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COUNTY BOROUGH OF EASTBOURNE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Principal School Medical Officer

FOR

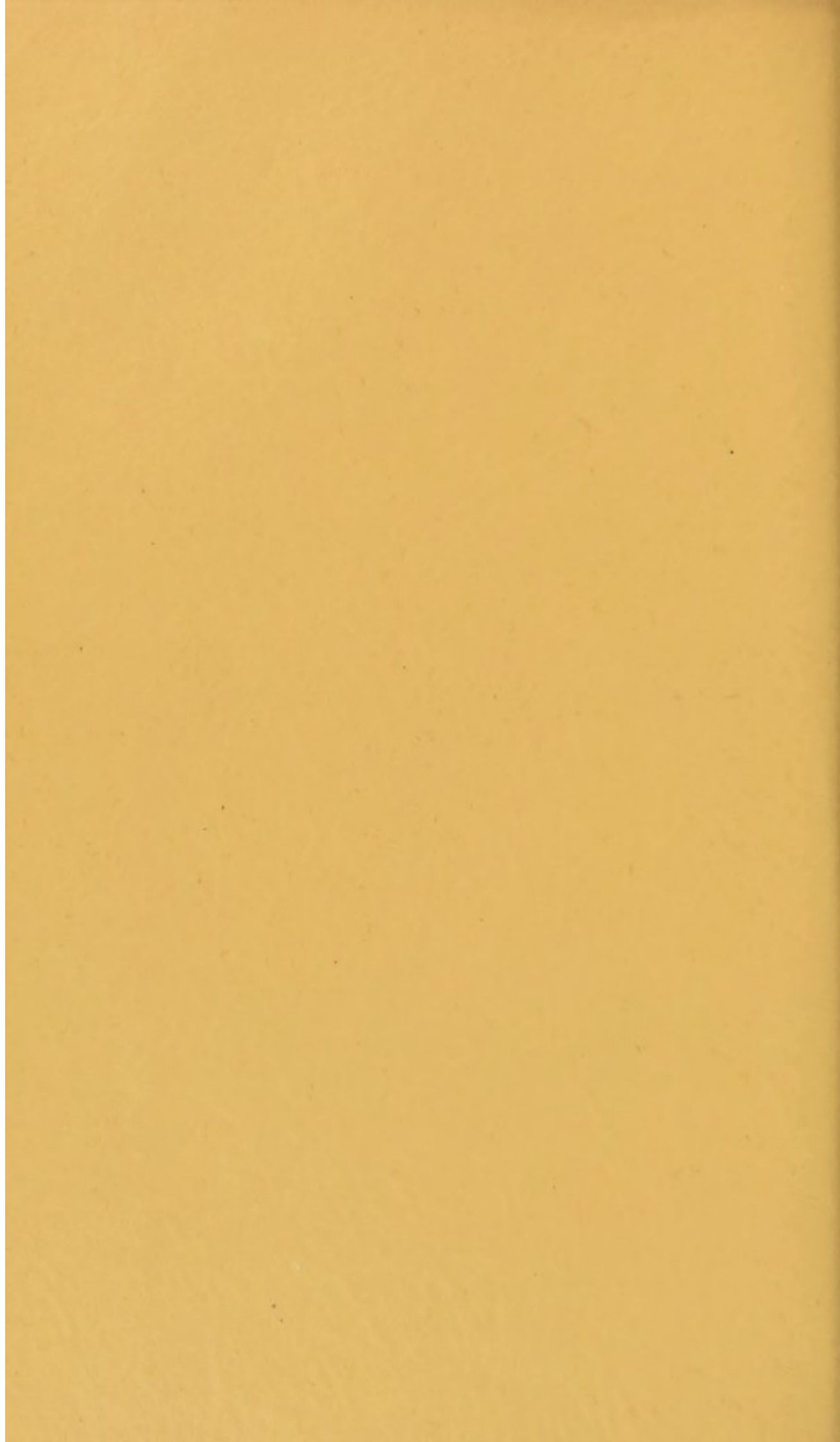
1955

ON THE

**HEALTH, WELFARE AND
SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES**

KENNETH O. A. VICKERY, M.D., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health



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KENNETH O. A. VICKERY, M.D., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
AVENUE HOUSE,
EASTBOURNE.

4 July, 1956.

*To His Worship the Mayor and to the Aldermen and Councillors of
the County Borough of Eastbourne*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the sixty-fourth Annual Report on the state of the Public Health in Eastbourne. Also included is my Report as Principal School Medical Officer on the health of the school child.

VITAL STATISTICS

There is little variation from the previous year in the main vital statistics which compare very favourably with the national average.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The situation in regard to the more common infectious diseases continues to give cause for satisfaction. This is well reflected in the figures for Eastbourne cases admitted to Downside Hospital for Infectious Diseases—not now, of course, under your management. During each of the past two years (1954 and 1955) there were 32 admissions and no deaths. Thirty years ago during 1924 and 1925 there were 156 and 157 admissions with 5 and 9 deaths respectively. In terms of human disability and suffering this changed picture is a solid achievement. Nor are financial savings to be despised.

It would be idle to claim the whole of this success for the Public Health Service. Improved social conditions have played their part as has the skill of those engaged in curative medicine.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Preventive measures have included immunisation and vaccination and their contribution has been a spectacular one. We must, however, keep a vigilant eye on the mounting list of immunisation and vaccination procedures which now confront the parent of a young child. At the same time, we have to take heed of the changing pattern of known diseases and the appearance of apparently new ones as old enemies become conquered.

Artificial immunising procedures must be regarded as short term measures having a very definite place in the community under conditions as we find them today. The long term objective of the Public Health Services remains the encouragement of circumstances

and habits of living which will promote the optimum natural resistance to illness of all kinds in the community.

Another consequence of the number of immunising procedures is the difficulty of records. Accurate records are always kept of all immunisations, carried out in the department together with those notified as having been undertaken by general practitioners. Nevertheless, having regard to the free movement of population which takes place and notwithstanding all the difficulties of loss and defacement, the time cannot be long delayed when a national and preferably an international personal record of immunisation and vaccination must be issued in respect of every child.

I am happy to record a further increase in the percentage of infants vaccinated against smallpox and immunised against diphtheria.

ANTE-NATAL CARE

The Guillebaud Report observes that preventive medicine begins with the expectant mother and her unborn child.

Even if we recognise its foundations a stage further back in the health of the parents before conception there can be no doubt that there are tremendous possibilities during the ante-natal period for the promotion of health of mother and child.

Under ordinary living conditions the human body is remarkably tolerant to adverse or indifferent hygienic and nutritional conditions and degenerative disease may not manifest itself seriously until middle age or later.

Not so, however, during pregnancy where the toxæmias and related prematurity and stillbirths still occur all too frequently.

All the indications are that much more can be done to prevent these conditions through health education of the expectant mother with particular reference to her nutrition.

The word of mouth advice of the attendant during the usual ante-natal examination is indeed valuable but to be fully effective health education must be implemented during the earliest months of pregnancy and should include purposeful enlightenment and preparation by means of group discussions and small classes.

There was a further fall in attendances at the ante-natal clinics during the year and it may well be, in the light of the existing adequate facilities for the clinical aspects of the examination in the doctors' surgeries, the maternity home, and the hospital, that there is now little need for duplication in our own clinics.

The Local Health Authority is, however, probably in the best position as regards premises and staff to undertake the systematic advice on mothercraft, diet and care of the unborn child, to which the Guillebaud Report rightly attaches such great import-

ance. If this be the case I look forward to local doctors and hospital authorities encouraging expectant mothers to attend our clinics for this purpose.

THE DEGENERATIVE DISEASES OF CIVILISATION

Local statistics available to the medical officer of health do not reveal fully the extent of the incidence in the community of illness other than infectious disease. There is, however, increasing concern at the ravages caused by such degenerative diseases as cancer, coronary thrombosis, peptic ulceration, and rheumatism.

There were 168 local deaths from cancer during the year. This was the highest total ever recorded and, with the exception of the war years when population estimates were unreliable, the cancer death rate at 2.91 per 1,000 was similarly the highest.

Hitherto study of these diseases has been largely confined to the hospital and the laboratory. There are now encouraging signs of more attention being directed to the everyday habits of people and the environment in which they live. Faced as we are with certain diseases which appear to be becoming more prevalent at a time when other aspects of the national health are improving, it is only natural that we should examine critically all those factors which are of relatively recent origin. Such factors include smoking habits ; diesel and exhaust fumes in the atmosphere ; the increasing use of synthetic detergents ; an ever mounting number of x-ray examinations including the pediscope ; the commercial and experimental use of atomic energy ; the chemical treatment of the soil ; the use of ever more powerful and lethal insecticides and crop sprays ; the increasing number of foodstuffs subjected to chemical and physical processing and sophistication ; and self medication.

It is essential that constant vigilance be maintained in regard to the effect of such factors as these upon health remembering that, having regard to the multiplicity of other factors at work, it may be extremely difficult to elicit the necessary evidence even though the influence may be very great.

THE DAILY FOOD OF THE COMMUNITY

If effective progress is to be made, it is essential with the coming of each generation to single out the factors influencing the health of the public, attention to which may be calculated to reap the richest dividends.

The past 100 years has seen such attention directed by medical and social workers successively to such topics as the attainment of pure and plentiful water supplies, the hygienic disposal of sewage and refuse, healthier housing conditions, the elimination of poverty and starvation, and the control of infectious disease.

Whilst continued vigilance is necessary on all these matters, the public health medical officer is now sufficiently liberated from the

former desperate urgency of some of these problems to give more attention to matters of personal health particularly those factors in every day living which hinder the attainment of positive health in the community.

All the indications are that the most rewarding in this generation will arise from sustained efforts at inculcation in the public of healthier ways of living with particular reference to the choice of the daily food which is the biggest single controllable factor in our environment.

Starvation of quantity is now happily rare in this country. The greatest concern arises in the matter of quality of our every day food.

The recent report of the Panel on the Composition and Nutritive Value of Flour states "flour, or bread made from it contributes nearly a third of the total calories and protein of the average British diet; it is therefore important that the flour should be as nutritious as possible."

Nevertheless, in spite of what is described as weighty opinion to the contrary and against the advice of the Medical Research Council, the Panel finds in favour of a lowering of the extraction rate of flour from 80 per cent. to 70 per cent. subject to certain token nutrients being restored to the latter.

In support of its reasons for reaching this decision, the Panel refers to the professional pride of the miller in producing as clean and white a flour as possible and the preference of the baker in handling it.

This presumably refers to the keeping qualities of white flour which is in fact so dead and inert that even weevils find difficulty in living in it !

It may well be that a family with ample means, able to choose a wide variety of foodstuffs including meat, offal, eggs, cheese, fruit, and vegetables, can eat a whiter loaf with impunity obtaining from other more expensive foods the essential factors for the body's nutritional health. For families of lesser resources, where bread, cake, and biscuits, form a large part of the daily food the loss of these further nutrients of the life of the wheat berry is likely to be a very serious matter.

The more necessary, therefore, will be the sustained efforts of the staff of this department in the matter of health education of the public in the essential facts of the daily food.

If it were not for planned campaigns of enlightenment by public health departments, the public would be reliant for nutritional guidance almost entirely on the powerful advertisement of the food manufacturers, some of which are undoubtedly extremely misleading.

For this reason, therefore, I trust that the Council will continue to encourage health education activities of the department as a vital part of its everyday work.

THE CARE OF THE AGED

This is one of the most important responsibilities of the department and of the Council.

With the increasing realisation of the desirability of enabling old people to remain as long as possible in their own home surroundings, all possible domiciliary services including home help, home nursing, health visiting, sitters-up, and meals on wheels, have been mobilised to this end. Further attention is also given to the provision of specially adapted housing units for the aged and handicapped, and the possibility of boarding out the aged is not being overlooked.

Over and above all such provisions the Council has not neglected its responsibility to provide adequate Part III Accommodation for those who can no longer care for themselves. At the close of the year plans for the adaptation of a further home at Staveley Court for 44 persons were well in hand and yet further provision was under active consideration.

There is no doubt, however, that there remains serious under provision in Eastbourne of hospital beds for the chronic sick.

It may well be that the changing pattern of disease in the younger age groups and the results of preventive medicine will enable a redeployment of existing beds to be made in favour of the ageing population.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The department suffered a grievous loss at the end of the year with the resignation of Dr. Jessie Griffin prior to her departure for New Zealand. There was no aspect of the work in which she did not leave her mark but it is probable that her highest vocation was in her work with the physically and mentally handicapped child. She took with her the best wishes of the Council and her colleagues for her future career.

I would again record my sincere appreciation of the work undertaken by members of the various voluntary organisations. The services of these bodies in supplementing statutory work of the department continues to be invaluable.

I am grateful to you, Mr. Mayor, and the Mayoress for your personal interest in the work of the department and likewise the Members of the respective Committees and the Council for their unfailing support in the best interests of the Health and Welfare of Eastbourne.

Finally, I wish to renew my thanks to the Staff of the department for their loyal help as individuals and as a team.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

KENNETH VICKERY,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(as constituted at 31st December, 1955)

The Mayor :

Councillor LEWIS WILLIAM PYLE, J.P.

Chairman :

Councillor W. H. BENSON-DARE

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor Mrs. I. A. SNELL

Councillors :

J. B. COVENTRY
W. E. HAFFENDEN
Mrs. W. L. LEE
W. A. NEALE
F. A. POPE
R. T. WATMORE

HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

(as constituted at 31st December, 1955)

The Mayor :

Councillor LEWIS WILLIAM PYLE, J.P.

Chairman :

Councillor S. F. MARTIN

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor Mrs. I. A. SNELL

Alderman :

S. M. CAFFYN

Councillors :

W. H. BENSON-DARE
J. B. COVENTRY
Mrs. E. V. F. FORDHAM
S. W. HOLDEN
Mrs. W. L. LEE

Co-opted Members :

Mr. D. R. GENT—Eastbourne Executive Council

Dr. J. EMSLIE —Eastbourne Local Medical Committee

Mr. E. G. WATT—Eastbourne Hospital Management Committee

WELFARE SERVICES COMMITTEE

(as constituted at 31st December, 1955)

The Mayor :

Councillor LEWIS WILLIAM PYLE, J.P.

Chairman :

Councillor W. P. LEBBON

Deputy Chairman :
Alderman Miss E. M. THORNTON, J.P.

Aldermen :
A. E. DAVIES
Miss G. L. PARKER

Councillors :
J. B. COVENTRY
Mrs. W. L. LEE
G. A. RAINEY, J.P.
R. A. WATMORE

COMMITTEES

The regular business of the respective Committees remained as set out in my Annual Report for 1953.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

WHOLE-TIME OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health
KENNETH O. A. VICKERY, M.D., B.S. (LOND.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :
JESSIE GRIFFIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer of Health :
MARJORIE I. GODSON, M.B., Ch.B.

Chief Dental Officer :
M. G. BERRY, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Assistant Dental Officer :
J. W. MARTIN, L.D.S.
(from 1/2/55)

Chief Sanitary Inspector :
ARTHUR LINDFIELD, Cert. R.S.I.

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector :
F. T. RIPPIN, Cert. S.I.B.

Sanitary Inspectors
G. N. RICHARDS, Cert. S.I.B.
L. G. HOWARD, Cert. S.I.B.
J. N. CONNELL, Cert. S.I.B.
A. MATTHEWS, Cert. S.I.B.

Superintendent of Home Nursing Service and Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives:
Miss I. MORLEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

Domiciliary Nurses :

Whole-time :
Miss R. N. ANDREWS, S.R.N., Q.N.
Mrs. J. BOOTHROYD, S.R.N., S.R.F.N., Q.N.
Mrs. W. G. FINCH, S.R.N.

Miss M. A. GETHEN, S.R.N., Q.N.
 Mr. G. J. W. HUNT, S.R.N., Q.N.
 Mrs. J. E. JERRATT, S.R.N., Q.N. (Senior)
 Mrs. G. M. MEEN, S.R.N. (from 9/5/55)
 Miss P. M. PHILLIPS, S.R.N., Q.N.
 Mrs. F. A. PURCHASE, S.R.N.
 Mrs. J. E. RAINSLEY, S.R.N.
 Mr. A. ROTCHELL, S.R.N., Q.N.
 Mrs. N. SPENCE, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.
 Miss A. M. WILLIS, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.
 Miss E. WOODS, S.R.N.

(b) Part-time

Miss D. EZZARD, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N. (Part-time Home Nurse and Midwife)
 Mrs. J. MILLICHAMP, S.E.A.N.
 Mrs. E. B. PILCHER, S.E.A.N. (from 15/11/55)
 Mrs. M. E. SCOTT, S.E.A.N.
 Mrs. A. M. URIDGE, S.E.A.N. (from 10/8/55)

Domiciliary Midwives :

Miss M. A. BENNETT, S.C.M.
 Miss F. M. SCAMMELL, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 Miss D. EZZARD, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N. (Part time Midwife and Home Nurse)

Senior Health Visitor :

Miss K. M. AVIS, S.R.N., H.V. Cert., Public Health Nursing Administrative Certificate

Health Visitors :

Miss J. C. M. BERK, S.R.N., H.V. Cert.
 Miss E. L. CLARK, S.R.N., H.V. Cert.
 Mrs. W. CLEMENTS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 Mrs. L. FOSTER, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 Miss E. E. GRIFFIN, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 Miss M. G. HEMMING, S.R.N., H.V. Cert.
 Mrs. S. M. JAMES, S.R.N., H.V. Cert.
 Miss M. J. PARTRIDGE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 Miss D. J. SPOONER, S.R.C.N., S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V. Cert. (to 13/9/55)

Home Teacher of the Blind :

Mrs. L. E. HOUNSOM, H.T. Cert.

Senior Authorised Officer and Welfare Services Officer :

V. O. F. LITTLE

Authorised Officer and Assistant Welfare Officer :

H. A. HURT

Authorised Officer and Female Mental Health Worker :

Miss N. G. FULLER

Part-time Authorised Officer :

Mrs. K. M. CASTLE (to 12/9/55)

Clerical Staff :

A. H. HOOKHAM, F.R.Met.Soc. (Chief Lay Administrative
 E. TARBUCK Officer)
 W. L. PECK
 C. A. HEMSLEY

Miss G. E. WOODS
 Miss D. M. BEETLESTONE
 Miss M. S. HARDY
 Mrs. V. HARDY-KING
 Mr. J. McLEOD
 Miss V. M. RANGER
 Miss D. J. PARK (from 17/1/55)
 Miss A. SLADE (from 25/1/55)
 Miss J. HARRIOTT (from 2/8/55)
 Miss J. E. J. CUCKNEY (from 15/8/55)
 Miss B. WAIGHT (to 14/6/55)
 Mr. D. PATTERSON (to 27/2/55)

Dental Attendants :

Mrs. D. S. ANDREWS
 Miss D. D. SIDLEY
 Miss A. SLADE (from 24/8/55)

Chest Physician (Part-time) :

A. H. FERGUSON GOW, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
 (Chest Physician, S.E. Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board)

Public Analyst :

R. F. WRIGHT, B.Sc. (Lond.), A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C.

Occupation Centre, Salehurst Road

Miss D. S. LONES - *Supervisor*

Princes Park Day Nursery

Miss M. J. KENNEDY - *Matron*

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

(31st December, 1955)

	<i>Full-time</i>	<i>Part-time</i>	<i>Total</i>
Medical Officer of Health, Deputy and Assistant	3	—	3
Dental Officers	2	—	2
Clerical Staff including School Health and Home Nursing Services	16	—	16
Dental Attendants	3	—	3
Sanitary Inspectors	6	—	6
Health Visitors	10	—	10
Home Nurses	15	4	19
District Nurse/Midwife	1	—	1
Domiciliary Midwives	2	—	2
Blind Visitor	1	—	1
Welfare Officer and Authorised Officers ..	3	—	3
Day Nursery	9	5	14
Occupation Centre	3	1	4
Old People's Homes	17	5	22
The Knowle (Home for Temporary Homeless)	2	—	2
Old Town and Seaside Baths	7	—	7
Domestic Helps	25	7	32
Rodent Operators	2	—	2
Others—i.e. Cleaners, Caretakers, Van Driver	3	5	8
	130	27	157

The duties of the Senior Public Health Officers remained as set out in my Annual Report for 1953.

SECTION A

GENERAL

Vital Statistics

Notification of Births

General Information—National and Social Conditions

Meteorology

VITAL STATISTICS

Estimated Mid-Year Population—57,830

			<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
BIRTHS :					
Live Births—Legitimate	..	..	271	249	520
Illegitimate	..	..	18	15	33
			<hr/> 289	<hr/> 264	<hr/> 553
Still Births—Legitimate	..	..	4	6	10
Illegitimate	..	..	1	—	1
			<hr/> 5	<hr/> 6	<hr/> 11
DEATHS :					
All causes	..	..	400	510	910

	<i>Eastbourne</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
Birth Rate per 1,000 population :		
Live Births	9.56	15.0
Still Births	0.19	0.35
Birth Rate after applying "Area Comparability Factor"	10.90	—
Death Rate (Crude) per 1,000 population	15.75	11.7
Death Rate after applying "Area Comparability Factor"	10.08	—
Number of Deaths from Tuberculosis ..	8	6493
Tuberculosis Death Rate per 1,000 population	0.14	0.15
Maternal Mortality :		
Number of Maternal Deaths ..	1	437
Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	1.76	0.64
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age ..	10	—

	<i>Eastbourne</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :		
All infants per 1,000 Live Births ..	18.08	24.9
Legitimate infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	17.31	—
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	30.30	—

For tables relating to causes of death, age mortality and maternal and infantile mortality see page 54.

MATERNAL AND INFANTILE MORTALITY

There were ten deaths, seven males and three females, of infants under one year.

(Details page 56).

Three children, one boy and two girls died between the ages of one and five years.

(Details page 56).

One Eastbourne mother died from causes associated with pregnancy and childbirth.

(Details page 56).

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS

Nine hundred and two live births and eighteen still births took place in the Borough and were notified to the Local Authority. Five hundred and forty-one births and eleven still births were to mothers resident in Eastbourne and three hundred and sixty-one live births and seven still births were to mothers resident outside the Borough. In addition there were two inward transfers of live births and one still birth relating to Eastbourne mothers confined elsewhere than in Eastbourne.

For analysis of notifications of births see page 58.

GENERAL INFORMATION, NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

SITUATION. Latitude 50° 46' N : Longitude 0° 17' E.

Eastbourne is situated on and at the foot of the eastern slope of the South Downs facing the English Channel with an open exposure to the South and South-East.

ELEVATION

The highest point is about 640 feet above sea level on the Downs sloping from the west to a minimum of 6.58 feet above highest mean sea level in the east of the Borough.

AREA

The acreage of the Borough is 11,356 acres including foreshore (332 acres) and inland water (19 acres).

DENSITY OF POPULATION

Approximately 5 persons per acre. The parts built over vary with locality from 10 to 50 with an average of about 20 persons per acre.

NUMBER OF SEPARATE ASSESSMENTS 20,778.

RATEABLE VALUE AT 1.4.55 £986,139.

GENERAL RATE. 15s. 0d.

PRODUCT OF A 1D. RATE 1955/56. £4,006 4s. 1d.

METEOROLOGY. 60 Years Averages.

<i>Temperature :</i>	Max.	55.9° F.
	Min.	45.5° F.
	Mean	50.7° F.
	Sea	51.9° F.

<i>Sunshine :</i>	Total	1811.9 hours
	Daily	4.96 hours

<i>Rainfall :</i>	Total	31.25 inches
	Days	165

NATURAL FEATURES

The Borough is sheltered from the west and south-west by the Downs. The front is open to the sea to the south and south-east. This factor ensures a very large amount of sunshine as is shown by the records extending over a considerable number of years.

The extent of the Borough compared with the number of houses and population provides for large open spaces and gardens conducive to health.

In accordance with a Local Act of 1936 the Corporation obtained by agreement lands forming part of the Downs in the neighbourhood of the Borough. The whole of the Downs on the west is open country and mainly accessible to the public.

GEOLOGY

A large part of Eastbourne is on a chalk subsoil which is very healthy subsoil. The western part of the town including Meads, Old Town and Upperton is almost entirely on chalk. The central and eastern districts are mainly on dry alluvium or shingle and to a small extent on chalk and greensand. Valley gravel covers the chalk and greensand in the valleys.

There is a comparatively small amount of clay in the central part of the town and a strip of upper greensand narrow along the Grand Parade, wider from west to east to about Bourne Street, narrowing

again until it ends about half a mile east of the pier. The remainder of Eastbourne to the east is on alluvium. Hampden Park to the north-west is on greensand and clay just at the termination of the chalk.

GENERAL

The climate is invigorating and has a tonic effect. The winter sunshine records are among the highest in the country and the daily range in temperature small. The average night temperature from December to February is higher than that of the French and Italian Riviera and the daily variation in temperature less.

The dry soil, sunshine and bracing air combined with the many amenities make Eastbourne a particularly favourable health and holiday resort.

VISITORS TO EASTBOURNE

All the many services of the Department remained at the disposal of visitors.

Mothers and young children continued to be welcomed at the Child Welfare Centres. A special clinic was held weekly in the sea front first-aid centre during the peak holiday months for the additional convenience of visitors. I am grateful for the help and co-operation of the St. John Ambulance Brigade in this connection.

METEOROLOGY

Borough Meteorologist : Mr. A. H. HOOKHAM, F.R.Met.Soc.

SUNSHINE

Although the total hours sunshine of 1859·8 was 48·7 hours above the average for 60 years, Eastbourne's position in the official list was 46th and our lowest position ever. Sunshine, however, was in excess of the averages for eight months of the year.

TEMPERATURE

Day temperatures were above the averages for each month except January, February, March and June. Night temperatures were above average for six months and for a similar number below.

SEA TEMPERATURE

The first occasion the temperature of the sea reached 60 degrees was on 26th June and the last on 29th September. It remained at 60 degrees or over continuously from 6th July to 17th September.

RAINFALL

The annual rainfall of 31·90 inches was 0·65 above the average. Six months showed an excess of rainfall and a similar number a deficiency.

(Further statistics page 58).

SECTION B

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT (LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES)

Health Services: Financial Statistics

Section 22—Care of Mothers and Young Children

- „ 23—Midwifery
- „ 24—Health Visiting
- „ 25—Home Nursing
- „ 26—Vaccination and Immunisation
- „ 27—Ambulance Service
- „ 28—Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care
- „ 29—Domestic Help
- „ 51—Mental Health

HEALTH SERVICES STATISTICS

The total gross expenditure on the Health Services during the financial year ended 31st March, 1955, was £58,561 towards which an exchequer grant of £24,359 was received. After deducting other income the net rate borne expenditure was £25,698 representing £446 8s. 0d. per 1,000 population compared with an average expenditure of £451 13s. 0d. per 1,000 population for all County Boroughs.

Expenditure on individual services is given in the appropriate sections of the report. The figures of expenditure have been obtained from the Borough Treasurer's Abstract of Account and the unit costs from the Return of Local Health Services Statistics published by the Institute of Municipal Treasurers and Accountants (Incorporated).

SECTION 22—CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Gross expenditure on this section of the Authority's Health Services amounted to £11,308 during the last financial year. Of this sum, £3,951 was spent on Child Welfare Centres and Ante- and Post-Natal Clinics ; £1,224 on dental treatment of nursing, expectant mothers and young children and £5,837 on the Day Nursery.

1. *Ante-Natal Clinics*

Ante-Natal Clinics for domiciliary cases were provided at the Local Authority's Central Clinic, Avenue House (Wednesdays 2.30 p.m.) and at one district clinic, Hampden Park Hall (Tuesday 2.30 p.m.). (Statistics page 62).

2. *Post-Natal Clinic*

A Post-Natal Clinic was held at Avenue House on Wednesdays in conjunction with the Ante-Natal Clinic. (Statistics page 62).

3. *Home Visiting*

The visits by the Health Visitors to expectant mothers and mothers with young children continued during the year. (Statistics page 62).

4. *Child Welfare Clinics*

Avenue House—Monday afternoons, Thursday mornings.

Acacia Villa, Seaside—Tuesday afternoons.

120-122 Green Street—Wednesday afternoons.

Hampden Park Hall—Friday afternoons.

An additional Child Welfare Clinic which was held at Acacia Villa on Wednesday mornings from September, 1955, was discontinued at the end of the year. Alternative temporary accommodation has been arranged at Langney Church Hall on Thursday afternoons commencing in January, 1956.

Excluding administrative expenditure, the cost per attendance at Child Welfare Centres was 4/11d. compared with an average of 5/4d. for all County Boroughs during the year ended 31st March, 1955.

(Statistics page 62).

5. *Care of Premature Infants* (i.e., babies weighing 5½ lb. or less at birth irrespective of period of gestation).

Equipment is provided by the Department for the care of premature infants born at home and very satisfactory provision is available in the hospitals.

(Statistics page 63).

6. *Unmarried Mothers*

Under the Authority's scheme for the welfare of unmarried mothers and their children full use was made of the services of the welfare workers and the Homes provided by the Chichester Diocesan Moral Welfare Association. All cases were fully investigated by the staff of the Department in association with the voluntary welfare workers and close contact was maintained with the girls concerned.

On discharge from Maternity Units and Post-Natal Hostels all possible help was given to them.

House of the Good Shepherd. This home has accommodation for six single girls, including expectant mothers in need of care and supervision.

Fourteen expectant mothers were admitted during the year. One of these was an Eastbourne girl who was accommodated for 36 days.

Bell Hostel. This hostel has 16 beds for accommodating unmarried mothers and their babies. There were 46 admissions. This Authority was not responsible financially for any of these cases.

Other Homes. Three Eastbourne girls were accommodated in the following homes under arrangements made by the Local Authority :

The Haven, Sutton	1
St. Christopher's, Paddington	1
St. Pelagias, Streatham	1

The total number of days for which they were accommodated amounted to 230.

In the last financial year the sum of £272 3s. 7d. was spent in grants, subscriptions and maintenance in homes for these girls.

7. Welfare Foods and Other Nutrients

The main centre for distribution of Welfare Foods was the Local Authority's central Welfare Clinic at Avenue House which was available to the public daily during the full period the department was open.

The three outlying Infant Welfare Centres were used as subsidiary distribution centres during the normal clinic sessions there.

Under the Authority's arrangements for the care of mothers and young children a considerable variety of dried milk foods, cereals and vitamin products are now available for resale. These are issued on the recommendation of the Medical Officer or Health Visitor in attendance at the Child Welfare sessions.

DENTAL CARE

The service is provided for the dental care of expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children.

Mr. J. W. Martin, L.D.S., was appointed Dental Officer and took up his duties on 1st February.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF DENTAL OFFICER

Eighty-six sessions were devoted to the inspection and treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and to children under the age of five. One hundred and twenty-five expectant and nursing mothers were seen at the Avenue House Clinic and made 379 attendances. Of these 108 were found to require treatment and 86 were treated.

One hundred and three fillings were inserted and 65 teeth extracted. In addition, 9 complete dentures and 19 partial dentures were fitted, the laboratory work being carried out by local technicians in their own laboratories. Any cases requiring radiological examination were referred to the radiological department at St. Mary's Hospital where, as in previous years, this work was carried out very satis-

factorily. The dental department at St. Mary's Hospital was also available for dealing with, as in-patients, those cases requiring surgical extraction of impacted teeth or buried roots.

Two hundred and eighty children under school age were inspected and 170 were found to require treatment. Of these 158 were actually treated and made 316 attendances. Thirty-one fillings were inserted into temporary teeth and 169 temporary teeth were extracted. A general anaesthetic was administered on 100 occasions, the anaesthetic used being either nitrous oxide and oxygen from a McKesson apparatus or Vinesthene (vinyl ether) from an Oxford inhaler. In addition 48 temporary teeth received conservative treatment with silver nitrate.

In this pre-school group there was a considerable decrease, when compared with the previous year, in the numbers referred for treatment. While this decrease should be regarded as an encouraging sign, it must be borne in mind that the majority of these young patients come from families who take full advantage of the welfare services available and are therefore conscious not only of the importance of general health but also of dental health. In view of the fact that, at the routine inspections of infant schools carried out under the School Dental Service, a certain number of five year old children with badly neglected mouths are sometimes seen, it must be apparent that these children have never received dental treatment during the pre-school period.

I feel that, in order to deal with these cases in their earlier stages, we must increase our efforts in the way of dental health propaganda and try to overcome the natural tendency of some parents to regard absence from pain as an indication that all is well. In our approach, we should first point out the importance of the temporary dentition and its effect on the development of the jaws and then emphasise the two main cardinal factors which contribute towards maintaining dental fitness. First, strict attention must be paid to oral hygiene, with instruction and supervision in the use of the tooth brush and the mouth wash and secondly, we must stress the importance of a suitable diet, the avoidance of an excess of carbohydrates and the complete elimination of eating between meals. It is in the child of pre-school age that these dietetic habits should be formed, and once formed at this early age, these habits are likely to prevail throughout a lifetime.

M. G. BERRY, L.D.S., R.C.S.

The gross expenditure on dental treatment of nursing, expectant mothers and young children amounted to £1,224 in the year ended March 31st.

(Statistics page 63.)

PRINCES PARK DAY NURSERY

(60 Places)

The authorised establishment excluding domestic staff was :

Matron

Deputy Matron

Warden

Three trained Nursery Nurses

Four Nursery Assistants

Greater use was made over the year as a whole. The daily attendances rose from 29.12 in January to 49.81 in June. Owing to measles the daily attendances fell to 39.96 and 44.89 in July and August but were in excess of 45 for September, October and December and dropped to 42.46 in November. The total attendances were 12,893, an increase of 2498 over the previous year or an average daily attendance of 41.99 throughout the year.

(Further statistics page 64).

The expenditure for the year was £5,837 compared with £5,054 in the previous year, an increase of £783 or 15 per cent. The income was £2,541 compared with £1,913.

The unit cost per approved place was £92 18s. 0d. and per child in attendance £165 3s. 0d. for the year ended 31st March, 1955.

The cost per child in attendance exceeds slightly the average for all County Boroughs which was £161 2s. 0d. for the same period.

SECTION 23—MIDWIVES SERVICE

ESTABLISHMENT

2 Domiciliary Midwives

1 District Nurse Midwife (services shared between midwifery and home nursing).

The Superintendent of the Home Nursing Service is also the Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives.

The domiciliary confinements showed a slight increase in proportion to the total number of live births notified.

The following figures show the total number of live births to Eastbourne mothers and the number and proportion of domiciliary confinements in the last five years :

			<i>Total Births</i>	<i>Domiciliary Confinements</i>	<i>Percentage of Domiciliary Confinements</i>
1951	..	..	609	115	18.8
1952	..	..	623	106	17.0
1953	..	..	632	102	16.1
1954	..	..	604	109	18.0
1955	..	..	543	107	19.7

The number of institutional confinements was again in excess of 80 per cent. of the total births.

During the year two Trilene Inhalers were provided in addition to the gas and air apparatus already in use, thus enabling all mothers to have a choice of inhalational analgesia to help them through their confinement.

The Authority's expenditure on this service during the year ended 31st March, 1955, was £2,528 which, after excluding administrative expenses, represented a cost of £40 19s. 0d. per 1,000 population as compared with the average cost of £85 10s. 0d. for all County Boroughs.

The cost per case attended was £20 7s. 0d. as compared with £13 3s. 0d. for all County Boroughs.

(Further statistics page 65).

SECTION 24—HEALTH VISITING

ESTABLISHMENT

- 1 Senior Health Visitor
- 9 Health Visitors and School Nurses

ALLOCATION

National Health Service Act	..	..	7½
School Health Service	..	..	2½

The year has been one of consolidation rather than in the expansion of health visitors duties and results may now be seen from the liaison with the Hospital Management Committee particularly in relation to Paediatrics and Geriatrics where the health visitor is being called upon more often to provide a social report on the home situation. It is becoming recognised that the combined efforts of medical specialist and medico-social worker produce a more effective remedy for the patient and his family. As a result the family doctor is making increasing use of the services of health visitors, especially in the care of the aged and handicapped. It is only by this close relationship that the patient can benefit to the full from the Health and Welfare Services available.

It is pleasing to note that many voluntary and other bodies now ask for information regarding health matters and requests for talks on various subjects have been met by health visitors.

Although we have not taken health visitor students for practical training this year, we have had more senior members of the profession here to study the administration from the Public Health Nurses' point of view. Some of these students have been from overseas and there has been an interesting exchange of ideas. Student teachers are welcome visitors to the Department. They are shown how the services for child care link up with their work in the

schools and are thus helped to appreciate the need for promoting positive health in order that a child may take full advantage of today's educational facilities.

(Statistics page 66).

SECTION 25—HOME NURSING

ESTABLISHMENT

- 1 Superintendent (also non-medical Supervisor of Midwives)
- 1 Senior Home Nurse
- 16 Home Nurses (including male nurses and S.E. Asst. Nurses)

This service with its increasing work again played an important part in the social welfare of the Borough and relieved considerable pressure on the use of hospital beds. It ensures that all persons needing nursing care in their own homes receive attention from male or female trained nurses and certificated nurses.

A recent development as an ancillary service to the Home Nursing Department was the initiation of a free Laundry Service for incontinent cases who are on the Hospital Waiting List. The arrangements are that the Local Authority is responsible for the collection and return of laundry and that the Hospital Management Committee is responsible for the laundering at the Hospital Laundry.

Smooth running of the service is ensured by liaison between the Superintendent of Home Nursing, the Geriatric Health Visitor and the Superintendent of the Laundry.

The number of sick children nursed at home is insufficient to justify special provision at the present time.

There is a late call rota in force whereby there are always two nurses on call after duty hours up to approximately 10 p.m. to cover any emergency cases.

The excellent report received from the Queen's Institute of District Nursing following the visit of Miss C. M. Dolton in December last was a tribute to the efficiency of Miss Morley, the Superintendent, and the Nursing Staff.

In spite of having to provide for an additional entitlement of annual leave for the Home Nursing Staff, the number of visits in the year was over 4,000 in excess of the previous year.

The cost of this service is reflected in the statistics for the financial year ended on 31st March, 1955, for which period the Authority's gross expenditure amounted to £11,225. The net cost per 1,000 population was £176 17s. 0d. or 20·35 per cent. of the total net expenditure on all Health Services. The comparable figures for all County Boroughs were £100 10s. 0d. per 1,000 population and 11·26 per cent.

(Statistics page 66).

SECTION 26—VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

A.—VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

Arrangements for the vaccination of infants under 5 years of age continued as in previous years. Following the receipt of Ministry of Health Circular 6/55 the Authority's scheme was amended in September to provide for the vaccination and re-vaccination of schoolchildren and adults. As a consequence greater numbers of schoolchildren were re-vaccinated by the staff of the Department during the year. Although there was a slight decrease in the number of infants vaccinated under one year of age, probably due to the reduced number of live births, the percentage of those vaccinated (57.5%) again showed an increase over the previous year (56.7%). These percentages compare satisfactorily with national returns of 36.4% for 1955 and 34.5% for 1954. The Minister of Health advises that for adequate protection of the population against the epidemic spread of smallpox at least 75% of infants should be vaccinated.

The success of this work undoubtedly depends upon a continued campaign of education of those having the care of children.

B.—DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number of children immunised in the age groups 0-1 year and 1-2 years was equivalent to 77.3 per cent. of the children (612) born in the previous year.

The campaign for the immunisation of children against diphtheria and particularly of infants under one year of age continued throughout the year.

There was a further increase in the total number immunised and also in the under one year age group. It is computed that 52 per cent. of infants born in 1954 were immunised before the first birthday compared with the national averages of 36.0 per cent. for 1954 and 38.4 per cent. for the first half of 1955.

As in the work of vaccination against smallpox, constant word of mouth encouragement to those having the care of children, by the field worker of the department and the general practitioner, is the most effective means of maintaining the level of immunisation. The results for 1955, whilst gratifying, still fall short of the target figure of 75% immunisation of infants under one year set by the Minister of Health.

C.—WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

The response to the offer of protection against whooping cough for which arrangements were completed in 1953 has been satisfactory.

The use of combined immunising agents is undoubtedly a contributory factor in this result. Of the total of 517 primary inoculations shown in the table on page 71, a combined antigen was used

in 493 cases. It is also noteworthy that general medical practitioners are making increasing use of a diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus antigen which was used in 52 of the 225 inoculations reported.

It is as yet too early to attempt to assess the value of whooping cough immunisation but the following figures of notifications for the past four years are of interest in this connection :

<i>Year</i>	<i>Cases Notified</i>
1952	158
1953	133
1954	130
1955	37

The gross cost under Section 26 was £339 in the financial year 1954/55 which was equivalent to £5 9s. 0d. per 1,000 population compared with an average of £7 17s. 0d. for all County Boroughs.

(Further statistics page 67).

SECTION 27—AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Eastbourne Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade continued to undertake the Ambulance Service for the Authority with distinction.

The full-time paid staff of the Brigade consist of :

Superintendent
Transport Officer
8 Trained driver/attendants

In addition, the enthusiastic and valuable voluntary service given by these and other St. John's personnel has greatly added to efficient and economical functioning.

The keenness and spirit with which both the whole-time and voluntary staff undertake their duties is reflected in their successes in competitions in which they entered during the year.

Although the ambulance cases showed a decrease over the previous year there was an increase in sitting-car cases, which were in the main from hospital out-patient departments.

A very close touch was maintained by the Public Health Department with the St. John Ambulance Brigade in providing a service to maintain all essential needs coupled with the strictest economy. Day to day contact was maintained between the ambulance staff and the appropriate staff of the respective hospitals.

Great credit is due to Superintendent Burnage for the standard of efficiency maintained as well as to the members of the Brigade and in particular for the services they rendered following the Sunderland Flying Boat crash on 4th June.

The gross cost of the ambulance service for the year 1954/55 was £8,290. The net expenditure per 1,000 of the population was

£141 14s. 0d. compared with an average of £164 4s. 0d. for all County Boroughs. The net cost per 1,000 of the population for County Boroughs ranged from £81 18s. 0d. at Northampton to £281 0s. 0d. at West Ham.

(Statistics page 71).

SECTION 28—PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE

A.—TUBERCULOSIS

Sixty-eight cases of respiratory and four of non-respiratory tuberculosis were reported. Of these, forty-two respiratory and four non-respiratory were new cases not previously notified in any other district.

One Health Visitor was employed full-time in carrying out welfare work associated with the care of persons suffering from tuberculosis. Every case of tuberculosis notified or discovered was visited and the household advised on the patient's welfare and the services available to them, including the examination of contacts. Extra nourishment, bedding and clothing were supplied in necessitous cases.

The Tuberculosis Visitor is present at Chest Clinic Sessions at which Eastbourne patients attend, facilitating the free interchange of information.

Cases in which bad housing is prejudicial to the control of the disease are represented to the Housing Committee for their special consideration.

The Authority's gross expenditure on this service in the financial year ended 31st March, 1955, amounted to £2,225 of which sum £1,962 was denoted to the scheme for tuberculosis persons, £122 on nursing equipment and £141 on convalescence in recuperative homes, etc.

The net cost per 1,000 population was £37 13s. 0d. compared with an average of £36 7s. 0d. for all County Boroughs.

(Statistics page 74).

B.C.G. VACCINATION

Protective inoculation by B.C.G. vaccination carried out by the Chest Physician under the Authority's approved arrangements was provided to 35 contacts during the year.

Age groups :

Under 1 year	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
1 to 2 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
2 to 5 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
5 to 10 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
10 to 15 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Over 15 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

CHEST PHYSICIAN'S REPORT, 1955

There were 42 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis diagnosed during the year, 6 more than in 1954. There were 7 deaths, as in the previous year.

Twenty-six persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis came to live in Eastbourne during the year. The number of these "transfers-in" is slowly increasing and it seems that one's colleagues in the industrial and northern areas of the country are still advising a number of patients to move south and that an increasing number of them are finding it possible to act on this advice.

The methods employed to detect more cases of tuberculosis and to prevent the spread of infection from known cases have been described in the 1953 and 1954 reports. During 1955, 387 contacts were examined, 4 were found to have developed the disease. This is one less than in 1954 although more contacts were examined in 1955 than in 1954. 124 new contacts of the 38 new cases (this excludes the 4 contacts who were already under observation who developed tuberculosis and who are included in the total of 42 new cases) were examined during the year.

There was no occasion to carry out any special survey during the year, but 35 contacts who were tuberculin negative were inoculated with B.C.G. (28 in 1954).

At present little or no tuberculin testing is done as a method of case-finding amongst school children because the radiological facilities for examining the contacts of those children found to be positive are not yet available; it should not be long, however, before they are.

Special attention is paid to the employment conditions of known cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, and we have been successful in restraining a number of patients from returning to or entering special occupations in which they may be a danger to others, such as the food and catering trades.

In last year's report I regret that I omitted any reference to the invaluable help of the Tuberculosis Visitor, Mrs. James, and I cannot submit this year's without rectifying that omission and again stressing the importance of her work, and the value of her help, which continued unabated through 1955.

(Signed) A. H. FERGUSON GOW,

Chest Physician.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

The Mass Radiography Unit of the South East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board carried out its fourth survey in Eastbourne from 8th September to 2nd November under its Director, Dr. B. G. Rigden. The Unit functioned at Avenue House and the Department assisted otherwise by providing booking facilities for the

general public and by arranging Press and poster publicity. The Mayor (Mr. Councillor Pyle) and Chairman of the Health Services Committee (Mr. Councillor Martin) were present at the inaugural session.

The numbers X-rayed show an increase over the results of previous surveys. In his report Dr. Rigden states that the discovery rates obtained in Eastbourne have always been appreciably lower than for the County as a whole, undoubtedly a gratifying finding. It is recognised that the majority of people passing through the Unit present themselves for examination at each survey so that roughly the same group of persons are examined each time. Attention is being given to the possibility of more selective group examinations which might reveal disease in sections of the population not hitherto examined.

(Statistics page 75).

B.—ILLNESS GENERALLY

The Health Visiting, Home Nursing, Domestic Help and, indeed, all the services provided by the Department are available for all cases referred to them including those discharged from hospitals. In cases where other official bodies or voluntary organisations are able to help, the persons concerned are advised accordingly.

C.—RECUPERATIVE HOLIDAYS

The Authority's arrangements include the provision of convalescence and rehabilitation for persons recovering from illness and to other invalids in cases not otherwise provided for. In accordance with recommendations of general practitioners and following investigation by this department a period of convalescence was approved by the Health Committee for 3 adults and 2 children.

On the representation of medical superintendents of institutions two women were sent to Mental After Care Homes and one man to the British Legion Rehabilitation Unit.

D.—LOAN OF EQUIPMENT

The operation of this service is closely associated with the Home Nursing Service, the majority of articles being loaned to patients attended by home nurses.

A wide variety of sick room and other equipment is available on the recommendation of medical practitioners at charges in accordance with the patient's means.

(Statistics page 76).

E.—VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

I wish to record grateful acknowledgment for the facilities and services offered by voluntary organisations including the Order of St. John, the British Red Cross Society, the Guardianship Society,

the Women's Voluntary Services, the Eastbourne Voluntary Association for the Care of Cripples, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and other local and national organisations of which full advantage was taken in appropriate cases.

F.—HEALTH EDUCATION

Growing emphasis has been placed on this aspect of the work of the Department. Visual aids, verbal advice, pamphlets, film strips, lectures and group discussions were increasingly used to promote the physical and mental health of the public.

The main fields of activity are the Authority's clinics and welfare centres, the homes of persons visited by the field workers of the Department and the school medical service including the colleges for student teachers. Voluntary organisations have made welcome requests for talks on various subjects allied to the promotion of health.

G.—SITTER-UP SERVICE

The services of eleven "sitters-up" were used on eighty-three nights in twenty cases of sickness at home requiring attention at night, at a cost of £70 to the Local Health Authority.

H.—LAST OFFICES

Payments for the services of persons in connection with last offices was made on one occasion.

SECTION 29—DOMESTIC HELP

There was again an increased demand for Domestic help. It is still necessary to limit the amount of help given to keep it within the bounds of the resources at our disposal.

Praise is due to the band of Domestic Helps for the way they perform their duties, sometimes in very difficult circumstances.

The cost of the service in 1954-55 amounted to £7,237 of which £4,102 was recovered in payment for the services of Domestic Helps. Net expenditure per 1,000 population for this period was £40 11s. 0d. compared with the average for all County Boroughs of £83 10s. 0d.

(Further statistics page 76).

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

SECTION 51—MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

ADMINISTRATION

The responsible Committee remained unchanged. There were no changes in the permanent staff or establishment.

The gross cost of this service excluding the Occupation Centre

during the year ended 31st March, 1955, amounted to £2,005. The net expenditure represented £33 12s. 0d. per 1,000 population compared with the average for all County Boroughs of £21 5s. 0d.

LUNACY AND MENTAL TREATMENT ACTS

The most encouraging feature of the year's figures is a reduction in the total admissions to mental hospitals by 19 against the previous year. This is the first time the figures have shown a decrease since the Department took over responsibility for the services in July, 1948.

CARE AND AFTER CARE

In connection with mental ill health, Mental Health Officers made 394 visits and 568 interviews were given at Avenue House. This is an increase over the previous year of 28 visits and 189 interviews.

PSYCHOLOGICAL OUT-PATIENT CLINIC

This continued as in past years at the Princess Alice Memorial Hospital.

(Statistics page 77).

OCCUPATION CENTRE

The Centre continued on a full-time basis staffed by a Supervisor and two Assistant Supervisors. There was an average daily attendance of 13.21 for the year with a daily range of from 10 to 17 defectives. The general arrangements for mid-day meals, morning milk and transport to and from the Centre remained as described in my report for 1954. Miss D. S. Lones, Supervisor, and the staff of the Centre are to be congratulated on the quality of the handicraft and work which realised the sum of £30 during the year. Two summer outings and the usual Christmas party were much enjoyed by those in attendance.

It is pleasing to report the following extracts from the report of an inspector of the Board of Control who visited the Centre in September. "The Centre has made good progress since the last visit. . . . premises as a whole are very pleasant indeed. The staff must have worked hard to have brought about such a satisfactory state of affairs . . ."

The gross cost of this Centre for the year ended 31st March, 1955, amounted to £1,947.

The net expenditure represented £26 18s. 0d. per 1,000 population compared with an average for all County Boroughs of £28 5s. 0d.

(Further statistics page 79).

SECTION C

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Notification of Infectious Disease
Food Poisoning
Public Health Laboratory Service
Venereal Diseases

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

There was a considerable increase in the total number of notifications of infectious disease during the year due to an epidemic of measles during the months of June, July and August and again in November and December. This infection accounted for 502 of the 660 notifications received. Notifications of whooping cough showed a marked decline from the numbers notified during the previous three years. Nineteen cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified of which number 13 were due to non-puerperal causes. One death from meningococcal infection occurred in a child one month old. No cases of diphtheria or poliomyelitis occurred in the area although one Eastbourne resident contracted the latter disease outside the town, unfortunately with a fatal result.

Food Poisoning. Two isolated cases of food poisoning occurred in children. The source of the infection was not discovered during the routine investigation in either case.

(Statistics page 79).

HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

Numerous pathological investigations were carried out on behalf of the Department at the Public Health Laboratory, Brighton, under the direction of Dr. J. E. Jameson, and by Dr. D. C. Taylor, pathologist to the Eastbourne Hospital Management Committee, to whom grateful acknowledgment is given for their ready assistance and co-operation at all times.

VENEREAL DISEASES

The following information was supplied by the Eastbourne Hospital Management Committee which is responsible for the treatment of venereal diseases. Two weekly sessions were held at the treatment centre at the Princess Alice Memorial Hospital, Mondays for women and children and Wednesdays for men.

(Statistics page 79).

SECTION D

MISCELLANEOUS

Nursing Homes
Nurses Agencies
Nurseries and Child Minders
Children's Act, 1948
National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
Staff Medical Examinations
Midwives Act, 1951
Epilepsy and Cerebral Palsy

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936—SECTION 187

NURSING HOMES

One additional Nursing Home was registered during the year. No other changes in registration particulars were reported and at the end of the year twelve Nursing Homes provided an approximate total of 140 beds for chronic, medical and surgical patients and four beds for maternity cases.

Visits of inspection were carried out by the medical staff of the department.

NURSES ACTS, 1943 and 1945

NURSES AGENCIES

Licences in respect of the two existing Agencies were renewed. The records of Agencies were found to be satisfactory on inspection by the medical staff of the Department.

NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS' REGULATION ACT, 1948

Two premises other than private dwellings where children are received to be looked after for the day, or a substantial part of the day, or for any longer period not exceeding six days, remained registered under this Act.

Five persons remained registered as Child Minders at the end of the year. Orders made by the Council under Section 2 of the Act, restrict the number of children to be looked after to a combined total of 23 for all five homes.

CHILDREN'S ACT, 1948

RESIDENTIAL HOMES AND NURSERY

The Medical Officer of Health remained on the list of general practitioners of the Local Executive Council and, in that capacity, was responsible for the medical care of all children in the Council's Residential Homes and Nursery. In addition to medical examina-

tion by the staff of the Department prior to admission, all children in the Homes were medically inspected once a quarter and children in the Nursery were inspected monthly.

Dental inspection of the children was carried out in the Homes by the Chief Dental Officer and any necessary treatment was provided without delay through the School Dental Service or, in the case of pre-school children, through the Council's arrangements for dental treatment under the National Health Service Act.

In the course of the year I felt it my duty to advise the Children's Committee that the situation whereby a considerable proportion of the deprived children received into the residential nursery came from large centres of population was creating a significant risk of the spread of infection to local children so received.

I am happy to report that the Committee and the Council accepted the recommendation of the Children's Officer and myself that in the circumstances and within the spirit of the Children's Act the local children might be more appropriately cared for with foster parents.

REPORT BY THE LOCAL INSPECTOR OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN

I regret to record the death of Mr. S. Clements, the local Inspector of the above Society. In consequence of his illness which commenced in October, I am indebted to his successor Inspector B. H. Rich for the following details of the work the Society undertook during the year.

1. Cases referred by the staff of the Public Health Department.

Classification	Cases	Children				Total
		0-2	2-5	5-15	15-17	
Neglect	2	2	2	2	1	7
Ill Treatment ..	1	—	2	—	—	2
Exposure	1	—	—	2	—	2
Advice Sought ..	1	1	—	—	—	1
Moral Danger ..	1	—	—	2	—	2
Totals ..	6	3	4	6	1	14

2. Other cases totalling 65 reported by the general public and other official bodies were classified as :

Neglect	15
Ill Treatment ..	7
Beyond Control ..	5
Moral Danger ..	4
Exposure	1
Advice Sought ..	33
Total ..	65

These cases involved 124 children, 64 of whom were school children. The number of visits made in connection with these cases was 431.

STAFF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

The Medical Staff again devoted a considerable amount of time to medical examinations in connection with new entrants, superannuation and of staff of various departments concerning absence from duty on account of accident or illness.

(Statistics page 80).

MIDWIVES ACT, 1951

The Local Health Authority is the Local Supervising Authority for the purposes of the Midwives Act, 1951.

During the year thirty-two midwives notified their intention to practice of whom three were in the Local Health Authority's Domiciliary Midwifery Service, twenty-eight were employed in the Hospital Service and one in private practice.

EPILEPSY AND CEREBRAL PALSY

At the end of the year there were thirty-two ascertained epileptics on the Department's records and fourteen persons with cerebral palsy. Two persons suffered from both afflictions. During the year two persons were ascertained as epileptics including one child. One case of cerebral palsy was reported. One epileptic died. There was thus an increase of three on the Department's records.

The services available to such persons and the liaison between officers and organisations dealing with their treatment and welfare remained as described in my annual report for 1953.

(Statistics page 81).

SECTION E

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

Public Baths

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply for the Borough was satisfactory. In addition to the sources described in the 1952 report, 28½ million gallons of water from the Waterworks Road Pumping Station was pumped into supply during the year, the average daily rate of extraction being 414,000 gallons.

The closest co-operation to safeguard the purity of the water supply was maintained between the Eastbourne Waterworks Company and the Public Health Department. The results of 11 chemical and 94 bacteriological examinations of both raw and piped supplies carried out on behalf of the Company and of the Department were uniformly satisfactory indicating the wholesomeness and suitability of the water supply for public purposes.

PUBLIC BATHS

The Public Baths under the control of the Public Health Committee are :

(1) OLD TOWN

(a) *Individual Baths (hot and cold) :*

Twelve baths are provided for males and 5 for females.

(b) *Swimming Bath :*

This bath has a capacity of approximately 46,000 gallons. The water used in the bath is pumped from a well on the premises and is treated by a modern and up-to-date filtration and chlorination plant (break-point conditions).

(2) SEASIDE

Thirty individual baths are provided, 15 for males and 15 for females.

The gross expenditure and income for the year ended 31st March, 1955, was :

	<i>Gross expenditure</i>	<i>Income</i>
Seaside Baths	£2,572	£810
Old Town Baths	£3,373	£2,111

(Further statistics page 81).

SECTION F

WELFARE SERVICES

National Assistance Act :

Provision of Accommodation

Blind Persons

Deaf and Dumb

Cripples

Financial Statistics

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION—Section 21 (1) (a)

The demand for this accommodation has continued throughout the year. Unfortunately it has been necessary to establish a waiting list for urgent cases requiring admission.

Difficulty has also continued to be experienced with hospital admission. In most cases this has only been possible by accepting an exchange—a hospital patient only slightly better than the part III resident requiring admission. All these factors have tended to increase the degree of infirmity among Part III residents.

During this year accommodation was provided locally at the same Homes as recorded in my last report. I am happy also to acknowledge the continued help of the Sister in charge of St. Luke's Home.

At the time of writing this report, a third Council Home (Staveley Court) for 44 men and women is in course of adaptation and I hope to be able to record its opening in my next Annual Report.

Cavendish Lodge. The gross expenditure in the year 1954/55 was £6,042 and the cost per resident week was £4 9s. 11d. The maintenance contributions received amounted to £2,053.

Trevin Towers. The gross expenditure for the year ended 31st March, 1955, was £11,115 and the cost per resident week £4 10s. 6d. The maintenance contributions received amounted to £3,655.

ACCOMMODATION FOR THE TEMPORARILY HOMELESS—Section 21 (1) (b).

The premises at The Knowle, Friday Street, have continued to provide satisfactory accommodation for this type of case and I would like to thank the Caretakers, Mr. and Mrs. Hunter, for their work carried on under very trying conditions.

During the year 12 families, comprising 4 men, 14 women and 24 children were admitted.

Thirteen families, consisting of 4 men, 15 women and 24 children were discharged and at the end of the year there remained 5 families (5 men, 5 women and 10 children).

Reception Centre—Section 17

This accommodation provided in conjunction with the Hospital Management Committee at St. Mary's Hospital, operated by this Authority as Agents for the National Assistance Board who are financially responsible.

The Centre which has accommodation for 11 men was full on 96 nights, the average occupancy being 7.96.

House of the Good Shepherd

During the year 1 woman was provided with accommodation at this Hostel which is run by the Chichester Diocesan Moral Welfare Association.

WELFARE SERVICES—Section 29

(a) *Blind Persons.*

(i) *Incidence of Blindness :* During the year 36 B.D.8 Forms for new cases were received : the causes of disability and treatment in respect of the cases certified as blind being as stated in the table below :

	<i>Cause of Disability</i>			
	<i>Cataract</i>	<i>Glaucoma</i>	<i>Retrolental Fibroplasia</i>	<i>Others</i>
(1) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which Section F of Forms B.D.8 recommends :				
(a) No treatment ..	1	—	—	11
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical) ..	11	1	—	12
(2) Number of cases at 1 (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment.	4	1	—	12

During the year no case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was notified under the Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations, 1926-37.

Of the cases recommended for treatment 4 had operations for cataract, 13 persons received medical treatment and 1 person refused treatment.

(ii) *Registration* : There were 212 blind persons on the Register at the end of 1954. Thirty-six new cases were certified in the year under review, 2 were re-certified having been previously de-certified and 4 were transferred to Eastbourne from other areas. Twenty-seven persons died. Ten were transferred to other areas, 1 was removed from the Register as no longer blind. The total on the Register at the end of the year was 216 (81 males and 135 females) in the following age groups :

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under 5 years	1	—	1
Between 5 and 15 years ..	1	—	1
Between 15 and 30 years ..	2	2	4
Between 30 and 50 years ..	14	6	20
Between 50 and 70 years ..	24	28	52
70 years and over	39	99	138
	81	135	216

At the end of the year of persons on the Register aged 60 and over 21 had glaucoma and 32 had cataract.

(iii) *Home Workers* : One blind man was included in the Home Workers Scheme of the National Institute for the Blind as a basket maker.

(iv) *Workshops* : One blind girl was admitted to a Workshop for blind women as an employee.

(b) *Partially Sighted Persons.*

The Council's scheme provided that the services for the blind shall also be generally available for the partially sighted. At the end of the year there were 88 partially sighted persons on the Register.

Grants to Voluntary Organisations.

1. *Blind and Partially Blind.* The usual grant of £25 was made to the Society for the Social Welfare of the Blind in Eastbourne.

2. *Deaf and Dumb.* A grant of £3 10s. 0d. per head was made in respect of the 14 persons on the Register. The grant was made to the Chichester Diocesan Association for the Deaf and Dumb who act as this Authority's agents.

3. *Cripples.* In addition to a capitation fee of 30/- a grant of £15 was made to the Eastbourne Voluntary Association for the Care of Cripples, who as agents for this Authority did excellent work. The average number on the Register was 92.25.

4. *Hard of Hearing.* Very good work throughout the year, in particular on the social side, has been carried out by the Eastbourne and District Hard of Hearing Association, to whom a grant of £25 has been made.

5. *Old Peoples' Clubs.* During the year the Council made a grant of £25 to the Senior Citizens' Club, the opening of which was referred to in my last report.

Old Peoples' Organisations. Meals on Wheels.

This service provided by the W.V.S. continues to make a very big contribution to the solving of the problem of old people in their own homes.

During the year 7,509 meals were supplied, an average of 28·9 per day. The cost to the Council was £190 14s. 4d. It has been possible to slightly extend the service by the use of private cars for which purpose a mileage grant was paid.

Eastbourne Old Peoples' Welfare Committee. This co-ordinating body continued to hold meetings during the year.

Old Peoples' Clubs. This list remains as in my previous report with the exception that unfortunately the Pitman Club meeting at the Pitman Institute decided during the year to close down.

The W.V.S. Darby and Joan Club mentioned in my 1954 report has proved a great success.

British Red Cross—Chiropody Service. In view of the legal inability of the Council to provide this service the work of the Society is very valuable and much appreciated.

Registration of Homes—Section 47.

Periodical inspection of the registered Homes continued during the year and it is of interest to note that private and voluntary Homes provided between them 231 beds for the old, disabled and handicapped persons.

Care of Property—Section 48.

At the end of the year the property of 22 persons (comprising Part III Residents and Hospital patients) was being cared for.

BURIALS—Section 50.

During the year 9 burials were arranged at a total cost of £92 2s. 6d. of which sum £29 6s. 6d. was recovered from the estate of the deceased persons.

The gross expenditure of the Authority on Welfare Services during the financial year ended 31st March, 1955, was £34,085 of which the net rate borne expenditure amounted to £22,116.

Comparable statistics for all County Boroughs (Average), Eastbourne, Brighton and Hastings taken from the Return of Welfare Services Statistics published by the Institute of Municipal Treasurers and Accountants (Incorporated) are as follows :

	<i>All County Boroughs</i>	<i>C.B. of Eastbourne</i>	<i>C.B. of Brighton</i>	<i>C.B. of Hastings</i>
(1) Number of persons accommodated in residential and temporary accommodation (1st January, 1955)	25,559	140	458	180
(2) Number per 1,000 population	1.86	2.43	2.90	2.78
Highest C.B. Gloucester	3.61			
Lowest C.B. Carlisle	0.83			
(3) Net expenditure per 1,000 population	£	£	£	£
(a) Residential Homes .. 242	6 0 279	10 0 371	4 0 365	9 0
(b) Temporary Accommodation provided by the Authority ..	6 17 0	11 0 0	4 15 0	—
(c) Special Welfare Services (Blind, etc.) ..	70 10 0	24 5 0	69 18 0	48 7 0
(d) Other Expenses ..	69 9 0	76 2 0	106 17 0	45 5 0
(e) Total—Rate and Grant borne Expenditure ..	389 2 0	390 17 0	552 14 0	459 1 0

(Further statistics page 82).

SECTION G

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

ESTABLISHMENT

Chief Sanitary Inspector
Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector
4 District Sanitary Inspectors

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

GENERAL SUMMARY

Visits and inspections made during the year :

For general public health purposes	4,889
Housing	1,102
Food and Food Premises	3,387
Infectious Diseases	42
Rodent Control	406
Miscellaneous	1,351
Total	10,177

HOUSING

The inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors for housing purposes were :

Dwelling Houses (Housing Act)	275
Dwelling Houses (Public Health Act)	174
Re-visits	653

Two Clearance Orders and one Compulsory Purchase Order were made by the Council early in the year as part of the five year pro-

gramme for dealing with seriously unfit houses. These Orders, involving 19 houses, were confirmed by the Minister and in one area demolition was complete by the end of the year, all the occupants having been re-housed.

The tables which follow give the totals of the quarterly reports submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government as to action taken in 1955, together with information as to applications for improvement grants, certificates of disrepair, etc.

HOUSING ACTS, 1936 TO 1952 AND HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954

CLEARANCE AREAS

	Number of Dwellinghouses demolished in the period		Number of Persons Displaced
	Unfit Houses	Other Houses	
(1) Land coloured pink and pink hatched yellow	7	—	19
(2) Land coloured grey	—	—	—

HOUSES NOT INCLUDED IN CLEARANCE AREAS

<i>Houses demolished or closed in the period</i>	Number of	
	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Persons displaced</i>
(1) Housing Act, 1936		
(a) Demolished as a result of formal or in- formal procedure (Section 11)	3	11
(b) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 11 and still in force	—	—
(c) Parts of building closed (Section 12)	—	—
(2) Housing Act, 1949		
Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 3 (1) and 3 (2)	—	—
(3) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953		
Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 10(1) and 11(2)	—	—

	Number of Houses
REPAIRS in the period	
(4) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of <i>informal</i> action by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts	140
(5) Public Health Acts—action after service of <i>formal</i> <i>notice</i> :	
(a) By owners	6
(b) By local authority in default of owners	—
(6) Housing Act, 1936—action after service of <i>formal</i> <i>notice</i> : (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16)	
Houses made fit	
(a) By owners	4
(b) By local authority in default of owners	2
(7) Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.	
Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked (Section 5)	—

HOUSING ACT, 1949—IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Fifty-one applications were considered, of which 47 were approved and 4 not approved. Two of those approved were not proceeded with.

The majority of the applications were in connection with the provision of baths and hot water systems in owner occupied houses, but 12 were for such improvements for the benefits of tenant occupiers.

In 2 cases the works provided accommodation as dwellings in what were formerly other buildings, 2 were in connection with the division of a large empty house into two houses, 3 were conversions of single houses into two or more separate dwellings and one was in connection with the improving of kitchen and bathroom accommodation in an old people's home.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENT ACTS, 1954—CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair	21
Certificates granted	17
Certificates refused	4
Applications for Revocation of Certificates of Disrepair	21
Certificates of Disrepair Revoked	21

It would appear that the anticipated improving of the state of repair of many houses to attract an increased rent has not come to fruition. Since August, 1954, thirty-six certificates have been granted and at 13 of these premises nothing has been done to bring the property up to the required standard to justify an increase of rent.

One is forced to the opinion that on the present low rents owners are not able to afford to carry out the works necessary to enable them to charge a higher rent.

APPLICATIONS FOR HOUSING ACCOMMODATION, ETC.

I am indebted to the Housing Superintendent for the information contained in this table :

Total number of outstanding applications at 31st December, 1955	1,389
Number of families housed in requisitioned properties	184
Number of family units rehoused during 1955 ..	161
Number of houses and flats built by the Council in 1955	169

INSPECTION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

In a seaside resort attracting many visitors throughout the year, whose population practically doubles in the summer months, so much food is consumed in catering establishments that the essential inspection of premises used for the preparation and serving of food occupies a considerable amount of the time of the Inspectors. Attention was again paid to the factor of impressing on all concerned the importance of the hygienic handling of food and of personal cleanliness. The method employed is that of quiet talks and elementary demonstrations at the place of work during inspections. As I have said before, there is no method of supervision which can ensure the continuous observance of the vitally necessary requirements of frequent washing of the hands of food handlers more particularly after the use of the watercloset, but an endeavour is at all times made to impress this need. One feels at times the necessity of some elementary education of the customers in food hygiene.

During the last week of the year an endeavour was made to spread as widely as possible amongst the persons engaged in the handling of food the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, some of the regulations of which came into force on the 1st January, 1956.

The details below show the number of inspections, etc., made to food premises generally :

Food samples taken	..	..	..	..	632
Meat carcasses inspected	..	..	..	..	14,270
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	44
Butchers' Shops and Wholesale Depots	..	..	..	..	341
Dairies and Milk Distributors	..	..	..	..	237
Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	120
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	37
Hotel and Restaurant Kitchens	..	..	..	..	530
Ice Cream Manufacturers	..	..	..	..	171
Ice Cream Retailers	..	..	..	..	405
Meat Products Preparation Premises	..	..	..	..	72
Merchandise Marks Act and Orders	..	..	..	..	94
Other food shops and stores	..	..	..	..	486
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	583
Visits in connection with Unfit Food	..	..	..	..	267

The number of food premises in the Borough fell into the following classifications :

Bakers and Bakers Shops	..	..	..	40
Breweries	..	..	..	1
Butchers	..	..	..	41
Confectioners (other than flour confections)	..	..	..	90
Dairies	..	..	..	8

Delicatessen and Sandwich Shops	..	..	7
Fish and Fried Fish	..	..	31
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	..	..	67
Grocers, Provision and General Stores	..	..	143
Ice Cream Manufacturers	..	..	17
Meat Products Factories	..	..	6
Premises where Ice Cream is sold	..	..	150
Public Houses and Hotels with open bars	..	..	56
Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars	..	..	117
Wholesale Manufacturers or Suppliers	..	..	7

The number of premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale was :

Butchers Shops	..	..	..	..	34
Grocers and Provision Stores	..	..	..	..	17
Cooked Meat Manufacturer	..	..	..	..	1
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	8
Potato Crisp Manufacturer	..	..	..	..	1

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

The Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) Order, 1955, came into force on the 21st March, and required that all of the milk sold in Eastbourne shall be sold under a special designation. This did not make a great change as for the last few years practically the whole of the milk sold in the town has been pasteurised and such milk as was sold raw was sold under a special designation, usually "tuberculin tested" being milk obtained from attested herds. The former designations continue.

(a) *Registration of Dairies and Distributors.*

(i) The following were registered under these Regulations :

Dairies (Premises)	..	..	..	..	..	9
Distributors (Persons)	..	..	..	..	..	74

Of these one dairy and two distributors were registered only for the sale of cream.

(ii) *Milk (Special Designation) Regulations*

To Pasteurise Milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dealers' Licences to use the designation " Pasteurised "	..	..	..	..	..	..	64
Dealers' Licences to use the designation " Sterilised "	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Dealers' Licences to use the designation " Tuberculin Tested "	..	..	..	..	..	..	17

(b) *Sampling of Milk*

The purposes for which milk is sampled and examined were fully described in the report for 1954.

(i) *Chemical Analysis*

Thirty samples were submitted for analysis, of which 8 were sold as Channel Island Milk.

The table shows the average composition of the samples and the average of the samples of Channel Island Milk.

<i>Samples taken</i>	<i>Milk Fat %</i>	<i>Milk Solids other than Milk Fat %</i>
Average for the Year	3.69	8.73
Richest Sample (June)	4.41	8.99
Lowest Sample (June) excluding Channel Island Milk and those which were the subject of prosecutions	3.25	8.57
Average of Channel Island Milks ..	4.96	8.80
Requirements of the Sale of Milk Regulations	3.00	8.50

(ii) *Bacteriological Examination*

<i>Class of Milk</i>	<i>No. of Samples Tested</i>	<i>Appropriate Tests</i>	<i>Number of Samples</i>	
			<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>
Pasteurised ..	88	Phosphatase ..	88	—
		Methylene Blue ..	86	2
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) ..	31	Phosphatase ..	31	—
		Methylene Blue ..	31	—
Tuberculin Tested (Farm Bottled Raw Milk) ..	35	Methylene Blue ..	31	4
Sterilised	17	Turbidity Test ..	17	—

Of the samples which failed to satisfy the appropriate tests the two pasteurised milks were taken on days on which the atmospheric shade temperature exceeded 65°F. and the keeping quality test was not, therefore, strictly reasonable. Reports on the four tuberculin tested farm bottled milks which failed the only prescribed test were referred to the County Milk Production Officer for attention at the farms.

(iii) *Examination of Milk for the Presence of Tuberculosis*

Seventy-one samples were taken of ordinary milk and of the tuberculin tested farm bottled raw milk on delivery at the dairy. Of these the bacteriologist reported that 57 were negative. In 3 cases M. Tuberculosis was found by guinea pig inoculation and in

11 cases the guinea pigs died within periods varying from 2 days to 4½ weeks after inoculation, giving indefinite results.

The positive samples were reported to the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food who carried out appropriate examination and testing at the farms of origin of the milks. Following the various examinations six cows were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938.

MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ICE CREAM

(a) *Registered Premises*

The number of premises registered for the manufacture, storage or sale of ice cream in accordance with Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, was :

(a) Wholesale Manufacturer	..	..	..	1
(b) Manufacture and Retail Sale	..	..	..	16
(c) For the Sale of Ice Cream	..	..	..	134
(d) For storage of Ice Cream for the Purpose of Sale				1

Two applications for registration were refused on the grounds that the premises were unsuitable having regard to other commodities sold therein.

Visits and inspections of these premises totalled 576 ; 171 being to manufacturers premises and 405 to retailers.

(b) *Bacteriological Examination*

Two hundred and sixty-two samples were taken. The bacteriologist classified them in the grades indicated below :

Grade 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	97
„ 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	98
„ 3	..	..	..	..	..	..	53
„ 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	14

That 74.4 per cent of the samples taken fell into grades 1 and 2 may be considered satisfactory as most of those classified in grades 3 and 4 were taken in the early summer months and the standard improved to a higher grading in the latter months of the season.

SLAUGHTERING AND INSPECTION OF FOOD ANIMALS

The number of licenced slaughterhouses in the Borough was two, one being a large slaughterhouse dealing with practically all the home killed meat requirements of the Borough and the other a small slaughterhouse used mainly for the occasional slaughter of smallholders' pigs.

The efficient inspection of meat is an important function of the Public Health Service and it is pleasing to report that, notwithstanding considerable evening and weekend work, all food animals slaughtered were inspected immediately after slaughter.

As will be seen from the following table no horses were slaughtered for human consumption and although all beef carcasses were inspected for this purpose *cysticercus bovis* was not found. The number of cows found to be affected with tuberculosis continues to fall. This probably results from the Ministry of Agriculture's programme for the eradication of tuberculosis in dairy herds which is rapidly extending.

The handling and transport of meat from the slaughtering establishment and wholesale depots was under daily supervision.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed	1235	434	2102	3861	6638
Number inspected	1235	434	2102	3861	6638
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i> Whose carcasses condemned	1	3	3	7	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	494	229	4	389	301
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci ..	40.1	53.5	0.3	10.3	4.64
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i> Whole carcasses condemned	1	6	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	68	80	3	—	19
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	5.59	19.8	0.14	—	0.29
<i>Cysticercosis</i> Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	—	—	—		
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ..	—	—	—		
Generalised and totally con- demned	—	—	—		

No inspections arose in respect of horses.

INSPECTION OF OTHER FOODS

The following is a list of food stuffs voluntarily surrendered by the vendors on being found to be unfit for human consumption :

Bacon (lbs.)	51 $\frac{3}{4}$	Marmite (jars)	1
Bisto (pkts.)	1	Marshmallows (lbs.)	28
Butter (lbs.)	50 $\frac{1}{2}$	Meat and Offal (lbs.)	2208 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cake (lbs.)	16	Meat Products (lbs.)	129
Cereals (pkts.)	6	Meat (4 lb. and less cans)	83
Cheese (pkts.)	27	Meat (over 4 lbs. cans)	99
Cheese (lbs.)	52 $\frac{3}{4}$	Milk (cans)	86
Cloves (ozs.)	30	Onion Powder (pkts.)	192
Coconut (pkts.)	1	Onions, Swiss (botts.)	4
Cornflour (lbs.)	$\frac{1}{2}$	Paste, meat and fish (jars)	4
Crab (cans)	4	Peanut Butter (jars)	4
Crabs (stone)	1	Porridge Oats (lbs.)	3
Cream (cans and jars)	3	Poultry (lbs.)	255
Eggs (cans)	6	Poultry (cans)	3
Eggs, frozen (lbs.)	28	Poussins	61
Fish (cans)	45	Prawns (cans)	2
Fish (stones)	110	Salad Cream (jars)	40
Fish Cakes	37	Sandwich Spread (jars)	1
Flour (lbs.)	4	Sausages (lbs.)	106
Fruit (cans)	557	Sauces and pickles, etc. (botts.)	334
Fruit, dried (lbs.)	476	Shrimps (pecks)	4
Ham (lbs.)	876 $\frac{3}{4}$	Soup (cans)	32
Honey (jars)	2	Sugar (lbs.)	63
Jam and Marmalade (lbs.)	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	Tea (lbs.)	$\frac{3}{4}$
Lentils (pkts.)	2	Vegetables (cans)	470
Margarine (lbs.)	15		

Two hundred and sixty-seven inspections were made in connection with the above unsound food.

The majority of this food stuff was dealt with in small quantities and was disposed of by burning at the refuse destructor.

Unfit meat from butchers' shops and wholesale stores is disposed of under suitable safeguards for sterilisation and processing into animal food stuffs, etc.

SAMPLING OF FOOD AND DRUGS

Samples of food and drugs were submitted to the Public Analyst as follows :

	Number Examined			Number Adulterated, etc.		
	Formal	Informal	Private	Formal	Informal	Private
Baking Powder	—	1	—	—	—	—
Beef Suet	3	1	—	1	—	—
Butter and Margarine	7	3	—	—	—	—
Butter Cremes	1	—	—	1	—	—
Butterscotch	—	2	—	—	1	—
Cayenne Pepper	—	1	—	—	—	—
Cheese Spread	1	—	—	—	—	—
Coffee, Drinking Chocolate	3	—	—	—	—	—
Cornflour	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cough Linctus	—	1	—	—	—	—
Cream of Tartar	—	1	—	—	—	—
Curry Powder	1	—	—	—	—	—
Desiccated Coconut	1	—	—	—	—	—
Dried Milk	—	1	—	—	—	—
Dripping	—	1	—	—	1	—
Epsom Salts	1	—	—	—	—	—
Fish Cakes	1	2	—	—	—	—
Fruit Chutney	—	1	—	—	—	—
Garden Mint	—	1	—	—	—	—
Ginger	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ground Ginger, Ground Almonds	3	1	—	—	—	—
Ice Cream	—	2	—	—	—	—
Jelly, Jelly Cream	4	1	—	—	—	—
Lemon, Glycerine and Honey Mixture	—	1	—	—	—	—
Liver Sausage	1	—	—	—	—	—
MacLeans Powder	—	1	—	—	—	—
Marmalade	—	1	—	—	1	—
Milk	30	—	—	4	—	—
Mincemeat	—	1	—	—	—	—
Mixed Fruit, Sultanas	1	1	—	—	—	—
Orange Drink, Orange Squash	2	—	—	—	—	—
Ovaltine	—	1	—	—	—	—
Paste	—	1	—	—	—	—
Pepper	1	1	—	—	—	—
Powdered Gelatine	1	—	—	—	—	—
Pudding Mixture	1	—	—	—	—	—
Sage and Onion Stuffing	—	1	—	—	—	—
Salmon Spread	—	1	—	—	—	—
Sausages	15	2	—	—	—	—
Saveloys	1	—	—	—	—	—
Soup	3	—	—	—	—	—
Strawberry Jam (Home Made)	—	—	1	—	—	1
Sugar	1	—	—	—	—	—
Syrup	—	1	—	—	—	—
Tea	6	—	—	—	—	—
Tapioca Dessert	1	—	—	—	—	—
Tinned Pears	—	1	—	—	—	—
Turkish Delight	1	—	—	—	—	—
Vinegar	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whisky, Wines	2	3	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	96	37	1	6	3	1

ACTION TAKEN WITH RESPECT TO SAMPLES REPORTED AS UNSATISFACTORY BY THE PUBLIC ANALYST

Sample 210—Butterscotch (Informal)

This sample was deficient in fat to the extent of 15 per cent. of the minimum fat that butterscotch should contain (that is 4 per cent.). The sample contained 3.4 per cent. Vendor warned—follow-up sample was not possible as he had ceased to manufacture butterscotch.

Sample No. 220—Shredded Beef Suet (Formal)

This sample was slightly deficient in fat. There should be at least 83 per cent. The sample contained 81.5 per cent. The Analyst reported that this low figure might be due to insufficient mixing of the original packet, as it was found that separation of starch and fat occurred. Two further test samples of the same preparation proved to be satisfactory.

Sample No. 583—Milk (Formal)

Sample deficient in solids not fat 0.2 per cent. Producer warned.

Sample No. 598—Milk (Formal)

Deficient in solids not fat 1.1 per cent.

Sample No. 599—Milk (Formal)

Deficient in solids not fat 1.1 per cent.

Sample No. 600—Milk (Formal)

Deficient in solids not fat 0.2 per cent.

Two Producers in partnership were prosecuted and both were fined £10 on each of three summonses and 18 guineas costs. (Total £78 18s. 0d.).

Sample No. 228a—Butter Cremes (Formal)

Deficient in butter fat 13.7 per cent. Vendor prosecuted, but case dismissed, the summons being bad for identity.

Sample No. 237a—Dripping (Informal)

The sample was unfit for food due to bleaching and rancidity. Tests were carried out re storage and exposure as to cause of bleaching.

Sample No. 229a—Marmalade (Informal)

Deficient in soluble solids 7 per cent. Letter sent to vendor. Small quantity of home made marmalade only. Stock sold out when repeat sample applied for.

Sample No. 445—Strawberry Jam (Private)

This sample had fermented.

Sausages. The meat content of the pork sausages sampled ranged from 65.0 per cent. to 82.0 per cent., with an average of 73.8 per cent. The price varied from 2/2d. to 3/4d. lb. The two samples of beef sausages had a meat content of 58.0 and 71.0 per cent. respectively, the price being 1/10d. lb. in each case.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1889—1953

The attention of the manufacturer was drawn to a misleading label on a bottle of raisin flavoured wine. This was subsequently corrected and a properly worded label used.

GENERAL INSPECTIONS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PURPOSES

Visits and inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors for the above purposes were :

Complaints investigated	916
Schools	48
Camping Sites and Moveable Dwellings ..	145
Places of Public Entertainment	16
Public Baths	150
Drainage and Plumbing Works	1,044
Land Charges Enquiries	502
Stables and Piggeries	70
Smoke Observations	263
Factories	331
Workplaces	58
Outworkers' Premises	3
Shops (Section 38, Shops Act, 1950)	112
Departmental Properties	169
Re-visits	1,062
Infectious Disease Investigations	42
Miscellaneous Visits	1,351

STATUTORY NOTICES UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Most of the works required to abate nuisances and to deal with other matters falling within the range of the Public Health Act, 1936, were carried out following informal action by the Inspectors. There were, however, some cases in which it was necessary to serve formal statutory notices, namely :

Section 50—To empty cesspool	1
Section 75—To provide dustbins	15
Section 93—To abate nuisances	6
Sections 93 and 103—Smoke nuisances	3

Indefinite direction of the law on the question of the provision of dustbins to premises makes it necessary for the Council to consider each case where the owner or occupier disagree, and for the Council to decide on whom a notice to provide a bin shall be served. Of the 15 cases mentioned it was only necessary for the Council to provide bins in default in 3 cases.

Some difficulty was experienced in dealing with a nuisance from grit emission from a laundry chimney ; some remedial measures were taken and at the close of the year the matter was still receiving attention.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING SITES

Applications were received as follows :

For licences to use land as a site for moveable dwellings	5
For licences to station individual caravans ..	6

An application for a licence to use land for a properly constructed caravan site for more than 200 caravans was refused on public health grounds, and one application for a smaller site was refused on similar grounds.

SCHOOLS

The sanitary and washing facilities at schools under the control of the local authority were kept under observation. The opportunity was taken during these visits to inspect school kitchens and dining rooms at those schools where meals are provided.

SHOPS ACT

Only Section 38 of the Shops Act, 1950, is administered by this Department. This section deals with the health, comfort, etc., of shop workers.

Failure to comply with the requirements of this section was dealt with without the necessity of formal action.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT

There were nine premises registered by the local authority under the provisions of this Act and frequent inspections were made to these premises to ensure that the provisions as to cleanliness of materials and bedding were complied with.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926

Ten samples of fertilisers and one sample of feeding stuff were submitted for analysis in accordance with the requirements of the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Regulations 1932 and 1951. All the samples were found to be satisfactory.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948

The following tables indicate the inspections made and action taken under the provisions of these Acts.

1. Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health

	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 Authorities	99	108	9	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	230	193	6	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	98	88	5	—
TOTAL	427	389	20	—

2. Cases in which Defects were Found

	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 (S.1)	7	6	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :					
(a) Insufficient ..	3	3	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	16	16	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Out-work)	3	3	—	—	—
TOTAL	29	28	—	1	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT—OUTWORK

Sections 110 and 111

	Section 110		
	<i>No. of Out-Workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i>
Making, altering, etc., of Wearing Apparel.	38	—	—
Household linen	7	—	—
Lace, lace curtains and nets	1	—	—
Curtains and furniture hangings	6	—	—
Furniture and upholstery	3	—	—
Umbrellas, etc.	1	—	—
TOTAL	56	—	—

Section 111. There were no instances found of work being done by outworkers in unwholesome premises.

RODENT CONTROL

The necessary survey, inspection and action for the destruction of rats and mice as required by the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, was continued and for this purpose two rodent operators were employed. It is the Council's practice to provide a free service in connection with all private dwelling houses, but where the services of the operators are required for business and other premises a charge is made. There has been no difficulty in connection with the payment for works so carried out.

Action taken over the last few years is now showing positive results in the much fewer number of major infestations found, although the number of minor infestations appears to remain fairly constant.

Owing to the lack of commercial servicing agents in the neighbourhood it is necessary for the Council's operators to deal with practically all of the infestations found. This has given rise in some instances to the mistaken feeling, amongst occupiers of private dwelling houses in particular, that it is the local authority's responsibility and not that of the occupier to deal with rats and mice when found.

SURFACE CONTROL

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agri-cultural	Business	
Number :					
Inspected on Complaint	12	263	—	27	302
Inspected on Survey or Investigation	98	696	—	336	1130
Found to be infested by :					
Rats : (a) Major ..	—	4	—	2	6
(b) Minor ..	2	236	—	14	252
Mice : (a) Major ..	8	13	—	42	63
(b) Minor ..	3	193	—	25	221
Treated by Operators ..	13	446	—	83	542
Visits for all purposes ..	238	5268	—	1208	6714

Number of block control schemes carried out .. 28.

SEWER BAITING

In order to control the infestation by rats in the sewerage system two sewer baiting treatments are carried out each year in June and November. A large portion of the sewerage system has been found on test baiting to be free of rats, the sewer baiting treatment therefore being confined to those areas found to be still infested. The results of the baiting were, on the whole, satisfactory.

SECTION H

STATISTICAL TABLES

VITAL STATISTICS

(See page 13)

CAUSES OF DEATH

			Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory .. ..	..	..	5	2	7
Tuberculosis, other .. ..	..	..	1	—	1
Syphilitic disease .. ..	..	..	3	—	3
Meningococcal Infection .. ..	..	..	1	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis .. ..	..	..	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	..	..	9	6	15
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ..	..	..	21	3	24

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	19	19
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	8	8
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	51	47	98
Leukaemia, aleukaemic	1	3	4
Diabetes	—	3	3
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	70	91	161
Coronary disease, angina	72	49	121
Hypertension with heart disease ..	10	9	19
Other heart disease	58	143	201
Other circulatory disease	9	13	22
Influenza	1	4	5
Pneumonia	11	24	35
Bronchitis	18	11	29
Other diseases of the respiratory system	6	3	9
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	13	3	16
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ..	1	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	4	8	12
Hyperplasia of prostate	5	—	5
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ..	—	1	1
Congenital malformations	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	21	43	64
Motor vehicle accidents	3	—	3
All other accidents	4	8	12
Suicide	—	7	7
	<hr/> 400	<hr/> 510	<hr/> 910

AGE MORTALITY

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under 1	7	3	10
1- 5	1	2	3
5-15	—	—	—
15-25	1	2	3
25-45	10	13	23
45-65	82	65	147
65-75	115	124	239
75 and over	184	301	485
	<hr/> 400	<hr/> 510	<hr/> 910

INFANTILE MORTALITY

<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Where Died</i>	<i>Cause of Death</i>
1 hour	F.	St. Mary's Hospital	I (a) Prematurity (b) Accidental haemorrhage in mother
1 hour	F.	St. Mary's Hospital	I (a) Prematurity of not visible age
16 hours	M.	Maternity Home	I (a) Prematurity
2 days	M.	St. Mary's Hospital	I (a) Prematurity (b) Cerebral Haemorrhage
3 weeks	M.	St. Mary's Hospital	I (a) Cardiac failure due to congenital heart disease
1 month	M.	St. Mary's Hospital	I (a) Meningococcal Meningitis
3 months	M.	St. Mary's Hospital	I (a) Laryngo Tracheo Bronchitis
5 months	M.	In Ambulance	I (a) Gastro enteritis. P.M.
8 months	M.	St. Mary's Hospital	I (a) Broncho - pneumonia. P.M.
8 months	F.	At home	I (a) Shock (b) Operation to reduce intussusception

<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Where Died</i>	<i>Cause of Death</i>
23 months	M.		I (a) Broncho - pneumonia II Mongolism
4 years	F.		I (a) Aleukaemic Leukaemia
4 years	F.		I (a) Intestinal obstruction (b) A band of adhesions in the region of the caecum

MATERNAL DEATHS

The certified cause of death of the one Eastbourne mother was :

- I (a) Acute Anaemia
- (b) Secondary post partum haemorrhage
- (c) Toxaemia of pregnancy of long duration
- II Obstetric shock due to manual removal of clot from uterus after commencement of blood transfusion

The patient, aged 26 years, died in St. Mary's Hospital following confinement in the Maternity Home.

(Details page 14).

MATERNAL AND INFANTILE MORTALITY 1894—1955

<i>Years</i>	<i>Infant Deaths</i>	<i>Infantile Mortality Rate</i>	<i>Maternal Deaths</i>	<i>Maternal Mortality Rate</i>
1894-1903 Average	108.5	118.2	3.6	4.56
1904-1913 Average	79.3	96.6	2.6	2.91
1914-1923 Average	52.3	68.8	1.5	1.93
1924-1933 Average	30.0	45.7	1.5	2.20
1934-1943 Average	23.6	42.40	2.1	3.72
1944-1953 Average	17.4	23.42	1.0	1.25
1954	8	13.07	—	—
1955	10	18.08	1	1.76

DEATHS FROM CANCER

The following table shows the number of deaths and death rates from cancer from 1939 to 1955 :

	<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Age Groups</i>						<i>Total Deaths</i>	<i>Death Rate per 1,000 Population</i>
			0-1	1-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65 over		
Ten Years	1939	59,470	—	—	1	12	69	30	112	1.88
	1940	53,760	—	1	—	4	37	53	95	1.76
	1941	27,570	—	—	—	1	24	48	73	2.64
	1942	30,960	—	—	—	4	30	48	82	2.68
	1943	27,380	—	—	—	3	29	52	84	3.06
	1944	27,980	—	—	—	2	26	67	95	3.43
	1945	39,300	—	1	—	6	43	79	129	3.28
	1946	49,790	—	—	—	4	54	68	126	2.53
	1947	53,540	—	—	—	7	31	87	125	2.33
	1948	56,610	—	1	1	5	35	92	134	2.36
	Total	—	—	3	2	48	378	624	1055	—
Seven Years	1949	56,880	—	—	—	9	40	79	128	2.25
	1950	58,050	—	—	—	9	54	100	163	2.80
	1951	57,510	—	—	1	4	46	77	128	2.22
	1952	57,200	—	—	—	4	46	94	144	2.51
	1953	57,190	—	—	1	8	55	85	149	2.61
	1954	57,600	—	—	—	4	33	96	133	2.30
	1955	57,830	—	1	—	3	51	113	168	2.91
Total	—	—	—	1	2	41	325	644	1013	—

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS

(See page 14)

ANALYSIS OF NOTIFICATIONS

	<i>Residents</i>		<i>Non-Residents</i>		<i>Total</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Live Births</i>	<i>Still Births</i>	<i>Live Births</i>	<i>Still Births</i>	<i>Live Births</i>	<i>Still Births</i>	<i>All Births</i>
DOMICILIARY :							
Local Authority Midwives	105	1	2	—	107	1	108
Midwives in private practice	2	—	—	—	2	—	2
Total Domiciliary ..	107	1	2	—	109	1	110
INSTITUTIONAL :							
Maternity Home ..	353	6	119	1	472	7	479
St. Mary's Hospital ..	79	4	233	6	312	10	322
Princess Alice Hospital ..	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
Nursing Home ..	2	—	6	—	8	—	8
Inward transfers ..	2	1	—	—	2	1	3
Total Institutional ..	436	11	359	7	795	18	813
Total all births	543	12	361	7	904	19	923
Notified Births: 1954 ..	604	10	349	9	953	19	972
1953 ..	632	8	313	4	945	12	957
1952 ..	623	17	288	9	911	26	937
1951 ..	609	16	245	7	854	23	877

METEOROLOGY

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS

(See page 16)

AIR PRESSURE (Mean Sea Level) :

Daily Average

9 a.m. 30.003 inches (1016.1 millibars)

9 p.m. 30.012 inches (1016.3 millibars)

AIR TEMPERATURE :

Daily Averages :

Maximum 55.7 degrees

Minimum 44.8 degrees

Combined 50.3 degrees

Range 10.9 degrees

At 9 a.m. 51.0 degrees

At 9 p.m. 49.6 degrees

Warmest day—24th August 79 degrees

Warmest night—25th August 65 degrees

Coldest day—22nd February 35 degrees

Coldest nights—18th and 19th February 25 degrees

EARTH TEMPERATURES :

Daily Averages :

At 1 foot	..	..	..	..	..	51.9 degrees
At 4 feet	..	..	..	..	..	53.2 degrees

SUNSHINE :

Total	..	..	..	..	..	1859.8 hours
Daily average	..	..	..	..	..	5.09 hours

RAINFALL :

Total	..	..	..	..	..	31.90 inches
" Rain " days	..	..	..	..	..	.. 151

HUMIDITY :

Daily Averages :

9 a.m.	..	..	..	..	..	84 degrees
9 p.m.	..	..	..	..	..	87 degrees

WINDS :

Percentage of 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. observations :

<i>Direction</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
N.	18.76
N.E.	8.37
E.	9.17
S.E.	4.78
S.	7.81
S.W.	5.63
W.	24.11
N.W.	13.56
Calm	7.81

<i>Prevailing Winds</i>	..	..	..	..	..	West
Snow and sleet recorded on	..	..	..	..	..	17 days
Hail recorded on	..	..	..	..	..	2 days
Thunderstorms recorded on	..	..	..	..	..	14 days
Fog (9 a.m.) recorded on	..	..	..	..	..	5 days
Gales recorded on	..	..	..	..	..	1 day
Ground frost recorded during	..	..	..	..	..	71 nights

SUNSHINE

The position of the Resorts in Southern districts in the Air Ministry's list were :

<i>Position in List</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>Total Hours</i>
1	Dale Fort (Pembroke)	2130.6
2	Torquay	2072.7
3	Shanklin	2067.2
4	Scilly	2044.1
5	Penzance	2035.4
6	Milford Haven	2029.2
7	Weymouth	2010.0
8	Tenby	2009.5

<i>Position in List</i>	<i>Town</i>						<i>Total Hours</i>
9	Sandown	..	..	..	..	..	2008.5
10	Ventnor	..	..	..	..	..	2004.4
11	Exmouth	..	..	..	..	..	2004.0
12	Swanage	..	..	..	..	..	2000.6
15	Freshwater	..	..	..	..	..	1963.0
18	Paignton	..	..	..	..	..	1953.6
19	Teignmouth	..	..	..	..	..	1952.9
22	Worthing	..	..	..	..	..	1936.4
23	Poole	..	..	..	..	..	1936.3
27	Bournemouth	..	..	..	..	..	1921.1
28	Falmouth	..	..	..	..	..	1920.3
31	Ryde	..	..	..	..	..	1912.8
32	Plymouth	..	..	..	..	..	1912.7
34	Brighton	..	..	..	..	..	1907.7
39	Seaford	..	..	..	..	..	1888.2
44	Newquay	..	..	..	..	..	1871.7
46	EASTBOURNE	..	..	..	..	..	1859.8
47	Sidmouth	..	..	..	..	..	1857.3
48	Bognor Regis	..	..	..	..	..	1856.5
50	Herstmonceux	..	..	..	..	..	1841.9
53	Hastings	..	..	..	..	..	1835.9
59	Folkestone	..	..	..	..	..	1828.8
65	Margate	..	..	..	..	..	1805.0
66	Bexhill-on-Sea	..	..	..	..	..	1799.9
73	Ramsgate	..	..	..	..	..	1770.1
82	Southend	..	..	..	..	..	1755.4
87	Broadstairs	..	..	..	..	..	1745.5
96	Dover	..	..	..	..	..	1736.2

MONTHLY AVERAGES, 1955

<i>Month</i>	<i>Air Temperature</i>						<i>Sunshine</i>		<i>Rainfall</i>	
	<i>Means of</i>			<i>High- est</i>	<i>Low- est</i>	<i>Mean Sea Tem- pera- ture</i>	<i>Total Hours</i>	<i>Daily Hours</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>'Rain' Days</i>
	<i>Maxi- mum</i>	<i>Mini- mum</i>	<i>Max. and Min. Com- bined</i>							
January ..	43.6	35.5	39.9	52	26	41.4	32.6	1.05	5.02	18
February ..	42.1	33.6	37.9	50	25	40.9	109.4	3.91	2.03	18
March ..	44.2	32.9	38.6	54	27	38.5	167.2	5.39	1.04	12
April ..	53.4	41.0	47.2	69	32	45.1	194.0	6.47	0.42	5
May ..	55.7	45.0	50.4	62	36	50.7	237.8	7.67	4.25	19
June ..	62.8	52.0	57.4	69	41	57.5	224.1	7.47	2.50	8
July ..	70.3	56.4	63.4	77	49	62.5	255.8	8.25	0.95	6
August ..	71.0	58.2	64.7	79	50	65.3	230.2	7.43	2.20	7
September ..	66.1	53.5	59.8	71	45	62.8	178.4	5.95	2.42	12
October ..	57.5	44.7	51.1	67	35	56.0	145.0	4.68	4.85	11
November ..	51.7	43.5	47.6	60	33	49.5	40.4	1.35	1.22	11
December ..	50.0	41.0	45.5	54	29	46.3	44.9	1.45	5.00	24
YEAR ..	55.7	44.8	50.3	79 Aug.	25 Feb.	51.4	1859.8	5.09	31.90	151

1955 MONTHLY VARIATIONS FROM AVERAGES

TEMPERATURE

		<i>Maximum °F.</i>	<i>Minimum °F.</i>	<i>Sea °F.</i>	<i>Sunshine Hours</i>	<i>Rainfall Inches</i>
January ..		—1·6	—1·7	—1·0	—29·4	+2·11
February ..		—3·3	—2·9	—0·3	+25·7	—0·26
March		—4·0	—5·2	—4·3	+30·2	—1·22
April		+0·5	—0·4	—1·7	+14·9	—1·55
May		+3·3	+1·9	—2·1	+ 2·9	+2·61
June		—1·3	—0·2	—1·1	—13·9	+0·73
July		+3·1	+0·5	0·0	+19·5	—1·25
August		+3·4	+1·9	+1·6	+11·5	—0·36
September ..		+1·4	+0·6	+1·6	+ 4·8	+0·02
October		+0·5	—2·5	+0·3	+22·6	+0·94
November ..		+0·4	+1·6	—0·3	—31·8	—2·62
December ..		+3·1	+2·4	+1·1	— 9·3	+1·55
YEAR		—0·2	—0·7	—0·5	+48·7	+0·65

AVERAGES : 60 YEARS : 1888 TO 1941 AND 1947 TO 1952

Month	Air Temperature			Mean Sea Tem- pera- ture	Sunshine		Rainfall	
	Means of				Total Hours	Daily Hours	Inches	' Rain' Days
	Maxi- mum	Mini- mum	Max. and Min. Com- bined					
January ..	45·2	37·2	41·2	42·4	62·0	2·00	2·91	17
February ..	45·4	36·5	41·0	41·2	83·7	2·99	2·99	14
March ..	48·2	38·1	43·1	42·8	137·0	4·42	2·26	14
April ..	52·9	41·4	47·1	46·8	179·1	5·87	1·97	13
May ..	59·0	46·9	53·0	52·8	234·9	7·58	1·64	11
June ..	64·1	52·2	58·1	58·6	238·0	7·93	1·77	10
July ..	67·2	55·9	61·6	62·5	236·3	7·62	2·20	11
August ..	67·6	56·3	61·9	63·7	218·7	7·05	2·56	13
September ..	64·7	52·9	58·8	61·2	173·6	5·79	2·40	12
October ..	58·0	47·2	52·6	55·7	212·4	3·92	3·91	16
November ..	51·3	41·9	46·6	49·8	72·2	2·41	3·84	16
December ..	46·9	38·6	42·8	45·2	54·2	1·75	3·45	18
YEAR ..	55·9	45·5	50·7	51·9	1811·1	4·96	31·25	165

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT
(LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES)

(See page 17)

Section 22—Care of Mothers and Young Children

ANTE- AND POST-NATAL CARE FOR DOMICILIARY CASES

1. *Ante-Natal*

Sessions and attendances :

	<i>Sessions</i>	<i>Attendances</i>
Avenue House	64	483
Hampden Park Hall	51	229
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS	115	712
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Number of mothers attending		107
Number of new cases		82
Number of cases examined by Assistant Medical Officer		11
Number of specimens of blood taken for Rh. Factor		90
Number accepting invitation to attend Local Authority's Dental Centre		19
Number referred for X-ray		—

(b) *Domiciliary Visits*

Ante-Natal visits to mothers in their own homes .. 931

2. *Post-Natal Care*

Five mothers made seven attendances.

Domiciliary Visits

(a) To mothers confined at home	152
(b) To mothers confined in hospitals and discharged before the 14th day	83

3. *Home Visiting*

Visits by Health Visitors during the year were as follows :

	<i>First Visits</i>	<i>Total Visits</i>
To expectant mothers	311	395
To children under 1 year of age	501	3506
To children between the ages of 1 and 2 years	—	2369
To children between the ages of 2 and 5 years	—	3915

4. Child Welfare Clinics

Attendances :

	<i>Born in</i> 1955	<i>Born in</i> 1954	<i>Born in</i> 1950-53	<i>Total</i>
Number of children who attended during the year ..	387	393	472	1252
	<i>Aged</i> <i>Under 1</i>	<i>Aged</i> 1-2	<i>Aged</i> 2-5	<i>Total</i>
Number of attendances made by children	6755	1189	872	8816

5. Care of Premature Infants

(a) Number of premature live births notified :

<i>Place of Birth</i>	<i>Resident</i>	<i>Non-Resident</i>	<i>Total</i>
Own Home	3	—	3
Maternity Home	12	7	19
St. Mary's Hospital	17	17	34
	—	—	—
	32	24	56
	—	—	—

(b) Deaths of Premature Infants within 28 days :

	<i>Resident</i>	<i>Non-Resident</i>	<i>Total</i>
(i) Died in first 24 hours :			
St. Mary's	3	1	4
Maternity Home	1	1	2
(ii) Died within 1-28 days :			
St. Mary's Hospital	1	2	3
	—	—	—
	5	4	9
	—	—	—

DENTAL TREATMENT RETURN

(See page 19)

A.—NUMBERS PROVIDED WITH DENTAL CARE :

	<i>Examined</i>	<i>Needing Treatment</i>	<i>Treated</i>	<i>Made Dentally Fit</i>
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	125	108	86	69
Children under five	280	170	158	156

B.—FORMS OF DENTAL TREATMENT PROVIDED :

	<i>Scalings and Gum Treatment</i>	<i>Fillings</i>	<i>Silver Nitrate Treat- ment</i>	<i>Crowns or Inlays</i>	<i>Extrac- tions</i>	<i>General Anaes- thetics</i>	<i>Dentures Provided</i>		<i>Radio- graphs</i>
							<i>Full Upper or Lower</i>	<i>Partial Upper or Lower</i>	
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	31	103	1	—	65	34	9	19	4
Children under five	—	31	48	—	169	100	—	—	5

PRINCES PARK DAY NURSERY (60 Places)

(See page 21)

Average daily attendance of children over the past three years :

	1955	1954	1953
January	29.12	19.49	35.84
February	36.04	15.04	27.83
March	39.14	21.74	28.36
April	41.33	29.95	39.53
May	46.60	38.12	41.64
June	49.81	45.04	42.92
July	39.96	47.74	42.14
August	44.89	47.72	33.80
September	45.35	40.62	34.37
October	45.46	33.81	28.10
November	42.46	33.88	23.52
December	45.05	31.84	18.56

The Nursery was open on 307 days during which there were a total of 12,893 attendances giving an average daily attendance of 42 or 70 per cent.

Average daily attendance :

	<i>Children aged</i>			<i>Total</i>	<i>No. of days open</i>	<i>Receipts</i>
	<i>0-1½</i>	<i>1½-3</i>	<i>3-5</i>			
January ..	4.96	12.35	11.81	757	26	£159 7 6
February ..	4.42	13.03	18.54	865	24	£150 0 0
March ..	5.81	15.63	17.70	1057	27	£168 12 4
April ..	5.54	10.83	24.96	992	24	£222 16 2
May ..	5.84	19.04	21.72	1165	25	£227 3 2
June ..	6.74	19.38	23.69	1295	26	£233 14 6
July ..	6.54	12.04	21.38	1039	26	£249 19 4
August ..	7.27	16.81	20.81	1177	26	£198 4 4
September ..	7.42	16.85	21.08	1179	26	£220 13 2
October ..	5.73	16.50	23.21	1182	26	£273 9 8
November ..	5.19	15.15	22.12	1104	26	£192 3 2
December ..	5.88	14.92	22.44	1081	25	£235 5 8
YEAR ..				12893	307	£2531 9 0

A falling off in numbers during the last two weeks in July and the first week in August was due to an outbreak of Measles.

SECTION 23—MIDWIVES SERVICE

(See page 21)

Details of the work of the Domiciliary Midwives during the year are as follows :

BOOKINGS :

Number of cases on books on January 1st ..	40
New bookings	132
Number of cases on books on December 31st	40

CONFINEMENTS :

(a) Doctor Booked :				
Doctor present	35			
Doctor not present	33			
(b) Doctor not booked :				
Doctor present	—			
Doctor not present	40			
	—	108		
(c) Miscarriages		4		

ANALGESIA :

(a) <i>Gas and Air</i> :				
Doctor present	33			
Doctor not present	59			
	—	92		
(b) <i>Pethidine</i> :				
Doctor present	17			
Doctor not present	31			
	—	48		

Medical Aid was sought in 15 cases.

VISITS BY MIDWIVES :

Ante-natal visits	931
Visits during labour	240
Visits during puerperium	2028
Post-natal visits (domiciliary cases)	152
Visits to 31 cases discharged from hospital before the 14th day	83
	— 3434

SUPERVISION :

Visits of inspection by Non-Medical Supervisor to Domiciliary Midwives and Pupil Midwives	—
---	---

TRAINING OF PUPIL MIDWIVES :

Four pupil midwives from the East Sussex County Council were accepted for three months district training.

SECTION 24—HEALTH VISITING

(See page 22)

SUMMARY OF THE WORK BY HEALTH VISITORS

HOME VISITS

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN :

Children under 1 year	3506
Children aged 1 and under 2 years	2369
Children aged 2 but under 5 years	3915
Expectant Mothers	395
In connection with Day Nursery	22

INFECTIOUS ILLNESS	109
----------------------------	-----

TUBERCULOSIS	1080
----------------------	------

CARE AND AFTER CARE (including Aged and Handicapped Persons)	1568
--	------

OTHER VISITS :

To Other Agencies (voluntary organisations) ..	356
To Day Nurseries	64
To Hospitals	215
Miscellaneous	730

CLINIC ATTENDANCES :

Child Welfare Centres	450
Immunisation and Vaccination Clinics	63
Health Education Sessions	90
Chest Clinic	99

SECTION 25—HOME NURSING

(See page 23)

The number of visits made (53,653) and the number of patients nursed (1,820) were significantly greater than during 1954.

The following are particulars of cases nursed :

	<i>New Cases</i>	<i>Total Cases</i>	<i>Visits</i>
Medical	889	991	18,324
Surgical	205	250	8,821
Infectious Diseases	4	4	78
Tuberculosis	25	30	834
Maternal Complications	3	3	12
Others—Chronic	325	542	25,584
	<hr/> 1,451	<hr/> 1,820	<hr/> 53,653

Patients were removed from the records on cessation of nursing attendance as follows :

Convalescent	660
To Hospital	247
Deaths	172
Other Causes	370
	<hr/>
	1,449
	<hr/>

The demand on the Home Nursing Service as compared with previous years is shown in the table below :

				<i>Cases</i>	<i>Visits</i>
1949				1,323	34,914
1950				1,667	47,898
1951				1,552	47,047
1952				1,967	47,470
1953				1,719	49,404
1954				1,671	49,533
1955				1,820	53,653

SECTION 26—VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

(See page 24)

VACCINATION DURING 1955

Age Group	Primary Vaccination		Re-Vaccination	
	By Staff of Health Department	By General Practitioner	By Staff of Health Department	By General Practitioner
Under 1 year ..	150	168	9	0
1 to 2 years ..	7	9	0	0
2 to 5 years ..	6	7	4	7
5 to 15 years ..	2	11	155	39
15 years and over	0	30	4	137
	165	225	163	183
	390		346	
	736			

From this table it will be seen that three hundred and eighteen infants under one year were vaccinated, one hundred and fifty by the Medical Staff of the Department and one hundred and sixty-eight by General Medical Practitioners.

INFANT VACCINATION 1951—1955

<i>Year</i>	<i>Live Births</i>	<i>Number of Primary Vaccinations under 1 year of age</i>	<i>Percentage of Births during same period</i>
1955	553	318	57.5
1954	612	347	56.7
1953	617	313	50.7
1952	635	275	43.3
1951	604	411	*68.0

*Epidemic in neighbouring authority.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Since the campaign started in 1939 the number of children known to have been immunised in the age groups 0-1 year and 1-2 years was :

<i>Year</i>	<i>Births</i>	<i>No. immunised in age groups 0-1 year and 1-2 years</i>	<i>Percentage of previous year's births immunised</i>
1955	553	473	77.3
1954	612	481	77.9
1953	617	342	53.9
1952	635	394	64.2
1951	614	463	66.0
1950	701	467	63.1
1949	740	446	55.7
1948	801	606	61.7
1947	983	594	61.6
1946	964	453	67.9
1945	667	364	74.4
1944	489	241	57.8
1943	416	217	46.9
1942	463	209	54.4
1941	384	54	9.9
1940	545	14	—
1939	587		

In 1955 six hundred and seven children were immunised, three hundred and ninety-two by the Medical Staff of the Department and two hundred and fifteen by General Medical Practitioners.

THE AGE GROUPS AND NUMBERS WERE :

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>By medical Staff of the Department</i>	<i>By General Medical Practitioners</i>	<i>Total</i>
0- 1	228	145	373
1- 2	54	46	100
2- 3	13	10	23
3- 4	11	4	15
4- 5	16	6	22
5-10	49	1	50
10-15	21	3	24
	<hr/> 392	<hr/> 215	<hr/> 607

Reinforcing Doses : The age groups and numbers were :

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>By Medical Staff of the Department</i>	<i>By General Medical Practitioners</i>	<i>Total</i>
1- 5	78	27	105
5-15	780	107	887
	<hr/> 858	<hr/> 134	<hr/> 992

The Department's immunisation records show that at the end of the year 1,800 children 0-5 years and 6,475 children aged 5-15 years had been immunised. The age groups and numbers were :

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Total</i>
0- 1	116	
1- 2	396	
2- 3	429	
3- 4	417	
4- 5	442	
	<hr/>	1,800
5- 6	557	
6- 7	631	
7- 8	644	
8- 9	887	
9-10	637	
	<hr/>	3,356
10-11	621	
11-12	702	
12-13	655	
13-14	929	
14-15	212	
	<hr/>	3,119
		<hr/> 8,275

These number represent 60.0 per cent. and 86.3 per cent. of the children in the age groups 0-5 years and 5-15 years of the Registrar

General's estimated population of 3,000 and 7,500 in these respective age groups.

Individual immunity tends to wane with the passage of time. Taking into account inoculations performed within the last five years only, an index of the immunity to diphtheria in the population is shown in the following table :

<i>Age at 31/12/55 ; i.e. born in the year:</i>	<i>Under 1 1955</i>	<i>1-5 1954-51</i>	<i>5-10 1950-46</i>	<i>10-15 1945-41</i>	<i>Under 15 Total</i>
Last complete course of injections given during 1951-1955	116	1,684	2,262	1,495	5,557
Estimated mid-year child population	600	2,400	7,500		10,500
Immunity Index	19.33%	70.17%	50.09%		52.92%

Two thousand seven hundred and eighteen children aged 5 to 15 years were inoculated prior to 1951 and the existence of residual protection in this group must be taken into account in interpreting the index.

There have been no notified cases of diphtheria in Eastbourne during the past six years and no deaths since 1946.

Figures for deaths and notifications in Eastbourne and in England and Wales since 1945 are shown below :

<i>Year</i>	<i>Eastbourne</i>		<i>England and Wales</i>	
	<i>Notifications</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Notifications</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
1945	1	—	18,596	722
1946	1	1	11,986	472
1947	—	—	5,609	244
1948	1	—	3,575	156
1949	2	—	1,890	84
1950	—	—	962	49
1951	—	—	664	33
1952	—	—	376	32
1953	—	—	286	23
1954	—	—	173	9
1955	—	—	161	11
			(Provisional)	(Provisional)

WHOOPIING COUGH IMMUNISATION

Age Groups	By Medical Staff of the Department		By General Practitioners		Totals	
	Primary	Re-Inforcing	Primary	Re-Inforcing	Primary	Re-Inforcing
0-1 ..	221	—	135	—	356	—
1-2 ..	52	—	32	—	84	—
2-3 ..	16	—	8	—	24	—
3-4 ..	15	—	4	—	19	—
4-5 ..	12	3	4	8	16	11
Aged 5 and over ..	16	6	2	32	18	38
Totals ..	332	9	185	40	517	49

SECTION 27—AMBULANCE SERVICE

(See page 25)

The following is a summary of the work undertaken on behalf of the Local Health Authority during the past year :

MONTHLY STATISTICS

	AMBULANCES			SITTING CAR CASES		
	Journeys	Patients	Mileage	Journey	Patients	Mileage
January ..	310	335	1,726	381	872	4,152
February ..	224	331	2,241	397	928	4,210
March ..	282	368	2,124	391	953	3,575
April ..	281	348	3,159	341	931	3,746
May ..	229	283	1,664	382	892	3,954
June ..	219	305	2,753	396	1,114	4,501
July ..	277	394	2,776	309	1,258	4,791
August ..	361	401	2,465	415	936	4,310
September ..	311	357	3,229	334	860	3,891
October ..	219	274	1,668	420	1,035	3,710
November ..	242	315	2,393	405	1,157	4,402
December ..	250	322	1,541	380	973	3,745
TOTALS ..	3,205	4,033	27,739	4,551	11,909	48,987

JOURNEYS AND MILEAGES SINCE 5TH JULY, 1948

	Ambulances		Sitting-Car Cases	
	Journeys	Mileage	Journeys	Mileage
1948 (5th July to 31st Dec.)	1,427	23,127	757	30,415
1949	2,808	48,358	3,452	56,882
1950	2,962	34,013	3,660	55,023
1951	2,668	27,466	4,608	54,838
1952	2,601	29,505	3,724	48,353
1953	2,719	29,220	3,721	46,801
1954*†	2,984	28,480	4,108	45,760
1955†	3,205	27,739	4,551	48,987

*excluding Princes Park Day Nursery.

†excluding Occupation Centre.

ORIGIN OF CALLS

ORIGIN OF CALLS	AMBULANCES					SITTING CAR CASES						
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Emergency calls to street accidents	374	377	451	429	472	594	38	45	49	41	41	51
Local Hospitals	1,723	1,607	1,844	1,913	2,210	1,898	1,032	1,141	1,241	1,157	1,280	1,224
Local Convalescent Homes	32	29	23	35	27	28	188	183	168	209	216	216
General Medical Practitioners.. .. .	580	587	565	589	643	663	274	283	342	327	348	353
Maternity Home	88	26	15	29	18	18	8	28	25	25	12	9
Nursing Homes	49	53	27	31	57	39	6	3	4	6	4	5
Ministry of Pensions	9	4	8	21	24	15	23	55	75	114	98	119
Other Ambulance Authorities.. .. .	41	54	66	79	61	72	123	261	218	278	342	332
Authorised Mental Health Officers	29	25	51	58	47	53	52	79	74	109	92	118
Others	98	156	150	180	362	275	29	127	258	256	141	79
Out-Patients												
Chest Clinic	147	144	242	234	180	128	524	364	525	663	723	644
Foot Clinic	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	424	366	236	274	237
Local Hospitals	9	24	—	—	88	193	2,331	4,943	5,988	6,357	7,204	7,535
Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton	3	7	20	29	20	27	153	550	211	551	591	987
Infectious Diseases	3,182	3,093	3,470	3,627	4,209	4,003						
			115	98	34	30						
	3,182	3,093	3,585	3,725	4,243	4,033	4,781	8,486	9,544	10,329	11,366	11,909
Journeys	2,962	2,668	2,601	2,719	2,984	3,205	3,660	4,608	3,724	3,721	4,108	4,551
Mileage	34,013	27,466	29,505	29,220	28,480	27,739	55,023	54,838	48,353	46,801	45,760	48,987

As a seaside health resort in which a convalescent home (191 beds) is situated, the service is called upon to convey a large number of patients to and from the local railway station. In the year under review the following are particulars of patients and mileages of cases sent by rail :

<i>Conveyance used to Station</i>	<i>Patients</i>	<i>Train Mileage</i>
Ambulance	102	10,922
Sitting case car	304	24,296

Fares in respect of the above patients were paid by the Local Authority in respect of the following only :

<i>Conveyance used to Station</i>	<i>Patients</i>	<i>Train Mileage</i>
Ambulance	35	4,000
Sitting case car	22	1,916

In addition to the above services the St. John Ambulance Brigade undertook the conveyance of pupils to and from the Occupation Centre.

OCCUPATION CENTRE

1955	<i>Sitting Case Cars (Dual Purpose Vehicles)</i>		
	<i>Journeys</i>	<i>Patients</i>	<i>Mileage</i>
January ..	64	432	662
February ..	72	409	743
March ..	92	500	903
April ..	36	214	410
May ..	74	441	824
June ..	88	486	946
July ..	80	486	866
August ..	—	—	—
September ..	56	361	624
October ..	84	537	860
November ..	80	526	734
December ..	64	424	568
TOTALS ..	790	4816	8140

The vehicles in use by the St. John Ambulance Brigade at the end of the year were :

AMBULANCES :

<i>Make</i>	<i>Registration No.</i>	<i>Date of first Registration</i>	<i>Year brought into Ambulance Service</i>
Austin	BJK.141	30.9.1953	1953
Bedford	HC.8844	9.10.1948	1948
Vauxhall	BPM.840	21.12.1939	1952
Vauxhall	CNM.321	31.10.1938	1939
Vauxhall	JK.7051	24.8.1937	1937
Bedford	JK.5851	20.7.1936	Loan by Local Health Authority

DUAL PURPOSE VEHICLES :

Bedford	BHC.240	8.10.1952	1952
Morris	CJK.700	11.7.1955	1955

SITTING CASE CARS :

Wolseley	GRU.880	5.7.1947	1955
Wolseley	CXX.959	22.5.1936	1945
			(awaiting disposal)
Austin	LPD.826	25.4.1947	1954

SECTION 28—PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE

(See page 26)

TUBERCULOSIS

NOTIFICATION REGISTER

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
ON REGISTER :						
1st January, 1955	171	111	17	19	188	130
Add :						
Notifications ..	26	16	2	2	28	18
Transfers ..	10	16	—	—	10	16
Posthumous Noti- fications ..	1	1	—	—	1	1
Found on Death Returns ..	1	—	—	—	1	—
	209	144	19	21	228	165
Less :						
Deaths ..	7	2	—	—	7	2
Left Town ..	9	10	3	1	12	11
Arrested ..	4	1	—	—	4	1
Diagnosis not confirmed ..	—	1	1	1	1	2
	20	14	4	2	24	16
ON REGISTER :						
31st December, 1954 ..	189	130	15	19	204	149

Age grouping of new cases notified and transfers to the area :

Age Groups	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0-5 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10 ..	1	—	—	—	1	—
10-15 ..	—	1	1	—	1	1
15-25 ..	6	10	—	—	6	10
25-45 ..	14	12	1	1	15	13
45-65 ..	10	8	—	1	10	9
Over 65 ..	5	1	—	—	5	1
	36	32	2	2	38	34

DEATHS :

Seven persons died from tuberculosis of the lungs and one person died from non-respiratory tuberculosis in the following age groups :

	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
25-45	1	2	3	—
45-65	2	—	1	—
Over 65	2	—	—	—

The death rates per 1,000 population were :

Respiratory	0.12
Non-Respiratory	0.02
All forms	0.14

SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE TUBERCULOSIS VISITOR

Visits paid to tuberculous households	1080
Chest Clinic attendances	99
Visits to hospitals	39

Extra Nourishment granted to persons suffering from Tuberculosis:

(a) *Liquid Milk :*

Quantity supplied at two pints per day	1,584 pints
Quantity supplied at one pint per day	19,118 pints
Total	20,702 pints

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Cases assisted	69	36	105

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

Comparative results of the four surveys :

	<i>Number X-rayed</i>	<i>Number with abnormal large films</i>	<i>Number (per 1,000 persons X-rayed) with active tuberculosis</i>
1951	8202	293	0.85
1952	6582	268	1.7
1954	6808	254	1.32
1955	8991	288	1.2

The following analysis of the results of the survey was furnished by Dr. B. G. Rigden, Director of the Mass Radiography Unit of the South Eastern Metropolitan Board.

<i>Period of Survey 8 Sept. to 2 Nov.</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number of persons X-rayed	4100	4891	8991
Number recalled for large films	261	266	527
Number found to have abnormal large films	174	114	288

<i>Period of Survey 8 Sept. to 2 Nov.</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Analysis of abnormal large films : ..			
(a) Active Pulmonary Tuberculosis	7	4	11
(b) Inactive Pulmonary Tuberculosis	42	82	124
(c) Malignant disease ..	2	1	3
(d) Other diseases of lung or pleura	65	49	114
(e) Cardio-Vascular Diseases	29	54	83
Number (per 1,000 persons X-rayed) with active pulmonary tuberculosis			
1.2			
1 film has not been classified			

LOAN OF EQUIPMENT

(See page 28)

A total of 750 articles were loaned to 395 patients.

The demands on this service are shown by the following figures :

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of Loans</i>	<i>Number of Patients</i>	<i>No. of cases in which no charge was made</i>
1955	750	395	95
1954	677	370	103
1953	768	435	110
1952	672	363	69
1951	709	328	71
1950	550	337	68
1949	42	27	3

SECTION 29—DOMESTIC HELP

(See page 29)

During the year 321 cases were granted the services of domestic helps. Charges according to the Authority's scale were reimbursed by the National Assistance Board in 178 cases.

<i>According to Scale</i>					<i>New Cases</i>	<i>Old Cases</i>
Full cost .. .. .	..	..	..	..	43	10
Part cost .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—
Free .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	5
<i>Special Cases</i>						
Part cost .. .. .	..	..	..	..	25	20
Free .. .. .	..	..	..	..	21	35
<i>National Assistance Board Cases</i> .. .. .	..	..	..	..	53	125
					—	—
					143	195
					—	—
				Total		338

In this analysis 17 cases are included twice owing to changes in circumstances.

LUNACY AND MENTAL TREATMENT ACTS

(See page 29)

Figures for the past five years are as follows :

Year	Population	Patients admitted to Mental Hospitals		
		Voluntary	Certified	Others
1951	57,510	148	29	1
1952	57,200	137	51	3
1953	57,190	178	57	—
1954	57,600	188	46	2
1955	57,830	168	46	3

The number remaining at 31.12.55 was 257, 7 more than at 31.12.54. Of these 98 were Voluntary patients.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL

During 1955, 11 men and 22 women were admitted under Section 20 by Duly Authorised Officers.

One man and 4 women were admitted for observation not under Order.

Of the 11 men 3 were certified, 7 dealt with by relatives and 1 died.

Of the 22 women, 11 were certified, 4 were admitted as Voluntary patients and 7 dealt with by relatives.

HELLINGLY HOSPITAL

(a) *Certified Cases* : Forty-six persons (18 male and 28 female) were certified. Of that total 10 were admitted from their own homes, 35 from St. Mary's Hospital and 1 from a London Hospital.

(b) *Urgency Orders* : Two females were admitted under this Section. Both subsequently became Voluntary patients.

(c) *Voluntary Patients* : The admission of 73 persons was arranged by the officers (17 men and 56 women). Of these, 37 were admitted from their homes and 36 from St. Mary's Hospital.

(d) *Temporary Patients* : One female was admitted as a Temporary patient and was subsequently discharged.

The position at the beginning and end of the year was as follows :

		St. Francis Hospital		Hellingly Hospital		Others		Total
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
December 31st, 1954	..	29	61	49	100	1	10	250
Admitted during year	..	12	7	73	122	2	1	217
Discharged during year	..	12	7	65	104	1	1	190
Died during year	..	2	3	2	12	—	1	20
December 31st, 1955	..	27	58	55	106	2	9	257

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913-38

MALES

Four males were added to the Register, 1 on notification of the Local Education Authority under Section 57 (1), 1 adult notified by Dr. Krausz and 1 transferred from Hertfordshire County Council, and an adult male on notification by relatives.

Four males were removed from the Register. One Supervision case died. One Institutional case died. One Institutional case was discharged and 1 Place of Safety discharged to the Kent County Council.

FEMALES

Three females were added to the Register. One notified by a General Practitioner, 1 removed to this area from Surrey, and 1 notified by Local Education Authority under Section 57 (1). Two females died, 1 Supervision case and 1 Institutional case (both adult).

Three males and 2 females were awaiting Institutional care.

Two hundred and sixty-nine visits were made to Supervision cases.

The position with regard to mental defectives on 31st December was :

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
In Institutions	40	35	75
On Licence from Institutions ..	—	3	3
Under Guardianship	4	5	9
Under Supervision	30	43	73
	<hr/> 74	<hr/> 86	<hr/> 160

The Institution cases were placed as follows :

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Laughton Lodge	3	1
Brentry Colony	7	—
Stoke Park	6	6
Barvin Park	1	—
Princess Christian Farm Colony ..	2	—
Rampton	1	—
St. Teresa's	—	11
Hortham	—	1
Etloe House	—	2
Darenth Park	8	6
St. Laurences	1	—
Pouchlands	2	—
Hill House	—	4
St. Helen's	2	1
Eastry	1	—
Leybourne Grange	5	5
Starcross	1	—
St. Marye's, Alton	—	1
	<hr/> 40	<hr/> 38

OCCUPATION CENTRE

(See page 30)

AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCES DURING THE PERIOD 1ST JANUARY, 1955—31ST DECEMBER, 1955

	EASTBOURNE PUPILS			EAST SUSSEX PUPILS			TOTAL ALL PUPILS
1955	Average Daily Attendance			Average Daily Attendance			Average daily Attendance
MONTH	Aged 5-15 years	Aged Over 15 years	Total	Aged 5-15 years	Aged Over 15 years	Total	
January ..	7.06	4.31	11.37	1.13	1.94	3.07	14.44
February ..	6.16	3.77	9.93	0.83	1.67	2.50	12.43
March ..	5.65	3.69	9.34	1.39	1.00	2.39	11.73
April ..	7.00	4.00	11.00	1.44	1.00	2.44	13.44
May ..	6.74	3.68	10.42	2.95	1.00	3.95	14.37
June ..	6.32	3.63	9.95	2.95	1.00	3.95	13.90
July ..	6.80	4.45	11.25	2.75	1.00	3.75	15.00
August ..	—	—	HOLIDAYS			—	—
September ..	7.00	5.21	12.21	2.57	1.00	3.57	15.78
October ..	6.52	5.33	11.85	2.90	1.00	3.90	15.76
November ..	6.70	5.45	12.15	2.65	1.00	3.65	15.80
December ..	7.06	5.44	12.50	2.38	1.00	3.38	15.88
DAILY AVERAGE FOR PERIOD	6.08	4.08	10.16	2.00	1.05	3.05	13.21

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (CORRECTED) (See page 31)

Notifiable Disease	At all Ages	Age Incidence					Removed to Isolation Hospital
		0-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65 & over	
Scarlet Fever ..	32	7	25	—	—	—	8
Whooping Cough ..	37	22	5	10	—	—	1
Measles ..	502	215	246	41	—	—	4
Acute Pneumonia ..	14	1	—	5	2	6	—
Erysipelas ..	5	—	—	2	2	1	1
Meningococcal Infection ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	19	—	—	19	—	—	—
Tuberculosis : Respiratory	44	—	2	24	14	4	—
Other ..	4	—	1	2	1	—	—

VENEREAL DISEASES

(See page 31)

Cases attending the Centre are shown in the table below. The figures in brackets relate to 1954.

Condition	Males		Females		Total		Total all Cases
	Old Cases	New Cases	Old Cases	New Cases	Old Cases	New Cases	
Syphilis ..	6 (5)	2 (1)	6 (5)	1 (1)	12 (10)	3 (2)	15 (12)
Gonorrhoea ..	2 (2)	1 (1)	— (—)	— (—)	2 (2)	1 (1)	3 (3)
Other Conditions ..	24 (11)	21 (24)	20 (19)	7 (9)	44 (30)	28 (33)	72 (63)
TOTALS ..	32 (18)	24 (26)	26 (24)	8 (10)	58 (42)	32 (36)	90 (78)

SUMMARY, 1942-1955

Year	(1) <i>Total Cases</i>	(2) <i>Non V.D. Cases included in (1)</i>	(3) <i>Attendances</i>		
			(a) <i>For M.O.s attention</i>	(b) <i>Intermediate Times</i>	(c) <i>Total</i>
1942	118	42	399	168	567
1943	216	90	694	231	925
1944	271	123	766	181	947
1945	286	151	646	118	764
1946	277	148	756	318	1074
1947	204	112	628	147	775
1948	160	96	461	12	473
1949	155	80	454	58	512
1950	160	68	348	68	416
1951	98	62	286	20	306
1952	86	62	223	16	239
1953	84	66	141	5	146
1954	78	63	88	—	88
1955	90	72	79	—	79

STAFF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

(See page 34)

In 1955 the examinations were :

Superannuation	131
New Appointments	122
Accident	5
Sick Pay	5
	—
	309
	—

The extent of these examinations is shown by the following :

Year (1st January to 31st December)		Total Examinations
1949 (Part year—1st April to 31st December)		178
1950		252
1951		257
1952		204
1953		188
1954		303
1955		309

In addition to the above 29 examinations were carried out on candidates for admission to Training Colleges, etc.

There were also 9 sessions at Chelsea Training College and 4 at Eastbourne Training College for medical inspection.

EPILEPSY AND CEREBRAL PALSY

(See page 34)

NUMBER OF PERSONS ASCERTAINED

	<i>Local Education Authority</i>	<i>Mental Health Service</i>	<i>Voluntary Association for the Care of Cripples</i>	<i>In Institutional Care</i>
On records 31.12.1954				
Epileptic ..	20	8	—	3
Cerebral Palsy ..	3	6	4	—
Removed during 1955				
Epileptic ..	—	—	—	1 died
Cerebral Palsy ..	—	—	—	—
Ascertained during 1955				
Epileptic ..	1	1	—	—
Cerebral Palsy ..	—	1	—	—
On records at 31.12.1955				
Epileptic ..	21	9	—	2
Cerebral Palsy ..	3	7	4	—

OLD TOWN AND SEASIDE BATHS

(See page 35)

The numbers using these individual baths were :

	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Children</i>	<i>Total</i>
Old Town	5,623	3,708	779	10,110
Seaside	13,154	8,258	1,988	23,400
	<u>18,777</u>	<u>11,966</u>	<u>2,767</u>	<u>33,510</u>

There was a decrease of 941 users compared with the previous year at the Old Town and an increase of 636 at Seaside.

The totals during the previous five years were :

	<i>Old Town</i>	<i>Seaside</i>
1950	15,768	34,415
1951	12,499	25,635
1952	12,252	21,114
1953	12,185	22,826
1954	11,051	22,764

The Old Town Swimming Bath was open from 12th April to 29th October.

The numbers using the bath during this period were :

Organised Parties

Sessions for :

Local Authority Schools	..	..	15,423
Private Schools	..	..	1,321
Youth Organisations	..	..	212
Mixed Bathing	..	..	5,722
Women and Girls	..	..	1,210
Men and Boys	..	..	1,633
			<hr/>
			25,521

The users in the previous five years were :

1950	..	..	..	..	11,521
1951	..	..	..	..	11,533
1952	..	..	..	..	18,290
1953	..	..	..	..	21,842
1954	..	..	..	..	22,420

Regular routine tests of the chlorine content of the water were carried out every two hours by the Attendant-in-Charge and regular samples of the bath water taken for bacteriological examination.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

(See page 35)

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION (Section 21 (i) (a)).

Statistics for the year are as follows :

1. *Cavendish Lodge :*

On 31st December 1954	..	..	..	..	26
Admitted during the year	..	..	..	..	13
Discharged during the year	..	..	..	..	13
Died	..	..	..	..	2
On 31st December 1955	..	..	..	..	24

2. *Trevin Towers :*

				<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
On 31st December 1954	..	..	..	5	40
Admitted during the year	..	..	..	8	15
Discharged during the year	..	..	..	4	11
Died	..	..	..	4	4
On 31st December 1955	..	..	..	5	40

3. *St. Luke's Home :*

On 31st December, 1954	..	..	..	..	26
Admitted during the year	..	..	..	..	31
Discharged during the year	..	..	..	..	18
Died	..	..	..	..	5
On 31st December, 1955	..	..	..	..	34

It is to be noted that once again St. Mary's Hospital was not called upon to provide any Part III accommodation (The Council is entitled to claim the use of up to twenty beds).

4. *Voluntary Homes :* In addition to St. Luke's Home, accommodation was also provided at the following :

Bernhard Baron Cottage Homes, Polegate	..	..	..	1 woman
Salvation Army, Wokingham	..	..	..	1 woman
Salvation Army Home, Medmenham	..	..	..	1 woman
(transferred to Trevin Towers, March, 1955)				
Royal National Institute for the Blind, West-cliffe House, Westgate	..	..	..	1 woman
Church Army Hostel, N.W.1	..	..	..	1 woman
(temporary admission for 1 week during treatment at a London Hospital)				
Redcliffe House, S.W.16	..	..	..	1 woman

5. *Accommodation by Other Authorities :*

One woman was accommodated for a total period of 12 days in two L.C.C. Homes.

6. *Homes for Special Cases :*

(a) *Blind*—Once again tribute must be paid to the excellent work carried out at The Wolds, the Home run by the Society for the Social Welfare of the Blind in Eastbourne.

The high standard of the Home has in no way been affected by a change in Matron during the year, indeed she and her staff have more than maintained the reputation.

Statistics for the year were as follows :

The Wolds, College Road :

On 31st December, 1954	..	..	..	..	19
Admitted during the year	..	..	..	..	14
Discharged during the year	..	..	..	..	12
Died	..	..	..	..	2
On 31st December, 1955	..	..	..	..	19

(b) *Epileptics*—There were no admissions during the year. The 1 man remaining at Chalfont Colony throughout the period. The case at Lingfield reported in my 1954 Report took his own discharge and returned home.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

SCHOOL HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
AVENUE HOUSE,
EASTBOURNE.

31st May, 1956.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the forty-eighth Annual Report on the health of the school child and the work of the School Health Department.

The need for the continuance of national and local measures aimed at guiding the public in health matters is confirmed by the fact that one child in five in Eastbourne is still found to have one or more defects noted at routine medical inspections in schools. These inspections thus remain fundamental in the structure of the service, and the patient repetitive hours of work are richly rewarded by the steady improvement in the physical health shown of school leavers. I note with concern that in nine cases the parents refused to submit their children for inspection, thereby depriving them of a facility from which the child has much to gain and nothing to lose. In addition to the periodic detailed examination by the doctor, the school nurses examine all children every term for head and general cleanliness. The number infested has been reduced most satisfactorily until now it is only in a few known families that cases are expected. Foot defects are prevalent and it seems likely that in future years foot inspections will replace head inspections as the routine. It is of the greatest value that the nurse should see each child every term, as it enables her, with her knowledge of the child's home, to review general health and well-being and become aware of trouble before it occurs.

An innovation this year was a monthly clinic by a chiropodist who was able to correct and advise on many foot defects. As these are known to be a major cause of absenteeism in industry I hope that this will prove a fruitful preventive measure.

Our figures for Diphtheria Immunisation give cause for some satisfaction though the higher rate of primary doses given at school is a reflection of the neglect of some parents with regard to immunisation in infancy. It remains important to persist in this campaign particularly as we advance into new fields with the introduction of poliomyelitis vaccination and B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis in the coming year.

The steady decrease in the amount of juvenile crime and numbers of families where the N.S.P.C.C. Inspector has been called in has not been paralleled by a decrease in the number of children referred for Child Guidance and in fact this number has increased by a third over last year. More and more, as the gross visible defects become

rarer, is the volume of emotional distress and intellectual difficulty in childhood coming to light. It is not related to the income level of the family, and the fact that a large proportion of hospital patients are in mental hospitals is mirrored throughout the broad range of the child population. The quantity of possible prevention is large, but the factors concerned are complex and often intractable. For curative action the Child Guidance Clinic (albeit with a three months waiting list) is indispensable, but the field of thought and action required to forestall trouble is vast and is a constant pre-occupation of medical and nursing staff. It is my observation and one shared by a number of my staff that a sure foundation of sound mental health is in the happy Christian home. Neighbourliness and sound commonsense are vital and deal with many childish worries, but trained skill and experience are often a pressing need. Asthma, a disease often with an emotional basis, shows no tendency to decrease in incidence in contrast with other chest complaints.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman, and the Committee members most sincerely for your support through the year. My thanks are also due to the Chief Education Officer and to his teaching staff for their constant helpful co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,
KENNETH VICKERY,
Principal School Medical Officer.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

(as constituted at 31st December, 1955)

The Mayor :

Councillor LEWIS WILLIAM PYLE, J.P.

Chairman :

Alderman S. M. CAFFYN

Deputy Chairman :

Alderman A. E. DAVIS

Co-opted Members :

Rev. Canon L. E. MEREDITH
Rev. Canon J. H. J. CORBALLIS
Rev. G. E. HICKMAN JOHNSON
Mr. F. JONES
Mrs. F. D. WHITWORTH
Mr. A. WILKINSON

Councillors :

C. F. BAKER
E. O. FINCH
Mrs. E. V. F. FORDHAM
G. S. FOYLE
W. E. HAFFENDEN
A. G. E. JUDGE
L. A. VICKERS
W. P. LEBBON
F. A. POPE
Mrs. I. A. SNELL
B. C. WILLIAMS
H. W. WENHAM

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

(a) Full-time Officers

Principal School Medical Officer :

K. O. A. VICKERY, M.D., B.S.(Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Principal School Medical Officer :

JESSIE GRIFFIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

School Medical Officer :

MARJORIE I. GODSON, M.B., Ch.B.

Principal School Dental Officer :

MAURICE G. BERRY, L.D.S., R.C.S.

School Dental Officer :

J. W. MARTIN, L.D.S. (from 1.2.55)

School Nurses :

Miss K. M. AVIS (Senior), S.R.N., H.V.Cert., Public Health Nursing Administration Certificate.

Miss J. C. M. BERK, S.R.N., H.V.Cert.

Miss E. L. CLARK, S.R.N., H.V.Cert.

Mrs. W. CLEMENTS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Mrs. L. FOSTER, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss E. E. GRIFFIN, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss M. G. HEMMING, S.R.N., H.V.Cert.

Mrs. S. M. JAMES, S.R.N., H.V.Cert.

Miss M. J. PARTRIDGE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss D. J. SPOONER, S.R.C.N., S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V.Cert. (to 18.9.55).

(The School Nurses are also Health Visitors)

Clerks :

Miss B. DOUCH (Senior)

Miss B. M. CARTWRIGHT (from 28.12.55).

Miss J. MARKWICK (from 12.7.55).

Miss J. M. WRIGHT (to 9.9.55)

Dental Attendants :

Mrs. D. S. ANDREWS

Miss D. D. SIDLEY

Miss A. SLADE (from 24.8.55)

(b) Part-time Officers

Orthodontic Specialist :

NORMAN GRAY, F.D.S., R.C.S., H.D.D., L.D.S., Dip. Orth. R.C.S.

Orthodontic Assistant :

H. G. GRIFFITH, B.D.S., L.D.S., R.C.S.

Child Guidance Service :

DORIS KATHLEEN SMALL, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.M.

Miss MARY GARSON, M.A., A.B.Ps., Educational Psychologist.

Miss R. VELVIN SMITH, Psychiatric Social Worker (to 1.10.55).

Miss M. LOGG, B.A., Dip. Psych. (from October).

Miss E. D. SMITH, Clerk.

Speech Therapist :

Mrs. K. HANSFORD, L.C.S.T.

CLINICS

The various Clinics were held as follows :

EXAMINATION

Acacia Villa	..	..	..	Fourth Friday, 10 a.m.
Avenue House	..	..	..	Thursday, 2.15 p.m.
Hampden Park Secondary School or Highfield Primary School	..	..	..	Second Wednesday, 2.15 p.m.
(Additional Clinics were held at all four centres and at Green Street as and when required).				

MINOR AILMENTS

Acacia Villa	..	..	..	Daily, 9 a.m.
Avenue House	..	..	..	Daily, 9 a.m.
Hampden Park Hall	..	..	..	Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m.
Open Air School	..	..	..	Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m.
Green Street	..	..	..	Daily, 9 a.m.

SPEECH THERAPY

Avenue House	Tuesday and Wednesday during School Terms, 9.15 a.m. and 2.15 p.m.
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CHILD GUIDANCE

Avenue House :				
Psychiatrist	Friday, 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.
Educational Psychologist	Tuesday, 2 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.

OPHTHALMIC

Princess Alice Hospital	Special sessions fortnightly, Friday, 9.30 a.m.
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DENTAL

Avenue House	Daily, 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.
Anaesthetic Sessions	Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.
Orthodontic Sessions	..	..	..	Friday, 9 a.m.

CONTENTS

1. Statistics.
2. School Hygiene.
3. Personal Hygiene.
4. Medical and Special Inspections.
5. Follow Up.
6. Arrangements for Treatment.
7. Child Guidance Clinic (Psychiatrist's Report).
8. Handicapped Children.
9. Special Tuition.
10. Dental Care (Report of Principal School Dental Officer).
11. Difficult and Problem Families.
12. Employment of Children.
13. Provision of Clothing.
14. School Meals and Milk.
15. Infectious Disease.
16. Tuberculosis.
17. Immunisation.
18. Deaths.
19. Training College.

1. STATISTICS

The number of children on the School registers on re-opening in January was 6,582 and 6,586 by the end of the year. One thousand, one hundred and ninety-seven children were admitted during the year ; and the net increase compared with the end of 1954 was 60.

The average attendance of children for the year was 6,177, a percentage of 93.2.

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN

At Primary Schools	.. .. .	4,052
At Secondary Schools including Grammar Schools		2,461
At Special Schools	.. .. .	73
		<hr/>
	TOTAL ..	6,586
		<hr/>

2. SCHOOL HYGIENE

The standard of hygiene of school premises, subject to the limitations in certain schools of the accommodation provided, continued to be satisfactory.

3. PERSONAL HYGIENE

The School Nurses continued their routine term visits to schools to inspect the children for head and general cleanliness. Since the problem of infestation is a family one they persevered with their often thankless task of advising parents regarding prevention as well as treatment.

1. Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses	.. .. .	14,684
2. Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	.. .. .	45

Three children were cleansed at the Authority's cleansing centres owing to the failure of the parents to deal satisfactorily with the condition.

The following table shows the trend which has taken place in the state of general cleanliness over the past seven years :

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Inspections</i>	<i>No. Infested</i>
1949	14,325	337
1950	14,451	196
1951	14,894	152
1952	15,833	102
1953	14,657	51
1954	15,593	53
1955	14,684	45

4. MEDICAL INSPECTION

Periodic Medical Inspections of pupils were carried out in the following age groups :

- (a) *Entrants.* Pupils admitted for the first time to a maintained school.
- (b) *10 Year Old Groups.* Pupils attending a maintained Primary School on attaining the age of ten years.
- (c) *14 Year Old Groups.* Pupils seen in the year prior to that in which they will be leaving school.
- (d) *Additional Periodic Inspections.* Pupils attending a maintained school who missed the usual periodic examination.

Total number examined in these age groups was 1,953. A percentage of 20·79 were found to have one or more defects other than dental disease or infestation with vermin requiring treatment.

GENERAL CONDITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED

An estimate of the child's physical condition at the time of inspection was made and the children classified as follows :

Good condition	.. ..	1,456 (74·55 per cent.)
Fair condition (Satisfactory)	.. ..	491 (25·14 per cent.)
Poor condition	.. ..	6 (0·31 per cent.)

The percentage of parents who were present during the periodic medical inspections was 68·20. Nearly all entrants were accompanied by a parent.

SPECIAL INSPECTIONS

These refer to children brought to the notice of the School Medical Officers by parents, teachers and school nurses.

Total number inspected 1,097.

In addition, 1,738 children who were noted at previous periodic or special examinations, were seen by the Medical Officers.

5. FOLLOW-UP

The necessary " follow-up " work in the homes and in the schools is done by the School Nurses :

Number of visits by Nurses to schools	.. ..	356
Number of visits by Nurses to schools for medical inspection	.. ..	188
Number of visits to homes of children by Nurses	.. ..	469

6. ARRANGEMENTS FOR TREATMENT

Children who had defects were referred to their family doctor, to hospital for specialist opinion, or to the School Clinic for treatment for minor ailments and other special defects.

MINOR AILMENT CLINICS

	1955	1954
Total number of children who attended	656	632
Total attendances made	1,586	1,245
Total number of defects treated ..	591	582
<i>Conditions treated were :</i>		
Impetigo	53	28
Eye Diseases (external)	72	96
Ear Diseases	27	17
Other skin diseases (boils septic conditions etc.)	156	133
Miscellaneous (sprains burns cuts etc.)	283	308
Total ..	<u>591</u>	<u>582</u>

SKIN CONDITIONS

For the third year in succession there were no cases of ringworm or scabies attending the Clinic but the number of children suffering from impetigo increased from 28 in 1954 to 53 in 1955. This condition is a contagious one and can spread from child to child by direct contact and by the use of communal towels. In teaching children the hygienic value of hand washing and clean habits such teaching must be backed up by the provision of plenty of hot water, soap, and an ample supply of clean towels easily available on the school premises.

PLANTAR WARTS

Ninety-two children were known to have attended hospital for the treatment of this condition compared with 55 in the previous year.

In the early part of the year the infection reached significant proportions at the Girls' High School. It was felt that the damp wooden floors in and around the showers were a contributory cause and arrangements were made for the occasional treatment of the wood slatted flooring with Voxsan. New cases continued to occur and a recommendation for the suspension of all bare foot work in the gymnasium was made for an experimental period of one year. The position had improved considerably by the end of the year although sporadic new cases occurred from time to time.

CHIROPODY

Chiropody Clinics were stated at Avenue House Clinic on 16th June, 1955. Mr. A. E. Cole, M.Ch.S., carried out a monthly session of three hours. Forty-eight children made 82 attendances for treatment of corns, callosities and minor foot defects. There can be no doubt that the children treated were relieved of much discomfort and disability.

FOOT INSPECTION

In July, 1955, Mr. Cole made a detailed survey of the feet of all children in the age groups 11 to 17 years attending the Girls' High School. The results were as follows :

No. inspected	327
No. with defects	240

Defects Found

Tinea	26
Valgoid ankles	61
Deformity of 5th toe	23
Clawed toes	46
Knock knees	10
Hallux valgus	113
Hallux rigidus	10
Hallux flexus	2
Pes cavus	11
Pes planus	2
Warts	40
Callosities	28
Corns	60
Abnormal nails	10
Hyperidrosis	6
Hammer toes	18
Overriding toes	3

Number of children not wearing socks	10
Number of children wearing too short socks	6
Number of children wearing too long socks	3

Apart from those suffering from warts or corns few of the children admitted to any disability or discomfort at the time of examination. Active treatment was not called for in the majority of cases. Nevertheless in the light of the disabilities which can arise in later life from progressive defects of the feet perhaps the greatest value of such inspections is the opportunity provided for the giving of advice, particularly regarding footwear.

VISUAL DEFECTS

Using Snellens Eye Card or pictorial charts the vision of children in all schools was tested in the age groups : 5, 7, 10, 12, 14 and 17 years.

	<i>New Cases</i>		<i>Old Cases</i>	
	1954	1955	1954	1955
No. of cases referred to Ophthalmic Clinic	222	186	216	277
No. attendances made	242	212	232	307
Glasses prescribed ..	121	128	119	173

Fewer new cases were referred to the Ophthalmic Surgeon than in 1954, a more careful selection having been made. It is a fact that many children with minor degrees of defective vision get along very well without glasses.

Children suffering from squint were supervised at the hospital Ophthalmic Clinic where orthoptic treatment was given when necessary.

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS

Children suffering from these defects were examined and treated at hospital as previously. The number of children suffering from otitis media was small. Since April, 1955, the hearing of all school leavers was tested. Of the 185 leavers examined, 13 had a history of previous otitis media. So far as could be ascertained by the voice test there was no impairment of hearing in any of these children.

ORTHOPAEDIC DEFECTS

Children suffering from significant departures from the normal were referred to the hospital orthopaedic department for advice and treatment.

A weekly clinic for remedial and breathing exercises was started at Avenue House in March, 1955.

Foot Exercises

Total number of children who attended ..	..	39
Total number of attendances made ..	..	274

Breathing Exercises

Total number of children who attended ..	..	52
Total number of attendances made ..	..	456
Referred to Chelsea College ..	..	14

This treatment clinic is additional to those already in operation in schools suitable for the purpose, and the exercises were given by

the Third Year students from the Chelsea College of Physical Education.

The asthmatic children benefited from the course of breathing exercises. The students did what they could to impress upon the children attending the benefits resulting from good posture.

DISEASE OF THE LUNGS

Recurrent colds and upper respiratory infections are frequent occurrences in the school child and account for much absenteeism and debility.

Asthma both mild and severe is one of the commoner illnesses now found at periodic medical and special inspections. Our impression is that this is one of the ailments found in the school child which does not diminish as the years pass. The school medical officer and school nurse take every opportunity of advising on the value of a nutritious diet, the benefits of a good night's sleep, and the part which suitable clothing can play in building up the resistance of the affected children.

DISEASE OF THE HEART

I am happy to say that there are very few children attending Eastbourne schools suffering from any significant degree of heart disease.

During the year one was referred for treatment and twenty-eight kept under observation.

SPEECH DEFECTS. *Report of the Speech Therapist*

During the school terms, four weekly sessions were held at Avenue House, two sessions each month were spent visiting schools and homes. One session weekly was divided during the year between the Occupation Centre, the Open Air School and St. Aidan's Day E.S.N. School. The latter was visited 7 times.

Number of cases under treatment at the beginning of the year	34
New cases referred during the year	38
Number of clinic sessions	164
Number of attendances	1,036
Number of visiting sessions made by Speech Therapist to schools and home	22
Number of cases discharged	31
Number of cases under treatment at the end of the year	34
Number of cases waiting treatment at the end of the year	2
Number of cases who failed to attend	5

Defects treated :

Deafness	1
Sigmatism (faulty " s " sound)	11
Dyslalia (defective articulation)	29
Stammer	9
Delayed Speech	7
Splastic Speech	2
Cleft palate	1
Other disorders	5
	—
	65
	—

Discharged:

Stammer—improved	5
Dyslalia—clear speech	13
Sigmatism—clear speech	6
Delayed speech—clear speech	3
Deafness—slight improvement	1
Other disorders—improved	3
	—
	31
	—

Occupation Centre

Number of cases	10
Visits made by Speech Therapists	23
Attendances	179

Open Air School

Number of cases	8
Visits made by Speech Therapist	12
Attendances	87

7. CHILD GUIDANCE SERVICE

The long waiting list continues to deter the School Medical Officer and others from referring cases unless they are becoming so severely maladjusted as to present a most difficult problem. The long period of treatment then required for guidance sustains the vicious circle. The trouble almost invariably is found to have its roots in trying relationships existing years previously, some at least of which could have been mitigated had advice been sought in the earlier phases.

Hence it is of the utmost importance that parents should be urged to bring their minor troubles out into the light where the experience of Health Visitor or Medical Officer can often discern the onset of trouble which later would need skilled psychiatric help.

REPORT OF THE PSYCHIATRIST IN CHARGE

Statistics relating to Eastbourne children :

Statistics relating to Eastbourne children :

Number of Sessions	82
Cases Seen :	
Old	52
New	56
	— 108
Total Attendances	532
New cases referred during 1955	81
Cases treated :	
By Psychiatrist	30
By Psychologist	22
(excluding those seen by Psychiatrist)	
	— 52

Waiting List :

1st January, 1955	24
31st December, 1955	27

Analysis of New Cases :

A. Source :

School Medical Officer	63
Parents	7
General Practitioners	7
Others	4
	— 81

B. Reasons :

Nervous Disorders	10
Habit Disorders	5
Behaviour Problems	26
Education and Vocational Problems	40
	— 81

Analysis of Cases seen during 1955 :

A. By Psychiatrist :

For diagnosis	26
For treatment	30

Analysis of Diagnostic Cases :

Diagnosis and advice	9
Treatment and case closed	3
Under treatment	14
	— 26

Analysis of Treatment Cases :

Satisfactorily adjusted	..	..	..	..	5
Improved	..	..	..	..	8
Under observation	..	..	..	..	10
Closed unco-operative	..	..	..	..	4
Transferred	..	..	..	..	3
					— 30

B. By Psychologist :

(a) For ascertainment of I.Q.	62
-------------------------------	----	----	----	----

Analysis of Ascertainment Cases :

Advice regarding education	..	..	..	28
Vocational Guidance	..	..	..	2
Maladjustment	..	..	..	31
Emigration	..	..	..	1
				— 62

(b) Coaching Cases :

Receiving coaching at end of year	..	..	17
Discharged satisfactory	..	..	3
Discharged unsatisfactory	..	..	1
Transferred	..	..	1
			— 22

(c) School Visits	6
-------------------	----	----	----	----	---

C. Psychiatric Social Worker :

Social Histories	..	..	..	..	30
Interviews	..	..	..	..	219
School Visits	..	..	..	..	17
Home and Other Visits	..	..	..	..	186

The Clinic has again been handicapped during the year by lack of full staff. Despite this staff shortage, the volume of work covered during the year shows a considerable increase over the previous one. While in 1954 fifty-five new cases were referred, we finished the year with a waiting list of 24. This year new referrals amounted to 81 ; the waiting list at the end of the year being 27. As the prospects of a full staff seem brighter for the coming year, it is to be hoped that this will result in a much smaller waiting list in the future.

Vacancies were caused during the year by the resignation, in July, of Miss Garson, the Educational Psychologist, and Miss R. V. Smith, the Social Worker, who left on October 1st to complete her qualification.

In October, one appointment was made—Miss Logg, Educational

Psychologist. The vacancy for a Psychiatric Social Worker has been advertised, but no suitable application has been received.

The services of the Educational Psychologist, previously two sessions per week, have now been increased to five per week.

In addition to the above analysis, the following work for the East Sussex County has been done at this Clinic :

14 New Cases investigated.

18 Cases treated or supervised

22 Home visits.

(Signed) DORIS K. SMALL,
Psychiatrist in Charge.

8. HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

We are well aware of the claims of handicapped children to a normal life and education in an ordinary school whenever possible.

For these reasons, children are carefully selected before recommending admission to our day open air school and boarding special schools. Those attending such schools are re-examined at frequent intervals to review their progress bearing in mind their transfer to an ordinary school.

The following table shows the number of children on the Register of Handicapped Pupils at the end of the year :

		<i>In Residential Special Schools</i>	<i>In Day Special Schools</i>	<i>In Ordinary Schools</i>	<i>In Hospital Schools</i>	<i>At Home</i>	<i>Total</i>
Partially Sighted ..		2	1	2	—	1	6
Blind		2	—	—	—	—	2
Partially Deaf ..		2	—	2	—	—	4
Deaf		5	—	—	—	—	5
Delicate		—	31	2	—	—	33
Physically Handicapped ..		—	13	2	3	1	19
Educationally Sub-normal ..		2	29	—	—	1	32
Epileptic		1	—	—	—	—	1

EPILEPTICS

There are 21 children who are known Epileptics attending ordinary schools in the town (not on the Register of Handicapped Pupils).

ST. AIDAN'S SPECIAL DAY SCHOOL FOR E.S.N. PUPILS

		<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>
Number on Roll, January		28	4
Admissions		4	—
Leavers		6	1
Number on Roll, December		26	3

Of the six boys who left :

Three were transferred to Residential Schools.

Three left neighbourhood.

One girl left the district.

MISS E. M. WILKES, Head Teacher, reports :

One of the four admissions was a boy from East Sussex making the admissions for Eastbourne this year the lowest on record. The peak was reached in 1921 when 39 children were admitted. Of the six boys who left, three left the neighbourhood, and three were transferred to Residential Schools. One girl left when the family moved to Horam, East Sussex.

Many old pupils visited including one who was in England on holiday from Canada. He had gone there after the war and obtained employment in the Stock Room of a Departmental Store in Toronto.

Two of our recent leavers and regular visitors are working in hotels in Eastbourne. They are attending Evening Classes to be trained as hotel cooks.

The Cookery Classes taken by Mrs. Nethercot on two mornings each week enabled all our pupils to have a cookery lesson every other week.

Swimming and Pysical Training

We were fortunate again in having the valuable assistance of Mr. Roberts, Organiser of Physical Education, who arranged for swimming to continue during the winter months at Devonshire Park Baths.

During the Summer Term a larger group were taken to Old Town Baths where Students from Chelsea College assisted whenever their other commitments allowed. Three boys passed the tests for the Swimming Proficiency Certificate and two boys passed the Beginners Test.

Our weekly visit to St. Winifred's gymnasium where our younger pupils receive individual training by the students of Chelsea College is most popular.

This school, which opened at St. Aidan's, Whitley Road, in 1907, is to move to Swallow's Nest, Langney, in January, 1956, where there are better facilities for the teaching of Woodwork, Gardening and Physical Education.

EDUCATION ACT, 1954, SECTION 57

Children notified to the Local Health Authority :

Under Section 57 (3)	..	..	..	..	..	3
Under Section 57 (5)	..	..	..	..	..	—

OPEN AIR DAY SCHOOL, Beechy Avenue, Eastbourne.

Forty-eight children were on the register of the Open Air School at the beginning of the year and were classified as follows :

Delicate	35
Physically Handicapped	12
Partially Sighted	1
	—
	48
Number of admissions	14
	—
	62

The children who left were placed as follows :

Transferred to ordinary schools	11
Left the district	3
School leavers	3
	—
	17

The number of children on the register at the end of the year were :

Delicate	31
Physically Handicapped	13
Partially Sighted	1
	—
	45
	—
	62

The average duration of stay was three years two months.

MISS B. A. PAYNE, Head Teacher, reports :

During 1955, a number of children left to take their place in the Secondary Schools of the town, all of them very much improved in health.

We are again grateful to Mr. J. Roberts, Organiser of Physical Education, for his interest and help. Swimming throughout the year continues, a most rewarding feature of our school programme. Several certificates have been gained, notably one by a girl of nine years who is severely handicapped by poliomyelitis.

A music club has been formed and is very popular.

The school gardening class continued to supply produce for our school meals which are now also enjoyed by a number of girls from St. Mary's School.

A new venture was a Parents' Evening, when a large and appreciative audience listened to an interesting and helpful talk given by the Principal School Medical Officer, Dr. K. O. A. Vickery.

9. SPECIAL TUITION (HOME AND HOSPITAL)

One girl, aged 13 years, suffering from Rheumatic Fever, was unable to attend school. The Authority provided special tuition for her in hospital. One boy, aged 10 years, suffering from Haemophilia, was unable to attend school. The Authority provided special tuition for him at home.

Five children received education while in Hospital Special Schools:

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Queen Victoria Hospital, East Grinstead ..	1	—
Goldie Leigh Hospital School, Abbey Wood	1	1
Maudsley & Bethlem Hospital School, Beckenham	—	1
Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore	1	—

10. DENTAL CLINIC

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER

SESSIONS

The number of sessions devoted to inspection and treatment were :

Principal School Dental Officer	471
School Dental Officer	343
Part-time Officer	15

Of these, 60 sessions were devoted to routine inspections and 769 to treatment.

In addition, the Orthodontic Specialist carried out 50 sessions.

GENERAL SERVICES

At the 60 sessions devoted to periodic inspection, 6,289 children were seen in the following age groups :

Number of individual children inspected during the year 1955

Age ..	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Total
<i>Inspected</i>	54	493	615	709	718	565	596	591	572	474	479	269	86	38	30	6,289

1st Inspection. Number of children seen for the first time.

Age ..	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Total
<i>Inspected</i>	49	447	570	677	696	535	550	556	567	465	469	259	78	38	30	5,986

2nd Inspection. Number of children seen for the second time.

Age ..	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Total
Inspected	11	131	178	298	399	339	261	185	139	145	124	50	7	—	—	2,267

There were 303 children seen for the first time in the year during the second inspections at the following schools : Bourne Infants, Bourne Junior, Highfield Primary, St. Andrew's Infants, St. Andrew's Junior, Roselands Infants, Bedewell, Trinity District and Commercial.

At the request of parents, a further 210 children were inspected at the Clinic. Of the gross total of 6,499 children inspected, 3,028, a percentage of 46·6 were found to require treatment. The number of sessions devoted to treatment was 769 and 2,488 children made 6,905 attendances.

The following is a summary of the treatment given :

Fillings :

Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	..	3,575
Temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	..	129
						<u>3,704</u>

Number of teeth filled :

Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	..	2,746
Temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	..	106
						<u>2,852</u>

Extractions :

Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	..	617
Temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	..	1,761
						<u>2,378</u>

Administration of General Anaesthetics 1,326

Other Operations :

Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	..	2,733
Temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	..	470
						<u>3,203</u>

The anaesthetic in use is Nitrous Oxide and Oxygen from a McKesson apparatus.

ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT

Fifty clinic sessions were held throughout the year at the Central Dental Clinic and 100 children made 654 attendances.

Number of cases under treatment at the beginning of the year	58
New patients during the year	40
Treatment completed	28
Failed to complete treatment	8
Number of cases under treatment at end of year	62
Number of cases waiting treatment at end of year	8

Some orthodontic treatment was given at the ordinary dental clinics and 264 attendances were made by 30 children.

Dentures were supplied to 27 children.

11. DIFFICULT AND PROBLEM FAMILIES

(a) The conditions under which 44 families were living were sufficiently unsatisfactory to justify the continued attention of School Nurses, Welfare Workers and other officers of the Department. In the case of 28 of these families, conditions were at times most unsatisfactory and considerable time and attention was devoted to them.

(b) THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

Mr. S. Clements, the local inspector, assisted the Department in 6 cases involving 14 children, of whom 7 were of school age. Sixty-one visits were paid to these families. The cases were classified as :

Neglect	2
Ill-treatment	1
Exposure	1
Advice sought	1
Moral danger	1
	<hr/>
	6
	<hr/>

The Inspector also dealt with 65 other families. Of the 124 children in these families, 64 were of school age.

The classifications were :

Neglect	15
Ill-treatment	7
Beyond control	5
Moral Danger	4
Advice or aid sought	33
Exposure	1
	—
	65
	—

The number of visits paid to these families was 431.

(c) JUVENILE CRIME. The Chief Constable, Mr. R. W. Walker, has kindly supplied the following statistics :

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Sent to Approved Schools	2	—
Fined	1	—
Probation	22	4
Convicted—conditional discharge	1	—
Convicted—absolute discharge	1	—
Otherwise disposed of	4	—
Dismissed	1	—
Cautions	24	9
	—	—
	56	13
	—	—

12. EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN

In connection with these Byelaws 140 children were examined and the necessary certificates provided.

The Department in close co-operation with the Youth Employment Service completed during the year 288 medical reports in respect of children who left the secondary modern schools, including 5 handicapped children.

13. PROVISION OF CLOTHING

EDUCATION (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT, 1948, SECTION 5

Various articles of clothing were supplied by the Education Authority to 22 children from 16 families. Many articles of clothing were also obtained from voluntary sources, mainly the Women's Voluntary Services.

14. SCHOOL MEALS AND MILK

During 1955 the number of mid-day meals served was 616,634 of which 41,591 were free. During the previous year 572,625 meals were served, 55,791 being free.

The kitchen at the Technical School was closed in July as was the one in the Friday Street Mission Hall which served the pupils from Swallow's Nest, Langney. The small number of Secondary pupils at the Technical School now have their dinners sent by container from the Central Kitchen, Alma Road. The pupils from Swallow's Nest moved to their new premises at Langney County Primary School in September.

Neither this new school, nor the new Ratton County Secondary School, also opened in September, have their own kitchens, and these too have had meals sent by container service from the Central Kitchen. The pupils from Bourne Secondary School were transferred to this latter school and the larger number of meals required by them (approximately 520 each day) is partly responsible for the increase in the total number of meals served during the year. The building vacated by these pupils is now occupied by the Bedewell C.E. Secondary School who thus have their own kitchen-dining room. In previous years they have had meals sent from the Central Kitchen.

The Milk-in-Schools Scheme has continued to function and one-third pint bottles of milk are provided for all primary and secondary school children who wish to have them.

The following table shows the number of children taking meals and milk in school on a given day in October.

	PRIMARY AND SECONDARY DEPARTMENTS					
	MEALS				MILK	
	<i>No. of Children in Schools</i>	<i>Free</i>	<i>Paid</i>	<i>Percentage taking Meals</i>	<i>Total taking Milk</i>	<i>Percentage taking Milk</i>
<i>A day in October</i>						
1955	6,374	179	3,208	53.1	5,419	85.0
1954	6,211	267	2,845	50.1	5,364	86.3

15. INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Notifications of infectious disease relating to children of school age were :

Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	24
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	14
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	282
Food Poisoning	..	..	..	..	..	2

I am pleased to report that there were no cases of Poliomyelitis or Diphtheria in children of school age.

16. TUBERCULOSIS

Two children between the ages of 5 to 15 years were notified as suffering from respiratory tuberculosis (1 boy and 1 girl).

One boy between the ages 5 to 15 years was notified as suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

School children contacts of notified cases of tuberculosis attend the Chest Clinic for regular supervision by the Chest Physician.

Ministry of Health Circular 22/53 recommending vaccination with B.C.G. was kept under active review. The existing commitments of the medical staff of the department were carefully examined and the Council agreed that no extension of the National Health Service proposals should be sought during the year.

17. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number of children between the ages of 5 and 15 years immunised by the Medical Staff of the Department and those in these age groups in respect of whom records were sent in by General Medical Practitioners are as follows :

	<i>By Medical Staff of the Department</i>	<i>By General Medical Practitioners</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Primary Immunisation	70	4	74
Reinforcing Doses ..	780	107	887

According to our school medical records at the end of the year, 5,680 children out of 6,586 on the school registers had been immunised, giving a percentage of approximately 86.

18. DEATHS OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

There was no death of a child of school age.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS
 Year ended 31st December, 1955
Local Education Authority - EASTBOURNE

TABLE I
**Medical Inspection of Pupils attending Maintained
 Primary and Secondary Schools**
(including Special Schools)
(This return refers to a complete calendar year)

A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Age Groups inspected and Number of Children examined in each :

Entrants	553
10 Year Old	605
14 Year Old	487

Total	1,645
Additional Periodic Inspections	308

Grand Total 1,953

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections	1,097
Number of Re-inspections	1,738

(Previously included Child Guidance and Speech Therapy attendances. Not included this year.)

Total .. 2,835

C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT

Number of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to Require Treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

- Notes.*—(1) Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to require treatment for a defect should not be excluded from this return by reason of the fact that they are already under treatment for that defect.
- (2) No individual pupil should be recorded more than once in any column of this Table, and therefore the total in column (4) will not necessarily be the same as the sum of columns (2) and (3).

<i>Age Groups Inspected</i> (1)	<i>For defective vision (excluding squint)</i> (2)	<i>For many of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA</i> (3)	<i>Total Individual Pupils</i> (4)
Entrants	18	98	104
10 Year Old	62	67	132
14 Year Old	39	87	118
Total	129	252	354
Additional Periodic Inspections	16	37	52
Grand Total ..	145	289	406

TABLE II

A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1955.

Note.—All defects noted at medical inspection as requiring treatment should be included in this return, *whether or not this treatment was begun before the date of the inspection.*

<i>Defect Code No.</i>	<i>Defect or Disease</i>	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
		<i>No. of defects</i>		<i>No. of defects</i>	
		<i>Requiring treatment</i>	<i>Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.</i>	<i>Requiring treatment</i>	<i>Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.</i>
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
4	Skin	38	93	78	1
5	Eyes— <i>a.</i> Vision	*145	294	92	15
	<i>b.</i> Squint	23	34	1	—
	<i>c.</i> Other	3	22	15	1
6	Ears— <i>a.</i> Hearing	4	62	9	5
	<i>b.</i> Otitis Media	1	18	1	—
	<i>c.</i> Other	3	9	14	—
7	Nose or Throat	49	304	54	13
8	Speech	13	29	18	6
9	Cervical Glands	2	185	1	—
10	Heart and Circulation	—	22	1	6
11	Lungs	10	79	22	3
12	Developmental—				
	<i>a.</i> Hernia	—	15	—	—
	<i>b.</i> Other	1	19	16	7
13	Orthopaedic—				
	<i>a.</i> Posture	33	57	7	—
	<i>b.</i> Flat Foot	5	52	1	—
	<i>c.</i> Other	75	265	46	26
14	Nervous system—				
	<i>a.</i> Epilepsy	2	3	—	5
	<i>b.</i> Other	—	5	1	—
15	Psychological—				
	<i>a.</i> Development	—	27	4	1
	<i>b.</i> Stability	3	76	46	9
16	Other	25	43	88	8

Note.—*This figure should normally be equal to that shown as the grand total of Column (2) ("For defective vision (excluding squint)") of Table I.C.

B.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE AGE GROUPS (See Note on Table I)

Age Groups Inspected	Number of Pupils Inspected	A (Good)		B (Fair)		C (Poor)	
		No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants	553	437	79.02	115	20.80	1	0.18
10 Year Old ..	605	455	75.21	150	24.79	—	—
14 Year Old ..	487	352	72.28	133	27.31	2	0.41
Additional Periodic Inspections ..	308	212	68.83	93	30.20	3	0.97
Total ..	1953	1456	74.55	491	25.14	6	0.31

Note.—The figures in Column (2) should normally equal those detailed under Table I.A.

TABLE III

Infestation with Vermin

- (i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorized persons .. 14,684
- (ii) Total number of *individual* pupils found to be infested 45
- (iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944) —
- (iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944) —

Notes.—A statement as to the arrangements made by the Local Education Authority for the examination and cleansing of infested pupils should appear in the body of the Principal School Medical Officer's Report.

All cases of infestation, however slight, should be recorded.

The return should relate to individual pupils and not to instances of infestation.

TABLE IV

Treatment of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools (including Special Schools)

Notes.—(a) Treatment provided by the Authority includes all defects treated or under treatment during the year by the Authority's own staff, however brought to the Authority's notice, i.e., whether by periodic inspection, special inspection, or otherwise, during the year in question or previously.

(b) Treatment provided otherwise than by the Authority includes all treatment known by the Authority to have been so provided, including treatment undertaken in school clinics by the Regional Hospital Board.

(N.B.—The information asked for in this table falls into these two Divisions (a) and (b), except in Group 5 (Child Guidance Treatment).

GROUP 1.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanness, for which see Table III).

					<i>Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year</i>	
					<i>by the Authority</i>	<i>otherwise</i>
Ringworm—(i) Scalp	..	..	..	..	—	—
(ii) Body	..	..	..	..	5	—
Scabies	..	..	..	..	2	—
Impetigo	..	..	..	..	53	3
Other skin diseases	..	..	..	..	149	177
Total	..	..	..	..	209	180

GROUP 2.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

					<i>Number of cases dealt with</i>	
					<i>by the Authority</i>	<i>otherwise</i>
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	..	..	..	..	72	117
Errors of refraction (including squint)	..	..	..	..	—	435
Total	..	..	..	..	72	552
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were						
(a) Prescribed	..	..	..	..	—	301
(b) Obtained	..	..	..	..	—	<i>Information not available</i>

GROUP 3.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

	<i>Number of cases treated</i>	
	<i>by the Authority</i>	<i>otherwise</i>
Received operative treatment		
(a) for diseases of the ear	—	6
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsilitis	—	161
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	—	1
Received other forms of treatment ..	27	237
Total	27	405

GROUP 4.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals	1	
	<i>by the Authority</i>	<i>otherwise</i>
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g., in clinics or out-patient departments	—	56

GROUP 5.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT

	<i>Number of cases treated</i>	
	<i>in the Authority's Child Guidance Clinics</i>	<i>elsewhere</i>
Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics :		
By Psychiatrist only	56	—
By Psychologist only	48	—
Total	104	—

GROUP 6.—SPEECH THERAPY

	<i>Number of cases treated</i>	
	<i>by the Authority</i>	<i>otherwise</i>
Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists	75	—

GROUP 7.—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN

				<i>Number of cases treated</i>	
				<i>by the Authority</i>	<i>otherwise</i>
(a) Miscellaneous minor ailments ..	..			114	30
(b) Other than (a) above specify ..	..			
1. Minor Injuries— ..	..	..	..	163	595
2. Appendicitis ..	..	..	..	—	56
3. Fractures ..	..	..	..	—	14
4. Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	—	200
5. Osteomyelitis ..	..	..	..	—	1
Total ..	..	..		277	896

TABLE V

Dental Inspection and Treatment carried out by the Authority

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :				
(a) At Periodic Inspections	..	..	..	6,289
(b) As Specials	..	..	..	210
			Total (1)	6,499
(2) Number found to require treatment	..	..	..	3,028
(3) Number offered treatment	..	..	..	3,028
(4) Number actually treated	..	..	..	2,488
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	..	..	..	6,905
(6) Half days devoted to : Periodic Inspection	..	..	..	60
Treatment	..	..	..	769
			Total (6)	829
(7) Fillings : Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	3,575
Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	129
			Total (7)	3,704
(8) Number of teeth filled : Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	2,746
Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	106
			Total (8)	2,852
(9) Extractions : Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	617
Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	1,761
			Total (9)	2,378
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction				1,326
(11) Other operations : Permanent Teeth	2,733
Temporary Teeth	470
			Total (11)	3,203

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