[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Crayford].

Contributors

Crayford (London, England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

[1946?]

Persistent URL

https://wellcomecollection.org/works/yhm4y2tw

License and attribution

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

Non-commercial use includes private study, academic research, teaching, and other activities that are not primarily intended for, or directed towards, commercial advantage or private monetary compensation. See the Legal Code for further information.

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



AUXU17(3) (PA) (PA)

HEALTH A =9 OCT 1946 Q.R. 25



Urban District of Crayford

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1945

BY

C. M. OCKWELL

M.D. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.), D.P.H. (Camb).

The Sparta Press, Crayford.





Urban District of Crayford

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1945

BY

C. M. OCKWELL

M.D. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.), D.P.H. (Camb).

Crayford Urban District Council.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council and Health Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my twenty-fifth Annual Report.

As this is my first report since the cessation of hostilities, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking those who assisted in the work of the Civil Defence First Aid Services:—The Kent County Council and the Crayford Urban District Council for their help and guidance in co-ordinating the Scheme.

The St. John Ambulance Brigade, and the Women's Nursing Division of St. John's—these Divisions formed the nucleus of the First Aid Services, and I appreciate the help given me by the Superintendents and the members.

The Women's Voluntary Service for the help rendered through their contact with the public. It is with regret that I record that three of the members lost their lives and two were seriously injured whilst carrying out their duties.

To the personnel of the First Aid Posts and Ambulance Service, to the Staff of the Public Health Department for the duties so ably carried out and to all who gave their assistance I express my appreciation, and I am deeply grateful for their loyalty and co-operation during the war period.

I am,

Your obedient Servant.

C. M. OCKWELL, Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

| | Area (in acres) |) | | | 2,6 | 98.71 |
|------|-----------------|------------------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| | Population (Ce | nsu s 198 | 31) | | 15,8 | 396 |
| | Population esti | mated | | | 23,0 | 30 |
| | Number of inh | abited h | ouses | | 7,0 | 82 |
| | Rateable Value | | | | £155,6 | 53 |
| Sum | represented by | a penny | rate | | £6 | 25 |
| Live | Births | | | T . 1 | | |
| | | | | Total | M. | F. |
| | Legitimate | | | 405 | 194 | 211 |
| | Illegitimate | | | 27 | 14 | 13 |
| | | | | | - | - |
| | | | | 432 | 208 | 224 |

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 18.8.

General birth rate for England and Wales 16.1.

Stillbirths

| | | Total | M. | F. |
|--------------|------|-------|----|----|
| Legitimate | | 12 | 8 | 4 |
| Illegitimate | | _ | _ | _ |

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 27.3.

| | | Total | M. | F. |
|--------|------|-------|----|----|
| Deaths | | 170 | 94 | 76 |

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 7.4.

General death rate for England and Wales 11.4.

Deaths from puerperal causes.

| Puerperal Sepsis | — |
|--|------|
| Other puerperal causes | |
| Other Maternal Causes | |
| | |
| Death rate of infants under one year of age :- | |
| All infants, per 1,000 live births | 23.1 |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate | |
| live births | 19.8 |
| Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate | |
| live births | 69 |
| General death rate of infants under 1 | |
| year of age for England and Wales | 46 |
| Death from Cancer (all ages) | 30 |
| Death from Measles (all ages) | 0 |
| Death from Whooping Cough (all ages) | 2 |
| Death from Diarrhoea (under 2 years | |
| of age) | 0 |

Vital Statistics during 1945 and previous years.

| | | LIVE BIRTHS | | | DEATHS | | INF | ANT DEA | THS | |
|-------|------------|-----------------|-------|-----------------|-----------------|------|------------------|-----------------|------|-----------------|
| Year | Population | No. C.U.D.C. | | TE Eng. & W. | No. C.U.D.C. | | ATE Eng. & W. | No. C.U.D.C. | | TE Eng. & W. |
| 1939* | 25,200 | 458 | 18.26 | 15 | 194 | 9.4 | 12.1 | 16 | 35.4 | 50 |
| 1940* | 23,770 | 428 | 18 | 14.6 | 256 | 13.8 | 14.3 | 16 | 38.9 | 55 |
| 1941* | 22,380 | 347 | 15.5 | 14.2 | 227 | 10.1 | . 12.9 | 20 | 59.7 | 59 |
| 1942 | 22,840 | 441 | 19.3 | 15.8 | 193 | 8.5 | 11.6 | 20 | 45.3 | 49 |
| 1943 | 22,850 | 431 | 18.9 | 16.5 | 223 | 9.8 | 12.1 | 18 | 41.8 | 49 |
| 1944 | 21,910 | 507 | 23.1 | 17.6 | 243 | 11.1 | 11.6 | 21 | 41.4 | 46 |
| 1945 | 23,030 | 432 | 18.8 | 16.1 | 170 | 7.4 | 11.4 | 10 | 23.1 | 46 |

^{*} Instructions were issued by the Registrar General for these particular years, giving certain alternative figures for calculation of these statistics.

Table showing Summary of Causes of Death registered during the year ended 31st December, 1945.

| | CAUSES OF DEA | TH. | | | Male | Female |
|-----|--------------------------------|----------|---------|--------|------|--------|
| 1. | Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fe | vers | | | _ | _ |
| 2. | Cerebrospinal fever | | | | | 1 |
| 3. | Scarlet fever | | | | | _ |
| 4. | Whooping cough | *** | *** | | 2 | - |
| 5. | Diphtneria | | | | | - |
| 6. | Tuperculosis of respiratory sy | stem | | | 5 | 5 |
| 7. | Other form of tuberculosis | | | | 1 | 1 |
| 8. | Syphlitic diseases | | | | 1 | _ |
| 9. | Innuenza | | | *** | 3 | 2 |
| .0. | Measles | | | | _ | |
| 1. | | encepha | litis | | | _ |
| 2. | Acute Infantile encaphalitis | | | | _ | - |
| 3. | Cancer of buccal cavity and | oesopha | gus (M) |) | | 7 |
| | Uterus (F) | | | | 1 . | 2 |
| 4. | Cancer of stomach and duode | num | | | 3 | _ |
| 5. | Cancer of breast | | | | | 2 |
| .6. | Cancer of all other sites | | | | 13 | 9 |
| .7. | | *** | | | - 1 | 1 |
| 8. | Intracranial vascular lesions | | *** | | 6 | 8 |
| 19. | Heart disease | | *** | | 30 | 22 |
| 20. | Other diseases of circularity | system | | | | 1 |
| 21. | 73 7 7 7 7 | | | | 5 | 2 |
| 22. | Pneumonia | | | | 2 | 2 |
| 23. | Other respiratory diseases | | | | 1 | 1 |
| 24. | Ulcer of stomach or duodenui | | | | 2 | _ |
| 25. | Diarrhoea under 2 years | | | | | |
| 26. | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| 27. | Other disgestive diseases | | *** | | 1 | 2 |
| 28. | Nephritis | | | | 2 | 1 |
| 29. | Puerperal and post-abortive s | | | | | |
| 30. | | | | | | |
| 31. | Premature birth | | | | 2 | 1 |
| 32. | Congenital malformation, birt | h injuri | | | | |
| | disease | | | | 1 | 1 |
| 33. | Suicide | | | | - | - |
| 34. | Road traffic accident | | | | 2 | 1 |
| 35. | Other violent causes | | | | 3 | 1 |
| 36. | All other causes | | | | 6 | 9 |
| _ | All causes | - | | otal - | 94 | 76 |

Population.

As will be seen from the summary of statistics the Registrar General has estimated the population for the mid-year 1945 to be 23,030. This is an increase of 1,120 over last year's figure.

Births.

The 432 births notified is a decrease of 75 compared with last year's figure. The birth rate per 1,000 of the population is 18.8 as against 23.1 for last year. The birth rate for England and Wales is 16.1.

Deaths.

This, year we recorded only 170 deaths out of a population of 23,030, whilst last year there were 243 in a population of 21,910, thereby giving a rate of 7.4 as against 11.1. The Death Rate for England and Wales is 11.4.

Infant Deaths.

During the year only 10 infants died before reaching the age of one year.

Rate of Infant Deaths, under one year, per 1,000 live births is 23.1; that of England and Wales 46.

Analysis of the Causes of Deaths of Infants under one year.

Whooping Cough ... 2
Premature Birth ... 3
Broncho-pneumonia 1
Cardiac complications 2
Septicaemia ... 1 (Carbuncle infection of nose).
Inattention at Birth 1 (abandoned baby—found dead).

Maternal Mortality.

No Deaths occurred during the year under this heading.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Public Health Officers.

Medical Officer of Health (part time).

C. M. Ockwell, M.D.(Lond.), F.R.C.S.(Eng.), D.P.H. (Cambs).

Sanitary Inspectors (whole time).

R. Milligan, Cert. R. San.I., M.S.I.A,

F.C. Weston A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.B.

Health Visitors (whole time).

Miss E. B. Kiddell resigned 31st March, 1945.

Miss I. E. Smith, S.R.N., S.C.M. Health Visitors' Cert.

Miss A. E. Webster appointed 14th May, 1945.

The Senior Health Visitor, Miss E. B. Kiddell, retired on the 31st March, 1945. A sealed copy of the Council's Resolution of appreciation of her services, extending over a period of 21 years was presented to Miss Kiddell.

Laboratory Facilities.

The following specimens were sent to the County Laboratory from the District:—

| - | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------|-----------|------|------|----|
| 5 | wabs | | | | | 29 |
| | puta | | | | | 66 |
| | thers | | | | | 7 |
| S | chool Milk | Tube | ercle Bac | illi | | 2 |

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE FACILITIES. Ante-Natal Clinics.

One session per week is held at the Council's Ante-natal Clinic at the Town Hall. 205 women made 585 attendances.

X-rays.

Nine Expectant Mothers were referred to the County Hospital for X-ray examination.

Obstetric Consultant.

Abnormalities in connection with Maternity Cases are recommended for examination when necessary, to the Council's Obstetric Consultant at Guy's Hospital.

Infant Welfare Clinics.

Urban District is a system of three clinics. Four sessions are held per week from 2.30 to 4 p.m. as follows:—

Crayford.

Town Hall. Infants, Wednesdays.

Toddlers, Alternate Fridays.

Barnehurst.

Methodist Hall, Infants, Thursdays Risedale Road Toddlers, Alternate Fridays

Slade Green.

Baptist Chapel, Elm Road. Infants and Toddlers, Alternate Tuesdays.

Each Infant Welfare Clinic is attended by the Doctor in charge and the Health Visitor. Dried milk and other goods, i.e., Cod Liver Oil and Malt, Glucose, Groats, etc., are supplied to mothers on the advice of the Doctor, at cost price.

Where the family income falls below a certain scale milk may be provided either free, or at half-cost. 61 lbs. Dried Milk were given during the year.

Facilities are extended to the Ministry of Food for the distribution of Cod Liver Oil, Orange Juice, and National Dried Milk.

The average attendances are as follows:-

| Toddlers Clinics | | | of nics. | Atten- dances. | Average |
|------------------|---------|-------|----------|-------------------|---------|
| Crayford | · | | 23 | 632 | 27.5 |
| Slade Green | | | 23 | 445 | 19.3 |
| Barnehurst | | | 24 | 750 | 31.2 |
| Infants Clinics. | | | | | |
| Crayford | | | 45 | 2438 | 54.2 |
| Slade Green | | | 23 | 1408 | 61.2 |
| Barnehurst | | | 46 | 3249 | 70.6 |
| Totals at both | Clinics | Maria | 184 | 8922 | 48.5 |
| | | | | | |

Home Helps.

The Council's Home Help Scheme provides the services of women to undertake Domestic duties for confinement cases, and also in cases of sickness where there are children under five years, of age. The Scheme functioned satisfactorily during the year and no cases were refused. 15 families were attended, covering a period of 180 days.

Maternity Cases.

Since the 1st April, 1945, patients could only be admitted to the Kent County Council Hospitals on my recommendation and the Council's agreeing to accept financial responsibility. Admission is restricted to cases where complications are likely to occur or where home conditions are unsuitable for a confinement in the home.

Number of cases recommended 36.

War-time Nurseries.

Two Nurseries were available in the area in 1945. One situated at Shenstone to accommodate sixty children, and one at Slade Green Road to accommodate forty children.

The following attendances were made during the year:—

Shenstone, Crayford 6,775.

35 Children on the Register at the end of the year. Slade Green 5,414.

28 Children on the Register at the end of the year.

Fortnightly Sessions were held for the routine Medical Inspection of the children.

Priority.

Priority Dockets for sheets are available for expectant mothers being confined in their own homes. 241 dockets have been issued during the year to 91 women.

Care of Premature Infants.

Two sets of equipment including draught proof cots are available for loan in the District.

Daily visits are made by the Health Visitors until the infants reach 7 lbs. in weight. The total number of premature babies notified who were born :—

- (a) At Home 11.
- (b) In Hospital 29.
- (i) The number of those born at home :-
 - (a) Who were nursed entirely at home 11.
 - (b) Who died during the first 24 hours Nil.
 - (c) Who survived at the end of one month 10.
- (ii) The number of those born in Hospital:-
 - (a) Who died during the first 24 hours 2.
 - (b) Who survived at the end of one month 27.

Total from 1st January, 1945, to the 31st December, 1945, 40. This figure includes 17 outward transfers.

Care of Illegitimate Children.

The agreement with Oakhurst Diocesan Home, Erith, to make contribution towards the maintenance of unmarried mothers admitted to the home, continued throughout the year. Two such cases were admitted.

Maternity and Nursing Homes.

Of the 444 births, 312 occurred at institutions, of these 143 at the Russell-Stoneham Memorial Hospital and 103 at the Dartford County Hospital.

Health Visiting.

. Infant Deaths and Still Births are investigated by the Health Visitor.

First visits are paid to Live Births on the fourteenth day and continued monthly during the first year. Two monthly visits are paid during the second year. Three monthly visits continue until the child reaches the age of five years.

Visits to children under one year ... 5;300 Visits to children between one and five years 6,316 Visits to Expectant Mothers ... 402

Total 12,018

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939.

Foster Children-Section 206-Public Health Act, 1936.

The Senior Health Visitor is responsible for the supervision of Adopted Children and also of Foster Children.

A thorough investigation of the home conditions of persons wishing to take children under their care is made before they are recommended.

Children remain under supervision, and three monthly visits are paid, until they reach nine years of age. These are in addition to the routine visits made to children under five years.

Visits to Adopted Children 86.

Number of children on the register at the end of year 26.

Number pending adoption 5. Visits to Foster Children 63.

Number of children on the register at the end of year 3.

Infestation.

Infestation of children with head lice can lower the health of the children affected through irritation, and sometimes sceptic conditions. Co-operation exists between the School Nurse and the Health Visitor. Special Visits are paid to the homes of children notified as verminous and excluded from school. The use of Lethane Oil is strongly recommended.

Dental Treatment.

Children under 5 years can receive treatment at the Kent County Council's Clinic, Mayplace Road East, Bexleyheath.

Ophthalmic Treatment.

Cases under 5 years are seen at the Dartford County Hospital.

Orthopaedic Treatment.

Facilities, are available for Orthopaedic treatment at the Dartford County Hospital, and eleven Crayford patients made 122 attendances.

Midwives.

The Midwives Act is administered by the Kent County Council who is the Local Supervising Authority, and provides two Midwives to cover the area.

Maternity Hospital.

The Russell-Stoneham Memorial Hospital, Perry Street, Crayford, is a Voluntary Hospital with a complement of 26 beds. 143 Crayford births took place there during the year. An ante-natal Clinic is provided and 191 Crayford patients made 841 attendances.

Nursing in the Home.

A Voluntary Nursing Association supported by subscriptions and by weekly contributions by the members provides three nurses for work in the District. The service is also available to non-members on payment of a small fee.

Domestic Helps.

Under the auspices of the Ministry of Health a scheme for Domestic Help in homes where there is sickness came into force on the 16th January, 1945.

One full-time Domestic Help was engaged and a register of women willing to work when called upon was prepared. Two women have worked continuously, and two in a casual capacity throughout the year.

Although some difficulty was experienced in retaining the services of Domestic Helps, the scheme on the whole has worked satisfactorily, and again no cases were refused

Twelve families were attended, the patients being mostly of a chronic type. One case of infirmity is an old lady of 93 who is still receiving our services.

Nutrition and General Health Education.

Supplies, of posters and leaflets on health matters have been received from the Central Council of Health Education. Posters have been displayed on the Council's hoardings and leaflets distributed at the Council's Clinics.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Infectious Disease.

Cases of Infectious Disease are removed to the Bow Arrow Hospital by the Ambulance in connection with that institution.

Non-Infectious Diseases.

The Council have an arrangement for the hire of an ambulance for removal of cases to hospital with the Crayford Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, Bexley Borough Council, London County Council, Dartford Public Assistance Committee, Sidcup Urban District Council.

Mortuary.

The Public Mortuary maintained by the Council is situated to the left of the Town Hall Buildings. Number of times used six. Number of Post-mortem examinations made six.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA. Water.

The Metropolitan Water Board is the supplying Authority and I am indebted to the Director of Water Examination for the following information.

The supply to the Crayford District is a mixture of water from Wilmington, Darenth, Wansunt, Crayford, and Bexley Wells. All the water is chlorinated as it leaves the works.

Bacteriological analyses are made five times per week and consistently satisfactory results have been obtained.

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

None of the supplies is plumbo-solvent.

All supplies are direct and not by means of standpipes. A complaint was received at the Public Health Department regarding the water supply at a works canteen. Samples taken from the tap and geyser, and sent for bacteriological examination were reported as of good quality.

A Sample taken from a new well at a factory was sent for chemical analysis and reported as being of bad organic quality. While this well was opened for purely industrial purposes it was considered advisable to have it analysed, so that warning could be given as to the danger of using the water for drinking purposes.

Extensions have been made to serve temporary housing sites in Lincoln Close.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Extensions of foul sewers to serve temporary housing scheme No. 1 and 2., Aylings Estate and Slade Green. Extension of surface water sewer to serve Whitehall Lane Section of Temporary housing scheme No. 2.

Rivers and Streams.

The usual maintenance clearing was carried out on the River Cray and the dykes on the Crayford Marsh, and the sluices maintained and operated to drain the low-lying areas.

Closet Accommodation.

Approximate number of premises containing each type of sanitary convenience in the district :—

| W.C's. into drainage system | STATE ASSESSED | 7958 |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------|
| W.C's. into Cesspools | A | 7 |
| Earth Closets or privy middens | | 4 |
| Pail Closets | noer as in | 9 |
| Number of premises not connected | to public | |
| water supplies | Kettel | 2 |

Public Cleansing.

Period of collection of Domestic Refuse has been reduced to once in every ten days.

Salvage.

Total tonage 240.

Total income therefrom £1,758.

| | No. in district | No. of visits in 1945 | No. of faults and defects found | faults and defects |
|--|-----------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Bakehouses Dairies Other food - preparing places, which are, as such, subject to in- | 1 3 | 14 46 | 0 | 0 |
| spection Factories (with mech. | 35 | 538 | 0 | 0 ' |
| power) | 26 | 55 | 5 | 5 |
| Factories (without mech. power) | 12 | 9 | 2 | 2 |

Nuisances and defects remedied during the year (other than those enumerated in the previous tabulation).

| ender endoe entenner | urou I | r ene break | Jeso euro | BEALL PRO | |
|----------------------|----------|---------------|-------------|-----------|--------|
| Overcrowding | 1 | Roofs an | d Rain | Wate | er |
| Sanitary Accommodati | ion: | Pipes | | 4 6. | . 318 |
| Defective | 335 | Floors | | | . 57 |
| Drainage: | | Walls ar | nd Ceili | ngs . | . 222 |
| (i) Repaired | 7 | Windows | & Ver | ntilati | on 52 |
| (ii) Cleansed | 538 | Paths, L | avatory | Basi | ns |
| Refuse Receptacles | 222 | and S | inks | | . 118 |
| Dampness | . 78 | Water S | Supplies | | 60 |
| Total number of v | risits o | of all kinds | paid by | | |
| Inspectors du | | | STREET, ST. | | 7,962 |
| Approximate num | | | remises | in | A CAME |
| area | | 9 19 19 10 19 | | | 8,000 |
| Notices served :- | | | | | |
| Statutory | | eseptions | O. mai | | 0 |
| Informal | | WITH TO S | 1,,,010 | 1.00 | 1,673 |
| Number of houses | s, etc., | disinfected | | | |

Shops Acts.

Visits made during the year 65.

Smoke Abatement.

No action was taken.

Eradication of the Bed Bug.

Particulars of the action taken in 1945, for the eradication of the Bed Bug are as follows:—

| | | Number of | | Infested | Disin | fested |
|------|-------|---|---|---------------------|---------|--------------|
| | | incil Houses | | 1 | | 1 |
| | | ner Houses | barra | 30 | | 30 |
| | Put | olic Shelters, | | 1 | | 1 |
| | | HOUSI | NG STATIS | STICS | | |
| (1). | In | spection of Dwe | elling-Houses | . Brand as | | |
| | (1) | Total number for housing de or Housing Act Number of insp purpose | efects (under | Public | Health | 1693 3351 |
| | (2) | Number of dwe sub-heading (1) and recorded u dated Regulation Number of insp purpose | above) which inder the H ons, 1925 an | ousing C d 1932 | spected | 1 |
| | (3) | Number of dwe a state so dang as to be unfit | erous or inju | urious to | | 0 |
| | (4) | Number of dy those referred the heading) found reasonably fit for | to under the not to be | preceding in all re | g sub- | 1673 |
| (2). | Re | medy of defects of formal Notice | | year wit | hout S | ervice |
| | Nun | nber of defective fit in consequent Local Authority | ence of info | rmal acti | on by | 1673 |
| (3). | Ac | tion under Stati | utory Powers | during t | he year | r. |
| | Stat | utory Notices Health Acts | | | | 0 |
| Tota | al nu | imber of houses | owned by th | e Local A | uthorit | y 783 |
| | | of houses built | | | | ARI A |
| | (a) | By the Local Au By other bodies | thority 100 | Temporar | y bung | alows |

(4). Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.—Overcrowding.

Until an official survey is carried out it is difficult to assess the extent of overcrowding and so long as the present acute shortage of houses exists Section 59 must necessarily remain dormant.

Repair of War Damage.

Approximate number of houses in district 7,500. Approximate number of houses damaged 6,500.

Houses demolished 184.

Houses seriously damaged 568. All repaired and occupied.

Houses slightly damaged 5,750. Some on more than one occasion.

Of these 5,200 are repaired.

Total repaired to "tolerable comfort standard" 5,768.

Houses which require attention 550 (minor repairs).

OPEN SPACES.

Martens Grove.

A Recreation Ground covering an acreage of 30.33 is situated on the west side of the town. Facilities for recreation include a swimming pool, 100 ft. by 35 ft., a Children's Paddling Pool 40 ft. 6 ins. by 35 ft., Foot-bath and two Shower Baths, purification plant house; Sunbathing Terraces and Cafe.

Four Hard Tennis Courts are available.

Swimming Pool—period open, from 19th May, to the 17th September (104 days). Number of bathers 35,332.

Play Grounds.

There are two Children's Play Grounds to serve the area, one situated at The Dell, Crayford Way, and one at Manor Way, Barnehurst.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD. Milk.

One sample of milk procured for bacteriological examination was found to be free from Tuberculosis.

During the year one milk producer closed down. At present there are no milk producers within the area.

One complaint was received in connection with a milk bottle. Foreign matter was adhering to the sides and bottom of the bottle. Analysis proved this to consist of grit and warning was given to the dairy-man concerned.

The following licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders:—

Principle Licences:—
Pasteurised milk 4.

Supplementary Licences,:—
Pasteurised milk 5.
Tuberculin tested milk 4.

Bread.

Complaints were received regarding the condition of bread supplied by two Bakers delivering in the area. The explanation given by each Baker was very similar. The inability to carry out repairs to plant owing to many of their skilled workers being in the forces. This affected the mixing of the ingredients.

Meat Deliveries.

The attention of the Manager and the Staff of the Local Meat Depot was drawn to Part 6 of the Public Health Meat (Regulation) 1924, pointing out that drivers in charge of Meat Delivery Vans were responsible for the cleanliness of the vehicles and the protection of their meat from contamination.

Letters of warning were sent to one Driver and to his employers regarding the dirty condition of a vehicle which had been used for transporting meat.

Meat and Other Foods.

During the year a total of 9 cwts., 1 qrs., 12 lbs. of food was found to be unfit for human consumption. Classification is shown below:—

| 0 | 20 |
|---|--------|
| | |
| 1 | . 26 . |
| 2 | 22 |
| 1 | 12 |
| | 1 1 |

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Particulars of samples taken in the Crayford area during the year ended 31st December, 1945, by the Divisional Inspector of the Kent County Council.

| Milk | | 61 | Plum Jam | 1 |
|------------------|---|----|----------------|-------|
| Sausages | | 1 | Baking Flour | 1 |
| | | 2 | Cake Mixture | 1 |
| Coffee | | | Mint | 1 |
| Figs | | 1 | Lard | 1 |
| Lemon Squash | | 1 | Self R. Flour | 1 |
| Lemon Curd | | 1 | Barley | 1 |
| Mustard | | 1 | Wine Essence | 1 |
| Bicarb. of Soda | | 1 | Apple Juice | 1 |
| Apple Rings | | 1 | Cod Liver Oil | 1 |
| Beans | | 1 | Ginger Wine | 1 |
| Batter Flour | | 1 | Sherry | 1 |
| Custard Flavour | | 1 | Hors D'Oeuvre | 1 |
| Tinct. of Iodine | | 1 | Shrimps | 1 |
| Camp. Oil | | 1 | Date Pudding | 1 |
| Arrowroot | | 1 | Cocoa | 1 |
| Boracic Ointmen | t | 1 | Barley Powder | 1 |
| | | | Almond Flavour | 1 |

Total number of samples 97.

All the above samples were found to be genuine.

The Control of Rodents and Other Pests.

In addition to work under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, such work as mosquito control and general disinfestations were given careful attention.

During the year the following infestations were dealt with:—

Rats, 111. Crickets 30. Wooly Bear 1 Miscellaneous 11.

Mosquito Control—40 gallon metal drums—treatments 120. 300 gallon concrete tanks—treatments 96.

CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE. Diphtheria Immunisation.

Propaganda has been carried out continuously throughout the year. Attractive Birthday Cards were sent to all children on attaining their first birthday, together with letters asking parents to take advantage of the Council's free scheme. This was supported by personal appeal by the Public Health Staff.

No cases of Diphtheria have occurred in the area since 1942.

Immunisation is carried out at each of the Infant Welfare Clinics held at Crayford, Barnehurst and Slade Green, and also at the Public Health Department, and all the Schools in the area.

Total number of children who completed the full course of immunisation during the year:—

| Under 5 years of | age | | | 514 |
|------------------|-------|----------|------|-----|
| Over 5 years and | under | 15 years | | 55 |

Total 569

Percentage of Child population considered Immunised at the end of the year:—

Under Five years 81 per cent.

Over Five and under Fifteen years 94 per cent.

Alum Precipitated Toxoid in two doses (0.2 cc. and 0.5 cc.) is now used as routine.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year.

| Ι | Disease | | Total cases notified | Cases admitted to hospital | Deaths |
|---|-------------|------|----------------------|--|--|
| Small Pox Scarlet Fever Diphtheria Enteric Fever (in Puerperal Pyrexin Pneumonia Erysipelas Cerebrospinal Momeasles Whooping Coug Ophthalmia Neo Dysentry | ncluding ia | | | -7 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | - - - - 4 - 1 - 2 - |
| Scabies | | Tota | 156 569 | | 14 |

Age Groups.

| Ages, etc. (N.Kage unknow | n) | Scarlet | | Dipht | | Whooping | Cough | Mea (excludin | sles ng rubella) | Ac Polic | omyelitis | Polioene | cephalitis |
|--|---------|------------------------|---|-------|---------------------|----------|------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Civilians— | | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| 0 | | | | _ | _ | 3 | 6 | 8 | 6 | | | | |
| 1 | | 3 | _ | | | 8 | 15 | 29 | 29 | | | | - |
| 3 | *** | 1 | 3 | _ | | 11 | 9 | 29 | 37 | | _ | | |
| 5 | | 7 | 2 | _ | _ | 9 | 11 | 60 | 77 | Ξ. | | | |
| 10 | | 4 | _ | _ | _ | _ | 1 | 4 | 5 | _ | | | |
| 15 | , | _ | 1 | _ | _ | _ | 1 | .5 | 1 | _ | | | |
| 25 and over | | 2 | _ | _ | _ | _ | 1 | 1 | 2 | | _ | _ | _ |
| Age unknown | | - | - | _ | _ | _ | _ | 100-100 | 1 | - | _ | _ | |
| Total Civilians | | 17 | 6 | - | - | 31 | 44 | 133 | 158 | - | _ | | - |
| Non-Civilians— 15 25 and over (or N.I Total Non-Civilia | K.) | | | = | = | = | = | = | | = | | | Ξ. |
| Ages, etc. (N.Kage unknown | n) | Enteric or Fev M | | | yphoid vers F | Ac Pnet | monia F | Dyse M | entery F | Cerebro Fee M | Spinal ver F | Ac enc lethar M | ephalitis gica F |
| 0 | | | | | | 3 | 2 | | | _ | 1 | | |
| 5 | | | 1 | | | 4 | _ | | | | _ | | ' |
| 15 | | | _ | _ | _ | 2 | 2 | | | _ | | | |
| 45 | | - | _ | _ | _ | 1 | 1 | | _ | | | _ | _ |
| 65 and over | | _ | _ | - | _ | 1 | 1 | _ | _ | _ | - | _ | - |
| | | - | - | - | _ | - | - | - | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ |
| Total Civilians | | - | - | - | _ | 11 | 6 | - | _ | - | 1 | | - |
| Non-Civilians— 15 (or N.K.) | | 0.1100 | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | | |
| 45 and over | | - | _ | - | _ | - | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ |
| Total Non-Civilia | ns | _ | - | - | _ | - | - | _ | _ | _ | - | _ | _ |

Age Groups Continued.

| Ages, etc. | Erys | ipelas | Smal | lpox | Civilians | M | F |
|--|-----------------------|---|---|--------|---|----------------|--------|
| (N.Kage unknown) Civilians— 0 5 15 | M _ | F _ | M | F _ | Puerperal pyrexia Ophthalmia neonatorum Scabies | <u>-</u> 65 | 91 |
| 15 45 65 and over Age unknown Total Civilians | 1 1 1 - 3 | - 1 1 - 2 | ======================================= | | Non-Civilians Puerperal pyrexia | -M | F — |
| Non-Civilians— 15 (or N.K.) 45 and over Total Non-Civilians | 1111 | ======================================= | 1111 | = : | | | |

Tuberculosis.

| | | | | New | Cases | | Deaths | | | | | |
|-------------|--------|------|---------|------|----------------|------|---------|---------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Age periods | | Resp | iratory | | on- iratory | Resp | iratory | Non- Respiratory | | | | |
| 400 | 1-1-1 | | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | | |
| 0 | | | 1 | _ | _ | _ | - | _ | | _ | | |
| 1 5 | | | _ | - 22 | _ | - | | _ | | - | | |
| 5 | | | 1 | 1 | _ | _ | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | | |
| 15 | | | 3 | 4 | _ | 1 | 1 | 2 | _ | - | | |
| 25 | | | 2 | 2 | _ | - | 1 | 2 | - | - | | |
| 35 | | | | - | 1 | - | 2 | 1 | | - | | |
| 45 | | | 2 | 2 | - | - | _ | - | - | - | | |
| 55 | | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | |
| 65 ar | nd upw | ards | 1 | _ | - | - | - | - | - | - | | |
| | Total | s | 9 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 1 | | |

Tuberculosis Dispensaries.

At Overy Street Dartford and Bexley Road, Erith.

Scabies.

As stated in my last report, during the war period treatment was carried out by personnel of the First Aid Post. After the official stand-down on the 30th June, 1945, a trained nurse was appointed.

Two sessions are held per week at the Council's Cleansing Station at the Town Hall. Treatment consists of bathing and the application of Benzyl Benzoate.

| Cases notified | | | 156 |
|---------------------|-------------|------|-----|
| Cases and contacts | treated | | 249 |
| Batches of clothing | disinfested | | 3 |

Venereal Diseases.

Under the auspices of the Ministry of Health and Central Council for Health Education posters were displayed in the area throughout the year.

74 blood specimens for Wasserman testing were taken at the Ante-natal Clinic, all of which proved negative.

Venereal Disease Clinic.

At the County Hospital, West Hill, Dartford.

Gifts.

Gifts of Cot Quilts, Woollen Clothing, and Rubber Teats have been received through the Women's Voluntary Service and distributed in the district.

Park Afrey the official stand-drawn an the 90th Jane.

74 blood speciment for Wasterman tearing were