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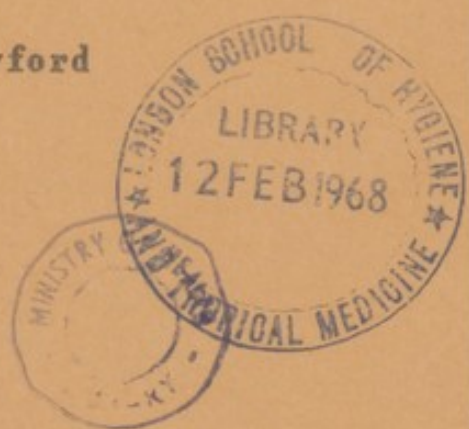


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Urban District of Crayford



A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1961

J O H N L A N D O N , M . R . C . S . L . R . C . P . D . P . H .



Urban District of Crayford



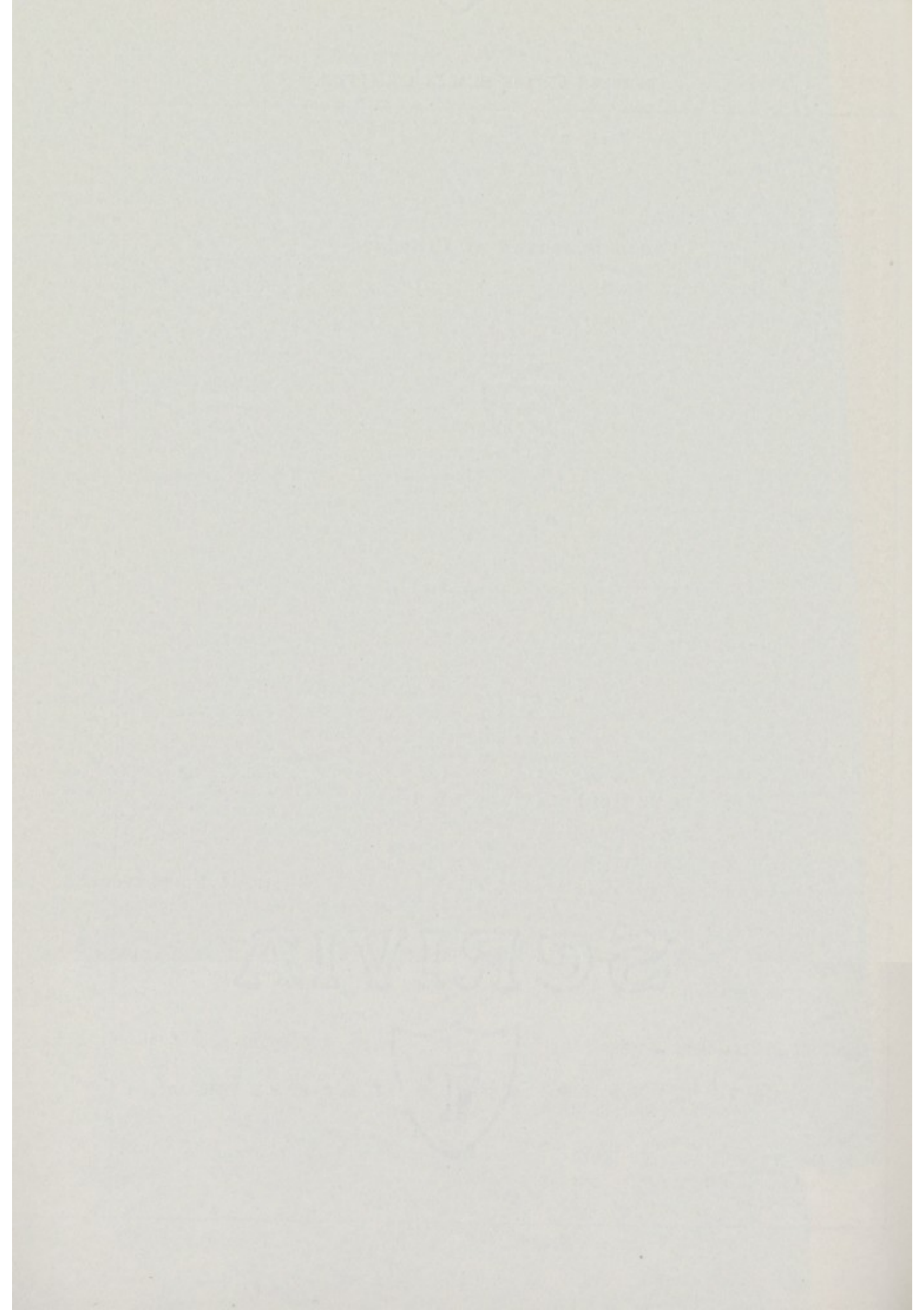
A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1961

J O H N L A N D O N , M . R . C . S . , L . R . C . P . , D . P . H .



MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Councillor J. Kerr

Members:

Councillors:

H. E. Clark
Mrs. H. E. Glead
Mrs. F. M. Pilbrow
G. C. Smith

Councillors:

Mrs. M. E. Syms
J. W. Taylor
A. Turner
Mrs. E. M. White

Co-opted Members:

Mrs. E. Fatharley

Mr. P. Hayward

Miss O. Perry

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

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

(Joint appointment with Boroughs of Bexley and Erith)

Telephone Number: Bexleyheath 2244

Chief Public Health Inspector:

*#I A. W. Kent, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Chief Clerk:

E. T. Shutte

District Public Health Inspectors:

H. G. Avril

A. Game (appointed 8.7.61, resigned 28.7.61)

* M. D. McSweeney, M.A.P.H.I. (appointed 31.10.61)

Shorthand Typist/Clerk:

Mrs. E. M. Tibbles

Student Public Health Inspector:

A. Game (redesignated Public Health
Inspector 8.7.61)

General Assistant:

P. J. O'Brien

* Certificate for Inspector of Meat and other foods

Shops Act Inspector

I Rodent Officer

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To: The Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Crayford.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1961 which has been prepared on the lines set out in Circular 1/62 of the Ministry of Health.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year population is 31,290 (30,920 in 1960).

The vital statistics supplied annually by the General Register Office indicate that the general trend of the health of the Urban District remains satisfactory. The standardised death rate was 10.58 per 1,000 of the home population (11.01 in 1960) compared with 12.0 per 1,000 for England and Wales. The standardised birth rate was 17.18 per 1,000 home population (16.16 in 1960) compared with a rate of 17.4 per 1,000 for the country as a whole. The number of infants who died during the first year of life was 13 (14 in 1960) giving an infant mortality rate of 22.73 per 1,000 live births (26.6 in 1960) compared with 21.6 per 1,000 for England and Wales. During the year there was no maternal death associated with childbirth.

For the twelfth year in succession there has been no case of diphtheria in the Urban District. There is no evidence, however, from the fatality rate of cases occurring in other parts of the country that there has been any waning of the virulence of this disease and, despite the good record of the area, immunisation against this disease remains a matter of great importance. No case of poliomyelitis occurred in the district during 1961. The availability of the Sabin oral vaccine and the full co-operation of the public in accepting vaccination for all priority groups could well ensure a high degree of freedom from this disease in the years to come.

During 1961 there were 14 deaths from cancer of the lung in the Urban District (15 in 1960). It has become a duty to re-iterate the proven association between this disease and heavy cigarette smoking and, indeed, with atmospheric pollution in general. The recent report of the Royal College of Physicians on Smoking and Health has brought this matter to the forefront as one of the outstanding public health problems of the day and some beneficial results may already be discerned. One example of this is the agreement which has been reached between the Independent Television Authority and the tobacco industry to secure modifications that will include the avoidance of those aspects of advertising which make a special appeal to young people. The smoking habit is so deeply ingrained as to appear almost ineradicable but, nevertheless, the issue must be kept alive by all who are responsible for the education and health of the younger generation.

The report has drawn attention to the smoking habits of schoolchildren as ascertained in numerous surveys. It is stated that, in general, 11% to 15% of boys are already smoking small numbers of cigarettes by the age of 10 years. Girls smoke less often but, by the age of 15 years, about 15% smoke regularly. There is no reason to believe from such information as is available locally that these figures would not apply to this area. The Health Committee are giving much attention to methods of counteracting this disturbing trend but the issue is a very complex one, involving both short-term and long-term planning, and much more is to be gained from example than from mere exhortation and the display of posters, important as these may be. A special responsibility rests not only on parents but on teachers, doctors and youth leaders generally to demonstrate, clearly, that they take the subject seriously by refraining, as far as possible, from cigarette smoking in the presence of young people. A degree of personal hardship may, therefore, be inevitable if there is to be any chance of success of impressing upon children that we are really in earnest.

During the year 52 deaths were attributed to disease of the coronary arteries and angina pectoris, this being the largest number ever recorded in the area in any one year. This disease has increased in all western countries since World War I and, despite an enormous amount of research into the causes of this phenomenon, very little new information has emerged. It is likely, however, that a number of factors associated with our modern civilisation operate together to form a pattern of living which tends towards the production of this disease. Overeating generally and, particularly, a diet with a high animal fat content, sedentary habits with lack of regular exercise, over-smoking and hereditary factors have all been blamed, probably with good cause, but the exact mechanism that brings about the coronary accident remains hidden. Can there be much doubt, however, that coronary thrombosis is part of the price we pay for the high standard of living which we now enjoy?

The long awaited report on the fluoridation of water supplies in relation to dental disease has now been published by H.M. Stationery Office. Striking confirmation is contained therein that the addition of fluoride to the public water supply to the extent of one part per million would bring about a substantial improvement in the teeth of young children. More will be heard of this matter in the future and, notwithstanding the controversial nature of the proposal, it is to be hoped that the report will result in practical measures being taken to implement its recommendations. The report is of particular importance to this area where the water supply is practically devoid of natural fluoride.

The Home Safety Act, 1961, empowers the councils of county districts to promote home safety by giving information and advice on the prevention of accidents in the home but county councils have, for many years, had this power under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946. Since 1959, the Kent County Council have made a grant to the Bexley, Erith and Crayford Home Safety Committee, through the councils concerned, which has facilitated this

work in recent years. The new Act will enable the three authorities to determine more fully the future development of this important aspect of health education and the decision to appoint a part-time Home Safety Organiser to work under the Medical Officer of Health will, it is hoped, result in a more sustained and effective campaign against accidents in the home than has been possible heretofore. A Speakers Training Day was held on May 5th, 1961, during a fortnight of intensive home safety propaganda.

During the year the Minister of Housing and Local Government confirmed the Council's Smoke Control Order No. 1 in respect of the area north-east of the railway line at Slade Green, with the modification that the Order should come into operation on 1st December, 1961, in lieu of the 1st November as proposed by the Council. Although good progress was made in the installation of approved appliances and the adaptation of others, it became necessary to apply to the Minister for a deferment of the appointed day to 1st April, 1962 - to which the Minister agreed. The Crayford No. 1 Order is now in operation and good progress is being made with the detailed survey in regard to Smoke Control Order No. 2, which covers the area bounded on the east by Smoke Control Area No. 1, on the north and west by the boundary between this district and the Boroughs of Erith and Bexley respectively, and on the south by the British Railways line to Barnehurst.

The time is rapidly approaching when the implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Local Government in the Greater London Area will bring about a major change in the local administration of the health and welfare services. Much thought and energy will be required to meet both the challenge and the opportunity which lie ahead.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support and encouragement, and the Chief Public Health Inspector, Chief Clerk, and all members of the Health Department for the good work which has been done during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN LANDON

Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

| | |
|--|----------|
| Area (in acres) | 2,698.71 |
| Population (Registrar-General's estimate mid-year 1961) | 31,290 |
| Number of inhabited houses | 9,623 |
| Rateable value | £482,345 |
| Sum represented by a penny rate | £1,980 |

Live Births

| | Total | M | F |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Legitimate | 555 | 278 | 277 |
| Illegitimate | 17 | 7 | 10 |
| | <hr/> 572 <hr/> | <hr/> 285 <hr/> | <hr/> 287 <hr/> |

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated home population - 18.28

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births - 3.06%

General birth rate for England and Wales - 17.4

Stillbirths

| | Total | M | F |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Legitimate | 6 | 5 | 1 |
| Illegitimate | - | - | - |
| | <hr/> 6 <hr/> | <hr/> 5 <hr/> | <hr/> 1 <hr/> |

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - 10.38

| | Total | M | F |
|--------|-------|-----|-----|
| Deaths | 251 | 144 | 107 |

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population - 8.02

General death rate for England and Wales - 12.0

The Birth Rate and Death Rate for Crayford compares favourably with that for other parts of the country. The Registrar General has supplied comparability factors for 1961. The standardised Birth Rate which allows for comparison with other parts of the country is 17.18 and the standardised Death Rate is 10.58.

Maternal Deaths

There were no maternal deaths in 1961.

Deaths of infants under one year of age

| | Total | M | F |
|--------------|----------|---------|---------|
| Legitimate | 13 | 6 | 7 |
| Illegitimate | - | - | - |
| | <hr/> 13 | <hr/> 6 | <hr/> 7 |

Rate per 1,000 live births (Crayford) - 22.73

Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births - 23.42

Neo Natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births - 15.7

Early Neo Natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births - 10.5

Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - 20.97

General death rate of infants under 1 year of age for England and Wales - 21.6

Deaths from Various Causes

Malignant Neoplasm (all ages) 54

Measles (all ages)

Whooping Cough (all ages)

Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)

Vital Statistics during 1961 and previous years

| YEAR | POPULATION | LIVE BIRTHS | | | DEATHS | | | INFANT DEATHS | | |
|-------|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|-----------|
| | | No. | RATE | | No. | RATE | | No. | RATE | |
| | | C. U. D. C. | C. U. D. C. | Eng. & W. | C. U. D. C. | C. U. D. C. | Eng. & W. | C. U. D. C. | 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 | 21,190 | 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 |
| 1949 | 27,520 | 492 | 17.9 | 16.7 | 221 | 8.03 | 11.7 | 13 | 26.4 | 32 |
| 1950 | 27,750 | 434 | 15.6 | 15.8 | 219 | 7.89 | 11.6 | 12 | 27.6 | 29.8 |
| 1951 | 27,820 | 387 | 13.9 | 15.5 | 266 | 9.56 | 12.5 | 8 | 20.7 | 29.6 |
| 1952 | 27,760 | 400 | 14.4 | 15.3 | 253 | 9.11 | 11.3 | 10 | 25 | 27.6 |
| 1953 | 27,820 | 407 | 14.6 | 15.5 | 273 | 9.8 | 11.4 | 10 | 24.5 | 26.8 |
| 1954 | 28,150 | 394 | 13.9 | 15.2 | 227 | 8.06 | 11.3 | 4 | 10.1 | 25.5 |
| 1955 | 28,460 | 437 | 15.4 | 15 | 220 | 7.7 | 11.7 | 8 | 18.3 | 24.9 |
| 1956 | 29,530 | 476 | 16.1 | 15.6 | 247 | 8.36 | 11.7 | 11 | 23.1 | 23.8 |
| 1957 | 29,980 | 499 | 16.6 | 16.1 | 285 | 9.5 | 11.5 | 17 | 34 | 23.1 |
| 1958 | 30,280 | 543 | 17.93 | 16.4 | 265 | 8.75 | 11.7 | 8 | 14.7 | 15.2 |
| 1959 | 30,600 | 496 | 16.2 | 16.5 | 229 | 7.48 | 11.6 | 15 | 30.2 | 22.2 |
| 1960 | 30,920 | 526 | 17.01 | 17.1 | 258 | 8.34 | 11.5 | 14 | 26.6 | 21.7 |
| 1961 | 31,290 | 572 | 18.28 | 17.4 | 251 | 8.02 | 12.0 | 13 | 22.73 | 21.6 |

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

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

| | England and Wales | Crayford U.D.C. |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| | Rates per 1,000 Home Population | |
| Births | | |
| Live Births | 17.4 | 18.28 |
| Stillbirths | { 0.34 19.1 (a) | { .19 10.38 (a) |
| Deaths | | |
| All causes | 12.0 | 8.02 |
| Typhoid and Paratyphoid | 0.00 | - |
| Whooping Cough | 0.00 | - |
| Diphtheria | 0.00 | - |
| Tuberculosis | .07 | 0.13 |
| Influenza | .15 | 0.06 |
| Smallpox | - | - |
| Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis) | 0.00 | - |
| Pneumonia | 0.65 | 0.44 |
| Notifications (Corrected) | | |
| Typhoid Fever | 0.00 | - |
| Paratyphoid Fever | 0.01 | - |
| Meningococcal Infection | 0.01 | - |
| Scarlet Fever | 0.43 | 0.03 |
| Whooping Cough | 0.53 | 0.53 |
| Diphtheria | 0.00 | - |
| Erysipelas | 0.05 | 0.03 |
| Smallpox | 0.00 | - |
| Measles | 16.54 | 19.4 |
| Pneumonia | 0.4 | 0.03 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis) Paralytic | 0.02 | - |
| Non-paralytic | 0.00 | - |
| Food Poisoning | 0.17 | 0.03 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 10.17 (a) | 10.38 (a) |

| Deaths | England and Wales | Crayford U.D.C. |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| | Rates per 1,000 Live Births | |
| | | |
| All causes under 1 year of age | 21.6 (b) | 22.73 (b) |
| Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age | 0.56 | - |

(a) Per 1,000 total (live and still) births

(b) Per 1,000 live births

Maternal Mortality

| Maternal Mortality | England and Wales | Crayford U.D.C. |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| | Rates per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births | |
| | | |
| Maternal causes excluding abortion | 0.27 | - |
| Due to abortion | 0.07 | - |
| Total maternal mortality | 0.33 | - |

Table showing Summary of Causes of Death Registered during the year
ended 31st December, 1961

| Cause of Death | | Male | Female |
|---------------------|--|------|--------|
| 1. | Tuberculosis, respiratory | 3 | 1 |
| 2. | Tuberculosis, other | - | - |
| 3. | Syphilitic disease | - | - |
| 4. | Diphtheria | - | - |
| 5. | Whooping Cough | - | - |
| 6. | Meningococcal infections | - | - |
| 7. | Acute Poliomyelitis | - | - |
| 8. | Measles | - | - |
| 9. | Other infective and parasitic diseases | 2 | - |
| 10. | Malignant neoplasm, stomach | 5 | 5 |
| 11. | Malignant neoplasm, lung and bronchus | 11 | 3 |
| 12. | Malignant neoplasm, breast | - | 2 |
| 13. | Malignant neoplasm, uterus | - | 6 |
| 14. | Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm | 11 | 11 |
| 15. | Leukaemia, aleukaemia | 2 | 2 |
| 16. | Diabetes | - | - |
| 17. | Vascular lesions of nervous system | 12 | 13 |
| 18. | Coronary disease, angina | 35 | 17 |
| 19. | Hypertension with heart disease | 3 | 2 |
| 20. | Other heart disease | 17 | 9 |
| 21. | Other circulatory disease | 4 | 2 |
| 22. | Influenza | 1 | 1 |
| 23. | Pneumonia | 8 | 6 |
| 24. | Bronchitis | 16 | 4 |
| 25. | Other diseases of respiratory system | 2 | 1 |
| 26. | Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | 1 | 2 |
| 27. | Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea | - | 3 |
| 28. | Nephritis and nephrosis | 2 | - |
| 29. | Hyperplasia of prostate | 1 | - |
| 30. | Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion | - | - |
| 31. | Congenital malformations | - | 3 |
| 32. | Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 5 | 9 |
| 33. | Motor vehicle accidents | 1 | 1 |
| 34. | All other accidents | 2 | 3 |
| 35. | Suicide | 2 | 1 |
| 36. | Homicide and operations of war | - | - |
| All Causes .. Total | | 144 | 107 |

Analysis of the Causes of Death of Infants at Various Ages under One Year

| Causes of Death as Certified | D A Y S | | | | | | | | | | | | M O N T H S | | | | | | | | | | | Total Under |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|---|-------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----------|----|-------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | One Year | | |
| Prematurity | 3 | 2 | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 6 | |
| Paralytic Ileus | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Hydrocephalus | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Acute Pulmonary Oedema | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Capillary Bronchitis | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 | |
| Multiple Abnormalities | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Leukaemia | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Totals | 4 | 2 | | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | 13 | |

Disinfection Service

The joint scheme with the Bexley Borough Council for the disinfection of bedding following cases of infectious diseases, tuberculosis and cancer, and for the disinfection of bedding of verminous persons was discontinued during the year on account of the need to replace the vertical boiler at Bexley, and the fact that the Bexley Council had plans for the demolition of the Cleansing Station. A joint application by Crayford, Bexley and Erith Councils was successfully made to the Woolwich Borough Council for the use of their disinfection facilities until further notice.

Mortuary

The Mortuary at Bexley is jointly used by the Boroughs of Bexley and Erith and the Urban District of Crayford. Owing to the non-availability of technical assistance for the pathologists, it was decided by H.M. Coroner to direct bodies early in April, 1960 to West Hill Hospital and the arrangement continued until 1st July, 1961, when the Bexley Mortuary reverted to normal operation. During the period 1st July to 31st December, 1961, 94 bodies were admitted to the Mortuary, post mortems being conducted in all cases, and inquests in 9 cases. Crayford's figures were 14 bodies, 14 post mortems and 3 inquests.

Laboratory Facilities

Pathological and bacteriological work for the area was carried out through the Public Health Laboratory Service.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases and Other Diseases

Scarlet Fever. During the year 10 cases were notified. The number of cases notified in 1960 was 18.

Diphtheria. No case was notified in 1961.

Paratyphoid or Typhoid Fever. No case was notified during the year.

Puerperal Pyrexia. 6 cases were notified during the year.

Meningococcal Infections. No case was notified during the year.

Food Poisoning. 1 case was notified during the year.

Measles. The number of cases notified in 1961 was 620. The number of cases notified in 1960 was 42.

Whooping Cough. 17 cases were notified during the year. The number of cases notified in 1960 was 29.

Acute Poliomyelitis. No case was notified in 1961.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. No case was notified during the year.

Dysentery. Two cases were notified during the year.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year

| Diseases | Total Cases notified | Cases admitted to hospital | Deaths |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------|
| Smallpox | .. | .. | .. |
| Scarlet Fever | 10 | .. | .. |
| Diphtheria | .. | .. | .. |
| Enteric or Typhoid Fever .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Paratyphoid Fever | .. | .. | .. |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 6 | .. | .. |
| Pneumonia | 1 | .. | .. |
| Erysipelas | 1 | .. | .. |
| Meningococcal Infection .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Measles | 620 | .. | .. |
| Whooping Cough | 17 | .. | .. |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Dysentery | 2 | .. | .. |
| Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic) | .. | .. | .. |
| Encephalitis | .. | .. | .. |
| Food Poisoning | 1 | 1 | .. |
| Totals .. | 658 | 1 | .. |

Age Groups

| | Scarlet Fever | | Diphtheria | | Whooping Cough | | Measles (ex- cluding rubella) | | Acute Poliomyelitis | | | |
|---------------------|---------------|---|------------|---|----------------|---|----------------------------------|-----|---------------------|---|---------------|---|
| | | | | | | | | | Paralytic | | Non-Paralytic | |
| | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| Under 1 Year | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | 3 | 10 | - | - | - | - |
| 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 33 | 23 | - | - | - | - |
| 2 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 35 | 36 | - | - | - | - |
| 3 | 1 | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | 45 | 47 | - | - | - | - |
| 4 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 39 | 39 | - | - | - | - |
| 5 - 9 | 4 | 2 | - | - | 5 | 2 | 141 | 160 | - | - | - | - |
| 10 - 14 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 3 | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| 15 - 24 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 4 | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| 25 and over | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total (all ages) | 6 | 4 | - | - | 8 | 9 | 303 | 317 | - | - | - | - |

| | Enteric or Typhoid Fevers | | Paratyphoid Fever | | Acute Pneumonia | | Dysentery | | Meningococcal Infection | | Acute Encephalitis Lethargica | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|---|----------------------|---|--------------------|---|-----------|---|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| Under 5 Years | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| 15 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| 45 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 65 and over | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total (all ages) | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 2 | - | - | - | - |

Age Groups (contd.)

| | Erysipelas | | Smallpox | | Food Poisoning | |
|------------------|------------|---|----------|---|----------------|---|
| | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| 0 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 15 | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | - |
| 45 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 65 and over | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total (all ages) | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | - |

| | M | F |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Puerperal Pyrexia | - | 6 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | - | - |

Immunisation

Crayford Urban District

The following table shows the diphtheria immunisation and whooping cough immunisation figures for 1961 based on the returns submitted to the Ministry of Health.

| Year of Birth | Diphtheria Immunisation (Singly or in combination) | | Whooping Cough Immunisation (Singly or in combination) |
|---------------|---|-------------|---|
| | Primary | Reinforcing | Primary |
| 1961 | 216 | .. | 214 |
| 1960 | 206 | 1 | 203 |
| 1959 | 28 | 30 | 17 |
| 1958 | 16 | 25 | 11 |
| 1957 | 16 | 34 | 9 |
| 1952 - 1956 | 33 | 242 | 13 |
| 1947 - 1951 | 12 | 15 | 3 |
| Total | 527 | 347 | 470 |

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

The following table shows the number of injections given in the various priority groups during the year ended 31st December, 1961.

| Priority Group | 2nd Injections | 3rd Injections | 4th Injections |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1957 - 1961 | 447 | 441 | |
| 1946 - 1956 | 95 | 145 | |
| 1943 - 1945 | 15 | 10 | |
| 1933 - 1942 | 159 | 134 | |
| 1921 - 1932 | 520 | 594 | |
| Others | 26 | 26 | |
| Schoolchildren under 12 years | .. | .. | 1725 |
| Total | 1262 | 1350 | 1725 |

Smallpox Vaccination

The following table shows the smallpox vaccination figures for 1961 based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health.

| Age at Date of Vaccination | Number Vaccinated | Number Re-Vaccinated |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Under 1 | 309 | |
| 1 | 27 | |
| 2 to 4 | 6 | |
| 5 to 14 | 9 | |
| 15 or over | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 352 | 1 |

Tuberculosis

| Age Periods | New Cases | | | | Deaths | | | |
|---------------|-------------|---|-----------------|---|-------------|---|-----------------|---|
| | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | |
| | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| Under 5 years | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 15 | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| 25 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 45 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 65 and over | - | - | - | - | 3 | - | - | - |
| Total | 4 | 2 | - | - | 3 | 1 | - | - |

Chest Clinics. At West Hill Hospital, Dartford, and 65 Bexley Road, Erith.

Housing Applicants. Special consideration is given to cases put forward by the Medical Officer of Health involving tuberculosis or other physical disability in the applicants' families and such cases are considered outside the normal points scheme.

Cases investigated during the year - 18

Applicants recommended for rehousing - 6

No. of families granted houses on account of tuberculosis - Nil

Other reasons - 6

CRAYFORD TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE

The Crayford Tuberculosis Care Committee, in association with the Kent Council of Social Service, has continued to function during the year. The number of cases assisted was 12, including 5 new cases. Clothing, coal supplies and fares to visit relatives in Sanatoria had once again formed the bulk of the assistance given by the Committee.

The result of the local Christmas Seals Sale, including the mail sale, as reported by the Organiser to the Annual General Meeting, amounted to £117 15s. 9d.

The County Organiser, Health Visitor, Chest Physician and District Officer have given invaluable service to the Committee.

Welfare of Old People

This continued to place an increasing demand on the services of the Health Department and the Crayford Old People's Welfare Committee. Many cases, brought to the notice of the Department by the Committee Visitors and otherwise discovered, have been visited by the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Public Health Inspector. Arrangements have been made for entry into Old People's Homes where this has been possible.

The Visiting Service carried out by the Crayford Old People's Welfare Committee continues to flourish. Help is given to the old folk with clothing and small home comforts.

Many services have been rendered to elderly people and much assistance is given by other Voluntary Organisations to the Old People's Welfare Committee.

Close co-operation is maintained with the Kent County Council's District Officer, the National Assistance Board, the Women's Voluntary Service, the St. John Ambulance Brigade and Nursing Division and the Red Cross.

National Assistance Act, 1948

Under Section 50 of the Act, it is the duty of the local authority to arrange for the burial or cremation of any person who has died in the area if it appears that no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body can otherwise be made. It was necessary to arrange two burials under this Section during the year.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

To: The Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Crayford.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1961 which gives a general summary of the work carried out by the Public Health Inspectors during the year.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

One cannot relax one's efforts on the very important field of food hygiene and a considerable amount of time was spent by your Public Health Inspectors in respect of this matter. I am pleased to be able to comment favourably on the co-operation received from the various tradespeople throughout the district. In this connection, no fewer than 398 visits were made, 93 being to premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act. 54 informal notices were served under the Food Hygiene Regulations and in 58 cases repairs or improvements were carried out.

Despite the introduction of the new Food Hygiene Regulations setting out details regarding smoking it is regretted that there are still a number of shopkeepers and street traders who apparently do not fully realise the dangers to the public of this practice, and the penalties involved.

The number of food premises in the area is as follows:-

Bakers 4; Butchers 18; Grocers 57; Greengrocers 20; Confectioners 25; Fishmongers 8; Cafes, Canteens, etc. 35; Public Houses 19; Off Licences 3; Clubs 12; Other Premises 29.

Under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, 70 premises are registered for the storage and sale of Ice Cream and 35 for the manufacture or preparation of preserved food intended for sale.

Complaints

The following complaints were received and dealt with during the year:

Potatoes. Complaint was made regarding the condition of prepacked potatoes. The condition had been brought about by the poorness of the crop generally and the fact that this particular bag had possibly been in stock longer than it should have been, coupled with the fact that excessive rainfall at the time of lifting with consequent mechanical damage had reduced the time that it would normally have been possible to maintain the product in first class condition. Contact was made with the suppliers but no further action was taken on receipt of their comments.

Sultanas. Alleged foreign matter in a packet of sultanas formed the basis of another complaint. No action could be taken in this case, owing to the inadequate proof that the matter complained of (a small stone resembling a sultana) was in fact present in the package when purchased.

Milk. There were three complaints regarding milk. The first was in respect of the quality of cartoned milk from an automatic vending machine. Enquiries were made of the suppliers, but, owing to the length of time between the purchase and subsequent complaint, the milk had become so sour and curdled that it was not possible to test for quality. The second concerned the presence of a slug in a bottle of milk but, in this instance, it was difficult to establish that the slug had not entered the bottle at the customer's premises, despite extensive enquiries and laboratory tests to this end. Thirdly, the case of a bottle of milk containing foreign matter was ascertained to be the result of inadequate cleansing of dairy equipment and resulted in the suppliers being fined £10, with five guineas costs.

Evaporated Separated Milk and Vegetable Fat. Allegations of incorrect labelling and rancidity of this product were unfounded. The Analyst confirmed that the product was normal and the composition consistent with the requirements of the Schedule to Skimmed Milk.

Bread. String found in a loaf of bread led to legal proceedings being taken with a consequent penalty to the bakers concerned. £30 with three guineas costs.

Pork Pie. Mould in a pork pie was also the subject of legal proceedings and resulted in the supplier being fined £15 with five guineas costs.

Mineral Water. No action was taken regarding a proprietary brand of mineral water. The "sediment" complained of proved to be yeast.

Horseradish Relish. Complaint of the "frothy" nature of this product was investigated. The Analyst's report, however, confirmed that it was normal in taste, smell and appearance, the "frothiness" apparently having been caused by a slight amount of fermentation. No further action was taken after reports from the Analyst and the manufacturers had been considered.

Bacon. Allegations of the presence of maggots on a piece of bacon were investigated. A representative of the suppliers was interviewed but in this particular instance no further action was taken.

Butter. Foreign matter in a package of butter was referred to the department by a shopkeeper. Contact was made with the suppliers, who carried out an extensive survey of the plant and assured us of stricter control measures in the future.

Meat and Other Foods. The following articles were found during the year to be unfit for human consumption:

| | lbs. | ozs. | | lbs. | ozs. |
|----------------------|------|------|------------------------|------|------|
| Beef | 588 | 0 | Tinned Vegetables .. | 52 | 2 |
| Liver | 10 | 0 | Tinned Tongues | 9 | 0 |
| Chopped Pork | 62 | 12 | Tinned Soup | | 11 |
| Ham | 348 | 13 | Tinned Ham & Tongue .. | 2 | 0 |
| Chicken | 94 | 8 | Tinned Ham | 122 | 7 |
| Offal | 96 | 0 | Tinned Pork | 19 | 2 |
| Corned Beef | 51 | 0 | Tinned Chicken | 3 | 13 |
| Corned Mutton | 12 | 0 | Tinned Fish | 11 | 6 |
| Luncheon Meat | 33 | 9 | Tinned Milk | 3 | 3 |
| Bacon | 16 | 0 | Jam & Lemon Curd | 6 | 8 |
| Jellied Veal | 60 | 0 | Pickle | | 8 |
| Tongue | 18 | 0 | Mincemeat | 1 | 0 |
| Fish | 14 | 0 | Cereals | 30 | 14 |
| Stewed Steak | 2 | 14 | Beverages | 4 | 8 |
| Chipolates | 4 | 8 | Dried Fruit | 25 | 0 |
| Melts | 28 | 0 | Ravioli | | 8 |
| Sugar | 42 | 0 | Butter | 2 | 8 |
| Tea | 24 | 8 | Fats | 23 | 8 |
| Cheese | 1 | 8 | Miscellaneous | 2 | 12 |
| Tinned Fruit | 102 | 5½ | | | |

The bulk of the food condemned was unfit for salvage and had to be destroyed, but, where possible, it is the practice to use condemned food for animal feeding, after sterilisation.

Slaughterhouses

There is no slaughterhouse in the area.

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

Number of persons registered as distributors during the year .. 5

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1947-1959

There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the area. 49 samples of ice cream submitted for examination during the year were graded as follows:-

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Grade I | 35 |
| Grade II | 14 |
| Grade III | - |
| Grade IV | - |

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Details of samples taken by the County Sampling Officers within the Urban District of Crayford during the year ended 31st December, 1961:-

| Article | No. | Article | No. |
|-------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|-----|
| Almond Flavouring | 1 | B/f | 41 |
| Almond Marzipan | 1 | Ground Almonds | 1 |
| Anettes | 1 | Herring Fillets | 1 |
| Beef Gulash | 1 | Ice Cream | 1 |
| Beetroot | 1 | Ice Lollies | 1 |
| Benzac Tablets | 1 | Instant Coffee | 1 |
| Borax and Honey | 2 | Jelly | 1 |
| Bournvita | 1 | Lemonade | 1 |
| Bread | 1 | Mentholatum Balm | 1 |
| Breakfast Spread | 1 | Milk | 24 |
| Butter | 2 | Oranges | 2 |
| Cake and Bun/Flour Mixture | 1 | Potted Beef with Butter | 1 |
| Cake Fruit Mixture | 1 | Raspberries in Syrup | 1 |
| Cake Mixture | 1 | Raspberry Pie | 1 |
| Cheese Spread | 1 | Redcurrant Jelly | 1 |
| Cheese Spread with Ham | 1 | Red Plums | 1 |
| Chocolate | 2 | Rose Hip Syrup | 1 |
| Chocolate Flavoured Drink | 1 | Rum and Cola Flavoured Sweet | 1 |
| Chutney | 1 | Sanatogen | 1 |
| Cider | 1 | Sausage Meat | 1 |
| Cidona | 1 | Sausages, Beef | 1 |
| Cocktail Spread | 1 | Sausages, Pork | 1 |
| Cooking Fat | 1 | Scotch Eggs | 1 |
| Corned Beef | 1 | Sea Legs | 1 |
| Cornish Pasties | 2 | Soup | 1 |
| Custard Powder | 1 | Steak and Kidney | 4 |
| Cream | 3 | Sugar Toasted Oats | 1 |
| Dramal | 1 | Tincture of Quinine | 1 |
| Faggots | 1 | Valderma | 1 |
| Flour | 1 | Vita Cup | 1 |
| Gin | 3 | Watercress | 1 |
| Gin and Lime Liquid Centres | 1 | Whisky | 1 |
| Grapefruit | 1 | Witch Hazel (Distilled) | 1 |
| C/f | 41 | Total | 100 |

Summary

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Milks | 24 |
| Drugs | 12 |
| Spirits | 4 |
| Others | 60 |
| | 100 |

All the foregoing samples were genuine with the exception of the following:

| Sample of | Analysis | Action Taken |
|--|---|--|
| Gin and Lime Liquid Centres (For adults only) | 2.5% proof spirit. Does not justify statement "For adults only" | Makers have withdrawn this line from sale |

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

It was anticipated that the Council's first Smoke Control Area, having been confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government, would have come into operation on 1st December, 1960, but, following a number of requests from residents who put forward a number of queries, it was decided to seek a postponement until the 1st April, 1962.

During this latter period, householders would have a final opportunity of disposing of their existing coal supplies, completing necessary adaptations and improvising or providing alternative storage arrangements for solid smokeless fuels.

Works of adaptation progressed, generally speaking, quite smoothly and the builders and contractors co-operated very well indeed.

HOUSING STATISTICS

(1) Inspection of Dwellinghouses

| | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| (1) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | | 987 |
| Number of inspections made for that purpose | | 1,922 |
| (2) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-heading (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations | | — |
| Number of inspections made for that purpose | | — |
| (3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | | 18 |
| (4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | | 279 |

(2) Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice

| | | |
|--|-------|----|
| Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their Officers | | 57 |
|--|-------|----|

(3) Action under statutory powers during the year

| | |
|---|----|
| Statutory notices under Housing or Public Health Acts .. | 2 |
| Number of houses in which defects were remedied after serving of formal notices - | |
| (a) by owners | 2 |
| (b) by local authority in default of owners | - |
| Proceedings under Housing Act, 1957 - | |
| (a) Demolition orders made under Section 17 | 15 |
| (b) In clearance areas | 12 |
| (c) Houses demolished - | |
| (i) as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) | 14 |
| (ii) temporary bungalows (prefabs.) | 9 |
| (d) Unfit houses closed under Sections 16(4) and 35(1) | 2 |

(4) Housing Act, 1957 - 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

| | |
|---|-------|
| Total number of houses owned by local authority | 3,025 |
| Number of houses built during the year - | |
| (a) by the local authority | 99 |
| (b) by other bodies or persons | 79 |

Rent Act, 1957

During the year, one application was received for a certificate of disrepair. No certificates of disrepair or certificates as to the remedying of defects have been issued.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

The Metropolitan Water Board is the supplying authority.

The water supply to the Crayford Urban District is derived from the Crayford, Darenth and Wansunt wells. The water has been satisfactory in quality and quantity throughout the year.

The wells' supplies are examined bacteriologically at least five times a week before and after treatment which consists of chlorination and dechlorination.

The waters are not liable to have plumbo solvent action and there has been no evidence of contamination of Crayford or other wells during the year.

Water Sampling

The following samples were sent to the County Laboratory by the Council's Public Health Inspector -

| | |
|---|------|
| (a) Wells (drinking water), Bacteriological | - 13 |
| (b) Swimming Pool, Bacteriological | - 21 |
| (c) Domestic Supplies, Bacteriological | - 11 |

All samples forwarded have been reported satisfactory, with the exception of five from the Swimming Pool which gave low counts. Subsequent samples, however, indicated that the water was of its usual high quality.

Water Supply

Normal mains extension to serve new development was carried out.

Drainage and Sewerage

Normal sewerage extension to serve new housing development. First stage of Slade Green Surface Water Sewer.

Housing Plans

The building of houses at Scheme No. 42 was completed and work on Scheme No. 20 is progressing. The former comprised 263 dwellings and the latter 4 dwellings.

Report of Kent River Board

River Cray

The usual weed clearance has been carried out between Vitbe Mill and Hall Place. A large amount of rubbish has also been removed at various times during the year notably in the Maiden Lane area and at Galbraith's sluice.

River Stanham, Middle River, River Wansunt

Weed clearance has been carried out on all these rivers. The Wansunt being cleared twice and in addition trees and rubbish were removed from the length previously maintained by Messrs. Swaislands.

Crayford Marshes

The annual clearance of weeds, etc. has been carried out on the marsh dykes maintained by the Board.

During the year Crayford Sluice partially collapsed and a scheme for the reconstruction of this sluice was put forward. This has now been approved and reconstruction started on March 12th. The collapse of this sluice was in part due to hooligans who wedged the tide flap open and caused some flooding on the marsh.

Closet Accommodation

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

| | |
|--|--------|
| W.Cs. into drainage system, approximately | 12,344 |
| W.Cs. into cesspools | 16 |
| Number of premises not connected to public water supplies .. | Nil |

Refuse Collection. A seven day collection of refuse was maintained under the same system as previously. A new freighter with means of automatically emptying $1\frac{1}{4}$ cu. yd. bins from multi-storey flats was purchased during the year.

Nuisances and Defects remedied during the year:-

| | |
|--|-----|
| Sanitary accommodation defective | 28 |
| Drainage: | |
| (i) repaired | 96 |
| (ii) unstopped, etc. | 106 |
| Refuse receptacles | 26 |
| Roofs and rain water pipes | 84 |
| Chimney stacks and pots repaired or renewed | 5 |
| Fireplaces, grates and stoves repaired or improved | 8 |
| Floors, walls and ceilings repaired or renewed | 99 |
| Rooms cleaned | 1 |
| Water supplies | 5 |
| Doors and other woodwork | 16 |
| Yard paving provided or renewed | 4 |
| Offensive accumulations removed | 22 |
| Improper keeping of animals abated | 7 |
| Other defects | 112 |

Control of Rodents and other Pests

265 complaints in respect of rats and mice infestations were received and fully investigated. Twice during the year the foul water system was treated for rats and the results were most satisfactory. Other pest infestations dealt with were as follows:

Woodworm 13; Bugs 15; Miscellaneous 13.

Total number of visits of all kinds
paid by Inspectors during the year .. 5,593

Approximate number of rated premises
in the area 10,709

Notices served -

| | | | |
|-----------|----|----|-----|
| Statutory | .. | .. | 3 |
| Informal | .. | .. | 384 |

Number of houses, etc., disinfected .. 5

Swimming Pool

Period open from 6th May to 17th September.

Number of bathers - 39,727. This figure does not include school parties and clubs.

Shops Act. A total number of 119 visits were made during the year. This figure includes Sunday and evening visits. Four warnings were given.

There appears to be no change in the fact that many shops still close their doors earlier than the statutory closing times, although the number who remain open later on one day each week is on the increase.

No serious breach of the Act has been noted.

Eradication of the Bed Bug

Particulars of the action taken in 1961 for the eradication of the Bed Bug were as follows:

| Number of - | Infested | Disinfested |
|-------------------|----------|-------------|
| Council houses .. | 14 | 14 |
| Other houses .. | 1 | 1 |

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937 to 1959

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

| Premises (1) | Number on Register (2) | Number of | | |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | | Inspections (3) | Written Notices (4) | Occupiers Prosecuted (5) |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 13 | 13 | — | — |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 65 | 33 | 4 | — |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) | 26 | 26 | 2 | — |
| Total | 104 | 72 | 6 | — |

2. Cases in which defects were found.

| Particulars (1) | Number of Cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of Cases in which pro- secutions were in- stituted. (6) |
|---|--|---------------------|--|--|--|
| | Found (2) | Remedied (3) | Referred to H. M. Inspector (4) | Referred by H. M. Inspector (5) | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sanitary conveniences (S.7) | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | — | — | — | — | — |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 5 | 4 | — | — | — |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other offences (not including offences relating to outwork) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total | 6 | 5 | — | — | — |

OUTWORK

Part VIII of the Act

| Nature of Work | Section 110 | | | Section 111 | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|----------------|--------------|
| | No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1)(c) | No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council | No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists | No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises | Notices served | Prosecutions |
| Wearing apparel, making, etc. | 8 | - | - | - | - | - |
| The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. W. KENT

Chief Public Health Inspector