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RURAL DISTRICT OF CHAILEY
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the
Year Ended 31st December, 1963



Public Health Department,
The Grange,
Southover,
LEWES,
Sussex.



CHAILEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
CONSTITUTION AT DECEMBER 31st, 1963

Chairman: Mrs. A.E. Debenham

Mr. G.A. Averill	Mr. C. Johnson
Miss M.K. Baines	Major C.T. Knight
Mr. A.S. Bancroft	Major P.W.M. Lancaster
Mr. P.H.B. Burgoyne	Mr. H.B. Parker
Mr. B.A. French	Mr. A.R. Peters
Brigadier W.M. Gayer	Mr. R.C. Sleet
Mr. J.R.C. Hale	Mr. J.R. Wells

and the Chairman of the Town Planning Committee

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Telephone No. Lewes 4282

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Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:-

C.W. Mann, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Public Health Inspectors:-

G.A. Price, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
D.J. Hamer, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Rodent Operator:-

R. Hatherley

Office Staff:-

Miss Lade
Mrs. Coombes

CHAIRMAN, PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
CONSTITUTION AT DECEMBER 31, 1921

Chairman: Mrs. A.E. Leberman

Mr. G.A. Averill
Mrs. H.E. Barnes
Mr. A.E. Bennett
Mr. P.H. Berggren
Mr. E.A. French
Eugene W.M. Geyer
Mr. J.R.C. Hale
and the Chairman of the Town Planning Commission

Mr. C. Johnson
Major C.T. Knight
Major F.W.M. Lancaster
Mr. H.B. Parker
Mr. A.H. Peters
Mr. R.C. Bliss
Mr. J.R. Wells

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D.J. Hamer, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Robert Operator:-

N. Hetherington

Office Staff:-

Mrs. Laid
Mrs. Combes

To the Chairman and Members of the Chailey Housing and Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the state of public health and on the sanitary circumstances of Chailey Rural District for 1963.

The vital statistics of the area compare very favourably with those for England and Wales although the birth rate continues to be lower than the national figure as it has been for many years. During the year the comparability factors supplied by the Registrar-General were revised following the 1961 census. This means that the corrected birth and death rates now approximate much more closely to the national figures than in recent years.

Some 322 cases of infectious disease were notified during the year of which 302 were cases of measles. 1963 was a measles year as expected since measles epidemics tend to occur every other year and the last outbreak was in 1961 when 357 cases were notified. Measles continues to be a notifiable disease in spite of representations to the Ministry to remove measles from the list of notifiable diseases. Many Medical Officers of Health, including myself, believe that no useful purpose (other than statistical) is served by continuing to retain measles as a notifiable disease. Only 20 other cases of infectious disease were notified during the year and none of these gave any cause for concern. In addition 15 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified but eleven of these were inward transfers of previously notified cases.

While measles continues to be notifiable, a disease such as Brucellosis (caused by drinking milk infected with the organism *Brucella Abortus* from infected cows) is still not notifiable. Notification would enable a much more accurate picture to be built up of the incidence of this disease in the community, estimates of which vary from 100 to over 1,000 human cases per annum. This disease would be almost entirely eliminated if all milk was pasteurised before being drunk. In Scandinavia, the disease has been eradicated as an animal disease and this could also be done in this country if the problem was tackled as energetically as was the scourge of bovine tuberculosis. At the present time there is nothing to prevent a farmer from selling a cow he knows to be infected with brucella in the open market. This is a common method of disposal when a farmer has been found to be producing brucella infected milk. He merely sells the offending animal and the infection is introduced elsewhere. This is obviously a state of affairs which should no longer be tolerated.

The East Sussex County Council as the Local Health Authority sought the opinions of the constituent District Councils on the question of fluoridation of water supplies. Your Council accepted the recommendation of this Committee that fluoride should be added to the water supplies in the area. At the present time the matter rests with the County Council who have postponed a decision so far. I can only reiterate what I have said on previous occasions. All the evidence shows that the amount of dental decay in the population can be more than halved when fluoride is present to the concentration of one part per million (1 p.p.m.) in the water supply. The benefit is first apparent in children but after a number of years these children will enter adult life with sound teeth and so the state of the nation's teeth will steadily improve. No evidence that will stand up to investigation has been produced that fluoride occurring in water in the concentration of 1 p.p.m. has any harmful effects whatsoever.

Millions of people in various parts of the world are drinking water that contains fluoride in a concentration of 1 p.p.m. or more without any harmful effects but with excellent teeth. The same results are found in areas where fluoride is artificially introduced into the water supply to raise the concentration of the naturally occurring fluoride to 1 p.p.m. The state of the nation's teeth is deplorable and it is sound preventive medicine to remedy this by artificially raising the level of fluoride to the level at which the teeth can benefit. It is significant that apart from certain trial areas in Britain the County Borough of Birmingham is the first authority to artificially introduce fluoride into its water supply which serves a population of one and a quarter million people. Birmingham has always been known as a most progressive authority, not only in public health but also in many other matters. Also of significance is the judgement of the Eire Supreme Court that the Health (Fluoridation of Water Supplies) Act 1960 Eire is constitutional and that the Court did not accept that fluoridation of water was, or could be, described as the mass medication or mass administration of 'drugs' through water.

The outbreak of typhoid in Aberdeen illustrates that the danger of epidemics of infectious diseases is still with us, and that vigilance must be maintained. This is particularly true of the ingestion diseases; that is, those diseases caused by organisms entering the body through the mouth. Methods of control are chiefly prevention of bowel to mouth infection by sanitary disposal of excreta and provision of pure food and drink. Whilst our drinking water supplies can be considered safe, the same cannot be said of our food supplies. The handling of food all too often leads to contamination with the resulting outbreaks particularly of food poisoning and dysentery; typhoid is now normally an uncommon disease in the country. If food was handled hygienically, this contamination would not occur but standards of food hygiene are sometimes deplorably low. Hand washing is essential after use of the toilet for everyone if the risk of contamination is to be reduced. If a food handler neglects this precaution he can risk the health of many people. The general public could do much more to raise the standards of food hygiene by refusing to tolerate any insanitary methods of food handling. They should complain loudly and continuously whenever cooked food stuffs are touched by hand, whenever they are served with dirty or chipped crockery and dirty cutlery and whenever adequate toilet facilities do not exist. There is a tendency in this country to put up with existing condition rather than to complain, but the more complaints there are about these unhygienic practices, the more the work of the public health department is helped. Your officials can only do a certain amount - it is up to the public to raise their standards. They will get the standard of service they demand.

In conclusion, I should like to express my appreciation to the Members of the Council for the help and support I have received from them during the year. My thanks are also due to Mr. Kent and his staff for their valuable assistance, and to the other officials of the Council for their courtesy and co-operation.

I am Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

J.L. COTTON,

Medical Officer of Health

SECTION 1

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

(a) GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)	64,216
Population (Registrar General's estimate for mid-year 1963.)	24,020
Population (1931 census)	16,167
Population (1951 census)	20,715
Population (1961 census)	23,475
Net increase of population during year.	520
Number of inhabited houses 1931.	3,154
Number of inhabited houses 1951.	6,205
Number of inhabited houses 1961.	7,945
Number of inhabited houses 1963.	8,839
Rateable Value (1st April, 1963)	£1,128,091
Product of a penny rate 1963-64	£4,445

(b) VITAL STATISTICS

CHAILEY R.D. ENGLAND & WALES

1. Births & Birth Rates

Live births	338		
Live birth rate per 1,000 population (crude)	14.1	18.2	
* Corrected birth rate.	17.6		
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births.	4.1		
Still births	7		
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births.	20.3	17.3	
Total live and still births.			

	Male	Female	Total
Live births			
Legitimate	162	162	324
Illegitimate	6	8	14
Totals:	168	170	338

	Male	Female	Total
Still births			
Legitimate	2	4	6
Illegitimate	-	1	1
	2	5	7

2. Deaths & Death Rates

Deaths	428		
Death rate per 1,000 population (crude)	17.8	12.2	
* Corrected death rate	10.7		

Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year of age)			
	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	3	1	4

	<u>CHAILEY</u> <u>R.D.</u>	<u>ENGLAND</u> <u>& WALES</u>
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	11.8	20.9
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births.	12.3	
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	11.8	14.2
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	8.9	
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	29.0	
Maternal mortality (including abortion)		
Number of deaths	-	244
Rate per 1,000 live and still births	-	0.28

* In order to compare death rates and birth rates in different parts of the country, the Registrar General supplies comparability factors for every district, so as to adjust for irregularities regarding age and sex in the local population. Applying a comparability factor of 1.25 to the crude birth rate of 14.1, the adjusted rate becomes 17.6 which is still below the rate for England and Wales at 18.2. Similarly a comparability factor of 0.60 applied to the death rate makes the adjusted rate 10.7. This is lower than the rate of 12.2 for England and Wales.

POPULATION

The population of the Rural District of Chailey for the last ten years is as follows:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Births</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Adjusted Birth Rate</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>	<u>Adjusted Death Rate</u>
1954	19,110	233	312	12.2	14.3	16.3	11.6
1955	19,430	256	303	13.2	15.4	15.6	11.1
1956	20,200	254	361	12.6	14.7	17.9	11.1
1957	20,800	238	369	11.4	13.4	17.7	10.3
1958	21,040	248	360	11.8	13.8	17.1	10.8
1959	21,350	273	343	12.8	15.0	16.1	9.8
1960	21,630	270	401	12.5	14.6	18.5	11.5
1961	22,870	327	384	14.3	15.0	16.8	11.9
1962	23,500	331	416	14.1	14.8	17.7	12.2
1963	24,020	338	428	14.1	17.6	17.8	10.7

The population shows an increase of 520 over the figure of 23,500 for 1962. The population figures are the Registrar General's mid-year estimate in each case.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

No case of maternal mortality was recorded in the Chailey Rural District during 1963. The last case of maternal mortality in the District occurred in 1949, since when 3,867 births have taken place.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Four infant deaths occurred during 1963. This gives an infant mortality rate of 11.8. However, in small populations too much importance should not be attached to these figures since a difference of one or two deaths makes a very large variation in the rate per 1,000.

BIRTH RATE

The crude birth rate for 1963 was 14.1 per 1,000 population. This is above the yearly average for the district and represents 338 live births. Applying the area comparability factor of 1.25, the adjusted rate becomes 17.6, which is lower than the rate for England and Wales at 18.2.

DEATH RATE

The crude death rate for 1963 was 17.8 per 1,000 population. The adjusted rate is 10.7 which is below the figure of 12.2 for England and Wales. The average age at death of Chailey residents was 73.7 years.

Highest age at death was 97 years.

Lowest age at death was 2 hours.

MAIN CAUSES OF DEATH

		%	of deaths
(1) Disease of the heart and circulatory system	181	42.3	
(Coronary disease accounted for)	83	19.4	
(2) Cancer (all sites)	64	14.9	
(Cancer of lung or bronchus accounted for)	19	4.4	

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

It was not necessary to take action under Section 47 of the above Act which gives the Council power to remove to suitable premises persons who are not able to devote to themselves and are not receiving from other persons adequate care and attention.

Cause of Death	Sex	Total Under 4 Weeks age in years											
		All Ages	4 Weeks	& under 1 Year	1-5-	5-15-	15-25-	25-35-	35-45-	45-55-	55-65-	65-75-	75 & over
Tuberculosis	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
-Respiratory	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases	M	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-
- Stomach	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm	M	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	9	1
- Lung, Bronchus	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Breast	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	1
Malignant Neoplasm	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Uterus	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	12	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	8	2
	F	20	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	7	9
Leukaemia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
- Aleukaemic	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diabetes	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	10	14
	F	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	4	33
Coronary Disease	M	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	23	16
- Angina	F	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	9	20
Hypertension with Heart Disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
Other Heart Disease	M	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	15
	F	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	53
Other Circulatory Disease	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	1
	F	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	5
Influenza	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Pneumonia	M	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	7
	F	22	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	16
Bronchitis	M	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	5
	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Cause of Death	Sex	Total Under 4 Weeks			Age in years									
		All Ages	4 Weeks	& under 1 Year	1- 5-	5- 15-	15- 25-	25- 35-	35- 45-	45- 55-	55- 65-	65- 75 & over		
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Hypertrophy of Prostate	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Congenital Malformations	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
Other Defined and ill-defined Diseases	M	9	3	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	3		
	F	15	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	3	8		
Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	
All other Accidents	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	
Suicide	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	187	3	-	-	-	1	2	1	6	35	66	73	
	F	241	1	-	2	2	1	-	3	8	10	48	166	

SECTION 11

General Provision of Health Services in the Area

Public Health Facilities of the Local Authority

During the period under review the Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of Chailey also acted as Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Lewes and the Urban Districts of Newhaven and Seaford.

One Chief Public Health Inspector and three Public Health Inspectors carried out duties in the Rural District during the year.

Laboratory Facilities

These are provided at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton.

Ambulance

This service is supplied by the East Sussex County Council, which arranges for the three ambulances and one dual purpose sitting vehicle stationed at Lewes to be available for the transfer of cases into hospital from this area, with the following exceptions. Cases from Ditchling and Wivelsfield are transported by the service stationed at Haywards Heath, and those from South Heighton, Peacehaven, Tarring Neville, Piddinghoe and Telscombe, by the service stationed at Newhaven.

Both infectious and non-infectious cases are conveyed in the same ambulances and arrangements are in being for the disinfection of ambulances, bedding, clothing, etc., after use for the transport of an infectious case.

The East Sussex County Council provides facilities for the transport of tuberculosis patients.

Nursing in the Home

As in previous years, the East Sussex County Council, as empowered by Section 25 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, has arranged for this service to be provided by the East Sussex County Nursing Association through the District Nursing Associations.

Hospitals

Although there are no hospital facilities in the area of the Chailey Rural District, hospital and specialist services are provided by hospitals within the areas of adjacent districts. These services are provided in Eastbourne by the Eastbourne Hospital Management Committee and in Brighton, Lewes and Newhaven by the Brighton and Lewes Hospital Management Committee. Both these Management Committees are in the area of the South Eastern Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

Cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are admitted into Foredown Hospital, Portslade. Any case of smallpox occurring in the district should be sent to the River Hospitals, Longreach, Dartford, Kent.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

The following is a list of clinics and treatment centres available during 1963 for residents of the district:-

Description & Situation	Day & Time of attendance	By whom provided
Infant Welfare Centre, Castlegate House, LEWES	Every Tuesday afternoon 2-4 p.m.	East Sussex County Council
Chest Clinic, Victoria Hospital, LEWES	By appointment. Monday & Wednesday afternoon at 2.0 & if necessary Friday morning 11.15	Regional Hospital Board
Orthopaedic Clinic, Victoria Hospital, LEWES	Fridays at 9 a.m.	Regional Hospital Board
Minor Ailment Clinic, Castlegate House, LEWES	Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.	East Sussex County Council
Dental Clinic, Castlegate House, LEWES.	Monday to Friday by appointment	East Sussex County Council
Nervous Disorders Clinic, Victoria Hospital, LEWES	Tuesday from 2.30 p.m. onwards	Regional Hospital Board
Chailey & Hamsey Infant Welfare Centre, Parish Room, CHAILEY	4th Thursday in month 2.30 p.m. onwards	East Sussex County Council
Peacehaven Infant Welfare Centre, Church Hall, Bramber Avenue, PEACEHAVEN	1st & 3rd Tuesday in month 2.30 p.m. onwards	East Sussex County Council
Plumpton Infant Welfare Centre, British Legion Hut, PLUMPTON	3rd Thursday in month 2.30 p.m. onwards	East Sussex County Council
Barcombe Weighing Centre, Parish Hall, BARCOMBE	3rd Wednesday in month 2.30 p.m. onwards	East Sussex County Council
Ditchling Weighing Centre, Village Hall, DITCHLING	2nd Tuesday in month 2.30 p.m. onwards	East Sussex County Council
Newick Weighing Centre, Reading Room NEWICK	1st Wednesday in month 2.30 p.m. onwards	East Sussex County Council
Ringmer Weighing Centre, Parish Room, RINGMER	4th Tuesday in month 2.30 p.m. onwards	East Sussex County Council
Wivelsfield Weighing Centre, Reading Room WIVELSFIELD	1st Thursday in month 2.30 p.m. onwards	East Sussex County Council

Provision for dealing with the needs of the Mentally Disordered

Under the provisions of the Mental Health Act, 1959, the East Sussex County Council makes provision for dealing with the needs of the mentally disordered. The provision of care in psychiatric hospitals is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board.

SECTION 111

Sanitary Circumstances and Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Water Supply

The Statutory Water Authorities now serving the area within their respective limits of supply are :-

Mid-Sussex Water Company
Brighton County Borough Council

There are also private supplies serving a number of properties at Glynde and Firle.

Water is abstracted for public supply from Offham, Norton, Falmer and Ditchling and work has commenced on the construction of a large reservoir for impounding the river at Barcombe.

Main supplies do not, however, extend to all parts of the district and there are a number of isolated dwellings which are still served by individual well supplies or water delivered daily in churns, the latter principally applying to property owned by British Railways who continue to show little interest in the improvement of their property. During the year samples were taken from the thirty-seven properties in the area extending from Beddingham to Tarring Neville where no main supply exists. Of the thirty-seven properties sampled, the water supply to twenty-one of them was found to be unsatisfactory and representation was made by the Council to the Mid-Sussex Water Company who are now preparing a scheme to provide a main supply in the area.

Regular bacteriological and chemical samples were taken from each main source during the year and were found to be satisfactory. Set out below is a recent analysis of the water taken from the supply at Norton which serves a very large part of the District.

30th September 1963

ANALYSIS of a sample of WATER forwarded by The Mid-Sussex Water Company Sample labelled: Treated water from Poverty Bottom Pumping Station. 25.9.63

The water on arrival had the following characteristics:

Appearance	-	Bright and clear
Odour	-	None
Colour	-	10 Hazen

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN MILLIGRAMMES PER LITRE

Total solids	330
Chlorine (as chloride)	44
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.05
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.02
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours	0.08
Nitrate Nitrogen	6.5
Nitrite Nitrogen	none

Hardness (total)	206
Hardness (carbonate)	174
Hardness (non-carbonate)	32
Alkalinity	174
Metallic impurity	Iron (FE) 0.02
	Other metals absent
pH. 7.4	
Residual chlorine (at time of receipt) .	0.08

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

The organisms per ml. which grew on Nutrient Agar in three days at 22°C. under aerobic conditions and were then visible to the naked eye as colonies numbered 0

On Agar at blood temperature and under aerobic conditions colonies were noticed after one day's incubation 0

Probable number of Coli-Aerogenes organisms in 100 ml. of the original water . . 0

REPORT

The sample represents a moderately hard water of excellent organic purity and low salinity which was attractive in appearance.

The bacteriological condition was excellent and the water, as sampled, is pure and wholesome and suitable for the public supply.

T.E. Rymer

Fifty-one samples were taken from private water supplies, with the following results:-

Private supplies:- Satisfactory - 26 Unsatisfactory - 25

Sewage Disposal

There has been excellent co-operation during the year with the East Sussex River Board in the matter of river pollution and sewage effluents in general throughout the District. One feature, however, of the general position which gives rise for very considerable concern is the unbalance in the matter of building development and facilities for severing and sewage disposal. In several parishes during the year planning consents have been given either directly or on appeal which have resulted in the overloading of existing sewage systems with a consequent pollution of rivers and streams when it has been abundantly clear and clearly stated that to grant such consents would have the result referred to. There must be inevitable delay of several years before improving the overloading of sewage works in this manner and the ultimate completion of sewage works extensions to meet the demand. It must be strongly emphasised that this is unsatisfactory both from the public health point of view and the river pollution point of view and from present indications it would seem that this process is likely to continue and even accelerate. This would seem to be utterly wrong.

I give below a summary of the state of development of sewage disposal in parishes:-

Kingston

There has been no further progress in the proposed sewerage of Swanborough.

Plumpton

Stage 11 of the sewerage and sewage disposal scheme has been completed. Before the work was finally paid for the Works was overloaded by reason of planning consents issued.

Peacehaven

Further work of the sewerage under the Private Street Works Act was continued during the year and included the sewerage of:-

Steyning Avenue North
Victoria Avenue North
Bolney Avenue North
Keymer Avenue South
Slindon Avenue North and South
Mayfield Avenue North
Sunview Avenue part North and South

Planning consent for further development of some fifty acres North of Arundel Road was granted last year. This was undeveloped land without roads or sewers although representations were made that sewerage of these streets should be carried out before development occurred. Nevertheless development proceeded and utter chaos resulted as a result of churning up of unmade roads, with the construction of hundreds of cesspools to which access was impossible during bad weather. The view has been very strongly urged that in all such future planning development services should first be provided. Difficulties of administration, however, would seem to over-ride all sensible and practicable considerations. Further extensions to the main sewer are proposed North of Arundel Road in which the Council are co-operating with the County Council.

Newick and Chailley

The present and proposed development in Newick and Chailley has now reached full capacity for which the Works were designed although the Works were completed less than two years ago.

Barcombe

A small extension to the sewer is proposed together with a small pumping station to serve the new Council Housing Site and another proposed private development site.

Ringmer

The Council's consulting engineers are engaged on a scheme to enlarge the Sewage Disposal Works now heavily overloaded as a result of rapid development.

Ditchling

The extension of this Sewage Disposal Works in the Common Lane area, the construction of a new pumping station and the installation of lagoons at the Sewage Disposal Works is in hand.

Piddinghoe

The provision of sewers for the first time at Piddinghoe together with the two pumping stations necessary to lift the sewage into the system serving Newhaven was completed during the year. By completion of this Works the existing small Sewage Disposal Works at Piddinghoe has now been abandoned.

Wivelsfield

During the year consultations were held with the Trustees for St. George's Retreat, (a private institution of 250 residents) the Council's consulting engineers and the River Board concerning the treatment of sewage from St. George's Retreat properties and the private properties in the vicinity. An agreement has been reached for the extension of the sewers together with a pumping station to which a considerable contribution will be made by the Trustees for St. George's Retreat.

River Pollution

Formal applications were made to the East Sussex River Board for formal consents under the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1961, for the continuing discharge of effluents from fourteen Sewage Disposal Works into streams in the Board's area. Twelve other installations had already received the necessary consents from the River Board.

The problem of pollution from farm effluents continues to be of major concern in the matter of rivers pollution and there is close co-operation between this Department, the Agricultural Service and the River Board on the matter. The vexed question of the discharge of the farm effluents to sewers and charges therefor continues.

Refuse Collection

There have been no changes in the system of refuse collection during the year. Fortnightly collections throughout the district continue with kerbside collection in the rural parishes and back door collection in the urban coastal strip. Due to the increase in the building rate on the coast and also now in the rural parishes an increase in the labour force and the vehicle numbers is inevitable. The urbanisation of several of our villages has resulted in many requests for weekly collection for house refuse. This can only be achieved by a considerable rate increase.

There has been no change in disposal of house refuse by tipping in conjunction with the Lewes Borough Council. This continues to be a reasonable system.

Traffic conditions through the towns of Lewes and Newhaven, particularly in the summer months, cause considerable delays and loss of efficiency.

Anti-Litter Campaign

The Council continues its interest in the anti-litter campaign and continues to offer a special service for the collection of accumulations of rubbish, bulky obstacles such as bicycle frames and old bedsteads as before. This service is now becoming very well used and one vehicle is almost continuously in use for this purpose. The results, however, are apparent and worthwhile.

During the year the Council entered decorated vehicles as anti-litter exhibits at two carnivals in various parishes.

Dustbins

The dustbin hire scheme continues to give good service. At the end of the year the number of dustbins on hire exceeded 1,700.

Cesspool Emptying Service.

The cesspool emptying service continues to be in great demand and it would seem that in spite of continued extensions of sewers throughout the district the demands on the service are increasing. This is due to several factors, including the increase of building activities in the area, the use of cesspool emptying vehicles for the maintenance of the smaller sewage disposal installations owned by the Council and by private owners and also to the need for increased care due to the activities of the River Board. The charges for this service are approximately one-third of the operating cost, the remaining two-thirds still being a rate borne charge. During the year 4,172 cesspools or tanks were emptied amounting to 8,424 full loads. Disposal of this matter becomes increasingly difficult.

Transport

The Transport Department continues to care for and maintain the Council's motor vehicles and mechanical equipment and a high standard of efficiency is achieved. The staff of the Transport Department are very conscious of the need to maintain a high standard of safety precautions both as regards the mechanical compulsion of the vehicles and also the working hazards of the men employed on those vehicles.

Nuisances

During the year eleven informal and one formal notice for the abatement of nuisances were served.

Housing

A steady progress in the issue of Improvement Grants was maintained during the year. Perusal of the figures given below will shew that the Council have taken full advantage of the facilities that these grants offer in the improvement and maintenance of houses in the district and the figures indicate that there is close co-operation between the Council, the officers and private owners in a sound and proper policy of implementation of the Act. Of particular interest is the fact that a number of terraces of houses are included in the latest Grant issues and it is very gratifying to see whole terraces of houses being dealt with uniformly. In one instance a terrace of seventeen houses has been most excellently and economically improved including drainage and pavement improvements to a high standard. It is very obvious that by making full use of this Improvement Grants scheme the Council have saved very many houses which would otherwise have been lost for letting purposes and would have resulted in a much higher cost of rehousing. It is a regular feature of the routine work in dealing with disrepair of unfit houses to combine this with information concerning Improvement Grants.

During the year 41 Discretionary Grants and 15 Standard Grants were approved by the Council and 39 Discretionary and 20 Standard Grants were completed.

New building continues, the greater part being at Peacehaven and Telscombe. The new development is distributed as follows:-

Peacehaven, Telscombe Cliffs and East Saltdean:-

Private building 195

Rest of District:-

Private building 78

Council Old People's
bungalows 6

The total of 279 dwellings compares with 237 in 1962.

Improvement Grants Approved

		Rented	Tied	Owner Occupied	Total	
Approved to Decr. 1954		7	25	6	38	
Completed 1954		5	25	7	37	
Approved 1955		26	56	18	100	
Completed 1955		8	35	16	59	
Approved 1956		9	60	17	86	
Completed 1956		13	59	11	83	
Approved 1957		9	48	20	77	
Completed 1957		8	50	9	67	
Approved 1958		2	22	13	37	
Completed 1958		10	25	16	51	
Approved 1959		35	28	19	82	
Completed 1959		16	23	4	43	
Approved 1960		14	21	32	67	
Completed 1960		24	26	19	69	
Approved 1961	Discretionary	2	17	16	35	) 49
	Standard	-	7	7	14	
Completed 1961	Discretionary	5	22	29	56	) 61
	Standard	-	-	5	5	
Approved 1962	Discretionary	25	5	15	45	) 58
	Standard	7	2	4	13	
Completed 1962	Discretionary	9	6	11	26	) 35
	Standard	2	2	5	9	
Approved 1963	Discretionary	27	4	7	38	) 52
	Standard	7	1	6	14	
Completed 1963	Discretionary	21	7	11	39	) 59
	Standard	11	-	9	20	

Housing Act 1957

Total number of dwelling houses inspected during the year under
Public Health Act and Housing Act 1008

Number of Notices served under Section 9 of
Housing Act 1957:-
Informal 17
Statutory 1

Number of Notices served under Section 16
of Housing Act 1957 34

Number of dwellings demolished 12

Number of dwellings reconditioned with Improvement Grants . . . 59

Applications, Rent Act 1957 Notices served . . . -
Notices cancelled . . . -

Meat Inspection

There are two licensed slaughterhouses in the District, one being at Wivelsfield and the other at Ringmer.

During the year considerable extensions at Wivelsfield were approved and completed. These extensions have resulted in increased throughput and greater efficiency in the handling of carcasses and offal.

The application by the owners of the slaughterhouse at Ringmer to enlarge the existing premises to provide modern equipment and refrigeration facilities was refused by the Minister. The owners of the premises have since had new outline plans prepared to modify and enlarge the existing premises such that the Council do not consider that on completion the premises will constitute a "new slaughterhouse". It will, however, provide for more effective use of the premises.

During the year the combined slaughtering figures have gone up by approximately 20%. This, together with the introduction of the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963 has resulted in more time having to be spent on meat inspection and it is anticipated that by the end of 1964, when the alterations to the Ringmer slaughterhouse should be carried out, additional staff will be required if other essential Public Health duties are to be properly fulfilled.

Set out below is a table shewing the number of animals slaughtered and inspected during the year together with the quantity of meat found to be unfit for human consumption.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
No. killed	3060	177	803	10726	19346	-
No. inspected	3060	177	803	10726	19346	-

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
<u>All diseases except T.B. and Cysticerci. Whole carcasses and organs condemned</u>	9	4	24	6	148	-
<u>Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned</u>	507	108	2	420	3719	-
<u>Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than T.B. and Cysticerci</u>	16.8%	63.3%	3.2%	3.9%	20%	-
<u>T.B. only whole carcasses condemned</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .</u>	-	-	-	-	181	-
<u>Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.</u>	-	-	-	-	0.93%	-
<u>Cysticercus bovis. Whole carcasses condemned</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>part or organ condemned .</u>	59 = 1.9%	1 = 0.6%	-	-	-	-
<u>Refrigeration</u>	3 = 0.1%	-	-	-	-	-

Meat certified as unfit for human consumption:-

Cattle, other than Cows

Complete carcass and offal . .	Septicaemia	2
Part carcasses	Injury	4
Head and Tongue	Actinomycosis	1
	Abscesses	7
Offal		
Livers	Fascioliasis and Cirrhosis	183
	Abscesses	101
	Telangiectasis	8
Lungs	Pneumonia	17
	Pleurisy	24
Hearts	Pericarditis	2

Cysticercus bovis

Heads	24
Hearts	29
Diaphragm	3
Carcases for refrigeration	3

Cows

Complete carcass and offal . . .	Pyæmia	1
	Emaciation	1
	Pleurisy and Peritonitis	1
Part carcasses	Abscesses	1
	Injury	2
Offal		
Heads and Tongues	Abscesses	2
	Actinomycosis	1
Livers	Fascioliasis and Cirrhosis . .	25
	Cysts	1
	Abscesses	22
	Telangiectasis	18
	Peritonitis	1
Lungs	Pleurisy	5

Cysticercus Bovis

Head and Tongue	1
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Calves

Complete carcass and offal . . .	Umbilical Pyæmia	4
	Omphalophlebitis	2
	Immaturity	4
	Pyrexia	4
	Peritonitis	1
	Abscesses	5
	Bacteraemia	1
Offal		
Livers	Abscesses	1

Sheep

Complete carcass and offal . . .	Toxaemia	1
	Septic Metritis	1
	Pyrexia	2
	Multiple Abscesses	1
	Septicaemia	1
Part carcasses	Injury	3
	Abscesses	1
Offal		
Livers	Abscesses	1
	Parasites	294
Lungs	Parasites	69
	Pneumonia	50
	Gangrene	2
	Pyelonephritis	1
	Pyæmia	9

Pigs

Complete carcase and offal	Multiple Abscesses	7
	Pyrexia	6
	Septicaemia	5
	Emaciation	17
	Acute Peritonitis and Pleurisy	10
	Arthritis	2
	Cysticercus Cellulosae	1
	Gangrene	2
	Tumours	1
Part carcasses	Injury	17
	Arthritis	158
	Abscesses and Tumours	33
Offal		
Heads and tongues	Abscesses	25
	T.B.	181
Livers	Cirrhosis	802
	Peritonitis	15
Lungs	Pneumonia	1252
	Pleurisy	250
Hearts	Pericarditis	165
Plucks	Pleurisy and Peritonitis	227
Kidneys	Hydronephrosis	46

Tents, Vans and Sheds

The Council owns one site at Peacehaven which provides accommodation for 174 caravans.

The remaining sites throughout the District are privately owned and comprise:-

1 site at Peacehaven accommodating	70 caravans
1 " " Street	6 "
1 " " Chailey	3 "
1 " accommodating	2 "
28 " "	1 "

No proceedings were taken during the year.

The camping of itinerants on common land in the vicinity of Chailey and Ditchling continues to be a problem both of providing welfare and other social services to the occupants and at the same time preserving the amenities of the District. There are about ten families of itinerants who can reasonably be regarded as "inhabitants" of the District and in order that the children concerned may receive proper medical attention and a settled education this Council, together with the Council of the adjoining Authority, are to consider the provision of a suitable site for this purpose.

Milk and Dairies

The licensing of dairies and Distributors of milk was transferred to the County Council by virtue of the Milk and Dairies (Special Designation) Regulations 1960, and routine sampling is now carried out by that Authority.

This Authority continues to sample farm bottled milk and on one occasion when *Brucella Abortus* was isolated the whole herd was quarter sampled until the animal excreting the organism could be isolated.

Petroleum Acts

A number of routine inspections were made of the licensed installations and of disused underground tanks.

Keeping of Animals

An occupier of a bungalow in Peacehaven was convicted in the Magistrates Court for keeping sixty or more cats. An appeal to the Quarter Sessions against the conviction was partly heard when the appellant appealed to the High Court on a matter of law. The application to the High Court was dismissed. One new point of law was determined by the High Court in this case.

Food and Drugs

124 routine inspections of food premises throughout the District were carried out during the year. Although no prosecutions were taken 16 informal notices were served requiring compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Five instances were reported to the Council of foreign material in food briefly involving the following:-

Contamination of cooking oil by paraffin
Unsound prepacked bacon
Fly embedded in tin of corned beef
Meat pie containing a tin tack
Card embedded in a loaf of bread

Summary of Visits

House inspections under Housing Regulations	612
Other inspections of houses not included above	396
Visits in connection with Nuisances	268
" to Slaughterhouses	650
" Dairies and Milk Premises	20
" re Drainage	2110
Drains tested	633
Samples taken for analysis:- Milk	4
Water	51
Visits in connection with Water Supplies	93
" " " " Infectious Disease	11
Rooms fumigated, disinfected - fleas, flies and insects	6
Visits to Sewage Outfall Works and Sewers	988
" " Refuse Tips and in connection with Refuse Collection	114
" under Petroleum Acts	51
" in connection with Salvage	7
" under Factories' Act	20
" in connection with Tents, Vans and Sheds	140
" " " Food Shops	124
Miscellaneous visits	537
Visits in connection with Clean Air Act	6

Rodent Control

Visits for purposes of Survey	879
" " " " Treatment	547
New Infestations found since	173
Estimated number of Rats killed	1153
" " " Mice "	444
Infestations cleared	173

There was an increase of approximately 40% both in the number of requests for the service provided by the Council and the estimated number of rats killed.

Clean Air Act

A number of approvals were given under Section 3 of the Clean Air Act 1956 to boilers installed in the District and advice given regarding chimney heights. There are no Smoke Control Areas in the District and the only complaints received have been those in respect of the Cement Works at South Highton and the burning of miscellaneous rubbish.

Factories' Act

Inspections:-

Particulars	No. on Register	Inspection	No. of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Section 1,2,3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	60	18	3	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (Excluding Out-worker's Premises). . . .	15	-	-	-
	84	20	3	-

Cases in which defects were found:-

Particulars	Number of cases Found	in which defects were:- Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-
Section 7 - Sanitary conveniences - unsuitable or defective	3	3	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-
Inefficient drainage of floors	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act - Outworkers

Number on List: Nil

New and Renewed Licences issued

To Store Petroleum	71
" " Carbide of Calcium	1
" " Cellulose	2
" Slaughter Animals	14
" use Premises as Slaughterhouses	2
" " " Knacker's Yard	1
For Moveable Dwellings	32
Pet Animals Act 1951	1
Diseases of Animals (Wast Food) Order 1957	2

SECTION IV

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

A total of 322 cases of infectious disease were notified in the Chailey Rural District in 1963. The details are as follows:-

DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED	NUMBER OF CASES ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL	DEATHS
Measles	302	2	-
Scarlet Fever	9	-	-
Whooping Cough	4	-	-
Pneumonia	3	1	-
Dysentery	2	1	-
Food Poisoning	1	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-
TOTAL	322	5	-

In 1962 the total of notifications received was 171. The increase to 322 this year was entirely due to the increase in measles notifications from 140 to 302. The increase in the number of measles notifications was to be expected, as measles epidemics usually occur in alternate years.

It is pleasing to report that no cases of either poliomyelitis or diphtheria occurred during the year.

The following figures relating to Vaccination and Immunisation are supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health, East Sussex County Council.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

	Children born in years:-							TOTAL
	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1954 1958	1949 1953	
A. NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO COMPLETED A FULL COURSE OF PRIMARY IMMUNISATION IN THE AUTHORITY'S AREA (Including temporary residents) DURING 1963	134	146	42	5	5	13	5	350
B. NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED A SECONDARY (REINFORCING) INJECTION (i.e. subsequently to primary immunisation at an earlier age) DURING 1963	6	29	11	1	9	255	121	432

Since immunisation was first introduced there has been a persistent and dramatic fall in the number of cases of diphtheria and also in the number of deaths from diphtheria. This fall continued until a year or two ago but since that time several locally severe outbreaks of diphtheria have occurred. I cannot urge parents too strongly to ensure that their children are protected against this disease since almost all the cases and deaths occur amongst non-immunised children. It has become all too common to regard diphtheria as a dying disease and to think that because it is no longer prevalent, there is no need to have children immunised. This is a very dangerous practice and every child should be immunised during infancy and again at the start of school life.

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

	YEAR OF BIRTH							TOTAL
	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1954 1958	1949 1953	
NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO HAVE COMPLETED A PRIMARY COURSE (normally three injections) OF PERTUSSIS VACCINE (singly or in combination) IN THE AUTHORITY'S AREA DURING THE YEAR 1963	133	145	42	5	5	10	2	342

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

The following persons were vaccinated or revaccinated against smallpox in 1963:-

AGE AT DATE OF VACCINATION	0 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9-12 months	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	15 Yrs. or over	TOTAL
Number Vaccinated	6	15	13	6	30	6	7	21	104
Number Revaccinated	-	-	-	-	-	6	25	138	169

During and since the recent outbreaks of smallpox a lot of confusion has been caused to the general population by the arguments for and against smallpox vaccination. The Ministry of Health have now issued a Memorandum on Vaccination against Smallpox. The salient features are as follows:-

A. Routine Primary Vaccination in Early Childhood

(1) Optimum Age - Routine primary vaccination is not now recommended in the first few weeks of life but should be done before the age of 2 years, preferably during the second year.

(2) Contra-indications -

- (a) exposure to infectious disease
- (b) septic skin conditions
- (c) infantile eczema or any other allergic condition - these are absolute contra-indications to routine primary vaccination
- (d) hypogammaglobulinaemia
- (e) cortico-steroid treatment
- (f) failure to thrive

B. Routine Primary Vaccination at Later Ages

(1) Although at any age the risk of serious complications following vaccination is much smaller than the risk of death run by those exposed to smallpox while unvaccinated, primary vaccination is not advised as a routine after early childhood. But, if not performed in early childhood, primary vaccination at a later age may eventually become necessary e.g. when serving with the armed forces, as a condition of employment and before undertaking foreign travel.

(2) Contra-indications. Consideration must be given to -

- (a) septic skin conditions
- (b) a history of or the presence of eczema
- (c) hypogammaglobulinaemia
- (d) cortico-steroid treatment. It is not considered wise to vaccinate routinely patients who are receiving systemic cortico-steroid treatment.
- (e) early pregnancy. On general principles it is desirable to avoid the use of a live vaccine during the first trimester of pregnancy.

C. Vaccination in the presence of Smallpox

The object is, by primary vaccination or revaccination as soon after exposure or, at most, within three days, to enable the individual to gain immunity to smallpox within the normal incubation period of that disease. In the presence of suspected smallpox there are no absolute contra-indications to the immediate vaccination or revaccination of all close contacts.

SECTION V

Tuberculosis

In 1963 fifteen cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and no cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, whilst during the year two deaths due to pulmonary tuberculosis occurred. Of the cases notified, eleven pulmonary cases were transfers into the area which had previously been notified elsewhere. A total of four pulmonary cases never previously notified remains after deducting the transfers in. One new case left the district before the end of the year and one entry into the district was later removed from the register as "Recovered". Details are given in the following table, 'transfers in' being indicated by a "T.I." and 'transfers out' by "T.O."

AGE PERIODS	1963 - NEW CASES AND MORTALITY							
	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	2 t.i.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	1 t.i.	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	-	1 new & t.o.	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	1 t.i.	2 t.i.	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	1 t.i.	1 t.i.	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	& recovered 1 t.i.	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	1 t.i.	1 new	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 & upwards	2 new	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	7	8	-	-	2	-	-	-

NUMBER OF CASES ON THE REGISTER AT 31st DECEMBER, 1963

Male		Females		TOTAL
Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
91	11	64	10	176

Whereas at December 31st, 1962, the number of cases on the register was:-

91	11	65	10	177
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