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TOWN AND PORT OF DOVER

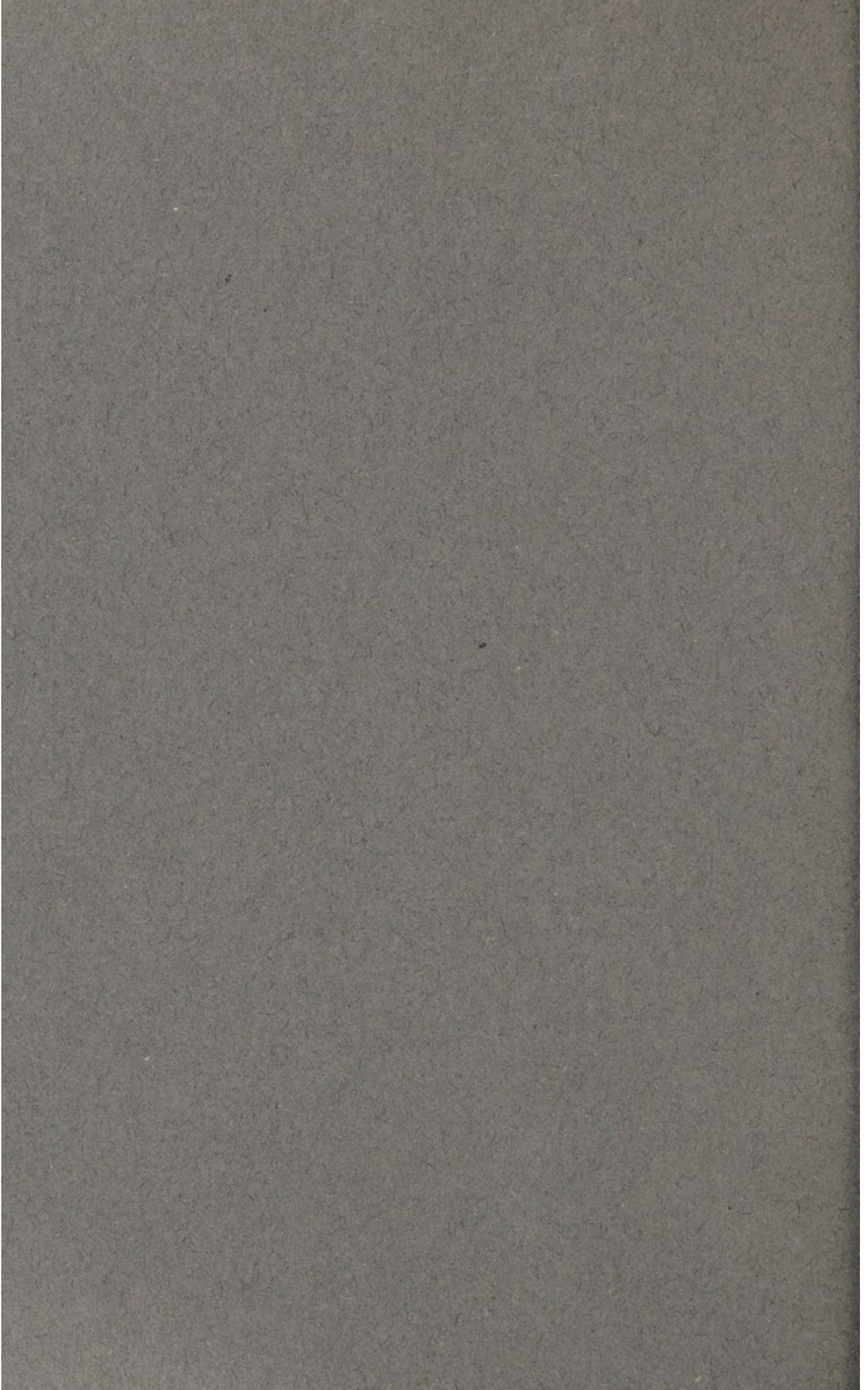
ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1955

CYRIL F. LYNCH, M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health





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HEALTH COMMITTEE

(to 1st June, 1955)

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(COUNCILLOR R. SNELGROVE, J.P.)

Chairman:

ALDERMAN (Mrs.) E. LONG

Members:

ALDERMAN A. E. HUSK
ALDERMAN (MAJOR) G. R. ROWE
COUNCILLOR E. A. BUSHELL
COUNCILLOR (MRS.) D. BUSHELL
COUNCILLOR (MRS.) E. M. S. COATSWORTH
COUNCILLOR A. B. CONSTABLE
COUNCILLOR W. H. FISH
COUNCILLOR F. E. HOLMES, J.P.
COUNCILLOR F. W. MARSH
COUNCILLOR A. H. NEWLAND
COUNCILLOR E. WESTON

(from 1st June, 1955)

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COUNCILLOR E. A. BUSHELL
COUNCILLOR (MRS.) D. BUSHELL
COUNCILLOR (MRS.) E. M. S. COATSWORTH
COUNCILLOR G. E. GASKEN
COUNCILLOR F. A. HOLMES, J.P.
COUNCILLOR F. W. MARSH
COUNCILLOR W. T. MUGE
COUNCILLOR A. H. NEWLAND
COUNCILLOR E. WESTON

OFFICERS AND STAFF

Clerk to the Authority

JAMES A. JOHNSON

Medical:

- C. F. LYNCH, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health, Borough and Port: Medical Inspector of Aliens.
- T. J. NICHOLL, F.R.C.S.I., D.P.H., Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Borough and Port: (Temporary appointment—for Relief duties only).

Port and Aliens Nurse:

MRS. K. A. WALKER, C.M.B., and General Training.

Senior Sanitary Inspector—Borough and Port:

J. G. B. WHORWELL, Cert. R.S.I., Cert. Meat and Food Inspection.

District Sanitary Inspectors—Borough and Port:

- B. C. MIDDLEBROOK, Cert. S.I.J.B., Cert. Meat and Food Inspection.
- F. W. BROMLEY, Cert. S.I.J.B., Cert. Meat and Food Inspection.
- P. A. SLATER, Cert. S.I.J.B., Cert. Meat and Food Inspection.

Public Analysts:

- E. M. HAWKINS, F.R.I.C., Part Time.
- E. S. HAWKINS, O.B.E., B.Sc., A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C., Part Time (OBT. 11th January, 1955).
- C. H. WORDSWORTH, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., Part Time (with effect from 23rd February, 1955).

Clerical Staff:

E. J. ROGERS.
V. E. CARR.
MISS B. HAMILTON.

Rodent Operator:

A. J. HUSK

To: *The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Dover.*

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year ended 31st December, 1955.

The principal features in the year's vital statistics are as follows :—

Population :

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year population was 34,490.

Birth Rate :

This was 15.4 per 1,000 of the population and was 1.6 lower than in 1954. The rate for England and Wales was 15.0.

Death Rate :

The crude death rate was 11.0, being 0.9 higher than in 1954. The rate after adjustment for age and sex distribution was 10.1 and compares favourably with the rate for England and Wales which was 11.7.

Infant Mortality :

The infant mortality rate was 32 per 1,000 live births, compared with 21 for the previous year and 24.9 for England and Wales. The average annual rate for the Borough during the past five years was 26.6.

Maternal Mortality :

There was one maternal death during the year.

Cancer :

The mortality rate for cancer of the lung was 0.38 per 1,000 of the population, which is 0.1 lower than in 1954. The corresponding rate for England and Wales was 0.39. Other forms of cancer gave a mortality rate of 1.6 which is 0.2 above the figure for 1954 and is the same as that for England and Wales as a whole.

Tuberculosis :

The death rate from tuberculosis (all forms) was 0.2 which corresponds with the rate for 1954 but is higher than the rate for England and Wales which was 0.14.

Notifications of infectious diseases, excluding tuberculosis, were substantially increased due to the incidence of measles which was epidemic during the year.

Poliomyelitis was prominent during the summer months, 18 confirmed cases were notified and there were 3 deaths.

Influenza was epidemic early in the year and was prevalent in special communities, notably hospital staffs and schools. The infection was moderately severe, causing pneumonia and bronchitis in a proportion of cases. Investigation of cases carried out in conjunction with the Public Health Laboratory Service and with the co-operation of local medical practitioners indicated Influenza Virus B as the type of infection.

Housing and general sanitation continued to receive close attention, further action being taken towards clearance of the town's remaining slum properties.

I am indebted to the Chairman, Alderman Mrs. E. Long, and members of the Health Committee for their support in the work of the Department throughout the year. My thanks are also due to the Senior Sanitary Inspector for his co-operation and to the Department's Senior Clerk for his assistance in the compilation of this report.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

C. F. LYNCH,

*Medical Officer of Health and
Port Medical Officer.*

August, 1956.

SECTION A—VITAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

AREA	...	...	...	...	...	...	3979.35 acres
POPULATION	1931	...	...	...	...	...	41,097
	1951 (Preliminary Census Figures)	...	...	...	...	...	35,217
	1955 (Estimated Mid-Year population)	...	...	...	...	...	34,490
Rateable Value (1955/56 Estimate)	...	...	...	...	...	...	£280,800
Sum Represented by Penny Rate (1955/56)	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1,170

UNEMPLOYMENT

I am indebted to the Manager of the Employment Exchange for the following information :—

“ The number of men and women registered as unemployed at this office on the 12th December, 1955, which is the date nearest to the end of the year 1955, was as follows :—

MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
209	121	330

“ This is a reduction of 85 men and an increase of 5 women as compared with December, 1954 when the total was 410.

“ These figures relate to Dover Borough, Dover Rural District and Aylesham.

“ Local industries have maintained a good employment level during the past year, and the unemployment figures during the summer were the lowest since the war. On the other hand there have been no new developments apart from the building of new shops, flats and houses.”

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1955

(Compared with Statistics for Years 1953 and 1954)

(All rates shown for 1955 are calculated on the Registrar General's estimated mid-year population of 34,490).

NOTE :—

Comparability Factors are factors derived by the Registrar General from the final 1951 Census populations in order to make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distributions of the local population differs from that for England and Wales. After multiplying the crude birth and death rates for the area by this comparability factor, the rates so adjusted are comparable with the crude rate for England and Wales or with the corresponding adjusted rate for other areas.

Registered Live Births (Corrected for inward and outward transfers)

1953	1954	1955
603	585	532

		1955		
		Total	Males	Females
Legitimate		510	254	256
Illegitimate		22	12	10
		532	266	266

Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 of estimated population)

Comparability Factor — 1.00

	1953	1954	1955
Crude and Adjusted	17.34	17.01	15.42
Legitimate Live Births per 1,000 of estimated population,			14.79
Illegitimate Live Births per 1,000 of estimated population,			0.63

Stillbirths

	1955			1954		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	10	3	7	9	4	5
Illegitimate	1	—	1	1	—	1
	11	3	8	10	4	6

Stillbirth Rate (per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths)

	1953	1954	1955
	22.69	16.81	20.26

Registered Deaths (Corrected for inward and outward transfers)

	1953	1954	1955
Males	200	191	185
Females	187	156	194
Totals	387	347	379

Death Rate (per 1,000 estimated population)

Comparability Factor — 0.92

	1953	1954	1955
Crude	11.1	10.1	11.0
Adjusted for comparative purposes ...	10.2	9.3	10.1

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age

	1953	1954	1955
All infants per 1,000 live births... ..	22	21	32

Specially Recorded Deaths

	1953	1954	1955
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	67	68	71
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1	—	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	—	—	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1	1	1

TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS, 1955: Males 266; Females 266; = 532

TOTAL DEATHS, 1955: Males 185; Females 194; = 379

TABLE 1
BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY FROM TUBERCULOSIS, CANCER AND MATERNAL CAUSES, AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1955 COMPARED WITH FIGURES (PROVISIONALLY BASED ON QUARTERLY RETURNS) FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

	DOVER	ENGLAND AND WALES
	Rates per 1,000 Home Population	
BIRTHS :		
Live Births	15.42	15.0
Still Births	0.32	0.36
	20.26 (a)	23.1 (a)
DEATHS :		
All Causes	10.1 (b)	11.7
Tuberculosis :		
(i) Respiratory	0.20	0.13
(ii) Other	—	0.015
Cancer :		
(i) Lungs and Bronchus	0.38	0.39
(ii) Other	1.68	1.67
	Rates per 1,000 related Live Births	
All causes under 1 year of age	32.00	24.9
	Notification Rates per 1,000 Home Population	
NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected):		
Scarlet Fever	0.93	0.73
Diphtheria	—	0.00
Typhoid Fever	—	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	—	0.02
Acute Pneumonia	1.13	0.63
Dysentery	0.14	0.83
Poliomyelitis :		
(i) Paralytic	0.32	0.08
(ii) Non-Paralytic	0.20	0.06
Food Poisoning	1.62	0.29
Tuberculosis :		
(i) Respiratory	0.78	0.77
(ii) Meninges and C.N.S.	—	0.01
(iii) Other	0.06	0.09
Meningococcal Infection	—	0.03
Whooping Cough	4.99	1.78
Measles	30.15	15.61
Erysipelas	0.09	0.10
Smallpox	—	—
	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	
Puerperal Pyrexia	4.60 (c)	17.79
MATERNAL MORTALITY	1.84	0.64

(a) Rates per 1,000 total live and still births.

(b) Adjusted for Comparative Purposes.

(c) This rate is based on the number of notifications of puerperal pyrexia and the total number of births, live and still, registered in the Borough.

TABLE 2

CAUSE OF DEATH, BY AGE GROUPS, IN THE BOROUGH OF DOVER DURING 1955

Causes of Death	-1		1-2		2-5		5-15		15-25		25-45		45-65		65-75		75+		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1 Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	3	—	—	1	4	3
2 Tuberculosis, other ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 Syphilitic Disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	2	1
4 Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6 Meningococcal Infection ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
7 Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
8 Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	2	3	5	6
11 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	6	1	3	—	2	—	12	1	—
12 Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	1	—	5	—
13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	4	—
14 Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	4	9	6	5	7	19	19	—
15 Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	—
16 Diabetes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	7	15	16	22	24	—
18 Coronary disease, angina ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	3	13	8	13	10	37	21
19 Hypertension with heart disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	3	3	4
20 Other heart disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	7	4	7	29	16	35	—
21 Other circulatory diseases...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	2	11	4	14	—
22 Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
23 Pneumonia ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1	1	2	7	4	12	—
24 Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	2	7	3	4	5	20	10	—
25 Other diseases of the respiratory system ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	2
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	2
27 Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	3	3	—
28 Nephritis and nephrosis ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	4	—
29 Hyperplasia of prostate ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	4	—
30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
31 Congenital malformations...	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	3	3	2	11	10	—
33 Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
34 All other accidents ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	2	2	—	1	6	4	—
35 Suicide ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	3
36 Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	5	12	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	3	8	6	45	27	63	45	62	100	185	194

TABLE 3
MORTALITY IN RELATION TO SEASON

Month	Total Number of Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 Population	Deaths under 1 year	Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Live Births
January ...	51	17.74	2	45.1
February ...	34	11.83	—	—
March ...	46	16.00	1	22.5
April ...	28	9.74	2	45.1
May ...	29	10.09	1	22.5
June ...	24	8.35	2	45.1
July ...	36	12.53	4	90.2
August ...	24	8.35	1	22.5
September ...	17	5.91	1	22.5
October ...	26	9.05	1	22.5
November ...	27	9.39	1	22.5
December ...	37	12.87	1	22.5

TABLE 4
WARD DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS

Age Groups	Wards													
	Barton		Castle		Hougham		Town and Pier		River		St. Bart's.		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	1	1	1	2	2	—	4	2	4	—	—	5	12
1 & under 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
5 & under 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
15 & under 25	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	2
25 & under 45	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	3	1	3	2	8	6
45 & under 65	8	6	3	2	7	6	6	4	16	8	5	1	45	27
65 & under 75	4	7	7	4	12	11	4	7	21	7	14	8	62	44
75 and over	8	12	6	14	10	18	2	15	19	31	17	10	62	100
Totals ...	20	27	18	22	33	38	12	31	62	52	39	22	184	192

Total excludes 1 ' F ' death (15-25) of French nationality.
1 ' F ' death (65-75) of Moroccan nationality.
1 ' M ' death (65-75) of Swedish nationality.

SECTION B—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

1. LABORATORY FACILITIES:

Facilities for the bacteriological, biological and biochemical examination of specimens are available at the Public Health Laboratory, Maidstone, and the Hospital Laboratory, Buckland Hospital, Dover. Following re-organisation of the hospital laboratory services in the area, the Public Health Laboratory Service, directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health, took over the public health work at the County Hall Laboratory, Maidstone, with effect from 1st October, 1955.

Messrs. Hawkins & Hawkins, Canterbury, are the duly appointed Public Analysts to the Borough and Port, undertaking all chemical analyses of food, etc. and the testing of heat-treated milks.

2. AMBULANCE SERVICE :

This service is operated and administered by the Kent County Council, the ambulance station being at "Westmount," Folkestone Road, Dover. By courtesy of the County Medical Officer the following details are included of the service provided by the Station during 1955: the figures relate to the area covered by the Dover station, which is very much wider than the Borough and cannot be clearly defined:—

Total number of patients	19,218
Total number of journeys	4,993
Total mileage	102,895

3. MORTUARY SERVICE:

The mortuary service continued to be operated as in previous years and, during 1955, twelve bodies were received.

4. MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING SERVICES:

These services are administered by the County Medical Officer by whose courtesy the following figures in regard to the year's work are included :—

(a) County Midwifery Service:

No. of midwives	6
No. of births attended	303

(b) County Home Nursing Service:

No. of Home Nurses	4
No. of Patients attended	557
No. of attendances (including casual visits)... ..	15,658

5. PUBLIC BATHS:

Slipper Baths, with facilities comprising three baths and two showers, are available in Maison Dieu Gardens for public use.

6. HOSPITAL FACILITIES:

These are provided at (a) The Royal Victoria Hospital for surgical cases (b) The Buckland Hospital for general medical and maternity cases and (c) The Infectious Diseases Hospital for infectious cases except smallpox, for which accommodation is provided at the River Hospitals (Long Reach) Dartford, Kent. All are now under the administration of the South East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

7. NURSING HOME REGISTRATIONS—PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936:

There were no nursing homes registered in the town.

8. CLINICS AND WELFARE CENTRES:

The following specialist and consultant services are provided by the Kent County Council, as the Local Health and Education Authority, and by the Regional Hospital Board at the Dover Group of Hospitals.

(a) Maternity and Child Welfare:

Ante-natal:

Brook House	...	...	2nd & 4th Tuesday in month, 10 a.m.
			Tuesdays, 3 p.m. (Relaxation)

Infant Welfare:

Brook House	...	...	Monday, 2—4 p.m. Wednesday, 2—4 p.m. Thursday, 2—4 p.m.
Crabble Court, River	...	...	Wednesday, 2—4 p.m. Thursday, 2—4 p.m.
St. Nicholas Church, Buckland Estate	...	...	Tuesday, 2—4 p.m.

Dental:

See under School Health Service.

Women's Welfare:

Brook House	1st Friday in month, 10 a.m. (Nursing mothers only)
-------------	-----	-----	--

(b) Diphtheria Immunisation and Vaccination:

Brook House—

Immunisation	...	...	Wednesday, 2—3.30 p.m.
Vaccination	...	...	Wednesday, 2—3.30 p.m.

Crabble Court, River—

Immunisation	...	...	Thursday, 2.30 p.m.
Vaccination	...	...	Thursday, 2 p.m. By appointment.

St. Nicholas Church, Buckland Estate—

Immunisation	...	...	Tuesday, 3—4 p.m.
Vaccination	...	...	Tuesday, 3—4 p.m.

(c) School Health Services:

(i) Minor Ailments	R.V.H.	Every Wednesday	9.30 a.m.
(ii) Ophthalmic	R.V.H.	Every Friday	a.m.
(iii) Dental	Astor Dental Clinic	Daily	

(NOTE:—For the treatment of children in attendance at maintained schools, expectant and nursing mothers and children under school age).

(iv) Child Guidance	Clinic, 51 London Road, Canterbury.	By Appointment.	
(v) Speech Therapy	Speech Therapy Clinic, Victoria Park, Deal, or Baker Road, Cheriton, Folkestone.	By Appointment. (Monday and Tuesday) (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday).	

(d) Regional Hospital Board:

<i>Speciality:</i>	<i>Hospital:</i>	<i>Day and Time:</i>
Venereology	R.V.H.	Monday and Thursday Females 5—6 p.m. Males 6—7 p.m.
General Surgery	R.V.H.	Monday, 2 p.m. Tuesday, 9 a.m. and by special appointment.
	B.H.	Alternate Wednesdays 2 p.m. (children).
General Medicine	B.H.	Tuesday and Friday, 9 a.m. Wednesday, 10 a.m. Thursday, 2 p.m.
Orthopaedic	R.V.H.	2nd & 3rd Wednesday, 1.30 p.m. (Adults).
	B.H.	4th & 5th Wednesday, 2 p.m. (Children).
Gynaecology	R.V.H.	Friday, 2 p.m.
Obstetrics (Ante- and post-natal)	B.H.	Tuesday, 10 a.m.
Ear, Nose and Throat	B.H.	Monday, 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.
Hearing Aids	B.H.	By arrangement.
Fractures	R.V.H.	Thursday, 1.30 p.m.
Physical Medicine	B.H.	Wednesday, 9 a.m.

Ophthalmology	R.V.H.	Monday, 9.30 a.m. Thursday, 10 a.m. Children, Friday a.m.
Dermatology	R.V.H.	1st, 2nd, 4th & 5th Monday, 2.30 p.m.
Psychiatry	B.H.	Tuesday, 10 a.m. 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 2 p.m.
Paediatrics	B.H.	1st & 3rd Thursday, 10 a.m.
Dental	B.H.	Wednesday, 11 a.m.
Chest Diseases	B.H.	Wednesday, 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

NOTE:—R.V.H.—Royal Victoria Hospital.
B.H.—Buckland Hospital.

9. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 & 1951: SECTION 47:

During the year statutory action was taken for the removal to hospital of one aged person, a female aged 73, living alone and found to be in need of care and attention which were not available in her own home.

In this case action was taken after some twelve months supervision by this Department in conjunction with the patient's private medical attendant and her married son.

The assistance thereby available, which was all she would allow, soon became insufficient for her needs owing to her deteriorating mental and physical condition.

A Court Order was obtained for her removal to St. Mary's Hospital, Etchinghill, where she subsequently died.

Six other cases (all female) were also investigated. In one, immediate removal to hospital was indicated and this was secured on a voluntary basis. The remainder, with one exception where no action was found necessary, were assisted by various means to improve conditions in their own homes and were kept under observation by this Department.

In addition three persons already in hospital or other accommodation as a result of statutory action had Court Orders renewed for their further detention during the year.

10. LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPERANNUATION ACT, 1937: MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

Medical examinations for Superannuation purposes are undertaken by the Medical Officer of Health.

During the year eighteen such examinations were requested and were carried out as follows :—

<i>Department</i>				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
				<hr/>	<hr/>
Town Clerk's	...	...	...	—	1
Borough Engineer's	...	...	...	8	3
Health	...	...	...	—	—
Civil Defence	...	...	...	—	—
Borough Treasurer's	...	...	...	1	1
Estates	...	...	...	—	2
Other Authorities	...	...	...	2	—
				<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals ...				11	7
				<hr/>	<hr/>

SECTION C—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

The area of the Borough is 3,979.35 acres and the following figures relating to the various types of properties on the Valuation Roll for the area have been supplied by the Borough Treasurer:—

Dwelling houses	...	...	...	10,365
Agricultural	...	...	...	18
Local Authority premises	...	...	...	85
Others (including Business and Industrial)	...	...	...	1,522

WATER SUPPLY:

The mains water supply to the Borough from the Dover Corporation and the Mid Kent Water Company undertakings was maintained at a satisfactory level throughout the year in respect of both quality and quantity. Routine samples for bacteriological examination continued to be taken monthly by the Sanitary Inspectors from the piped supplies as delivered to the public and were consistently reported as being highly satisfactory, while sampling of the supplies at source showed the water to be of high quality on bacteriological and chemical examinations.

During the year the pressure of water was improved in some parts of the Corporation Undertaking's area of supply, while new mains were laid to keep pace with the building of houses by the Council and by private developers. With regard to the abstraction and general distribution of the supply of the Mid Kent Water Company, there was no material alteration as the sources of supply were ample to meet the requirements of the area.

One complaint was received during the year regarding an alleged peculiar taste in the mains water supply to the Corporation Paint shop at Tower Hamlets Yard, mention being made that the taste was more pronounced after heating the water. A sample of the actual water concerning which complaint was made was submitted to the Public Analyst who found it not possible to detect any unusual taste either in the cold or the hot water; it was free from chlorine and contained no injurious metals. He considered that the most likely cause of a taste in such a water would be the presence of chlorophenols, a compound of chlorine and phenol, chlorine being added to the water for sterilisation and phenols finding their way into the supply by many routes. The Public Analyst said that many of these tastes disappear extremely rapidly and the reason for a water tasting more on warming is because the dissolved gases are freed and carry the smell with them. He advised as a first step the removal and thorough cleansing of the tap and, if this proved ineffective, the flushing of the length of main.

At the end of 1955, all but ten of the dwelling houses in the Borough were connected to the main piped supplies. Of these ten exceptions, two premises at Hougham and one at River had rain water tanks, four premises at River had well supplies, while three at Shake-

speare Cliff had the British Railways supply pumped by hydraulic rams from springs in Abbots Cliff tunnel.

I am greatly indebted to the Borough Engineer and to the General Manager of the Mid Kent Water Company for their co-operation and for the information supplied by them during the year.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE:

The main sewerage system discharges into the sea, as described in the 1930 Survey report. During the year new sewers were laid in conjunction with new building estates being developed, while a relief sewer was laid in Limes Road in order to alleviate flooding in Barton Road. A sewer was also laid to drain the new school now under construction at Archer's Court which is in the area of the Rural District Authority.

At the end of 1955 and with the following exceptions, all houses in the Borough were connected to the main sewers :—

- 71 dwellings with water carriage systems to cesspools, etc.
- 18 dwellings with pail closets.

PUBLIC CLEANSING:

The removal of household and trade refuse is carried out by the Borough Engineer's Department, disposal being by controlled tipping. In the early part of the year the use of the tipping site at Coombe was discontinued and the new site at Old Charlton Road brought into use.

SANITARY INSPECTION: Report by the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Statistics relating to Inspections, the service of notices and abatement of nuisances :—

(a) NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR :

<i>Nature</i>	<i>Inspections and Visits</i>
Dwelling Houses... ..	4,892
Keeping of Animals	62
Moveable Dwellings	10
Public Institutions	22
Infectious Diseases	134
Shops Act	22
Places where Food is sold or prepared ...	2,292
Milk and Dairies Regulations—	
Registered Dairies	167
Milk (Special Designation) Regulations—	
Pasteurising Plants	145
Factories Act	134
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act ...	539
Other Matters	630
	<hr/>
	9,049
	<hr/> <hr/>

(b) NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR:

Informal Notices...	...	...	...	324
Statutory Notices	...	...	...	81
				<hr/>
				405
				<hr/>

(c) RESULT OF SERVICE OF NOTICES:

Notices served during 1955	...	...	405
Notices standing over at end of 1954	...		94
			<hr/>
			499
			<hr/>
Total notices complied with	...	...	387
Informal and Statutory notices cancelled by subsequent alternative action	...		48
Notices standing over at end of 1955	...		64
			<hr/>
			499
			<hr/>

(d) CONDITIONS REMEDIED AS RESULT OF NOTICES SERVED:

Defects in, or nuisances arising from :—	Re-newed	Re-paired	Clean-sed	Remed-ied	Pro-vided
Drainage :—					
(a) Drains	23	16	19	—	3
(b) Sewers	—	1	—	—	—
(c) Inspection Cham-bers	—	10	—	—	3
(d) Cesspools	—	—	1	—	—
Sanitary Accommoda-tion :—					
(a) W.C. Pans	27	7	—	—	7
(b) Urinals	1	1	—	—	2
(c) Flushing cisterns ...	3	28	—	—	1
Other Sanitary Fittings:—					
(a) Baths	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Lavatory basins ...	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Sinks	10	4	—	—	—
Ventilation	—	—	—	—	3
Cleanliness	—	—	28	—	—
Roofing :—					
(a) Roof	—	78	—	—	—
(b) Chimney stack ...	2	9	—	—	—
(c) R.W.G. & D.P. ...	2	61	5	—	—
Floors (including skirt-ing)	—	39	—	—	—
Walls :—					
(a) External	3	60	—	—	—
(b) Internal	1	53	2	—	—
Ceilings	5	27	—	—	1
Windows :—					
(a) Frames	—	25	—	—	—
(b) Sashes	2	20	—	—	—
(c) External sill ...	2	10	—	—	—
Doors	1	20	—	—	—
Dampness :—					
(a) Rising	—	—	—	33	—
(b) Penetration ...	—	—	—	77	—
(c) Condensation ...	—	—	—	—	—
Firegrates :—					
(a) Cooking	1	9	—	—	—
(b) Others	8	5	—	—	—
Paving of yard	10	10	—	—	—
House refuse container ...	—	—	—	—	1
Offensive Accumulations	—	—	—	13	—
Keeping of animals ...	—	—	—	2	—
Miscellaneous Matters ...	—	—	—	63	—

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION:

Observation was made during the year upon a laundry chimney in respect of which complaint regarding a smoke nuisance had been received from the occupier of a nearby dwelling house. Three thirty-minute observations were made and in only one was the emission of black smoke noted, to the extent of $2\frac{3}{4}$ minutes, while moderate smoke was emitted for periods of 1 minute, $2\frac{1}{2}$ minutes and $3\frac{1}{4}$ minutes

respectively. From an interview with the occupier of the laundry it transpired that a new boiler fitted with a mechanical stoker had recently been installed but, the mechanical stoker having broken down, temporary resort was being had to hand firing. Following the repair of the mechanical stoker, observation revealed that the nuisance from the emission of smoke had been abated and no further complaint was received.

Complaint was also received regarding a smoke nuisance from railway engines in the British Railways Motive Power Depot at Beach Street. The nuisance occurred at the height of the summer cross-channel traffic when, of course, there were many heavy boat trains to be hauled to London and this, coupled with the fact that all lines out of Dover are on an up-gradient, meant that many engines were in the area waiting to get up maximum steam pressure. The following is an extract from the Senior Sanitary Inspector's report on his investigation of the complaint :—

“ To the south-west of Beach Street are some engine sheds, housing at this time of year some 46 engines. Between these sheds and the Marine Station are several lines of track, as well as the main line to Folkestone, a turn-table, watering points and a coaling stage. Engines are constantly on the move between the sheds and the Marine Station, taking on coal and water, being turned round and shunting on to different lines.

“ Observations have been made in the mornings of 25th August and 1st September, in the early afternoon of 26th August, in the evening of the 28th August and the late afternoon of 30th August. On each occasion there were about twelve engines in the area, practically all of which were moving about and blowing off steam and some smoke; there always appeared to be much more steam than smoke. On 28th August and 1st September atmospheric pressure was very heavy, air movement was practically nil and low cloud persisted, and it was noticeable that the steam and smoke took a very long time to disperse.

“ From these observations it would appear that although at times there may well have been a nuisance, this nuisance was caused by the combined amount of smoke from several engines and that the amount emitted from any individual engine was not sufficient to cause a nuisance.”

By order of the Health Committee the complaint was referred to the British Railways Executive requesting that instructions be given to the supervisory staff and engine men with a view to obviating cause for further complaint.

CLEAN AIR BILL

In dealing with these and other complaints of air pollution received in this Department from time to time, the practical limitations of smoke abatement law have become increasingly apparent, and while

it is not suggested that any legislation however comprehensive would, of itself, suffice to bring about desired improvements, none-the-less the Government's Clean Air Bill which was introduced during the year must be regarded as a notable advance in the cause of better smoke control.

An agreed national policy for clean air has been established and it is hoped that as a result of such policy some more effective means of dealing with the more difficult of our local problems may be forthcoming.

OFFENSIVE TRADES:

No nuisances were observed during the year at the two premises in the Borough used for the trade of Rag and Bone Dealer.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES:

There were no Common Lodging Houses within the Borough.

SHOPS ACT, 1950:

Twenty-two inspections were made in respect of the provisions of Section 38 of the Act relating to sanitary and other arrangements in shops. One formal notice served, requiring the provision of adequate heating facilities, was complied with; four informal notices were also served, and of these, two were reported complied with.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951:

Two licences were in force under the Act in respect of the keeping of a pet shop, the general conditions attaching to the licences conforming with the model conditions recommended by the Association of Municipal Corporations.

DISINFESTATION—VERMIN AND OTHER PESTS (excluding rodents):

(a) Council Houses treated	...	...	22
Total number of treatments	...	...	25
(b) Other premises and houses treated...	...	...	74
Total number of treatments	...	...	90

The disinfestations carried out during the year were mainly on account of ants, cockroaches, etc., although an increase in the number of complaints of flea infestations was noted.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951:

Two premises within the Borough were registered under Section 1 of the Act, upholstery being carried on at the first establishment, and the manufacture of soft toys, dolls, etc. at the second.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS—SECTION 269, PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936:

One licence was in force under the above Section of the Act authorising the use of land within the Borough as a site for moveable dwellings.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937:

(i) *Registered Factories:*

With mechanical power	...	...	...	165
Without mechanical power	...	...	...	37
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	...	...	...	10
				<u>212</u>

(ii) *Inspections:*

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>No. of written notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
Factories with mechanical power	94	6	—
Factories without mechanical power	7	1	—
Other premises	33	5 *	—
Total ...	<u>134</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>—</u>

*Including 1 statutory notice.

(iii) *Defects:*

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Found</i>	<i>Number of Defects</i>			<i>Number of cases in which Prosecutions were insti- tuted</i>
		<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>by</i>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness ...	1	1	—	1	—
Sanitary Conveniences:					
Insufficient ...	5	4	—	1	—
Unsuitable or de- fective ...	4	4	—	3	—
Other offences ...	2	1	—	1	—
	<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>—</u>

(iv) *Water Supply:*

Request was received during the year from the occupier of factory premises for bacteriological examination of the drinking water supply derived from three wells from which the factory's processing water was drawn.

Examination revealed that of the three wells, one was contaminated and quite unfit for drinking or domestic use and its use for such purposes was prohibited.

RODENT CONTROL:

The complaints received during the year in respect of rat and/or mice infestations numbered 135; in dealing with these, with 31 infestations notified as a result of independent investigations by the

Department and in carrying out surveys, the rodent operator paid a total of 1,857 visits to 858 premises.

Actual disinfection measures comprised the treatment of 4 major rat infestations, 65 minor rat infestations and 97 mice infestations. The following table shows the classification of premises visited and treated :—

	Premises Visited:	Total Visits:	Rat infestations treated:		Mice Infestations treated:
			Major	Minor	
Local Authority Properties	44	126	2	13	5
Dwellinghouses	586	1205	—	46	78
Business Premises	224	521	2	6	14
Agricultural Property	4	5	—	—	—

SEWER TREATMENT:

Two sewer treatments were carried out during the year, the first in the spring, the second in the autumn. The first treatment was preceded by the testbaiting of 127 manholes in areas previously reported clear, 22 “complete” and 10 “part” takes of bait being recorded.

The results obtained from the two treatments were as follows :—

	No. Manholes Baited:	Prebait takes:		Poisoned Bait takes:
		“C”	“P”	
Treatment No. 1	240	45	42	94
Treatment No. 2	174	27	41	68

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS:

No legal proceedings were instituted under the provisions of the Public Health Act and other Acts mentioned in this Section of the Report.

SECTION D—HOUSING

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES:

A.	(i)	Number of Dwelling Houses inspected for defects (Housing or Public Health Acts)	775
	(ii)	Total number of inspections in relation thereto ...	2225
	(iii)	Number unfit for human habitation	26
	(iv)	Number of otherwise defective houses	213
B.		Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit by informal action	184
C.		Statutory action under Housing and Public Health Acts:	
	(i)	Number of Houses in respect of which formal notices were served:—	
		(a) Under Housing Acts	11
		(b) Under Public Health Acts	22
	(ii)	Number of houses rendered fit during the year in consequence of formal action :—	
		(a) Under Housing Acts:—	
		By Owners	2
		By Local Authority in default	2
		(b) Under Public Health Acts	24
	(iii)	Number of houses in respect of which:—	
		(a) Demolition Orders under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, were made	4
		(b) Closing Orders under Section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, were made	5
		(c) Undertakings were accepted under subsection 3 of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 and works completed	3
		(d) Closing Orders as to “Part of Building” under Section 12 of Housing Act, 1936, were made	1
		(e) Representation was made for their inclusion in Clearance Areas (including 1 already the subject of Closing Order made in 1955).	15
		(f) Administrative action was in process on 31st December, 1955	2

2. SLUM CLEARANCE:

(a) Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954: Slum Clearance Proposals:

Section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, provided that by the 30th August, 1955, the local authority should submit to the Minister of Housing and Local Government its proposals for dealing with houses within its district which appeared to be unfit for

human habitation and any other houses which were, or in the opinion of the authority ought to be, included in clearance areas. No more was expected by the Minister than an estimate of the total number of unfit houses in the Council's area and of the period the Council thought would be needed to secure the demolition of all these houses.

A five-year programme as submitted and approved by the Town Council covered eight small areas comprising 113 occupied dwellings, housing 117 family units, 28 unoccupied dwellings and 3 other buildings, while 18 properties outside these areas were recommended for inclusion in the proposals as individual unfit houses.

The proposals when recommended to the Local Authority were subject to the proviso that at the representation of any particular area, its extent might have to be modified or perhaps expanded depending upon the more detailed examination of the individual houses.

Shortly after the submission and approval of these proposals consideration was given to the representation of the first two areas and it became apparent, after careful study of the conditions, that modification of the areas was necessary, fourteen houses in the first area and one house in the second area being excluded from the final Clearance Areas.

Taking into account areas in respect of which compulsory purchase orders were already operative and areas in respect of which confirmation of compulsory purchase orders was awaited, the overall position in respect of the slum clearance proposals was at 31st December, 1955, as follows:—

1. Estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation within the meaning of Section 9 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and suitable for action under Section 11 or Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936	... ..	206
2. Number of houses in (1) in clearance areas and already covered by operative compulsory purchase orders	... ..	51
3. Number of houses already in clearance areas for which compulsory purchase orders had been submitted to the Minister but had not then become operative...	... ..	15
4. Number of houses to be included in Clearance Areas (provisionally)	... ..	111
5. Number of houses (including 11 already subject to operative demolition orders or voluntarily closed pending demolition) to be demolished under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936	... ..	29

(b) Post-War Progress:

- (i) Chapel Place (Nos. 1 and 2) Compulsory Purchase Orders, 1953: Union Row (Nos. 1 and 2) Compulsory Purchase Orders, 1954: Durham Hill Compulsory Purchase Order, 1954:

Details of the above Orders have been included in the Annual Reports for 1953 and 1954.

During 1955, three properties, viz.: Nos. 10, 12 and 14 Last Lane, comprised in the Chapel Place (No. 1) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1953, were demolished.

- (ii) Branch Street and Military Road Clearance Areas:
 Representation of Areas 7th July, 1955.
 Declaration of Clearance Areas 26th July, 1955.
 Compulsory Purchase Orders 25th October, 1955.

Branch Street Compulsory Purchase Order, 1955:

Premises in Clearance Area:

Dwelling Houses	8
-----------------	-----	-----	---

Additional Premises in Compulsory Purchase Order:

Dwelling Houses	1
-----------------	-----	-----	---

Other premises	1
----------------	-----	-----	---

Military Road Compulsory Purchase Order:

Premises in Clearance Areas:

Dwelling Houses	7
-----------------	-----	-----	---

Additional Premises in Compulsory Purchase Order:

Dwelling Houses	1
-----------------	-----	-----	---

Vacant Sites	3
--------------	-----	-----	---

There being no objections, no public inquiry was held. The areas were visited by an Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government on the 17th January, 1955, and the Compulsory Purchase Orders were subsequently confirmed by the Minister with a slight modification in the case of the Branch Street Order which excluded from the Order the two properties greyed on the map.

3. HOUSES DEMOLISHED DURING 1955 FOLLOWING ACTION BY DEPARTMENT:

68 Limekiln Street (subject to an "Unfitness Order").

4. RENT RESTRICTIONS:

Only three applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received during the year and in all cases Certificates were issued. These and the nine Certificates issued in 1954 were all revoked during the year on the application of the landlords after the execution of the necessary repairs.

5. OVERCROWDING AND REHOUSING:

Recommendations in support of 59 applications for Corporation rehousing were made to the Estates Department on grounds of ill-health, overcrowding, unfit and substandard accommodation, or other conditions prejudicial to health.

Since the end of the year under review, the Departmental records have been checked with those of the Estates Department and the

position regarding the applications recommended by this Department was on the 25th February, 1956, as follows:—

Recommendations outstanding from previous year ...	21
Recommendations made during 1954	59
	<hr/>
	80
Rehoused	33 families
Approved	11 families
Not approved	24 families
Applications withdrawn or lapsed ...	12

6. HOUSES COMPLETED OR UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR CONTRACT DURING 1955:—

I am indebted to the Borough Engineer for the following information:—

(a) *Dwellings completed during 1955:—*

By Local Authority:—

Bed/sitting room flats ...	8
1-Bedroom flats	8
2-Bedroom flats	24
2-Bedroom houses	49
3-Bedroom houses	42

By Private Enterprise:—

2-Bedroom houses	22
3-Bedroom houses	18

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(b) *Under Construction or Contract at 31st December, 1955:—*

By Local Authority:—

Bed/sitting room flats ...	8
1-Bedroom flats	12
2-Bedroom flats	16
3-Bedroom flats	6
2-Bedroom houses	9
3-Bedroom maisonettes ...	4
3-Bedroom houses	24

By Private Enterprise:—

2-Bedroom houses	10
3-Bedroom houses	13
4-Bedroom houses	1
3-Bedroom maisonettes ...	3

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SECTION E—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. MILK SUPPLY:

(a) Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949:—

Registrations in force at 31st December, 1955.

Dairies	...	...	...	6
Distributors	...	...	...	17

No action was necessary at any of the dairies which were all well maintained.

(b) *Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949:*
Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949:

Licensing:

(i) *Tuberculin Tested Milk:*

Dealer's Licences	...	6
Supplementary Licences		2

In all cases the milk was pasteurised and retailed as Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised).

(ii) *Pasteurised Milk:*

Dealer's Pasteurisers Licences...	3
Dealer's Licences	7
Supplementary Licences	5

Of the three pasteurising plants in operation, two operated by the "Holder" process treating together an approximate total of 400 gallons of milk daily, and one operated by the "H.T.S.T." process treating approximately 2,350 gallons of milk daily.

Testing of Pasteurised Milk:

	Phosphatase Test		Methylene Blue Test	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Dealer's Pasteurisers ...	78	1	79	—
Dealers	5	—	4	—
Dealer's Supplementary ...	10	1	11	—

(c) *Food and Drugs (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950.*

Specified Areas:

As forecast in my Report for the year 1954, the Borough was included during the year in a "specified area," namely an area in which milk of "special designation" only may be sold by retail.

The instrument effecting this was the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Area) (No. 2) Order, 1955, which was made on the 15th November, 1955, and came into operation on the 6th December, 1955.

This Order scheduled thirteen areas and Area No. 5 comprised:—
The County Borough of Canterbury.

The Boroughs of Deal, Dover, Folkestone, Hythe, Margate, Ramsgate and Sandwich.

The Urban Districts of Broadstairs and St. Peter's, Herne Bay and Whitstable.

The Rural Districts of Bridge-Blean, Dover, Eastry and Elham.

2. MEAT AND OTHER FOODS:

(a) No slaughterhouses were in operation in the Borough. There was one meat distribution depot operated by a private firm of meat wholesalers and this was visited frequently at regular intervals.

(b) Food — Condemnation:

The following amounts of food were condemned during the year in consequence of decomposition or contamination:—

	tons	cwts.	qtrs.	lbs.
Meat and Offal ...	1	7	2	24½
Tinned Goods ...	4	4	1	6
Fish ...	—	7	2	14
Bacon ...	—	3	0	24½
Cheese ...	—	1	1	17¼
Other Foods ...	—	9	0	3¼
TOTAL ...	6	13	1	5½

3. FOOD PREMISES:

(a) Inspections:

2,292 visits were made by the Sanitary Inspectors to premises used for the sale or preparation of food. 18 informal notices relating to the provisions of the Byelaws and of Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, were served and 24 such notices complied with.

The works effected at such premises during the year comprised:—

Cleansing and redecoration	...	...	in	14 case(s)
Repair of walls	...	...	in	3 „
Provision of hot water supply	...	...	in	2 „
Repair of floor	...	...	in	2 „
Provision of refuse bin	...	...	in	1 „
Drainage remedied	...	...	in	1 „
Storage of refuse bins	...	...	in	1 „
Accumulation removed	...	...	in	1 „
Structural alteration	...	...	in	1 „
Sink provided	...	...	in	1 „
Covers provided for food tins	...	...	in	1 „
Provision of ventilation	...	...	in	1 „
Water closet seat repaired	...	...	in	1 „

(b) No proceedings relating to food premises were instituted during the year.

4. REGISTRATIONS—SECTION 14: FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938:

For the Sale of Ice Cream	94
For the Manufacture and Sale of Ice Cream ...	7
For the Storage of Ice Cream	1
For the Preparation or Manufacture of Pre-served Food	57

5. FOOD ANALYSIS AND EXAMINATIONS:

90 Samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination; of these 28 were formal samples consisting of:

Milk	28
-------------	----

Samples informally submitted comprised:—

Milk	16
Pork sausages	2
Beef sausages	4
Pork sausagemeat	2
Beef sausagemeat	2
Orange squash	2
Orange drink	1
Military pickle	2
Butter	9
Margarine	2
Corned beef	3
Canned molasses	1
Canned apples and blackberries	1
Fish cakes	1
Tea	1
Strawberry jam	1
Beef suet	1
Jellies	1
Marzipan	1
Ground almonds	1
Mincemeat	1
Sweetened skimmed condensed milk	1
Ice cream	6

REMARKS:

(i) The percentage of fat and non-fatty solids of the samples of milk reported as genuine averaged 3.70 and 8.70 respectively. The following table shows these figures for the post-war years:—

	<i>Fat %</i>	<i>Non-fatty Solids %</i>
1946	3.78	8.77
1947	3.62	8.76
1948	3.52	8.85
1949	3.63	8.73
1950	3.80	8.72
1951	3.63	8.81
1952	3.69	8.69
1953	3.82	8.64
1954	3.80	8.76
1955	3.70	8.70

(ii) Of the 44 samples of milk examined during 1955 all were reported by the Public Analyst as being genuine milks, although seven were abnormal and failed to attain the presumptive standards laid down in the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1938. Three of the seven samples were deficient in both fat and solids-not-fat, one was deficient in fat only, and three were deficient in solids-not-fat only. These seven samples were from one source of supply and were taken in course of delivery from the producer to the distributor. The following table sets out in chronological order the results of the samples taken from this source:—

Date	Ref.No. etc.	Percentage Results		Remarks
		Fat	N.F.S.	
26th January	55/5	2.76	7.71	Informal sample : formal procedure to be followed.
9th February	55/11 55/12 55/13 55/14 55/15 55/16	4.30 4.15 2.90 3.50 3.25 3.55	8.50 8.57 8.43 8.63 8.37 8.42	p.m. Producer advised of p.m. results of sampling a.m. and advised to take a.m. action to bring qual- a.m. ity of all milk at mixed least up to pre- a.m. sumptive standards. & p.m.
22nd April	55/33 55/34	2.30 3.50	8.39 8.69	a.m. Informal. p.m. Informal. Producer again ad- vised. Reported that each animal was being individu- ally tested and that feeding was being investigated. Ad- vised to consult N.A.A.S.

(Continued on next page)

Date	Ref. No. etc.	Percentage Results		Remarks
		Fat	N.F.S.	
22nd June	55/54	3.15	8.56	a.m. Informal:
	55/55	2.45	8.66	a.m. Informal:
	55/56	4.10	8.97	p.m. Informal:
	55/57	3.75	8.57	p.m. Informal:
Public Analyst remarked deficiency in 55/55 perhaps caused by erratic milking times. Producer informed.				
24th August	55/59	4.40	8.66	a.m. Public Analyst sug-
	55/60	4.60	8.82	a.m. gested that the de-
	55/61	3.55	8.51	a.m. ficiency in sample
	55/62	4.35	8.50	p.m. No. 55/64 possibly
	55/63	4.25	8.56	p.m. due to the time and
	55/64	3.95	8.12	p.m. interval of milking or the dry weather.

(iii) Four samples of Pork Sausage and six of Beef Sausage were examined during the year and in only one case did the proportion of fat meat exceed that of the lean in the total meat content and then only to a very minor extent. The samples submitted showed a marked improvement in this respect over the samples submitted during the previous year.

The Public Analyst found no further cause for comment on the samples except in the case of four which were slightly below the accepted figure for meat content; in each case, however, the deficiency was so slight as to be accounted for by normal manufacturing practice.

The following table sets out the statistics in relation to the results of sampling since 1953:—

Samples submitted	1953	1954	1955
PORK :			
Samples submitted	3	5	4
Average meat content	71.7%	84.5%	65.2%
Lowest meat content	60.0%	67.5%	63.0%
Highest meat content	83.0%	96.0%	69.0%
Price per lb.: Average	2s.5d.	2s.5½d.	2s.8d.
Highest	2s.8d.	3s.0d.	3s.0d.
Lowest	2s.0d.	2s.0d.	2s.6d.
BEEF :			
Samples submitted	5	12	6
Average meat content	61.3%	69.3%	53.3%
Lowest meat content	59.0%	52.5%	48.5%
Highest meat content	63.5%	93.5%	67.5%
Price per lb.: Average	1s.8d.	1s.8d.	1s.8d.
Highest	1s.10d.	2s.0d.	2s.2d.
Lowest	1s.6d.	1s.4d.	1s.0d.

6. SALE OF UNSOUND FOOD:

Two prosecutions were taken during the year under Section 9 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, both in respect of the sale of pork pies unfit for human consumption. In both cases the prosecutions were successful, in one the vendor being fined £10 and ordered to pay £3 3s. 0d. costs and in the other the vendor being fined a similar sum and ordered to pay £2 2s. 0d. costs.

7. ICE CREAM:

(a) *The Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order, 1953:*

Six samples were informally submitted, the Public Analyst reporting the following results:—

Fat-Percentage contents varied from 9.6 to 13.0, with an average of 10.9.

Solids other than milk fats:—The sugar content and non-fatty milk solids were satisfactory in each case and all passed the standard laid down under the Ice Cream Regulations.

(b) *Ice Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Regulations:*

Twelve samples of ice cream were submitted for the methylene blue test with the following aggregate results:—

	Grade:			
	I	II	III	IV
Manufactured at premises within the Borough ...	4	—	—	—
From manufacturers outside the Borough ...	7	1	—	—

8. FOOD POISONING:

(a) *Notifications (Corrected) Returned to Registrar General:*

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
NIL	8	NIL	48	56

(b) *Outbreaks due to Identified Agents:*

Total Outbreaks ...	1
Total Cases ...	48
Outbreak due to <i>Clostridium Welchii</i> .	

This outbreak involving 48 persons occurred at Buckland Hospital from the 5th to the 6th November; 47 cases were originally notified but it was found after investigation that 48 persons were finally affected. None of the cases proved fatal.

Clinical Features:—

Average interval ingestion to onset: 7—15 hours.

Main Symptoms: Diarrhoea; mild constitutional upset; vomiting in one or two cases only; apyrexial.

Severity of Illness: Generally relatively mild.

Duration of Illness: 24—48 hours.

Results of Laboratory Investigation (Summary):—

Cases: Faeces specimens from six cases examined for *Cl. Welchii*; all were positive (heat-resistant).

Food Handlers: Of faeces specimens from two food handlers examined for *Cl. Welchii*, one gave a series of positive results (Heat-resistant).

Food Samples: Of eight specimens submitted, one (braised heart) was reported positive (non-heat-resistant).

Origin and Preparation of Food Causing Illness:

Sheeps' hearts, frozen, bought locally 4.11.55. Left in container of cold water in Hospital kitchen 3—4 hours. Prepared and braised in oven same day. Refrigerator overnight. Casseroled and served wards and dining hall 5.11.55.

Place at which Food Causing Illness was Consumed:

Hospital.

Estimated number of consumers at risk:—90 approximately.

Probable Origin of Infection or Contamination of Food:

One kitchen worker suffered from attack of diarrhoea 3rd and 4th November, before outbreak started. *Cl. Welchii* (heat-resistant) isolated from stool.

Contributory Factors:

Discrepancy in statements of kitchen staff regarding degree of re-heating of braised hearts on day of service of suspected meal. Considered possible that if hearts, even though infected, had been cooked and eaten on the same day, there would have been no ill effects.

Information has since been received from the Public Health Laboratory Service that the *Clostridium Welchii* isolated in the outbreak was of a type which had not previously been recognised. It has now been added to the list of food poisoning types and is Type 11.

(c) *Outbreaks of Undiscovered Cause:*

Total Outbreaks ...	2
Total Cases ...	6

(d) *Single Cases:*

Agent Identified ...	1	(<i>Salmonella typhi-murium</i> , the suspected food being duck eggs).
----------------------	---	---

Unknown Cause ...	1
-------------------	---

9. CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN:

Although no large scale publicity measures were undertaken, an attractive illustrated handbook dealing mainly with the principles of clean food practice in the factory, the restaurant, the shop and the home, was produced and distributed under the direction of the Local Authority. Copies were distributed as far as possible to all food handlers in the town, to the proprietors of food premises, and to the general public through the medium of the women's organisations, the County Clinics, and the Publicity Office.

SECTION F—PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED IN 1955 BY AGE GROUPS—CORRECTED

	Puerperal Pyrexia	Food Poisoning	Measles	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Dysentery	Ac. Pm. (Paralytic)	Ac. Pm. (Non. Para.)	Ac. Enc. (P. I.)	Malaria
Age Unknown	—	48	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Under 1 year	—	—	24	10	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 2 years	—	1	94	17	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
2— 3 years	—	—	115	32	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
3— 4 years	—	—	139	23	4	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
4— 5 years	—	—	140	28	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 years	—	2	490	57	19	5	—	1	5	3	1	—
10—15 years	—	1	11	2	4	1	—	—	1	2	—	—
15—20 years	—	1	10	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
20—35 years	3	2	4	1	—	4	—	1	1	—	—	—
35—45 years	1	—	2	—	—	5	—	—	2	2	—	1
45—65 years	—	1	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 years & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	6	3	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	4	56	1040	172	32	39	3	5	11	7	1	1
Cases admitted to Hospital	†	1	4	—	13	2	—	1	11	7	1	1

† 3 Cases of puerperal pyrexia occurred in patients while inmates of a hospital

WARD DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED CASES—CORRECTED

Disease	Barton	Castle	Hough- ham	Town and Pier	River	St. Bart's.	Other Noti- ficat- ions	Total Cases
Measles	109	65	191	175	360	139	1	1040
Malaria	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	7	20	29	14	76	26	—	172
Scarlet Fever	2	1	2	4	21	2	—	32
Pneumonia	8	—	2	5	20	4	—	39
Acute Ence- phalitis (Post Infections)	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	3
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	5
Acute Polio- myelitis (Para)	—	1	2	1	4	3	—	11
Acute Polio- myelitis (Non- Para.)	1	—	1	2	1	2	—	7
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	4
Food Poisoning	1	—	2	1	4	1	47	56
TOTAL	128	88	230	205	493	178	49	1371

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (CORRECTED) IN RELATION TO SEASON-1955

(Comparative figures for 1954 in italics)

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Diphtheria	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Scarlet Fever	9 <i>3</i>	2 <i>2</i>	5 <i>8</i>	7 <i>6</i>	3 <i>4</i>	3 —	3 <i>4</i>	— <i>1</i>	— <i>1</i>	— <i>3</i>	— <i>3</i>	— <i>9</i>	32 <i>44</i>
Pneumonia	10 <i>5</i>	11 <i>8</i>	3 <i>1</i>	2 <i>3</i>	2 <i>3</i>	— —	2 <i>2</i>	2 <i>2</i>	1 —	3 <i>2</i>	3 <i>5</i>	— <i>2</i>	39 <i>33</i>
Erysipelas	1 —	— —	1 <i>1</i>	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	3 <i>1</i>
Whooping Cough ...	3 <i>15</i>	19 <i>1</i>	21 <i>7</i>	28 —	35 <i>5</i>	29 <i>16</i>	9 <i>49</i>	9 <i>36</i>	3 <i>22</i>	5 <i>5</i>	4 <i>12</i>	7 <i>10</i>	172 <i>178</i>
Measles	9 —	2 —	2 <i>3</i>	10 —	144 —	430 <i>1</i>	352 —	85 —	4 —	1 —	— —	1 <i>2</i>	1040 <i>6</i>
Poliomyelitis (Non-Para.)	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	3 <i>1</i>	4 <i>1</i>	— —	— —	— —	— —	7 <i>2</i>
Food Poisoning	— —	— —	— —	— —	4 —	4 —	— —	— —	— <i>1</i>	— —	48 —	— —	56 <i>1</i>
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	— —	1 —	— —	— —	2 —	— <i>6</i>	— —	— —	— —	— <i>2</i>	— —	1 —	4 <i>8</i>
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	— —	— —	— <i>1</i>	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— <i>1</i>
Dysentery	1 —	— —	— —	— <i>2</i>	4 —	— <i>1</i>	— —	— <i>4</i>	— —	— —	— —	— —	5 <i>7</i>
Meningococcal Infection	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— <i>1</i>	— —	— <i>1</i>	— —	— —	— —	— <i>2</i>
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)...	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 <i>1</i>	3 —	6 —	1 <i>1</i>	— —	— —	— —	— —	11 <i>2</i>
Ac. Encephalitis (Inf.) ...	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— <i>1</i>	— —	— —	— —	— —	— <i>1</i>
Ac. Encephalitis (Post In- fectious)	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 <i>1</i>	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 <i>1</i>
Malaria	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —
TOTALS	34 <i>23</i>	35 <i>11</i>	32 <i>21</i>	47 <i>11</i>	195 <i>13</i>	469 <i>24</i>	376 <i>58</i>	101 <i>46</i>	8 <i>25</i>	10 <i>12</i>	55 <i>20</i>	9 <i>23</i>	1371 <i>287</i>

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF CASES NOTIFIED, 1953, 1954 and 1955
—CORRECTED

Disease	Cases Notified 1953	Cases Notified 1954	Cases Notified 1955	Cases + or — (1954-1955)
Measles	1030	6	1040	+ 1034
Whooping Cough	362	178	172	— 6
Scarlet Fever	10	44	32	— 12
Pneumonia	54	33	39	+ 6
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—
Erysipelas	4	1	3	+ 2
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	8	4	— 4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	1	—	— 1
Food Poisoning	—	1	56	+ 55
Dysentery	20	7	5	— 2
Meningococcal Infection	3	2	—	— 2
Acute Poliomyelitis (Para.)	3	2	11	+ 9
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Para.)	1	2	7	+ 5
Acute Encephalitis (Post-Inf.)	1	1	1	—
Malaria	1	—	1	+ 1
Acute Encephalitis (Inf.)	—	1	—	— 1
TOTAL	1490	287	1371	+ 1084

DISINFECTION:

During the year, 90 rooms were disinfected in connection with infectious diseases including tuberculosis.

423 books from the Public Library and 10 books from other sources, which had been exposed to infection, were disinfected.

Bedding and clothing were removed, as necessary, to Buckland Hospital for steam disinfection.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION:

The Scheme for the immunisation of the child population against Diphtheria continued throughout the year under the administration of the Kent County Council and I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following information:—

Number of children resident in the Borough of Dover, who during 1955 received

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|--------|-----|
| (a) | Primary Innoculations | ... .. | 439 |
| (b) | Reinforcing Innoculations | ... .. | 320 |

The following table shows the total number of persons, in age groups, known to have received a primary course of injections since 1941.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Number of persons, in age groups, known to have received a primary course of injections since 1941

Age Group	Year															Totals at end of 1955
	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	
Under 1 year	3	—	—	—	1	1	5	76	37	35	36	31	57	82	72	0—4 years 1730
1—2	11	86	103	96	173	206	249	505	341	199	307	326	329	315	267	
2—3	25	114	72	30	91	211	56	42	65	40	86	49	78	44	50	
3—4	28	92	59	23	21	25	10	17	22	17	16	24	25	19	17	
4—5	18	101	58	12	11	24	7	7	10	10	11	13	14	6	7	
5—6	21	61	47	9	29	26	18	6	17	10	25	17	25	13	12	
6—7	11	84	56	4	17	32	35	2	33	6	9	12	13	9	2	
7—8	10	68	44	2	9	9	54	1	36	3	11	7	8	4	4	
8—9	5	53	45	3	6	14	41	1	8	3	5	3	2	5	5	
9—10	8	54	33	4	5	8	42	3	21	6	2	5	3	1	2	
10—11	6	49	36	3	27	22	30	1	21	5	3	—	—	2	1	
11—12	5	56	41	1	19	14	19	—	16	7	5	—	1	—	—	
12—13	2	41	40	1	5	11	5	—	5	—	1	—	—	2	—	
13—14	3	41	26	—	4	2	3	—	2	—	8	—	—	1	—	
14—15	7	19	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	
Total 1941-1955	163	919	680	188	418	605	574	661	634	341	532	487	555	503	439	7699

The totals at the end of 1955 represent only approximately the immunised population in these age groups as no account has been taken of removals or deaths which may have occurred.

VACCINATION:

By courtesy of the County Medical Officer, the following information has been furnished in regard to the vaccinations against smallpox recorded in Dover during 1955.

	Under 1	Age at 31st December, 1955:			Total
		1-4 years	5-14 years	15 and over	
Number Vaccinated	223	151	13	26	413
Number Re-vaccinated	—	5	13	46	64

TUBERCULOSIS

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
(a) Number of Cases of Tuberculosis on Register as at 1st January, 1955	166	117	26	24
(b) Number of Cases notified under Regulations of 1952 for first time during year	12	15	—	2
(c) Restored to Register	2	1	—	—
(d) Added to Register otherwise than by formal notification	6	3	—	1
(e) Cases Removed from Register during year, including recoveries, or deaths (excluding deaths of un-notified cases)	23	21	—	—
(f) Cases on Register at end of 1955	163	115	26	27

Deaths of Un-notified Cases :—2.

ANALYSIS OF NEW CASES NOTIFIED IN 1955

Age Periods	New Cases			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
0—	—	—	—	—
1—	2	—	—	—
5—	2	2	—	—
15—	2	6	—	1
25—	1	4	—	1
35—	1	1	—	—
45—	1	2	—	—
55—	2	—	—	—
65+	1	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	12	15	—	2

**ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES IN 1955
OF CASES ON TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER**

Age Periods	All Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
0—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	—	—	—
25—	1	—	—	—
35—	—	1	—	—
45—	2	2	—	—
55—	3	—	—	—
65+	1	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	7	3	—	—

PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925:

No action was necessary in regard to any tuberculous person employed in the Milk Trade.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936: Section 172

No action was necessary with regard to the compulsory removal of tuberculosis patients to hospital during the year.

SECTION G. METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS

The following detailed information regarding the Meteorological conditions at Dover during 1955 has been furnished by the Borough Surveyor.

Month	Rainfall in Inches	Temperature				Sunshine—Hours		Mean Humidity
		Highest Maximum	Lowest Minimum	Mean Maximum	Mean Minimum	Monthly Aggregate	Daily Mean	
January	4.92	51	24	42	34	36.5	1.2	84
February	2.10	53	24	41	33	91.8	3.3	85
March	2.06	55	28	44	34	160.5	5.2	76
April	0.21	74	31	53	41	168.3	5.6	75
May	4.73	60	37	55	45	217.6	7.0	73
June...	1.51	68	41	63	52	192.8	6.4	77
July	0.79	79	50	69	57	234.4	7.6	74
August	1.79	81	48	71	58	215.4	6.9	77
September	0.96	71	45	66	53	160.5	5.3	75
October	6.17	66	35	57	45	145.1	4.7	79
November	1.31	60	29	52	44	56.1	1.9	79
December	2.36	54	30	49	39	57.2	1.8	83
Year.	28.91	81	24	55	45	1736.2	4.74	78
Comparative Figures 1954	29.04	77	19	55	45	1515.5	4.15	79



DOVER PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1955

C. F. LYNCH, M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
BROOK HOUSE,
DOVER.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
BROOK HOUSE,
DOVER.

To: *The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Dover acting as the Port Health Authority of the Port of Dover.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the work of the Port Health Authority for the year 1955.

It has been prepared in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular No. 16/55 and recapitulates the information asked for with additions and amendments as required in the Ministry's Form Port 20 dated October, 1952.

There was an increase in the amount of shipping entering the port and in the number of passengers arriving (Tables B & C).

There was also an increase in the number of ships reporting infectious diseases on board. None of the quarantinable diseases occurred, however, though the occurrence of smallpox in Brittany during the early part of the year necessitated extra precautions and for a period written Health Declarations were obtained from ships from the normally excepted ports, and with the co-operation of masters of certain cross-channel vessels special attention was paid to passengers from infected areas.

Inspections of vessels during the year showed sanitary conditions on board to be generally well maintained, no rats having been found in ships entering the port and no verminous infestations reported.

Imported foodstuffs dealt with are described in the Section on Food Inspection, more items than usual having been detained and returned to their country of origin owing to the absence of Official Certificates.

I am indebted to H.M. Customs and Immigration Departments, to British Railways and other departments associated with the work of the Port Health Authority, for their co-operation and assistance throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. F. LYNCH,

Medical Officer of Health.

MARCH, 1956.

SECTION II. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR
TABLE B

Ships from:	Number:	Tonnage:	Number Inspected		Number of Ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board.
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector	
Foreign Ports ...	3,667	4,253,637	19*	84	13
Coastwise ...	416	181,023	—	62	—
TOTAL ...	4,083	4,434,660	19*	146	13

* Excluding vessels from cross-channel ports.

SECTION III. CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR
TABLE C

PASSENGER TRAFFIC ...	...	...	...	Number of Passengers INWARDS	867,547
				Number of Passengers OUTWARDS	850,221
CARGO TRAFFIC ...	...	...	...	Principal IMPORTS	General merchandise, wines, foodstuffs, coal and timber.
				Principal EXPORTS	Cars and general merchandise.
PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive	...	...	...	...	South and West Africa; European; Iberian; Scandinavian and Baltic.

SECTION IV. INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

NIL

SECTION V. WATER SUPPLY

1. (a) *Source of supply for the district:*

Dover Corporation mains and Mid Kent Water Company mains.

(b) *Source of supply for shipping:*

Dover Corporation mains and Mid Kent Water Company mains. There is also a supply for cross-channel shipping at the Admiralty Pier piped from British Railways' private well at Dover Priory Goods yard.

2. *Reports of tests for contamination:*

Water derived from mains is as supplied in Borough and regular monthly samples are taken from these supplies by the Health Department for bacteriological examination; bacteriological and chemical examinations are carried out regularly by both undertakings and the results supplied to the Medical Officer of Health. The British Railways' supply has also been kept under observation and has been reported satisfactory bacteriologically.

3. *Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes:*

Modern type hydrants on dock side. Inspection from time to time by Health Department to ensure cleanliness and serviceable condition of equipment. Also check samples of water from point of delivery to shipping.

4. *Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by the Authority.*

Nil waterboats.

SECTION VI.

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952

1. *List of Infected Areas: (Regulation 6)*

Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied, and the procedure for supplying it to those persons:

The List, amended weekly from reports received from the Ministry of Health, is maintained by the Medical Officer of Health and circulated weekly to H.M. Customs, the Pilot Services and the local Shipping Agents.

2. *Radio Messages:*

(a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district: (*Regulation 13*).

No arrangements other than as described under 2(b).

(b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for acting thereon: (*Regulation 14(1)(a) and (2)*):

Radio messages from ships received by North Foreland and Niteon Radio Stations and, if from vessels requiring special attention, the messages are normally transmitted by telephone direct to the Port Medical Officer who takes whatever action is appropriate to the circumstances, the Customs and Immigration Authorities being notified as required.

3. *Notification otherwise than by Radio: (Regulation 14(1)(b)):*

Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and acting thereon:

Close liason maintained between the Port Medical Officer, Shipping Agents and H.M. Customs and provision made for an interchange of all information received regarding the arrival of ships from abroad and for co-ordinated action as required.

4. *Mooring Stations: (Regulations 22 to 30):*

Situation of stations, and any standing directions issued under these Regulations:

(a) For ships "infected" or "suspected" as defined in Article 3 of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952, made by the Minister of Health:

The OUTER HARBOUR, inside the Breakwater.

(b) For all other ships which may be unhealthy within the meaning of the aforesaid Regulations:

Their place of mooring, discharge or loading.

In order to expedite the work of both the Customs Preventive and the Port Health Authorities and to ensure a minimum interference with shipping, and following discussion regarding liason arrangements between the two Departments concerned, the following Standing Direction giving exemption in certain cases from the requirements of Article 24 of the Regulations was adopted on the 13th July, 1953:—

"Ships from infected areas reporting otherwise All Clear, both during the voyage and on arrival, may proceed to their ordinary place of mooring, discharge or loading and be granted Pratique in modified form, the Port Medical Officer being informed as soon as possible."

5. *Arrangements for:—*

(a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox—See Section VII).

Infectious Diseases Hospital,
Noahs Ark Road,
Dover.

(under control of South East Kent Hospital Management Committee).

(b) Surveillance and follow-up of contacts:

Surveillance of contacts in case of the quarantinable diseases conducted from the Health Department within its area of jurisdiction; otherwise necessary follow-up is arranged through Health Authority at place to which contact is proceeding. Contacts in the case of non-quarantinable epidemic diseases are dealt with as found necessary having regard to the particular diseases involved.

(c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles:

Infected quarters disinfected with formalin spray or fumigated as required.

Bedding and clothing removed to local Hospital for steam disinfection.

Cleansing station at local Infectious Diseases Hospital.

SECTION VII. SMALLPOX

1. *Name of Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent from the district:*

The River Hospitals,
(Long Reach),
Dartford,
Kent.

2. *Arrangements for transport of such cases to that hospital by ambulance, giving the name of the authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews:*

Ambulance of Canterbury City Council available on request.
Special ambulance crew provided by the same Authority.

3. *Name of smallpox consultant available:*

Dr. R. Fletcher,
30 Cheriton Gardens,
Folkestone,
Kent.

4. *Facilities for laboratory diagnosis for smallpox:*

Central Public Health Laboratory,
Colindale Avenue,
Colindale,
London, N.W.9.

SECTION VIII. VENEREAL DISEASE

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements, including inpatient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen:

Special Clinic, Royal Victoria Hospital, Dover.

Mondays and Thursdays at 6 p.m.

Distribution of Leaflets per Shipping Agents, Boarding Officers and Sanitary Inspectors.

Number of new patients attending from the high seas during the year:— 12. (4 Gonorrhoea: 8 Non-Venereal).

SECTION IX. CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS 1955
TABLE D

Category:	Disease:	Number of cases during year		Number of ships concerned
		Passengers:	Crew:	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports	Acute Poliomyelitis (N.P.)	1	—	1
	Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Quiescent) ...	1	—	1
	Chicken pox	1	—	1
	Measles	1	—	1
	Gastro-enteritis	3	—	3
	Tonsillitis	2	—	2
	Pneumonia	2	—	2
	Throat Infection	1	—	1
	Mumps	2	—	1
	—	—	—	—
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival.				
Cases landed from other ships				

SECTION X. OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS

No cases of malaria were reported in ships arriving at the port during the year.

SECTION XI. MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE

No measures were necessary during 1955.

In the event of finding plague-infected rats, vessels would be boomed off and fumigation of all compartments carried out with H.C.N.

SECTION XII. MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

1. Procedure for inspection of ships for rats:

Trade of port consists chiefly of cross-channel traffic, vessels of which are subjected to half-yearly routine inspections in connection with the issue of the necessary certificates under Regulation 19 of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

Additionally, any evidence of the presence of rodents on board occurring in the interval would be immediately reported by the British Railways Authority.

Other vessels entering the port are subjected to routine inspection by the Port Health Inspectors.

Port of Dover approved and designated for the issue of both Deratting and Deratting Exemption Certificates under Regulation 19 of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

2. Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year:

Although no action was necessary during 1955, any rats found on ships would be sent for necessary examination to the Public Health Laboratory at Maidstone.

3. Arrangements in the district for deratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor:

Deratting carried out by contractors, viz. Fumigation Services, Ltd., Barking, Essex, using Hydrogen Cyanide gas under direction of Port Health Inspectors.

Minor infestations are dealt with by the Local Authority's Rodent Operator using Warfarin mainly.

4. *Progress in the rat-proofing of ships:*

No actual measures requested during 1955. With regard to the cross-channel vessels, rat proofing of store-rooms effectively maintained. Any deficiencies found in these or other vessels would be brought to the attention of masters and owners.

TABLE E
RODENTS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

Category:	Number:
Black rats	—
Brown rats	—
Species not known	—
Sent for examination	—
Infected with Plague	—

TABLE F
Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates Issued During the Year for Ships from Foreign Ports

	No. of Deratting Certificates issued:			Total:	Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued:	Total Certificates issued:
	After fumigation with:	After trapping:	After Poisoning:			
H.C.N. 1.	Other fumigant (state method) 2.	3.	*4.	5.	6.	7.
—	—	—	—	—	24	24

* State poisons used and number of Certificates issued after each poison.

SECTION XIII. INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES
TABLE G
Inspections and Notices

Nature and number of Inspections:	Notices served:		Result of serving Notices:
	Statutory Notices:	Other Notices:	
BRITISH VESSELS ... 100	—	2	One notice complied with: in the case of the second, affecting water supply and repainting of accommodation, matters to receive attention at first opportunity.
FOREIGN VESSELS ... 71	—	—	
TOTAL ... 171	—	2	

The two notices served were in respect of the following defects and conditions :—

Dirt, Vermin, etc. ...	...	...	...
Defects of Original Construction ...	...	...	1
Structural Defects through Wear and Tear ...	...	...	2

SECTION XIV.

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH) REGULATIONS, 1934 and 1948

Information respecting any shell-fish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Authority stating whether they are, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, liable to pollution. A report of any action taken, which should state whether any prohibited area has been prescribed, should be included.

There are no shell-fish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Authority.

SECTION XV. MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

(applicable only to ports approved for the landing of aliens).

1. *List of Medical Inspectors holding Warrants of Appointment:*

Medical Officer of Health

Drs. C. P. K. Toland and P. H. Garrard

Drs. D. W. J. Radcliffe, D. W. Hall and R. J. L. Davis

Dr. T. J. Cobbe

Dr. T. J. Nicholl.

2. *List of other staff engaged on this work:*

Mrs. K. A. Walker Aliens Nurse

Mrs. J. W. Clarke Relief Nurse

Miss N. G. Rees Relief Nurse

Miss E. M. Holloway Relief Nurse

Miss E. Joy Relief Nurse

and one additional Relief Nurse whose services are required occasionally.

3. *Organisation of work:*

The aliens medical inspection work is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health, relief duties being undertaken by general medical practitioners on a weekly rota system. Similarly, nurse/attendant duties are carried out by the Aliens Nurse with relief assistance as required.

Since 1951 a feature of the arrangements has been the operation of an on-call scheme for the medical examination of aliens arriving by train ferry and car ferry instead of the routine attendance of a medical inspector at these services.

In 1955, during the summer season, the number of incoming services dealt with "on-call", with Ministry of Health and Home Office approval, averaged 9 per day.

The attendance at these services of the Aliens Nurse or a relief was, however, continued as usual on a routine basis.

4. *Nature and Amount of Aliens Traffic:*

Number of Aliens arriving at the Port:

	Year:		
	1953	1954	1955
Total Aliens	183,688	180,329	236,019

Aliens dealt with by the Medical Inspector:—

Year	Total Aliens	Medically Examined	Percentage of Total Medically Examined
1953	183,688	5,742	3.13
1954	180,329	6,310	3.49
1955	236,019	8,395	3.56

Categories in which Aliens were examined:—

1. Holding Ministry of Labour Permits	...	...	7,752
2. Intending to make their home in the United Kingdom	...	...	302
3. Visitors	...	...	314
4. Business Visitors	...	...	1
5. Returning Residents	...	...	13
6. Aliens in transit	...	...	12
7. Others	...	...	1
			8,395

The certificates issued to the Immigration Officer numbered 59, ten of the aliens concerned being refused permission to land.

The rate of certificates issued in respect of aliens examined was 0.70% compared with 0.46% for the year 1954.

5. *Accommodation for medical inspection and examination:*

Admiralty Pier:

Inspection of aliens carried out in main Immigration Hall immediately on disembarkation. Two medical rooms provided in main Hall for more detailed inspection and examination as required.

Ferry Dock:

One medical room provided in main building for examination of aliens.

Eastern Dockyard:

Two medical rooms provided.

SECTION XVI. MISCELLANEOUS

(arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died from infectious disease)

Interment as soon as possible by arrangement with local Cemeteries Department. Fully equipped mortuary provided by Local Authority for use if required).

TABLE (1)
NATIONALITIES EXAMINED AND CERTIFICATES ISSUED

	Nationality:	Males	Fe- males	Child- ren	Total	No. of Certi- ficates
Baltic States	{ Latvian, Poles and Finns	4	18	2	24	1
	{ U.S.S.R.	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Norwegians, Swedes and Danes	7	31	—	38	—
Middle & Western European States	{ German	278	2739	21	3038	14
	{ Austrian	74	557	6	637	6
	{ Swiss	62	579	—	641	2
	{ French	57	119	1	177	2
	{ Belgian	30	51	1	82	—
	{ Italian	1294	1760	86	3140	25
	{ Spanish and Portu- guese	26	68	—	94	—
	{ Czechs and Jugo- Slavs	9	183	63	255	3
	{ Luxembourg and Liechtenstein	2	1	—	3	—
{ Dutch	15	64	—	79	1	
Eastern European States	{ Hungarian	4	2	—	6	—
	{ Rumanian and Bul- garian	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Greeks	21	51	1	73	3
Egypt, Syria, Libya & Asiatic States	{ Lebanese	—	1	—	1	—
	{ Egypt, Palestine, Iraq, Iran	6	5	6	17	—
	{ Yemen,	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Turkish, Armenian Syrian, Libyan	7	5	—	12	—
	{ Chinese	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Japanese	1	—	—	1	—
	{ Siamese	—	—	—	—	—
North & South Americas	{ Central and South America	2	1	—	3	—
	{ U.S.A.	3	6	—	9	—
	{ Stateless	34	24	6	64	2
	TOTALS	1936	6266	193	8395	59

TABLE (2)
MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

	Total:	Number subjected to detailed examination by the Medical Inspector:	Certificates Issued:				Trans- migrants
			Unsound mind or mentally defect- ive: (A)	Undesir- able for medical reasons: B (1)	Physical Incapacity and/or likely to require medical treatment: B (2)	Conditionally landed for further medical examination: (C)	
(a) Total number of Aliens landing at the Port	235,547	8,385	—	—	48	1	—
(b) Aliens refused permission to land by Immigration Officer ...	472	10	2	1	7	—	—
Total Aliens arriving	236,019	8,395	2	1	55	1	—

Number of Vessels attended by the Medical Inspector ... 1477 (including 18 liners and 1 yacht).

SECTION XVII. FOOD INSPECTION

(1) Action taken under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937, the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926, and the Public Health (Preservatives etc. in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1940.

Article of Foodstuff	FRANCE		ITALY		BELGIUM		SPAIN		ISRAEL		ALGIERS	
	tons	cwts.	tons	cwts.	tons	cwts.	tons	cwts.	tons	cwts.	tons	cwts.
Preserved Fruit	5402	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sweetbreads	2	17½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Salads	7	18	—	—	—	—	4	6	—	—	—	—
Vegetables	118	13	1910	0	—	—	1998	3	—	—	14	0
Frozen Fruit	9	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Preserved Meat	6	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Snails	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Truffles	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cheese.....	—	0½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Butter	332	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Macaroni	—	—	11	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nuts	12	5	55	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fish	—	—	—	—	141	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
Potatoes	—	—	—	—	300	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicory	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomatoes	—	—	—	—	—	—	47	12	—	—	—	—
Preserved Tomatoes	7	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fruit Juice	15	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Strasbourg Sausages	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pate de Foie	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fresh Fruit.....	480	7	2539	13	—	9	2620	13	44	5	—	—
TOTALS	6397	0½	4516	3	442	5	4670	14	44	5	14	0

Grand Total: 16,084 tons 7½ cwts.

During the year it was found necessary to condemn as being unfit for human consumption 5½ cwts. of Apricots, Spanish produce.

Since 1946, the respective amounts of Imported Foodstuffs examined and such foodstuffs condemned have been as follows:—

YEAR	FOODSTUFFS EXAMINED				FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED			
	tons.	cwts.	qtrs.	lbs.	tons.	cwts.	qtrs.	lbs.
1946	18813	3	3	0	75	16	1	6
1947	41596	12	0	15	284	7	3	13
1948	22034	14	0	0	47	19	0	0
1949	23406	8	1	19	—	4	0	22
1950	17805	14	0	26	—	7	0	0
1951	23421	11	3	9	12	6	2	7½
1952	8495	18	0	0	—	6	3	27
1953	11219	8	0	0	5	9	2	0
1954	16561	11	2	0	—	—	—	13
1955	16084	7	3	0	—	5	2	0

2. *Action under Articles 11 and 12 of the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937:*

Details of Consignment:

1. 20 Bundles Sausage Casings (2¾ lbs.)
2. Bundles Sausage Casings (3¾ lbs.)
3. Bundles Sausage Casings (9½ lbs.)
4. 5 Bundles Sausage Casings (4½ lbs.)
5. 10 Cases Strasbourg Sausages (1 cwt. 17 lbs.)
6. 16 Cases Strasbourg Sausages (2 cwt. 3 qtrs. 18 lbs.)

Action taken:

- Detained and Exported
 Detained and Exported
 Detained and Exported
 Detained and Exported
 Detained and Exported
 Detained and Exported

The Sausage Casings were consigned by parcel post and were received at the G.P.O. Foreign Parcels Section. None were accompanied by Official Certificates.

The Strasbourg Sausages were also detained and subsequently re-shipped owing to the absence of Official Certificates.

3. *Number of Samples of food examined by:—*

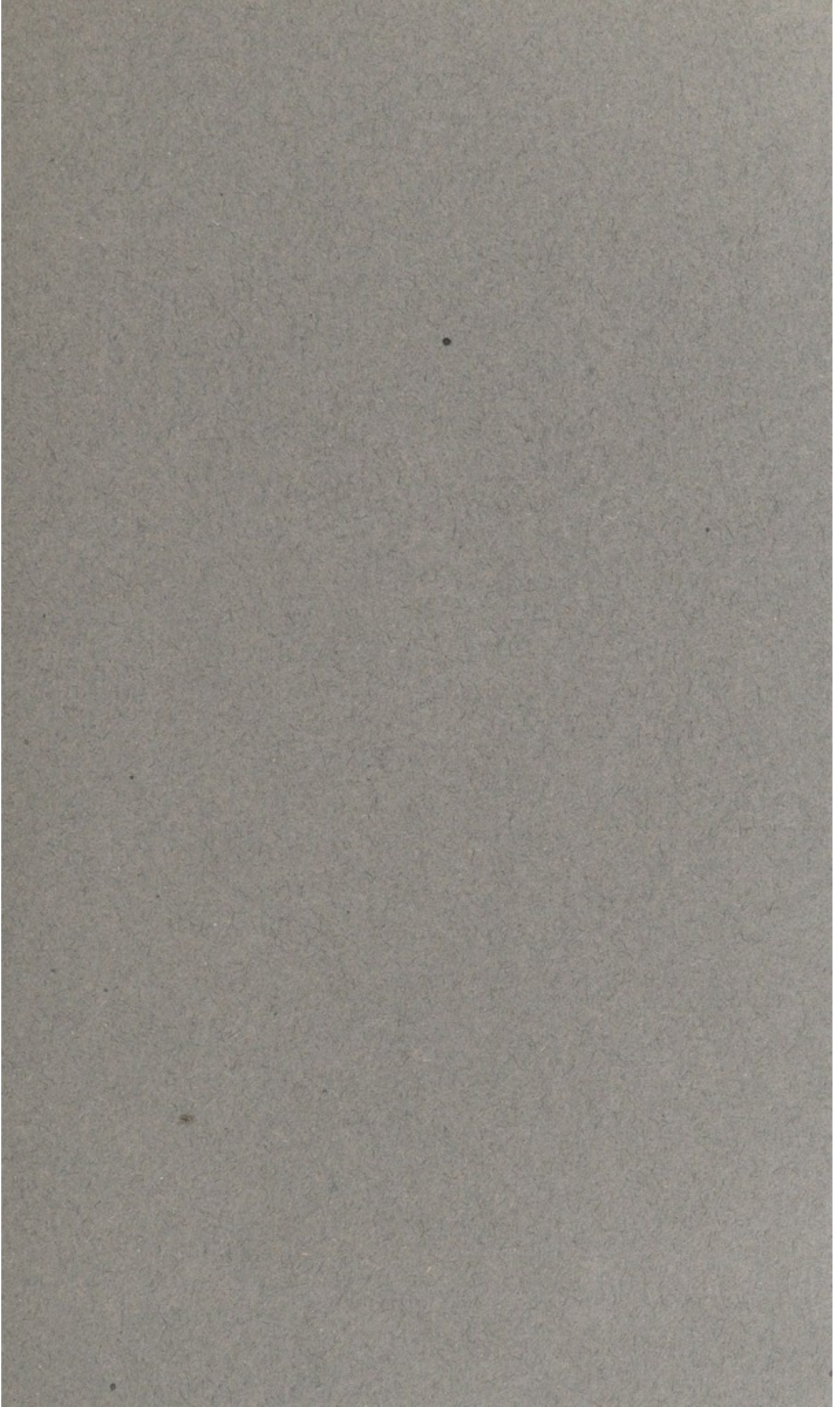
(a) Bacteriologist	...	...	NIL
(b) Analyst	...	...	14

- (1) Canned Luncheon Meat Free from poisonous metals; nitrite content 10 parts per million, calculated as sodium nitrite; sample passes as genuine.
- (2) Drained Cherries ... Free from sulphite and benzoate preservatives; contained no injurious metals or arsenic.
- (3) Artificial Strawberries... Free from sulphite and benzoate preservatives; no poisonous metals or arsenic.
- (4) Butter Water content 16%; free from rancidity and foreign fat.
- (5) Pears Faint white deposit apparent on surface of pears; arsenic 0.1 parts per million; copper 2 parts per million. Both metals well below the accepted maximum.
- (6) Drained Cherries ... Free from preservatives and toxic colouring matters.

- | | | | | |
|------|------------------------------|-----|-----|---|
| (7) | Angelica | ... | ... | Free from preservatives and toxic colouring matters. |
| (8) | Crystallised Fruit | ... | ... | Sulphite preservative present to the extent of 110 parts per million as sulphur dioxide (See remarks). |
| (9) | Crystallised Fruit | ... | ... | Sulphite preservative present to extent of 60 parts per million as sulphur dioxide. |
| (10) | Pear Juice | ... | ... | Free from metallic contamination and arsenic; no preservatives found. |
| (11) | Mandarins | ... | ... | Free from thiourea. |
| (12) | Preserved Fruit | ... | ... | Sulphite preservative to the extent of 65 parts per million calculated as sulphur dioxide. |
| (13) | Drained Cherries | ... | ... | Free from sulphite preservative and contained no colouring matters listed as prohibited in the Regulations. |
| (14) | "Pate de Foie with Truffles" | ... | ... | No sulphite or boric preservatives; no injurious metal or arsenic found; sample fresh. |

REMARKS:

With regard to sample No. 8—Crystallised Fruit—although the excess sulphite preservative was not of a serious nature, the results of analysis were forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health of the district to which the goods were consigned. Sample No. 9 was taken from a consignment of the same brand and was reported as satisfactory.





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