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ANNUAL

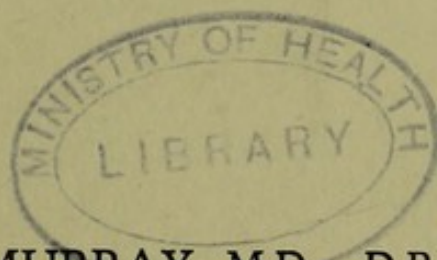
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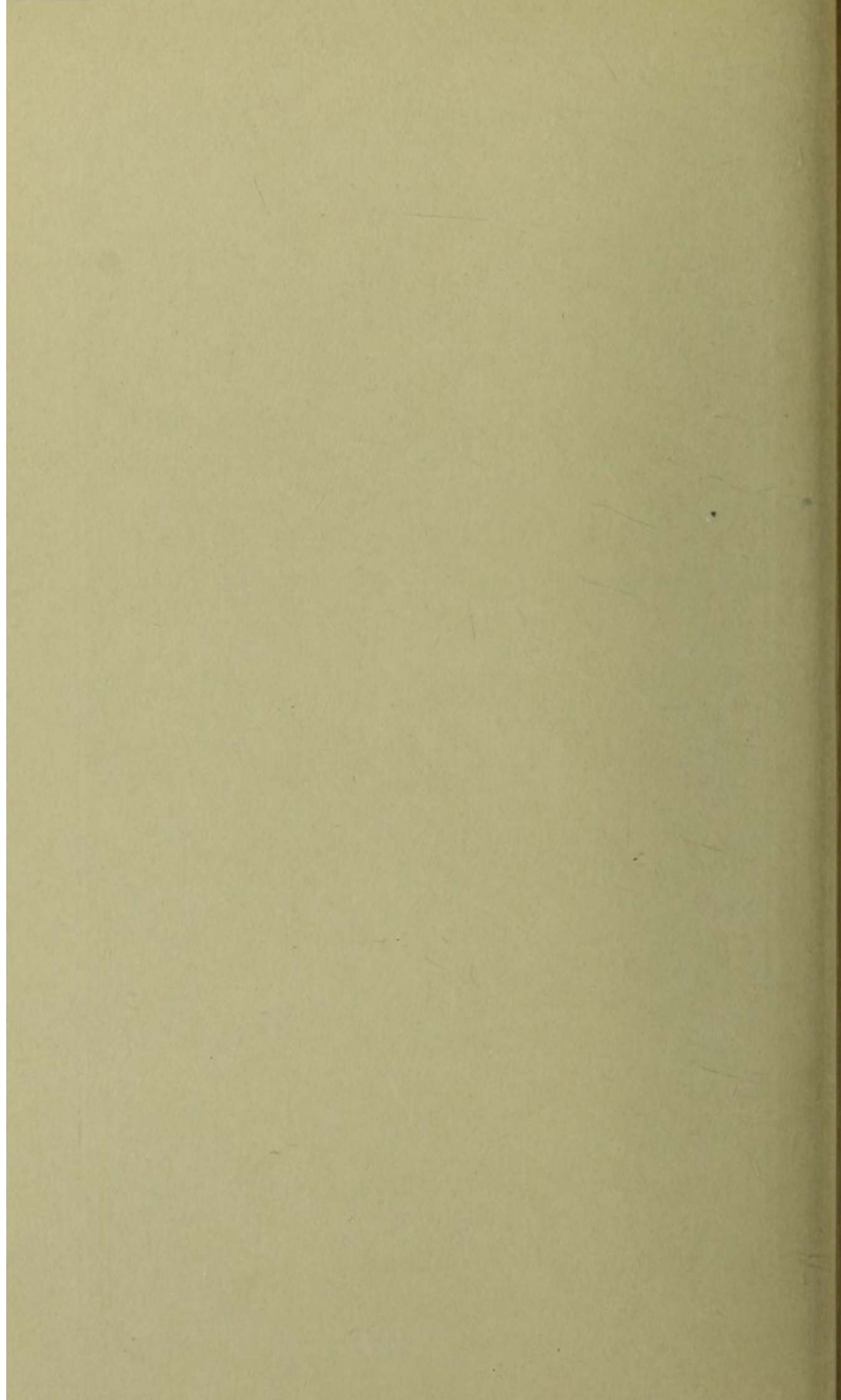
Medical Officer of Health

FOR

1951



J. O. MURRAY, M.D., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health





BOROUGH OF CHATHAM

ANNUAL

REPORT

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BOROUGH OF CHATHAM

ANNUAL

REPORT

Medical Officer of Health

1921

J. G. MURRAY, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

List of Members of the Chatham Council

THE MAYOR (Alderman F. H. Lawrence, J.P.)

THE DEPUTY MAYOR (Alderman E. G. Maynard)

Alderman H. J. Stearne, (deceased 19.11.51).

Alderman W. F. Hollands.

Alderman W. Blackmore.

Alderman J. Presnail.

Alderman A. S. Price, J.P.

Councillor R. Homden.

Councillor F. B. Semple, B.Sc.

Councillor W. G. Hogg.

Councillor G. W. Pagett, M.A., C.C.

Councillor P. J. Kelly.

Councillor W. J. B. Bliss, J.P.

Councillor G. W. Rhodes.

Councillor D. D. Barker, M.B., B.Ch.

Councillor F. C. Manington.

Councillor A. G. C. Brown.

Councillor F. B. Hodges.

Councillor T. T. Myles.

Councillor G. B. Chater.

Councillor F. Waghorn.

Councillor J. S. Thomas.

Councillor R. Bampton.

Councillor J. Wheeler.

Public Health Committee

This consists of the whole of the members of the Council.

CHAIRMAN : Councillor G. W. Rhodes

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Councillor D. D. Barker, M.B., B.Ch.

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health :

(Combined appointment with City of Rochester)

J. O. Murray, M.D., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Medical Officer Kent County Council :

(Combined appointment with City of Rochester)

J. H. Whittles, T.D., M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H.,
(resigned 2.12.51.)

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

Thomas Howard (a) (b)

Senior District Sanitary Inspector :

A. E. South (a) (b)

District Sanitary Inspectors :

H. Taylor (a) (b), R. W. Wright (a) (b)

Clerks :

Miss J. F. Coffey

Miss S. Springate, O. Thomas

(a) Sanitary Inspector's Certificate.

(b) Meat Inspector's Certificate.

Borough of Chatham

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
"ELM HOUSE,"
15 NEW ROAD AVENUE,
CHATHAM.

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

YOUR WORSHIP AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Report for 1951.

POPULATION.

The population of the Borough as shown by the Census taken on the 8th April, 1951, was 46,940.

The Registrar General's estimate in June of the resident population, including H.M. Forces, was 51,550.

BIRTHS.

There were 820 live births and 23 still births. The Live Birth Rate was 15.9 per 1,000 of the population, which is the lowest for many years. (See page 9).

DEATHS.

There were 605 deaths, the Death Rate being 11.74 per 1,000 as compared with 11.01 in 1950.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

One of the disconcerting features of the year's records is the number of deaths of children under 1 year. There were 30, which is equal to an Infant Mortality Rate of 36 per 1,000 live births. 12 of the deaths were due to Respiratory disease and 14 were attributable to Prematurity, from which cause 10 babies died within 24 hours of birth.

TUBERCULOSIS.

On the other hand, the Death Rate from Tuberculosis continues to decline, the total number of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis was 20, giving a Death Rate of 0.39 as compared with 0.47 in 1950 and 1.09 in the period 1945 to 1949.

ACCIDENTS.

Motor Vehicle Accidents resulted in the deaths of 15 Chatham residents, including 11 boys aged 9 to 13, who were victims of the tragic Dock Road 'bus accident in December.

Other forms of accident caused 20 deaths, of which 8 occurred in elderly females—5 fractured thigh, 3 fractured skull. Coal gas poisoning caused 3 deaths.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

In January and February, when Influenza was prevalent, 8 elderly persons died from this disease. Measles and Whooping Cough were widespread in 1951. The number of notifications of both diseases far exceeded those of any previous year since the diseases became notifiable in 1940. There were 1,183 Measles cases, the highest previous number being 723 in 1948. There were no deaths from this cause but 2 babies died from Whooping Cough, of which 396 cases were notified, compared with the highest previous figure of 219 in 1942. The Whooping Cough epidemic was at its height in the first quarter of the year. Measles reached its peak in May, when there were 601 notified cases.

Dysentery was notified on 46 occasions. The disease is, in all probability, more frequent than this number would indicate. It is usually of such a mild type that not all of those affected consult their medical attendant.

The elimination of Diphtheria, of which no case has been recorded during the past four years, is a clear indication of the great value of Diphtheria Immunization which must be maintained at a high level to ensure freedom from this mortal and incapacitating disease. (Pages 18 and 19).

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION RECORDS.

Monthly recording of Atmospheric Pollution began in August. Rochester and Chatham Corporations have combined for this purpose and three gauges have been installed.

CLEAN FOOD.

In addition to general health propaganda, the Clean Food Campaign was continued throughout the year. Propaganda is carried out jointly by Rochester and Chatham Corporations and the following figures indicate the activities during the year:—

	<i>Total Number Attending</i>
Lectures to School Canteen Staff	210
Demonstrations and film show for food handlers (This film show was run with the help of the Central Office of Information)	473
Lectures to the Public on Clean Food Production ...	170

In co-operation with the Crusader Insurance Company, an exhibition dealing with various public health activities and activities of voluntary associations was held in the Belsey Hall, Rochester. Appropriate films were shown for mothers and children. It is estimated that 2,500 people visited the exhibition during the week.

Byelaws were made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act in July, 1950.

During the year 1951, 2 contraventions of the Byelaws were dealt with informally and they were immediately rectified.

HOUSING.

Housing conditions, on which I have commented in past reports, still remains the most important health problem awaiting a satisfactory solution.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the valuable assistance I have had from all members of the staff, and from my colleagues in other departments, to whom I am indebted for much of the information contained in this report.

The support and guidance of the Chairman and members of the Health Committee have contributed in no small way to any success which the department may have had in maintaining and improving the health and social amenities of the community. I appreciate their help and wish to express my gratitude.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. O. MURRAY,

Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	4,356
Registrar General's estimate of resident population (Including forces stationed in the area)	51,550
Number of inhabited houses on the Rate Books:—	
Dwellinghouses	12,234
Shops with living accommodation	716
Licensed Premises with living accommodation	123
Rateable Value	£305,357
Sum represented by a penny rate (1951)	£1,197

Extracts from Vital Statistics

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births—Legitimate ...	396	372	768
Illegitimate ...	30	22	52
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ... ..	...	...	15.9
Stillbirths	11	12	23
Birth Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births ... ..	...	...	16.35
Deaths	341	264	605
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... ..	...	...	11.74

Death Rate of Infants Under 1 Year of Age

All infants per 1,000 live births	36.59
--	-------

Births

The number of births recorded is 820 as compared to 746 in 1950.

Deaths

There were 605 deaths. During the previous seven years there were :—

1950	512
1949	531
1948	467
1947	562
1946	485
1945	501
1944	501

The following table shows the average Birth, Death and Infant Mortality Rates for five yearly periods from 1910-1949, and the years 1950 and 1951:—

Period	Birth Rate per 1,000	Death Rate per 1,000	Infant Mortality per 1,000 births
1910 to 1914	25.1	13.4	105
1915 to 1919	22	18	97
1920 to 1924	22.1	12.3	73
1925 to 1929	19.53	12.96	73.2
1930 to 1934	16.86	12.1	58
1935 to 1939	16.01	12.02	53.48
1940 to 1944	20.29	14.64	65.57
1945 to 1949	22.55	14.97	36.24
Year 1950	16.04	11.01	32.17
„ 1951	15.9	11.74	36.59

Birth and Death Rates for England and Wales for the Year 1951, derived from Provisional Figures based on Quarterly Returns and comparable Figures for Chatham

Rates per 1,000 Home Population

	England and Wales	¹²⁶ County Borough and Great Towns (including London)	¹⁴⁸ Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County	Chatham
<i>Births</i>					
Live Births	15.5	17.3	16.7	17.8	15.9
Still Births... ..	0.36	0.45	0.38	0.37	.44

Deaths

All causes	12.5	13.4	12.5	13.1	11.74
-------------------	------	------	------	------	-------

Rates per 1,000 Live Births

Deaths

All causes under 1 year of age	29.6(a)	33.9	27.6	26.4	36.59
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1.4	1.6	1.0	0.7	1.22

(a) Per 1,000 related live births

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

Age	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Age group total
All under 1 year	4	6	2	1	1	2	2	2	4	4	—	2	30
1 and under 5	1	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4
5 and under 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	13	17
15 and under 25	2	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	2	4	13
25 and under 45	5	3	1	5	4	4	4	5	—	1	3	1	36
45 and under 65	20	14	14	6	15	12	6	8	6	8	13	11	133
65 and over	60	50	28	37	37	23	14	19	26	25	23	30	372
Monthly Totals	92	73	46	49	60	42	28	34	37	42	41	61	605

Infantile Mortality

The following table shows the causes of infantile deaths in relation to age.

Disease	(a) Under 12 hrs.	(b) 13-24 hours	(c) 1-7 days	(d) 8-28 days	(e) Over 1 m'th	(f) Total
1. Congenital Malformation Birth Injury marasmus, etc. ...	—	1	1	—	—	2
2. Prematurity ...	8	2	4	—	—	14
3. Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	1	9	10
4. Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	1	1
5. Whooping Cough...	—	—	—	—	1	1
6. Other causes ...	—	—	—	1	1	2
Total ...	8	3	5	2	12	30

The following table shows the average increases in population and in five yearly periods since 1922:—

Period	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Natural increase per 1,000 Population
1922-1926	20.72	12.2	8.52
1927-1931	18.72	13.02	5.7
1932-1936	15.92	11.68	4.24
1937-1941	17.37	13.42	3.95
1942-1946	21.59	13.84	7.75
1947-1951	19.85	12.1	7.75

TOTAL DEATHS, 1951

Chatham M.B.			
Causes of Death		M.	F.
All Causes		341	264
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	12	8
2.	Tuberculosis, other	0	0
3.	Syphilitic Disease	2	1
4.	Diphtheria	0	0
5.	Whooping Cough	1	1
6.	Meningococcal Infections... ..	0	0
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	1	2*
8.	Measles	0	0
9.	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	0	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	10	5
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	10	2
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	0	9
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	0	4
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	32	27
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	0
16.	Diabetes	0	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	31	19
18.	Coronary disease, angina ...	32	20
19.	Hypertension with heart disease...	8	10
20.	Other Heart disease	73	77
21.	Other circulatory disease ...	11	4
22.	Influenza	5	3
23.	Pneumonia	14	8
24.	Bronchitis	19	10
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	5	2
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum...	5	0
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	0
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	3	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	4	0
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	0	2
31.	Congenital malformations ...	0	3
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases	32	30
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	15	0
34.	All other accidents	8	12
35.	Suicide	5	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war ...	1	1
Deaths of Infants { Total ...		18	12
under 1 year { Legitimate		17	11
{ Illegitimate		1	1
Live Births { Total ...		426	394
{ Legitimate		396	372
{ Illegitimate		30	22
Still Births { Total ...		11	12
{ Legitimate		11	12
{ Illegitimate		—	—

*The cause of death in these two cases was Polio-Encephalitis.

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.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

1. *Maternity and Child Welfare.*

(a) Ante-natal Clinics :

White Road	...	...	...	Tuesdays	a.m.
King's Road	...	...	...	Wednesdays	a.m.
Elm House	...	...	...	Mondays	p.m.
				Thursdays	p.m.

(b) Child Welfare Clinics :

White Road	...	...	...	Mondays	p.m.
				Thursdays	p.m.
King's Road	...	...	...	Tuesdays	p.m.
				Fridays	p.m.
Elm House	...	...	...	Tuesdays	p.m.
				Fridays	p.m.

(c) Dental—by appointment.

(d) A Child Welfare Clinic is held at the Methodist Hall, Walderslade, on the first, third, and fifth Friday of each month. A doctor is in attendance.

2. *Women's Welfare Clinic.*

Elm House	1st, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays	p.m.
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3. *Diphtheria Immunisation and Vaccination.*

Elm House	3rd & 5th Wednesdays	p.m.
White Road	...	...	1st Wednesday	p.m.
King's Road	...	...	4th Wednesday	p.m.

4. *School Medical Service.*

(a) Minor Ailments and Minor Inspections.

Elm House—Mondays	}	9-10.30 a.m.
Wednesdays		
Fridays		

(b) Dental—by appointment.

(c) Refraction—by appointment.

(d) Ophthalmic Clinic—by appointment.

5. *Scabies Clinic :*

St. William's Hospital, Rochester... Wednesdays p.m.
(Arrangements to be made through the Public Health Department, Chatham. Tel. 3663/4).

6. *Chest Clinic, 13 New Road, Rochester. Tel. 2182.*

Tuesdays ... 2 p.m. — 3 p.m.
Fridays ... 9.30 a.m. — 10.30 a.m.

7. *Treatment Centre for Venereal Diseases, 36 New Road, Rochester. Tel. 3343.*

Mondays ... 1.30 p.m. — 4.30 p.m.
Thursdays ... 10 a.m. — 1 p.m.

Hospitals in Chatham and Rochester, under the administration of the Medway and Gravesend Hospital Management Committee, Secretary :—T. Rhodes, Esq., St. William's Hospital, Rochester, Tel. 4688.

Cases

Saint Bartholomew's Hospital, New Road, Rochester. Tel. 4278 and 4004. General, Medical and Surgical

All Saints' Hospital, Magpie Hall Road, Chatham. Tel. 3686. ... General, Medical, Surgical and Maternity

St. William's Hospital, St. William's Way, Rochester. Tel. 3243. ... Infectious Diseases and Convalescent Surgical

Home Nursing Association, Manor Road, Chatham. Tel. 3465.

Domestic Help Service, Elm House, 15 New Road Avenue Chatham. Tel. 2954.

Ambulance Service, King Edward Road, Rochester. Tel. 3540.

Private Maternity Homes

Saint Christopher's Maternity Home, Maidstone Road, Chatham, closed down permanently April, 1951.

Mortuary Accommodation

Particulars with regard to Mortuary Accommodation were described in the 1950 Report.

SECTION C.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

(a) Notifiable Diseases (Other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1951

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	No. of Deaths
Scarlet Fever	57	3	—
Pneumonia	62	1	22
Puerperal Pyrexia	18	16	—
Erysipelas	4	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	2	2	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	2	2	—
Measles	1183	3	—
Whooping Cough	396	6	2
Dysentery	46	—	—
Food Poisoning	3	—	—

(b) Infectious and other Diseases (Ages)

	Whooping Cough	Measles	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Acute Encephalitis	Acute Poliomyelitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Typhoid and Paratyphoid	Meningococcal Infection	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Cerebro-Spinal Fever
Under 1	25	43	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
1 — 2	105	290	—	3	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
3 — 4	129	409	—	13	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	2	—
5 — 10	130	432	—	34	6	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	21	1	—
11 — 15	3	4	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—
16 — 20	2	2	—	1	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21 — 25	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26 — 35	2	3	—	3	7	8	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
36 — 45	—	—	—	1	8	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—
46 — 65	—	—	—	—	15	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
66 up	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	396	1183	—	57	62	18	4	2	—	1	—	2	46	3	—

(c) Infectious and other Diseases. (Wards).

Wards	Whooping Cough	Measles	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Acute Encephalitis	Acute Poliomyelitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Typhoid and Paratyphoid	Meningococcal Infection	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Cerebro-Spinal Fever
St. Mary's ...	21	114	—	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—
St. John's ...	61	227	—	10	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	—	—
St. Michael's ...	31	143	—	5	9	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	9	2	—
St. Paul's ...	54	156	—	5	15	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—
Luton ...	181	435	—	27	16	2	2	1	—	1	—	1	11	1	—
Christ Church...	48	108	—	5	10	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	5	—	—
Totals ...	396	1183	—	57	62	18	4	2	—	1	—	2	46	3	—

(d) Table Showing Number of Cases of Infectious Diseases, 1928-1951

Year	Measles	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Malaria	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pneumonia	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Acute Polio-myelitis	Acute Encephalitis	Dysentery	Food Poisoning
1928			223	447	—	7	12	—	7	29	—	1	2	—	—
1929			61	98	6	4	13	1	14	24	5	—	2	—	—
1930			84	44	2	2	21	—	4	7	2	—	1	—	—
1931			58	26	2	6	11	—	1	20	—	—	—	—	—
1932			149	11	16	4	11	—	4	21	6	—	—	—	—
1933			146	25	2	1	10	—	2	29	2	—	—	—	—
1934			114	31	1	2	17	—	2	19	—	—	—	—	—
1935			44	22	2	2	17	—	—	30	—	—	—	—	—
1936			40	25	—	1	21	—	—	20	1	—	—	—	—
1937			160	261	—	9	28	—	3	14	—	4	—	—	—
1938			233	208	4	4	19	—	2	23	—	—	—	—	—
1939			61	86	—	7	10	—	1	19	1	—	—	—	—
1940	79	12	20	13	—	8	14	—	4	22	2	—	—	—	—
1941	413	120	20	4	12	9	4	—	4	12	5	—	—	—	—
1942	417	219	38	8	—	16	7	—	5	32	6	1	—	—	—
1943	412	91	124	16	—	12	17	—	—	44	—	—	—	—	—
1944	201	182	48	12	1	18	18	2	3	29	3	—	—	4	—
1945	446	111	52	9	1	23	16	—	1	34	1	3	1	1	—
1946	568	52	26	2	—	4	16	5	—	27	2	—	—	—	—
1947	189	179	22	7	1	7	11	—	—	20	1	2	—	1	—
1948	723	171	8	—	—	9	15	—	1	24	3	2	1	—	—
1949	34	189	35	—	—	8	8	—	—	19	—	2	—	1	—
1950	567	137	85	—	—	9	20	—	—	28	1	1	—	20	—
1951	1183	396	57	—	—	18	4	—	1	62	—	—	2	46	3

Scarlet Fever

Cases notified	...	...	...	...	...	57
Removed to Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	3
Households affected with 1 case	...	...	...	...	...	44
Households affected with 2 cases	...	...	...	...	...	3
Households affected with 3 cases	...	...	...	...	...	1
Households affected with 4 cases	...	...	...	...	...	1
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	—

Diphtheria

No cases have been reported during the past four years.

Immunisation against Diphtheria

Clinic Sessions :

Elm House	...	...	3rd & 5th Wednesdays p.m.
White Road	...	...	1st Wednesday p.m.
King's Road	...	...	4th Wednesday p.m.

The yearly figures are as follows:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Immunised</i>	<i>Boosting Doses</i>
1932	561	—
1933	405	—
1934	359	—
1935	482	—
1936	395	—
1937	381	—
1938	129	—
1939	80	—
1940	—	—
1941	514	—
1942	2399	—
1943	825	—
1944	576	—
1945	546	—
1946	602	75
1947	426	348
1948	680	163
1949	941	1251
1950	622	235
1951	769	1063

The following table shows the numbers and ages of children who attended the Clinic during 1951 for immunisation:—

Year of Birth	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	Total
Primary Inoculations ...	42	362	84	20	21	25	32	10	3	5	—	1	43	63	58	769
Reinforcing Inoculations ...	—	—	—	—	25	184	160	46	11	17	4	2	136	219	259	1063

The undermentioned figures show the number of children under the age of 15 years on the 31st December, 1951, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (i.e., at any time since 1st January, 1937).

Year of Birth	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	Total
	42	389	476	542	623	615	556	651	371	347	322	338	329	208	189	5998

Vaccination against Small Pox

Age at 31.12.51	under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 or over	Total
Number Vaccinated	245	204	21	29	499
Number Re-vaccinated	—	9	23	64	96

Food Poisoning

Type of Outbreak	No. of Cases	Identified Agent	Foods Suspected	No. of Deaths
Family Outbreaks 1	2	Not known	No evidence that the cause was due to any particular food	—
Single Cases 1	1	Salmonella Typhi-Murium		—

Supply of Anti Toxin

Anti Toxin for use by medical practitioners is available at all hospitals.

Venereal Disease

The treatment centre for the Medway Area is situated at 36 New Road, Rochester. I am indebted to Dr. C. D. Routh, Director, for the following particulars:—

<i>New Patients—Chatham</i>					<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	4	7	11
Chancroid	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Gonorrhoea	...	...	...	...	8	2	10
Non-Venereal	...	...	...	...	42	17	59
					—	—	—
					54	26	80
					—	—	—

Total No. of new patients from all districts served	...	284
Total attendances of Chatham patients	...	1226
Total attendances of patients from all districts	...	4217

DISCHARGES (all districts served)

Discharged Cured:—

Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Gonorrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Non-venereal	...	...	...	...	...	...	191

DEFAULTED BEFORE FINAL TEST OF CURE

Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Gonorrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

DEFAULTED BEFORE COMPLETION OF TREATMENT

Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gonorrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

The following table shows the number of cases from Chatham since 1938:—

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Gonorrhoea	29	39	46	73	40	26	64	22	20	36	14	17	11	10
Syphilis	12	16	23	60	43	13	15	10	16	24	14	20	15	11
Chancroid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Non-Venereal	46	42	42	43	39	49	233	59	69	72	57	59	60	59

Notification of Tuberculosis

PULMONARY

Total Notifications	...	...	...	...	...	66
By Private Practitioners	...	...	...	...	...	9
Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	12
Chest Physician	...	...	...	...	...	36
Transferred from other districts	...	...	...	...	...	6
Reinstated Cases	...	...	...	...	...	3

NON-PULMONARY

Total Notifications	...	...	...	...	9
By Private Practitioners	...	...	...	...	—
Hospitals	...	...	...	...	2
Chest Physician	...	...	...	...	6
Transferred from other districts	...	...	...	...	—
Reinstated Cases	...	...	...	...	1

Delay in Notification

One person died of Tuberculosis who had not previously been notified as suffering from this disease.

I am indebted to Dr. S. Roy C. Price, Chest Physician, for the following information :—

Particulars of patients from the Chatham Area dealt with at the Chest Clinic, Rochester, during the year 1951.

	Pulmonary				Non-Pulmonary				Totals					
	Adults		Children		Adults		Children		Adults		Children			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Def. T.B.	26	24	3	1	1	6	1	1	27	30	4	2	63	
Non T.B.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	106	165	53	49	373	
									133	195	57	51	436	

Total Attendances—1863.

INSTITUTIONS to which patients were sent during 1951 :—

Orpington Hospital...	...	...	...	2
Grove Park Hospital	...	...	...	8
Preston Hall... ..	...	...	...	3
Lenham Sanatorium	...	...	...	4
Nayland Sanatorium	...	...	...	1
Princess Mary's, Margate	...	...	...	1
Willesborough Hospital	...	...	...	1
Grosvenor Sanatorium	...	...	...	3
Kettlewell Hospital...	...	...	...	5
Eversfield Chest Hospital	...	...	...	3
Sheppey General Hospital	...	...	...	1
Royal Sea Bathing Hospital	...	...	...	1
Queen Mary's, Sidcup	...	...	...	3
Keycol Hill Hospital	...	...	...	1
St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester	...	...	...	3
Farnborough Hospital	...	...	...	1
Bevendean Hospital	...	...	...	2
Hurstpierpoint Hospital	...	...	...	1
All Saints' Hospital, Chatham	...	...	...	17
Bow Arrow Hospital	...	...	...	1
Fairlight Sanatorium	...	...	...	2
Total				64

TABLE SHOWING NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1951 :—

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years ...	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
6-15 years ...	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
16-25 years ...	10	19	1	2	—	1	—	—
26-35 years ...	5	7	—	2	1	2	—	—
36-45 years ...	5	3	2	—	—	1	—	—
46-55 years ...	2	1	1	—	5	2	—	—
56-65 years ...	5	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
66 years up ...	2	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
Totals ...	34	32	5	4	12	8	—	—

**Registered cases of Tuberculosis as at 31st December in each year
from 31st December, 1940-31st December, 1951**

<i>Year</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	<i>Total</i>
1940	130	50	180
1941	156	52	208
1942	180	63	243
1943	199	70	269
1944	229	76	305
1945	232	81	313
1946	245	88	333
1947	259	102	361
1948	266	56	322
1949	291	72	363
1950	308	72	380
1951	322	69	391

Average number of Notifications, Deaths and rates in 5 yearly periods from 1935—1949, and Annual figures for 1950 and 1951

<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>				<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>				<i>Totals</i>			
		<i>Notifications</i>	<i>Notifi. rate</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Death rate</i>	<i>Notifications</i>	<i>Notifi. Rate</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Death rate</i>	<i>Not. Rate</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Death Rate</i>	<i>Per 1,000 persons living</i>
1935—1939	44,732	45	1.00	28	.62	72	.27	3	.07	57	31	.69	<i>Per 1,000 persons living</i>
1940—1944	35,752	63	1.76	33	.92	12	.34	6	.17	75	39	1.09	<i>Per 1,000 persons living</i>
1945—1949	39,932	71	1.78	32	.80	15	.38	4	.10	86	36	.90	<i>Per 1,000 persons living</i>
1950	46,500	84	1.81	21	.45	16	.34	1	.02	100	22	.47	<i>Per 1,000 persons living</i>
1951	51,550	66	1.28	20	.39	9	.17	0	.0	75	20	.39	<i>Per 1,000 persons living</i>

SECTION D.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Rainfall during 1951.

I am indebted to Avon E. Crisp, Esq., M.A., M.Inst.C.E., for the following figures taken at the Luton Pumping Station :—

January	Total depth in inches	2.29
February	" " " "	5.74
March	" " " "	2.99
April	" " " "	2.47
May	" " " "	2.26
June	" " " "	1.19
July	" " " "	2.71
August	" " " "	3.64
September	" " " "	4.17
October	" " " "	1.09
November	" " " "	3.78
December	" " " "	1.92
Total	... ..	34.25

Water

Supply is by the Chatham and District Water Co. and has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity. 36 samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination, each of which showed a good result. Chlorination is still carried out. A new covered reservoir was commenced in July 1951 at Woolman's Wood from which parts of Chatham will be served.

The following number of properties are supplied by public water mains :—

(a) Direct to properties	... ..	13,023
(b) By means of stand-pipes	... ..	12

The following number of properties are supplied other than by public water mains 38

Drainage and Sewerage

The number of houses connected to the public sewer during the year was :—

New Houses :—

Corporation Property	... ..	109
Private	... ..	21
Existing Houses	... ..	67

Total connected during year 197

An extension of 363 lin. yards was made at Longhill Avenue to the public foul sewers.

Public Cleansing

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

House refuse is collected once per week except in the High Street, Military Road and Railway Street area where it is collected three times per week. Trade refuse is collected at the same time as the house refuse except where large quantities need special collection.

In accordance with the decision of the Council, all rubbish tipped must be covered the same night.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1951

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

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Report for the year ending 31st December, 1951.

The work for the abolition of leaky cesspools still continues and a further 60 were put out of use during 1951. It is interesting to note that in 1929 the department received 7,761 applications to empty cesspools while the number has fallen to 110 for 1951. The majority emptied were those beyond the ends of the sewers or those emptied before connection to the Corporation foul sewers.

It is disappointing to find that more Council houses were fumigated for vermin in 1951, also that some of the post war houses are now infested with bugs. Although furniture is fumigated before being taken into the houses, there is no control over second hand furniture which the tenant may subsequently purchase, and this is where the danger lies.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

T. HOWARD,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

20th August, 1952.

SECTION E.**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)	924
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	2415
2. Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	167
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	20
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	385

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	206
--	-----

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	Nil.
2. Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) by owners	Nil.
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil.
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	165
2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	245
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil.

(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	...	...	...	10
2. Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	7

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

New Houses During 1951

- (a) The total number of dwelling houses on plans submitted during 1951 was 54.
- (b) The total number of houses erected during 1951 ... 163
- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| (1) Houses erected by Local Authority | ... | ... | 135 |
| (2) Houses erected by other Persons | ... | ... | 28 |

Re-Housing of Council House Applicants

During the year, 18 removals were undertaken by this Department. In each case fumigation was carried out to the household effects.

Requisitioning of Vacant Houses

During the year, enquiries were made into 20 vacant houses, with a view to requisitioning. In all cases the houses were occupied. The main cause of delay was the time lag in transferring the deeds of houses to new purchasers, and redecoration.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

The number of licensed slaughtermen on the register at the 31st December, 1951, was 25.

Rat Destruction

No. of rats caught in dwellinghouses	...	...	170
No. of rats caught in business premises	...	...	374
No. of rats caught at farms	...	...	470
No. of rats caught on Corporation property	...	...	232
			<hr/> 1246 <hr/>

Poison treatment, according to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries' instructions was carried out, and the number of rats destroyed was 700. Of this figure, 97 carcasses were found and included in the total of 1,246.

The manholes of the foul sewers were test baited and treated in May and November. The number of manholes baited was 371 and the number of manholes showing takes was 62. The latter manholes were confined to three small areas.

Foods and Drugs Act, 1938.

During the year 106 samples of food and drugs were taken as per the following table :—

	No. of Samples		Result of Analysis		
			Adulterated		Genuine
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	
Sweets (Jellies)		1			1
Synthetic Cream		1			1
Malt Vinegar		1			1
Cakeflour Mixture		1			1
Baking Powder		1			1
Semolina		1			1
Milk of Magnesia Tablets ..		1			1
Saccharine Tablets		1			1
Sponge Mixture		1			1
Coffee		1			1
Aspirin Tablets		1			1
Anadin Tablets		1			1
Milk	63	1			64
Ice Cream		8			8
Yeast Vite		1			1
Pepper		1			1
Toothache Tincture		1			1
Arrowroot	1	1	1	1	—
Lissoids		1			1
Propax Tablets		1			1
Seidlitz Powder		1			1
Scone		1		1	
Butter		1			1
Cornflour		1			1
Pork Sausages	1	1		1	1
Beef Sausage Meat	2	2	2		2
Beef Sausages	2		1		1
Chest and Lung Mixture ..		1			1
Raspberry Vinegar		1			1
Glycerine		1			1
Totals	69	37	4	3	99

The sample of Arrowroot proved to be Cornflour. The vendor was sent a letter of warning.

The sample of scone was submitted to this Department as unedible and, on analysis, it was found that the fat was rancid. The attention of the manufacturer was drawn to this.

Regarding the four samples of sausage meat and sausages, in three cases prosecutions were carried out by the Enforcement Officers of the Ministry of Food, resulting in fines of £20 os. od. and 3 guineas costs in each case. In the fourth case, the formal sample, after an adulterated informal sample, proved to be genuine.

Samples for Bacteriological Analysis.—County Laboratory, Maidstone

The following samples were collected for analysis :—

WATER

36 water samples were found to be “ Good Water.”

MILK

283 samples of milk were taken with the following result :—

Class of Milk	Number of Samples	Appropriate Tests	Number of Tests	
			Passed	Failed
Pasteurised	157	Phosphatase Methylene Blue	152 142	5 15
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	126	Phosphatase Methylene Blue	121 121	5 5

14 samples of raw milk were submitted for Biological Examination and of these, 6 samples proved to be Tubercule positive. The County Medical Officer was notified in each case.

Ice Cream

31 Ice Cream Samples were taken and the result was as follows :—

	GRADE				Total
	1	2	3	4	
Manufactured in the Borough	13	2	1	—	16
Manufactured outside the Borough... ..	9	4	1	1	15
	22	6	2	1	31

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTIONS

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number inspected ...	494	11	—	2	947	1454
All Diseases except Tuberculosis—						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	14	14
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	121	1	—	1	87	210
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	24.5	9.1	—	50	10.6	15.4
Tuberculosis Only—						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	1	—	—	1	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	48	3	—	—	19	70
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	9.7	36.4	—	—	2.1	4.95

Unsound Food Voluntarily Surrendered, 1951

The total amount of meat and other foods condemned was 11 tons 16 cwts. 1 qr. 1 lb.

	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Total weight of meat condemned ...	5	18	0	24
Total weight fish condemned ...	2	6	2	13
Total weight tinned and other foods condemned ...	3	11	1	20

Inspection of Meat and other Foods

The following table shows the number of carcasses inspected since 1942:—

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
1942 ...	1322	479	520	8235	1153	11709
1943 ...	1165	546	1025	6641	466	9861
1944 ...	1341	1087	963	4956	1147	9494
1945 ...	1425	990	1251	3313	1626	8605
1946 ...	1920	1065	3326	5079	1429	12819
1947 ...	850	349	986	2709	684	5578
1948 ...	443	54	—	5	322	824
1949 ...	324	63	2	3	547	939
1950 ...	369	28	—	2	584	983
1951 ...	494	11	—	2	947	1454

There is one slaughterhouse in the Borough and it is used by the Ministry of Food. There is also one Knacker Yard.

Fish Offal

Fish Offal collected was 9 tons 11 cwts., and the amount received was £23 17s. 6d. (This amount includes a small collecting fee).

Bakehouses

There are 12 Bakehouses in the Borough.

Fish Fryers

There are 22 Fish Fryers on the register (1 closed temporarily.)

Ice Cream

5 premises are registered for the manufacture of Ice Cream and 109 for the sale and storage of ice cream.

Disinfestation of Bedding, etc.

Bedding from Council House Applicants fumigated	15
Furniture from Council House Applicants disinfected	15
Council house rooms fumigated for vermin	68
Rooms of other houses fumigated for vermin	81
Bedding disinfected for vermin	20
Parcels of Bedding destroyed	18
Infectious diseases—bedding fumigated	95
Infectious diseases—rooms disinfected	54
Wasps Nests destroyed	7
Loads of Rubbish destroyed	40
Library Books fumigated	2
Parcels of bedding fumigated for private individuals	6

Contagious Diseases of Animals Act

One case of Swine Fever was reported and form "A" (Article 2 and 14) was served. The case was confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Pigs on premises	242
Pigs died, buried or destroyed	73
Removed to Slaughterhouse on licence	169

Three form "B" notices on adjoining owners were also served.

Cesspool Work

The number of old houses connected to the Corporation Sewer during the year 1951 was 67. This means that some 60 leaking cesspools have been abolished.

884 complaints of choked drains and cesspool overflows were received, and it was found possible to clear 760 drains from obstruction. Overflowing cesspools made up the remainder of the complaints. The number of cesspools emptied was 124.

Camping Sites

There are no Summer camping sites within the Borough but one licence was granted under section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, during the year. This licence was of a temporary nature.

Application for the renewal of this licence and two further new applications were refused.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

There are no Rag Flock Manufacturing premises within the Borough but three premises where filling materials are utilised are registered. These premises are satisfactory.

Notices Served

During the year the following Notices were served:—

No. of Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	385
No. of Statutory Notices served on 1951 Informal Notices						156
No. of Statutory Notices served on 1950 Informal Notices						9
Total No. of Statutory Notices served during the year	...					165

Of these, the following were completed:—

No. of Informal Notices completed without a Statutory Notice having been served	...	...	...	...	206
No. of Statutory Notices completed	...	...	...		*245
Total No. of Notices completed in year 1951	...	...			*451

* This figure includes notices completed during the year, but served prior to 1951.

Visits Made by the Sanitary Inspectors During the Year

Houses (1st Visits)	...	...	...	...	...	757
Houses (Subsequent Visits)	...	...	...	...		2,286
Housing Act (1st Visits)	...	...	...	...		167
Housing Act (Subsequent Visits)	...	...	...	...		129
Council House Applicants	...	...	...	...		91
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	23

Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	177
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	453
Knacker Yard	...	...	...	...	...	8
Unsound Food	...	...	...	...	...	382
Cold Store	...	...	...	...	...	97
Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	537
Fish Fryers	...	...	...	...	...	116
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	80
Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	145
Food and Drugs	...	...	...	...	...	151
Milk (Special Designations)	...	...	...	...	...	411
Milk (T.B. Order)	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	252
Ice Cream Vendors	...	...	...	...	...	85
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	...	39
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	234
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	60
Bedding and Disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	70
Drainage and Subsequent Visits	...	...	...	...	...	1,816
Drainage Tests (New)	...	...	...	...	...	219
Drainage Tests (Old)	...	...	...	...	...	129
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	155
Contagious Diseases of Animals Act	...	...	...	...	...	19
Marine Stores	...	...	...	...	...	4
Factories (P)	...	...	...	...	...	143
Factories (NP)	...	...	...	...	...	9
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	62
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	45
Courts and Alleys	...	...	...	...	...	193
Stables	...	...	...	...	...	5
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	158
Rats Order	...	...	...	...	...	184
Refuse Heap and Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	122
Gypsy Encampment	...	...	...	...	...	46
Vacant Premises	...	...	...	...	...	20
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	818
Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	...	...	...	28
Merchandise Marks Act	...	...	...	...	...	31
Rag Flock Act	...	...	...	...	...	12
Total Visits						10,970

Nuisances Abated after service of Notice.

Accumulations of Refuse removed	...	...	...	...	5
W.C. pans renewed	...	...	...	...	8
Inspection Pits repaired	...	...	...	...	13
Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	88
Cesspool Covers repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	1
Cesspools filled in	...	...	...	...	4

Chimney pots replaced	...	...	...	...	...	8
Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	...	25
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	14
Coppers repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	11
Door locks or fasteners repaired	...	...	...	...	...	7
Doors or frames repaired	...	...	...	...	...	39
Doors provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	...	10
Drains of old buildings relaid	...	...	...	...	...	9
Firegrates, stoves and kitcheners renewed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Firegrates, stoves and kitcheners repaired	...	...	...	...	...	41
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	56
Flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	...	43
Flushing cisterns provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Flues repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gutters or downpipes cleared	...	...	...	...	...	11
Gutters or downpipes repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	130
Houses reconditioned	...	...	...	...	...	2
Inspection covers provided	...	...	...	...	...	4
Inspection pits provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Interiors cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	340
Sashcords repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	71
Sinks repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sink waste pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	22
Stair treads or steps repaired	...	...	...	...	...	20
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	106
Damp walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	61
Weatherboarding or external walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	82
Windows reglazed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Window frames, sashes, sills repaired	...	...	...	...	...	72
W.C. seats or risers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	12
W.C. structures repaired or rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	6
Supply pipes to W.C. cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	...	18
Yard paving repaired	...	...	...	...	...	19
Yard Gulley or Grills provided	...	...	...	...	...	4
Vent Shaft provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Vent Shaft repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	36