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BOROUGH OF BEXLEY

Annual Report

of the

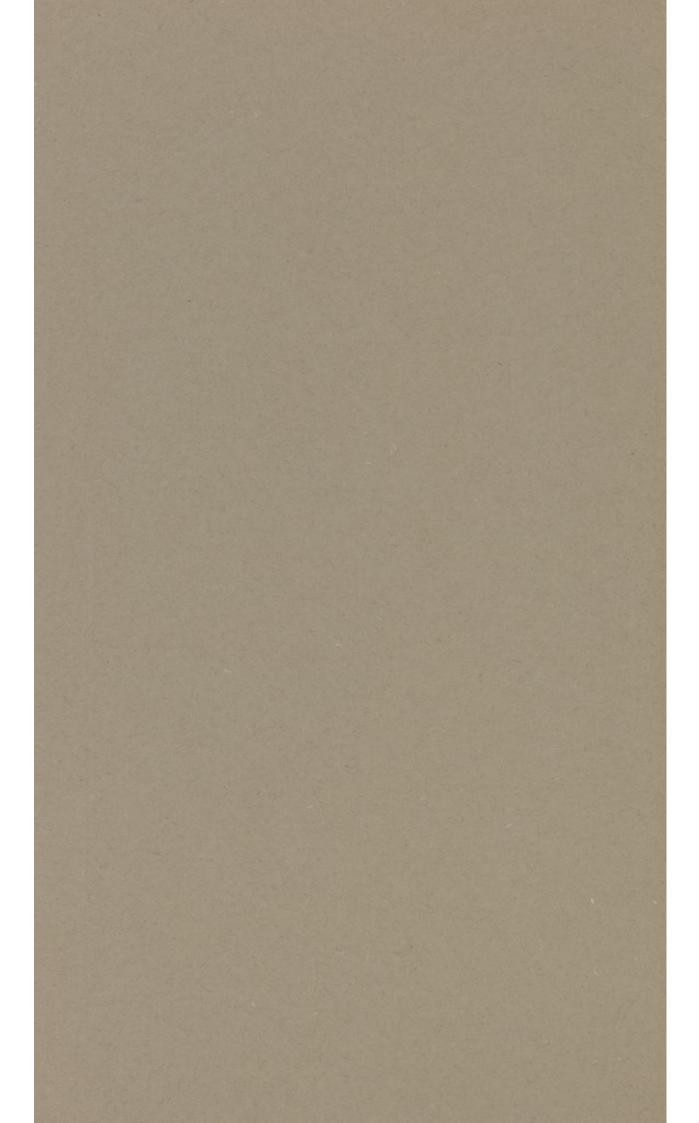
Medical Officer of Health

and

Report on the School Health Service

For the Year 1950

JOHN LANDON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health





BOROUGH OF BEXLEY

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1950

JOHN LANDON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

Borough of Bexley.

Mayor: Councillor J. D. Vergette, J.P.

Deputy Mayor: Alderman Mrs. A. Welch, J.P.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman: Councillor J. M. Pawson.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor M. J. Corr.

Alderman R. G. Broomfield. Councillor J. Duffus.

Alderman J. C. McLean, J.P. Councillor J. W. Bateman.

Alderman H. P. Tanner, C.C. Councillor H. C. Crawford.

Alderman Mrs. A. Welch, J.P. Councillor J. D. Vergette, J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1950.

Medical Officer of Health ... John Landon, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

(Joint appointment with Borough of Erith and U.D. Crayford).

Chief Sanitary Inspector, Public *† G. Hind, M.S.I.A. Cleansing Officer and Shops Acts Inspector.

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector *† J. T. Boocock.

District Sanitary Inspectors ... *† F. W. Willington.

*† G. F. Lovegrove.

*+ W. E. Moses

Chief Clerk ... G. A. Pearson.

Senior Clerk R. V. Hoad (from 31.1.50).

Clerks R. V. Hoad (to 30.1.50).

E. M. Pearmine (Miss) (appointed 1.5.50).

M. E. Smith (Miss) (Shorthand Typist).

E. M. Lawrence (Mrs.) (temporary until 23.9.50).

Public Analyst M. E. Monk, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

^{*} Certificate for Inspection of Meat and other Foods.

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

ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my annual report for

the year 1950.

The vital statistics of the Borough have again been satisfactory indicating that the health of the population has been well maintained. The birth rate during 1950 was 13.13 per 1,000 of the population compared with 14.02 in 1949 and 15.36 in 1948. The birth rate for 1947 was 18.72 per thousand and it would appear that the increase in the birth rate at the end of the War has not been maintained and that there has been a reversal to the tendency of the birth rate to fall which has been noticed during the past 40 years. The birth rate for the Borough of Bexley corrected by the use of a comparability factor (0.94), supplied by the Registrar-General, was 12.3. The uncorrected birth rate for the country as a whole during 1950 was 15.8, so that the Bexley rate for the year is appreciably lower than the national rate. The death rate for the Borough during 1950 was 8.56 per thousand of the home population, or, after correction by means of the comparability factor for deaths (1.18), 10.10 compared with an uncorrected death rate for the country as a whole of 11.6 per thousand.

A new low record in the infant mortality rate was achieved during 1950, namely 14.48 infantile deaths during the first year of life for every thousand live births, compared with 24 per thousand in 1949, and a national rate for 1950 of 29.8 per 1,000. The infant mortality rate is perhaps the most sensitive index we possess of social conditions and the care afforded to young children by their parents and by the personal health services. The Medical Officer of Health recording, in 1945, a rate of 33.9 per thousand, commented that "a goal of 25 can be reached in this area ". It would have been difficult to believe at that time that, in the course of 5 years, the infant mortality rate for the Borough would be halved, and there is no reason to believe that this improvement will not be maintained, given favourable and settled conditions. The best infant mortality

rate achieved prior to the 1950 rate was 19.03 per thousand live births during 1948 so that there has been a progressive fall which may be thought to be an encouraging feature of the statistics. Of the 17 infantile deaths which occurred there were 3 deaths from pneumonia and 1 from tuberculous meningitis, all of which are " prima facie" preventable, and the other deaths were due to prematurity and congenital malformation over which there is not, at the present time, any important degree of control. Prophecy in this matter is perhaps unwise, but who would be rash enough to say that we have now reached the irreducible minimum in regard to infant mortality? It would now seem that a rate of 10 per thousand may not be a Utopian idea but a practical possibility. The reduction in infant mortality, it must be remembered, is due "inter alia", to the fall in the birth rate as well as to improved conditions of life and health services but, even so, we are reaping the benefit of 40 years of welfare services and of continuous health education in infant welfare clinics and in the homes of the children. In this way the preventive services, when their results are reviewed over a period, afford some compensation to workers in the health field who may feel that their day to day work is unspectacular when compared with the curative services.

There was one death resulting from childbirth, giving a maternal mortality rate of 0.84 per thousand live and stillbirths compared with 0.78 in 1949 and nil in 1948.

The incidence of infectious disease was once again extremely low during 1950. No case of diphtheria was notified as compared with 1 during 1949. It would be safe to say that the three most important infectious diseases, apart from tuberculosis, which have now to be taken into account are measles (304 cases), whooping cough (281 cases) and acute anterior poliomyelitis, or infantile paralysis (19 cases), which gives a good indication of the changes which have been brought about by improvements in environmental health during the past 75 years. Apart from sporadic cases and the small and controlled epidemic, gone, for all practical purposes, are such diseases as smallpox, typhoid fever, malignant scarlet fever, haemorrhagic diphtheria and cerebro-spinal fever, to name only the most important.

With regard to poliomyelitis, it was found, during the year, as the result of an investigation carried out at that there was some slight association between this disease and inoculation procedures carried out within one month of the onset of illness. The majority of the Borough cases occurred in the Welling area and, as one case had occurred where this association had been noted, immunisation was suspended at the Welling clinics for a period and resumed as soon as any possible danger had passed. Concurrently, arrangements were made through the Hospital Management Committees to suspend tonsils operations during the period of maximum incidence of this disease.

In regard to inoculation in relation to poliomyelitis, methods have now been found to diminish any risk to negligible proportions, and it is self-evident that nothing should be allowed to interfere with the successful prosecution of the diphtheria immunisation campaign which has been largely responsible for the freedom from this disease which we now enjoy.

On the 1st May, 1950, a Food Traders' Guild was set up, comprising representatives of the local authorities and food traders, with a view to the carrying out of a Clean Food Campaign for the area of Bexley, Erith and Crayford. The Guild has had several meetings and has now approved Codes of Practice for most of the food trades. Approval of the remaining Codes should be obtained in the near future when this work will enter a new and more strenuous phase of inviting applications from the food traders for membership of the Guild and the inspection of their premises to ensure that they comply, in all respects, with the requirements of the appropriate Codes. A programme of health education is also being arranged with the object of bringing home to food handlers, in the three districts, their responsibilties to the public in regard to the clean preparation and handling of food. A Clean Food Exhibition was planned during the latter part of the year and was successfully held in May, 1951. This work tends to be rather slowmoving but this is not necessarily a disadvantage. It enables due consideration to be given to important detail and allows for a closer co-operation with the food traders themselves who are invited to the meetings at which the Codes are considered. Looked at as a long term essay in health education the Clean Food Campaign, it is hoped, will, in time, result in the raising of standards of food hygiene in the districts concerned.

During the year, the welfare of old people came into prominence. Ministry of Health Circular 11/50 recognised the plight of old people living alone in circumstances, often, of extreme loneliness and isolation from their fellows. His Worship the Mayor accordingly called a townspeoples' meeting and, as a result, an Old People's Welfare Committee was formed which has since done much good work in providing good-neighbourly services for many old people. I feel that a tribute should be paid to those good neighbours, both inside and outside the Old Peoples' Welfare Committee, who, voluntarily, undertake the care of old people living near them who are alone and uncared for. The number of such old people seems to be increasing and were it not for the good offices of well-disposed persons the plight of the old people concerned would be grim indeed. A case has occurred where the intelligent action of a milk roundsman who noticed that the milk on the doorstep of an old person living alone had not been taken in, led to the discovery, by the Health Department, to whom he reported the matter, that the old person was in a state of extreme collapse and it is certain that her life was saved by the action that was taken when her plight was discovered.

The investigation into the Incidence and Causation of Health among Bexley schoolchildren which is being undertaken by the Kent Paediatric Society is still proceeding and is now entering its final stages, although there is a lot of work still to be done before a Report can be made.

During the year, the Council approved a scheme for the rebuilding of the Borough Mortuary to provide improved facilities including refrigeration for six bodies. The Borough of Erith and the Urban District of Crayford have agreed to use the facilities provided on a basis to be agreed.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the members of the Health Committee for their support and encouragement and the Chief Sanitary Inspector, the Chief Clerk and all members of the Health Department for their devotion to duty at all times during the year.

·I am,

Your obedient servant,
JOHN LANDON,
Medical Officer of Health.

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

Now Dwellings Freeted

-				
л	100	0	0	
м	м.	u	а	

Donulation

4,869 acres.

Population.	New Dwellings Erected.
Registrar General's	Houses 102
Estimate mid-	Demolished Houses
year, 1950 89,4	10 Rebuilt 15
Relative figures for previo	
Population-Mid-Year.	New Houses Erected.
1931 (Census) 3	3,150 1,165
	30,110 1,002
	7,670 113
	2,080 Nil
	7,020 5
	6,740 5
	1,130 Nil
	5,040 2
	85,820 82+64 rebuilt.
1947 8	37,670 199+216 rebuilt.
1948 8	38,920 $334+286$ rebuilt.
	39,270 138+73 rebuilt.
Number of inhabited how	ises at end of 1950
	oks) approximately 25,772
Rateable Value	£638,064
Sum represented by a penn	ny rate £2,626
Unemployment,	Men Women Boys Girls Total
December 31st, 1949	
December 31st, 1950	
December 5130, 1000	0.0

Social Conditions and Amenities.

The Borough of Bexley continues to be a healthy residential district and is specially favoured in that it has ample open spaces and recreational facilities for its inhabitants. Like other districts, however, that suffered severe bombing during the war, and whose population is tending all the time to increase, housing shortages, at present, constitute the main barrier to health for a relatively large number of its citizens. The housing programme is being accelerated as much as possible and it can only be hoped that, as the momentum increases, the housing position of the Borough will gradually reach the optimum standards for which the Council are striving.

The Corporation supplied the district with electricity until the date of transfer of this service to the London Electricity Board, and the South Eastern Gas Board supplies gas.

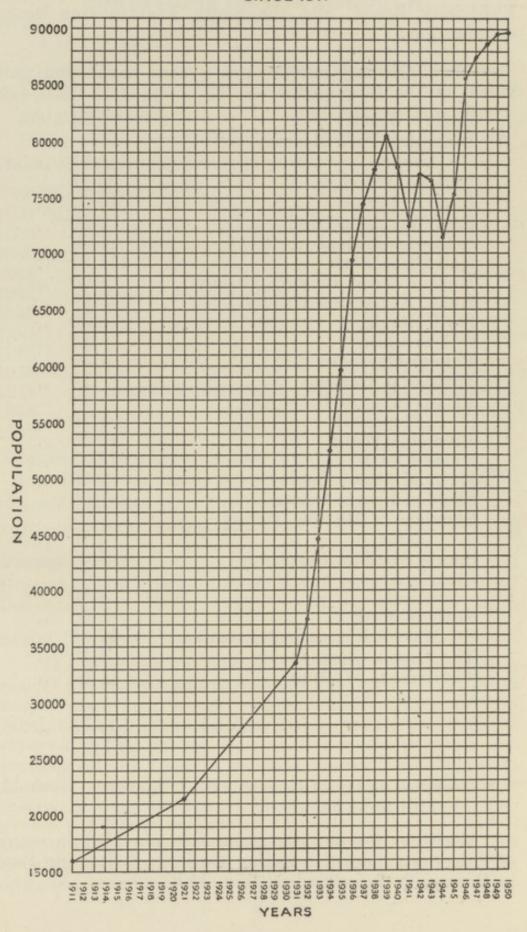
The following public open spaces have been provided by the Corporation:—

Bexley Woods	26.00	acres
Brampton Park Recreation		
Ground	4.21	,,
Bursted Wood	30.47	,,
Danson Park	210,00	,,
East Wickham Land	6.80	,,
Eastcote Gardens	1,00	,,
Hall Place Park	171.32	
Hudson Road Playing Ground	1.60	"
Hurst Recreation Ground	3.50	"
Ivy Cottage	6.50	"
Oxleas Close	.13	,,
D.1 C1	1.30	,,
D 11 . C 1	.70	,,
	.10	,,
Playground off Broadway	1.16	
(Proposed)	10.50	,,
Riverside Walk	13.25	"
Russell Park		,,
Rutland Shaw, Bexley	2.90	,,
Sheldon Sports Ground	7.66	"
Shoulder of Mutton Green	0.00	
(L.C.C.)	3.86	,,
Sports Stadium (Proposed)	7.03	,,
Steeple Avenue and Danson		
Mead	1.50	,,
Stevens Park	9.55	,,
St. Mary's Recreation Ground	12.86	,,
The Green, Bexleyheath	1.10	,,
The Green, Welling	1.80	,,
Total	536.70	
Total	000.10	,,

^{*} Reserved under agreement with J. Stevens—freehold, still to be acquired.

Facilities for outdoor games are provided in many of these open spaces, including the large Swimming Pool in Danson Park, opened in July, 1936.

GRAPH SHOWING RISE IN POPULATION SINCE 1911



SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

		100	149		_
	England and Wales.	County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	Smaller Towns Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census.	London Adminis- trative County.	Borough of Bexley.
Births—		Rates per l	1,000 Home Po	pulation.	
Live Still	15.8 0.37	17.6 0.45	16.7 0.33	17.8 0.36	13.13
Deaths— All Causes Typhoid and Para-	11.6	12.3	11.6	11.8	8.56
typhoid Whooping Cough	0.00 0.01	0.00 0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01
Diphtheria Tuberculosis Influenza	0.00 0.36 0.10	0.00 0.42 0.09	0.00 0.33 0.10	0.00 0.39 0.07	0.18 0.01
Smallpox Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioenceph-	_		_	_	-
alitis Pneumonia ·	0.02 0.46	0.02	0.02 0.45	0.01 0.48	0.32
Notifications(corrected)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01
Typhoid Fever Paratyphoid Fever Meningococcal	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03
Infection	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03 1.23	0.01
Scarlet Fever Whooping Cough	1.50 3.60	1.56 3.97	1.61 3.15	3.21	3.14
Diphtheria	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03	
Erysipelas Smallpox	0.17	0.19	0.16	0.17	0.25
Measles	8.39	8.76	8.36	6.57	3.40
Pneumonia Acute Poliomyelitis (Including Polioen-	0.70	0.77	0.61	0.50	0.36
cephalitis)					
Paralytic	0.13	0.12	0.11	0.08	0.16
Non-Paralytic Food Poisoning	0.05 0.17	0.05 0.16	0.06	0.05 0.25	0.06
2004 20100111119	0.2.		1,000 Live I	1	
Deaths			1	1	
All causes under one year of age Enteritis and Diar-	29.8(a)	33.8	29.4	26.3	14.48
rhœa under two years of age	1.9	2.2	1.6	1.0	-
	Ka	tes per 1,000	Total (Live at	nd Still) Bir	ths.
Notifications(corrected)					
Puerperal fever and Pvrexia	5.81	7.43	4.33	6.03	1.68

⁽a) Per 1,000 related live births.

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

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales.

In	ternational List No. and Cause		Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	Rates per million Women aged 15 to 44
651	Abortion with Sepsis		0.09	7
650-652	Other Abortion		0.05	4
640-649, 670-678	Complication of Pregna and Delivery	acy	0.54	
681	Sepsis of Childbirth a the Puerperium	nd	0.03	
680, 682-689	041 0 11 11	of 	0.15	

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE Year 1950.

The Registrar General's Estimate of home population for the mid-year is 89,410 and this figure is assigned for the purpose of calculation of all rates.

Births.	Males	Females	Total
Live Births—Total	585	589	1,174
Legitimate	561	559	1,120
Illegitimate	24	30	54

Birth Rate.

Rate per 1,000	estimated	home	
population			13.13

The following relates to the Birth Rate during the past ten years:—

1940	Birth	Rate	16.46	per	thousand
1941	,,	,,	15.88	,,	,,
1942	,,	,,	19.07	,,	,,
1943	,,	,,	18.03	,,	,,
1944	,,	,,	21.06	,,	,,
1945	,,	,,	18.81	,,	,,
1946	,,	,,	19.75	,,	,,
1947	,.	,,	18.72	,,	,,
1948	,,	,,	15.36	,,	,,
1949	,,	,,	14.02	,,	,,

Rate	per	1,000	for	England and Wales, 1950	15.8
,,	,,	,,	,,	County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	17.6
,,	,,	,,	,,	Smaller Towns (estimated population 25,000 to 50,000 at Census, 1931)	16.7
,,	,,	,,,	,,	London Administrative County	17.8

54 illegitimate live births were registered against 30 in 1949.

The Registrar-General has supplied a comparability factor for 1950. The standardised birth rate which allows for comparison with other parts of the country is 12.3.

Stillbirths.	Males	Females	Total
Total	9	5	14
Rate per 1,000 total (live and s	till)		
births		11.78	

The following relates to the Stillbirth Rate during the past ten years:—

			Rate per Thousand	
Year			Total Live and Still Births	Population
1940	 	 	24.4	0.41
1941	 	 	29.6	0.48
1942	 	 	25.2	0.49
1943	 	 	20.5	0.37
1944	 	 	19.0	0.42
1945	 	 	21.4	0.41
1946	 	 	23.6	0.48
1947	 	 	21.5	0.41
1948	 	 	21.5	0.34
1949	 	 	31.01	0.45

14 Stillbirths were registered during the year. This represents a rate of 0.16 per 1,000 population against 0.45 per 1,000 population in 1949.

Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales, 19	950 0.37
,, ,, ,, County Boroughs and Gr Towns, including Lond	
,, ,, ,, Smaller Towns (estima	
population 25,000 50,000 at Census, 19	31) 0.38
,, ,, ,, London Administrat	
There were no Stillbirths registered as i	llegitimate.
Deaths. Males Fer	males Total
All causes 410	355 765
Death rate per 1,000 of estimated	.56
Number of women dying in, or in	
consequence of, childbirth: From Puerperal and Post	
Abortive Sepsis	_
From other Puerperal Causes	1
Death rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 0	.84
Deaths of Infants under one year	
of age 7	10 17
Legitimate 6 Illegitimate 1	8 14 2 3
Illegitimate 1 Death rate of Infants under one	~ 0
year of age:	
	.48
Legitimate per 1,000 legitimate live births 12	.5
Illegitimate per 1,000 illegiti-	
mate live births 55	.5
Deaths from Measles (all ages) —	
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages) —	1 1
,, ,, Diarrhea (under 2	
years of age) — ,, Cancer (all ages) 75	70 145

Death Rate of Country: -

Rate	per	1,000	for	England and Wales, 1950	11.6
,,	,,	,,	,,	County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	12.3
,,	,,	,,	,,	Smaller Towns (estimated population 25,000 to 50,000 at Census, 1931)	11.6
					11.0
,,	"	,,	,,	County Adminstrative	11.8
1	Death	Rate	of A	area during last ten years:—	
	1	940		10.40 per thousand.	
	1	941		9.68 ,, ,,	
	1	942		8.73 ,, ,,	
	1	943		9.21 ,, ,,	
	1	944		10.20 ,, ,,	
	1	945		9.28 ,, ,,	
	1	946		8.55 ,, ,,	
	1	947		9.17 ,, ,,	
	1	948		7.53 ,, ,,	
	1	949		8 15	

The rate for Bexley compares favourably with that for other parts of the country. The Registrar-General has supplied a comparability factor for 1950. The standardised death rate which allows for comparison with other parts of the country is 10.10.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BOROUGH. REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR 1950.

	REGISTERED DURING THE	YEAR	1950.	
Cau	ses of Death.	M.	F.	Total
	All Causes	410	355	765
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	9	6	15
	Tuberculosis, other	_	ĭ	1
2 3	Syphilitic disease	3	_	3
4	Diphtheria		_	_
4 5	Whooping Cough	_	1	1
6	Meningococcal infections	_	_	_
6 7 8 9	Acute poliomyelitis	_	_	_
8		_	_	_
9	Measles			
	diseases	2	2	4
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	12	10	22
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung,			
	bronchus	24	2	
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	15	
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	_	3	3
14	Other malignant and lymphatic			
	neoplasms	39	40	79
15	neoplasms Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	_	1
16	Diabetes	6	_	6
17	Vascular lesions of nervous			
	system	55	55	110
18	Coronary disease, angina	67	35	
19	Hypertension with heart disease	21	16	
20	Other heart disease	54		
21	Other circulatory disease	14		
22	Influenza		1	
23	Pneumonia	15	14	29
24	Bronchitis	23	17	40
25	Other diseases of the respiratory			
	system	2 6	_	2 9
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	6	3	9
27	Gastritis enteritis and diarrhoea	_	_	_
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	7 6	5	12
28 29	Hyperplasia of prostate	6	_	6 1 5
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	_	1	1
31	Congenital malformations	1	4	5
32	Other defined and ill-defined			
	diseases	27	43	70
33	Motor vehicle accidents	5 9	1	6
34	All other accidents	9	1 5 7	14
35	Suicide	2	7	9
36	Suicide Homicide and operations of war	_	-	_

17

INFANT MORTALITY, 1950.

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

These relate to deaths occurring in 1950 but not necessarily registered in that year.

CAUSES OF DEATH						D	AYS									N	lonti	IS				
as Certified.		1-	2-	3-	4-	5—	6—	7—	14-	21—	28-	2—	3—	4-	5—	6—	7—	8—	9—	.0-	11—	12
Congenital Malformation, Premature Birth, Birth Injury, etc Pneumonia Post Natal Asphyxia and Atelectasis T.B. Meningitis Kernicterus Eenthroblastosis Cerebral Softening secondary to Pinks Disease	3	1	1	2				1	1 2				1	1					1		1	
Totals	3	2	1	3	_	_	-	1	3	_	_	-	1	1	_	_	_	_	1	_	1	-

The number of infants under one year of age who died during the year 1950 as shown by the table is 17. 13 of these deaths, that is 76.47 per cent., occurred in the neonatal period (within one month of birth). In 1949 the corresponding figure was 80 per cent.

17 were registered during the year giving an infantile mortality rate per 1,000 live births of 14.48.

Rates over previous years have been:-

1940	 	45.4	per	1,000	live	births
1941	 	35.4	,,	,,	,,	,,
1942	 	32.7	,,	,,	,,	,,
1943	 	26.01	,,	,,	,,	,,
1944	 	31.37	,,	,,	,,	,,
1945	 	33.9	,,	,,	,,	,,
1946	 	29.5	,,	,,	,,	,,
1947	 	28.6	,,	,,	,,	,,
1948	 	19.03	,,	,,	,,	,,
1949	 	24.0	,,	,,	,,	,,

Maternal Deaths.

There was 1 maternal death during the year giving a maternal mortality rate of 0.84 per 1,000 live and stillbirths.

Rates over previous years have been: -

1940	 	0.79	per	1,000	live	and	stillbirths
1941	 	2.77	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
1942	 	1.32	,,	,,	. ,,	,,	,,
1943	 	1.44	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
1944	 	1.30	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
1945	 	nil	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
1946	 	1.73	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
1947	 /	1.19	,,	,,	,,	,,	"
1948	 	Nil	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
1949	 	0.78	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH.

Isolation Hospital Accommodation.

This had been available in the past at the Bow Arrow Hospital of the Dartford Joint Hospital Committee of which the Council was the largest contributing member. With the transfer of the Hospital to the Regional Hospital Board on 5th July, 1948, the Joint Hospital Committee became redundant and there is now no control of this Hospital by the Local Authority. Patients suffering from infectious disease are now admitted to hospitals controlled by the Woolwich and Dartford Hospital Management Committees.

General Hospitals.

Provisions made by S.E. Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The provision of these facilities now rest with the Kent County Council as Local Health Authority.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Action taken under Section 47.

It was not necessary during the year under review to take statutory action under this Section owing to the removal of patients by voluntary co-operation.

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

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

During the year it was used on 122 occasions and 122 post-mortem examinations were made. 29 inquests were held. The foreword to this Report contains a reference to the rebuilding of the Mortuary.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Pathological and bacteriological work for the area is carried out at the County Hall, Maidstone, through the Public Health Laboratory Service.

Registration of Nursing Homes, Public	Health	Act, 19	36.
(Authority of Registration transferred to Council to the Bexley Borough Council	rom Ke l—17.4	ent Cour.	nty
No. of Homes on the Register at beginning No. of patients provided for:—	ing of ye	ear	6
Maternity			6
Others			63
	Total		69
No. of Homes first registered during ye	ear		_
No. of patients provided for:-			
Maternity			-
Others			
	Total		_
No. of Homes on the Register at end No. of patients provided for:—	of year		5
Maternity			5
Others			63
	Total		68
No. of inspections made during year			12
No. cancelled on request of applicant			1

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH.

List of Adoptive Acts, etc., in force.	
	Date
Acts.	Adopted.
	1
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890	1 1001
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	
,, 4—Secs. 53 and 54	May 1909
,, 6—the whole	
,, 10—Sec. 95	
Public Health Act, 1925, Part 2	Jan. 1926
03 3	
Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933	Jan. 1934
Byelaws.	
Wireless Loudspeakers, Gramophones, etc.	Mar. 1939
Fouling by Dogs of Footways	July 1938
Baths, Wash-houses, Swimming Baths and	o ary 1000
Bathing Places	Ann 1029
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
Sale of Contraceptives in Slot Machines	Dec. 1949
Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food	
and Sale of Food in the Open Air	May 1950

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.

No recent application has been made for renewal, but it may be necessary in the near future to endeavour to obtain the Ministry's approval to Byelaws with regard

to nuisances.

(i) Water Supply.

The supply to Bexley district is derived from several sources, namely, 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, as in 1949 completely satisfactory results have been obtained. In the case of the well supplies the water is sampled both before and after chlorination. Water derived from the River Thames is sampled at each stage of the purification process. Tanks to provide an adequate period of contact of the chlorine with the water are now in operation at Wilmington, Crayford, Bexley and Deptford.

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

tested bacteriologically.

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

Bacteriological.

(Minimum and maximum numbers of organisms.)

No. of organisms per c.c. capable of B. coli growth on Agar at:

37° C. 22° C. 0-506 0-1,701

Absent in 100 c.c in all samples

(ii) Drainage and Sewerage.

The following foul and surface water sewers were laid during the year:—

Faygate Estate—

230 lin yards Foul Sewer.

250 lin yards S.W. Sewer.

Danson Park-

96 lin yards 18" and

120 yards 21" S.W. Sewer.

East Wickham Valley-

400 lin yards S.W. Sewer.

Glenmore Estate—

300 yards Foul Sewer.

321 yard S.W. Sewer.

Royal Park Estate—

81 yards Foul Sewer.

155 yards S.W. Sewer.

2. Rivers and Streams,

No serious case of pollution of rivers or streams was found during the year.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Health Department, 14, Brampton Road, Bexleyheath.

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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report as Chief Sanitary Inspector and Public Cleansing Officer to your Council for the year 1950.

The report consists mainly of a tabulated record of work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors.

TABLE No. 1.

Details of Inspection Work Carried Out.

	Inspec- tions	Re-in- spections
Houses inspected (all particulars recorded)	7	14
Houses inspected (defects only recorded)		1,267
Houses inspected (Housing Act, 1936,		01
Overcrowding) Houses inspected re Infectious Disease	90	21
(including Scabies)	353	30
Factories with mechanical power	206	75
Factories without mechanical power	42	4
Schools	12	_
Refuse Tips	356	_
Bakehouses	101	34
Outworkers	85	_
Food shops and premises where food is		
prepared	1,618	33
Visits re Unsound Food	436	25
Dairies and Milkshops	89	_
Ice Cream Premises	215	4
Fried Fish Premises	197	17
Offensive Accumulations	60	25
Keeping of Animals	115	6
Rats	221	
Verminous Premises	78	74
Insufficient Ashplace Accommodation	84	96
Drains Inspected	1,448	1,218
Drains Tested (water, smoke or colour)	150	9
Visits re Refuse Removal and Salvage	475	_
Public Conveniences	154	
Food and Drugs Act re Samples	284	_
Water Samples	17	_
Shops Act, 1950	1,031	_
Miscellaneous Inspections		

TABLE No. 2.

Improvements effected and defective sanitary conditions
Houses— No
Provided with sufficient w.c. accommodation 52 Provided with sufficient ashplace accommoda-
tion 39
Provided with sufficient water supply 28
Houses Improved Internally—
Dirty rooms cleansed 107
Walls and ceilings repaired 558
Dampness in rooms remedied 180
Defective floors repaired 51
Ventilation of rooms improved 34
Windows repaired 158
Coppers repaired
Stoves, fireplaces, etc., provided or repaired 30
Houses Improved Externally—
Roofs repaired 77
Eaves, gutters and down spouts fixed or repaired 50
V 1 1 1 1
Chimpar stocks remained
Walls repointed or repaired 50
Miscellaneous repairs 84
Drainage—
Drains cleansed or repaired 1,084
New drains constructed
New Gullies provided
Ventilation of drainage system improved
Inspection chambers built or improved 11
Waste pipes provided or improved 1
Offensive accumulation removed 8
Nuisances from animals abated :
Other nuisances abated 10
TABLE No. 2
TABLE No. 3. Infectious Diseases.
Cases removed to Isolation Hospitals 67
Houses visited including revisits 388
Rooms disinfected 30
Notices delivered to Education Authorities, etc. 535
Houses at which defective sanitary conditions were found

TABLE No. 4.

Food Inspection.

The surrender	follow ed.	ing	is a	summa	ary of	unsound	food
Beef						lbs.	,318
Mutton a	nd Lan	o b					451
Pork						,,	17
Rabbits						,,	45
Liver						,,	422
Corned P						,,	3423
Corned M	Lutton					,,	30
Tinned H						,,	52
Sausages						,,	90
Bacon						,,	$112\frac{3}{4}$
Fats						,,	233
Cake, Bis	scuits a	nd 1	Flour			,,	30
Dried Pe		.,				,,	412
Soya Flo	ur					,,	112
Fish							,330
Fish						Tins -	192
Meat						,,	224
Milk						,,	426
Vegetable	es					,,	567
Soups						,,	174
Fruit and	Fruit	Juic	es ·			,,	312
Puddings						,,	11
Preserves					Tins	and Jars	414
Pastes						,,	638
Gravy Po	wder				Tins a	nd Packets	218
Cheese						lbs.	84
Cheese]	Boxes	25
Pickles a	nd Sau	ces			Jars a	nd Bottles	161
Cereals					P	ackets	339
Cereals						lbs.	50
Dried Fr	uit					,, ackets	156
Dried Fr	uit				P	ackets	56
						,,	
Dates]	Boxes	64
Miscellan	eous it	ems					91

TABLE No. 5. Factories Act, 1937.

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

	N	umber of :-	_
Premises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prose- cutions.
Factories with mechanical power	416	4	-
Factories without mechanical power	131	2	-
*Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	8	_	
Total	555	6	_

2. Defects Found.

	Nun	nber of Def	ects.	
Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number of Prose- cutions.
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	5	5	1-1	
Overcrowding (S.2)			100000	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)				
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)		No. of the last		
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)— Insufficient Unsuitable or defective Not separate for sexes	18 1	18 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.)	1	1		
			Ing o	
Total	25	25	-	_

During the year 5 Certificates were issued to factories under Section 34 of the Factories Act, 1937, with regard to adequate means of escape in case of fire.

Closet Accommodation.

With the exception of a few houses, all the closet accommodation in the Borough is on the water carriage system.

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICE.

The Health Committee is responsible for the collection and disposal of house and trade refuse, the collection and sale of salvageable materials, and the maintenance of Public Conveniences.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

A weekly collection of refuse was well maintained during the year with the exception of the Bank Holiday periods, when some delay occurred. The chief difficulty in this respect arises after the Christmas holiday, when refuse is at its heaviest. Temporary labour to clear arrears is almost impossible to obtain, and in addition, the sickness rate among the staff engaged on this work is higher after Christmas than at any other time during the year. For this reason it is generally several weeks before collections are back to their normal day.

During the year two old freighters were replaced with new S. & D. Dust Carts, and two further vehicles were ordered for delivery in 1951.

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at East Wickham. Further land adjoining the Ivy Cottage Site was acquired for refuse tipping after a Public Enquiry conducted by J. Sumner, Esq., A.M.I.Mech.E., of the Ministry of Health. Consent was also given for the stream running through this land to be culverted at a cost of some £12,000, and this work was commenced in November, 1950.

The muledozer has continued to prove its worth in dealing with house refuse, and the abolition of sleeper roads has resulted in a far better consolidation of the refuse.

The tip is kept under constant supervision, and it is worth recording that not a single complaint was received during the year, although at times refuse was being tipped very near to occupied houses.

Salvage.

In spite of the difficulty which was experienced early in 1950 of disposing of waste paper, the Council decided to continue collection, and this policy has since proved to be justified.

Kitchen waste is collected twice weekly from some 450 communal bins placed in the streets and sent to the Woolwich Borough Council's Concentrator Plant at White Hart Lane, Plumstead.

The revenue from salvage sales during the year was £5,900 18s. 0d. made up as follows:—

	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	£	s.	d.
	426	14	0	3,382	10	5
	26	3	3	555	5	6
		14	0	4	3	5
	660	1	0	1,810	5	10
	22	9	1	54	8	2
	1	4	1	80	13	8
		8	3		14	8
	1	18	3	12	16	4
1	,139	13	3	5,900	18	0
		426 26 660 22 1	426 14 26 3 14 660 1 22 9 1 4 8 1 18	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

Public Conveniences.

The public conveniences in the Borough are situated at the following sites:—

Market Place, Bexleyheath. Townley Road, Bexleyheath.

Danson Park, Welling.

Library Building, Bellegrove Road, Welling.

High Street, Bexley.

St. Mary's Recreation Ground, Bexley.

Various other sites have been earmarked for additional small conveniences, which are badly needed in outlying parts of the area.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919. INFESTATION ORDER, 1943.

The Council employ one full-time Rodent Operative for the treatment of surface infestations, and the test baiting and maintenance treatment of sewers is carried out by men under the control of the Borough Engineer.

The cost of disinfestation work carried out at business premises is charged to the occupiers, but the Council give a free service to private dwelling houses.

Infestations found during the year were mostly of a minor character, and in a large number of cases were caused by the keeping of animals. The following table gives details of infestations found and dealt with by the Department for the period 1st April, to 31st December, 1950, as supplied to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries:—

Number of Properties Inspected	 260
Number of Inspections	 1,558
Number of Infestations Found-Major	 2
Minor	 176
Mice	 32
Number of Treatments carried out Rats	Mice
Local Authority's premises 2	
Dwelling Houses 166	29
Business Premises 10	3

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

The following Closing Orders are in operation in the area:—

Bexley Urban District (Butchers) No. 6 Order, 1920.

Bexley Urban District (Grocers and Provisions Merchants) No. 7 Order, 1923.

Bexley Urban District (Miscellaneous Trades) No. 8 Order, 1923.

The Bexley Hairdressers and Barbers Shops Closing Order, 1946.

There were approximately 740 shops on the Council's Register at the end of the year.

During the year 1,031 inspections were made under the Shops Act, 1950, and no legal proceedings were instituted.

> I am, Ladies and Gentlemen, Yours obediently,

> > G. HIND, Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Swimming Pool.

The only swimming pool in the Borough open to the public is in Danson Park and is owned by the Council. The layout includes three open-air pools, one large for adults and two small pools for children. Showers and foot baths are provided for the pre-cleansing of bathers. The water is kept pure by continuous filtration and sterilisation with chlorine and ammonia gases.

Samples of water have been taken by this department from time to time and the results of bacteriological examinations have been satisfactory on each occasion.

Results.

No. of organism	m and m s per c.c. c on Agar at: 37° C.	apable of	numbers	of	organisms.) B. coli presumptive
Deep end Shallow end		0 - 16 0 - 30			Absent Absent

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number	of houses	found to	o be	infested	:
(a)	Corporatio	on houses	s		15
(b)	Other hou	ises			15

All infestations were dealt with by the Department by spraying, etc., and the results obtained were satisfactory.

Camping Sites.

A camping site used by Rover Scouts and Woodcraft Folk in Hall Place was not used over such a period as to come within the operation of Section 269 of the 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. Improvements were carried out to the sanitary conveniences at one school during the year.

SECTION D .- HOUSING.

The following particulars relate to the houses built by the Council on the various Estates and still occupiable:—

	Houses	Flats
Welling—		
	428	
Welling Estate Westwood Lane Estate	126	
Carlton Road	16	
Dovedale Close	14	
Dovedale Close	**	
East Wickham—		
Glenmore Road No. 1	116	
Glenmore Road No. 2	6	
Bexleyheath—		
Highland Road Estate and Pick-		
ford Road Estate (including		
bungalows)	306	
Cannon Road	_	28
Alers Road	84	_
Halcot Estate No. 1	200	
Halcot Estate No. 2	8	
Italeot Estate 110. 2		
Bexlev—		
Hartford Road Estate and		
Victoria Road Estate	54	_
Royal Park Estate	58	-
Midhurst Hill	20	
Newick Close	16	_
Henfield Close	8	
Rye Close and Extension	38	
	34	
	1	
Merlin Road	9	
S.D.A. Houses	J	
	1 5 40	00
	1,542	28
		-
	41.0	
Inspection of Dwelling Houses duri	ng the	
year.		
(1) () (D) (-1)	howara	
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling	/mules	
inspected for housing defects		940
Public Health or Housing Ac	ts)	346
(b) Number of inspections made	for the	
purpose (including re-inspect	ion)	1 627
purpose (meruding re-inspect	1011)	1,000
20		

1.

	(2)	cluded under subhead (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 to 1932	7
		(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose (including re-inspections)	21
	(3)	Number of dwelling houses to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	3
	(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	319
2.		nedy of Defects during the year without vice of Formal Notice.	
	Nui	mber of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	258
3.	Act	ion under Statutory Powers during the	
	A.	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
		(1) Number of dwelling houses in repect of which notices were served requiring repairs	
		(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
		(a) By owners	
		(b) By local authority in default of owners	-
	В.		-

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—	
(a) By owners	48
(b) By local authority in default of owners	_
C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of Housing Act, 1936—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in repect of which Demolition Orders were made	_
(2) Number of dwelling houses de- molished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	7
(3) Houses demolished as a result of informal procedure	5
D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
Number of Closing Orders made	_
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 75. Provision of Dustbins.	
Notices served requiring provision of bins	6
Number complied with—	
(a) by Owners	5
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners	3
Bins provided in consequence of informal action	24

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

The milk retailed for consumption in the area is all pasteurised and bottled, with the exception of a small quantity produced by a producer retailer.

Licences granted by the Council under the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949:—

Dealers' Licences:—	
Pasteurised Milk	16
Tuberculin Tested M	ilk 15
Sterilised Milk	20
Supplementary Licences:	
Pasteurised Milk	
Tuberculin Tested M	
Sterilised Milk	3

(b) Meat Inspection.

The slaughterhouses in the area remained closed during the year.

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

The following table summerises the 250 samples taken during the year.

	Formal	Informal
Milk	18	1
Soups, Meat Extracts, etc	1	6
Fish Pastes		3
Pudding or Cake Mixture, Flour, etc.	8	8
Jellies, Custard Powders, etc		11
Patent Medicines, etc	6	11
Beverages		1
Sausages, Sausage Meat, etc		THE
Fruit, Fruit Juice and Fruit Puree	3	3
Malt and Chocolate Spread	3	3
Cereals	5	2
Sweets	6	4
Cake	. 7	2

Pepper Flavoured Compound 1 4 Cocktail and Glace Cherries 2 1 Meat Pies 1 — Minerals, etc. 5 5 Gelatine and Jelly Crystals 2 1 Condensed Milk — 1 Beer, Wines and Spirits 7 — Potato Crisps 2 1 Baking Powder 2 2 Cochineal Colouring — 1 Condiments, Sauces, Pickles, Spices, etc. 12 14 Cheese 1 — Peanut Butter 1 1 — Panut Butter 1 1 — Pure Coffee, Coffee Extract and Coffee & Chicory 5 2 Flavouring Essence — 2 2 Pate-de-foie — 1 — Preserves 3 4 Meat 4 2 Mussels — 1 Arrowroot 1 —	HOISIVESSUE GHA HOL			Formal	Informal
Meat Pies 1 — Minerals, etc. 5 5 Gelatine and Jelly Crystals 2 1 Condensed Milk — 1 Beer, Wines and Spirits 7 — Potato Crisps 2 1 Baking Powder 2 2 Cochineal Colouring — 1 Condiments, Sauces, Pickles, Spices, etc. 12 14 Cheese 1 — Peanut Butter 1 1 Haricot Beans 1 — Pure Coffee, Coffee Extract and Coffee & Chicory 5 2 Flavouring Essence — 2 Pate-de-foie — 1 Preserves 3 4 Meat 4 2 Mussels — 1 Arrowroot 1 — Desiccated Coconut 2 1 Ovaltine Tablets 1 — Margarine 1 — Butter 1 — Parsley — 1	Pepper Flavoured Compound			1	4
Minerals, etc. 5 5 Gelatine and Jelly Crystals 2 1 Condensed Milk — 1 Beer, Wines and Spirits 7 — Potato Crisps 2 1 Baking Powder 2 2 Cochineal Colouring — 1 Condiments, Sauces, Pickles, Spices, etc. 12 14 Cheese 1 — Peanut Butter 1 1 Haricot Beans 1 — Pure Coffee, Coffee Extract and Coffee & Chicory 5 2 Flavouring Essence — 2 Pate-de-foie — 1 Preserves 3 4 Meat 4 2 Mussels — 1 Arrowroot 1 — Desiccated Coconut 2 1 Ovaltine Tablets 1 — Margarine 1 — Butter 1 — Parsley — 1 Frying Oil 1 1	Cocktail and Glace Cherries			2	1
Gelatine and Jelly Crystals 2 1 Condensed Milk — 1 Beer, Wines and Spirits 7 — Potato Crisps 2 1 Baking Powder 2 2 Cochineal Colouring — 1 Condiments, Sauces, Pickles, Spices, etc. 12 14 Cheese — 12 14 Cheese — 1 — Peanut Butter — 1 — Peanut Butter — 1 — Peanut Butter — 1 — Pure Coffee, Coffee Extract and Coffee & Chicory 5 2 Flavouring Essence — 2 2 Pate-de-foie — — 1 Preserves — 3 4 Meat — 4 2 Mussels — 1 — Arrowroot — 1 — Desiccated Coconut 2 1 — Ovaltine Tablets — 1 — <td< td=""><td>Meat Pies</td><td></td><td></td><td>1.</td><td></td></td<>	Meat Pies			1.	
Condensed Milk — 1 Beer, Wines and Spirits 7 — Potato Crisps 2 1 Baking Powder 2 2 Cochineal Colouring — 1 Condiments, Sauces, Pickles, Spices, etc. 12 14 Cheese 1 — Peanut Butter 1 — Pure Coffee, Coffee Extract and Coffee & Chicory 5 2 Flavouring Essence — 2 Pate-de-foie — 1 Preserves 3 4 Meat 4 2 Mussels — 1 Arrowroot 1 — Desiccated Coconut 2 1 Ovaltine Tablets 1 — Margarine 1 — Butter 1 — Parsley — 1	Minerals, etc			5	5
Beer, Wines and Spirits 7 — Potato Crisps 2 1 Baking Powder 2 2 Cochineal Colouring — 1 Condiments, Sauces, Pickles, Spices, etc. 12 14 Cheese — 1 — Peanut Butter — 1 — Peanut Butter — 1 — Pure Coffee, Coffee Extract and Coffee 5 2 Flavouring Essence — 2 Pate-de-foie — 1 Preserves 3 4 Meat 4 2 Mussels — 1 Arrowroot 1 — Desiccated Coconut 2 1 Ovaltine Tablets 1 — Margarine 1 — Butter 1 — Parsley — 1 Frying Oil 1 1 Mall Hilk 1 —	Gelatine and Jelly Crystals			2	1
Potato Crisps 2 1 Baking Powder 2 2 Cochineal Colouring — 1 Condiments, Sauces, Pickles, Spices, etc. — 12 14 Cheese — 1 — Peanut Butter — 1 — Pure Coffee, Coffee Extract and Coffee & Chicory 5 2 Flavouring Essence — 2 Pate-de-foie — 1 Preserves 3 4 Meat 4 2 Mussels — 1 Arrowroot 1 — Desiccated Coconut 2 1 Ovaltine Tablets 1 — Margarine 1 — Butter — 1 Frying Oil 1 1 Table	Condensed Milk			-	1
Potato Crisps 2 1 Baking Powder 2 2 Cochineal Colouring — 1 Condiments, Sauces, Pickles, Spices, etc. 12 14 Cheese — 1 — Peanut Butter — 1 — Peanut Butter — 1 — Peanut Butter — 1 — Pure Coffee, Coffee Extract and Coffee & Chicory 5 2 Flavouring Essence — 2 2 Pate-de-foie — 1 1 Preserves 3 4 Meat 4 2 Mussels — 1 Arrowroot 1 — Desiccated Coconut 2 1 Ovaltine Tablets 1 — Margarine 1 — Butter — 1 — Parsley — 1 — Frying Oil 1 1 1 Mall Milled Milk 1 —	Beer, Wines and Spirits			7	1-1
Cochineal Colouring 1 Condiments, Sauces, Pickles, Spices, etc. 12 14 Cheese 1 Peanut Butter 1 Peanut Butter 1 Pure Coffee <t< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>2</td><td>1</td></t<>				2	1
Condiments, Sauces, Pickles, 12 14 Cheese 1 — Peanut Butter 1 1 Haricot Beans 1 — Pure Coffee, Coffee Extract and Coffee & Chicory 5 2 Flavouring Essence — 2 Pate-de-foie — 1 Preserves 3 4 Meat 4 2 Mussels — 1 — Arrowroot 1 — Desiccated Coconut 2 1 Ovaltine Tablets 1 — Margarine 1 — 1 — Butter 1 — 1 — Parsley - 1 1 — Mall Milk 1 — <td< td=""><td>Baking Powder</td><td></td><td></td><td>2</td><td>2</td></td<>	Baking Powder			2	2
Spices, etc. 12 14 Cheese 1 — Peanut Butter 1 1 Haricot Beans 1 — Pure Coffee, Coffee Extract and Coffee 5 2 & Chicory 5 2 Flavouring Essence — 2 Pate-de-foie — 1 Preserves 3 4 Meat 4 2 Mussels — 1 Arrowroot 1 — Desiccated Coconut 2 1 Ovaltine Tablets 1 — Margarine 1 — Butter 1 — Parsley — 1 Frying Oil 1 1 Malt Milk 1 —	Cochineal Colouring				1
Cheese 1 — Peanut Butter 1 1 Haricot Beans 1 — Pure Coffee, Coffee Extract and Coffee 5 2 & Chicory 5 2 Flavouring Essence — 2 Pate-de-foie — 1 Preserves 3 4 Meat 4 2 Mussels — 1 Arrowroot 1 — Desiccated Coconut 2 1 Ovaltine Tablets 1 — Margarine 1 — Butter 1 — Parsley - 1 Frying Oil 1 1 Malt Milk 1 —	Condiments, Sauces, Pickles,				
Peanut Butter 1 1 Haricot Beans 1 — Pure Coffee, Coffee Extract and Coffee 5 2 & Chicory 5 2 Flavouring Essence — 2 Pate-de-foie — 1 Preserves 3 4 Meat 4 2 Mussels — 1 Arrowroot 1 — Desiccated Coconut 2 1 Ovaltine Tablets 1 — Margarine 1 — Butter 1 — Parsley — 1 Frying Oil 1 1 Malt Milk 1 —	Spices, etc				14
Haricot Beans 1 — Pure Coffee, Coffee Extract and Coffee 5 2 & Chicory 5 2 Flavouring Essence — 2 Pate-de-foie — 1 Preserves 3 4 Meat 4 2 Mussels — 1 Arrowroot 1 — Desiccated Coconut 2 1 Ovaltine Tablets 1 — Margarine 1 — Butter 1 — Parsley — 1 Frying Oil 1 1 Malt Milk 1 —	Cheese			1	
Pure Coffee, Coffee Extract and Coffee 5 2 & Chicory 5 2 Flavouring Essence — 2 Pate-de-foie — 1 Preserves 3 4 Meat 4 2 Mussels — 1 Arrowroot 1 — Desiccated Coconut 2 1 Ovaltine Tablets 1 — Margarine 1 — Butter 1 — Parsley — 1 Frying Oil 1 1 Malt Milk 1 —	Peanut Butter			1	1
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Preserves 3 4 Meat 4 2 Mussels - 1 Arrowroot 1 - Desiccated Coconut 2 1 Ovaltine Tablets 1 - Margarine 1 - Butter 1 - Parsley - 1 Frying Oil 1 1 Malt Milk 1 -					
Meat 4 2 Mussels 1 Arrowroot 1 Desiccated Coconut 2 1 Ovaltine Tablets 1 Margarine 1 Butter 1 Parsley 1 Frying Oil 1 1 Malt Milk 1					
Mussels — 1 Arrowroot — 1 — Desiccated Coconut 2 1 Ovaltine Tablets — 1 — Margarine — 1 — Butter — 1 — Parsley — 1 1 Frying Oil — 1 1 Malt Milk — 1 —		** *			
Arrowroot 1 — Desiccated Coconut 2 1 Ovaltine Tablets 1 — Margarine 1 — Butter 1 — Parsley - 1 Frying Oil 1 1 Malt Milk 1 —		•••		4	
Desiccated Coconut				*	1
Ovaltine Tablets				1	1
Margarine 1 — Butter 1 — Parsley — 1 Frying Oil 1 1 Malt Milk 1 —					1
Butter 1 — Parsley — 1 Frying Oil 1 1 Malt Milk 1 —					17 10000
Parsley — 1 Frying Oil 1 1 Malt Milk 1 —					Tim
Frying Oil 1 1 1 Malt Milk 1 1 —					9015
Malt Milk 1 —					1
					1
Fruit Pie					A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR
11411					1
Suet with Flour and Shredded Suet 4 —					
Fish and Vegetable Puree — 1					

Legal proceedings were instituted in respect of a bottle of milk containing foreign matter, and the defendants were fined £10 0s. 0d. and £3 3s. 0d. costs.

(d) Food Preparation Premises.

During the year 1,651 visits were made to restaurants, food shops and premises where food is manufactured for sale. The following is a summary of various improvements carried out at these premises.

Hot water supply provided or improved	 	7
Sinks provided	 	2
Floors, walls, ceilings, etc., repaired	 	6
Rooms cleansed	 	8
Water closets cleansed or repaired		7
Drains cleansed or repaired	 	3
D: 1 77 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		2
Accumulation of soft		2
Accommodation for storage of refuse imp		5
1		

Registration of Premises under Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

No. of premises registered for	r:-		
Sale or Manufacture of Ice Cream		 	1
Sale of Ice Cream		 	136
Preparation of Sausages, etc.		 	42

24 samples of Ice Cream were submitted for examination under the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND OTHER DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever.

During the year 150 cases were notified as compared with 135 the previous year. Of these 27 were isolated in hospitals and 123 were isolated at home.

No. of	deaths		 Nil
Return	cases	from Hospital cases	 Nil
Return	cases i	from home nursed cases	 6

During the past 15 years the character of this disease has changed from one of considerable severity to one characterised by its extreme mildness. The acute stage is, nowadays, in most cases, short and unaccompanied by high pyrexia and complications are in most cases mild or completely absent. Scarlet fever can now be disregarded as an important cause of acute endocarditis and acute nephritis which, in the past, were frequently encountered.

Diphtheria.

No cases were notified as compared with one in the previous year.

The following figures on Immunisation and Vaccination have been supplied by the County Medical Officer:—

Immunisation against Diphtheria and Vaccination against Smallpox, 1950.

The following is a return of (A) the number of children resident in the Borough of Bexley who were immunised against diphtheria and (B) the number of persons who were vaccinated against smallpox, during the year ended 31st December, 1950:—

(A) Diphtheria Immunisation.

Year of Birth	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	Total
Primary Inoculations Immunised in 1949 and received in 1950		809			21	32 1	34	8	6	3	1	2	=	=	=	1101 22
Reinforcing Inoculations Immunised in 1949 and received in 1950	=	=	2	1	26	322	146	37 4	19	11	6	11	10	7	12	610

(B) Vaccination.

Age at 31st December, 1950	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 or over	Total
Number Vaccinated	485	359	68	67	979
Number Re-Vaccinated		12	41	219	272

Immunisation against Diphtheria, 1950.

The following is a return of the number of children resident in the Borough of Bexley under the age of 15 years on 31st December, 1950, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (i.e., at any time since 1st January, 1936).

Year of Birth	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	Total
	1080	1091	1189	1130	1025	1007	1107	1212	1431	1481	1120	1317	1231	957	92	16,470

Enteric Fever.

There were no cases notified during the year.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

Two cases were notified during the year, from the Bexleyheath Maternity Hospital, where they were isolated and treated.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

One case was notified.

Measles.

304 cases were notified. Three cases were treated in hospital. There were no deaths.

Whooping Cough (Pertussis).

281 cases were notified, none of which was treated in hospital. There was 1 death but the case was not notified.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.

19 Cases were notified and were treated in hospital, 14 Paralytic and 5 Non-Paralytic. There were no deaths.

Scabies.

Seven cases were notified.

Food Poisoning.

Five cases were notified.

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 1950.

A ROMA A CARACTER STATE OF THE				CONTRACTOR DESCRIPTION	mary the year						
DISEASE.	Total cases notified	Under 1	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 & over	Age	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox		_	_	_	_	_					
Scarlet Fever	150		7	23	93	19	5	-		27	_
Diphtheria	-	-	-	_		7	_	_	_	_	
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	_	-	-	_	-	_	2		2	_
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	-	_		_	_	_			
Pneumonia	32	1	_	2	2	1	4	22		8	_
Acute Paralytic Poliomyelitis	14	_	_	3	7	2	2			14	
Acute Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis	5	-	_	1	i	ī	ī	1		5	
Erysipelas	22	-		_		_	4	18	_	1	-
Food Poisoning	5			-		1	_	4		i	-
Dysentery	1		-	-		î	_	_		Î	
Typhoid Fever	1			_		_	1			î	
Para-Typhoid Fever	3	1	_				î	1	_1	3	
Meningoceal Infection	1	_					î			1	
Measles	304	4	43	84	167	4	2			3	
Whooping Cough	281	8	60	90	116	1	2	4		_	
Scabies	7				1	î	9	3			
						1	-	0			1
Totals	829	15	110	203	390	31	25	55		67	
	-				000	O.L	20	00		01	

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year 128 new cases were notified.

Particulars relating to the same, and also to the deaths which occurred during 1950 are contained in the following table:—

Charles and the contract of		New	Cases		Deaths					
Age Period	Respi	iratory	No Respir		Respi	ratory	Non Respirator			
	M.	F.	М.	F.	M.	F.	М.	F.		
0— 1 5—10 5—10 5—20 5—25 5—35 5—45 5—65 5 and upwards		$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	- - 1 - - - - -	- - 1 - 4 2 1 1		- - - 1 - 2 2 - 1	1111111111	1		
Totals	69	47	3	9	11	6	_	1		

The number of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths was 2.

	Pulme	onary.	Non-Puli	monary.	Total
No on Posistan at	M	F	M	F	
No. on Register at commencement of year	454	329	68	69	920
No. on Register at end of year	511	362	70	73	1,016

Rehousing.

10 cases were referred to me by the Chest Physician for rehousing and in two cases the families were rehoused by the Housing Committee.



BOROUGH OF BEXLEY

COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION

Annual Report

on the

School Health Services

For the Year 1950

JOHN LANDON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.II.

Medical Officer of Health

WELFARE AND SCHOOL ATTENDANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman: Alderman R. G. Broomfield.

Vice-Chairman: Miss M. Woodward.

Alderman J. Cronin Alderman Mrs. A. Welch Councillor A. S. Masey Councillor W. G. Searle Councillor Mrs. E. Boswell
Councillor M. J. Corr
Councillor J. M. Pawson

Co-opted Members:

Miss D. C. Collins

Revd. H. Charleston

STAFF 1950

Borough Education Officer Deputy Borough Education

... W. E. D. Stephens, M.A.

Officer Education Welfare Officers ... R. R. Sutton.
... M. D. H. Garrett, R. W. Forbes,
R. N. Harrison.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

-

Medical Officer of Health

... John Landon, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers

Robert Bruce Killoh, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Part time).

Nora Walter (née Kelly) M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.C.H. (Part time).

Irene D. M. Hastilow, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.R.C.O.G., D.C.H. (Whole time)

Lucy M. C. Boyd, M.B., Ch.B., Appointed locum tenens 21.8.50 to 22.12.50 (Appointed permanently 8.1.51).

Ophthalmic Surgeon ...

.. Roland M. Chambers, M.B., B.S., D.O.M.S.

Aural Surgeon

W. MacGregor, O.B.E., V.D., M.B.

Orthopædic Surgeon

... K. F. Hulbert, F.R.C.S. B. Lawson, F.R.C.S., (from 9.10.50).

Dental Officers	H. Wade, L.D.S. T. A. Hall, L.D.S. (Part time). Elizabeth Francis, B.D.S., L.D.S. (Appointed 2.10.50).
Orthodontist	Gordon Charles Dickson, L.D.S., B.Ch.D., F.D.S., R.C.S. England.
Health Visitors	Mrs. E. A. Bowman, S.R.N., and Health Visitor's Certificate. (Retired 31.3.50). Miss K. P. Hart, S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitor's Certificate. Mrs. V. Waters, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Temporary) (Resigned 15.4.50). Mrs. A. E. Matthews, S.R.N. (Temporay). Miss P. D. Martin, S.R.N., and Health Visitor's Certificate. (Part time from 1.5.50). Miss C. T. Heymann, S.R.N., and Health Visitor's Certificate. (Part time from 1.5.50). Miss L. G. Exley, S.R.N., and Health Visitor's Certificate. (Part time from 1.5.50). Miss D. Stanley, S.R.N., and Health Visitor's Certificate. (Part time from 1.5.50). Mrs. C. A. Tucker, S.R.N., and Health Visitor's Certificate. (Part time from 1.5.50). Mrs. M. T. Leyton, S.R.N., and Health Visitor's Certificate. (Part time from 1.5.50). Miss M. Beer, S.R.N., and Health Visitor's Certificate. (Part time from 1.5.50). Miss M. Beer, S.R.N., and Health Visitor's Certificate. (Part time from 1.5.50).
Physiotherapist	Miss R. Cheeseman, M.C.S.P., M.S.R.
Speech Therapist	Mrs. D. Rant, L.C.S.T.
Dental Attendants	Mrs. Ivy Birtchnell. Miss K. M. Dunkley.
School Health Service Clcrk	Miss M. C. A. Smith.
General Clerks	Miss C. E. Anderson. Miss E. M. Pearmine (Resigned 1.5.50). Mrs. A. L. A. Baldry (Appointed 1.5.50).

REPORT ON THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE DURING THE YEAR 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of the Welfare and School Attendance Sub-Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my annual report for the year 1950.

The shortage of dental surgeons in the School Health Service was relieved, to some extent, during the year by the appointment of Mrs. E. Francis, L.D.S., to the Little Danson Dental Clinic for seven sessions per week. While it is fully appreciated that the shortage of dental officers is a difficulty experienced over the whole country it is, nevertheless, necessary to say that the dental services for schoolchildren in the Borough remain inadequate and that it has not been possible to maintain the high standards of dental care which have been provided, in the past. The effect of this, if continued indefintely, can only be a serious deterioration in the dental health of the schoolchildren, and it is sincerely hoped that recruitment into this branch of the service will improve in the near future. It is encouraging to note that plans are being made for the provision of an additional dental clinic at Murchison Avenue and it is hoped that, in due course, the staff for this clinic will also be forthcoming.

To relieve the pressure on the Orthopaedic Centre at the Station Approach Clinic an additional Orthopaedic Clinic was provided at 315, The Broadway, Bexleyheath, and this has facilitated the treatment of many children suffering from orthopaedic defects.

During the year 19 cases of acute anterior poliomyelitis occurred in the Borough, mostly in the Welling area and immunisation was discontinued at the Clinics in this part of the Borough during the period of maximum incidence. Reference to this matter and also to the suspension of tonsillectomy are referred to in the foreword to the first part of the Annual Report.

The School Health Service has continued to operate with great activity during the year. Staff changes have necessitated a re-arrangement of clinic duties and steps were taken during the year to use the services, in the School Health work, of Health Visitors previously

engaged entirely on Maternity and Child Welfare duties. This is a desirable development and makes possible for the children a continuity of care from birth to school leaving age by the same health visitor; it is also desirable from the Health Visitor's point of view.

There were no serious epidemics during the year and the health of the schoolchildren has, on the whole, been satisfactory. The special needs of the many categories of handicapped children continues to be a major pre-occupation of the staff and reference to the statistical report will give some indication of the extent and scope of this work.

Once again, during the year, it was possible to admit a large number of children to Convalescent Homes and Open Air Schools, and for these valuable facilities I acknowledge with thanks the help which we have received from the Education Department.

The investigation into the health of schoolchildren which is proceeding in the Borough of Bexley under the aegis of the Kent Paediatric Society continues to make progress and a stage has now been reached when interviews are being arranged with approximately 200 families of Bexley schoolchildren. The first part of the investigation relating to the Incidence of Health has been completed and our enquiry into the Causation of Health is proving to be a very fascinating part of our work. A report will in due course be published which should be of great interest to all who are concerned with the health of schoolchildren and indeed with health in general.

Once again, I have to record the excellent team work of all members of the staff on which the success of the School Health Service so largely depends and finally, I wish to express my appreciation of the help and encouragement which I have received during the year from the Chairman and Members of the Committee, from Miss Smith, the Senior Clerk, and from the County Medical Officer and his staff, whose help and co-operation during the year have been a very valuable asset.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

John Landon, Medical Officer of Health.

KENT EDUCATION COMMITTEE EXCEPTED DISTRICT OF BEXLEY.

Schools.	
Six County Secondary Schools with seven departments.	
Average number on Roll at 31st December, 1950	3,106
Twenty-three County Primary Departments. Average number on Roll at 31st December, 1950	
One Nursery Class attached to Uplands Primary School.	5.9
Average number on Roll	53
Bexley County Technical School for Girls. Average number on Roll: Bexley	817 191
Wilmington Annexe	191
Total	11,508
Clinics.	
Minor Ailments.	
Welling—Little Danson, Dansington Road. Tuesday and Wednesday, 2-4 p.m. Monday and Saturday, 9.30-11 a.m. Doctor in attendance — Wednesday	and
Saturday.	
Bexleyheath—315, Broadway. Tuesday, 2-4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sat 9.30-11 a.m.	urday
Doctor in attendance—Tuesday and Sat	urday.
Bexley—Murchison Avenue. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9.30-11	a.m.
Doctor in attendance—Friday.	
Dental.	
Welling—Little Danson, Dansington Road. By appointment.	
Bexleyheath—315, Broadway. Thursday and Friday, 9.30-11 a.m., 2-4 Saturday, 9.30-11 a.m. Extraction Session—Friday morning.	p.m.
Crayford—Woodside Road. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 9.30-11 2-4 p.m.	a.m.,

Sunlight Clinic.

Bexleyheath—315, Broadway.
Tuesday and Thursday, 10-12 noon.

Specialist's Clinics.

Ophthalmic.

Welling—Little Danson, Dansington Road.

Monday, 2-4 p.m.

Thursday and Friday, 9.30-11 a.m., 2-4 p.m.

Appointments made from Office.

Orthopædic.

Welling-Station Approach.

Wednesday, 9.30-11 a.m., 2-4 p.m. Thursday and Saturday, 9.30-11 a.m.

Specialist in attendance 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Appointments made through County Medical Officer.

Bexleyheath—315, Broadway.

Monday, 2-5 p.m.

Specialist in attendance 1st and 3rd Monday, 10 a.m.-12.30 p.m.

(This clinic commenced on the 9th October, 1950.)

Aural.

Welling—Little Danson, Dansington Road. Tuesday morning, 9.30-11 a.m. Appointments made from Office. (Discontinued 16.4.51.)

Speech.

Welling-Wrotham Road.

Friday, 9.30-12 noon, 2-4 p.m.

Appointments made through County Medical Officer.

Child Guidance.

Crayford—Woodside Road.

Clinics held daily.

Appointments made through County Medical Officer.

CO-ORDINATION.

In spite of the transfer of the Maternity and Child Welfare Services from the local Council to the Kent County Council, a satisfactory degree of co-ordination of effort between the School Health Service and the Infant Welfare Services has been maintained as a result of the co-operative attitude of all members of the Staff concerned.

Periodic Medical Inspections. See Table 1.

The successful carrying out of routine medical inspections was made possible by the excellent cooperation of Head Teachers and their staffs and it is true to say that this is now regarded as an integral part of the school curriculum. It is at these inspections that the greatest number of defects are discovered and where a great deal of information is obtained in regard to the school children by discussions with the parents.

Generally speaking, it was found that entrants, 8-year-olds and 11-year-olds showed a uniformly high standard of personal hygiene. Clothing was good and clean and the incidence of skin diseases very low. In only a few cases was it necessary to record a defect in clothing or of footwear.

The attendance of parents at routine medical inspections was good, being practically 100 per cent. in the case of entrants, but as might be expected there was a falling off in the case of senior children.

There is no great change in the findings at routine medical inspections in the schools and the proportion of children classified as A, B and C remains roughly the same. Dental caries constitutes the principal cause of defect with Ear, Nose and Throat conditions remaining second on the list. Of the deformities, flat feet and genu valgum are decreasing in frequency and scoliosis is hardly ever seen.

School Meals-1950.

Average number of pupils in attendance: -

Primary Schools				 7,341 3,106
Secondary Schools	****	and tall	.790.50	10.447

Average number of pupils taking meals daily : -

		Primary	Secondary
(1) Free		 120	162
(2) Payment	3 S	 3,024	2,412
	Total	 3,144	2,574

Milk.

Average number of pupi	ils taking mi	ilk dail	y:—	
Primary				6,703
Secondary				2,834
	,	Total		9,537

Work of the Ophthalmic Clinic.

I am indebted to Mr. R. M. Chambers, M.B., B.S., D.O.M.S., for the following report:—

During the year 2,697 examinations were made on 1,799 children from 0 to 16 years of age, an increase of ten per cent. on the previous year's figures.

A total of 588 new cases were seen and 549 prescriptions were dispensed (including old and new cases).

An analysis of the refractive errors in this community which required correction showed:—

Hypermetropia ... 12.5% (237 cases).

Myopia ... 14.3% (256 cases).

Mixed Astigmatism ... 2.2% (39 cases).

Astigmatism ... 38.0% (213 cases) in all corrected cases.

A survey of higher degrees of ametropia showed:—
Hypermetropia (Over 6 Dioptres) ... 13 cases.
Myopia (Over 5 Dioptres) ... 19 cases.
Astigmatism (4 Dioptres and over) 14 cases.

High astigmatic and myopic errors were twice as common in girls as in boys, but this sex ratio was reversed in high hypermetropia. These figures correspond closely with those obtained by other authorities working with larger numbers in different urban areas.

A number of circulars were printed dealing with the broad principles of treatment of myopes and appear to have been of some help to parents concerned. The incidence of amblyopia and squint has not altered significantly (Squint 12%).

There is still a number of cases of squint, etc., that could be cured were it not for the difficulty of obtaining orthoptic treatment. I stressed the need in my report two years ago and again wish to draw attention to the desirability of an orthoptic clinic in this area.

A number of interesting cases presented themselves:

- 1. Three (unrelated) cases of arachnodactyly, oxycephaly, etc. Parents were warned of the ophthalmic complications that may develop.
- 2. Tay's Choroiditis.
- 3. Traumatic Horner's syndrome with contralateral anhydrosis.
- 4. Migraine associated with paroxysmal altitudinal hemianopia.
- 5. Binocular vision in presence of 5 dioptres of anisometropia.
- 6. Macular pigmentation with high hypermetropia.
- 7. Nystagmus and word blindness of cerebellar origin.
- 8. Early arcuate opacities in a Mongol.

Orthopædic Clinic.

I am indebted to Mr. K. F. Hulbert, F.R.C.S., for the following report on the Orthopædic Clinic:—

The Orthopaedic Clinic at Welling has been continued throughout the year on the first and second Wednesday mornings of the month and the waiting list has been considerably reduced by the running of a second Clinic in Bexleyheath under the direction of Mr. B. Lawson, F.R.C.S.

Our work is still severely cramped and hindered by the shortage of accommodation, which is totally inadequate for the number of cases with which we now have to deal, and it is impossible to undertake any more treatments than we now do, because the treatment rooms will not hold any more children.

There has been no marked change in the type of case coming for treatment, but the rising cost of shoes is

now becoming a serious problem for children who, because of some defect or other, wear their shoes out very rapidly.

Miss Cheeseman has carried out the Physiotherapy with keenness and efficiency throughout the year, for which we all should be very grateful.

Dental Treatment.

I am indebted to Mr. Dickson, L.D.S., Orthodontist, for the following report:—

An orthodontic clinic has been held for approximately one half day per week at Little Danson Clinic. 200 patients are now under treatment, the maximum number which can be dealt with in this time. The waiting list is increasing as new cases cannot be commenced until current ones are completed.

A greater number are now being treated by fixed appliances, thus extending the scope of the work, but for reasons of economy of surgery time the bulk of cases are treated by removable appliances, made in the Maidstone workshop.

Excellent lateral skull radiographs taken by the radiologist of the West Hill Hospital, Dartford, have greatly assisted in the diagnosis of difficult cases — a co-operation which is much appreciated.

In my opinion at least one and a half days a week would be necessary to satisfactorily keep up with the demand for orthodontic treatment at this clinic alone.

I am indebted to Mr. Wade, L.D.S., Dental Surgeon, for the following report:—

I have to submit my fourth annual short report upon the work of the Dental Clinics allotted to me. The year under review has been a very full one and the shortage of Dental Surgeons in the Borough is being felt more acutely year by year and there appears to be no prospect of this position improving.

Maternity and Child Welfare. The attendances by these classes of patient continues to grow and their treatment reflects adversely upon the school population.

Education. Once again I stress that, in my opinion, a few lectures arranged by the Senior County Dental Officer to parents and the older school age groups would do much towards the dental hygiene of your Borough.

Orthodontic Treatment. The treatments in this branch are behind hand, brought about chiefly by the County Dental Laboratory being unable, until recently, to cope with making the necessary appliances. Headway is again being made.

Cases of Interest. A child aged about five years presented a very thickened upper lip. On examination the upper aspect of the orbicularis oris was found to be adhering to the pre-maxilla area and the lower incisors biting into it. This appears to be a rare congenital condition and it was referred to hospital for surgical interference.

Many parents are bringing their children showing green pigmentation of the deciduous teeth and brown pigmentation of the dentine in permanent teeth. Recent investigation has been carried out upon the green pigmentation and it appears to have been established that the Rhesus factor is responsible. Of the brown staining, research appears to have established that fluorine in the water supply is responsible. No doubt the fluorine in the water supply of your Borough has already received your attention.

I have received every assistance in the running of the clinics and to you, personally, I express my thanks for the help you have given.

Cleanliness Inspections.

(See Table V.)

During the year the School Nurses carried out 15,921 examinations of children in Schools and 323 were found to have some infestation with vermin. In nearly all cases, the condition was cleared up by parents who were assisted, where necessary, by the School Nurses. The infestation rate is commendably low and speaks well for the standard of child care in the Borough.

Physical Education.

I am indebted to the Borough Education Officer for the following report.

In all the maintained schools in the Borough, the standards of physical education continue to rise, although the economy measures imposed by the County Council have made it difficult to ensure that all children change into rubber shoes and where appropriate, into shorts and singlets.

At a number of primary schools out-door climbing and agility apparatus has been installed and good use is being made of this. A number of schools have held displays of physical education and many parents and citizens of the Borough have had an opportunity of seeing the pleasing results of modern methods of physical education. Particular thanks are due to the efforts of the two physical training Advisers, Miss H. Foster and Mr. J. Loughran. They have held a number of courses for teachers in this and neighbouring areas, the results of which are becoming increasingly apparent.

Swimming.

During the year 1950, schools in the Borough again took advantage of the facilities available for swimming. Ten Primary Departments and six Secondary Departments used the Charlton Park, Eltham Park, Plumstead and Danson Baths. A total of 537 swimming certificates were issued during the year, compared with 300 in 1948 and 416 in 1949.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES.

Statistical Tables.

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Schools.

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Table VI - Handicapped Children.

A. Children 5-16 years.

B. Children 2 years-4 years 11 months.

TABLE I.

Medical Inspection of Pupils Attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools.

A. — Periodic Medical Inspections.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed	Groups:
Entrants	1,193
Second Age Group	1,120
Third Age Group	832
Total	3,145
Number of other Periodic Inspections	2,158
Grand Total	5,303
B. — Other Inspections.	
Number of Special Inspections	5,157
Number of Re-inspections	5,011
Total	10,168

C. — Pupils Found to Require Treatment at Periodic Medical Inspections.

Group	For defective vision (excluding squint)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA	Total individual pupils
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants	 34	694	453
Second Age Group	 62	557	430
Third Age Group	 82	660	415
Total (prescribed groups)	 178	1,911	1,298
Other Periodic Inspections	 229	1,562	1,016
Grand Total	 407	3,473	2 314

TABLE II.

A. — Return of Defects Found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended the 31st December, 1950.

	-		Since Line		
	PERI	ODIC TIONS	SPECIAL IN	NSPECTIONS	
	No. of	defects	No. of defects		
Defect Code Defect or Disease No.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment		Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment	
4. Skin	314	212	220	24	
5. Eyes— a. Vision	407	389	253	3	
b. Squint	38	65	14		
c. Other	136	42	118	12	
6. Ears—		00	00	0	
a. Hearing	73	62	29	7	
b. Otitis Media	22 37	26 94	49 26	1	
c. Other	414	723	363	9 7 4 88 3 5	
7. Nose or Throat	20	49	9	3	
8. Speech 9. Cervical Glands	26	457	12	5	
10. Heart and	20				
Circulation	97	115	55	36	
11. Lungs	101	265	123	74	
12. Developmental —	anolinen.		-	7	
a. Hernia	21	55	1 5	7 6	
b. Other	94	286	5	-0	
13. Orthopædic—	761	192	22	9	
a. Posture b. Flat-foot	558	148	27	4	
c. Other	559	203	80	17	
14. Nervous system—	000		2		
a. Epilepsy	3	12	1	3	
b. Other	24	75	26	12	
15. Psychological—	7				
a. Develop-		00	0	4	
ment	6	28	9 56	39	
b. Stability	33 302	109 345	340	202	
16. Other	502	040	940	-	

B. — Classification of the General Condition of Pupils Inspected during the Year in the Age Croups.

Gin Hab	No. of		A. ood)	(F:	air)	(Po	or)
Age Groups	Pupils Inspe- cted	No.	of col. 2	No. (5)	% of col. 2 (6)	No.	% of col. 2
Entrants	1193	404	33.86	673	56.41	116	9.73
Second Age Group	1120	350	31.25	669	59.73	101	9,02
Third Age Group	832	352	42.30	441	53.00	39	4.70
Other Periodic Inspections	2158	724	33.54	1238	57.37	196	9.09
Total	5303	1830	34.50	3021	56.96	452	8.52

TABLE III.—Treatment Tables.

Group I-Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table V).

Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.

SKIN-

Ringworm—Scalp—			
(i) X-Ray treatment			-
(ii) Other treatment			_
Ringworm—Body			21
Scabies		Lemen	3
Impetigo	***	***	18
Other skin diseases			351
тот	AL		393

Croup II—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Eye Disease treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).
No. of defects dealt with
(1) Errors of Refraction (including squint) 1,797
(2) Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group 1) 12
Total 1,809
(3) No. of Pupils for whom spectacles were
(a) Prescribed 455
(b) Obtained 383
Group III—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.
Total number treated
Received operative treatment—
(a) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis 96
(b) for other nose and throat conditions —
Received other forms of treatment 444
Total 540
Group IV-Orthopædic and Postural Defects.
(a) No. treated as in-patients in hospital 12
(b) No. treated otherwise e.g. in clinics or out-patient departments 629
TABLE IV.
Dental Inspection and Treatment.
(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers—
(a) Periodic age groups 2,165
(b) Specials 677
Total 2,842

	1 000
(2) Number found to require treatment	1,675
(3) Number referred for treatment	1,675
(4) Number actually treated	2,060
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	6,656
(6) Half-days devoted to (a) Inspection	11
(b) Treatment	670
Total	681
Total	001
(7) Eilings Bonnonent Tooth	1,404
(7) Fillings: Permanent Teeth	275
Temporary Teeth	210
Total	1,679
The state of the s	
(8) Number of teeth filled: Permanent Teeth	1,368
Temporary Teeth	270
Total	1,638
(9) Extractions: Permanent Teeth	616
Temporary Teeth	3,501
Total	4,117
rotar	4,111
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for	
extraction	1,472
(11) Other operations: Permanent Teeth	561
Temporary Teeth	406
Temporary Teem	100
Total	967
Scalings 24 \	
Cleaning 9	
Polishing 29	
Root Dressings 34	067
Teeth Crowned 1	967
Dressings:	
Permanent Teeth 464	
Temporary Teeth 406	

Orthodontic.				
Attendances for mechanical	l appli	ances		 1,144
Completely Treated		("ellen	iii.	 5
Impressions		1		
Upper				 126
Lower				 106
				 5
Try-ins				 9
Dentures Fitted—Upper				 20
Dentures Repaired				 1
Examination and Advice				 305
Appliances Fitted—Upper				 94
Lower				 4
Remakes—Upper				 5
Lower				 2
Repairs				 20
Adjustments				 473
	,			
TAB	LE V.			
Infestation	with V	ermin.		
(i) Total number of ex- schools by the school authorised persons	ol nur	ses or	other	15,921
(ii) Total number of indito be infested				323
(iii) Number of individual whom cleansing notice tion 54 (2), Education	es were	e issued	a land	
(iv) Number of individual whom cleansing order tion 54 (3), Education	s were	issued	l (Sec-	_

TABLE VI.

Physically Handicapped Children.

Population: 5 yrs. to 16 yrs.

Table AI

No. of children ages 5 yrs. to 16 yrs.

	(1)	(2)		3) t			4) Rome		1	(5)		
Defects		At Ordin- ary schools		At Day special schools		Residential special schools		(a) Having home teaching		(b) Not having home teaching		Totals		
	В.	G.	В	G.	В.	G.	В.	G.	В.	G.	В.	G.	Tota	
Congenital Heart Rheumatic Heart Haemophilia	1	2	1	1			12 m	2001	1	1	2 - 1	2 2	4 2 1	
Cerebral Palsy (including athetosis)	0	1	1	1	3		2	3	3		9	4	13	
Poliomyelitis Muscular Dystrophy Muscular Atrophy Spinabifida	3	1	1			1	1		1		5 1 —	2 	7 1 —	
Osteomyelitis Hydrocephalus Fragilitas Ossium		1	1				100	1	***		1	_ 1 1	1 1 1	
Achondroplasia Arthrogryphosis Perthe's Disease Tb. joints Talipes	1	1	1	1					2		1 - 1 3 -	- - 1 1	1 4 1	
Cong. Dislocation hips Cong. deformities: (a) arms and hands	1	1			1						1	1	2 1	
(b) legs and feet Amputations: (a) legs (b) arms Rheumatoid arthritis	1	1									1 1	1 -	1 1 1	
including Still's disease Septic arthritis Fractured Skull Brain Tumour Friedrich's Ataxia	100 000				1						_ _ _ 1		_ _ _ 1	
Others (specify)		1	1			2					1	3	4	
TOTAL	8	8	6	3	5	3	3	4	7	1	30	19	49	

No. of P	.H. childr who are							
(1)	R	esidential 1	NAT.	Totals			
*Day PI	H. schools	For serious	a) sly crippled g Hinwick all	For less crippled e.g. Victo	seriously children ria Home, emouth			
Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total
_	_	_			_	1	_	1

^{*} P.H. children who are sent to day open air schools because there are no accessible day P.H. schools should be included under this heading.

Table AIII

	Totals					
No. of seriously P.H. children for whom home teaching	Boys	Girls	Total			
admission to special schools)	_	1	1			

Table AIV

	+ [Totals			
		Boys	Girls	Total	
No. of P.H. children in bed at home		 _	_	_	

Table AV

	Resi	ady in dential .H. nools	admi t Resid	iting ission o lential ools	is b	me hing	Totals		
	В.	G.	В.	G.	В.	G.	В.	G.	Total
How many have incontinence of :-		-	-						-
(1) Bladder				100	192	144	-		-
(2) Bowel			-				-	-	-
(3) Both							-	-	-
How many are chair cases:									1000
(1) Self-propelled				1	181		-	-	-
(2) Push chairs		1	1	1	1	2	2	4	6
How many with crutches or two									1
sticks	3					100	3	-	3
How many are:	1						100	1622	1
P.H. + E.S.N			1	1		1	1	2	3
P.H. + Epileptic				1			-	-	-
P.H. + Maladjusted				10.			-	-	-
P.H. + Blind		1					-	-	
P.H. + Pt. Sighted				1000			-	-	-
P.H. + Deaf	18		17/10		1		-	-	-
P.H. + Pt. Deaf				1			-	-	-
P.H. + More than one other		1	-	122	-	-24-00	12773	-	
defect					2		2	_	2

^{*} Excluding those who are waiting admission to special schools.

TABLE VI.

Physically Handicapped Children.

Population: 2 yrs. to 4 yrs. 11 mths.

Table BI

No. of children ages 2 yrs. to 4 yrs. 11 mths.

	(1)	(2)		3) Lt			4) Iome			(5)	
Defects	At Ordin- ary schools		At Day special schools		Residential special schools including hospital schools		(a) Having home teaching		(b) Not having home teaching		Totals		
	В.	G.	В.	G.	В.	G.	В.	G.	В.	G.	В.	G.	Total
Congenital Heart Rheumatic Heart Haemophilia Cerebral Palsy (including athetosis) Poliomyelitis Muscular Dystrophy Muscular Atrophy Spinabifida Osteomyelitis Hydrocephalus Fragilitas Ossium Achondroplasia Arthrogryphosis Perthe's Disease Tb. joints Talipes Cong. Dislocation hips Cong. deformities: (a) arms and hands (b) legs and feet Amputations: (a) legs (b) arms Rheumatoid arthritis including Still's									1 1 1 1 1	6 2 1 2 1 3 1	- - - 1 - - 1 - - 1 - - - - - - - -	6 - 2 - 1 - - 2 - - 1 - - 3 1 -	6 — 2 1 1 — 1 3 — — 2 — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
disease Septic arthritis Fractured Skull Brain Tumour Friedrich's Ataxia Others (specify)										1		_ _ _ _ 1	_ _ _ _ _ I
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	17	6	17	23

No. of P.H. children at home, or at Ordinary schools, who are waiting admission to:-(1) Residential P.H. schools Totals (b) For less seriously crippled children e.g. Victoria Home, * Day P.H. schools For seriously crippled children, e.g. Hinwick Bournemouth Girls Total Boys Girls Boys Girls Boys Girls Boys * P.H. children who are sent to day open air schools because there are no accessible day P.H. schools should be included under this heading. Table BIII Totals No. of seriously P.H. children for whom home teaching Boys Girls Total is the best provision (excluding those who are waiting admission to special schools) Table BIV Totals Girls Total Boys No. of P.H. children in bed at home Table BV Waiting *For whom Already in admission Home Residential teaching Totals to P.H. Residential is best schools schools provision Total B. G. B. G. G. B. G. How many have incontinence of :-(1) Bladder (2) Bowel (3) Both ... How many are chair cases: (1) Self-propelled (2) Push chairs... How many with crutches or two sticks How many are: P.H. + E.S.N. ... P.H. + Epileptic P.H. + Maladjusted P.H. + Blind P.H. + Pt. Sighted P.H. + Deaf ... P.H. + Pt. Deaf P.H. + More than one other defect

^{*} Excluding those who are waiting admission to special schools.

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