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BOROUGH OF CHATHAM

ANNUAL

REPORT

OF

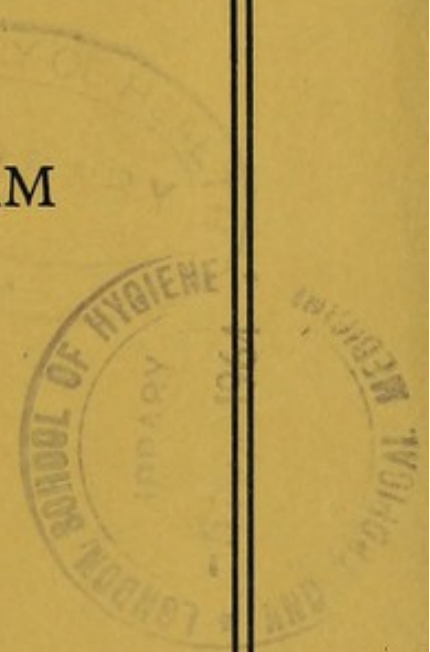
Medical Officer of Health

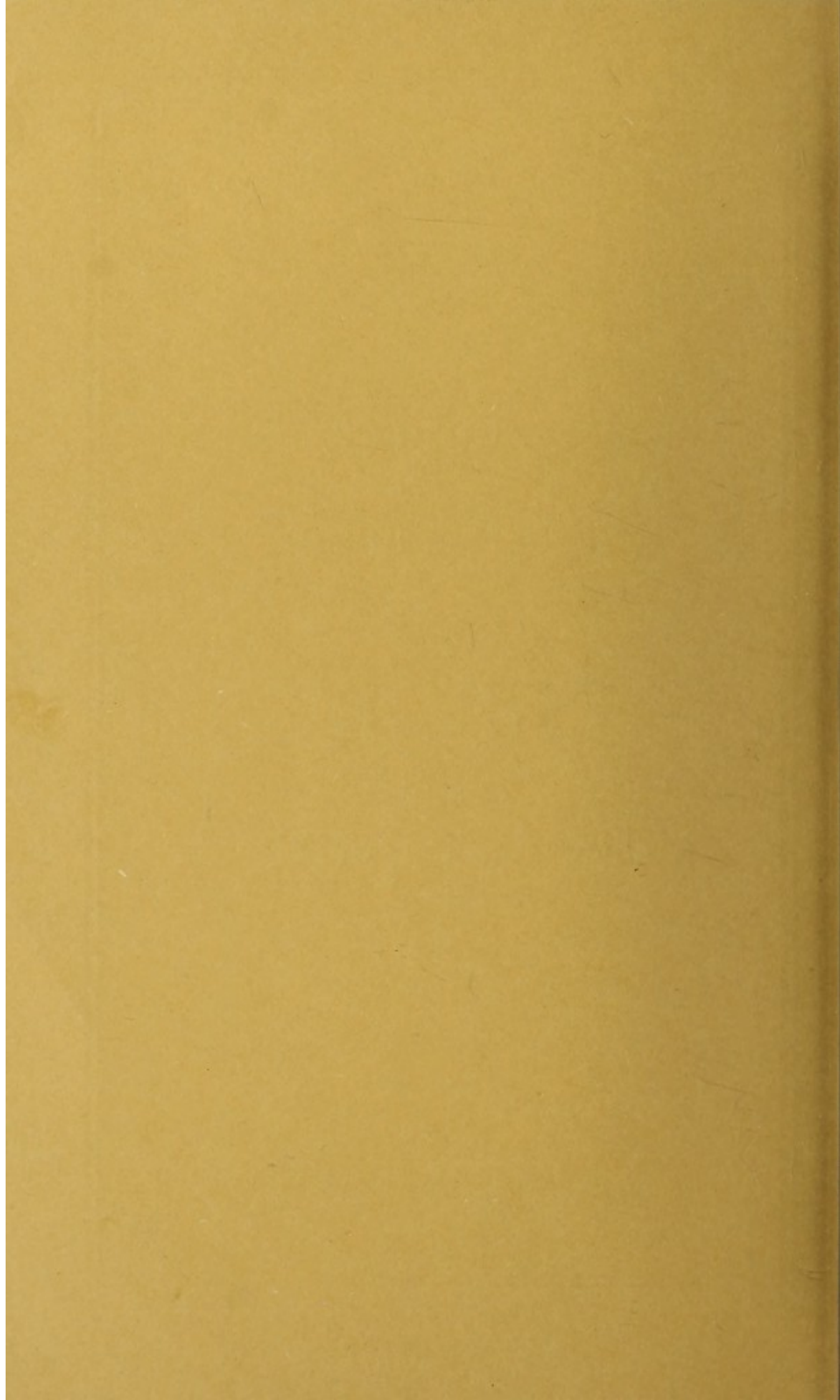
FOR

1955

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

Medical Officer of Health







BOROUGH OF CHATHAM

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Medical Officer of Health

for

1920

L. O. MURRAY M.D. D.L.S.

Medical Officer of Health

**Members of the Chatham Council
as at 31st December, 1955**

THE MAYOR (Alderman A. S. Price, J.P.)

THE DEPUTY MAYOR (Alderman G. W. Rhodes)

Alderman F. H. Lawrence, O.B.E.

Alderman F. B. Semple, B.Sc.

Alderman A. G. C. Brown.

Alderman F. B. Hodges.

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

Councillor P. J. Kelly.

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

Councillor T. T. Myles.

Councillor J. S. Thomas.

Councillor R. A. Warner.

Councillor Mrs. M. T. Cox.

Councillor J. C. Buck.

Councillor R. L. W. Parsons.

Councillor D. Walter.

Councillor T. H. Hill.

Councillor K. W. Osborne.

Councillor C. E. Harvey.

Councillor O. P. Baker.

Councillor D. G. Atkinson.

Councillor F. Bannister.

Councillor Mrs. B. Grieveson, J.P.

Councillor Mrs. K. Williams.

Public Health Committee

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

CHAIRMAN : Alderman G. W. Rhodes.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Councillor Mrs. M. T. Cox.

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)

R. G. Brennen, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., C.P.H., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

Thomas Howard (a) (b)

Senior District Sanitary Inspector :

A. E. South (a) (b)

District Sanitary Inspectors :

H. Taylor (a) (b),
(resigned 31.8.55)

R. W. Wright (a) (b)
(resigned 31.1.55)

B. Lewis (a) (b)
(appointed 8.8.55)

F. G. Ward (a) (b)
(appointed 22.8.55,
resigned 10.12.55)

F. C. Gaffney (a) (b)
(appointed 22.8.55)

Clerks :

Miss J. F. Coffey

O. Thomas

Miss S. M. Chapman (transferred 13.6.55).

Miss C. E. Watts (appointed 8.8.55).

(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, MESDAMES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my report for the year 1955.

Population

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population, including H.M. Forces stationed in the area, is 49,380, an increase of 860 on the previous year's estimate.

Birth Rate, Infantile Mortality Rate, Death Rate

The crude birth rate of 17.23 per thousand of the population shows that the slight upward trend of the past four years continues. The figures corrected for comparability show that the rise is absolute as well as relative.

Twenty children died in their first year of life, thirteen of them within the first four weeks. The Infant Mortality Rate is 20 per 1,000 live births and is the lowest on record. For the fourth successive year no woman died in childbirth, or from any accident of pregnancy, including abortion.

The death rate continues its downward trend. The figures for the past four years, corrected for comparability, are 11.3, 9.7, 10.36 and 8.98 to date. Of 439 deaths, 304 or 69% occurred in persons aged 65 and over. There were fifteen deaths from cancer of the lung.

The chief causes of death during 1955 were as follows:—

Disease of the Heart and Blood Vessels	...	...	174
Cancer	...	...	67
Apoplexy and similar conditions	...	...	58
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	...	...	37
Fatal Accidents	...	...	16

Tuberculosis in 1901 caused 72 deaths. Preventive measures, improved diagnosis and treatment has reduced this number to 6 in 1955.

Sixteen fatal accidents, in eight of which motor vehicles were involved, exceeded deaths from Tuberculosis by ten. Just as Tuberculosis is preventable so are most accidents. Anticipation of obvious accident risks and their prevention, the elimination of carelessness and "taking a chance" attitude are considerations which may have as great a success as the principles applied to Tuberculosis.

In relation to infectious diseases the following table speaks for itself:—

Year	Number of Deaths From		
	Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis and Pneumonia	Tuberculosis	Pneumonia
1901	51	72	62
1955	3	6	11

This desirable state of affairs is the result of improved hygiene, better housing and social conditions and the increasing knowledge of the public in the factors governing a healthy existence. Protective inoculations, improved methods of diagnosis and early treatment with modern therapeutic agents have also played a considerable part in recent years, not only in reducing mortality but in controlling complications which might otherwise result in chronic illness.

Infectious Diseases

An epidemic of measles occurred in early summer. This disease tended to be cyclical, and last year there were very few cases. Whooping cough, on the other hand, shows little annual variation, 173 cases being recorded in the year. There were no deaths from either disease.

Two cases of poliomyelitis occurred, one, in a young adult, being fatal. The prevalence of this disease is unpredictable but since it became notifiable in 1912 the records show that there have been periods, some of considerable length, during which no cases have been notified.

From 1912 to 1940 only twelve cases had been notified and most of those affected were infants or young children. The maximum notified in any one year was four (in 1937) and there were two five yearly periods when no cases occurred.

The period 1941 to 1946 produced five cases but since 1947 this disease has been more prevalent with twenty-one cases up to the end of 1955 and cases had appeared each year (except in 1951), the highest number notified in any one year being seven in 1953.

This periodic disappearance of poliomyelitis is due to the absence or limited and localized prevalence of the infective virus, to its attenuation, or to a general increase in immunity in the population acquired by minor degrees of exposure when infection was present in the district, or to a combination of one or more of these factors.

In recent years there has been a shift in the age groups affected. Although the bulk of cases is still found in younger children there is a tendency for older age groups to be attacked. Of the twenty-one cases since 1947, 19 per cent were under five years of age: 33 per cent in children aged 5-14 years of age and 48 per cent over 14 years of age.

It has been ascertained that the virus of this disease gains entry to the body by the mouth, grows and multiplies in the bowel, and that the excreta from infected persons is the major factor in the spread of the disease. In this respect it resembles Typhoid Fever and points to the great importance of personal hygiene, particularly after visiting the toilet, and to the necessity for disinfection of all discharges from patients and contacts.

A safe vaccine against this disease is now available and will be put into use in 1956. At present the supply is limited and vaccination will be made available, in the first place, for children aged 1 to 9 years. Although the visitations of Polio are spasmodic and produce paralysis in a very small proportion of the community an effective vaccine will be a most welcome boon if it can eliminate the tragic and crippling effects in the few who may have the misfortune to be so afflicted. The vaccine has great possibilities.

Tuberculosis

In tuberculosis, in spite of the increase in the total of registered cases, the death rate continues to fall.

Housing

During the year 332 new dwellings were completed in the Borough, 108 of them by the Local Authority. Of the houses inspected during the year, 39 were found to be unfit for human habitation and a further 210 were unfit in some respect. Seventeen demolition orders and 14 closing orders were made. Apart from these, the process of slum clearance gained momentum with the representation of four areas, comprising in all 149 houses as proposed clearance areas.

Population Changes: The Increase in the Number of Elderly Persons and the Size of Families in relation to the Housing Problem

INCREASE IN POPULATION AND DWELLINGS

During the present century the population, now 49,380, has increased by some thirty per cent and the number of dwellings by ninety per cent, the total number of houses at the end of 1955 being 14,388 as compared with 7,619 in 1901.

On these figures one might imagine that there is an adequate number of houses, but this is far from being the case.

DECREASE IN SIZE OF FAMILIES

One of the chief reasons for this apparent paradox is the decrease in the size of families as evidenced by the fact that since 1911 the percentage of households with more than four inhabitants has fallen from 38 to 18 per cent and the average size of family from 4.57 to 3.43.

HOUSEHOLDS OF ONE, TWO AND THREE PERSONS

As a further indication of this trend the census of 1951, when compared with that of 1931, shows that:—

1. The number of households with 1 person has risen from 633 to 1,424.
2. The number of households with 2 persons has risen from 2,403 to 3,592.
3. The number of households with 3 persons has risen from 2,558 to 3,131.

The position is that nearly 40 per cent of the total households consist of one or two persons and that over 60 per cent of all households accommodate three or less than three persons. Furthermore, the number of one-person households has more than doubled and the number of two-person households shows an increase of 40 per cent. Sixty-five per cent of one-person households are accommodated in five or more rooms as are some 80 per cent of the two-person households.

MORE PEOPLE ARE LIVING TO A GREATER AGE

Another factor to be considered is the large increase in the number of persons who are living to a greater age. In 1901 the proportion of the total population aged 65 years or over was approximately five per cent. This has now risen to nearly eleven per cent, giving a total of about 4,800 of whom almost 3,000 have reached or passed the allotted span of 70 years. Approximately half of those over 64 years are single or widowed. This increase in the number of old people is likely to go on as it is largely due to the continuing improvement in social welfare education and medical service which not only prolong life, but also enable an increasing proportion to retain their health and vigour.

ELDERLY SINGLE PERSONS AND MARRIED COUPLES

At the present time the number of single, widowed or divorced persons over 64 years of age is estimated to be 2,500 of which half are over 69 years of age. There are also some 1,500 married couples in which one or both partners are over 64 years of age.

ELDERLY INFIRM

A large number of the elderly are quite capable of managing their own homes without difficulty and others are living with their families or relatives, but there are others who, through infirmity or other cause, find it increasingly difficult to meet the situation,

particularly in the older type of dwelling which lacks amenities and simplicity in domestic facilities. For this latter category of elderly persons the small bungalow or ground floor flat with living room, bedroom, kitchenette is desirable.

PRESENT DIFFICULTY IN REHOUSING ELDERLY PERSONS

Under present circumstances the rehousing of elderly persons in suitable accommodation is not always easy as the majority do not wish to be uprooted from the environment they know and transferred to a new housing estate where they feel estranged and unknown. In such cases, too, economic rents are a consideration.

In spite of these difficulties if not as an immediate necessity, most certainly as a long term policy, old people's accommodation should be provided on all new housing estates so that the residents when they become old and infirm may retain their environment and receive help in many ways from their neighbours and friends and, possibly, with assistance from a warden where numbers justify such an arrangement.

SHORTAGE OF HOUSING ACCOMMODATION FOR ELDERLY PERSONS

It would also appear that about 15 per cent of the total houses should be of a type suitable for old single or married people. The 1951 census showed 931 households or only 7 per cent of the total which consisted of one or two rooms (kitchen and toilet excluded) and many of them are unsuitable for old people on account of their age or inconvenience.

At the end of the year there were 14,388 dwellings in Chatham, of which 3,090 or 21 per cent of the total were owned by the Corporation. Seventy-six of the Corporation properties were old people's bungalows and seventy-five were ground floor flats.

Staff

There is a national shortage of Public Health Inspectors and there was great difficulty in filling vacancies for District Public Health Inspectors which occurred from time to time during the year. For six months of the year it was found impossible to fill two of these vacancies. During this period, a very heavy burden fell on Mr. Howard, Chief Public Health Inspector, and Mr. South, his deputy. Under such circumstances it was impossible to maintain the usual standards of inspection and supervision of communal hygiene, but great credit is due to these officers for the manner in which they tackled this difficult situation. I was also very impressed by the support which they received from the clerical staff during this period and I am very grateful for all they have done.

The guidance and co-operation which I have received from the Chairman and members of the committee has been most helpful and encouraging, and for all the support they have given, I wish to express my thanks.

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)	4,371
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (Including forces stationed in the area)	49,380
Number of inhabited houses on the Rate Books:—	
Dwelling houses	13,569
Shops with living accommodation	697
Licensed premises, hotels, etc., with living accom- modation	122
Rateable Value	£329,892
Product of penny rate (1954-1955)	£1,276

Extracts from Vital Statistics**Total Births (Live and Still)**

		<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births,	Legitimate	435	372	
	Illegitimate	21	23	
		—	—	
		456	395	851
Still Births,	Legitimate	7	10	
	Illegitimate	1	—	
		—	—	
		8	10	18
				—
				869

Birth Rate

Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated population	
crude rate	17.23
Corrected by comparability factor (0.97)	16.71

Total Deaths

All causes at all ages	439
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Death Rate

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population (crude rate)	8.89
Corrected by comparability factor (1.01)	8.98

Infant Mortality Rate

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	20
All Infants per 1,000 live births	23.5

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age	13
Death rate per 1,000 live births	15.28

The following table shows the average Birth, Death and Infant Mortality Rates for five yearly periods from 1910-1954, and rates for the year 1955 (crude):—

Period	Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	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
1950 to 1954	16.04	10.61	31.39
1955	17.23	8.89	23.5

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	6	1	—	1	2	4	—	—	1	2	2	1	20
1 and under 5	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
5 and under 15	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	3
15 and under 25	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	7
25 and under 45	—	3	—	1	2	1	2	—	2	2	1	2	16
45 and under 65	9	14	8	5	5	2	9	2	7	6	9	11	87
65 and over	38	25	40	28	24	18	22	18	17	21	20	33	304
Monthly Totals	54	44	49	37	33	27	33	21	30	32	32	47	439

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) 2-7 days	(d) 8-28 days	(e) Over 28 days	(f) Total
1. Congenital Malformation ...	1	2	—	—	1	4
2. Birth Injury ...	1	1	—	—	—	2
3. Prematurity ...	1	1	3	1	—	6
4. Gastro Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	1	1
5. Meningococcal Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	1	1
6. Other Causes ...	—	—	1	1	4	6
Total ...	3	4	4	2	7	20

The following table shows the average increases in population in five yearly periods since 1922 and the years 1952-5 :—

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
1952	15.53	10.46	5.07
1953	15.92	9.6	6.32
1954	16.82	10.26	6.56
1955	17.23	8.89	8.34

TOTAL DEATHS, 1955

Chatham M.B.			
Causes of Death		M.	F.
All Causes		229	210
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	4	2
2.	Tuberculosis, other	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	4	2
4.	Diphtheria	—	—
5.	Whooping cough	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	—	2
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	1	—
8.	Measles	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	3
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	12	3
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	3
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	5
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	24	14
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	2	1
16.	Diabetes	—	3
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	29	29
18.	Coronary disease, angina	48	23
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	7	10
20.	Other heart disease	20	48
21.	Other circulatory disease	7	11
22.	Influenza	2	1
23.	Pneumonia	5	6
24.	Bronchitis	16	10
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	2	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	3	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	4	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	15	21
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	4	4
34.	All other accidents	5	3
35.	Suicide	5	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	—	—

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

The bacteriological examination of throat swabs, sputum, blood, milk, water or other suspected material are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, County Hall, Maidstone, under the direction of the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health.

Chemical examinations are carried out by the County Analyst, under the administration of the Kent County Council.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

Five Maternity and Child Welfare Centres are provided by the Kent County Council and the days and times of the various clinic sessions are as follows:—

ELM HOUSE, 15 NEW ROAD AVENUE. Tel. No. Chatham 3663.			
Monday	...	Ante-Natal	2 p.m.—4 p.m.
Tuesday	...	Child Welfare	2 p.m.—4 p.m.
Wednesday	...	Ante-Natal	2 p.m.—4 p.m.
Friday	...	Child Welfare	2 p.m.—4 p.m.
WHITE ROAD. Tel. No. Chatham 45767.			
Monday	...	Child Welfare	2 p.m.—4 p.m.
Tuesday (2nd and 4th)	...	Ante-Natal	9 a.m.—11 a.m.
Thursday	...	Child Welfare	2 p.m.—4 p.m.
KINGS ROAD. Tel. No. Chatham 3663, extension 10.			
Tuesday (1st, 3rd, 5th)	...	Ante-Natal	9.30 a.m.—11.30 a.m.
Tuesday	...	Child Welfare	2 p.m.—4 p.m.
WALDESLADE CLINIC			
Friday (1st, 3rd and 5th)	...	Child Welfare	2 p.m.—4 p.m.
WAYFIELD CLINIC			
Monday	...	Child Welfare	2 p.m.—4 p.m.
Wednesday	...	Ante-Natal	9 a.m.—11 a.m.
Thursday	...	Child Welfare	2 p.m.—4 p.m.

Relaxation and Exercise Classes are held at all Ante-Natal Clinics.

Diphtheria Immunisation and vaccination can be arranged by appointment at all Child Welfare Clinics.

SCHOOL MEDICAL MINOR AILMENTS CLINICS.

These clinics are provided as follows:—

ELM HOUSE

Monday	—9.30 a.m., Doctor.	9.30 a.m.—10.30 a.m.	Nurse.
Wednesday	} ...	9.30 a.m.—10.30 a.m.	Nurse.
Friday	}		

DENTAL CLINIC, "ELMSLEIGH", MAIDSTONE ROAD, CHATHAM.
Tel. No. Chatham 2098. (By appointment.)

SCABIES CLINIC.

St. William's Hospital, Rochester Wednesdays p.m.
(Arrangements to be made through the Public Health Department, Chatham. Tel. No. Chatham 3663/4).

CHEST CLINIC, 13 NEW ROAD, ROCHESTER. Tel. No. Chatham 2182.

Mondays, p.m.	...	...	...	...	by appointment
Tuesdays, p.m.	...	...	...	...	by appointment
Thursdays, a.m. (new cases)	...	...	...	...	by appointment
Fridays, a.m.	...	...	...	...	by appointment

TREATMENT CENTRE FOR VENEREAL DISEASES, 36 NEW ROAD, ROCHESTER. Tel. No. Chatham 3343.

Mondays	...	...	...	...	1.30 p.m.—4.30 p.m.
Thursdays	...	...	...	...	10.00 a.m.—1.00 p.m.

Hospitals in Chatham and Rochester are under the administration of the Medway and Gravesend Hospital Management Committee. Group Secretary —T. Rhodes, Esq., 20 Star Hill, Rochester, Tel. No. Chat. 4688.

Cases

Saint Bartholomew's Hospital, New Road, Rochester. Tel. No. Chat. 4278 and 4004.	General, Medical, Surgical and Orthopaedic.
All Saints' Hospital, Magpie Hall Road, Chatham. Tel. No. Chat. 3686.	General, Medical, Surgical, Maternity, Gynaecology, Tuberculosis, Infectious Diseases and Mental.
St. William's Hospital, St. William's Way, Rochester. Tel. No. Chat. 3243.	Infectious Diseases, post operative and radio-therapy.

Ambulance Service, Star Mill Lane, Chatham. Tel. No. Chat. 58201.

Domestic Help Service

Domestic help is provided for households where such help is required owing to the presence of any person who is ill, lying-in, an expectant mother, mental defective, aged, or a child not over compulsory school age. The service provided is limited to the performance of essential domestic help.

This is one of the services for which a charge has to be made. When domestic help is provided, the head of the family concerned is asked to complete an assessment form giving details of income and the charges to be met from that income and a preliminary estimate of the assessment that will need to be paid can, if desired, be given by the district officer.

Family Help Service

This service is restricted to families of two or more children where application has been made to the Children's Committee for the children to be taken into care during the temporary absence of the mother and the service is limited to an initial period of not more than three months.

Information regarding this service can be obtained from the Domestic Help Organiser at Elm House, New Road Avenue, Chatham.

Night Attendant Service is now available for old people but is limited to cases where the help required cannot be provided by voluntary agencies. The arrangements include evening service, preparation for sleep, provision of meals, attention to fires and night service. Application for this service should generally be made through the family doctor.

Further information is obtainable from the Domestic Help Organiser at Elm House, New Road Avenue, Chatham.

National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951

Removal to suitable premises of Persons in need of care and attention

It was not found necessary to remove any persons under the provisions of the above Acts.

SECTION C.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

(a) Notifiable Diseases (Other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1955

Diseases	Total Cases Notified	Treated in Hospital	No. of Deaths
Scarlet Fever	20	4	—
Pneumonia (Primary or Influenzal)	21	4	11
Puerperal Pyrexia	64	60	—
Erysipelas	3	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	—
Meningococcal Infection	2	2	2
Measles	844	2	—
Whooping Cough	173	1	—
Dysentery	1	—	—
Food Poisoning	8	2	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (P)	2	2	1
Acute Poliomyelitis (NP)	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis (Infective)	1	—	—

(b) Infectious Diseases (Ages)

Ages	Whooping Cough	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Acute Poliomyelitis (P)	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Meningococcal Infection	Dysentery	Food Poisoning
Under 1	19	27	—	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
1 — 2	47	199	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
3 — 4	46	181	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5 — 10	57	430	14	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
11 — 15	1	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
16 — 20	—	1	1	1	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
21 — 25	—	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—
26 — 35	2	3	—	—	33	—	1	—	—	—	—
36 — 45	1	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
46 — 65	—	—	—	5	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
66 up	—	—	—	6	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	173	844	20	21	64	3	2	2	2	1	8

(c) Infectious Diseases (Wards).

Wards	Whooping Cough	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Acute Poliomyelitis (P)	Acute Poliomyelitis (NP)	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Meningococcal Infection	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Encephalitis
St. Mary's ...	10	52	2	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	—
St. John's ...	48	307	3	5	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
St. Michael's ...	18	93	1	5	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
St. Paul's ...	14	83	7	—	61	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—
Luton ...	75	267	6	9	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Christchurch ...	8	42	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Totals ...	173	844	20	21	64	3	2	—	2	2	1	8	1

(d) Table Showing Number of Cases of Infectious Diseases, 1930-1955

Year	Measles	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Malaria	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pneumonia	Meningococcal Infection	Acute Polymyelitis	Acute Encephalitis	Dysentery	Food Poisoning
1930			84	44	2	2	21		4	7	2		1		
1931			58	26	2	6	11		1	20		1			
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		4	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		4	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	1			
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
1952	325	253	100		2	68	11		2	43	2	4	1	1	6
1953	880	205	31			101	9	1	1	49	1	7		33	3
1954	13	174	51			68	4		1	22	1	1		152	120
1955	844	173	20			64	3		2	21	2	2 (P)	1	1	8

Immunisation against Diphtheria

The yearly figures since 1940 are as follows:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Immunised</i>	<i>Boosting Doses</i>
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
1952	655	472
1953	637	427
1954	636	416
1955	567	374

The following table shows the number of children who were Immunised against Diphtheria during 1955:—

Year of Birth	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	Total
Primary Inoculations ...	54	349	45	29	9	27	14	7	8	6	6	11	2	—	—	567
Reinforcing Inoculations ...	—	—	—	—	21	208	57	20	25	10	13	20	—	—	—	374

The undermentioned figures show the number of children under the age of 15 years on the 31st December, 1955, who had completed a course of Immunisation at any time before that date (i.e., at any time since 1st January, 1941).

Year of Birth	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	Total
Last completed course of injections (whether primary or booster) 1951-1955	54	410	481	519	526	549	500	417	531	493	306	146	53	34	10	5029
1950 or earlier ...	—	—	—	—	—	5	218	117	38	60	163	234	384	321	327	1867

Vaccination against Small Pox

Year Birth	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	Before 1941	Total
Primary Vaccination	272	175	6	7	1	4	2	2	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	12	486
Re-Vaccination	—	2	—	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	24	36

Food Poisoning

Type of Outbreak	No. of Cases	Identified Agent	Foods Suspected	No. of Deaths
Family Outbreak I	3	Salmonella Organisms	None in particular	—
Single Cases I	5	Salmonella Organisms	None in particular	—

Clean Food Campaign

Continued attention was given to maintaining and improving the standard of hygiene in food and food preparing premises throughout the Borough. Lectures were given to various organisations.

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	2	3	5
Chancroid	1	—	1
Gonorrhoea	5	5	10
Non-Venereal	32	8	40
	—	—	—
	40	16	56
	—	—	—

Total No. of new patients from all districts served ... 264

Total attendances of Chatham patients 790

Total attendances of patients from all districts served 3062

DISCHARGES (all districts)

Discharged Cured:—

Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Gonorrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Non-venereal	...	...	...	...	...	...	176

DEFAULTED BEFORE COMPLETION OF TREATMENT

Syphilis	1
----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

DEFAULTED BEFORE FINAL TESTS OF CURE

Syphilis	3
----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

The following table shows the number of cases from Chatham since 1950:—

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Gonorrhoea	11	10	14	15	9	10
Syphilis	15	11	6	8	10	5
Chancroid	—	—	—	—	—	1
Non-Venereal	60	59	49	45	50	40

Scabies

No. of cases treated	8
----------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Notification of Tuberculosis

PULMONARY

Total Notifications	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
By Private Practitioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Chest Physician	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Transferred from other districts	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Reinstated Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

NON-PULMONARY

Total Notifications	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
By Private Practitioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Chest Physician	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Transferred from other districts	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Reinstated Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

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 1954.

Pulmonary				Non-Pulmonary			
Adults		Children		Adults		Children	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
29	22	6	4	1	1	—	3

No. of patients dealt with who were found to be non T.B. 771.

Total Attendances—1,833.

Number of patients sent to Institutions ... 60

TABLE SHOWING NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1955 :—

Age Group	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	—	—	—	—	—	—
6-15 years ...	4	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
16-25 years ...	4	5	1	2	—	—	—	—
26-35 years ...	7	5	1	—	1	—	—	—
36-45 years ...	7	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
46-65 years ...	7	4	—	—	2	2	—	—
66 years up ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	31	19	4	2	4	2	—	—

Registered cases of Tuberculosis as at 31st December in each year:-

Year	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total	Deaths
1940	130	50	180	31
1941	156	52	208	40
1942	180	63	243	38
1943	199	70	269	40
1944	229	76	305	45
1945	232	81	313	38
1946	245	88	333	37
1947	259	102	361	34
1948	266	56	322	38
1949	291	72	363	30
1950	308	72	380	22
1951	322	69	391	20
1952	352	68	420	25
1953	392	70	462	8
1954	398	59	457	18
1955	410	58	468	6

Average number of Notifications, Deaths and rates in 5 yearly periods from 1935—1954 and the Yearly figures for 1955

Year	Population	Pulmonary Tuberculosis				Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis				Totals			
		Notifications	Notif. rate <i>Per 1,000 persons living</i>	Deaths	Death rate <i>Per 1,000 persons living</i>	Notifications	Notif. Rate <i>Per 1,000 persons living</i>	Deaths	Death rate <i>Per 1,000 persons living</i>	Notes.	Not. Rate <i>Per 1,000 persons living</i>	Deaths	Death Rate <i>Per 1,000 persons living</i>
1935—1939	44,732	45	1.00	28	.62	72	.27	3	.07	57	1.27	31	.69
1940—1944	35,752	63	1.76	33	.92	12	.34	6	.17	75	2.10	39	1.09
1945—1949	39,932	71	1.78	32	.80	15	.38	4	.10	86	2.15	36	.90
1950—1954	50,090	75	1.50	18	.36	10	.20	1	.02	85	1.70	19	.38
1955	49,380	50	1.01	6	.12	6	.12	—	.00	56	1.13	6	.12

SECTION D.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Rainfall during 1955.

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	2.82
February	“ “ “ “	2.06
March	“ “ “ “	1.18
April	“ “ “ “	0.18
May	“ “ “ “	3.90
June	“ “ “ “	2.50
July	“ “ “ “	2.70
August	“ “ “ “	2.05
September	“ “ “ “	2.03
October	“ “ “ “	4.43
November	“ “ “ “	0.83
December	“ “ “ “	1.67
	Total	<hr/> 26.35

Water

Supply is by the Chatham & District Water Company and has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity. 33 samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination, each of which showed a good result. Chlorination is still carried out.

Premises with internal mains supply 14,363.

23 properties are supplied by means other than mains. In addition, there are 2 standpipes.

Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

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

New Houses :—

Corporation Property	... ..	108
Private	... ..	175
Existing Houses	... ..	26
	Total connected during year ...	<hr/> 309

Atmospheric Pollution Observations — Chatham and Rochester

ALL SAINTS HOSPITAL

Month	Rainfall During Month Inches	Mean Rain Fall	Prevailing Wind	Insoluble Deposit	Soluble Deposit	Total Solids	Monthly Deposit in Tons Per Square Mile				Water Soluble Matter			Milligrammes SO ₃ per 100 sq. cms. Lead Peroxide	
							Water Insoluble Matter		Water Soluble Matter			Calcium	Chlorides		Sulphates
							Soluble in Carbon Bisulphide	Ash	Other Combustible Matter						
January	2.82	2.87	S.W.	8.62	7.49	16.11	0.23	5.07	3.31	1.69	0.93	2.65	1.77		
February	2.06	2.07	S.W.	10.97	10.37	21.35	0.13	8.12	2.72	2.49	0.96	1.84	1.84		
March	1.18	1.09	N.E.	11.92	7.99	19.91	0.27	9.11	2.55	1.89	0.93	2.82	1.67		
April	0.18	0.19	S.W.	6.85	3.51	10.36	0.10	5.53	1.23	0.80	0.23	1.19	1.03		
May	3.90	3.84	S.W.	9.45	7.49	16.94	0.13	6.00	3.32	1.49	1.06	2.19	0.79		
June	2.50	2.39	S.W.	7.09	5.96	13.05	0.10	4.24	2.75	1.13	0.46	1.82	0.57		
July	2.70	1.51	N.E.	6.61	5.30	11.92	0.09	3.94	2.58	0.99	0.33	1.86	0.37		
August	2.05	1.53	N.E. & S.W.	20.76	18.69	39.45	0.09	6.37	14.3	8.82	2.09	3.39	0.45		
September	2.03	2.23	N.W. & S.W.	9.30	9.01	18.31	0.09	6.10	3.11	1.99	0.46	2.54	0.77		
October	4.43	4.135	S.W.	13.04	14.85	27.89	0.13	5.40	7.52	1.06	1.06	5.02	1.42		
November	0.83	0.790	S.W.	11.11	9.84	20.95	0.09	7.80	3.22	1.86	0.65	3.84	1.48		
December	1.67	1.625	S.W.	7.51	9.21	16.72	0.11	4.73	2.67	1.92	0.80	3.03	1.39		

FORT PITT SCHOOL

January	2.82	2.87	S.W.	14.45	16.93	31.38	0.13	11.50	2.82	4.21	1.39	5.20	1.52
February	2.06	2.07	S.W.	8.61	9.35	17.96	0.07	6.56	1.99	2.29	0.99	1.72	1.72
March	1.18	1.09	N.E.	18.26	12.20	30.46	0.01	15.14	3.01	3.15	1.09	5.30	1.40
April	0.18	0.19	S.W.	6.23	5.00	11.23	0.03	5.14	1.06	1.19	0.27	1.99	0.83
May	3.90	3.84	S.W.	8.67	10.77	19.44	0.10	5.97	2.60	2.35	0.99	2.92	0.67
June	2.50	2.39	S.W.	8.58	8.31	16.89	0.10	4.77	3.71	1.86	0.50	2.42	0.49
July	2.70	1.51	N.E.	22.36	8.95	31.30	0.11	10.03	12.22	2.05	0.40	2.27	0.48
August	2.05	1.53	N.E. & S.W.	13.43	9.94	23.37	0.11	9.36	3.96	2.29	0.38	3.18	0.52
September	2.03	2.23	N.W. & S.W.	8.60	10.34	18.94	0.07	5.95	2.58	1.06	0.50	3.41	0.76
October	4.43	4.135	S.W.	10.08	15.91	25.99	0.11	6.96	3.02	3.71	1.13	5.90	1.31
November	0.83	0.790	S.W.	20.87	13.52	34.39	0.07	15.79	5.00	3.31	0.91	6.17	1.35
December	1.67	1.625	S.W.	7.72	10.47	18.19	0.06	5.18	1.85	2.45	0.86	3.90	1.20

STROOD CEMETERY

January	2.92	2.87	S.W.	13.59	15.51	29.10	0.07	10.04	3.48	4.11	1.13	5.93	1.42
February	2.08	2.07	S.W.	12.92	13.85	26.77	0.07	11.36	1.49	3.78	1.16	5.83	1.94
March	1.0	1.09	N.E.	10.34	8.65	18.99	0.10	8.35	1.89	2.19	0.86	3.68	1.40
April	0.2	0.19	S.W.	7.95	5.57	13.52	0.03	6.95	0.96	1.36	0.27	2.32	0.79
May	3.78	3.84	S.W.	10.04	12.10	22.14	0.03	7.49	2.52	3.05	1.19	3.44	0.76
June	2.28	2.39	S.W.	14.58	13.59	28.17	0.0	9.87	4.70	3.77	0.60	4.11	0.68
July	0.32	1.51	N.E.	13.50	12.86	26.36	0.06	9.76	3.69	3.78	1.18	3.00	0.62
August	1.01	1.53	N.E. & S.W.	15.58	11.27	26.85	0.09	10.94	4.55	2.72	0.50	4.08	0.72
September	2.43	2.23	N.W. & S.W.	12.20	14.85	27.05	0.05	9.66	2.49	2.85	0.60	4.50	0.98
October	3.84	4.135	S.W.	9.37	14.98	24.35	0.04	7.31	2.02	3.45	1.26	5.41	1.40
November	0.75	0.790	S.W.	9.05	10.67	19.72	0.04	6.93	2.08	2.45	0.56	4.04	1.38
December	1.58	1.625	S.W.	9.29	12.59	21.88	0.09	7.36	1.84	2.98	0.93	5.33	1.12

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1955

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

MR. MAYOR, MESDAMES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the work of the Sanitary Inspectors and the Sanitary Depot for the year 1955.

During the early part of the year there was an increase in the number of houses inspected but unfortunately, through a depletion in the staff, it was not possible to maintain this standard.

There was a forty-five per cent increase in the number of animals inspected at the slaughterhouse and the usual one hundred per cent inspection has entailed much overtime.

There was also a slight increase in the number of complaints of rats and mice. The major portion of the complaints are now of infestations of mice and quite a number come from the new housing estates and can be attributed to invasion by field mice. For years it was possible to obtain specimens of ship rats in the business portion of the town but for the past two years, records show that there have been no ship rat carcasses recovered. There has been a large reduction in the number of rat carcasses recovered and this may, in some measure, be due to the use of "Warfarin" baits, but the evidence is that the rat population in the Borough is on the decrease.

During the latter part of the year the emptying of cesspools beyond the ends of the sewers was carried out by private contract and this has proved satisfactory. The small number of cesspools to be emptied did not justify the retention of a lorry solely for this purpose.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

T. HOWARD,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

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)	1066
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	3009
2. Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	341
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation (excluding clearance areas)	39
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	210

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	129
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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	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	116
2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	75
(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	17
2. Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	31
(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.
(e)	Proceedings under Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953:— Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	14

New Houses During 1955

(a)	The total number of dwelling houses on plans submitted during 1955 was 828.	
(b)	The total number of houses completed during 1955 ...	332
	(1) by Local Authority... ..	108
	(2) by other Persons	224

Re-Housing of Council House Applicants

During the year, 41 removals were undertaken by this Department and in most cases fumigation was carried out to the household effects.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1955

One application for a certificate of disrepair under the above Act was received. The necessary repairs were carried out before the certificate was served.

Clearance Areas

The following areas were represented by the Medical Officer of Health:—

Best Street Clearance Area		
Number of houses	... ..	7
Church Street Clearance Area		
Number of houses	... ..	8
Hardstown Clearance Area No. 1.		
Number of houses	... ..	118
Hardstown Clearance Area No. 2.		
Number of houses	... ..	16

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933 to 1954.

The number of licensed slaughtermen on the register at the 1st January, 1956, was 13.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

Three shop premises were licensed for the sale of Pet Animals.

Rodent Control

No. of rats caught in dwelling houses	...	...	52
No. of rats caught in business premises	...	...	90
No. of rats caught at farms	...	...	21
No. of rats caught on Corporation property	...	...	71
			<u>234</u>

Poison treatment, according to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries' instructions was carried out, and the number of rats destroyed was 365. Of this figure, 66 carcasses were found and included in the total of 234.

The manholes of the foul sewers were test baited and treated during May and November. During test baiting 300 manholes were tested of which 3 showed bait-take. The number of manholes baited was 169 and of these 45 showed poison take.

The number of complaints of infestations received from local residents was 221.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

During the year 133 samples of food and drugs were taken as per the following table :—

Description	No. of Samples		Result of Analysis		
			Adulterated		Genuine
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	
Almond Flavour		1			1
Arrowroot		1			1
Baking Powder		1			1
Beef Suet		2			2
Benzac Tablets		1			1
Bicarbonate of Soda ..		1			1
Bronchial Mixture		3			3
Bovril		1			1
Butter		3			3
Buttered Brazils		1			1
Buttered Macaroons ..		1			1
Buttered Rolls		1			1
Cakes		1		1	
Cake Mixture		1			1
Cheese Spread		1			1
Chicklette		1			1
Cocoa		2			2
Coffee		3			3
Coffee Extract		1			1
Cod Liver Oil		1			1
Cream		3			3
Curry Powder		1			1
Dressed Crab		1			1
Epsom Salts		1			1
Fish Paste		1			1
Garden Peas		1			1
Ground Almonds		1			1
Ground Ginger		1			1
Ground Mixed Spice ..		1			1
Ground Rice		1			1
Honey		1			1
Ice Cream		6			6
Jam		4			4
Lard		3			3
Marmalade		1			1
Marmite		1			1
Margarine		5			5
Meat Paste		1			1
Milk	43	1		1	43
Milk (Flavoured)		1			1
Morfat Whipping		1			1
Non-brewed Condiment ..		1			1
Orange Juice		1		1	
Parrish's Chemical Food ..		1			1
Peanut Butter		1			1
Pepper		4			4
Pork Pie		2		1	1
Processed Peas		1			1
Pieces Sugar		1			1
Realemon		1			1
Saffron		1			1
Sauce		2			2
Soya Flour		1			1
Sponge Mixture		2			2
Tea		5			5
Tomato Soup		1			1
Totals	43	90	—	4	129

Adulterated Samples

Upon being submitted for analysis, the undermentioned samples were found to be below the required standard, and the following results were obtained :—

- (i) **Cakes.** Four pellets of rodent excrement were found to be present. Proceedings were taken against the vendor and the case was proved. The defendants were fined £10 with £3 3s. od. costs.
- (ii) **Milk.** This sample of milk was found to be deficient in fat content. Further samples were taken and these were found to be genuine.
- (iii) **Orange Juice.** This was submitted as a sample of "orange juice" whereas, in fact, it was a sample of "orange drink" and it was sold by the dealer as such.
- (iv) **Pork Pie.** This was found to be deficient in meat content. A letter was sent to the manufacturers drawing their attention to this fact.

Samples for Bacteriological Analysis.—County Laboratory, Maidstone

The following samples were collected for analysis :—

WATER

33 water samples were found to be " Good Water."

MILK

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

Class of Milk	Number of Samples	Appropriate Tests	Number of Tests	
			Passed	Failed
Pasteurised	145	Phosphatase	132	13
		Methylene Blue	144	1
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	139	Phosphatase	127	12
		Methylene Blue	135	4

3 samples of raw milk were submitted for biological examination and proved to be Tubercle negative.

Gerber Tests.

44 samples of pasteurised milk were screened in the office on Gerber Apparatus and found to be up to the prescribed standard.

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949-1953.

The following licences were issued under the above regulations :

Sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	124
Sterilised (Supplementary)	...	...	...	...	...	3
Pasteurised (Dealers')	...	...	...	...	...	9
Pasteurised (Dealers' Supplementary)	...	...	...	...	...	4
Pasteurised (Dealers' Pasteurisers)	...	...	...	...	...	3

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949-1954.

The following licences were issued under the above regulations

Tuberculin Tested (Dealers')	...	...	...	9
Tuberculin Tested (Dealers' Supplementary)	...	...	...	3

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949-1954.

127 Milk Distributors are registered under the above regulations. 5 Dairies are registered.

277 inspections of Dairies were made during the year.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTIONS

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected ...	597	329	336	1473	5090
All Diseases except Tuberculosis— Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	7	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	81	95	4	54	267
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	13.6	29	1.2	4.14	5.32
Tuberculosis Only— Whole carcasses condemned	5	7	—	—	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	38	59	—	—	49
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	7.2	20.1	—	—	1.02

No evidence of Cysticercosis was found in the slaughterhouse during the year.

Unsound Food Voluntarily Surrendered, 1955

The total amount of meat and other foods condemned was 11 tons 2 cwts. 2 qrs. 21 lbs.

	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Total weight of meat condemned ...	9	7	3	10
Total weight fish condemned ...	—	4	0	23
Total weight tinned and other foods condemned ...	1	10	2	16

All condemned meat is collected and conveyed to the Sanitary Depot where it is dyed with a vegetable dye and disposed of to a manufacturing firm of animal by-products.

Tinned foods are punctured and buried along with the household refuse collection.

Inspection of Meat and other Foods

The following table shows the number of carcasses inspected since 1944:—

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
1944 ...	1341	1087	963	4956	1147	9494
1945 ...	1425	990	1251	3313	1626	8605
1946 ...	1920	1065	3326	5079	1429	12819
1947 ...	1850	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
1952 ...	350	12	35	2662	2317	5376
1953 ...	12	—	—	—	1857	1869
1954 ...	378	90	136	617	3728	4332
1955 ...	597	329	336	1473	5090	7825

There is one slaughterhouse in the Borough and one Knacker Yard, for which licences have been granted.

Food Premises

Bakehouses ...	8
Butchers' Shops ...	36
Cafes and Restaurants ...	46
Canteens ...	2
Coffee Stalls ...	2
Cold Stores ...	6
Confectioners' Shops ...	40
Fish Shops (Wet) ...	6
„ „ (Fried) ...	8
„ „ (Wet and Fried) ...	17
General Shops ...	67
General and Greengrocers' Shops ...	13
Greengrocers' Shops ...	47
Grocers' Shops ...	83
Grocers' and Greengrocers' Shops ...	11
Off Licence Premises ...	6
Public Houses ...	87

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938. Section 14.

Ice Cream

3 premises are registered for the manufacture of ice cream and 164 for the sale and storage of ice cream.

Preserved Food

There are 10 premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or preserved food.

Fish Offal

Fish Offal collected and sold was 7 tons 18 cwts., and the amount received was £61 7s. od. (This amount includes a collecting fee.)

Disinfestation of Bedding, etc.

Bedding from Council House Applicants fumigated	36
Furniture from Council House Applicants disinfected	36
Council house rooms fumigated for vermin ...	34
Rooms of other houses fumigated for vermin ...	62
Bedding disinfected for vermin	15
Beds or Parcels of Bedding destroyed	23
Infectious diseases—bedding fumigated	52
Infectious diseases—rooms disinfected	36
Wasps' Nests destroyed	1
Loads of Rubbish removed... ..	90
Miscellaneous items fumigated	11

Contagious Diseases of Animals Act

One case of Swine Fever was reported. The case was confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

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.

Cesspool Work

The number of old houses connected to the Corporation Sewer during the year 1955 was 26. This means that some 23 leaking cesspools have been abolished.

778 complaints of choked drains and cesspool overflows were received, and it was found possible to clear 698 drains from obstruction. Overflowing cesspools made up the remainder of the complaints. The number of cesspools emptied was 80.

Camping Sites

There are no Summer camping sites within the Borough. Under section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, 23 individual licences were granted during the year. These licences were of a temporary nature.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

The following Tables give details of the work carried out at factories, workplaces and premises used by outworkers.

I. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	28	19	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	100	218	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	—	—	—	—
Totals	128	237	—	—

II. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

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

III. OUTWORKERS.

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel— Making	109	—	—	—	—	—

Notices Served

During the year the following Notices were served:—

No. of Informal Notices	210
No. of Statutory Notices served due to 1955 Informal Notices not being complied with	107
No. of Statutory Notices served due to 1954 Informal Notices not being complied with	9
Total No. of Statutory Notices served during the year	116

The following were completed :—

No. of Informal Notices completed without a Statutory Notice having been served	129
No. of Statutory Notices completed	75
Total No. of Notices completed in year 1955	*204

* This figure includes notices completed during the year, but served prior to 1955.

Visits Made by the Sanitary Inspectors During the Year

Atmospheric Pollution	111
Bakehouses	126
Cold Store	77
Contagious Diseases of Animals Act	85
Council House Applicants	50
Dairies	277
Drainage and Subsequent Visits	927
Drainage Tests (New)	105

Drainage Tests (Old)	37
Factories (P)	156
Factories (NP)	24
Fish Fryers	91
Food and Drugs	228
Food Shops	450
Gypsy Encampment and Caravans	246
Houses (1st Visits)	725
Houses (Subsequent Visits)	1,524
Housing Act (1st Visits)	341
Housing Act (Subsequent Visits)	419
Ice Cream Vendors	82
Infectious Diseases	116
Knacker Yard	28
Milk (Special Designations)	303
Outworkers	96
Overcrowding	19
Pet Animals Act	24
Piggeries	129
Refuse Heap and Accumulations	173
Restaurants	152
Rodent Control	145
Slaughterhouses	676
Tuberculosis	54
Unsound Food	287
Verminous Premises	150
Water Samples	63
Miscellaneous	875
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Total Visits	9,371
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Nuisances Abated after service of Notice.

Accumulations of Refuse removed	6
Ceilings repaired	36
Cesspools repaired	1
Cesspools filled in and drains connected to foul sewers	2
Chimney pots replaced	1
Chimney stacks repaired	16

Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Coppers repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
Doors or frames repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Doors provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Drains of old buildings relaid	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Firegrates, stoves and kitcheners repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	II
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Flues repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Gutters or downpipes cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Gutters or downpipes repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Houses reconditioned	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
Inspection covers provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Inspection pits repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
Interiors cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	98
Sashcords repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Sinks repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Sink waste pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Stair treads or steps repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	4I
Walls repaired for dampness	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Windows reglazed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Window frames, fasteners, sashes, sills repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
W.C. pans renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	II
W.C. seats or risers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
W.C. structures repaired or rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
W.C. supply pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	II
W.C. flushing cisterns provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
W.C. flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
W.C. flush pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Yard gullies or grills repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Yard paving repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	23