

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

Contributors

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Urban District of Crayford

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

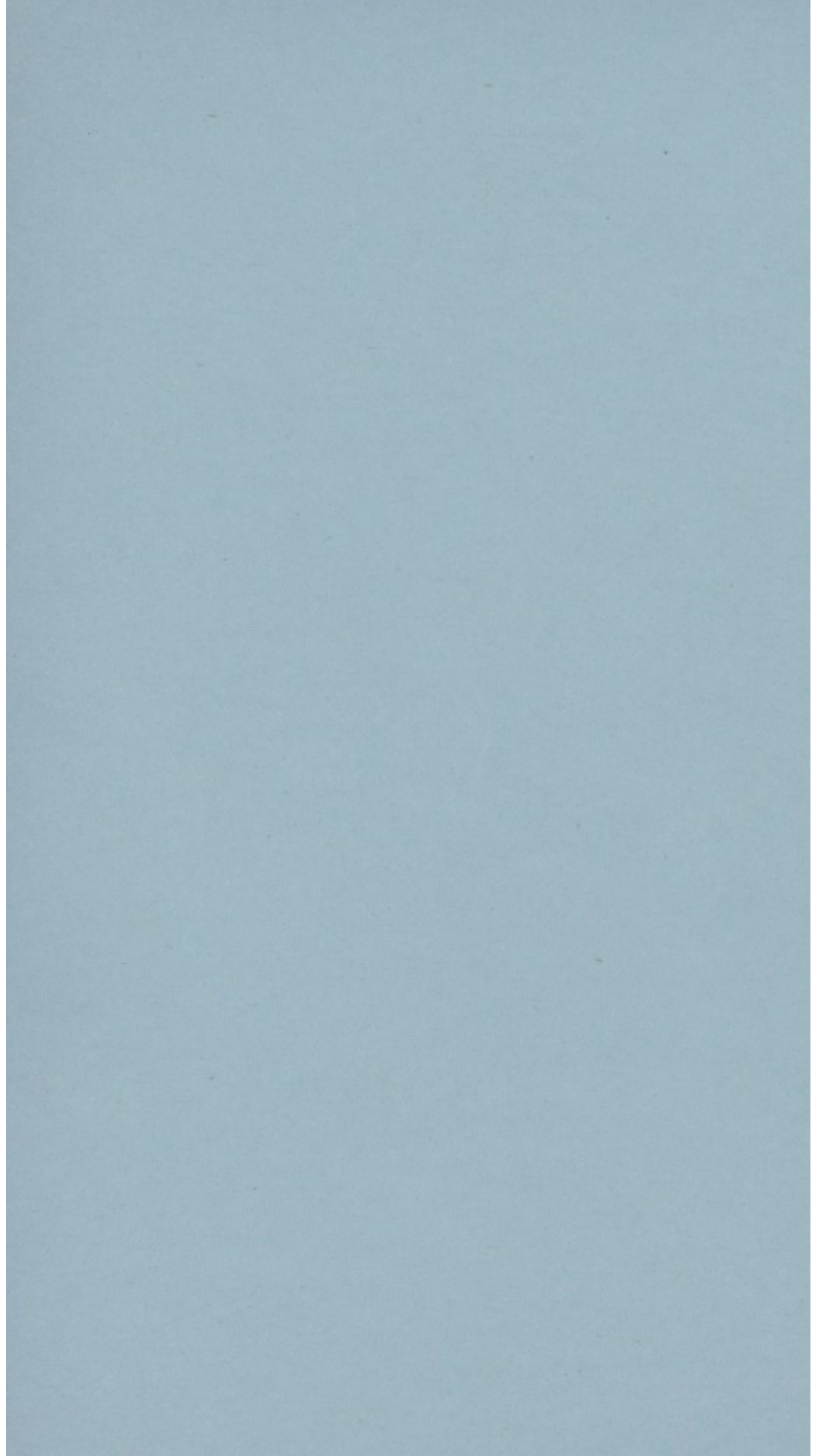
For the Year 1948

BY

JOHN LANDON

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

The Sparta Press, Crayford.





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MEMBERS OF HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

Councillor (Mrs. M. M. Hetherington, J.P., C.C.

Members :

Councillors :

W. A. Borrie
H. E. Clark
(Miss) V. M. Constant
F. A. Gerrard

Councillors :

C. Hetherington
H. J. G. Pearce
E. L. Saxby
S. J. Woolley

Co-opted Members :

Mrs. E. J. Borrie Mrs. E. Saxby Mrs. L. Woolley

Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer of Health :

M. A. G. Ward, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspectors :

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.,
R.I.P.H. (Hons.), Dip. R.I.P.H. (Hons.).
Resigned 14-11-48.

Health Visitors :

Miss I. E. Smith, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's
Cert.
Mrs. J. Manson, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's
Cert.

Day Nursery :

Matron—Shenston Nursery : Miss M. A. Firth,
S.R.N.

Scabies Treatment :

Mrs. L. Wildish, S.R.N. (Part-time). Resigned
4-7-48.

Chief Clerk : Mrs. G. Mitchell.

Clerks : Mr. E. T. Shutte, Mrs. E. E. Butler, Resigned
27-6-48, Miss P. Jennings, Resigned 4-4-48, Miss
D. M. Smith, Appointed 19-7-48.

Clinic Clerks : Mrs. M. Murphy (Part-time) Resigned
29-4-48, Mrs. M. A. Whiting, (Part-time) Appointed
18-5-48.

Rodent Operator : Mr. W. McCulla.

Crayford Urban District Council.

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

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the year 1948 in view of the fact that Dr. M. A. G. Ward, who was the Medical Officer of Health during this period, has now resigned on taking up his appointment as an Area Medical Officer of the Kent County Council.

The vital statistics for the year under review are satisfactory and would lead one to believe that conditions of life in the Urban District are, generally, conducive to the health and longevity of its citizens. For example the Death Rate at 7.5 per 1,000 of the population compares favourably with the Death Rate of 10.8 for the whole of England and Wales, a state of affairs which has been noted, annually, during past years. The Infant Mortality Rate, that sensitive index of social conditions, at 19.9 per 1,000 live births is the lowest ever recorded in the area. The Birth Rate at 18.4, although lower than the rate of 22 per 1,000 during 1947, has shown only minor variations during the past 25 years and has consistently been above the general level for the country as a whole. During the year there were no deaths of mothers as a result of childbirth and a maternal mortality rate of nil may be regarded as an indication that ante-natal and midwifery services in the locality are satisfactory.

During 1948, also, there was only one case of diphtheria, the first to occur since 1942—a very remarkable record and one which may not be unconnected with the success of the immunisation campaign.

There were also no deaths due to measles or whooping cough, the number of deaths in the previous year being 1 and 3 respectively and there were, further, no deaths from infantile diarrhoea which is one of the reasons for the low Infant Mortality Rate.

The year was, of course, remarkable in that the National Health Service Act, 1946, came into operation on July 5th, and the District Council ceased to be a Welfare Authority on the transfer of the Maternity and Child Welfare Services to the County Council. It is well known that these services have been well administered on a local basis in the past and it is appropriate to remark that the figures for Infant and Maternal Mortality, the lowest ever recorded, are an indication of this fact. While there is natural regret at the loss of these services there may also be a legitimate pride in the achievements of past years.

As in previous years, the housing position of the area has, in common with the country as a whole, been the most important health problem to be encountered and will continue to demand and to receive the most urgent attention of the Council. One of the greatest problems has been the urgent need to rehouse families where there was an open case of tuberculosis and the importance of this, especially where there are young children, cannot be exaggerated. Housing priority has been given in a number of cases referred to the Housing Committee.

During 1948, two other events occurred which are directly connected with the promotion of the health of the area, one being the extension of the open spaces available to the public through the opening of Mayplace and the second being the arrangements for the opening of a community centre at the Manor House. There can be no doubt that developments of this nature must beneficially affect the health of the district and their value cannot be over estimated.

I am sure that Dr. Ward would wish me, on his behalf, to thank the Council for the unvarying help and encouragement which the Health Department enjoyed during the year and also to thank the members of the Health Department who have worked loyally and well during this period.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN LANDON,

Medical Officer of Health,

STATISTIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	2,698.71
Population (Census 1931)	...	...	...	15,896
Population estimated	...	...	...	27,190
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	7,654
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£195,399
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	£695

Live Births

			Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	...	...	482	249	233
Illegitimate	...	...	19	9	10
			—	—	—
			501	258	243
			—	—	—

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population
18.4.

General birth rate for England and Wales 17.9.

Stillbirths

			Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	...	...	10	1	9
Illegitimate	...	...	—	—	—
			—	—	—
			10	1	9
			—	—	—

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 19.6.

	Total	M.	F.
Deaths.	205	129	76

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population
7.5.

General death rate for England and Wales 10.8.

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 (Crayford) ...	19.9
General death rate of infants under 1 year of age for England and Wales	34
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	20.7
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0

Deaths from various causes.

Cancer (all ages)	33
Measles (all ages)	0
Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0

Vital Statistics during 1948 and previous years.

Year	Population	LIVE BIRTHS			DEATHS			INFANT DEATHS		
		No. C.U.D.C.	RATE C.U.D.C. Eng. & W.		No. C.U.D.C.	RATE C.U.D.C. Eng. & W.		No. C.U.D.C.	RATE C.U.D.C. 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
1946	25,780	566	22	19.1	249	9.7	11.5	21	37	43
1947	26,610	583	22	20.5	271	10.2	12	21	36	41
1948	27,190	501	18.4	17.9	205	7.5	10.8	10	19.9	34

* 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, 1948.**

CAUSES OF DEATH.				Male	Female
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	—	—
2.	Cerebrospinal fever	...	...	—	—
3.	Scarlet fever	...	...	—	—
4.	Whooping cough	...	...	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	5	1
7.	Other form of tuberculosis	...	...	1	1
8.	Syphilitic diseases	...	...	—	—
9.	Influenza	...	...	1	—
10.	Measles	...	...	—	—
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	...	...	—	—
12.	Acute Infantile encaphalitis	...	...	—	—
13.	Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M)	...	...	—	—
	Uterus (F)	...	...	—	3
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	4	2
15.	Cancer of breast	...	...	—	4
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	15	5
17.	Diabetes	...	...	1	1
18.	Intracranial vascular lesions	...	...	12	9
19.	Heart disease	...	...	47	24
20.	Other diseases of circulatory system	...	...	4	4
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	9	3
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	5	5
23.	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	—	2
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	3	—
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	...	—	—
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	—	—
27.	Other digestive diseases	...	...	2	2
28.	Nephritis	...	...	2	3
29.	Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	...	...	—	—
30.	Other maternal causes	...	...	—	—
31.	Premature birth	...	...	1	—
32.	Congenital malformation, birth injuries, infant disease	...	...	2	2
33.	Suicide	...	...	—	—
34.	Road traffic accident	...	...	1	1
35.	Other violent causes	...	...	3	1
36.	All other causes	...	...	11	3
All causes				Total	129
					76

Population.

As will be seen from the summary of statistics the Registrar General has estimated the population for the mid-year 1948 to be 27,190. This is an increase of 580 over last year's figure.

Births.

The 501 live births notified showed a decrease of 82 compared with last year's figure. The birth rate per 1,000 of the population is 18.4 as against 22 last year. The birth rate for England and Wales was 17.9.

Deaths.

This year we recorded 205 Deaths out of a population of 27,190, representing a Death rate of 7.5 as against 10.2 in 1947. The Death rate for England and Wales was 10.8.

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 was 19.9 as against 36 last year. That of England and Wales was 34.

Analysis of the causes of Death of Infants at various ages under one year.

Causes of Death as Certified	Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 9 months	9 to 12 months	Total under 1 year
Acute Purulent Bronchitis						1				1
Broncho Pneumonia	1			1	2		1			3
Congenital Heart Disease										
Prematurity	1				1					1
Erythroblastosis Foetalis							1			1
Inanition, Prolonged second stage	1				1					1
Meningitis								1		1
Microcephaly				1	1					1
Syncope, Congenital Morbus Cordis			1		1					1
	3	0	1	2	6	1	2	1	0	10

Maternal Mortality.

No Deaths occurred during the year under this heading.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE FACILITIES.

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Maternity and Child Welfare Services were transferred to the Kent County Council on the 5th July, 1948.

The statistics given under these services are from 1st January to 5th July, 1948. No figures are available to us after the appointed day.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

One session per week was held at the Council's Ante-Natal Clinic, at the Town Hall.

Total number of Expectant Mothers who attended	232
Number attending for the first time	157
Total number of attendances made	760
Number of Post Natal examinations	21

X-Rays.

6 Expectant Mothers were referred to the County Hospital for X-Ray examination.

Obstetric Consultant.

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

Infant Welfare Clinics.

The average attendances were as follows :—

				No. of Clinics	Atten- dances	Average
Toddlers Clinics.						
Crayford	...	...	12	516	43
Slade Green	...	...	13	314	24.15
Barnehurst	...	...	13	606	46.6
Infants Clinics.						
Crayford	...	...	25	1938	77.52
Slade Green	...	...	12	615	51.25
Barnehurst	...	...	27	2141	79.29
Totals at both Clinics				102	6130	61.3

Voluntary Service.

I would like to place on record my appreciation and thanks for the valuable services rendered by the voluntary helpers at the clinics, three of whom have been regular attenders from 20 to 27 years while others have been attending from 3 to 10 years. The work of the clinics has benefitted greatly by their steadfast devotion to duty.

I would also like to thank Mr. E. A. Clarke for his gift of mural drawings to the Crayford Clinic.

Home Helps.

The Council's Home Help Scheme provided the services of Women to undertake Domestic duties for confinements cases.

Number of cases attended 22.

Maternity Cases.

The Council accepted financial responsibility for Maternity Cases recommended to the Kent County Council's Hospitals and the Hainault Maternity Home, Erith, where the confinements occurred before the 5th July, 1948.

The number of cases recommended, and the number of confinements is as follows :—

Kent County Council Hospitals.

Number of cases recommended	44
Number of confinements	34

Hainault Maternity Home, Erith.

Number of cases recommended	14
Number of confinements	6

Day Nursery.

Shenstone Day Nursery: Accommodation 60 children. Number of attendances 5,903. Number of children on the register at the 30th June 70.

This service was among those transferred to the Kent County Council on July 5th, 1948.

Priority.

Priority Dockets for sheets were available for expectant mothers being confined in their own homes. 251 dockets were issued during the half-year to 113 women.

Care of Premature Infants.

Daily visits were paid commencing immediately on discharge from hospital, and in the case of home confinements as soon as the Midwife had left the case, and continued until the child was one month old.

Two sets of equipment including Draught-proof Cots, Blankets, Hot Water Bottles, Cot Mattress, Pillows, and Electric Blanket, were available for use in the District.

The total number of premature babies notified who were born :—

(a) At Home 7

(b) In Hospital 3.

(i) The number of those born at home :—

(a) Who were nursed entirely at home 7.

(b) Who died during the first 24 hours —

(c) Who survived at the end of one month 7.

(ii) The number of those born in Hospital :—

(a) Who died during the first 24 hours —

(b) Who survived at the end of one month 3.

Total from 1st January, 1948, to the 5th July, 1948
10. This figure does not include outward transfers.

Care of Illegitimate Children.

Co-operation was continued between the Staff of the Health Department and the Moral Welfare Officer of the Rochester Diocese. The Council continued to make contribution toward the maintenance of unmarried mothers admitted to the Diocesan Homes.

Health Visiting.

Visits to children under one year	...	...	2069
Visits to children between one and five years			2769
Visits to Expectant Mothers	...	...	94
			<hr/>
			Total 4932
			<hr/>

Ophthalmic and Orthopaedic Treatment.

Facilities were available for Ophthalmic and Orthopaedic treatment at the Dartford County Hospital.

Sixteen children attended for Ophthalmic treatment, and seventeen children made forty-one attendances Orthopaedic treatment.

Dental Treatment.

Thirty children received treatment at the Kent County Council's Clinic, Mayplace Road East, Bexleyheath.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939.

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

Adoption of Children.

This Act came into force in June, 1943.

- | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| (a) Number of persons who gave notice under Section 7 (3) from 1st January to 5th July, 1948 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| (b) Total number of children in respect of whom notice was given under Section 7 (3) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| (c) Number of children notified under Section 7 (3):— | | | | | | |
| (i) Under supervision at 5th July | ... | | | | | 7 |
| (ii) Who died during the half-year | ... | | | | | — |
| (iii) On whom inquests were held | ... | | | | | — |
| Number of children adopted during the half-year | ... | ... | ... | ... | | 1 |

Foster Children.

The senior Health Visitor is appointed Child Life Protection Officer under the Public Health Act, 1936.

Children under nine years of age, who are nursed for reward or gain, are visited periodically in their respective homes.

The number of foster parents and nurse children on the register are as follows :—

Number of persons receiving children under nine years for reward :—

(a) At beginning of the year ... 3

(b) At the 5th July, 1948 ... 6

Number of children :—

(a) At beginning of the year ... 3

(b) At the 5th July, 1948 ... 7

Number of foster children who died ... —

Number of inquests held ... —

Domestic Help.

This assistance was granted to families where there was sickness or infirmity. Number of cases attended to the 5th July, 1948, 43. Fourteen part-time staff were employed to cover the home and domestic help schemes.

Nutrition and General Health Education.

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

CIVIC AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

A Civic and Industrial Exhibition was organised by the Council during the week 14th and 21st February, 1948. The exhibition was a great success and approximately, seven thousand adults attended. In addition, parties of school children visited the exhibition under the supervision of their school teachers.

The display by the Council dealt primarily with Public Health and Housing. A "Design of Houses" exhibition was on view.

The Health Department's exhibits included domiciliary midwifery, showing a scale model room with facilities for Gas and Air analgesia, ideal bathing and cot equipment for babies, improvised playing materials for

toddlers, and models and posters demonstrating safety in the home. Diphtheria immunisation technique was displayed. A room in the Health Department was devoted to the varying aspects of life in a day nursery.

The Sanitary Section of the Health Department included food inspection, disinfestation, disinfection, and smoke abatement.

An item which proved of great interest to the younger visitors was the section on rodent control which included actual specimens of the various household pests.

United Dairies provided a display stand emphasising the necessity for the proper cleansing of milk bottles before return. It may be significant that during the year only one complaint has been received regarding the condition of a milk bottle.

Other exhibitors were as follows :—

Kent County Council, Post Office Savings Bank, National Fire Service, Co-operative Education Department, Public Utilities and the Crayford Industries.

A fine spirit of co-operation was shown by all the exhibitors and the tastefully arranged stands were both educational and attractive.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

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

Swabs	...	...	...	...	27
Sputa	...	...	...	...	105
Others	...	...	...	...	6
Milk Bacteriological	...	...	...	...	2
Water, Public Supplies	...	...	...	...	2
Swimming Bath	...	...	...	...	8
					<hr/>
Total					150
					<hr/>

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Infectious Disease.

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

Non-Infectious Diseases.

The Council had 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.

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

The Public Mortuary maintained by the Council is situated to the left of the Town Hall Buildings.

The Mortuary was in use on 6 occasions.

CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Continuous propaganda was carried on as in previous years. The results of the work is reflected in the high percentage of Children immunised, and in the fact that only one case of Diphtheria has occurred in the area since 1942.

Children are now immunised at the age of 8 months, receiving two injections of A.P.T. with an interval of four weeks between them. A further injection is given at the age of 5 years.

The total number of children immunised during the half-year was as follows :—

Under 5 years of age	...	...	...	272
Children receiving a further injection at the age of 5 years	...	...	...	164

The percentage of Child population Immunised at the end of the year cannot be given, as figures are not available.

The number of children considered immunised at the end of 1947, was as follows :—

Under 5 years 78 per cent.

Over 5 and under 15 years 89 per cent.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year.

Disease				Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Deaths
Small Pox	...	...	...	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	69	16	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	1	1	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	...	...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	2	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	10	4	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	2	—	—
Cerebrospinal Meningitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	371	1	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	120	3	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	1	—	—
Dysentery	...	...	...	—	—	—
Scabies	...	...	...	6	—	—
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
Totals				582	25	1

Age Groups.

Ages, etc. (N.K.-age unknown)	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Whooping Cough		Measles (excluding rubella)		Ac Poliomyelitis		Ac Polioencephalitis	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Civilians—												
0 ...	—	—	—	—	7	5	7	4	—	—	—	—
1 ...	5	2	—	—	18	20	49	52	—	—	—	—
3 ...	7	8	—	—	15	26	56	49	—	—	—	—
5 ...	15	19	1	—	13	15	75	73	—	—	—	—
10 ...	1	7	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
15 ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
25 and over ...	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Civilians ...	31	38	1	—	53	67	188	183	—	—	—	—
Non-Civilians—												
15 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 and over (or N.K.) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Non-Civilians ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Ages, etc. (N.K.-age unknown)	Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fever		Ac Pneumonia		Dysentery		Cerebro Spinal Fever		Ac encephalitis lethargica	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Civilians—												
0 ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 ...	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over ...	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Civilians ...	—	—	—	—	7	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Civilians—												
15 (or N.K.) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 and over ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Non-Civilians ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Age Groups Continued.

Ages, etc. (N.K.-age unknown)	Erysipelas		Smallpox			Civilians		M	F
	M	F	M	F					
Civilians—						Puerperal pyrexia ...	...	—	2
0 ...	—	—	—	—		Ophthalmia neonatorum ...	...	1	—
5 ...	—	—	—	—		Scabies ...	...	—	6
15 ...	—	—	—	—					
45 ...	1	—	—	—					
65 and over ...	—	1	—	—					
Age unknown ...	—	—	—	—					
Total Civilians ...	1	1	—	—					
Non-Civilians—									
15 (or N.K.) ...	—	—	—	—				M	F
45 and over ...	—	—	—	—		Puerperal pyrexia ...	...	—	—
Total Non-Civilians	—	—	—	—					

Tuberculosis.

Age periods			New Cases				Deaths			
			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	...	...	—	3	3	1	—	—	—	—
15	...	...	5	5	2	3	—	1	—	1
25	...	...	4	3	—	—	2	—	1	—
35	...	...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
45	...	...	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	...	...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards			1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals			20	11	5	4	5	1	1	1

Tuberculosis Dispensaries.

At Overy Street, Dartford and Bexley Road, Erith.

Scabies.

Two sessions were held per week at the Council's Cleansing Station at the Town Hall. Children and adults received treatment which consisted of bathing and the application of Benzyl Benzoate. Patients were instructed regarding the treatment of bedding and personal clothing.

Cases notified 6.

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.

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

Venereal Disease Clinic.

This was held at the County Hospital, West Hill, Dartford.

Gifts.

35 layettes were distributed through the Women's Voluntary Service in addition to cot quilts, woollen clothing and rubber teats.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Food.

The following samples of food were submitted for examination and analysis during the year :—

Tinned Minced Beef Loaf—reported to contain 2,400 parts iron and 206 part tin per million—Unfit for food. The remainder of the consignment, 27 tins were surrendered by the retailer. Beef Suet—reported on as being affected with fat necrosis.

Complaint was received regarding the presence of foreign matter in a cake. The manufacturer's attention was drawn to the matter.

Ice Cream.

Two samples of Ice Cream were submitted for analysis under the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations.

One from a local manufacturer was reported on as Grade 1 and one from an outside manufacturer as Grade 4.

In the case of the Grade 4 sample arrangements were being made to take samples at the manufacturer's premises, in course of transit and at the retailer's premises.

In the case of places like Crayford where so much of the Ice Cream sold is manufactured outside the district it is often difficult to obtain samples early enough to get them delivered to the Laboratory the same day.

Milk.

The following Licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designation) Orders :—

Principle Licences :—

Pasteurised milk 4.

Supplementary Licences :—

Pasteurised milk 6.

Tuberculin tested milk 6.

Meat and Other Foods.

During the year a total of 1 ton, 1 cwt. 2 qtrs. 14 lbs. of food was found to be unfit for human consumption.

Classification is shown below :—

			Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.
Meat	...	...	6	3		23
Fish	...	...	3	—		14
Fruit	...	...	—	5		10
Miscellaneous	...	...	10	—		23
Total	...	...	1	1	2	14

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Details of Samples taken by the Kent County Sampling Officers within the Urban District of Crayford during the year ended 31st December, 1948.

Articles	No. of Samples	Articles	No. of Samples
Aspirin Tablets	... 1	Liquorice Powder	... 2
Barley Flour	... 1	Malt Vinegar	... 2
Batter Flour	... 1	Meat Soup	... 1
Beef Sausage	... 2	Milk	... 23
Beef Sausage Meat (Preserved)	... 1	Milk Caramels	... 1
Beef Suet	... 1	Milk of Magnesia Tablets	... 1
Benzoic Tablets	... 1	Olive Oil	... 1
Camphorated Oil	... 2	Pearl Barley	... 2
Cheese	... 2	Pickles	... 1
Children's Tonic	... 1	Rum	... 5
Coconut Tines	... 1	Saccharin	... 1
Cod Liver Oil	... 1	Salad Cream	... 1
Coffee	... 1	Self-Raising Flour	... 2
Coffee and Chicory	...	Syrup of Figs	... 1
Essence	... 1	Tea	... 2
Cooking Fat	... 1	Throat Tablets	... 1
Dried Parsley	... 1	Tincture of Iodine	... 1
Fish Paste	... 3	Tincture of Quinine	... 1
Gin	... 1	Tomato Sauce	... 1
Ground Ginger	... 1	Tonic Wine	... 1
Home-made Butters	... 1	Whale Meat	... 1
Honey	... 1	Whisky	... 2
Ice Cream Raspberry	1	White Pepper	... 3
Jam	... 2	Whole Groats	... 1
Lemon Barley Water	1		—
Lemon Squash	... 1		92
Liquid Paraffin	... 2		—
Liquorice Menthol	...		
Aniseed Lozengers	1		

All samples genuine with the exception of the following :—

Ice Cream Raspberry (Soft Drink). Objection was taken to the use of the description of 'Ice Cream.' Article now sold as 'Raspberryade.'

Home-made Butters (Sweets). Total Fat 0.8 per cent., possibly containing some butter.

Manufacturers interviewed and advised of requirements. Article now sold as 'Old Fashioned Toffee.'

Salmon and Shrimp Paste. Fish approximately 54 per cent. 22.8 per cent. deficient in fish content.

Manufacturers notified. Further samples to be taken.

Jersey Milk. 5.0 per cent deficient in fat.

Pasteurised Milk. 6.7 per cent. deficient in fat.

T.T. Milk. 3.3 per cent. deficient in fat.

No action. Further samples were taken and found to be genuine.

Beef Sausage. 30 per cent. deficient in meat.

Proceedings taken. Fine £2. Costs £2 2s. 0d.

Total £4 2s. 0d.

Beef Sausage. 24 per cent. deficient in meat.

Proceedings taken. Fine £2. Costs £2 2s. 0d.

Total £4 2s. 0d.

The Control of Rodents and other Pests.

During the year the following infestations were dealt with :—

Rats 207, Crickets 64, Miscellaneous 12, Wasps 6,
Ants 23, Woodworm 40.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

(1) Inspection of Dwelling-Houses.

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	530
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	Number of inspections made for that purpose	1480
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-heading (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932					205
	Number of inspections made for that purpose	...	...	...	...	744
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation					9
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation					483
(2)	Remedy of defects during the year without Service of formal Notices.					
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their Officers					467
(3)	Action under Statutory Powers during the year.					
	Statutory Notices under Housing or Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	16
1 (3)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made					9
	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders					1
	Total number of houses owned by Local Authority	...	...	...	...	1460
	Number of new houses built during the year :—					
	(a) by the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	163
	(b) by other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	44

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

Whilst it is known from the particulars supplied by housing applicants that overcrowding does exist it is impossible to state the extent of such overcrowding.

Only when a proper survey is carried out will the extent of overcrowding be revealed.

The attention of the Housing Department was drawn to seven cases of overcrowding amongst housing applicants.

Notice under Section 66 of the Housing Act, 1936, was served on the occupier of a house, who was guilty of an offence under the Act. The overcrowding was subsequently abated.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

The supply to the Crayford district is a mixture of water from Bexley, Crayford, Dartford, Darenth, Deptford, Wansunt and Wilmington wells and River Thames filtered water from Walton works. All the water is chlorinated before it leaves the works.

Bacteriological analyses were made five times per week of all supplies and consistently satisfactory results were obtained. In the case of Bexley, Dartford, Darenth, Deptford, Wansunt and Walton filtered water was also tested before chlorination, but owing to the conditions of treatment at the other stations this is not possible.

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

None of the supplies was plumbo solvent.

Two samples of well water taken by the Sanitary Inspectors were sent for bacteriological examination.

One was found to be satisfactory and in the other case where repeated samples were proving unsatisfactory arrangements were made to connect the premises to the M.W.B. supply.

Water Supply.

Extensions to the mains of the Metropolitan Water Board at Housing Schemes No. 20 (Martens Avenue Cul-de-Sac), and No. 29 (Maiden Lane—Cray Close) were carried out.

Drainage and Sewerage.

In a number of cases minor defects were discovered in sewers and drains during the course of sewer maintenance treatments for rodent infestations and steps were immediately taken to have these put right.

A number of defective drains were also discovered in areas where bombing incidents had occurred and one is left wondering to what extent damage to house drains does exist.

Rivers and Streams.

The normal annual maintenance work was carried out on the ditches, water-ways, and rivers, in the district.

Closet Accommodation.

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

W.C's. into drainage system	...	...	8547
W.C's. into Cesspools	...	...	14
Earth Closets or privy middens	...	...	4
Pail Closets	...	...	9
Number of premises not connected to public water supplies	...	...	2

Public Cleansing.

A seven day collection of refuse was maintained under the same system as previously.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

	No. in district	No. of visits in 1948	No. of faults and defects found	No. of faults and defects remedied
Bakehouses	1	6	0	0
Dairies	3	28	0	0
Other food - preparing places, which are, as such, subject to inspection	41	571	6	4

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

Overcrowding	0	Roofs and Rain Water	
Sanitary Accommodation :		Pipes	210
Defective	113	Floors	63
Drainage :		Walls and Ceilings	1306
(i) Repaired	58	Windows & Ventilation	400
(ii) Cleansed	103	Baths, Lavatory Basins	
Refuse Receptacles	31	and Sinks	44
Dampness	93	Water Supplies	20

Total number of visits of all kinds paid by Inspectors during the year 4903

Approximate number of separate premises in area 8,800

Notices served :—

Statutory	16
Informal	483

Number of houses, etc., disinfected 70

Swimming Pool.

Period open from the 15th May, to the 12th September. Number of bathers 29,782. This figure does not include schools which used the Swimming Pool outside normal hours.

Shops Acts.

Visits made during the year 133.

Warning was given to one shopkeeper in relation to an offence within the meaning of the provisions of the Shops Acts.

Smoke Abatement.

A complaint was received concerning emission of smoke from a joinery works caused by the burning of wood waste. The owners are now disposing of the wood waste for manufacturing purposes, and are using steam coal or coke, with the result that the nuisance has now been abated.

Eradication of the Bed Bug.

Particulars of the action taken in 1948 for the eradication of the Bed Bug are as follows :—

Number of		Infested	Disinfested
Council Houses	... ..	25	25
Other Houses	... ..	1	1

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

1. **Inspections** for purposes of provisions, as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prose- cute (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	26	36	0	0
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	59	65	0	0
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	13	19	0	0
TOTAL ...	98	120	0	0

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	3	3	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	2	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	6	6	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Out-work) ...	4	4	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	15	14	0	2	0

(Sections 110 and 111).

OUTWORK.

Part VIII of the Act.

Nature of Work.	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c).	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices Served.	Prosecutions.
Wearing Apparel. Making, etc.	16	—	—	—	—	—
Carding, etc. of buttons, etc.	1	—	—	—	—	—
Artificial flowers	1	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	18	—	—	—	—	—

