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BOROUGH OF CHATHAM

ANNUAL

REPORT

of

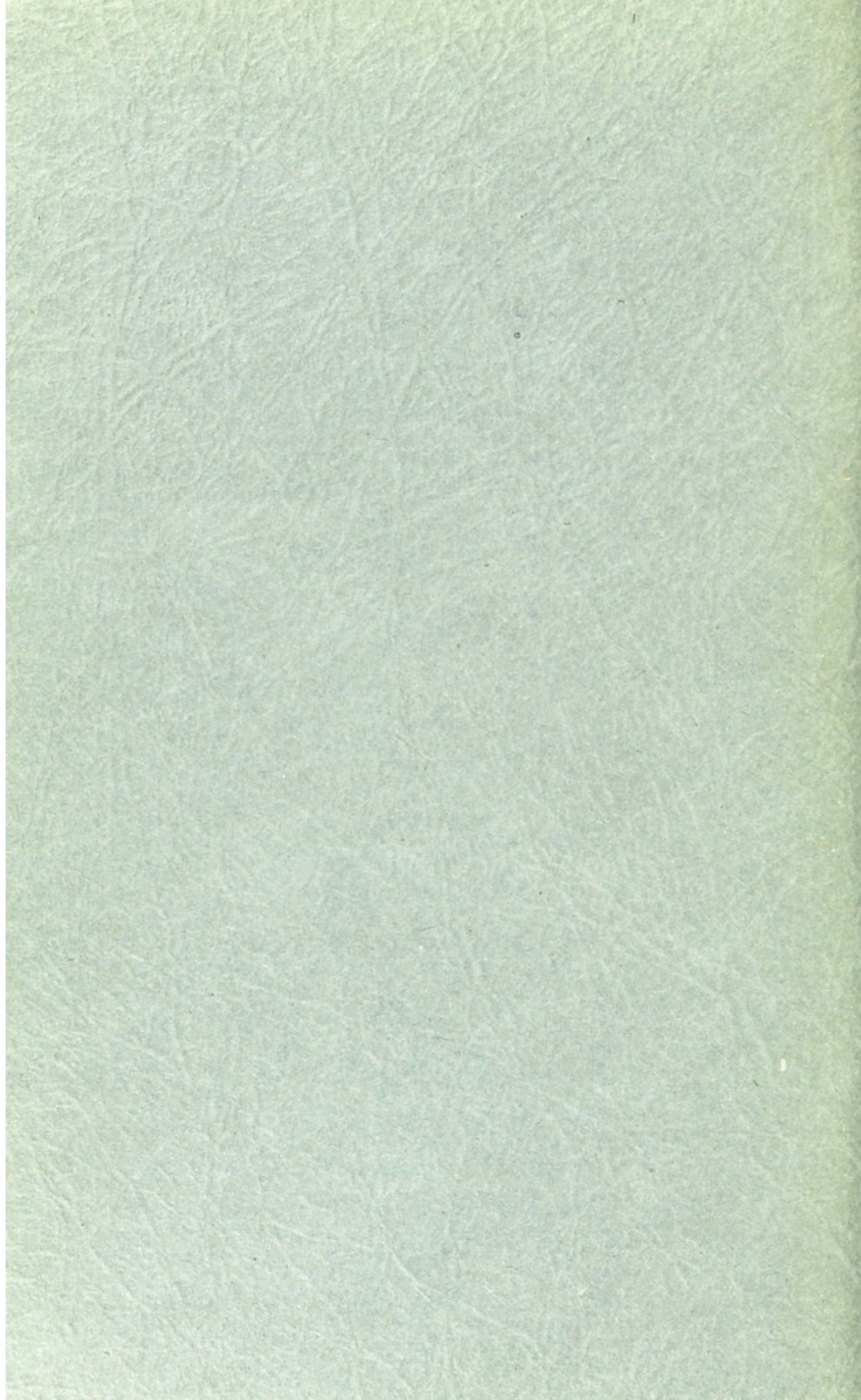
Medical Officer of Health

for

1938.

JAMES C. SLEIGH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health and
School Medical Officer, Medical
Officer—Maternity and
Child Welfare.





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LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE CHATHAM COUNCIL.

The Mayor,
(Councillor J. T. Hawes, J.P.)
The Deputy Mayor
(Councillor H. J. Stearne)
Alderman W. J. Webb, J.P.
Alderman H. J. Cloake
Alderman Osborn Taylor, O.B.E.
Alderman A. B. Walker
Alderman F. G. Luff
Alderman E. G. Maynard
Councillor W. J. Hedge, J.P.
Councillor R. F. Brain, C.C.
Councillor F. H. Lawrence
Councillor Mrs. F. M. Freeman
Councillor W. F. Hollands
Councillor M. Packer
Councillor Canon T. Ryan
Councillor G. B. Silver
Councillor P. Ansell
Councillor W. Heath
Councillor P. Blackmore.
Councillor J. Bray, J.P.
Councillor F. O. Harris.
Councillor G. W. Hitches
Councillor A. E. Lake
Councillor W. T. Davis

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

This consists of the whole of the members of the Council.
(Chairman—Alderman H. J. CLOAKE).

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

This consists of the members of the Public Health Committee with the following co-opted members:—Mesdames E. M. CROOKS, B. A. LEWIS, A. M. LUCAS, H. J. STEARNE, and STAYLAERS.
(Chairman—Councillor Mrs. F. M. FREEMAN).

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

Medical Officer of Health,
JAMES C. SLEIGH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health,
WILLIAM AINSLIE,
L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.R.F.P. and S., D.P.H.
Dental Surgeon,
William C. GRIFFITHS, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.)
Chief Sanitary Inspector,
THOMAS HOWARD (a) (b)
Senior District Sanitary Inspector,
A. W. R. TURNBULL (a) (b)
District Sanitary Inspectors,
W. JOHNSON (a)
F. W. I. WHITEHOUSE (a) (b) (f)
Senior Health Visitor,
Miss K. L. HESTER (c) (d) (e)
Health Visitors,
Miss M. HINBEST (c) (d) (e)
Miss P. L. REGAN (c) (d) (e)
Miss M. HARVEY (c) (d) (e). Appointed 1.3.1939.
Mrs. F. E. GAFFNEY (d)
Chief Clerk,
H. L. CLARK
Clerks,
G. A. PEARSON
A. C. STRIKE
Miss N. CHURCH
Miss E. ROGERS
Clinic Clerk,
Miss L. HYDE
Dental Attendant,
Miss J. E. ROBERTS

- (a) Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute.
- (b) Meat Inspector's Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute.
- (c) State Registered Nurse.
- (d) State Certified Midwife.
- (e) Health Visitors Certificate.
- (f) Sanitary Science Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute.

Borough of Chatham.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Chatham.

MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have to thank you for the help and consideration you have shown me throughout the year.

1938 has seen big changes, the appointment of a whole-time Deputy Medical Officer of Health and a whole-time Dentist has increased the services provided in no small measure and I hope and trust to your satisfaction.

The year is also notable for the birth of something new in the Public Health Services, something very necessary but surely something in the nature of a travesty of modern civilisation. I refer to A.R.P.

The organisation and training of the casualty services so that they may be ready if we are unfortunate to be involved in war is no light task, but that task has been lightened in every way possible by the assistance I have received from the Council and my fellow officials.

Had war come in September I feel that with the equipment we had then and the enthusiasm of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and other voluntary workers we would have struggled through.

By now things are much better, but there is so much of the unknown and unpredictable about modern war that it is safe to assume our schemes will be far from perfect if ever they have to stand the hard test of real war.

To all my staff I wish to record my thanks for the able and conscientious manner in which they have carried out their duties. To my deputy in particular is due the great improvement in all the clinics. Without him it would have been impossible to devote the time necessary to A.R.P. and his appointment came at a most opportune time.

I have the honour to be,

Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. C. SLEIGH,
Medical Officer of Health.

Chatham.

2nd June, 1939.

Section A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	4,356
Registrar General's estimate of resident population (end of 1938)	44,940
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to Rate Books	11,583
Rateable Value	£269,128
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,012

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Chatham is not a residential area, the chief source of industry being the Dockyard. The population is chiefly trading and industrial, together with persons belonging to the armed forces of the country and pensioners.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

The returns for 1935, 1936, 1937 and 1938 at the end of December, in each year, are as follows:—

			<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
1935	...	...	3113	435
1936	...	...	2034	424
1937	...	...	2406	732
1938	...	...	2216	758

Respecting juvenile employment the following figures are available:—

			<i>Number on Register.</i>	
			<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>
1935	...	...	104	343
1936	...	...	50	177
1937	...	...	45	170
1938	...	...	28	145

**Average Number and Cost of Outdoor Relief,
Year ending 31st December, 1938.**

Average number of Cases	530
Average weekly cost of Relief	£344 4 7½

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births	Legitimate		369	299	668
	Illegitimate		28	21	49
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ...					15.95
Still Births					23
Birth Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births					16.4
			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Deaths			302	249	551
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population					12.2

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 (total live and still births)
Puerperal Sepsis	1	1.4
Other Puerperal Causes ...	2	2.6
Total	3	4.0

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

All infants per 1,000 live births	64.1
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	62.87
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	81.6

DEATHS FROM:—

Cancer (all ages)	66
Measles (all ages)	3
Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	7

BIRTHS.

The number of births recorded is 717, as compared with 727 in 1937.

DEATHS.

There were 551 deaths. During the previous five years there were:—

1933	517
1934	521
1935	493
1936	529
1937	559

The number of deaths occurring each month, at different age groups was as follows:—

Age	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Age grp. total
All under 1 year	9	5	4	3	2	5	3	6	1	2	4	2	46
1—2	—	1	—	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	6
2—3	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
3—4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
4—5	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
5—10	1	2	1	2	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	10
10—15	2	1	3	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	3	—	12
15—20	—	—	1	2	2	2	—	—	1	1	—	3	12
20—25	1	3	2	1	—	3	2	—	1	—	—	—	13
25—35	3	3	—	3	2	4	3	4	2	2	3	2	31
35—45	3	4	2	—	4	—	1	—	2	2	—	2	20
45—65	17	15	6	12	6	13	7	14	10	11	13	10	134
65—over	20	23	26	20	20	15	22	18	17	27	24	29	261
Monthly Totals	56	58	46	47	38	47	39	43	36	45	48	48	551

Deaths in Wards and Institutions.

Wards	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ward Totals
St. Mary's	4	11	4	5	4	6	6	2	4	4	4	7	61
Christchurch	9	10	6	5	5	1	1	6	4	8	8	2	65
Luton	4	4	8	3	3	2	4	5	—	7	6	4	65
St. Paul's	7	4	6	5	3	4	4	6	5	5	6	10	65
St. Michael's	5	4	1	10	4	8	5	5	5	5	4	3	65
St. John's	16	10	8	9	7	10	4	3	4	7	8	6	86
County Hospital	10	14	13	8	12	13	15	15	13	9	12	15	149
Naval and Medway													
Deaths Credited													
to Chatham	1	1	—	2	—	3	—	1	1	—	—	1	10
Monthly Totals	56	58	46	47	38	47	39	43	36	45	48	48	551

Deaths in the County Hospital are apportioned as follows:—

Wards	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ward Totals
St. Mary's	—	5	2	4	—	2	3	1	1	—	4	4	26
Christchurch	3	1	2	—	2	3	—	3	1	—	1	1	17
Luton	2	3	4	2	3	2	3	3	4	4	2	2	34
St. Paul's	1	1	2	—	4	—	4	2	2	2	—	2	20
St. Michael's	1	3	2	—	—	2	3	4	2	2	2	2	25
St. John's	3	1	1	2	3	4	2	2	3	1	3	4	29
Monthly Totals	10	14	13	8	12	13	15	15	13	9	12	15	149

Thus the total deaths belonging to each ward are:—

Wards	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ward Totals
St. Mary's	4	16	6	9	4	8	9	3	5	4	8	11	87
Christchurch	12	11	8	5	7	4	1	9	5	8	9	3	81
Luton	6	7	12	5	6	4	7	8	4	11	8	6	84
St. Paul's	8	5	8	5	7	4	8	9	7	7	6	12	85
St. Michael's	6	13	3	10	4	10	8	8	7	7	6	5	88
St. John's	19	5	9	11	10	14	6	5	7	8	11	10	115
Naval and Medway													
Deaths Credited													
to Chatham	1	1	—	2	—	3	—	1	1	—	—	1	10
Monthly Totals	56	58	46	47	38	47	39	43	36	45	48	48	551

TOTAL DEATHS, 1938.

		Chatham M.B.			
		Causes of Death		M.	F.
		All Causes	.. .. .	302	249
1.	Typhoid Fever, etc.	..	..	1	—
2.	Measles	..	..	2	1
3.	Scarlet Fever	..	..	2	—
4.	Whooping Cough	..	..	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	..	..	8	4
6.	Influenza	..	..	1	1
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica	..	..	—	—
8.	Cerebro Spinal Fever	..	..	—	—
9.	Respiratory Tuberculosis	..	..	20	17
10.	Other Tuberculosis	..	..	3	3
11.	Syphilis	..	..	2	—
12.	Gen. Paralysis of Insane, Tabes, etc.	..	..	3	—
13.	Cancer	..	..	24	42
14.	Diabetes	..	..	2	6
15.	Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	..	..	11	11
16.	Heart Disease	..	..	88	70
17.	Aneurysm	..	..	2	—
18.	Other Circ. Diseases	..	..	22	9
19.	Bronchitis	..	..	5	6
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	21	11
21.	Other Resp. Diseases	..	..	1	1
22.	Peptic Ulcer	..	..	8	3
23.	Diarrhoea under 2 years	..	..	3	4
24.	Appendicitis	..	..	4	1
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver	..	..	—	1
26.	Other Liver Diseases	..	..	—	2
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	..	..	2	5
28.	Ac. and Chr. Nephritis	..	..	8	10
29.	Puerperal Sepsis	..	..	—	1
30.	Other Puerperal Diseases	..	..	—	2
31.	Con. Deb., Prem. Birth, etc.	..	..	18	7
32.	Senility	..	..	4	6
33.	Suicide	..	..	3	1
34.	Other violence	..	..	10	9
35.	Other Defd. Diseases	..	..	24	15
36.	Ill Defined or N.K.	..	..	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35)		..	..	—	—
Smallpox		..	..	—	—
Poliomyelitis		..	..	—	—
Polio-encephalitis		..	..	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year		Total	..	30	16
		Legitimate	..	29	13
		Illegitimate	..	1	3
Live Births		Total	..	397	320
		Legitimate	..	369	299
		Illegitimate	..	28	21
Still Births		Total	..	10	13
		Legitimate	..	9	12
		Illegitimate	..	1	1
RESIDENT POPULATION		..	..	44,940	

It will be noted in the table showing causes of death, that Heart Disease accounted for 158 cases. I find, however, that of these 158 cases, 47 were aged 75 or over, and it is a fair presumption that the more accurate classification of the cause of death in these 47 cases would be "old age." To label them Heart Disease gives quite a false impression of the actual incidence of Heart Disease. Probably several more under the age of 75 should be labelled "old age."

The following table shows the natural increase in population since 1921:—

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Natural Increase 1,000 Population
1921	23.4	12.8	10.6
1922	22.2	12.1	10.1
1923	21.1	10.7	10.4
1924	19.8	13.3	6.5
1925	20.3	11.7	8.6
1926	20.2	13.2	7.0
1927	21.1	13.9	7.2
1928	18.0	11.8	6.2
1929	18.0	14.2	3.8
1930	18.5	10.8	7.7
1931	18.0	14.4	3.6
1932	17.5	12.4	5.1
1933	15.1	11.5	3.6
1934	15.2	11.4	3.8
1935	16.3	11.2	5.1
1936	15.5	11.9	3.6
1937	16.2	12.4	3.8
1938	15.95	12.2	3.75

The following Table shows the Birth, Death and Infant Mortality Rates during a period of 29 years.

Period	Birth Rate per 1,000	Death Rate per 1,000	Infant Mortality per 1,000 births
1910 to 1914 (average)	25.1	13.4	105
1915 to 1919 do.	22	18	97
1920 to 1924 do.	22.1	12.3	73
1925	20.3	11.7	63
1926	20.2	13.2	83
1927	21.1	13.9	65
1928	18.01	11.8	60
1929	18.03	14.2	95
1930	18.5	10.8	43
1931	18	14.4	63
1932	17.5	12.4	60
1933	15.1	11.5	61
1934	15.2	11.4	63
1935	16.3	11.2	50
1936	15.5	11.9	51
1937	16.2	12.4	66
1938	15.95	12.2	64.1

The next two Tables show Deaths from certain groups of Diseases and their proportional mortality during the years 1925-1938.

Year	Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Respiratory Diseases, including Influenza	Cancer	Diarrhoea	Heart and Circulation	Total Deaths from all causes
1925	8	51	65	49	0	93	489
1926	45	48	90	45	11	98	536
1927	31	35	87	70	5	133	570
1928	36	33	65	53	3	143	489
1929	30	45	116	54	13	148	593
1930	4	43	56	55	4	136	453
1931	23	54	85	80	5	176	598
1932	17	48	75	53	8	191	558
1933	3	34	54	68	4	189	517
1934	6	54	62	55	7	184	521
1935	2	44	36	80	7	169	493
1936	3	44	48	66	3	211	529
1937	5	47	72	71	6	187	559
1938	14	43	47	66	7	191	551

Percentage of Total Deaths (proportionate mortality).

Year	Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Respiratory Diseases including Influenza	Cancer	Diarrhoea	Heart and Circulation
1925 ..	1.6	10.4	13.3	10	—	19
1926 ..	8.5	9	16.8	8.4	2	18.3
1927 ..	5.4	6.1	15.2	12.2	0.8	23.3
1928 ..	7.3	6.9	13.3	10.8	0.6	29.2
1929 ..	5	7.6	19.4	9	2.3	25
1930 ..	0.9	9.5	12.3	12.1	0.9	30
1931 ..	3.8	9	14.2	13.3	0.8	29.4
1932 ..	3	8.6	13.4	9.5	1.4	34.2
1933 ..	0.6	6.6	10.4	13.1	0.8	36.5
1934 ..	1.1	10.3	11.8	10.6	1.3	35.3
1935 ..	0.4	9	7.3	16.3	1.4	34
1936 ..	0.5	8.1	9	12.4	0.5	40
1937 ..	0.9	8.4	12.8	12.7	1.1	33.5
1938 ...	2.5	7.8	8.5	11.9	1.2	34.6

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates, and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1938. (England and Wales, London, 126 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns.)
(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	England and Wales	125 County Boroughs & Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County
Rates per 1,000 Population.				
<i>Births</i> :—				
Live	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4
Still	0.6	0.65	0.60	0.48
<i>Deaths</i> :—				
All Causes	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	0.00	—	0.00	—
Measles	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05
Influenza	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06
<i>Notifications</i> :—				
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Scarlet Fever	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05
Diphtheria	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90
Enteric Fever	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46
Pneumonia	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98
Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
Deaths under 1 year of age	53	57	51	57
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1
<i>Maternal Mortality</i> :—				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.89			
Others	2.19	Not available		
Total	3.08			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e., Live and Still)				
<i>Maternal Mortality</i> :—				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.86			
Others	2.11	Not available		
Total	2.97			
<i>Notifications</i> :—				
Puerperal Fever	14.42	18.08	12.51	3.53
Puerperal Pyrexia				15.46

Section B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The bacteriological examinations of throat swabs, sputum, blood, milk, water or other suspected material are carried out in the County Council Laboratory at Maidstone.

Chemical examinations are done by the County Analyst.

There is no delay in sending results.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) The Joint Hospital Board provide an ambulance for the removal of cases of Infectious Disease.

(b) The St. John Ambulance Brigade provides an ambulance service.

(c) The following arrangements now exist for the use of the Corporation Ambulance, stationed at the Fire Station :—

(1) For police cases (all cases of accidents or illness in the streets) the police will pay

(i) cases inside the Borough of Chatham, 5/- per case plus 8d. per ambulance mile.

(ii) cases outside the Borough of Chatham, 6/- per case plus 8d. per ambulance mile beyond the Borough boundary.

(2) For Infectious Diseases the present charge of 7/6 per case be adhered to.

(3) For all other cases the charge to be the same as to the police. If the patient is necessitous the case to be reported to the Medical Officer of Health for investigation and report as to suitable charge.

(4) The driver will be supplied by the Fire Brigade and will be paid 50 per cent. of the standing charge plus 3d. per mile. To cover the expense of the ambulance the amount available will be 50 per cent. of the standing charge plus 5d. per mile.

(5) For Infectious Diseases the driver will be supplied by the Public Health Department during office hours, but outside office hours the Fire Brigade will supply the driver for 3/6 per case.

(6) All monies received will be paid in to the Borough Treasurer to the credit of the Public Health Committee. Petrol, oil, tyres and other expenses incurred by the ambulance will be ordered by the Fire Brigade and the accounts submitted monthly to the Public Health Committee.

(7) The purpose of the ambulance is primarily for emergency and accident cases and it is not to be sent outside the Medway towns except on the authority of the Medical Officer of Health or the police.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

The District Nursing Association employs three Nurses who attend cases at the request of the doctor in attendance. Should the occasion arise the Council has an arrangement with the Association for the home visiting of Measles, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Pneumonia.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

With the appointment of a whole-time Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Dentist the attendances at the clinics have increased tremendously.

The actual figures are set out in the Table on pages 21 and 22.

In June the Ante-Natal Clinic Sessions were increased from 1 per month to 1 per week but even this was found insufficient and in November the number was further increased to 2 per week.

The issue of Fresh and Dried Milk at reduced cost or in necessary cases free of charge has also increased. This has given rise to considerable difficulties owing to applicants understating their income and it has been necessary to institute proceedings in an endeavour to stop this form of fraud.

The accommodation available at Elm House for clinics has proved inadequate to cope with the increased attendances and the Council has decided to build a subsidiary clinic at White Road in the main Housing Estate.

It is hoped this will relieve to some extent the congestion in Elm House but the Council are aware that Elm House, being a building not designed for the purpose can never be a satisfactory clinic centre.

For some years the congestion at the other offices at the Town Hall has been considerable and a scheme is under consideration for the provision of a new clinic and offices at the rear of the Town Hall.

The new clinic at Walderslade has fully justified itself and is very much appreciated by the people in the neighbourhood.

1. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

- (a) *Ante Natal Clinic*—Every Thursday 2—4.30 p.m.
 „ Tuesday 10.30 a.m.—1 p.m.
- (b) *Children under 5 years of age.*
 Mondays (weighing and food tickets only),
 2—4.30 p.m.
 Tuesdays 2—4.30 p.m.
 Fridays 2—4.30 p.m.
- (c) *Mothercraft Mondays* 2—4.30 p.m.
- (d) *Dental* By appointment daily
- (e) A combined Child Welfare and Ante Natal Clinic is held at the Methodist Hall, Walderslade, on the last Monday of each month.

2. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Wednesdays 2—4.30 p.m.

3. SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

- (a) *Minor Ailments and Medical Inspection*, 9-9.45 a.m. daily.
- (b) *Dental*, daily by appointment, 9—4.30 p.m.
- (c) *Refraction* 1 session each week by appointment.
- (d) *Medical Inspection at Schools*. 4 sessions per week by appointment.

4. TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY, 13, NEW RD., ROCHESTER.

Tuesdays, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.
 Fridays, 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.

5. TREATMENT CENTRE FOR VENEREAL DISEASES, 36, NEW ROAD, ROCHESTER.

Tuesdays and Thursdays for consultations.
 Daily for treatment.

Nos. 1, 2 and 3 are provided by the Council and the Education Committee.

Nos. 4 and 5 are provided by the Kent County Council.

HOSPITALS.**(a) PUBLIC.****COUNTY HOSPITAL.**

The present allocation of beds is as follows:—

	Men	Women
General Medical ...	38	30
General Surgical ...	32	30
Children ...		29
Maternity ...		18 and 12 cots
Venerable Disease ...	No special beds allocated	
Ophthalmia ...	„	„
Tuberculosis ...	12	12
Chronic Sick ...	42	99
Mental ...	None	61
Mental Deficiency ...	No special beds allocated	
Orthopaedic ...	„	„
Puerperal Fever ...	„	„
Isolation ...	4	4

I feel that the value of the work done at this Hospital is not fully realised by the public. Though technically a Public Assistance Hospital the standard of treatment provided is that of a good general hospital, adequately staffed and efficiently run. In the event of war, it will be the main Casualty Clearing Hospital for Chatham and with Dr. Magill in charge we need have no fear that it will adequately perform its functions.

(b) VOLUNTARY.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL, ROCHESTER.

A general hospital containing 200 beds, thus classified:—

Surgical	...	...	...	...	...	106
Medical	...	...	...	...	...	42
Children	...	...	...	...	...	20
Ophthalmic	...	...	...	...	...	8
Orthopædic	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	16
Observation	...	...	...	...	...	4

There are 14 beds reserved for paying patients.

The Hospital contains two general Operating Theatres, one Casualty Theatre and one Orthopædic Theatre. Bohler's method of treatment of fractures is carried out in each case.

There is a large Out-Patients' Department and Special Departments for Cancer, Ophthalmic, Dental, Ear, Nose and Throat and Orthopædic cases, together with a Pathological and Bacteriological Laboratory, Electrical and X-Ray installation.

Facilities for the treatment of Cancer by Radium and Deep X-Ray Therapy are provided.

A working arrangement regarding the transfer of cases from one Institution to the other has been effected with the County Hospital, Chatham.

The increased accommodation at both these Institutions should go far towards securing earlier treatment for cases and the consequent reduction of the waiting list.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

The increases in the attendances at the Ante Natal Clinic has already been referred to. The cause, apart from the better facilities provided is the coming into force of the Midwives Act in October, 1937. The great majority of confinements are now undertaken by the whole-time midwives appointed under the Act and it is pleasing to report that they all co-operate wholeheartedly with the Ante Natal Clinics.

Still I feel there would be even further improvement if these midwives were under the direct control of the Borough Council instead of the County Council. The latter have at all times done everything in their power to help but inevitably there is some delay in referring to Maidstone, matters which could be dealt with as

efficiently and more expeditiously by your Medical Officer of Health on the spot.

Possibly the delegation of the County Council's powers to the local Medical Officer of Health personally in suitable cases would be the most convenient course to adopt.

Now that experience of the working of the Act has accumulated, I feel that the time is drawing near when discussions with the County Council might be commenced.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

The following regulations govern Home Helps :—

1. The Home Help will attend at a house where a confinement has taken place for a period not to exceed 14 days after the confinement. On the written application of the Doctor attending the case, to the Medical Officer of Health, attendance may be allowed before the confinement, and/or for a further period of 7 days.

2. She will attend for 6 days per week from 7.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m., but from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. she will be off duty. The hours may be varied to meet the wishes of the patient with the written consent of the Medical Officer of Health but only so that the total number of hours on duty is not less than 9 per day.

3. She will be paid by the Borough Treasurer, 5/- per working day, *i.e.* 30/- per week, on production of a form signed by the midwife and patient.

4. She must undertake that as long as she is on the list of Home Helps, she will not attend any confinement unless a State Registered Nurse or Midwife is in attendance. A Home Help breaking this rule will at once be removed from the list.

5. She must immediately inform the Medical Officer of Health whether she is on duty or not, of the occurrence of any Infectious Disease in her household. "Infectious Disease" includes ordinary colds and sore throats.

6. She must provide and cook her own food.

7. She must cook for the family, and give general supervision to the children, preparing them for school, and if necessary putting them to bed. She will be responsible for keeping the house clean and in good order.

8. She must not interfere in any way with instructions of the Doctor or Midwife.

9. She is not to wash the patient, nor make her bed, nor undertake any of the duties of the nurse.

10. She will undertake any domestic washing for the children if needed.

11. She must not discuss the family affairs or domestic conditions of the household.

12. The work of the Home Helps will be under the supervision of the Health Visitors, and duly appointed visiting members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

The Health Visitors paid 46 visits for this purpose.

Payment by the patient is on a sliding scale which takes into

account rent, rates, necessary expenses and the number of persons in the family.

Number of Home Helps employed at the end of the year:—12.

Number of patients who availed themselves of this service:—75.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS OR CHILDREN.

Beds are available at St. Bartholomew's Hospital and the County Hospital for acute illness. If convalescent care is needed it is secured at a suitable Institution and a Cot Fund is available.

The Salvation Army and the Rochester Diocesan Society receive unmarried mothers in their homes.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

The requirements of this Act, which extends to children under the age of 9 years, who are received for reward, necessitates frequent inspections to see that the premises are suitable and that the children are properly cared for.

Number of children on the Register on 1st January, 1938:—8.

Number of children on the Register on 31st December, 1938:—8.

Number of reception notices received:—2.

Number of removal notices:—

(1) to other addresses in the Borough:— 0.

(2) to addresses outside the Borough:—2.

Number of visits paid by Health Visitors:—63.

HEALTH VISITORS.

In the autumn the two School Nurses retired on Superannuation. Opportunity was taken of reorganising the Health Visitors and School Nurses duties, and one fully qualified Health Visitor-School Nurse was appointed in place of the two who retired, whilst the other three Health Visitors were given the combined appointment of Health Visitor-School Nurse.

This scheme worked well but with the increase in clinics noted elsewhere it was found necessary to increase the number to five Health Visitors-School Nurses.

Each Nurse is given an area to work including some schools and the attendances at the clinics is by rota.

NURSING HOMES.

The only nursing home on the Register was closed during the year.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

Total number of live births notified	...	...	717
Births notified by midwives	...	...	399
Births notified by doctors	...	...	82
Births notified in County Hospital	...	...	93
Births notified in Royal Naval Maternity Home	...	...	106
Births notified in Military Families Hospital	...	...	8
Births notified in other Homes or Hospitals	...	...	29
Still births	...	...	23

NOTIFIED BIRTHS, HOME ADDRESS NOT IN CHATHAM.

Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	148
County Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	144
Midwives	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Homes or Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	14

WARDS.

St. Mary's ...	...	87	Christchurch	...	117
St. John's ...	...	156	Luton	...	134
St. Michael's	...	96	St. Paul's ...	...	127

Total :—717.

VISITS.

Month	Total Home Visits	Child Welfare			Ante Natal		
		0 — 1 1st	1 sub.	1—5	1st	sub.	
Jan.	698	328			465	—	
Feb.	633	300			425	—	
Mar.	746	342			342	—	
April	609	270			435	—	
May	620	268			434	—	
June	441	226			299	—	
July	545	334			361	—	
Aug.	388	46	229	230	12	25	
Sept.	546	50	250	324	11	25	
Oct.	317	73	155	191	13	11	
Nov.	403	60	174	231	15	19	
Dec.	312	65	118	177	10	8	
Total	6258	3288			3914	61	88

CLINICS.

Month	Child Welfare				Ante Natal		Post Natal
	Total atten.		New Cases		1st attend.	subs.	
	0—1	1—5	0—1	1—5			
Jan.	379	124	27	6	4	9	—
Feb.	411	137	43	6	12	14	—
Mar.	579	251	56	16	9	7	—
April	419	197	31	10	10	7	—
May	465	210	44	15	8	8	—
June	397	194	34	9	20	20	—
July	440	266	42	16	25	43	—
Aug.	439	288	37	26	28	51	4
Sept.	430	317	45	27	38	70	2
Oct.	446	385	41	20	32	58	—
Nov.	459	321	31	26	31	60	5
Dec.	262	233	15	14	22	75	6
Total	5116	2923	446	191	239	422	17

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Below is Mr. Griffiths Report:—

ADULTS.

Number treated	...	...	...	...	31
Attendances	...	...	...	...	67
Extractions	...	...	...	...	117
Fillings	...	...	...	...	9

INFANTS.

Number treated	...	...	...	...	33
Attendances	...	...	...	...	64
Extractions	...	...	...	...	79
Number of Gas Cases	...	...	...	...	23
Fillings	...	...	...	...	11

Whilst any scheme of dental treatment for nursing and expectant mothers is to be welcomed, yet I feel that the mere removal of sepsis or pain without the restoration of efficient mastication by the provision of artificial dentures can have only a limited value in many cases.

W. C. GRIFFITHS,

Dental Surgeon

INFANTILE MORTALITY 1938 CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tubercular Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (Non-Tubercular)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions	1	—	1	—	2	1	—	2	5	5
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	8	8
Diarrhoeal Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	5	5
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation (overlying)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Injury at Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformation	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Premature Birth	17	—	—	—	17	—	—	—	17	17
Atrophy, Debility	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	3	3
Other Causes	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	5	5
Totals	21	—	1	—	22	5	7	8	46	46

It will be noted that the chief cause of infantile mortality is Premature birth (17 out of 46 cases).

The majority of such deaths are not preventable in the present state of our knowledge though there is a strong suspicion that some of them are due to attempts at procuring abortion.

The total Infant Mortality rate is 64.1 and this is definitely higher than it should be, though slightly lower than 1937.

It has proved to be very difficult to get many mothers to breast feed their babies. They will go to the bottle and this is reflected in the 5 deaths from Infantile Diarrhoea and 3 from Marasmus. The appalling state of the dustbins in use in many parts of the borough is probably a contributory factor in that by means of flies and blowing dust the baby's food is infected by the germs of disease.

This matter is being dealt with under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 75, requiring the occupier of each house to supply a proper dustbin.

PROVISION OF CONSULTANTS FOR DIFFICULT MATERNITY CASES.

On 21st April the Corporation resolved that the Authority make provision whereby a Consultant is available to be called in by the patient's own Doctor for difficult Maternity Cases either ante-natally or at the confinement.

The following scheme was adopted:—

- (1) A panel of Consultants be appointed consisting of
 Mr. Greenwood
 Mr. Woodforde
 Mr. Taunton
 Dr. Glyn Rees

(2) A general practitioner or the Medical Officer of the Ante Natal Clinic wishing a second opinion on a difficult case would communicate with the Medical Officer of Health stating the circumstances and which consultant from the above panel he wishes. In emergency the practitioner will get in touch with the chosen consultant direct and inform the Medical Officer of Health within 24 hours.

(3) The Council will pay the fee of the consultant in accordance with the scale set out below.

A proportion of such fees may be recovered from the patient if in all the circumstances it is deemed wise to do so.

Scale of Fees for Consultant Services.

(a) Consultation at Canada House, Gillingham or in a home of a resident of Chatham ...	£ s. d. 2 2 0
(b) Operative Fees (including consultation):—	
1. Evacuation of Uterus	5 5 0
2. Abdominal section	} 10 10 0
3. Cæsarean section	
4. Cæsarean section and Hysterectomy ...	
5. Induction of Labour ... ..		} 5 5 0
6. Curettage of Labour	
7. Craniotomy	
8. Manual or Instrumental Delivery ...	
9. Version	
10. Operative treatment of Placenta Prævia ...	} On a similar scale
11. Other operative treatment	

- (c) Consultation at Surgeon's House 1 1 0

In the event of more than one complication being present, the fee will be that fee which would be payable for the most difficult or serious operation.

- (d) The fee for the Anæsthetist for any operation will be paid by the Kent County Council under the Midwives Act, 1918.

The number of cases in which the services of a Consultant have been provided under this scheme is 3.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Deaths occurring during pregnancy and child birth are investigated by the Medical Officer of health.

- (a) Number of women who died in, or in consequence of, child birth in the area served by the Council :—
 (i) from sepsis :—1. (ii) from other causes :—2.
- (b) Number of these cases which died :—
 (i) at home :—2. (ii) in institutions :—1.

The Council's arrangements for supervising the health of children from birth to 5 years of age and of expectant and nursing mothers are as follows :—

1. The visiting of children in their homes.
2. The provision of cows milk, dried foods, cod liver oil and malt, cod liver oil emulsion and cit. of soda either at Clinic price, half-price or free to expectant and nursing mothers and infants.
3. The provision of sterilized outfits.
4. Dental treatment.
5. Treatment of Minor Ailments such as Impetigo, discharging ears, etc.
6. Hospital treatment for more complicated cases.
7. Visiting of cases of Puerperal Sepsis and Ophthalmia Neonatorum.
8. A Mothercraft Centre.
9. An Ante Natal Clinic.
10. Maternity beds at the Royal Naval and Marine Maternity Home and the County Hospital. Fees are according to patients means.
11. Investigation of Maternal deaths.
12. Provision of Home Helps.
13. Provision of Consultants in difficult Maternity Cases.

ISSUE OF FRESH MILK AND DRIED FOODS.

	Free	Half-price	Clinic Price
Dried Foods (1lb. Packets)	2,261	152	7,505
Fresh Milk (pints) ...	48,866	1,549	—
Cod Liver Oil and Malt	62	1	85
Cod Liver Oil Emulsion			
and Cit. of Soda			
(1lb. cartons and boxes of 100) ...			

HEALTH PROPAGANDA.

Poster Advertisements have been tried and on the whole proved to be a failure and it was decided to drop this form of propaganda entirely.

"Better Health," a magazine devoted to Health Propaganda is issued free of charge at the Clinics and through the schools.

The best propaganda of all, however, is the provision of adequate and efficient Public Health Services and Clinics. The increase in numbers attending such clinics has proved beyond doubt their increased efficiency.

INSPECTION OF WOMEN'S CONVENIENCES.

The Senior Health Visitor paid 111 visits for this purpose.

Section C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

RAINFALL DURING 1938.

I am indebted to A. E. Watkins, Esq., B.Sc., A.M.Inst.C.E., M.Inst.W.E., for the following figures taken at Luton Waterworks.

Rain Gauge :—Diameter of Funnel 5 ins.

Height of top above ground, 3 ft. 0 ins.

Height of Ground above Sea Level, 88 ft.

Month	Total Depth	Greatest Fall in 24 hours	Date	Number of Days with	
				.01 in. or more	.04 in. or more
	Inches	Inches			
Jan.	2.74	.34	13	22	16
Feb.	0.87	.24	15	9	8
Mar.	0.58	.32	25	4	4
April ...	0.41	.19	30	5	4
May	2.34	.39	3	14	12
June	0.45	.19	1	7	4
July	1.48	.28	7 & 15	12	11
Aug.	1.39	.41	9	11	8
Sept.	2.67	1.36	27	14	11
Oct.	2.34	.42	3	19	13
Nov.	2.64	.49	20	16	13
Dec.	2.97	.37	9	22	16
Total ...	20.88			155	120

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

The water supply is from deep wells in the chalk. Experience here and elsewhere shows that such a water is liable to pollution through contamination of the surface of the gathering area, in this case from the top of Blue Bell Hill to the Medway. In this area are situated many houses not connected to the main drainage but relying on cesspools most of which are by no means watertight. There are, therefore, obvious possibilities of pollution of the water supply through fissures, etc., which are known to exist in all chalk formations. It has been necessary therefore to chlorinate the water supply to ensure an adequate degree of safety, and this has given rise to complaints regarding the taste.

Every endeavour is made to obviate this taste as far as possible and at any rate it is better to have occasionally some slight taste than to run the risk of a typhoid epidemic.

The water supply is common to the three towns and in conjunction with the Medical Officers of Health of Rochester and Gillingham samples are taken of each source of supply 6 times a month for Bacteriological Analysis. In all cases the treated water has been shown to be of a very high state of Bacterial purity though occasionally the raw water has shown evidence of pollution.

I have to thank the Water Company for their whole-hearted co-operation in securing a safe water for human consumption.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The new Storm Water Sewer has now been completed and is in use.

The big extension of the flying school on Maidstone Road has necessitated the provision of a sewer up to the Borough boundary and opportunity will be taken to connect up houses on Maidstone Road at present on cesspools. This sewer is just completed. A further sewer in Walderslade is about to be laid.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

A large tidal river like the Medway is necessarily polluted, but being tidal the dilution is great and no action is taken.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Progress is still being maintained with the abolition of cesspools and the connection of W.C.'s to the new main drainage system. Where any difficulty is encountered action is taken under Section 50 of the Public Health Act, 1936, whereby the owner of any cesspool which leaks or overflows is compelled to carry out such works as will obviate such leakage or overflowing. The cheapest and easiest method is of course to connect up to the main sewer.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

General public cleansing of street gullies, household and trade refuse is carried out by the Borough Engineer's Department. Disposal is by controlled dipping.

SHOP ACTS.

Details will be found in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

One complaint of excessive smoke was received during the year and a watch is being maintained on the chimney stack.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no public or privately owned baths in Chatham.

DISINFESTATION.

The problem of infestation by bed bugs has received serious consideration.

The most efficient method for both house and furniture is Cyanide fumigation, but in dealing with houses it is necessary to evacuate every house structurally connected with the house to be fumigated. Where there are long rows of houses such a procedure is impossible and the old method of heavy concentration of Sulphur Dioxide and blowlamps after taking down all picture rails, opening up floors, etc., has to be done. This is expensive and only moderately efficient and careful consideration is being given to other methods. In regard to furniture of those tenants being moved into Council Houses the position is easier and they are now moved in by a "Cyanide Van" under contract. So far this has been completely successful and with no untoward effects.

Details of the work carried out by the department will be found in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SCHOOLS, SANITARY CONDITION AND WATER SUPPLY.

The Sanitary Condition and Water Supply in schools have been maintained in a satisfactory condition during the year. The Chief Sanitary Inspector makes periodical visits for this purpose.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1938

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

I beg to submit my report on the work of the Sanitary Inspectors and Sanitary Depot for the year ending 31st December, 1938.

On the 31st March, 1938, Mr. Hughes entered upon his retirement after 23 years as Chief Sanitary Inspector to the Borough and it must have been gratifying to him that he had seen the abolition of the majority of the slums and cesspools. Since that date it has been my endeavour, aided by the loyal support of the staff, to attain the same standard of efficiency.

DRAINAGE CONNECTIONS TO THE CORPORATION SEWERS.

During the year 506 house drains were connected to the Corporation Foul Sewers, of which 366 were new houses and 140 old houses. The total number of houses now connected is 10,724 which represents 92.5 per cent. of the houses in the Borough.

CESSPOOL WORK.

Complaints of overflowing cesspools or choked drains were received on 817 occasions, and on investigation it was found that 580 were choked drains, 201 overflowing cesspools and the remaining 36 were choked sink and bath waste pipes.

The number of cesspools emptied was 491, and this work necessitated the removal of 200 loads and 4,100 tins of sewage by night and 770 loads of liquid sewage were pumped by day. From the beginning of May the horse transport was superseded by motor vehicles and night soil was conveyed in covered galvanised bins to the Joint Sewerage Board Works at Motney Hill and treated there. Since July the cesspools at the Aerodrome have been repeatedly filled to overflowing and up to the 31st December, 1938, some 240 loads have been pumped from there. It will be noticed that one-third of the number of loads of liquid sewage came from the Aerodrome. The foul sewer is being extended so that the drains of the Aerodrome can be connected. The cesspools in Chatham are mostly constructed so that they are not watertight and action under Section 50 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to remedy this nuisance is being taken. A circular letter was sent to owners of property with leaking cesspools, pointing out the requirements of Section 50 and that the terms of that Section would be met if the house drains were connected to the Corporation Sewers. This was successful in some cases and now a Statutory Notice is being served on the other owners.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

There are 7 registered cow-keepers and 14 registered cowsheds

in the Borough. On the register are :—

- 1 Producer of Accredited Milk.
- 3 Wholesale Producers.
- 35 Retail Purveyors of milk of which 15 are situated out of the Borough.
- 1 Purveyor of Accredited, Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested Milk—situated outside the Borough.
- 134 Purveyors of bottled milk (sterilized).

To the several premises 336 visits of inspection were made and 1 informal notice to cleanse and 1 notice for repair were served and complied with. During the year steam sterilization plants were provided in 6 premises.

ANALYSIS OF WATER AND MILK

The following samples were taken during the year :—

- 44 Water samples for Bacteriological Examination.
- 3 Water samples for Chemical Examination.
- 25 Milk samples for Bacteriological Examination.
- 5 Milk samples for Biological Examination.
- 2 Milk samples for Phosphatase Test.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

On the register are 7 registered and 1 licenced slaughterhouses and to these 2,968 visits were made. Over 99 per cent. of the killing is done in 5 slaughterhouses and during the year some 1,500 head of stock were slaughtered in excess of the number last year. Every attempt is still made to inspect all animals slaughtered and this necessitated a further increase in the number of visits paid. Much of the slaughtering takes place after office hours and approximately 1,000 visits were made after this time during the year. The quantity of food voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption shows a further increase—due mainly to the surrender of 20 chilled hind-quarters weighing some 28 cwts. which were extensively affected with Black Mould. I am pleased to report that all the butchers who carry on extensive slaughtering are now members of the local insurance scheme and are compensated for loss of meat affected with Tuberculosis. The slaughterhouses have been well kept but certain improvements will be necessary when the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, comes into force.

UN SOUND FOOD SURRENDERED, 1938.

Bovine Carcasses and Offals	...	Tuberculosis	...	30
„ Forequarters	...	„	...	17
„ Hindquarters	...	„	...	1
„ Lungs	...	„	...	255
„ Livers	...	„	...	33
„ Heads and Tongues	...	„	...	114
„ Stomachs	...	„	...	2
„ Mesenteries and Intestines	...	„	...	13
„ Diaphragms	...	„	...	2
„ Kidneys	...	„	...	2
Calf Carcasses and Offals	...	„	...	2
„ Lungs	...	„	...	2
„ Livers	...	„	...	1
Pig Carcasses and Offals	...	„	...	7
„ Heads	...	„	...	150
„ Lungs	...	„	...	47
„ Livers	...	„	...	53
„ Mesenteries and Intestines	...	„	...	7
Bovine Carcasses and Offals	...	Dropsical	...	4
„ Lungs	...	Distomatosis	...	2
„ Lungs	...	Abscess	...	3
„ Lungs	...	Pleurisy	...	1
„ Livers	...	Abscess	...	13
„ Livers	...	Angioma	...	27
„ Livers	...	Cirrhosis	...	44
„ Livers	...	Echinococcus Cysts	...	1
„ Heads and Tongues	...	Actinomycosis	...	6
„ Udders	...	Mammitis	...	1
Calf Carcasses and Offals	...	Immature	...	4
Sheep Carcasses and Offals	...	Dropsical	...	20
„ „ „	...	Fevered	...	1
„ „ „	...	Decomposition	...	4
„ Lungs	...	Strongylus	...	31
„ Lungs	...	Abscess	...	1
„ Livers	...	Distomatosis	...	85
„ „ „	...	Cystic	...	25
Pig Carcasses and Offals	...	Jaundiced	...	1
„ „ „	...	Moribund	...	1
„ „ „	...	Fevered	...	1
Pig Lungs	...	Congestion	...	8
„ Lungs	...	Pneumonia	...	27
„ Livers	...	Cirrhosis	...	38
Bovine Mesenteries	...	Johne's Disease	...	2
„ Carcasses and Offals	...	Drugs	...	1
„ Lungs	...	Pneumonia	...	6
„ Livers	...	Fatty Infiltration	...	3
„ Kidneys	...	Nephritis	...	2
„ Briskets and Flanks	...	Local Oedema	...	2
„ Lungs	...	Echinococcus Cysts	...	2

Pig Plucks	...	...	...	Inflammation	...	...	5
„ Liver	...	...	...	Fatty Infiltration	...	...	1
Bovine Carcase and Offal	...	...	...	Septicæmia	...	...	1
Sheep Carcase and Offals	...	...	...	Injury	...	...	11
Sheep Carcase and Offals	...	...	...	Melanosis	...	...	1
Pig Carcase and Offal	...	...	...	Urticaria	...	...	1

DECOMPOSITION, ETC.

Hindquarters, 24; Forequarters, 1; Boxes of Fish, 52; Tinned Food, 9 tins; Joints of Beef, 33; Calves Kidneys, 222lbs.; Pigs Kidneys, 6 lbs.; Bovine Livers, 5 lbs.; Lambs Livers, 10 tins; Pigs Livers, 2; Corned Beef, 8 tins; Guinea Fowl, 1; Rabbits, 25; Eggs, 40; Pig Plucks, 7.

Total weight of Food Surrendered: 19 tons, 11 cwts. 3 qtrs. 11 lbs.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number inspected	683	733	736	6,341	7,910	16,403
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i> Whole carcases condemned.	—	6	4	37	4	51
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	32	56	—	129	71	288
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	4.7%	8.4%	0.5%	2.6%	0.9%	2.1%
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i> Whole carcases condemned.	4	26	2	—	7	39
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	60	232	2	—	208	502
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with Tuberculosis	9.2%	34.4%	0.5%	—	2.7%	3.2%

BAKEHOUSES.

There are in the Borough 18 bakehouses of which 2 are classified as basement bakehouses. In both the latter cases it is not the intention of this department to issue a certificate of suitability. The occupier of one of these basement bakehouses is making alterations to an existing building and on completion the basement bakehouse will be closed. In the other case, the bakehouse will, in the early part of 1939, have not been in use for 12 months and will be closed in accordance with Section 54 of the Factories Act, 1937. 4 of the bakehouses were not in use at the end of the year. 37 inspections were made of these premises.

FISH OFFAL COLLECTION.

A daily collection of fish offal is made by this department and there are 14 shops taking advantage of this collection. The offal is taken to the farm of a local farmer and ploughed into the land for manure. The charge for collection and use of bin is 2/- per week.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

During the year there were notified 233 cases of Scarlet Fever, 208 cases of Diphtheria and 4 of Enteric Fever, and of these, 146 Scarlet Fever, 186 Diphtheria and 4 Enteric Fever cases were removed to hospital. The usual enquiries are made by the sanitary inspector into all these cases and in all instances the infected bedding removed to the Sanitary Depot for disinfection by steam. The number of loads of bedding removed was 481. Infectious diseases occurred in 3 premises where the occupiers were outworkers. 110 library books were disinfected—62 from the Public Library, 37 from private libraries and 11 from school libraries.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are 4 common lodging houses in the Borough and 19 visits were paid to them. There appears to be a dwindling in the number of lodgers and it is very seldom that they were more than half filled.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

On the register are 8 of these premises and only one house is capable of holding more than 3 families. They are usually occupied by aged persons and the tenants are continually changing.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are 22 fish friers, 1 knacker yard and horse slaughterhouse, 4 marine store dealers and 1 gut scraper in the Borough.

MORTUARY.

The number of bodies removed to the Mortuary during 1938 was 29—6 female adults and 20 male adults, 1 female child and 3 male children. There were 28 post mortems carried out. No bodies were buried at the expense of the parish.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES OF ANIMALS.

On the 1st April, 1938, the provisions of the Agriculture Act, 1937, came into force and part of the duties have been transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. One case of Anthrax was reported during the year by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The owner of the cow was warned by the Council for not reporting the case.

TUBERCULOSIS ORDER, 1938.

A suspected case of Tuberculosis was reported but was not confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

The number of licenced slaughtermen on the register at the end of the year was 48. Two fresh licences were granted and 1 licence renewed during 1938.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

This Act is administered continuously during the year.

	Rats Caught	Baits Laid	Visits Made
Dwellinghouses	74	526	493
Shops, stores, etc.	44	273	354
Bradfields Wood Bank	85	—	22
Street End Allotments	30	—	20
Corporation Refuse Shoot	631	—	147
Total	864	799	1,036

Number of days worked by rat catcher	...	...	218
Number of new applications	...	...	72

Ice Cream Vendors	...	...	...	...	...	22
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	26
Contagious Diseases of Animals Act	...	...	...	...	...	75
Market	...	...	...	...	...	2
Stables	...	...	...	...	...	91
Courts and Alleys	...	...	...	...	...	41
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	12
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	606
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	114
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	284
Bedding and Disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	515
Unsound Food and Cold Store	...	...	...	...	...	126
Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	241
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	24
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	182
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	368
Council House Applicants	...	...	...	...	...	37
Rats Order	...	...	...	...	...	37
Gipsy Encampment	...	...	...	...	...	12
Refuse Heaps and Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	76
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	154
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	...	123
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	9
						<hr/>
						Total ... 10,858
						<hr/>

NUISANCES ABATED.

During the year the following nuisances were abated under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors.

Accumulations of Refuse, etc., removed	...	...	...	...	17
Ceilings Whitened	...	...	...	...	113
Broken W.C. pans repaired	...	...	...	...	12
Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	116
Cesspool covers repaired or sealed	...	...	...	...	4
Cesspools filled in	...	...	...	...	4
Chimney pots replaced	...	...	...	...	2
Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	24
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	13
Coppers repaired or rebuilt	...	...	...	...	17
Door locks or fasteners repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Doors or frames repaired	...	...	...	...	34
Doors provided or renewed	...	...	...	...	13
Drainage of old buildings relaid	...	...	...	...	5
Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	9
Drains ventilated	...	...	...	...	1
Firegrates renewed	...	...	...	...	7
Firegrates repaired	...	...	...	...	21
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	22
Flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	44

Flushing cisterns provided	...	...	...	...	2
Flues repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	6
Gutters or downpipes cleared	...	...	...	...	10
Gutters or downpipes provided	...	...	...	...	71
Inspection covers provided	...	...	...	...	1
Interiors cleansed	...	...	...	...	51
Keeping of animals in unfit state	...	...	...	...	1
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	163
Sashcords repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	38
Sash fasteners repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Sinks provided or renewed	...	...	...	...	5
Sink waste pipes repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	13
Sanitary dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	1
Stairtreads or steps repaired	...	...	...	...	15
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	250
Damp walls repaired	...	...	...	...	25
Weatherboarding or external walls repaired	...	...	...	...	9
Windows reglazed	...	...	...	...	17
Window frames, sashes and sills repaired	...	...	...	...	111
W.C. seats or risers repaired	...	...	...	...	7
W.C. structures rebuilt	...	...	...	...	2
Yard paving repaired	...	...	...	...	10
Verminous bedding cleansed	...	...	...	...	3
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	16
Privy structures repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Drains connected to Corporation sewer	...	...	...	...	59
Houses reconditioned	...	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	52

THOS. HOWARD

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Chatham.

5th June, 1939.

Factory and Workshop Act 1901 and the Factories Act 1937 (which superseded the Act of 1901 on 1st July, 1938).

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health, including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories with mechanical power	74	—	—
Factories without " "	98	1	—
*Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including out- workers' premises).	2	1	—
*Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories.			
Total	174	2	—

2.—Defects found

Particulars (1)	No. of Defects			No. of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) { Unsuitable or defective Not separate for sexes Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Other offences (Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order 1921 and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act 1937.)	1	1	—	—
Total	3	3	—	—

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.

Nature of Work (1)	Instances. (2)	Notices served (3)	Prosecutions (4)
Wearing Apparel :—			
Making, etc.	—	—	—
Cleaning and washing	—	—	—
Household linen	—	—	—
Lace, lace curtains and nets	—	—	—
Curtains and furniture hangings..	—	—	—
Furniture and upholstery ..	—	—	—
Electro-plate	—	—	—
File making	—	—	—
Brass and brass articles	—	—	—
Fur pulling	—	—	—
Cables and chains	—	—	—
Anchors and grapnels	—	—	—
Cart gear	—	—	—
Locks, latches and keys	—	—	—
Umbrellas, etc.	—	—	—
Artificial flowers	—	—	—
Nets, other than wire nets ..	—	—	—
Tents	—	—	—
Sacks	—	—	—
Racquet and tennis balls ..	—	—	—
Paper, etc., boxes, paper bags ..	—	—	—
Brush making	—	—	—
Pea Picking	—	—	—
Feather sorting	—	—	—
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc. ..	—	—	—
Stuffed toys	—	—	—
Basket making	—	—	—
Chocolates and sweetmeats ..	—	—	—
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc. ..	—	—	—
Textile weaving	—	—	—
Lampshades	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—

Section D.

HOUSING.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	814
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1946
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	76
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	735
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit human habitation	61
(4) 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	753

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	246
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:—

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	70
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	88
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	21
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	70

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936—Part IV—OVERCROWDING:—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded on 31st December, 1938	100
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	122
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	748
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	10
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	16
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	137
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	None

NEW HOUSES DURING 1938.

(a) The total number of dwelling-houses on plans submitted by private persons during 1938	198
(b) The total number of houses erected during 1938 including houses shown under item (c)	306
(c) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:—	
(1) By the Local Authority	48
(2) By other bodies or persons	Nil

CLEARANCE AREAS.

Areas taken	18
Houses included	258
Houses demolished	242
Houses not yet demolished	16

INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES.

283 houses were reported up to the end of 1938.

Of these 182 were demolished.

57 „ rendered fit.

6 „ closed under undertaking not to re-let.

31 „ not yet demolished.

Parts of 2 houses have been subject of closing orders. Action not completed during 1938—5 cases. There have been 38 individual houses reconditioned by informal action.

Section E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

This is a very important duty of a Public Health Department and much of the Sanitary Inspector's time is occupied in visiting slaughterhouses and premises where food is prepared or sold.

Particulars of the number of Cowsheds, Registered Cowkeepers, Purveyors of Milk, etc., are given in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

POTTED AND PRESERVED MEAT.

The supervision of this class of business is important. Ready cooked and prepared foods are being increasingly used by the public and a close watch is kept on such premises. They are registered under a local act.

ICE CREAM.

The manufacture of Ice Cream is conducted under greatly improved conditions and is very largely in the hands of large producers, who are able to make it under good sanitary conditions and the method of distribution in packages is replacing sale in bulk. The manufacture of ice cream is the subject of regulation under the Chatham Corporation Act, 1923.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

I am indebted to W. R. Breed, Esq., for the subjoined particulars:—

Particulars of samples taken under the provisions of the above Act in the Borough of Chatham during the year.

New Milk	...	...	62	Ammoniated Tincture of	
Condensed Milk	...	...	2	Quinine	...
Butter	...	...	15	Cod Liver Oil	...
Margarine	...	...	6	Castor Oil	...
Lard	...	...	5	Iodine	...
Sugar	...	...	1	Cream	...
Dried Fruit	...	...	1	Cocoa	...
Pepper	...	...	1	Rum	...
Coffee	...	...	1	Whisky	...
Mustard	...	...	1	Brandy	...
Ground Ginger	...	...	2	Gin	...
Jam	...	...	8	Lemonade Powder	...
Preserved Peas	...	...	1		
Fish Paste	...	...	1		
Tea	...	...	1		
				Total	...
					134

Two samples of pasteurised milk were found to be inefficiently pasteurised but as follow up samples proved to be correct, no further action was taken.

An informal sample of Strawberry Jam which was found on analysis to contain an excessive amount of preservative (sulphur

dioxide) is at the present time being followed up with a view to any necessary action required being taken.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

These examinations are conducted by the Kent County Council.

NUTRITION.

Lectures are given at the Mothercraft Centre and to various bodies in the town by the Medical Officer of Health and Deputy Medical Officer of Health on food values.

Section F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Table (a) shows Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified, admitted to hospital and deaths during 1938.

(b) Infectious Diseases during 1938 including Tuberculosis classified according to ages.

(c) Ward distribution of Infectious Diseases, including Tuberculosis during 1938.

(d) The number of cases of Notifiable Infectious Diseases 1928-1938.

(a) NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS
DURING THE YEAR 1938.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	208	186	12
Scarlet Fever	233	146	2
Pneumonia	23	10	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	3	3
Erysipelas	19	8	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	—
Malaria	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	4	4	1
Meningococcal Meningitis	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—

(b) INFECTIOUS DISEASES. (Ages).

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Enteric Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	(Tuberculosis)	
								Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Under 1 year	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	1
1-2 years	4	6	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
2-3 years	9	7	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
3-4 years	10	9	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
4-5 years	18	13	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5-10 years	103	96	—	5	—	—	—	1	10
10-15 years	48	39	—	3	—	—	—	4	—
15-20 years	21	9	2	1	1	—	—	10	5
20-35 years	16	22	4	1	3	3	—	20	2
35-45 years	4	3	6	2	—	—	—	6	—
45-65 years	—	3	6	4	—	1	—	9	1
65 years and upwards ..	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	1
Totals	233	208	19	23	4	4	2	51	21

(c) INFECTIOUS DISEASES. (Wards).

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Enteric Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Tuberculosis	
								Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
St. Mary's	26	16	—	4	—	—	—	4	3
St. John's	27	18	1	4	1	—	1	12	4
St. Michael's	50	20	3	4	—	1	—	8	2
St. Paul's	61	74	12	3	2	3	—	14	4
Luton	30	40	3	5	—	—	—	8	6
Christ Church	39	40	—	3	1	—	1	5	2
Totals	233	208	19	23	4	4	2	51	21

(d) TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES,
1928-1938.

Year	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Malaria	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pneumonia	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Acute Poliomylitis	Encephalitis Lethargica	Dysentery
1928	223	447	0	7	12	0	7	29	0	1	2	0
1929	61	98	6	4	13	1	14	24	5	0	2	0
1930	84	44	2	2	21	0	4	7	2	0	1	0
1931	58	26	2	6	11	0	1	20	0	1	0	0
1932	149	11	16	4	11	0	4	21	6	0	0	0
1933	146	25	2	1	10	0	2	29	2	0	0	0
1934	114	31	1	2	17	0	2	19	0	0	0	0
1935	44	22	2	2	17	0	0	30	0	0	0	0
1936	40	25	0	1	21	0	4	20	1	0	0	0
1937	160	261	0	9	28	0	3	14	0	4	0	0
1938	233	208	4	4	19	0	2	23	0	0	0	0

PATHOLOGICAL LABORATORIES.

				Pos.	Neg.	Total
Diphtheria Swabs	...	...	...	160	430	590
Tubercle, Sputum	...	...	...	33	54	87
Hairs for Ringworm	...	...	...	1	3	4
Serum for Typhoid	...	...	...	—	—	—
Fæces for Typhoid	...	...	...	1	14	15

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

For notifiable infectious diseases accommodation is available at St. William's Hospital, Rochester, and is used jointly by Chatham and Rochester. On a basis of 144 square feet per bed there is accommodation for 85 patients, and if necessary this could be extended on the present site.

As regards Small Pox, if a case should occur an arrangement with the London County Council is in force for admission to the hospital at Joyce Green. In the event of accommodation not being available there, they will be taken into the old Small Pox Hospital at Rochester.

SCARLET FEVER.

Cases notified	...	...	...	...	233
Removed to hospital	...	...	...	...	146
Households affected with 1 case	...	...	...	...	171
Households affected with 2 cases	...	...	...	...	18
Households affected with 3 cases	...	...	...	...	2
Households affected with 4 cases	...	...	...	...	1
Households affected with 5 cases	...	...	...	...	1
County Hospital	...	...	...	...	11
Deaths	...	...	...	...	2

Scarlet Fever has been rather prevalent during the year. It has been of a mild type. There were 2 deaths. Fuller knowledge of this disease has shown that it is not one disease but many closely allied diseases, that an attack of one variety does not give immunity to the other varieties and that the group is much more widespread than was thought owing to the fact that it is now known that the majority of cases show no signs of the rash. In St. William's Hospital it is impossible to isolate each type of Scarlet Fever from the other types and there is therefore risk of a patient entering the hospital with say type 2 becoming infected in hospital, with, say, type 4 or 6, etc. For this reason alone it is better for cases of Scarlet Fever to be nursed in their own homes unless they are either:—

- (1) So ill as to require hospital treatment, or
- (2) So situated as to be a special danger to public health, *e.g.*, in a house connected with the sale of food, especially milk.

When it is realised that only those cases of this group of diseases showing a rash are notified as Scarlet Fever whilst the others constituting at least two-thirds of the total are ignored, the reason will be apparent why the policy of securing admission to hospital of all cases of Scarlet Fever has completely failed to make any difference in the

incidence of the disease.

In the subjoined table are particulars of Scarlet Fever from 1916-1938.

Year	Cases Notified	Number under 5 Years	Deaths	Treated in Hospital	Attack Rate per 1000 Population	Mortality per 1000	Percentage removed to Hospital
1916	88	13	2	70	2	.004	79
1917	52	8	—	43	1.2	—	83
1918	93	7	2	81	2.1	.004	87
1919	56	7	1	49	1.2	.002	88
1920	110	16	1	87	1.8	.002	80
1921	145	19	2	118	3.4	.004	81
1922	78	8	—	72	1.8	—	91
1923	60	9	1	58	1.3	.002	96
1924	44	12	—	32	1	—	70
1925	53	10	1	48	1.2	.002	90
1926	73	8	2	55	1.7	.004	75
1927	123	22	—	94	2.9	—	76
1928	223	29	1	93	5	.002	42
1929	61	10	2	52	—	.004	85
1930	84	16	—	71	1.9	—	84
1931	58	8	1	48	1.3	.002	82
1932	149	21	—	103	3.4	—	69
1933	146	33	—	110	—	—	74
1934	114	22	3	91	2.5	.007	79
1935	44	5	—	36	.99	—	82
1936	40	4	1	31	.91	.002	77.5
1937	160	45	—	127	3.6	—	79.3
1938	233	41	2	146	5.2	.004	62.7

DIPHTHERIA.

Cases notified	...	...	...	...	208
Removed to hospital	...	...	...	...	186
Households with one case	...	...	...	...	117
Households with 2 cases	...	...	...	...	17
Household with 3 cases	...	...	...	...	6
Households with 4 cases	...	...	...	...	2
Households with 5 cases	...	...	...	...	1
County Hospital	...	...	...	...	26
Deaths	...	...	...	...	12

Diphtheria was again very prevalent during 1938. Investigation of the school population showed 30 per cent. had been immunised and this suggests that a much higher proportion of the population must be immunised before there will be any reduction in the incidence of the disease.

It must be remembered that immunisation protects the individual from the toxin of the Diphtheria Bacillus. It is the toxin which causes all the harm, the bacillus itself remaining on the surface. Immunisation has little or no effect on the Bacillus itself hence people infected with it who have been immunised suffer little or no ill effects because the toxin has been in them neutralised but the infection is

still there. In effect they are apt to become carriers.

Of the 186 cases admitted to hospital 11 had been immunised before, but with the exception of one case (immunised in 1932) none of them were real cases of Diphtheria. They were carriers only and the "carrier" condition very soon cleared up. Even so if those who were immunised were equally liable to the infection as the non-immunised, we should have had 33 such cases instead of 11, the incidence being three times as much in the non-immune section of the community compared with the immune section. If we could only get the majority of the children immunised we could almost forget about Diphtheria. Surely for the sake of 2 small practically painless injections it is worth while giving your child immunity from the disease which at best means a long illness and at worst is often fatal.

Particulars of Diphtheria from 1916 to 1938 :—

Year	Cases Notified	Deaths	Death Rate per cent. of those attacked
1916	76	3	4
1917	34	2	6
1918	31	1	3
1919	27	2	7
1920	261	13	5
1921	176	16	9
1922	61	6	10
1923	27	—	—
1924	14	—	—
1925	47	2	4
1926	222	17	7
1927	252	19	7
1928	447	30	6.7
1929	98	11	1.2
1930	44	1	2.3
1931	26	—	—
1932	11	—	—
1933	25	—	—
1934	31	1	3.2
1935	22	1	4.5
1936	25	2	8
1937	261	3	1.2
1938	208	12	5.7

DIPHTHERIA—INCIDENCE IN SCHOOLS
AGES

School	Ages—Females					Ages—Males					
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Christchurch C.E. Sen. Girls											
Christchurch C.E. Infants	1					3					2
Luton Village Infants											
New Road Council Jun. Girls											
St. Mary's C.E. Girls and Inf.					1						
St. Michael's R.C. Mixed			1							1	1
St. John's C.E. Boys											
St. John's C.E. Girls					1						1
St. John's Infants			2							1	
St. Paul's C.E. Boys											
All Saints C.E. Jun. Girls			1	2	2	4					2
All Saints C.E. Infants	3	1									
Glencoe Road Council Boys										2	1
Glencoe Road Council Girls				2	2	2	1				
Glencoe Road Council Infants	5	3	2								
Walderslade Council Mixed											
Luton Road Central Boys											
Luton Road Council Jun. Boys											
Luton Rd. Council Jun. Girls' In.	1	3		2	1	2					
Ordnance St. Council Boys											
Ordnance St. Council Girls											
Private Schools						1	1				

TOTAL CASES—121.

SUPPLY OF ANTITOXIN.

Diphtheria Antitoxin is kept at the Public Health Department, "Elm House," 15, New Road Avenue, and at the Chief Fire Station, Railway Street, and is supplied free of charge to medical practitioners. It can be obtained at any hour of the day or night.

The number of units issued during 1938 was:—1,944,000.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

The Clinic first opened at the end of 1929 is held every Wednesday.

New cases (1938)	...	...	...	138
Immunised	...	...	...	129
Attendances	...	...	...	775

The following Table shows the numbers and ages of the new cases:—

1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-6 years	6-7 years	7-8 years	8-9 years	9-10 years	10-11 years	11-12 years	12-13 years	13-14 years	Totals
54	19	14	13	9	9	3	5	4	3	2	2	1	138

The yearly figures are as follows:—

Year	Total New Cases	Total Immunised	Total Attendances
1930	... 432	388	2182
1931	... 614	560	2716
1932	... 575	561	2819
1933	... 459	405	2295
1934	... 392	359	1944
1935	... 526	482	2271
1936	... 415	395	2049
1937	... 398	381	1773
1938	... 138	129	775
Totals	... 3,949	3,660	18,824

The immunising agent used up till the end of July, 1937, was Toxoid Antitoxin Mixture (T.A.M.) when 3 inoculations were given at fortnightly intervals, a final Schick Test being made about 3 months after the last injection. The dosage for the first two inoculations is 1 c.c. and for the 3rd 1.5 c.c. If there was a positive reaction Toxoid Antitoxin Floccules (T.A.F.) was used.

From July, 1937 onwards Alum Precipitated Toxoid (A.P.T.) was used when only 1 small dose is given to test the child's reaction and if satisfactory the full dose is given 3 weeks later. The child is then Schick tested 2 or 3 months after. The dosage for the first dose is 0.1 c.c. (children over 10) and 0.2 c.c. (children under 10), the full dose being 0.4 c.c.

ENTERIC FEVER.

4 cases of Enteric Fever were notified. There was one death. All cases were treated in hospital.

These cases were all on the water supply from one source and this was suspected as the cause. Investigation, however, proved the cause quite definitely to be a carrier connected with food.

SMALL POX.

There were no cases.

VACCINATION.

I am indebted to the Vaccination Officer of the Chatham and Rochester District for the following information :—

Number of cases in the Birth Lists received from Registrar of Births during the year	...	...	990
Number of certificates of successful vaccinations received during the year	...	...	462
Number of certificates of postponement owing to the health of the child received during the year	...	...	36
Number of certificates of postponement owing to infectious disease	...	...	1
Number of Statutory Declarations received during the year	...	...	394
Number of certificates of insusceptibility received during the year	...	...	4
Number of cases where parents have moved from the District	...	...	37
Number otherwise not found	...	...	25

NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

A weekly return is made by Head Teachers. The following cases were notified during the year:—

Measles	...	...	...	...	...	395
Whooping Cough			...	...	...	25
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	...	...	347
Mumps	...		...		...	6

Such a return may not be strictly accurate, but it is an indication of the prevalence of any of these diseases.

INFLUENZA.

There were only 2 deaths from Influenza compared with 19 for 1937.

CANCER.

The facilities for diagnosis and treatment, are, General Practitioners, the County and Voluntary Hospitals.

The total number of deaths was 24 males and 42 females.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

The treatment Centre for the Medway Area is situated at 36, New Road, Rochester, and is provided by the Kent County Council.

I am indebted to H. Nicol, Esq., F.R.C.S., the Medical Officer in charge, for the following particulars:—

New Patients.	Chatham:—				Male	Female	Total
Syphilis	6	6	12
Soft Sore	—	—	—
Gonorrhœa	22	7	29
Non-venereal	41	5	46
					69	18	87

Total number of new patients from all areas served ... 347

Average Number of Chatham patients
under daily treatment or observation
during 1938

...	69	48	117
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Discharges (all districts served)					Male	Female	Total
Discharged cured.							
Syphilis	11	9	20
Soft Sore	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Gonorrhœa	...	...	...	...	54	25	79
Non-venereal	...	...	...	...	131	20	151
Defaulted before final test of cure.							
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	7	—	7
Gonorrhœa	...	...	...	...	19	—	19
Defaulted before completion of treatment.							
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	11	9	20
Gonorrhœa	...	...	...	...	15	4	19
Total attendances of Chatham patients ...					...	3,212	
Total attendances of all areas served ...					...	11,652	

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Notified	Cases		Vision Un-impaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	Treated					
	At home	In hospital				
2	—	2	2	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

Table showing new cases and Mortality during 1938.

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ..	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
1-5 years ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	1
5-15 years ..	1	4	4	6	—	—	—	2
15-25 years ..	8	6	2	4	6	2	1	—
25-35 years ..	4	10	—	1	5	7	—	—
35-45 years ..	4	2	—	—	2	2	—	—
45-55 years ..	6	3	—	1	2	2	—	—
55-65 years ..	2	—	—	—	3	3	—	—
65 years up ..	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
Totals ..	26	25	8	13	20	17	3	3

NOTIFICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS.**PULMONARY.**

Total Notifications	...	...	...	51
By Private Practitioners	...	...	...	22
Hospitals and Poor Law Institutions	...	...	...	18
Tuberculosis Officer	...	...	...	9
Transferred from other districts	...	...	...	2

NON-PULMONARY.

Total Notifications	...	...	...	21
By Private Practitioners	...	...	...	2
Hospitals and Poor Law Institutions	...	...	...	13
Tuberculosis Officer	...	...	...	6
Transferred from other districts	...	...	...	—

CLASSIFICATION OF NON-PULMONARY CASES.

Glandular	...	...	...	...	10
Meninges	...	...	...	...	3
Bones and Joints	...	...	...	...	3
Abdomen	...	...	...	...	5

DELAY IN NOTIFICATION.

Name	Notification Received	Date of Death
B.W.	27.10.38	5.11.38
C.H.	28.10.38	26.10.38
E.S.	17. 1.38	15. 1.38
J.W.	15.12.38	14.12.38
A.W.	12. 5.38	10. 5.38

On January 1st, 1938, there were on the Register :—

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	75	39	114
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	10	17	27

On December 31st, 1938, the numbers were :—

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	76	47	123
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	15	24	39

The number of cases removed from the Register during 1938 was :—

Pulmonary	...	...	...	42
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	...	9

15 of the above removals were presumed to be cured, as there was no record of continued treatment and five years had elapsed in the case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and three years in the case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis since the Primary Notification.

30 had died and 6 had left the district.

There were 9 deaths from unnotified cases of Tuberculosis.

Notification on the whole is satisfactory.

I am indebted to Dr. C. Roper, Tuberculosis Officer for this Area for the following :—

PARTICULARS OF PATIENTS FROM THE CHATHAM AREA DEALT WITH AT THE COUNTY TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY, DURING THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1938.

	Pulmonary				Non-Pulmonary				Totals			
	Adults		Children		Adults		Children		Adults		Children	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Tuberculous	17	16	2	3	—	2	4	4	17	18	6	7
Non-T.B.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	35	35	29	32
Obs. Dec. 38	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	39
Total New Cases	17	16	2	3	—	2	4	4	54	56	36	39

Total Attendances	...	...	...	867
INSTITUTIONS TO WHICH PATIENTS WERE SENT DURING 1938:				
Lenham Sanatorium	...	...	...	13
Keycol Hill Sanatorium	...	...	...	5
Grosvenor Sanatorium	...	...	...	4
Preston Hall	...	...	...	1
County Hospital, Chatham	...	...	...	6
Eversfield Chest Hospital	...	...	...	5
County Hospital, Farnborough	...	...	...	3
County Hospital, Dartford	...	...	...	1
Victoria Home, Margate	...	...	...	2
King George's San, Bramshott	...	...	...	1
Royal Sea Bathing Hospital	...	...	...	1
London Chest Hospital	...	...	...	2
Holy Cross, Broadstairs	...	...	...	2
Old Manor House, Broadstairs	...	...	...	1
Holy Cross, Haslemere	...	...	...	1
Tait Convalescent Home	...	...	...	1
				—
Total	...	...	...	49
				—

