Number of :—		
	Inspec- tions. 2	Written Notices. 3	Prose- cutions. 4
<b>Factories</b> with mechanical power ... ..	61	3	—
<b>Factories</b> without mechanical power ... ..	68	1	—
<b>*Other Premises</b> under the Act (including works of building and engineering con- struction but not including outworkers' premises) ... ..	—	—	—
<b>*Electrical Stations</b> should be reckoned as factories.			
<b>Total</b> ... ..	129	4	—

**2. Defects Found.**

Particulars. 1	Number of Defects.			Number of Prose- cutions. 5
	Found. 2	Reme- died. 3	Referred to H.M. Inspector. 4	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	7	11	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..	1	1	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..				
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ... ..				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)				
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—				
Insufficient ... ..				
Unsuitable or defective ... ..	6	6	—	—
Not separate for sexes ... ..				
Other Offences ... ..	3	2	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
<b>Total</b> ... ..	17	20	—	—



**TABLE No. 6.**  
**Factories Act, 1937.**

**1941.**

**1. Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health.  
Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.**

Premises.  1	Number of :—		
	Inspec- tions. 2	Written Notices. 3	Prose- cutions. 4
<b>Factories</b> with mechanical power ... ..	246	4	—
<b>Factories</b> without mechanical power ... ..	104	—	—
<b>*Other Premises</b> under the Act (including works of building and engineering con- struction but not including outworkers' premises) ... ..	—	—	—
<small>*Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories.</small>			
Total ... ..	350	4	—

**2. Defects Found.**

Particulars. 1	Number of Defects.			Number of Prose- cutions. 5
	Found. 2	Reme- died. 3	Referred to H.M. Inspector. 4	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	17	14	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..	1	1	1	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ... ..				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)				
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—				
Insufficient ... ..				
Unsuitable or defective ... ..	10	10	—	—
Not separate for sexes ... ..				
Other Offences ... .. (Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)	4	4	1	—
<b>Total</b> ... ..	32	29	2	—

TABLE No. 6.

1942.

## Factories Act, 1937.

1. Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health.  
Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises. 1	Number of :—		
	Inspec- tions. 2	Written Notices. 3	Prose- cutions. 4
<b>Factories</b> with mechanical power ... ..	149	5	—
<b>Factories</b> without mechanical power ... ..	55	—	—
<b>*Other Premises</b> under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises) ... ..	—	—	—
*Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories.			
<b>Total</b> ... ..	204	5	—

## 2. Defects Found.

Particulars. 1	Number of Defects.			Number of Prose- cutions. 5
	Found. 2	Remedied. 3	Referred to H.M. Inspector. 4	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	19	16	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...				
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)				
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—				
Insufficient ... ..	1	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ... ..	11	11	—	—
Not separate for sexes ... ..				
Other Offences ... ..	1	1	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
<b>Total</b> ... ..	32	28	—	—



**TABLE No. 6.**  
**Factories Act, 1937.**

**1943.**

**1. Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health.  
Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.**

Premises.  1	Number of :—		
	Inspec- tions. 2	Written Notices. 3	Prose- cutions. 4
<b>Factories</b> with mechanical power ... ..	224	3	—
<b>Factories</b> without mechanical power ... ..	145	—	—
<b>*Other Premises</b> under the Act (including works of building and engineering con- struction but not including outworkers' premises) ... ..	—	—	—
<b>*Electrical Stations</b> should be reckoned as factories.			
Total ... ..	369	3	—

**2. Defects Found.**

Particulars. 1	Number of Defects.			Number of Prose- cutions. 5
	Found. 2	Reme- died. 3	Referred to H.M. Inspector. 4	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	21	19	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...				
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	—	—
Other nuisances ... ..	4	4	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—				
Insufficient ... ..				
Unsuitable or defective ... ..	17	16	—	—
Not separate for sexes ... ..				
Other Offences ... .. (Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
<b>Total</b> ... ..	43	40	—	—

TABLE No. 6.

1944.

## Factories Act, 1937.

1. Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health.  
Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises.  1	Number of :—		
	Inspections. 2	Written Notices. 3	Prose- cutions. 4
<b>Factories</b> with mechanical power ... ..	192	4	—
<b>Factories</b> without mechanical power ... ..	102	—	—
<b>*Other Premises</b> under the Act (including works of building and engineering con- struction but not including outworkers' premises) ... ..	—	—	—
<b>*Electrical Stations</b> should be reckoned as factories.			
Total ... ..	294	4	—

## 2. Defects Found.

Particulars. 1	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions. 5
	Found. 2	Remedied. 3	Referred to H.M. Inspector. 4	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	13	13	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..				
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ... ..				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)				
Other nuisances ... ..	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—				
Insufficient ... ..	1	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ... ..	11	10	—	—
Not separate for sexes ... ..				
Other Offences ... .. (Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
Total ... ..	26	23	—	—



**TABLE No. 6. 1945.**  
**Factories Act, 1937.**

**1. Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health.  
Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.**

Premises. 1	Number of :—		
	Inspec- tions. 2	Written Notices. 3	Prose- cutions. 4
<b>Factories</b> with mechanical power ... ..	157	3	—
<b>Factories</b> without mechanical power ... ..	66	—	—
<b>*Other Premises</b> under the Act (including works of building and engineering con- struction but not including outworkers' premises) ... ..	—	—	—
<b>*Electrical Stations</b> should be reckoned as factories.			
Total ... ..	223	3	—

**2. Defects Found.**

Particulars. 1	Number of Defects.			Number of Prose- cutions. 5
	Found. 2	Reme- died. 3	Referred to H.M. Inspector. 4	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	13	15	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..				
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ... ..				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)				
Other nuisances ... ..	3	3	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—				
Insufficient ... ..	1	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ... ..	4	4	—	—
Not separate for sexes ... ..	1	—	—	—
Other Offences ... ..				
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
Total ... ..	22	22	—	—

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Yours obediently,  
R J. RAYNER,  
*Chief Sanitary Inspector.*

## Swimming Pool.

Samples of water were taken from time to time, and the results of bacteriological examination have been satisfactory on each occasion.

At the outbreak of war the pool buildings were adapted for use as a mortuary for civilian war dead and for decontamination purposes. During the period of the flying bomb raids the pool was closed to the Public.

	Eradication of Bed Bugs.						
	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
No. of Corporation Houses infested with bugs ... ..	11	3	—	2	1	2	3
No. of Corporation Houses disinfested ...	11	3	—	2	1	2	3
No. of other Houses infested with bugs ...	22	11	17	19	6	7	4
No. of Houses disinfested ... ..	22	11	17	19	6	7	4
No. of rooms in Corporation Houses—							
1 room only ...	10	1	1	8	—	—	—
2 rooms only ...	2	2	—	3	—	—	—
3 rooms only ...	3	2	—	—	—	—	—
No. of rooms in other Houses—							
1 room ... ..	1	5	6	1	1	1	4
2 rooms ... ..	2	2	4	4	1	3	1
3 rooms ... ..	2	3	—	2	—	2	2
4 rooms ... ..	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Families transferred to Council Houses from properties to be demolished. Furniture disinfested with HCN.	113	—	—	—	—	—	—
No. of Houses disinfested with HCN by private firms ...	—	8	14	15	7	9	4

## Camping Sites.

One camping site used by Rover Scouts and the Woodfolk Craft in Hall Place has been kept under observation, but has not been used at any time over such a period as to come within the operation of Section 269 of Public Health Act, 1936.

## Schools.

There are 24 County Modern and County Primary Schools, six non-provided schools, and a Day Technical School, for Girls in the Borough, and the sanitary conditions are satisfactory.



## SECTION D. — HOUSING.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
The following particulars relate to the houses built by the Council on the various Estates and still occupiable :—							
Welling—Welling Estate ... ..	428	428	408	408	408	408	408
East Wickham—Glenmore Road ... ..	92	116	114	114	114	114	114
Bexleyheath—Highland Road Estate { ... .. }	88	88	305	305	305	305	305
Pickford Road Estate, { including Bungalows }	266	266					
Bexley—Hartford Road Estate ... ..	18	18	53	53	53	53	53
Victoria Road Estate ... ..	36	36					
Total ... ..	928	952	880	880	880	880	880
Total number of new houses erected during the year ... .	1002	113	Nil	5	5	Nil	2
<b>1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.</b>							
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	209	216	107	260	196	127	253
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	1568	671	504	941	748	537	659
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under subhead (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 to 1932 ... ..	82	—	—	12	3	14	4
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	622	—	—	34	6	15	14
(3) Number of dwelling houses to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	1	—	—	11	—	—	1
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding subhead) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	208	154	107	188	154	91	158

<b>HOUSING (cont.)</b>	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<b>2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notice.</b>							
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	153	157	103	147	146	74	148
<b>3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.</b>							
<b>A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—</b>							
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :							
(a) By owners ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts—</b>							
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	—	—	1	1	4	2	6
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—							
(a) By owners ...	—	—	1	—	2	3	1
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>C. Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of Housing Act, 1936—</b>							
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	33	—	2	—	—	—	—



<b>HOUSING</b> (cont.)	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<i>D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—</i>							
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms' in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>4. Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.</b>							
A. (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ...	28	24	23	21	23	25	29
(2) Number of families dwelling therein ... ..	29	24	23	21	23	25	29
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... ..	228	193	185½	171½	184	195½	215
B. Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	6	1	1	—	6	2	4
C. (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	9	5	2	2	4	—	—
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... ..	80	41	17	14	29	—	—
D. Any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
The position to the 31st December, 1945, was :—							
Owner Occupiers ... ..	4	4	4	4	5	5	5
Welling Hutments (Compulsory Purchase Areas) ... ..	12	12	10	10	10	12	13
Corporation ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Private Owners ... ..	10	8	8	7	8	8	11

## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

#### (a) Milk Supply.

The milk retailed for consumption in the area is railbourne, pasteurised and bottled, except for one small supply by a producer retailer.

Licences granted by the Council under Milk Special Designations Order, 1936:—

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Pasteurised Milk ...	29	29	26	16	27	21	21
Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	16	16	15	13	13	12	10
Supplementary Licences—							
Pasteurised Milk ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
No. of cowsheds in district ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

#### (b) Meat Inspection.

During most of the period covered by this Report the slaughter-houses in the area were closed with the exception of an occasional emergency slaughter.

In 1940 the distribution of meat from Smithfield was decentralised and one of the Regional Depots was situate in this area. This has meant that a considerable amount of the Inspectors time has been spent in inspecting meat which was distributed from the Depot to this and adjoining areas.

Damage was caused by enemy action to several meat shops in the area, but fortunately the amount of meat affected was not large.



(c) **Adulteration of Food. Food and Drugs Act, 1938.**

The following table shows the number of samples taken during the year under review:—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>No. of samples.</i>		<i>Adulterated.</i>	
	<i>Formal.</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal.</i>	<i>Informal.</i>
1939	32	2	—	—
1940	201	28	6	2
1941	175	78	2	—
1942	175	98	4	3
1943	158	105	3	—
1944	125	99	1	—
1945	141	113	—	—

**Legal Proceedings.**

1939. Nil.

1940. (1) Coffee. Adulterated 34.8% chicory. Case dismissed. Vendor pleaded warranty.

(2) Coffee. Adulterated 35.0% chicory. Case dismissed. Vendor pleaded warranty

(3) Milk. Adulterated 13.6% deficient in fat. Fined £1 and £2 2s. 0d. costs.

(4) Milk. Adulterated 36% deficient in fat. Fined £1 and £1 1s. 0d. costs.

(5) Milk. Adulterated 26.7% deficient in fat. Fined £3 and £2 2s. 0d. costs.

(6) Milk. Adulterated 19% deficient in fat. Fined £2 and £2 2s. 0d. costs.

1941. (1) Beef Sausages. Contained 320 parts sulphur dioxide per million. Fined £2 and £2 2s. 0d. costs.

(2) Beef Sausages. Contained 172.9 parts sulphur dioxide per million. Fined £2 and £2 2s. 0d. costs.

1942. (1) Curry Powder. Contained 98 parts lead per million. Case dismissed.
1943. (1) Drinking Chocolate. Contained 14% of Carbonate of Lime. Case against vendor dismissed. Supplier fined £10 and £2 2s. 0d. costs.
- (2) Pork Sausages. Contained 121.6 parts of sulphur dioxide per million. Total Fines, £30 0s. 0d. and £4 4s. 0d. costs.
1944. (1) Sausage Meat. Contained 229.5 parts sulphur dioxide per million. Fined £4 and £2 2s. 0d. costs.
1945. Nil.

**Registration of Premises  
under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.**

No. of premises registered:—	1939	1945
Sale or manufacture of Ice Cream ...	13	13
Sale of Ice Cream ... ..	55	63
Preparation of Sausages, etc ...	40	43



# SECTION F.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<b>Scarlet Fever.</b>							
No. notified ...	284	59	76	217	377	203*	150
No. isolated in Bow Arrow Hospital ...	185	44	47	121	148	72	45
No. isolated in other Hospitals ...	4	—	—	5	6	2	2
No. isolated at home ...	95	15	29	51	223	129	103
Return cases from Hos- pital cases ...	2	1	2	4	8	3	2
Return cases from home nursed cases ...	—	—	—	—	4	1	1
Average length of stay in Hospital (days) ...	41.7	28.4	26.6	26.8	27.7	25.9	26.04
No. of deaths ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

\* 1 non-civilian.

Scarlet Fever has been mild through the war years. The peak of incidence was reached in 1943. Previous high number of cases were noticed 1920/1/2, 1926, 1933/4.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<b>Diphtheria.</b>							
No. notified ...	29	25	15	21	21	5	21
No. isolated in Bow Arrow Hospital ...	26	24	15	18	17	5	21
No. isolated in other Hospitals ...	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
No. isolated at home ...	2	1	—	1	4	—	—
No. of deaths ...	1	4	—	—	—	1	1
Average No. of days in Hospital ...	42.9	31.6	34.8	37.2	38.3	41.0	49.3
No. of swabs taken for bacteriological exami- nation ...	303	138	120	25	84	13	804

No deaths have occurred in immunised children. No peaks of incidence have been reached since 1934. Immunisation commenced in 1937. Previous peaks of incidence were noted in 1921/2/3, 1926, 1928 and 1930. These facts speak for themselves.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<b>Diphtheria Immunisation.</b>							
No. of children immunised at Clinics ...	939	2222	2692	2880	1882	794	1661
No. of children immunised by General Practitioners ...	107	209	205	216	85	59	63
No. of children who failed to have full course ...	7	45	49	88	99	42	6
Booster doses ...	—	—	—	—	—	171	224
Total No. of children immunised at age of 15 at end of year ...	2327	4802	7410	10931	12823	13430	13473
Percentage of children under 15 by end of each year ...	13.7%	32.9%	51%	63.1%	69.3%	72%	72.75%
No. of children immunised who developed Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	7	—	<u>11</u>
<b>Enteric Fever.</b>							
No. of cases notified ...	4	11	2	—	1	—	1
<b>Puerperal Pyrexia.</b>							
No. of cases notified ...	12	9	18	23	18	24	26
No. of cases isolated at Maternity Home, Bexleyheath ...	8	7	15	11	12	17	22
No. of cases isolated at Other Hospitals ...	2	1	—	1	1	2	1
Bow Arrow Hospital	1	1	1	9	3	4	2
Patients Home ...	1	—	2	2	2	1	1
<b>Ophthalmia Neonatorum.</b>							
No. of cases notified ...	1	—	1	7	2	4	2
No. of cases treated at home ...	1	—	—	4	—	—	—
No. of cases treated in Hospital ...	—	—	1	3	2	4	2
(a) Vision was unimpaired ...	1	—	1	7	2	4	2
(b) Vision was impaired	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Vision was lost ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(d) The patient died ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(e) The patient was still under treatment at the end of the year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(f) The patient removed from the district	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(g) Classification under the above heads cannot be made (details of these cases should be attached) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—



<b>Measles.</b>	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
No. of cases notified ...	3	25	1122	537	823	342	451
No. of cases treated in Hospital ...	1	6	16	6	6	9	11
No. of deaths ...	—	—	1	1	1	—	—

The previous measles epidemic was in 1938, and the epidemic expected in 1940 did not materialise. In 1941, however, the epidemic began with two cases in the first week of the year, and the number of cases rose gradually to a peak by the third week in June, with a slight remission two weeks after the school Easter Holiday which covered the two weeks ending the 10th and 17th April. After the peak in July the number of cases notified fell rapidly and the last case was notified in the last week in August.

Measles serum for prophylaxis etc. is supplied on application by the Kent County Council to General Practitioners for contacts, but the number of requests for this serum has been small.

<b>Whooping Cough.</b>	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
No. of cases notified ...	18	6	388	147	108	214	69
No. of cases treated in Hospital ...	11	—	12	12	1	3	—
No. of deaths ...	2	—	3	3	1	—	—
No. inoculated against Whooping Cough— scheme commenced in 1942 ...	—	—	—	1296	1595	763	1049
Cases occurring in inocu- lated children ...	—	—	—	—	7	24	13

Vaccination against this disease of children under the age of 5, i.e. in the vulnerable years, was commenced in 1942. The material used was a concentrated vaccine, two injections at 4 weeks interval. This became unobtainable during 1945 and the Scheme was temporarily suspended. In individual outbreaks in vaccinated day nursery children there was not enough evidence to state that these children had benefited. On the other hand, there were no deaths from this disease in 1944 and 1945. The question of the value of this vaccine must still be kept open.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<b>Dysentery.</b>							
No. of cases notified ...	2	—	1	3	12	6	23

### **Treatment of Typhus Fever.**

In view of the possibility under war conditions of typhus fever being introduced into this country consideration was given to schemes for the isolation of cases of typhus fever and it was agreed to co-operate with the County Council in this matter and after a period the County Council made a scheme whereby the first eight cases in the County would be admitted to London County Council hospitals and thereafter and to the extent that accommodation was available at Bow Arrow Hospital, the County Council making arrangements for other cases of infectious disease during this period to be taken to other infectious diseases hospitals.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<b>Cerebro-Spinal Fever.</b>							
No. of cases notified ...	1	12	5	11	5	—	3
No. of deaths ...	—	2	1	5	1	—	—
No. of deaths non-notified cases ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
<b>Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.</b>							
No. of cases notified ...	4	—	—	1	—	—	2
No. of deaths ...	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
<b>Food Poisoning.</b>							
No. of cases notified ...	—	9	6	10	11	5	—



The following table gives the particulars concerning the cases of Infectious Disease (other than Tuberculosis) notified in the area during the year.

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1939.**

DISEASE	Total cases notified	CASES NOTIFIED AT ALL AGES—YEARS.												Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over		
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	285	1	3	10	17	22	162	51	8	7	1	3	—	190	—
Diphtheria ... ..	30	1	1	5	5	5	5	5	—	3	—	—	—	28	1
Enteric Fever (including Typhoid and Paratyphoid) ... ..	4	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	4	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	3	1
Pneumonia ... ..	22	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	2	5	4	5	31
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	4	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	6	3	5	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Dysentery ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	5	—	2	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Totals ... ..	385	5	8	16	23	32	171	58	10	29	12	14	7	252	36

The following table gives the particulars concerning the cases of Infectious Disease (other than Tuberculosis) notified in the area during the year.

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1940.**

DISEASE.	Total cases notified	CASES NOTIFIED AT ALL AGES—YEARS.												Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over		
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	59	1	1	4	3	4	19	13	7	5	1	1	—	44	—
Diphtheria ... ..	26	—	—	1	3	3	8	3	4	4	—	—	—	25	4
Enteric Fever (including Typhoid and Paratyphoid) ... ..	11	—	—	—	—	—	5	3	2	1	—	—	—	9	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	1	—	—	2	—
Pneumonia ... ..	36	—	1	3	—	—	3	1	3	4	4	13	4	4	44
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	6	3	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	12	—	2	1	—	—	2	1	2	3	1	—	—	11	2
Dysentery ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	25	3	2	—	2	4	7	3	2	1	1	—	—	6	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	6	2	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ... ..	197	6	6	11	9	11	45	24	21	28	9	20	7	101	50



The following table gives the particulars concerning the cases of Infectious Disease (other than Tuberculosis) notified in the area during the year.

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1941.**

DISEASE.	Total cases notified	CASES NOTIFIED AT ALL AGES—YEARS.												Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over		
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	76	2	—	5	7	11	30	8	3	6	4	—	—	47	—
Diphtheria ... ..	15	—	—	—	1	1	4	2	3	2	2	—	—	15	—
Enteric Fever (including Typhoid and Paratyphoid) ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	9	7	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia ... ..	40	—	7	1	4	1	5	1	1	4	4	10	2	7	40
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Erysipelas ... ..	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	4	5	2	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	5	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	5	1
Dysentery ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	1122	22	85	102	111	113	642	28	8	10	1	—	—	16	1
Whooping Cough ... ..	388	25	27	40	52	47	182	6	—	5	1	2	1	12	3
Totals ... ..	1583	50	119	148	176	173	864	46	19	40	24	16	8	108	45

The following table gives the particulars concerning the cases of Infectious Disease (other than Tuberculosis) notified in the area during the year.

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1942.**

DISEASE.	Total cases notified	CASES NOTIFIED AT ALL AGES—YEARS.												Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over		
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	216	1	3	11	15	21	136	15	7	7	—	—	—	125	—
Diphtheria ... ..	21	—	1	—	2	—	6	3	2	6	1	—	—	21	2
Enteric Fever (including Typhoid and Paratyphoid) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	19	2	—	—	11	—
Pneumonia ... ..	47	1	1	2	—	5	10	5	1	5	5	9	3	3	34
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	8	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	2	2	—	—	8	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Erysipelas ... ..	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	3	11	2	6	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	11	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—	—	1	1	1	11	5
Dysentery ... ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	532	11	33	51	61	73	283	14	3	2	1	—	—	6	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	147	16	15	21	22	18	51	—	1	2	1	—	—	12	—
Totals ... ..	1037	37	54	87	102	118	490	38	17	48	17	23	6	206	44



The following table gives the particulars concerning the cases of Infectious Disease (other than Tuberculosis) notified in the area during the year.

### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1943.

DISEASE.	Total cases notified	CASES NOTIFIED AT ALL AGES—YEARS.												Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over		
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	377	1	2	13	29	33	219	55	6	13	7	—	—	154	—
Diphtheria ... ..	21	—	—	—	—	1	12	3	2	2	1	—	—	17	—
Enteric Fever (including Typhoid and Paratyphoid) ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	1	—	—	3	—
Pneumonia ... ..	76	2	2	1	1	1	13	2	4	10	11	21	8	11	39
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Erysipelas ... ..	21	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	7	11	1	2	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	*5	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	*1	*1	—	—	—	4	1
Dysentery ... ..	12	—	2	—	—	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	—	3	—
Measles ... ..	823	25	57	62	121	91	403	45	12	4	3	—	—	6	1
Whooping Cough ... ..	108	13	6	10	16	17	42	—	—	2	—	2	—	1	1
Scabies† ... ..	129	1	2	1	4	2	18	18	19	32	14	17	1	—	—
Totals ... ..	1593	45	71	88	171	148	711	124	45	83	46	52	10	204	42

\*Two of these cases were non-civilian.

†Disease made notifiable as from 1st November, 1943.

The following table gives the particulars concerning the cases of Infectious Disease (other than Tuberculosis) notified in the area during the year.

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1944.**

DISEASE.	Total cases notified	CASES NOTIFIED AT ALL AGES—YEARS.												Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over		
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	204	—	6	5	17	17	117	26	5	10	1	—	—	74	—
Diphtheria ... ..	5	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	5	1
Enteric Fever (including Typhoid and Paratyphoid) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	23	1	—	—	5	—
Pneumonia ... ..	58	4	1	1	3	2	6	1	5	10	6	14	5	8	25
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Erysipelas ... ..	27	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	13	6	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	6	—	—	—	3	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—
Measles ... ..	342	7	28	32	31	45	137	30	19	10	2	1	—	9	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	214	24	26	13	22	32	81	4	2	4	3	3	—	3	2
Scabies ... ..	492	3	8	6	10	5	83	65	69	107	75	52	9	—	—
Totals ... ..	1376	42	69	58	86	102	429	126	101	167	93	83	20	110	28



The following table gives the particulars concerning the cases of Infectious Disease (other than Tuberculosis) notified in the area during the year.

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1945.**

DISEASE.	Total cases notified	CASES NOTIFIED AT ALL AGES—YEARS.												Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over		
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	150	—	4	9	8	8	85	24	6	5	—	—	1	47	—
Diphtheria ... ..	21	—	—	—	2	1	8	6	—	2	2	—	—	21	1
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	22	2	—	—	3	—
Pneumonia ... ..	33	1	1	4	1	1	4	3	1	—	3	7	7	8	22
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Erysipelas ... ..	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	22	3	3	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Dysentery ... ..	23	—	2	1	3	—	6	1	2	5	2	1	—	3	—
Measles ... ..	451	18	61	70	64	41	171	15	7	3	—	1	—	16	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	69	10	9	8	10	4	21	1	2	2	1	1	—	—	—
Scabies ... ..	339	2	8	8	5	9	45	41	46	88	49	31	7	4	—
Totals ... ..	1151	34	85	100	93	64	341	92	66	131	64	63	18	113	23

## Scabies.

Notifiable from 1/11/1943.

	1943	1944	1945
Number of cases notified ... ..	128	492	339
Treated at Cleansing Station (includes contacts) ...	728	980	811
Number referred for further treatment ... ..	6	—	—

## Malaria.

One case in 1944 notified—treated in a military hospital.

## Terminal Disinfection.

It had been the custom that after certain infectious diseases, either when the case was removed to hospital or the period of isolation was ended, the bed and bedding was removed to the infectious disease hospital for steam disinfection and an employee of the Health Department sprayed the room or rooms last occupied by the infectious person with a solution of formalin. Owing to the call up of employees to the Forces and increased costs it was decided in 1941 to dispense with terminal disinfection except of the room and bedding following cases of smallpox, plague or typhus fever and the bedding of cases of cholera, typhoid and enteric fevers.

The whole question of discontinuing terminal disinfection is a matter of educating the public, as the public has during the past forty or more years been led to expect disinfection. An Inspector calls at each house from which a case of infectious disease has been notified and gives instructions with regard to the airing and scrubbing of the room after the patient has been removed.



## TUBERCULOSIS.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
No. of cases notified ...	102	79	105	120	127	112	105
No. of specimens of sputum ...	328	212	213	41	57	55	51
No. of families referred for rehousing ...	2	8	1	—	6	1	6
No. on Register at beginning of year ...	513	562	376	456	455	617	667
Pulmonary—							
Male ...	225	245	167	201	241	283	308
Female ...	187	206	143	179	212	236	253
Non-pulmonary—							
Male ...	45	52	31	38	44	42	45
Female ...	56	59	35	38	48	56	61
No. on register at end of year ...	562	376	456	545	617	667	715
Pulmonary—							
Male ...	245	167	201	214	283	308	332
Female ...	206	143	179	212	236	253	269
Non-pulmonary—							
Male ...	52	31	38	44	42	45	53
Female ...	59	35	38	48	56	61	61

In 1941 a review was made of the cases on the register with the assistance of the Tuberculosis Officer and those cases were removed which were lost sight of or had been cured through other agencies than the public medical services. A review is due again now.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

1939.

Particulars relating to the same, and also to the deaths which occurred during 1939 are contained in the following table:—

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 ...	1	1	2	2	—	—	—	—
10—15 ...	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—20 ...	6	5	1	—	4	1	1	—
20—25 ...	10	5	2	—	7	3	—	—
25—35 ...	17	10	1	5	2	2	—	—
35—45 ...	10	3	2	—	6	2	—	—
45—55 ...	4	3	—	—	5	1	—	—
55—65 ...	6	—	—	—	2	2	—	—
65 and upwards	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	54	31	9	8	26	11	1	—

The number of non-notified tuberculosis deaths was nil.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

1940.

Particulars relating to the same, and also to the deaths which occurred during 1940 are contained in the following table:—

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
1—5 ...	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	—
5—10 ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10—15 ...	1	—	2	—	1	—	1	—
15—20 ...	5	6	—	—	4	4	—	1
20—25 ...	6	8	1	1	1	1	—	—
25—35 ...	13	11	3	—	8	5	—	2
35—45 ...	5	4	—	1	8	3	1	—
45—55 ...	2	2	—	—	6	1	—	—
55—65 ...	—	2	—	—	1	2	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	2	2	1	—
Totals ...	35	34	6	4	31	18	4	4

The number of non-notified tuberculosis deaths was 16.



## TUBERCULOSIS.

1941.

Particulars relating to the same, and also to the deaths which occurred during 1941 are contained in the following table:—

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ...	1	1	1	1	—	1	2	1
5—10 ...	—	1	2	1	—	—	1	—
10—15 ...	—	2	3	—	—	1	1	2
15—20 ...	4	7	1	2	1	1	1	—
20—25 ...	10	4	3	2	4	4	—	2
25—35 ...	10	12	—	1	5	4	—	—
35—45 ...	9	7	—	1	3	4	—	—
45—55 ...	7	2	—	—	6	1	—	—
55—65 ...	8	—	—	—	5	1	—	—
65 and upwards	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals ...	50	37	10	8	26	17	5	5

The number of non-notified tuberculosis deaths was 13.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

1942.

Particulars relating to the same, and also to the deaths which occurred during 1942 are contained in the following table:—

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ...	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	1
5—10 ...	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
10—15 ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—20 ...	14	8	—	2	6	—	—	1
20—25 ...	11	11	—	4	—	1	1	2
25—35 ...	10	10	—	—	2	5	—	—
35—45 ...	10	7	1	1	5	4	—	—
45—55 ...	11	1	1	—	7	—	—	—
55—65 ...	5	1	—	1	4	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	65	42	2	11	24	10	1	4

The number of non-notified deaths was 7.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

1943.

Particulars relating to the same, and also to the deaths which occurred during 1943 are contained in the following table:—

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 ...	3	—	—	2	1	—	—	—
10—15 ...	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20 ...	9	13	—	3	1	6	—	—
20—25 ...	9	7	—	—	3	1	—	1
25—35 ...	15	12	—	3	5	3	—	—
35—45 ...	17	2	1	—	4	2	—	—
45—55 ...	12	4	—	—	5	2	—	—
55—65 ...	3	1	—	1	1	2	—	—
65 and upwards	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	73	44	1	9	20	16	—	1

The number of non-notified tuberculosis deaths was 8.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

1944.

Particulars relating to the same, and also to the deaths which occurred during 1944 are contained in the following table:—

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 ...	1	2	2	1	—	—	—	—
10—15 ...	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—20 ...	12	9	1	1	1	1	—	—
20—25 ...	11	1	—	1	3	3	—	—
25—35 ...	11	11	2	1	9	4	—	—
35—45 ...	8	6	—	—	3	4	—	—
45—55 ...	14	2	—	—	6	3	1	—
55—65 ...	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	67	35	6	4	22	15	1	—

The number of non-notified tuberculosis deaths was 16.



# TUBERCULOSIS.

1945.

Particulars relating to the same, and also to the deaths which occurred during 1945 are contained in the following table:—

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1—5 ...	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
5—10 ...	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	1
10—15 ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—20 ...	10	7	3	2	2	2	—	—
20—25 ...	5	7	4	1	1	2	—	—
25—35 ...	10	10	2	—	3	2	—	1
35—45 ...	15	3	1	2	2	3	1	—
45—55 ...	6	1	1	1	4	1	—	—
55—65 ...	6	—	—	—	5	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals ...	53	30	14	8	17	11	2	2

The number of non-notified tuberculosis deaths was 12.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1939.

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This report of the Medical Officer of Health is confined to essential and urgent matters in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 2067 of the 19th July, 1940. The Registrar General's figures for 1939 have not yet been received, but from information in the possession of the Department, 1939 can be classed as a healthy year.

There was an increase in the incidence of Scarlet Fever up to the middle of the year, but following the outbreak of war very few cases were notified as with the other infectious diseases.

Developments were held up for various reasons, but the calls of civil defence on all members of the staff and the calling up of two clerks and an assistant sanitary inspector at the outbreak of war placed a great strain on the resources of the staff.

Complaints generally fell off with the declaration of war and housing work came to a standstill, but the Department had additional work in dealing with matters of evacuation, arrangements for decontamination of clothing and material, disposal of war dead, and decontamination of foodstuffs.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938, came into operation in this area on the 31st October, 1939, and sampling was commenced.

Maternity and Child Welfare. From the outbreak of war the clinics opened as previously, and mothers were advised to bring children at less frequent intervals to prevent large numbers being present at one time, and so with smaller attendances the Health Visitors were able to concentrate more on home visiting.

At the Maternity Home there were more admissions as women who had booked for other institutions which closed at the outbreak of war were admitted where possible, and owing to the difficulty of getting ante-natal and abnormal intra-natal cases into a maternity hospital some of these cases were dealt with at the Home under the care of the Consultant Obstetrician.

GEO. F. BRAMLEY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*



## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1940.

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The report this year is again confined to essential and urgent matters in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 2314 of the 26th March, 1941. A summary of vital statistics is appended, from which it will be seen that the general health of the Borough has been maintained at a high standard despite the conditions of over-crowding when the majority of the population spent many of the night hours in air raid shelters in the last four months of the year. Some evidence was forthcoming, however, that some persons were not bathing and changing their underclothes as frequently as before, and this was seen by an increased number of cases of scabies. This, I understand, has been fairly general throughout the country.

The Registrar General's estimate of population for mid-year is 77,670 compared with 80,110 for 1939. There has been a slight fall in the birth rate which is only to be expected in view of the several conditions brought about by the war. There has been an increase in the death rate, largely due to deaths due to war operations, but even after the application of the comparability factor the death rate compares favourably with the rest of the country.

The Corporation Maternity Home has been fully occupied throughout the year and maternity and child welfare clinic sessions held regularly, although smaller attendances have been encouraged especially at the child welfare sessions. There has been no curtailing of health visiting, in fact there has been an increase in the number of home visits made, and the only restriction in the whole of the maternity and child welfare services throughout the year was the discontinuation of special classes in cookery and sewing.

The bye-laws affecting sanitation, as with other bye-laws, lapsed in October, 1940, three years after the Incorporation of the Borough as required in the Borough Charter. Application was made to the Ministry of



Health for the renewal of certain of the lapsing bye-laws which it was deemed necessary to have in effect, but in view of the war the Minister refused to sanction the proposed bye-laws put forward. So far it has been possible to continue sanitary work without these bye-laws, but if a difficult offender is met it is not possible to forecast how the remedy for the nuisance or defect can be obtained where such is not covered in the general legislation.

The water supply, despite temporary dislocation due to war damage, has been maintain and a pure and wholesome water has been forthcoming after a few hours on practically all occasions.

Regular weekly collections of house refuse have been seriously interfered with owing to the call-up of workmen and the difficulty in replacing them and owing to dislocations in traffic movements from time to time. The longest period between collections has not, however, exceeded fourteen days.

The incidence of scarlet fever and diphtheria was lower in 1940 than in any previous recorded year in this district. Immunisation against diphtheria was pushed vigorously throughout the year and by the end of the year the percentage of the peace time child population inoculated under the age of 11 was about 38. Many more children require to be immunised and all the publicity that can, should be given to this vital procedure. Of 4,611 children immunised in this Borough from the commencement of the scheme up to the end of 1940 not one has developed diphtheria.

During the second and third weeks of June nine cases of Para-typhoid B Fever came to my notice. This was at a time when there was a prevalence of this disease in other parts of the country, and, although many investigations were made, the cause was not found. It must be assumed, however, that there had been some infection of some foodstuff at this time, and with the increased handling of unwrapped foods and the employment of more women in shops, with frequent changes in staff, such outbreaks can only be prevented by all persons who are handling food frequently washing their hands both before and during the period they are working.



The increased duties placed upon the staff with the many dislocations which occurred during the year, including the necessary vacation of the Health Department Offices for several weeks, placed a severe strain on everyone concerned, but the work of the health services was not discontinued, and I am indebted to members of the Council and to the whole of the members of my staff and the officers of other departments for their assistance and co-operation.

GEO. F. BRAMLEY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1941.

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The report is again restricted in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 2604 of the 24th March, 1942.

A summary of vital statistics is appended from which it will be seen that the general health of the Borough has been maintained at a high standard.

The birth rate again shows a slight fall which is usual in war time. The death rate is slightly raised over pre-war years, but lower than in 1940. The infantile mortality rate is the lowest ever recorded in this Borough, and the reduction appears to be chiefly due to a reduction in the deaths under one month, that is in the neonatal mortality rate, which is usually taken as a reflection upon the ante-natal care, and in this connection it is interesting to note that more mothers than ever attended the Corporation Ante-Natal Clinics where in fact 74% of the expectant mothers of the Borough were seen, and it is known that 96% of expectant mothers received ante-natal medical care. These figures compare with approximately 45% and 67% in 1940. The large increase in the number of expectant mothers attending ante-natal clinics necessitated holding additional sessions and additional work upon your full-time Medical Officers which was not easily fitted in having regard to their additional war-time duties in connection with Civil Defence etc., but it was not deemed an opportune time to come to the Council for an additional Medical Officer, especially in view of the shortage of doctors throughout the country.

The Corporation Maternity Home has been fully occupied again and there has been greater responsibility on all members of the staff in view of the absence of beds in the London hospitals for abnormal cases. Accommodation at the Home was booked up six or seven months ahead and it will be an urgent post-war duty on the Council or other hospital authority to provide additional maternity institutional accommodation for this area.



During the year there was a gradual change in outlook from one of passive defence to active production which led to the call of women to war work including women with young children. The Council therefore took the step of adopting the principle of providing war-time day nurseries. I have no doubt that the Council as a Welfare Authority have taken on a further responsibility with regard to the care of children under the age of five which will be carried on in the years of peace.

With regard to infectious disease, measles in numbers led the field, but the epidemic was of a mild character; whooping cough was also prevalent and the most fatal of the infectious diseases. There were no deaths from diphtheria but the immunisation campaign went forward well chiefly due in my opinion to the interest taken in this matter by the Ministry of Health and their wireless propaganda. By the end of the year 7,410 children had been immunised since the commencement of the scheme and not one of these has developed diphtheria.

The Corporation ambulance service continues very actively, but more calls had to be transferred to outside ambulances owing to the Corporation ambulance being out when required. One of the Council's first duties after the war will be the provision of a second ambulance.

The waiting list for dental treatment for nursing and expectant mothers and children under the age of five steadily increased until it became necessary to do less conservative treatment and arrange for more extractions. With the return of dental surgeons to civil life from the Services after the war it will be possible and necessary to increase the number of dental sessions.

During the year terminal disinfection after cases of infectious diseases such as scarlet fever and diphtheria was discontinued, and the opportunity it taken here of stating, for the purpose of reassuring any who may have looked upon this as a step likely to increase the incidence of infectious disease, that the number of cases of these diseases, as will be seen in the summary of vital statistics, has continued at a very low figure.

During the year the Council considered reports on scabies and the head and body louse, and made arrangements for the full use of the Disinfecting Station.

The work of the Sanitary section of the department has also been increased with new types of responsibility in view of the changing conditions of the war and mode of living.

The water supply despite temporary dislocations due to war damage in the early part of the year has been maintained and a pure and wholesome water has been available continuously.

The collection of house refuse fell very much in arrear due to the shortage of labour, but with the institution of the system of street bins for twice weekly collection of waste food for pig feeding, the household dustbin despite the fact that it has not been emptied for periods up to three weeks should no longer be a source of nuisance even without its lid.

I have to record my indebtedness to the Council, other departments, and every member of the Health Department for the full assistance which they gave me throughout a very busy year.

GEO. F. BRAMLEY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1942.

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The report is again restricted in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 2773 of the 10th March, 1943.

A summary of vital statistics is appended, from which it will be seen that the general health of the inhabitants of the Borough has been maintained at a high standard.

The birth rate is the highest recorded since 1923 and the number of births the highest ever recorded in this area. Some reasons for the high rate are—(a) the population of the Borough is young, (b) the first children being borne as a result of the high number of marriages in the first years of the war, (c) the decision of parents to have children rather than wait an indefinite period until after the war, (d) the better economic position of the working population, (e) the large number of husbands in the Forces stationed in this country, (f) the return to valuation of family life with less outside attractions, (g) a decision to rear a child rather than work in a factory. It is interesting to note in view of the present day demand for maternity beds that there was a 50% increase of births in institutions but only a 30% increase of births in private houses.

The infantile mortality rate (32.7) is the lowest ever recorded in this district and should be compared with the rate of 111 in 1915 when child welfare first began in Bexley and the rate of 78 in 1917 the third year of the last war.

The death rate is the lowest of the war years, and is low when it is realised that it is calculated upon the population which does not include the healthiest and most virile men and women who are now in the Forces. There are still many preventable deaths and there is no cause for complacency.

Diphtheria was the cause of two deaths, both in non-immunised children. Reference to the cycle of epidemics of this disease would lead one to expect a high rise in the number of cases by 1942, but this did not occur and I know of no other cause than that 63% of the children of the Borough were immunised against diph-



theria by the end of 1942. If the remaining children were immunised, diphtheria as a cause of death could be excluded.

There were three deaths from whooping cough during the war and, apart from cerebro-spinal fever and tuberculosis, whooping cough is the biggest killer of the infectious diseases. Permission was obtained during the year from the Ministry of Health to commence an immunisation scheme against whooping cough. A vaccine has been prepared which is given at the same time as the diphtheria prophylactic mixed in the same syringe, thus necessitating no additional injections. The scheme was commenced in July and was offered to parents with children under the age of five. By the end of the year 1,296 children had been given the two doses and of these children 2 only developed whooping cough during the year, whilst 145 unprotected children of all ages contracted the disease.

The Borough had been very lightly affected by the countrywide epidemic of cerebro-spinal fever prior to 1942, but during the year the number of cases was comparable with those throughout the rest of the country, and there were five deaths despite the big reduction in the fatality of this disease since the use of the sulphonamide drugs.

An expected increase in the number of cases of scarlet fever occurred, but the disease continues to be mild, and there were no deaths. The policy of home isolation where possible was continued and there is no evidence to show that this policy causes any increase in the incidence. Almost half the number of cases were isolated at home. From these there were no return cases, but there were four from hospital isolated cases.

The increased birth rate meant a busy year in the child welfare centres and a record total of attendances and of new attenders. Approximately 90% of the children born in 1942 attended the clinics at least once. Two thirds of the expectant mothers attended the ante-natal clinics, and practically all the rest attended clinics at maternity hospitals outside the Borough or their own doctors. The attendances for post-natal examinations showed a marked increase and this service which is intended to minimise suffering in later years is deservedly becoming more popular.



Full co-operation has been maintained with the Ministry of Food in the issue from the clinics of cod liver oil and orange juice for children under five, and cod liver oil for expectant mothers, and with the Board of Trade, in the issue of supplementary clothing coupons for expectant mothers.

Two war-time day nurseries were opened in January, which were an immediate success and the Council decided to provide a further three, raising the total accommodation to 240. Allowing for absentees this permits of 300 children on the registers. At the time of writing this report one of the nurseries has been enlarged by 18 places, also to provide accommodation for 18 children at night whilst their mothers are working and a sixth nursery is being prepared for 60 children and consideration is being given to provide accommodation for a further 100 children whose mothers will be in part time employment. However much we may be convinced that the place for the young child is at home with its mother there is no doubt that the child's place is in a nursery, so long as the mother goes out to work. In any case the scheme for Daily Minders was a failure in this Borough as although there were several initial registrations to take children the housewives practically all withdrew their applications after giving the matter further thought, as they no doubt realised that looking after children is difficult work and their household goods would be wearing away very quickly with other people's children in their homes.

Slum clearance and housing development has continued in abeyance but there are many signs that the post-war problem in this respect will be very different from those of pre-war years and that very extensive works will be urgently necessary. Many houses in the Borough are now occupied by two families, a mother with children whose husband is in the Forces letting off two rooms to a family in similar circumstances, but in view of the low standard of the Housing Act, 1936, there is no evidence of more overcrowding.

Treatment of scabies commenced in the new year and 475 persons were treated at the Cleansing Station, but until sufferers present themselves earlier for diagnosis and treatment and realise that infection is an accident and not a disgrace there does not seem to be much hope of eradicating the disease.



During the year accommodation for patients suffering from typhus in the event of the disease being introduced into the country was considered and the Borough Council came to an arrangement with the County Council for the admission of cases in the first instance to London County Council Hospitals and later to Bow Arrow Hospital.

The demand for maternity accommodation has again exceeded supply and the Maternity Home has continued to work with an average of two midwives short of requirements which has placed a severe strain on the rest of the staff. The Ministries of Health and Labour and National Service are now reviewing the question of shortage of midwives throughout the country and it is hoped that a solution will soon be found. As a partial solution the Council agreed during the year to employ non-resident midwives at the Home.

The Borough Ambulance had a 50% increase in calls and there was a 100% increase in calls on outside ambulances and in view of this increased use and the increased number of mechanical breakdowns the Council resolved to purchase an additional ambulance.

The Sanitary Inspectors made an increased number of visits to various properties, food shops, etc., but their work has been made more difficult in view of the shortage of materials and labour in getting repairs carried out, and difficulty has been experienced with regard to collection and disposal of house refuse, and a weekly collection has not yet been found possible. It has been found necessary to spend a large amount of time inspecting foodstuffs both canned and otherwise in various bulk food stores.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Council and officers of all departments for their assistance and especially to all the members of the Health Department for the way in which they have cheerfully and ungrudgingly in effort dealt with the new and additional work of the department.

GEO. F. BRAMLEY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H..

*Medical Officer of Health.*



## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1943.

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The report is again restricted in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 10/44 of the 15th February, 1944.

A summary of vital statistics is appended. Compared with the rest of the country, and with previous reports, the health of the inhabitants of the Borough has been maintained at a high standard.

The low infantile mortality rate (26.01) is an outstanding fact and most gratifying. It is 6.59 below that of last year which was up to then the lowest ever recorded in this Borough. It has been stated recently that a goal of 25 for the infantile mortality rate of greater London might well be aimed at in the next ten years, so that to stabilise or reduce the 1943 record in Bexley there can be no relaxation and indeed only intensification of the activities of Maternity and Child Welfare. The low infantile mortality rate is accompanied by a low stillbirth rate.

An equally outstanding and gratifying fact is that there was no death from diphtheria in 1943, when by December 31st, 70% of children under the age of 15 were immunised and to this must be given the credit. With varying phases of human resistance and bacterial infectivity there may be a change in this relationship, but so far as present evidence goes a high immunisation rate will mean a low diphtheria rate. Immunisation is a continuous process and the parents of children approaching one year old should take advantage of the facilities offered, as although diphtheria is now becoming an uncommon disease relaxation of the immunisation campaign would only lead to the old conditions with the disease taking a big toll of child life as the diphtheria germ is still with us.

Scarlet fever was common during the year, but did not reach the levels of the previous epidemic cycles in 1920-22, 1926 and 1933. The disease was, however, very



mild with no deaths. From home isolated cases there were less than 2% of return cases, as against over 5% from Hospital isolated cases.

Inoculation against Whooping Cough was continued and appears to be justifying the campaign as only 9 children of the 2891 inoculated since the scheme began in July, 1942, have contracted the disease.

The influenza epidemic at the end of the year was mild and Bexley appeared to come off very lightly so far as deaths were concerned. The assistance of Voluntary Organisations was freely given in a Scheme organised to give domestic and nursing assistance and to assist with shopping where the adults of a household were incapacitated.

The Ministry of Health gave stimulus to the Home Help Scheme during the year and the scheme suggested was substantially the same as had been in operation in the Borough since 1936, but with a 50% increase in applications and the inability of the Ministry of Labour to find suitable persons to act as Home Helps, the local service has not been easy to maintain. The scheme is restricted by legislation to homes in which there is a nursing or expectant mother or child under the age of five, but there are many homes where domestic assistance is urgently required outside the restriction, but we are unable to help.

With the increase in illegitimate births the suggestions of the Ministry of Health to make provision for the mother and her child have been put into operation so far as they are applicable, and arrangements sought with the County Council where joint efforts would be more applicable and economical, for example, in residential nursery accommodation not only for the illegitimate child but for children whose mothers need to be admitted to hospital; the only accommodation in this part of the county is very limited and supplied by the Public Assistance Committee. The services of the Rochester Diocesan Council in the provision of hostels has been appreciated and arrangements made for contributions per case. The rise in illegitimacy should not necessarily be attributed to a lowering of moral standards, but it must be appreciated that opportunity for marriage to



legitimise an expected birth is very often impossible in war time. In peace time in England and Wales 20% of first births were legitimised by marriage after conception.

By the end of the year four day nurseries were in operation in the Borough and one 24 hour nursery. There was a waiting list of 75 children for admission. The Okehampton Nurery for 60 children was in course of erection and a nursery in Bellegrove Road, Welling, proposed, as the Ministry of Labour required provision for children of mothers in part-time employment. During the year there was no accommodation available for children whose mothers were in part-time employment. The nurseries have continued to serve an essential purpose with obvious benefit physically and mentally to the children in them. With nursing supervision the physical side of children in nurseries has always been well catered for and with further development during the year of the educational side the role of the nursery is assuming its proper proportions.

The continued high birth rate with large clinic attendances has necessitated increased ante-natal and child welfare sessions and the Council agreed to the use of adaptable premises in Wrotham Road and Falconwood. The provision of clinic accommodation in these areas was held up by the outbreak of war but could not be postponed any longer. This additional service is appreciated as judged by attendances. It was also necessary to increase the dental sessions as the waiting list was becoming alarmingly big.

The housing position becomes more acute but as new houses cannot be provided before the end of the war, the Council have before them schemes for post-war housing. I estimate that at least 500 new houses are required in the Borough for the rehousing of families living in houses not fit for habitation or overcrowded as judged by the Housing Act, Standards in addition to 618 houses required for rehousing of families still living in areas scheduled under Slum Clearance before the war. With the addition of houses required for married couples living with parents and new marriages a big programme lies ahead.



The number of new cases of scabies coming to my notice did not diminish during the year and many contacts were not being treated as the disease was not notifiable in the Borough. The necessary power was obtained therefore for the diseases to be notifiable as from the 1st November. Since then all notified cases and contacts have been followed up to see that they obtained treatment either at the Cleansing Station, or at home under the patient's own doctor. 129 cases were notified in the two months and during the year 728 cases and contacts attended for treatment at the Cleansing Station. The bathing and treatment is given by Civil Defence personnel and for this and help in other activities of the Health Department we are deeply indebted to them.

An event of Public Health importance in the Borough during the year was the setting up of the Tuberculosis After Care Committee. A band of very energetic voluntary workers has commenced work on a very large task. As Tuberculosis is as much an economic calamity in the average household as a medical problem the work of the After Care Committee will go far to mitigate its evils and thereby prevent its spread.

I have to thank the members of the Council and officers of other departments for their helpful consideration and express my indebtedness to all members of the Health Department.

GEO. F. BRAMLEY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*



## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1944.

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In accordance with the Circular 49/45 of 19th March, 1945, the annual report is again restricted. Publication of population figures are, however, permitted and the estimation given by the Registrar General for the Mid-Year 1944 in the Borough of Bexley is 71,130. This shows a decrease of over 5,000 on the previous year, but can be explained by the exodus of mothers and children when flying bombs commenced.

A summary of vital statistics is appended. It is gratifying to note that, despite continuation of war-time conditions, the general health of the Borough, as compared with the rest of the country, was good.

The death rate in the Borough was 10.2 per 1,000 population as compared with 11.6 for England and Wales and 15.7 for the Administrative County of London.

The birth rate (21.06) was the highest since 1923, but as estimates are made on population and the mid-year population for 1944 was low, it will not be surprising if a smaller figure is shown in 1945.

The still birth rate (0.42) remained at a comparatively low level.

The infantile mortality rate (31.37), though low in comparison with the rest of the country, was higher than that of last year which was the lowest on record. This increase was due mainly to the early death of premature and malformed babies, 25 having died in 1944 as against 18 in 1943. The concern of the Ministry of Health at the loss of premature babies is shewn by their issue of circulars relating to the care of these babies. As far as war-time conditions would allow their suggestions have been adopted in this Borough and every endeavour is being made to reduce deaths from this cause.

Maternity Home. 549 cases were admitted during the year, abnormal cases again being included. Many applications for admission had to be refused owing to



shortage of beds. A suggestion came from the Ministry that patients, staff and Home might be evacuated because of enemy action, but practically all the mothers were averse to leaving their own homes and the scheme did not materialise, so further protective measures against enemy action were provided at the Home. The staff worked under considerable pressure and once again had the worry of numerous alerts and the moving of patients to and from protected wards; the loyalty evoked by Matron helped them to carry through. The Registrar General gives the Maternal Mortality for the Borough of Bexley as 1.30 per 1,000 live births as against 1.93 for the country in general.

Both Infant Welfare Sessions and Ante-Natal Clinics started at The Green, Falconwood, during the year and proved of benefit to residents in the area.

Attendances at all the Clinics decreased owing to enemy action.

Evacuation. During the time this District in common with others, was suffering from the effects of the flying bombs, the services of the Medical side of the Health Department in conjunction with those of the Kent County Council's School Medical Service, were called upon in connection with the medical examination of evacuees before they were listed for removal to reception areas. This entailed a considerable amount of work as the Evacuation Officer had to arrange for the removal of some thousands of persons in a very short time.

Voluntary assistance was given in connection with these medical examinations and I wish to express my thanks to those who gave of their time and help in this matter.

An increase in the number of Dental Sessions made it possible to have cases treated without undue delay, and this treatment should prove of great benefit to the health of the expectant and nursing mothers and their young children.

Early in the year an additional Day Nursery was opened in Okehampton Crescent. This has helped to relieve the neighbouring Nurseries where there are always more names on the Register than available places.



A seventh Nursery which was nearing completion was badly damaged by a flying bomb. The Ministry decided not to complete this Nursery, and with alteration of war conditions its need became less apparent.

The Home Help Scheme which has been in operation in the Borough since 1936 is restricted by legislation to homes in which there is a nursing or expectant mother or child under the age of 5 years. Towards the end of 1944 the Ministry of Health issued a Circular empowering the Council as a Welfare Authority to extend the Home Help Scheme to sick and infirm persons whether through old age or otherwise. There is a need for this service, but shortage of supply of reliable workers has made inauguration of the Domestic Help Scheme difficult.

During the year 5 cases only of Diphtheria were notified, of these one child died. This child had not been immunised. It is hoped that with the greater stabilization of the child population in the Borough the campaign against this disease may be facilitated and that soon no child will pass its first birthday without having received protective inoculation. A booster dose is also recommended when the child reaches the age of 5, that is, when school life is due to commence and it will be mixing with many new playfellows.

During the year 853 children were immunised, but a further 42 failed to complete their course. The percentage in the Borough in 1944 of children under the age of 5 who had been immunised was 73. We must not be satisfied until every child has been given the protection which scientists have made possible.

206 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year. The disease was again mild in character and no deaths occurred, but of 214 cases of Whooping Cough, 2 proved fatal, both of these having been complicated with pneumonia and neither having been inoculated against the disease.

Measles figures were higher than for any other infectious disease, but of the 342 cases notified there were no deaths.

Scabies became notifiable on 1st November, 1943, and during 1944 492 cases were notified. This in an in-



fection with a long incubation period and notification greatly facilitates the early treatment of contacts and should result in the condition being kept under control. We have again to thank members of the Civil Defence for their help in treatment of this condition.

Notification of tuberculosis was high. An increase in available beds in Sanatoria and post-war private houses should help in the fight against this disease.

Flying Bombs and Rockets during the year increased the already acute shortage of houses in the Borough. The Council have a very big problem to face in rehousing families living in houses not fit for human habitation or overcrowded as judged by the Housing Act Standards.

Despite war damage in the Borough a good and constant water supply was maintained by the Metropolitan Water Board. I am informed by the Clerk of the Board that:—

- (a) No new source of public water supply has been instituted in the Borough of Bexley during 1944;
- (b) There have been no extensions of trunk mains;
- (c) No changes in the general scheme of supply to the Borough of Bexley took place during the year. The supply has been satisfactory as to quantity.
- (d) The water supply to Bexley has been maintained at a high level of bacterial purity.

Collection and Disposal of House Refuse. During the latter end of the year great difficulty was experienced in the collection and disposal of house refuse. The labour shortage was very acute and in common with other areas over the whole of the country the period between the collections was longer and less regular.

This opportunity is taken of thanking the Council and Officers of other departments for their helpful co-operation during the year.

There is also special appreciation for help given by members of the Health Department.

MARY LOVE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
*Acting Medical Officer of Health.*



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