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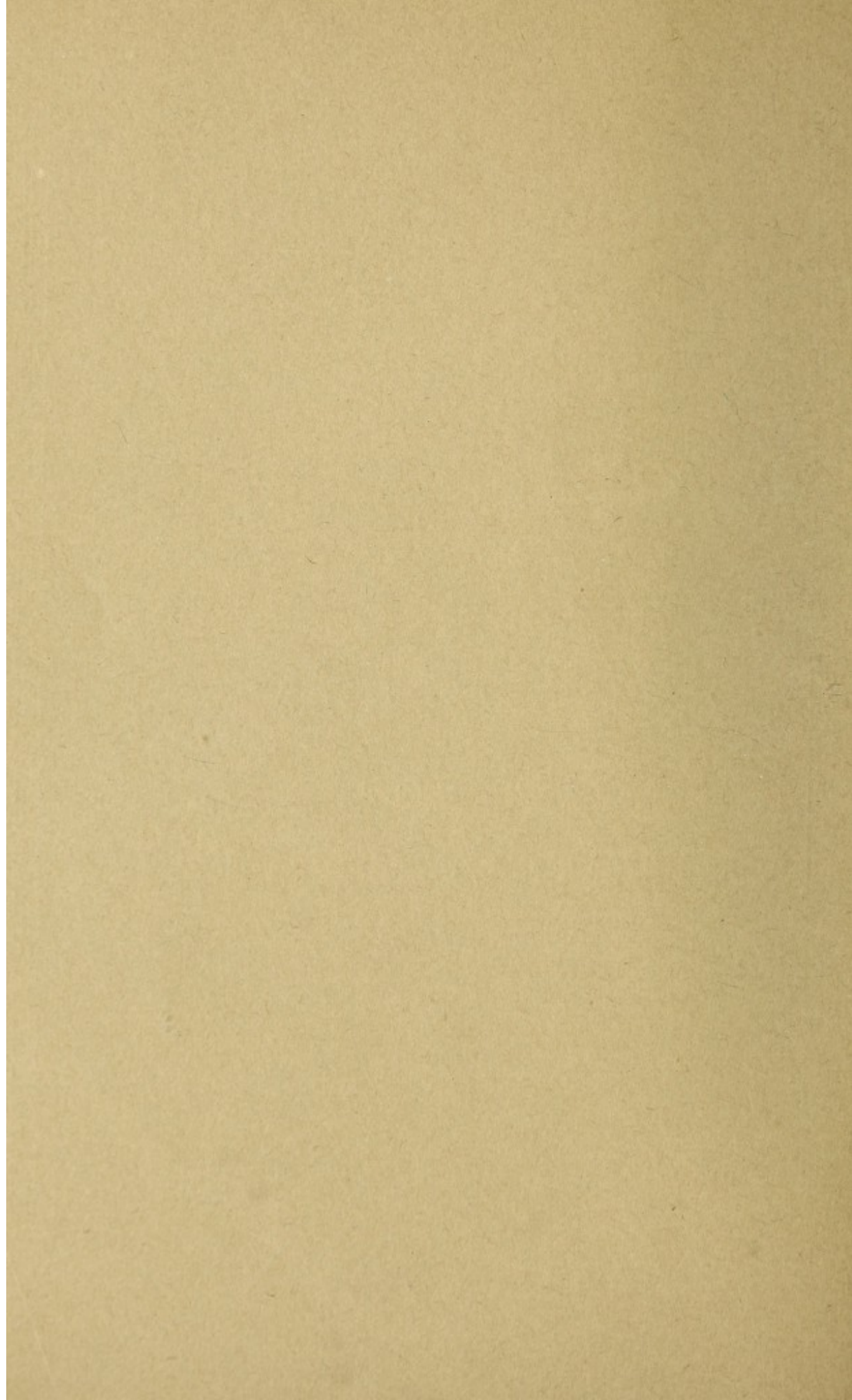
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BOROUGH OF BEXHILL



Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1957





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INDEX

	Page
Health Committee	3
Staff	3
Statistics and Meteorology	10
Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year	11
General Provision of Health Services for the Area	16
Sanitary Circumstances of the Area	19
Housing	28
Inspection and Supervision of Food	31
Prevalence of, and Control Over, Infectious and Other Diseases...	38
Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector	42

BOROUGH OF BEXHILL

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR MRS. J. O. ALEXANDER

Vice-Chairman:

MR. COUNCILLOR H. G. MORGAN

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR

(MR. COUNCILLOR EDGAR CARTER, J.P.)

MR. ALDERMAN R. F. BOTTING

„ G. H. GOODWIN

ALDERMAN MISS A. F. CLAXTON

MR. COUNCILLOR A. H. STONE

„ W. G. SANSOM

COUNCILLOR MRS. E. E. J. MYERS

„ MRS. M. E. ACKLAND

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

Area School Medical Officer and Assistant County Medical Officer of Health, East Sussex County Council:

R. J. Toleman, M.B.E. (Mil.), M.B., B.S.(Lond.), D.P.H.(Eng.)

Chief Public Health Inspector:

W. H. Ball, Cert.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.

Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Public Health Inspectors:

C. E. Lockley, Cert.S.I.B.

Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

S. Wild, Cert.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.

Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Disinfecting Officer and General Assistant:

G. Chalmers.

Rodent Operator:

D. Evenden.

Clerks:

K. F. Westwood.

H. J. Stentiford.

Miss N. W. McEvoy.

Maternity and Child Welfare:

Bexhill Nursing Association and East Sussex County Council:

M. & C. W. Clinics: L. M. Rhodes-Clooney, M.B., B.S.,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Ante-Natal Clinics: R. K. Reid, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P.

E. W. Graham, M.B., B.S.

Health Visitors and District Nurses:

Bexhill Nursing Association and East Sussex County Council:

*Present Staff:**Full-time Health Visitors:*

Miss L. W. Parks, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V.

Miss B. I. Justice, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V. (appointed
28.6.1957)

Miss A. N. Knapp, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V.

Nurse-Midwives:

Mrs. I. N. L. Martin, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

Miss E. S. Wright, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V. (appointed
11.6.1957)

General Nurses:

Miss A. S. Odell, S.R.N., Q.N., Relief Nurse for District

Mr. A. B. Kurn, S.R.N., Q.N.

Mr. C. G. Martin, S.R.N., Q.N.

*Changes during 1957:**Health Visitors and Nurse/Midwives:*

Miss N. W. Spark, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V. (left
24.6.1957)

Miss D. A. Jeal, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V. (left 6.5.1957)

Miss B. A. Barker, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V. (left
25.6.1957)

Tuberculosis:

East Sussex County Council:

A. W. Anderson, M.D.(Lond.), Chest Physician

Venereal Diseases:

W. McAleenan, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF BEXHILL

MR. MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the year 1957, which is arranged in accordance with the instructions contained in the Ministry of Health Circular 1/58, dated 13th January, 1958.

Staff

No changes were made during the year.

New designation—Sanitary Inspectors are now designated Public Health Inspectors. 1

General Standard of Health

This can be regarded as good in that there were no major epidemics apart from Asian Influenza. There were 4 cases of Poliomyelitis, but no outbreaks of Food Poisoning.

The Meteorologist's Report gives details of a disappointing summer after a very good month of sunshine in June. The autumn was predominantly dull and gloomy.

Vital Statistics

Two Infant deaths under 1 year were registered as against 4 during the previous year. The causes being Haemolytic Disease in one and Congenital Arterial defect in the other and while the latter may be regarded as non-preventable, the former condition is receiving special attention and considerable research is being carried out with a view to its being detected (in utero) and arrangements for Hospital confinements where indicated.

The Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births was 8.7 (England and Wales 23.01), a sufficient index of the satisfactory state of public health in Bexhill during the year.

Birth and Death Rates

As usual the deaths greatly outnumbered the births 465—230, the deaths decreased by 20 and the births by 36. The Birth rate adjusted for age and sex distribution of the population was 11.26 (1956—13.18).

Population

The population increased from 26,190 to 26,340.

Deaths

Table 4 tabulates the deaths by age groups; 80% of deaths in males occurred over the age of 65 years while 85% was the figure in respect of females.

The average age of death was:

Males	.. 72.4 years (Expectation of life England and Wales: Males 67.62).
Females	.. 78.5 years (Expectation of life England and Wales: Females 73.11).

Causes of Death

These are shown in Table 1 and show little variation from the figures for 1956. The chief causes were (i) Heart and circulatory disease 280 (an increase of 32 over last year's figures although those for Coronary disease (thrombosis and angina) showed a welcome drop from 73 to 59, (ii) Cancer deaths 94 (1956—99) were approximately the same while the figure for Lung Cancer was 17 as against 13.

There was one death from motor accidents and 9 from other accident causes.

Infectious Diseases

Again it is gratifying to note that there were no cases of diphtheria notified, thanks to the common sense of parents who take advantage of the immunisation facilities readily available through the family doctor or the Local Authority as agents for the Local Health Authority. Statistics will be found in Section F. Measles cases notified numbered 71 and the expected epidemic did not materialise.

The number of Whooping Cough cases fell from 82 to 25 confirming the value of combined diphtheria pertussis immunisation in babies. It is true to say, however, that there were probably many cases so slight in severity that they would not be recognised and notified. It is highly satisfactory that such a distressing complaint has become less prevalent and less severe in its symptoms amongst the immunised.

The one case of Typhoid Fever notified (the first for several years) was due to infection contracted probably from a carrier. The case made an un-interrupted recovery and there was no spread.

The other notified cases of Infectious Disease call for no comment.

Acute Polimyelitis

Four cases were notified as follows:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----|---|
| (i) Boy of 5 years .. | .. | Non-paralytic. |
| (ii) Boy of 13 years .. | .. | Mild paresis of abdominal muscles.
Complete recovery. |
| (iii) Woman of 38 years .. | .. | Mild paresis of right shoulder
muscles. Complete recovery. |
| (iv) Woman of 51 years .. | .. | Mild paresis of right upper arm.
Complete recovery. |

None of these cases had bathed either in the sea or in swimming baths during the year.

The advent of Anti-Polio vaccination during the year gave strong hopes that, as its scope was extended, ultimately this dread disease might be brought under control in the same way Diphtheria has been.

Dysentery

A type called Sonne Dysentery was prevalent, especially amongst school children, during the spring months and although extremely mild in its symptoms was most infectious and caused much absenteeism from schools. Its method of spread is probably by direct contact while lack of personal hygiene predisposes. It is not spread by food or water. The advent of warmer weather together with strict cleanliness brought about a marked diminution of the number of cases. The condition is very widespread throughout the country and has been the subject of

serious investigation and discussion, and it is agreed by all authorities that strict personal hygiene is the best method of prevention of this widespread disease.

Influenza

The Influenza Epidemic (called Asian Flu' and which was in fact a Pandemic) which spread from the Far East during the latter months of the year, received world wide publicity. This disease chiefly affected the teenage groups and those in their early twenties. It was not found necessary to close any schools, but classes were discontinued in some at the height of the epidemic. The local information received from the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance in regard to sickness claims, indicated the spread amongst the general population while those from the Schools traced the wave amongst the School Population.

None of the essential services was particularly affected as the infection was most prevalent, as stated above, in the younger age groups, while there was only one death viz., from acute pulmonary pneumonia directly attributable to Influenza, in a young girl of 17 years.

Sanitary Circumstances

Full details of the work of the Public Health Inspectors in connection with the field of Environmental Hygiene are to be found in Section C, and once again the Town owes a debt to the continued vigilance and industry of these officers under the direction of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Mass Radiography

The East Sussex Mass Radiography Unit did not visit the area during 1957.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47, as amended by the National Assistance Act, 1951.

No action had to be taken during 1957.

National Health Service Act, 1946

The Local Health Authority for the area is the East Sussex County Council, who have delegated to the Medical Officer of Health, in his capacity as Assistant County Medical Officer of Health, supervision and administration of

- (i) Vaccination and Immunisation Service.
- (ii) Ambulance Service.

Old People's Welfare

Increasing attention has, and is being focussed on the welfare of old people particularly those living alone and/or handicapped physically.

The work of the Old People's Foot Clinic helped by voluntary contributions and a substantial grant from the National Corporation for the Care of Old People continued its good work in catering for foot conditions which limit the mobility of the aged and render life miserable.

The numbers catered for rose during the year from 93 to 120, and a beginning was made on the domiciliary treatment by the Chiropodists in those cases which could not visit the Surgeries. The Sub-Committee that directs the work, consisting of the Medical Officer of Health and representatives of Red Cross, British Legion, W.V.S., Round Table, is an integral part of the Bexhill Council of Social Service whose Secretary

acts also as Secretary of this Sub-Committee, and this body up to now co-ordinates most of the activities of the elderly in the Borough.

The visiting of lonely old people and the establishment of good neighbour relations by the County Health Visitors, to whom the warmest thanks are due for this valuable social work, also supplements its work.

Public Conveniences

The provision of paper towels and liquid soap at Public Conveniences has been the subject of many appreciative letters, and remarks, both from visitors and residents alike and represents a considerable contribution to the essential Services which are responsible for preserving the Town's good name for its high standard of cleanliness and hygiene.

The provision of a Public Convenience (jointly with Hastings County Borough) at Glyne Gap in 1958-1959, will meet a long felt want.

Surface Water Drainage

Details of the progress of the Schemes dealing with the above will be found in Section C.

Food Poisoning and Food Hygiene

Full details are given in Section E. It is gratifying to note that there were no outbreaks of food poisoning in the year. Although there was quite a sharp outbreak of "Winter Vomiting," which closely resembles it and produces the same symptomatology but fortunately, however, not related to food consumption.

Portugese Men of War.

During September, Bexhill's beaches together with other South Coast resorts, were visited by a dangerous creature called the Portuguese Man-of-War, closely allied to the Jelly Fish family, and the sting of which is dangerous in its effects, sometimes producing death. The Sherlock Holmes story "The Lion's Mane," which is very familiar to all Conan Doyle readers, and which was the subject of a recent radio talk on the Home Service, gives a graphic picture of the lethal qualities possessed by members of the same zoological group.

The Man-of-War has a pale blue body filled with gas together with a sail-like crest, and the wind drives it great distances from its tropical habitat.

Thanks to prompt publicity by posters, press and radio, ample warning was given, and in Bexhill no reports were received of persons being stung. The danger from this creature arises not only from its virulent poison when alive, but also by reason of its retaining this virulence for some hours after death. With the advent of the cold weather in October, they disappeared. This is the third invasion of the South Coast by this scourge the other years being 1912 and 1945.

Community Centres

With the opening of the Little Common Community Centre in 1957, Bexhill has now three modern and flourishing ones, viz., St. Peter's in Old Town, Sidley House in Sidley, and now the Little Common Community Centre, and it is intended to open an Infant Welfare Centre at the latter during 1958. These Community Centres not only give

recreational facilities but also act as Educational Centres for the areas they are situated in, and in other words are real centres for the life of its community.

Committees

The Committees responsible for health matters in Bexhill are, with their duties:

1. HEALTH COMMITTEE

- (a) Public Health and sanitation.
- (b) Slaughterhouses, the Food and Drugs Act 1955, and regulations made thereunder, Shops Acts and factories and workshops.
- (c) Moveable dwellings.
- (d) The Mortuary.
- (e) Breaches of Bye-laws or Statutes as to matters dealt with by them.
- (f) The service of Notices (other than Preliminary Notices), and, if necessary, the institution of legal proceedings.
- (g) Reconstruction of drains.
- (h) Pollution of streams and watercourses.
- (i) To exercise and carry out the powers and duties of the Council in all matters of urgency relating to the suppression of nuisances and preservation of public health.
- (j) Sewerage and drainage.
- (k) The collection and disposal of house and trade refuse.
- (l) Diseases of Animals Acts.
- (m) Destructive Insects and Pests Acts.
- (n) Riding Establishments Act, 1939.

2. ESTATES AND PARKS COMMITTEE

- (a) The care, control, and management of the Swimming Bath.
- (b) The care, control, and management of Cemeteries.

3. WATER COMMITTEE

- (a) The supply of water and management and control of the water undertaking of the Council.

In conclusion, I place on record my warmest thanks to all members of the Public Health Staff for their continued efficiency and industry, and in particular to Mr. W. H. Ball, Chief Public Health Inspector, and Mr. K. Westwood, the Chief Clerk. The latter has been most helpful in the completion of the statistical side of this report.

To the Chairman and members of the Health Committee, I offer my thanks for their continued interest and support and to all the Chief Officers also for ready help and assistance, particularly to the Town Clerk, Mr. Edward Smith, for his wise guidance and patience at all times.

Even as this report goes to the Printers, two major issues are before the Committee viz., Sewage Pollution on the beaches, and the flooding of certain areas in the Town after periods of heavy rainfall. The former, while not yet proved a danger to Public Health is certainly aesthetically offensive, while the other if it continues promises to be a direct threat to the health of those whose dwellings and premises have been frequently flooded.

R. J. TOLEMAN.

Medical Officer of Health.

1958.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area	8,015 acres
Population	26,340
Number of separate dwelling assessments	9,244
Rateable Value	£530,259
General Rate levied 1957-58	20s. in the £
Product of Penny Rate 1957-58	£2,140 1s. od.

METEOROLOGY

I am indebted to Mr. H. J. Sargent, the Borough Meteorologist, for the following report for 1957:

Meteorological observations were carried on throughout the year 1957. Detailed monthly and other reports were transmitted to the Meteorological Office, Air Ministry, and information was supplied to the press, to the publishers of year-books, to insurance companies, to local municipal departments, and to numerous inquirers.

The duration of sunshine for the year, 1,728.2 hrs. was a little below the normal. June was a notably sunny month with a duration of 307.8 hrs. (normal 232.2 hrs.), but there was a considerable lack of sunshine during July, August and September.

The rainfall for 1957 amounted to 26.71 ins., two inches less than the normal. February was very wet, its total precipitation—4.41 ins.—giving an excess of 2.56 ins. in relation to the average amount. July and September were also wet months. On the other hand, April, May, June, October and December all had much less rain than usual, and there was a dry spell in November.

The mean temperature for the year was 51.6° (normal 50.2°). A notable feature of the year's weather was the unusual mildness of the first four months. March, in particular, with a mean temperature of 48.5° was the mildest March on local record. Although some rather low temperatures were recorded on a few days in January, the coldest period of the year was in the middle of December, when for three or four days air temperatures did not rise above 37° and 38°, and on one occasion a night ground frost of 12° was registered.

In addition to its brilliant sunshine, June had some prolonged spells of hot weather, and a maximum temperature of 84° was reached at the end of the month.

The full records of daily observations of air-pressure, temperatures, humidity, sunshine, precipitation, clouds, visibility and wind, with notes on the general weather conditions throughout the year are available for reference

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

						Males	Females	Total
Live Births : Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	105	114	219
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	7	4	11
Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	8.73
(Comparability Factor 1.29) Adjusted Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	11.26
Stillbirths : Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	7
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	.26
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	203	262	465
Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	17.6
(Comparability Factor 0.59) Adjusted Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	10.38
Deaths from puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Deaths of Infants under one year of age :								
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Death rate of Infants under one year of age :	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	8.7
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	43	51	94
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	5
Deaths from Scarlet Fever (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—

TABLE 1
CAUSES OF DEATH

All Causes						Male 203	Female 262
1.	Tuberculosis respiratory	..	..	.	..	—	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..	..	—	—
3.	Syphilitic Disease	..	.	..	..	1	—
4.	Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	..	..	..	..	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	—	—
8.	Measles	..	..	..	..	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	.	.	.	.	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, Stomach	..	..	..	..	4	5
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	..	..	..	..	12	5
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	.	.	.	.	—	8
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	..	..	—	3
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..	..	..	..	27	30
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	..	..	..	..	1	1
16.	Diabetes	..	..	..	..	1	—
17.	Vascular Lesions of nervous system	..	..	..	..	27	63
18.	Coronary disease, angina	..	..	..	..	33	26
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	..	..	9	10
20.	Other heart disease	..	..	..	..	34	58
21.	Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	..	10	12
22.	Influenza	..	..	..	..	—	—
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	6	6
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	6	4
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	..	..	—	2
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	..	..	..	..	4	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	1	4
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..	..	2	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	..	..	3	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	..	..	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..	.	..	1	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	..	..	16	16
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	..	1	—
34.	All other accidents	..	..	..	..	3	6
35.	Suicide	..	..	..	..	1	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	..	—	—

TABLE 2
INFANTILE DEATHS, 1957. TABLE SHOWING CAUSES AND AGES
AT DEATH

Cause	Age in Weeks				Total under 1 Month	Age in Months					Total
	-1	-2	-3	-4		1+	2+	3+	6+	9-12	
Haemolytic Disease	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pulmonary Artery Atresia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1

TABLE 3
INFANTILE DEATHS SHOWN BY CAUSES OF DEATH AND WARD
DISTRIBUTION

Ward				Haemolytic Disease	Pulmonary Artery Atresia
Sidley	..	..	..	1	—
Central	..	..	..	—	1
Total	..	..	..	1	1

TABLE 4
AGE AT DEATH—ALL CASES, 1957

	Under 1 Year	1	2	3	4	5-10	11-15	16-20	21-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	66-75	76-80	Over 80	Total
Males	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	3	33	75	34	53	203
Females	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	6	29	53	55	115	262

TABLE 5
INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1957 SHOWN BY WARDS

Disease	Ward						Total
	Central	Egerton Park	Old Town	Sackville	St. Mark's	Sidley	
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	—	1	12	6	5	25
Measles ..	8	4	6	25	15	13	71
Scarlet Fever ..	—	2	1	—	—	4	7
Pneumonia ..	—	—	3	1	—	1	5
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	—	1	—	2	6
Ac. Poliomyelitis	2	—	—	—	1	1	4
Meningitis ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	2
Dysentery ..	3	12	—	—	15	8	38
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals ..	17	19	11	41	38	35	161
Tuberculosis Notifications	—	—	—	—	—	—	8

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

Bacteriological and pathological examinations continued to be carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service at their Brighton laboratory, under Dr. J. E. Jameson, Director.

Ambulance Facilities

While the Ambulances themselves are the property of the Local Health Authority, the Service itself is staffed and run by the St. John Ambulance Brigade, Bexhill Division, and continues to function efficiently and satisfactorily by the personnel concerned.

TABLE 6
CALLS, 1957—Three Ambulances

	Patients Carried		Total	No. of Journeys	Total Mileage
	Accident or Emergency	Others, including Invalid, Infectious			
January	7	315	322	212	2,384
February	6	169	175	144	1,560
March	13	172	185	151	1,761
April	5	144	149	133	1,419
May	9	188	197	167	1,431
June	16	160	176	140	1,677
July	26	228	254	191	2,373
August	16	150	166	142	1,949
September	14	205	219	180	1,667
October	10	225	235	172	2,228
November	38	157	195	139	1,513
December	22	210	232	170	2,043

Nursing in the Home

During 1957 the following number of cases were attended by the District Nurses and Health Visitors :

Maternity and Midwifery	..	..	113
General cases	..	..	568

The visits paid were :

Maternity and Midwifery	..	..	1,900
General Nursing	..	..	15,585
(Including Casual)			
Health Visits	..	..	6,365
Ante- and Post-Natal	..	..	1,017
Clinic Sessions attended	..	..	588
Mothercraft Classes and Examinations	..		55
T.B. Visits	..	..	103

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Minor Ailments Clinic for School Children,
London Road Clinic, Bexhill : Monday to Friday
at 9 a.m.

Dental Clinic for School Children,
London Road Clinic, Bexhill

By appointment

Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic,
London Road Clinic, Bexhill

Ante-Natal Clinic,
London Road Clinic, Bexhill

Dental Clinic for Mothers and Pre-School Children
London Road Clinic, Bexhill: By appointment

Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic,
London Road Clinic, Bexhill: Mondays, as required, 2.30 p.m.

Vaccination Clinic : Second Wednesday in
London Road Clinic, Bexhill Month at 2.30 p.m.

Chest Clinic,
Bexhill Hospital : Every Tuesday, 2 p.m.

Venereal Disease Clinic,
Roya! East Sussex Hospital, Hastings: Fridays, 4.45 p.m. - 6.15 p.m.

TABLE 7

Attendances at the Maternity and Child Welfare, Ante-Natal, and Dental Clinics

Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic:

(1) Number of children who first attended the Centre during the year and who at their first attendance were under 1 year of age 106

(2) Number of children who attended the Centre during the year and who were born in:

1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
1956	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	104
1955-52	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	41
<hr/>								
Total Children	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	245
<hr/>								

(3) Number of attendances during the year made by children who at the date of attendance were:

(i) Under 1 year of age	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,481
(ii) Over 1 but under 2 years of age	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	249
(iii) Over 2 but under 5 years of age	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	99
<hr/>								
Total attendances	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,829
<hr/>								

Percentage of registered live births represented by the number in (1) 46.1

Ante-Natal Clinic:

Number of expectant mothers attending	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	34
Number of attendances by infants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	98

Dental Clinic:

Number of attendances by Mothers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Number of attendances by Infants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3

Health Visitors

The following statement shows the visits paid by the Health Visitors during the year:

To expectant mothers:

First visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	77
Total visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	128

To infants under 1 year:

First visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	215
Total visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,379

To children aged 1 to 5 years 2,962

Maternity and Nursing Homes

The East Sussex County Council is the local supervising Authority under Part VI of the Public Health Act, 1936.

The following particulars with reference to the Homes in Bexhill have been supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health:

Total number of homes registered in the Borough on the 31st December 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Number of applications for registration during 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Homes registered during the year	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Orders made refusing or cancelling registration	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Nursing Homes closed down during the year by owners	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

1. Water Supply

Under the Bexhill Corporation Act, 1925, the control of the water supply is vested in the Bexhill Corporation.

(a) The Statutory area includes the Borough of Bexhill and seven rural parishes, the water being obtained from three pumping stations and is fed throughout the whole area through 116 miles of mains, and the water supply has been satisfactory both with regard to quality and quantity.

(b) Bacteriological examinations of the raw water and subsequent treatment at the various pumping stations are carried out.

During 1957, a sample was submitted each month for bacteriological and/or chemical examinations of the water supplied to the consumers and in all cases the standard was that required of a public supply.

(c) The water of the Bexhill Area is not liable to plumbo-solvent action.

(d) There are within the Borough 9,398 dwelling-houses and flats supplied direct from the public water mains, and in addition there are 114 houses covered by standpipe supplies and 617 metered trade supplies.

In the statutory area outside the Borough there are 1,062 dwelling-houses and flats directly connected with the public mains, and in addition there are 356 metered supplies.

The average quantity of water used daily during 1957 in the statutory area was 1,358,000 gallons, which represents a decrease of 7,000 gallons per day as compared with 1956.

WATER ANALYSIS

Copy of Report on Sample of Water taken on 14th August, 1957

Low Level

Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance	..	..	..	..	Faint opalescence with very few particles
Colour	..	..	..	..	Filtered 3
pH	..	..	..	..	8.4
Electric Conductivity	..	..	..	..	390
Chlorine present as Chloride	..	..	..	..	46
Hardness—Carbonate	..	..	..	..	110
Non-Carbonate	..	..	..	..	0
Total	..	..	..	..	110
Nitrate Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	0.0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	0.000
Albuminoid Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	0.000
Metals	..	..	..	..	Iron 0.50, other metals absent
Turbidity	..	..	..	..	4
Odour	..	..	..	..	Nil
Free Carbon Dioxide	..	..	..	..	Absent
Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C.	..	..	..	..	260
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	..	..	..	..	120
Nitrite Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	Absent
Oxygen Absorbed	..	..	..	..	0.25
Residual Chlorine	..	..	..	..	Absent

Bacteriological Results

Number of Colonies developing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in:

1 day at 37°C 2 per ml.

2 days at 37°C 2 per ml.

3 days at 20°C 9 per ml.

Presumptive Coli-aerogenes Reaction Present in — ml.
Absent from 100 ml.
Probable Number 0 per 100 ml.

Bact coli. (Type 1) Present in — ml.
Absent from 100 ml.
Probable Number 0 per 100 ml.

Cl. welchii Reaction Present in — ml.
Absent from 100 ml.

Report

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality, and is free from metals apart from a minute trace of iron. The hardness of the water is very moderate and it contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It is of high standard of organic quality and bacterial purity.

These results are indicative of a water which, from the aspect of the chemical analysis, is pure and wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

2. Drainage and Sewerage

During 1957, six properties in Pebsham Drive were connected to the main sewer constructed by the Council during the previous year. It is expected that other property owners in this area will follow suit.

The surface water scheme dealing with the area between Broadoak Lane and Veness Gap was commenced during the year and is nearing completion. Similarly the Downs Road sewer, designed to give some relief to the Woodgate Park area, was also commenced.

Normal obstructions and subsidences were dealt with as and when they occurred and the cleansing and dragging of main sewers was continued as a matter of routine.

Further work on securing the main sewer outfall was carried out but had to be discontinued during the winter weather. Good progress was, however, made up to then.

3. Rivers and Streams

Blockages and cleansing has been carried out as a routine matter. Some landowners still do not seem to be sufficiently aware of their responsibilities in the matter of keeping all ditches and culverts within their ownership free from obstructions.

4. Public Cleansing

The removal and disposal of house refuse, carried out by the Borough Surveyor's Department, has proceeded satisfactorily and weekly collections (with twice weekly and special collections from Hotels and Schools, where necessary) has been maintained, except in certain outlying parts of the Borough.

Controlled tipping has been carried out on the Hastings County Borough tip satisfactorily.

5. Sanitary Inspection of the Area

During 1957, 8,396 visits were paid by the Public Health Inspectors. The nature of the inspections, together with the list of Notices served and the results of such notices are included in the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, which appears at the end of this Report.

6. Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

During the year 203 visits were paid to Factories, Workshops and Workplaces. Eight notices were served during the year, of which seven were complied with at the end of the year.

7. Moveable Dwellings

There are 14 licensed sites, giving accommodation for 232 caravans and 223 tents in the area.

Routine inspection of fairs and circuses have been carried out and the usual high standard was found.

Youth Organisations again visited the area for camping holidays.

The arrangements at the various sites were kept under observation.

8. Smoke Abatement

Premises were kept under observation from time to time—90 visits were made.

The principal industries are Gas Works, Brick Works and Dry Cleaning Works. Railway operations also come within the sphere of activity.

9. Swimming Baths and Pools

This important aspect of Public Health was undertaken during the bathing season and 9 samples were taken of bath water and submitted for analysis. All of which were satisfactory.

10. Eradication of Vermin

A total of 8 complaints was received in respect of premises infested with fleas—seven private and one service premises were disinfested.

In connection with re-housing in Council Houses, 123 visits were paid. Furniture and effects were inspected prior to re-housing.

11. Offensive Trades

There are two premises in the area which come within the definition of offensive trades, i.e. two Rag and Bone Dealers. Two visits were made during the year.

12. Fish Frying Premises

There are 3 premises in the Borough where this trade is carried on. Twenty-four visits were made during the year.

13. Pig-Keeping, Poultry-Keeping and Rabbit-Keeping

The Officers of the Department have supervised premises where pig-keeping, poultry-keeping and rabbit-keeping are pursued, and in this connection 13 visits were paid to premises for poultry and rabbit-keeping and 35 visits for pig-keeping.

14. Shops Acts

SHOPS ACT, 1950

EMPLOYMENT OF YOUNG PERSONS ACT, 1920

Under the Shops Act, 1950, 361 visits were made to shops during the year in relation to lighting, heating and ventilation and general sanitation.

One notice was served in this connection, which had been complied with at the end of the year.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

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

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	19	55	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	106	148	6	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority † (excluding out-workers' premises).	—	—	11	—
TOTAL	125	203	18	—

† *i.e.* Electrical Stations [Section 103(1)]. Institutions. (Section 104 and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	4	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	11	10	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	18	17	—	—	—

**OUTWORK—continued
(Sections 110 and 111)**

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c) (3)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (4)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (5)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (6)	Notices served (7)	Prosecutions (8)
(1)						
Tents	}					
Sacks						
Racquet and tennis balls						
Paper bags						
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper.. .. .						
Brush making						
Pea picking						
Feather sorting						
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.						
Stuffed toys						
Basket making						
Chocolate and sweetmeats						
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc.						
Textile weaving						
Lampshades						
TOTAL	4					

SECTION D

HOUSING

General details with regard to inspection of dwelling houses are submitted in the following tabular form :—

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

Traditional Type Brick Houses	50
One bedroom Bungalows	6

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year

(i) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	757
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose... ..	1,604
(ii) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, and 1932	Nil
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose... ..	Nil
(iii)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(iv)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	68

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 the Local Authority or their officers	16
--	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

- (a) Proceedings under Section 4 of the Housing Act, 1957 :—
- (i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... Nil
 - (ii) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) By owners ... Nil
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... Nil
- (b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—
- (i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 2
 - (ii) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) By owners ... 1
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... Nil
- (c) Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 :—
- (i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... Nil
 - (ii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... Nil
- (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—
- (i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... Nil
 - (ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... Nil

4. Housing Act, 1957

During the year 7 complaints with regard to overcrowding were investigated by the Department.

5. Reconditioning of Houses

Sixteen houses were rendered fit in consequence of informal action.

6. Housing Programme

The undermentioned table, supplied by the Corporation Housing Department, sets out details with regard to applications for housing accommodation and the number rehoused at 31st December, 1957.

1. APPLICATIONS

(a) Total number of applications on Housing Register as at 31st December, 1957	531
(b) Applications from non-residents	65
(c) Applicants working in Bexhill but living out of the Borough	10

2. RE-HOUSED

(a) Total number of families re-housed by the Committee since June, 1945	1,300
(b) Of the above, 80 per cent. have been ex-Servicemen.	

3. THE BUILDING PROGRAMME FOR 1957 is as follows:—

- (a) 17 Units of Aged Persons Accommodation.
- (b) 16 Houses.

7. Housing Survey

The Housing Survey of 1955, made as a result of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular No. 55/54, resulted in the Council deciding to deal with certain properties in the Borough under Slum Clearance procedure; either by means of Clearance Areas or as Individual Unfit Houses. The programme to be dealt with over a period of five years, was approved by the Ministry.

The principal facts of the proposals are set out as follows:

CLEARANCE AREAS:	Houses
Wrestwood Road Clearance Area	2
Collington Lane Clearance Area	2
Belle Hill Clearance Area	3
Glovers Lane Clearance Area	7
Ninfield Road No. 1 Clearance Area	6
Ninfield Road No. 2 Clearance Area	4
Little Common Clearance Area	3
INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES	7
Total	34

At the time of the Survey the number of persons to be displaced was 63.

Two areas have been represented for demolition:

	Houses
Glovers Lane Clearance Area	7
Ninfield Road No. 1 Clearance Area	6

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk Supply

A total of 58 visits were made by Public Health Inspectors to dealers' premises and dairies during 1957.

REGISTRATIONS

The accompanying table gives details of the regulations effected and the licences issued during the year:

Food and Drugs Act, 1955	
Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949	
Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949-54	
and the	
Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations	
1949-53	

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955—REGISTRATIONS

Certificate of Registration of Dairy	5
Certificate of Registration of Distributor	35

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED) REGULATIONS, 1949-53—LICENCES:

Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation "Sterilised"	1
Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation "Pasteurised"	33
Dealer's Supplementary Licence in respect of Pasteurised Milk	4
Dealer's Supplementary Licence in respect of Sterilised Milk	1

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949-54 LICENCES:

Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested"	31
Dealer's Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested"	4

Pasteurised Milk

During the year there was one pasteurising plant operating within the Borough and three sources of supply of milk were treated at plants outside the Borough. The remaining supplier obtains milk from the local pasteurising plants.

During the year 41 samples of this milk were taken. One was found to be unsatisfactory.

Tuberculin Tested Milk

There are 31 dealers in the Borough who supply graded milks under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.

(i) Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised).

Forty-three samples of Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk were obtained, all were found to be satisfactory.

(ii) Tuberculin Tested (Farm Bottled).

Forty-four samples of this grade of milk were obtained of which two were found to be unsatisfactory.

The total number of samples of various grades of milk taken during the year was 131 as compared with 101 last year. Only three samples, or 2.30 per cent., were found to be unsatisfactory. A very satisfactory position.

TABLE 8
MILK SAMPLES TAKEN

Pasteurised		Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)		Tuberculin Tested (Farm Bottled)	
Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
41	1	43	—	44	2

(b) Food Hygiene

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

Number of Food Premises in the Area

Type:

Cafes	50
Butchers	20
Greengrocers	27
Dairies	5
Grocers	49
Wet Fish	7
Fried Fish	3
Bread and Confectionery	12
Miscellaneous, including sweets and ice-cream	43
Licensed Premises	21
Hotels and Guest Houses	103
Total	340
Total shops in Area	488

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE
FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

For the manufacture and sale of Sausages or Potted Pickled or Preserved Food.. ..	21
For the manufacture and/or sale of ice-cream	139

The number of Notices served was 110 of which 84 had been
complied with by the end of the year.

TABLE 9
SUMMARY OF ACTION TAKEN WITH REGARD TO MEAT
AND OTHER FOODS

						Total Weight	
						lbs.	ozs.
Meat							
Beef						64	0
Liver						39	8
Pork Sausages						9	0
						112	8
Tinned Meat							
Braised Steak						3	0
Stewed Steak						4	9
Luncheon Meat						15	13
Corned Beef						33	12
Ox Tongue						2	0
Pork Luncheon Meat						7	11
Chicken						11	10
Game Pate							4
Beef and Tongue							8
Liver and Bacon Paste							2 ³ / ₄
Braised Kidneys							12
Calves Tongues							8
Casserole Steak						1	0
Steak and Kidney						1	0
Meat Paste							3 ¹ / ₂
Minced Beef Loaf						1	8
Sausages							14
Pigs Livers						5	0
						90	3 ¹ / ₄
Miscellaneous							
Cereals						65	9 ¹ / ₂
Cheese						1	0
Coffee							7
Currants						1	0
Tea							8
Flour						3	0
Beef, Ham and Egg Pie						9	12
Energen Rolls						13	1

Figgerolls.. .. .	9 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Biscuits	7	0	
Dessicated Coconut	5	0	
Pork Pies.. .. .	9	0	
Beef Steak Pies	1	14	
Sponges	1	0	
Sweets	1	0	
		119	13
Tinned Fish	19	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Fresh Fish	222	0	
		241	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
Miscellaneous Tinned Goods		603	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
Bacon and Ham—Tinned and otherwise		136	9
		1,304	6

Disposal

Animal Feeding and Manufacturing Purposes	1,304	6
---	-------	---

TABLE 10**CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART**

	Cattle exclu- ding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known) ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number inspected	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Cysticercosis:</i>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE 11
FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Adulteration

The East Sussex County Council is the Authority for the administration of this sub-section, and the following information has been received from that Authority:—

Articles	No. of Samples Taken		Genuine		Adulterated	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Milk	29	183	16	179	13	4
Milk (Channel Island)	13	14	2	10	11	4
Ice Cream	—	6	—	6	—	—
Buttered Rolls	—	3	—	3	—	—
Butter	—	2	—	2	—	—
Double Cream	—	2	—	2	—	—
Whisky	—	2	—	2	—	—
Sherry	—	1	—	1	—	—
Ruby Wine	—	1	—	1	—	—
Liqueur Chocolates	—	1	—	1	—	—
Currants	—	1	—	1	—	—
Raisins	—	1	—	1	—	—
Sultanas	—	1	—	1	—	—
Yoghourt	—	1	—	1	—	—
Chicken pasties	—	1	—	1	—	—
Honey Crunch	—	1	—	1	—	—
Treacle	—	1	—	1	—	—
Orange Juice	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cream Biscuits	—	1	—	1	—	—
Golden Raising Powder	—	1	—	1	—	—
Bio-botanical tablets	—	1	—	1	—	—

The formal adulterated samples of milk gave rise to legal proceedings when a conviction was secured and fines of £30 and £22 8s. od. costs awarded.

The formal adulterated Channel Island milk samples came from two separate farms. Those from one farm were genuine but sub-standard and the farmer ceased sending milk to the wholesale dairy. The other farm was occupied by an elderly lady who had been declared bankrupt and was about to be dispossessed from the farm. In these circumstances no further action was taken.

Ice Cream

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1947-52

One hundred and twenty samples were submitted for examination with the following results:

Grade 1, 75; Grade 2, 38; Grade 3, 4; Grade 4, 3.

In assessing the Hygienic quality of ice cream it is generally accepted that the product should attain either Grade 1 or 2.

The results show that of the samples taken during the year 1957, 94.16 per cent. satisfied the requirements of Grades 1 and 2, as compared with 87.83 per cent. during the year 1956.

Ten samples of ice cream were taken in order to ascertain the quality of the product, which is based on a Fat Content Standard of 5 per cent. All samples were found to be satisfactory.

Strict supervision is given to premises where ice cream is handled; 189 visits of sampling and inspection were paid during the year.

Number of manufacturing premises: 2.

Number of registered retail premises: 139.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The table below summarises the notifications for the year together with the Hospital admissions.

There were no deaths and the Hospital admissions all recovered completely with the exception of the one case of Poliomyelitis which is still under treatment for mild paresis.

TABLE 12

Diseases	Notifications received	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital	Deaths
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	25	—	—
Measles	71	5	—
Scarlet Fever ..	7	2	—
Pneumonia ..	5	—	—
Erysipelas ..	2	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	—	—
Ac. Poliomyelitis	4	4	—
Meningitis ..	2	1	—
Dysentery ..	38	1	—
Typhoid Fever ..	1	1	—
Influenza ..	—	1	—
Chickenpox ..	—	3	—
Jaundice ..	—	1	—
Totals ..	161	19	—

Vaccination

Eight public sessions of Vaccination were held during the year on the second Wednesday in the month at the East Sussex County Clinic, London Road, at 2.30 p.m. The following table gives particulars of the number vaccinated and revaccinated at the Clinic and by General Practitioners.

TABLE 13

**NUMBER OF PERSONS VACCINATED (or re-vaccinated) DURING
YEAR 1957**

Age at date of Vaccination	Under 1	1	2 to 4	5 to 14	15 or over	Total
Number Vaccinated	199 (80%)	7	6	11	21	244
Number Re-Vaccinated	—	—	9	51	206	266

**NUMBER OF CASES SPECIALLY REPORTED DURING PERIOD (age
groups as above)**

(a) Generalised Vaccinia	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Post-vaccinal Encephalo- myelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Death from complications of vaccination other than (a) and (b)	—	—	—	—	—	—

Diphtheria Immunisation,**Diphtheria/Pertussis Immunisation,****Diphtheria/Pertussis/Tetanus Immunisation**

Twenty-two sessions for inoculation were held during the year and particulars of the numbers dealt with and including those dealt with by private practitioners, are shown in the following table.

TABLE 14

	Under 1 year	1-4 years	5-14 years
Number of children who completed the full course during year:			
Diph.	3	—	15
Diph./Pert.	51	3	1
Diph./Pert./Tetanus	153	29	5
Total	207	32	21
Number of children who received reinforcing injections against Diphtheria during the year	—	12	458
Percentage of child population who have completed a course of immunisation at any time before 31st December, 1957 (estimated)	83%	76%	96%
Percentage of child population who have received reinforcing doses within the last five years (estimated)	—	—	70%

The inoculation state of the infant and child population continues to be highly satisfactory; a percentage of 80 per cent. vaccinated under 1 year is more than twice that for England and Wales, and speaks volumes for the educational work of the Health Visitors and Family Doctors.

The Diphtheria Immunisation figures for those of 5 and over remains at 96 per cent., while there has been a rise of from 64 per cent. —70 per cent in those under 1 year, and many of those not inoculated receive it in the 2nd and 3rd years, the postponements being due to illness, family moves, etc.

Pertussis/Whooping Cough Immunisation

Table 15 gives the figures for notified cases of Whooping Cough in the Borough since 1948.

Immunisation commenced in 1954, and the statistics so far indicate a great diminution in this distressing complaint. It is possible that many cases are now so mild that they are not recognised, and thus not notified but the end result is amelioration in symptoms if not complete immunity.

Thus gradually the great plagues of history are being conquered viz., Smallpox, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and soon we hope, Poliomyelitis.

TABLE 15
WHOOPIING COUGH CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1955-1958

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958 to 30.6.58
Under 1 year	14	—	—	11	2	7	2	—	5	2	—
1 year	34	7	5	17	4	46	19	2	2	3	2
2 years									6	4	—
3 years	42	9	13	24	6	65	36	4	8	8	1
4 years									11	2	—
5-9 years	59	14	21	41	8	96	41	8	46	4	—
10-14 years	12	1	1	11	—	10	2	—	3	1	—
15-24 years	1	—	—	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
25 and over	8	—	—	3	1	4	2	1	1	1	—
Total	170	31	40	110	21	229	103	15	82	25	3

Cancer

The number of deaths certified as being due to Cancer was 94—43 males and 51 females—as compared with 96 (38 males and 57 females) in 1956, see vital statistics, table No. 1 (Causes of Death).

Lung Cancer cases—17 as against 13 (1956); Breast Cases were 8 as against 15, and Stomach cases 9 as against 13.

Tuberculosis

TABLE 16

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 65	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—

The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the end of 1957, was as follows:

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	59	50	109
Non-Pulmonary	6	3	9
	65	53	118

It will be seen that there were 3 more cases in the area as compared with 1956 (115).

This is due to there having been 1 death (from other causes than Tuberculosis) and 14 cases having left the area (15). While 18 cases have been added to the Register viz., 8 new cases and 10 Inward Transfers, a net increase of 3.

Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

MR. MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1957, the twelfth as an officer of the Borough of Bexhill.

It will be noted that the designation of the profession has now been changed to "Public Health Inspector," from that of "Sanitary Inspector." The reason for this change may not be apparent to many people; there may be several reasons but there are those who consider the word "Sanitary" to be outdated having regard to the wide field of activities covered in the sphere of Environmental Hygiene. Another reason put forward in support of the change is that it will aid recruitment to the profession—this to my mind is very doubtful, as I honestly believe there are other factors which mitigate against a full complement in many Local Authority staffs. After all, what's in a name, if you feel you are doing a worthwhile job of work; and why "Inspector" and not "Officer"? Our friends in America still like to use the word "Sanitarian."

My earlier reference to environmental hygiene may need some amplifications, as in one form or another the whole of the town's population is affected, although work in any particular branch may vary in scope and degree in different districts.

The type, the age and financial position of the inhabitants also have a direct bearing on the work which must be undertaken. Increased leisure is now enjoyed by all with the result that we are able to visit the seaside and the country, as a consequence we are now faced with the growing problem of "litter." There are however indications of this being dealt with by legislation.

Informative tables follow in this report, which give some idea of the work undertaken by Public Health Inspectors. Reference, however, must be made to certain aspects of our activities.

General Observations

FOOD

Section E of the Medical Officer of Health's report gives details relating to the Inspection or Supervision of Food:—In this connection I would report that the inspection of premises under the Food Hygiene Regulations is proceeding satisfactorily. Minor incidents of dispute occur from time to time, but so far no great difficulty has been encountered.

HOUSING

Under the heading of Housing, the Council's Slum Clearance Programme is proceeding and the systematic inspection of houses has been put in hand—105 houses were inspected. Certain areas in the district are being dealt with under this heading.

CESSPOOLS

The disposal of sewage by means of cesspools and similar methods entails a great deal of time in an effort to control nuisances which can and do arise. The extension of the Public Sewer system to Pebsham is now beginning to show positive results. Also in the Turkey Road area, all properties have now been connected to the sewer extension. During 1957, the Council gave its approval to a scheme which will reduce the number of cesspools in the Mayo Lane—Watermill Lane area. It is expected that as the district becomes more urbanised on the outskirts more and more cesspools will be eliminated. Meanwhile efforts are being made to improve conditions by collective schemes—as instance 12 houses in Ninfield Road, known as St. Mary's Cottages. Here a communal disposal unit has been installed, with consequent improvement in closet and bathroom improvements.

HOUSE DRAINAGE

Surveys and inspections have been carried out during the year, but there is still reluctance on the part of the house purchaser to take advantage of the service which the Department can offer in this direction.

CLEAN AIR

SMOKE ABATEMENT

A considerable amount of time and effort was spent in dealing with the problem of grit and dust emission from the Glyne Gap Gasworks. Some progress towards elimination has been made, but at the time of writing there is room for much more improvement. The officers have kept the works under constant observation, and consultations have taken place with H.M. Alkali Inspectors. The Clean Air Act, 1957, envisages certain changes in control and administration of such premises. Similar changes are possible in regard to smoke and grit emission from Brickworks.

Oil burning plant at a local factory has also been the subject of complaint and investigation. This particular premise is still under observation.

A minor problem arose from locomotive engines at the Bexhill West Station. The co-operation of British Railways was forthcoming following representations.

Principal premises kept under observation are as follows:—

Gasworks	..	..	..	2
Brickworks	..	..	..	1
Dyers and Cleaners	..	..	..	1
Dairies	..	..	..	1
Hotels	..	..	..	2

PIGEONS

Preventive measures were undertaken during the year and considerable progress was made. A function which devolved on the Department was the return to fanciers of birds which had apparently become lost when taking part in Homing Races. Sixteen such birds

were despatched to places as far apart as Newcastle, Lowestoft, Plymouth, London, Ramsgate and Ormskirk (Lancs.). One from Northern Ireland could not be returned, but with the consent of the owner this one was sent to a loft in Plymouth where heavy losses had been suffered during the season.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

FOOD INSPECTION—MILK—ICE CREAM

MILK

A total of 131 samples were taken and submitted for examination of which three samples failed the laboratory test.

ICE CREAM

A total of 120 samples were submitted for examination of which 113 (Grade 1—75; Grade 2—38 or 94.16 per cent. satisfied the requirements of the Methylene Blue Test.

FOOD HYGIENE

The inspection of food premises, Shops, Cafes, Hotels and Guest Houses proceeded throughout the year.

No. of premises inspected	..	..	310
No. of Notices served	..	..	110
No. of Notices complied with	..	..	84

Details of items remedied are appended below:

TABLE 17

Scrape walls and ceilings and lime wash	..	..	..	9
Cleanse and colour wash walls and ceilings	..	..	..	20
Cleanse and repaint walls and ceilings	..	..	..	27
Cleanse walls and ceilings and repair	..	..	..	11
Provide and fix new wash hand basin, etc.	..	..	..	40
Provide accommodation for storage of clothing	..	..	..	11
Notice requiring washing of hands	..	..	..	52
Provide shades for electric lamps	..	..	..	14
Provide nail brushes, towels and soap	..	..	..	19
Provide first-aid box, etc.	..	..	..	27
Repair or provide tiles surface to wall over sink	..	..	..	4
Defective wall plaster	..	..	..	17
Notice re smoking and/or spitting	..	..	..	24
Provide new sink	..	..	..	20
Renew existing sink	..	..	..	8
Provide hoods to gas cookers	..	..	..	4
Bedroom communicates directly with food rooms	..	..	..	1
Provide hot water	..	..	..	13
W.C. communicates direct with food room	..	..	..	1
Repair roof	..	..	..	1
Dirty windows and cills	..	..	..	1
Renew panes of glass	..	..	..	1
Repair concrete floor and relay with red quarry tiles	..	..	..	7

Defective ceiling plaster	5
Repair floor	9
Provide non-absorbent floor covering	5
Provide new draining board and surround to sink	10
Provision of refuse bin	10
Provide trap to waste pipe	2
Renew defective surround to drain inlet gully	1
Provision of cold storage	4
Repair insanitary drainage channel	2
Provide non-absorbent covering to table top	2
Installation of mechanical ventilation	4
Provide separate W.C. accommodation	1
Repair defective yard paving	1
Miscellaneous	60
Total	448

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Department is responsible for the supervision of cleansing of public conveniences in the Borough.

Summary of Accommodation:

Marina	Male and Female
East Parade	Male and Female
West Parade	Male and Female
Colonnade	Male and Female
Egerton Park (Museum)	Male and Female
Cooden Beach	Male and Female
Sidley	Male and Female
Devonshire Square	Male and Female
Little Common	Male and Female
Little Common Recreation Ground	Male and Female
Buckhurst Place	Female only
Sackville Arch	Male only
Downs Arch	Male only (urinal)

During the summer season hot water washing facilities are provided at Marina (Ladies), with attendants at peak periods. With the exception of the Colonnade and Downs Arch cold water washing facilities are available at all conveniences, with paper towels. Cold water washing arrangements are provided at Little Common Recreation Ground.

The replacement of facilities at the Colonnade and the Downs Arch is still under consideration.

There has been no progress towards providing very necessary facilities in the Old Town.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

CARAVANS—TENTS

The sites in the Borough continue to be operated satisfactorily.

The only major problem continues to be that of an adequate water supply at Normans Bay, during the peak periods of July and August.

The whole question of sewage disposal and water supply in this area is to receive the attention of both the Public Health Committee and the Water Committee. Perhaps we may be able to report some progress in 1958.

Summer camps set up by the various youth organisations were supervised during occupation.

It was noticeable that this type of recreation was not on quite the scale of the past few years. Nevertheless, the site at Galley Hill proved very popular.

The accompanying tables set out the nature and scope of the work carried out by the Department during the course of the year:

TABLE 18

Housing inspection, P.H.	...	...	...	...	...	604
Visits re above	...	...	...	...	...	1,427
Housing inspection, H.A.	...	...	...	...	...	153
Visits re above	...	...	...	...	...	177
Housing Survey	...	...	...	...	...	4
Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954	...	...	...	...	...	20
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	2
Water supply	...	...	...	...	...	13
Water Samples procured :						
Main Supply	...	...	...	...	...	10
Swimming Bath	...	...	...	...	...	9
Smoke abatement	...	...	...	...	...	90
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	1
Moveable dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	62
Rag and bone dealers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Stables and/or piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	35
Poultry/Rabbit keeping	...	...	...	...	...	13
Factories—mechanical power	...	...	...	...	...	148
Factories—non mechanical power	...	...	...	...	...	55
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	4
Shops Acts, 1950	...	...	...	...	...	361
Public conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	280
Theatres, cinemas, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	16
Drainage—general	...	...	...	...	...	709
Drainage—testing by :						
(a) Smoke	...	...	...	...	...	157
(b) Water	...	...	...	...	...	61
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	581
Other sanitary visits	...	...	...	...	...	171
Dustbins/Ashes receptacles	...	...	...	...	...	279
Works in progress	...	...	...	...	...	65
Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	127
Pet Animals Act, 1951	...	...	...	...	...	12

Miscellaneous—General Sanitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	195
Knackers Yard	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Butchers' shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	126
Fried fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Fishmongers and poulterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Greengrocers and fruiterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	74
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	259
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Dairies and milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Ice cream sampling	...	...	...	...	...	...	132
Milk sampling—Methylene Blue	...	...	...	...	...	...	127
Food preparing premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	310
Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	...	184
Food & Drugs Act—Registration	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other food visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	155
Infectious Disease and disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	...	167
Disinfestation, general	...	...	...	...	...	...	64
Disinfestation, bugs, fleas etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	59
Rats and mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	662
							<hr/> 8,396 <hr/>

COMPLAINTS

1951	..	..	..	..	..	..	842
1952	..	..	..	..	..	..	830
1953	..	..	..	..	..	..	804
1954	..	..	..	..	..	..	818
1955	..	..	..	..	..	..	758
1956	..	..	..	..	..	..	720
1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	707

TABLE 19

Conditions of premises	12
Beetles, Ants, etc.	44
Dampness	25
Housing Defects	36
Defective chimney stacks	5
Drainage and Sanitary Fittings	50
Stoving and/or Disinfection of rooms	42
Accumulation of refuse/manure	12
Food	28
Flooding	6
Water Supply	2
Smoke Nuisance.. .. .	15
Overcrowding	7
Verminous premises	7
Cesspools and septic tanks	9
Overgrown land	7
Keeping of animals	9
Conveniences	1
Food Premises	4
Milk and Dairies.. .. .	3
Moveable Dwellings	1
Closet Accommodation—Building Sites	2
Smells	18
Trees causing nuisance	3
Shops Act	1
Miscellaneous	16
Rats and Mice	342
Total	707

SANITARY DEFECTS AND NOTICES

TABLE 20

Statutory Notices issued during 1957	9
Statutory Notices complied with at 31st December, 1957	5
Statutory Notices outstanding at 31st December, 1957	4
Informal Notices issued during 1957	392
Informal Notices complied with at 31st December, 1957	300
Informal Notices outstanding at 31st December, 1957	92

HOUSE INSPECTION AND SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS

Sixteen houses were rendered fit as a result of informal action. The following table shows the sanitary improvements effected during the year:

TABLE 21

Drains entirely reconstructed	..	..	..	..	..	15
Drains repaired	..	..	..	..	..	19
Choked drains	..	..	..	..	..	18
New frames and covers to existing chambers	..	..	..	..	..	1
Defective waste pipes	..	..	..	..	..	3
Cesspools emptied	..	..	..	..	..	4
Septic tanks repaired	..	..	..	..	..	9
Defective W.C. pans	..	..	..	..	..	4
Defective W.C. seats	..	..	..	..	..	2
Defective W.C. flushing cisterns	..	..	..	..	..	10
Insanitary and defective sinks	..	..	..	..	..	5
Absence of proper sink	..	..	..	..	..	1
Defective plaster to walls	..	..	..	..	..	26
Defective plaster to ceilings	..	..	..	..	..	8
Defective external walls	..	..	..	..	..	2
Dampness of walls	..	..	..	..	..	34
Dampness general	..	..	..	..	..	26
Walls requiring cleansing	..	..	..	..	..	6
Ceilings requiring cleansing	..	..	..	..	..	6
Defective fireplaces and grates	..	..	..	..	..	2
Defective kitchen range	..	..	..	..	..	1
Defective chimney flues	..	..	..	..	..	3
Defective fresh air inlet	..	..	..	..	..	1
Defective cement rendering	..	..	..	..	..	8
Defective doors and cupboards	..	..	..	..	..	5
Defective sashes and frames	..	..	..	..	..	25
Defective and dangerous chimney stacks	..	..	..	..	..	2
Defective roofs	..	..	..	..	..	20
Defective yard paving	..	..	..	..	..	6
Defective water supply pipes	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dustbins provided	..	..	..	..	..	171
Keeping of animals	..	..	..	..	..	1
Accumulation of refuse/manure	..	..	..	..	..	4
Dirty floors	..	..	..	..	..	1
Defective rain water pipes	..	..	..	..	..	4
Defective eaves gutters	..	..	..	..	..	9
Defective floors	..	..	..	..	..	8
Defective cills	..	..	..	..	..	1
Absence of closet accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	9
Absence of suitable artificial lighting	..	..	..	..	..	1
Defective staircases	..	..	..	..	..	5
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	29
Total	..	..	..	..	..	516

TABLE 22
ARTICLES DISINFECTED OR DESTROYED

Article	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Wearing Apparel ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	2	—	6	41
Uniform Cing	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bed Covers	—	—	3	—	—	—	2	—	3	4	—	—	12
Mattresses ..	—	1	5	2	—	1	4	4	5	3	29	1	55
Feather Beds	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
Eiderdowns	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	1	2	3	—	—	11
Bolsters ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	4
Pillows ..	5	4	5	3	—	2	12	13	17	33	50	4	151
Blankets ..	—	—	9	5	6	6	9	4	15	8	111	1	168
Sheets ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	6	2	24	1	36
Miscellaneous	—	3	5	—	—	—	2	3	18	26	37	6	100
Totals ..	5	8	28	5	9	11	34	26	100	83	252	19	580

TABLE 23
ROOMS FUMIGATED

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	5
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Acute	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	9
Chicken Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vermin ..	4	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	14	1	—	—	23
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	6	9
Totals ..	6	—	2	—	3	2	3	—	17	5	—	11	49

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

During the year 203 visits were paid to factories, workshops and workplaces, 8 notices being served. Seven of the notices had been complied with at the end of the year.

The following details are of the items in the notices served.

Factories Act, 1937

SECTION 1:

Premises requiring cleaning	4
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SECTION 7:

Dirty walls and ceiling	2
Absence of flushing cistern to W.C.	1
Absence of Closet on Building Site	10
Pedestal foul	..	..	..	..	1
Penetrating dampness in W.C.	..	..	..	..	1

DISINFECTION AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Steam disinfection of bedding, clothing and other articles is carried out at the Disinfection Station, St. Mary's Lane, Bexhill.

No. of rooms disinfected	..	..	..	49
No. of articles disinfected or destroyed	..	..	..	580
No. of visits paid	..	..	..	167

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Dwellinghouses and Business Premises

A total of 342 complaints were received and 2,773 visits were made to premises and land.

<i>No. of complaints</i>	<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>	<i>Total</i>
1957	211	131	342
1956	191	135	326
1955	192	105	287
1954	238	117	355
1953	222	114	336
<i>Total number of visits paid</i>			
1957	2,773		
1956	2,849		
1955	3,085		
1954	2,802		
1953	2,293		

Farm Premises

Twenty-four visits of survey were made by the Rodent Officer. There are 28 premises within the Borough which are classed as Agricultural.

INFESTATIONS:

19 premises treated by the occupier.

2 premises treated by the Council's Rodent Officer.

Sewers

Following negative results in 1957 the Ministry of Agriculture has exempted the Borough from further tests until 1960.

St. Mary's Lane Refuse Tip

The refuse tip is now almost completed as a major centre of disposal. Casual tipping will still be carried on.

Twenty-two visits were made for the purposes of rodent treatment. Three major and one minor infestation were found and treated.

CONCLUSION

The year under review has not been a particularly momentous one and a perusal or study of the notes and tables does not spotlight any one aspect of Public Health activity, but I am satisfied that the standard attained by the Department in the immediate Post-War years has been maintained. My immediate colleagues Mr. C. E. Lockley and Mr. S. Wild have supported me and I tender to them my sincere thanks and appreciation.

Staff changes are envisaged in the Organisations and Methods Report. My only hope is that the valuable work undertaken by Messrs. H. J. Stentiford, Mr. G. Chalmers and Mr. D. Evenden will be as well done under any new regime as it has by these three necessary colleagues.

Dr. Toleman has again given me that support which is necessary in a profession which must be carried out without fear or favour. My sincere thanks are due to him.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, may I say that I have felt I have enjoyed your confidence. I hope that I shall continue to merit this. May I thank you for your support.

W. H. BALL,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

