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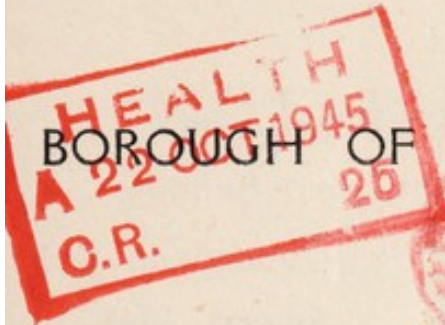
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Kent

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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
Medical Officer of Health  
AND  
School Medical Officer

for the  
Year ended 31st December, 1944

BY

W. A. MUIR, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health  
Medical Officer Maternity and Child Welfare Centre  
School Medical Officer

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1945

*Thorn Press, Gillingham*

Health Department,  
Municipal Buildings,  
Gillingham, Kent.  
August, 1945.

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

Mr. Mayor, Madam, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to report on the work of the Health Department for the year ending 31st December, 1944.

**Vital Statistics :**

The birthrate showed a further rise and reached the highest level since 1921. The death rate remained unaltered but was greater than in previous years. The infantile mortality rate of 47 is a satisfactory figure when compared with the rest of the country. There was a slight fall in the death rate from tuberculosis, but the rate remains above pre-war level. The number of cases of tuberculosis of the lungs notified shows a disturbing increase.

**Infectious Diseases :**

Measles appeared in epidemic form but the incidence of other infectious diseases was below the average. No deaths were recorded.

**War-Time Nurseries :**

A third nursery was opened in April, but some months later attendances began to fall and therefore the Railway Street Nursery for children under 2 years was closed in January, 1945.

**Housing :**

There is an acute shortage of housing accommodation but there are comparatively few cases of legal overcrowding. Innumerable young married couples are forced of necessity to live with one of their parents. The shortage of houses and of domestic help increased the demand for institutional maternity beds, of which there are insufficient in the area.

I wish to tender my thanks to the depleted staff of the Department for the valuable assistance they rendered, often under most difficult conditions.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

W. A. MUIR,  
Medical Officer of Health.

## STAFF.—PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

### *Medical Officer of Health:*

\*W. A. Muir, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

### *Assistant Medical Officer of Health:*

\*Meta L. Dunlop, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

### *Anaesthetist (part-time):*

S. Bather, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Military Service, May, 1940).

### *Dental Surgeon (part-time):*

(*Maternity and Child Welfare*)

F. J. Bloor, L.D.S. (Eng.) (Military Service, 21/6/40).

R. N. Merrett, L.D.S., 25/6/40.

### *Senior Sanitary Inspector:*

\*David L. Ball, C.R.S.I.

### *Sanitary Inspectors:*

\*G. H. Ridgway, C.R.S.I.

\*W. G. McDonald, Cert. S.I.B. (Military Service 18/10/40).

\*R. C. Langley, Cert. S.I.B.

\*†F. Pickering, Cert. S.I.B.

### *Health Visitors:*

\*†§Miss R. Hopkins (C.M.B. Cert.).

\*†||Miss N. Legg (C.M.B. Cert., Health Visitor's Cert.).

\*†||Miss E. M. Ross (C.M.B. Cert.).

\*†§Miss H. Parry (C.M.B. Cert., Health Visitor's Cert.).

\*†§Miss V. Fulford (C.M.B. Cert., Health Visitor's Cert.).

\*†§Miss C. E. Mason (C.M.B. Cert., Health Visitor's Cert.).

### *Municipal Midwives:*

Miss E. Daly, C.M.B., S.R.N.

Miss W. D. A. Maisey, C.M.B., S.R.N.

Mrs. M. G. Salter, C.M.B.

Miss G. I. Stone, C.M.B.

Miss A. Willey, C.M.B.

### *Chief Clerk:*

F. Eric Young (Military Service, March, 1943)

Miss G. Palmer (Commenced March, 1943)

### *Clerks:*

S. Pett (Military Service, 29/2/40).

Miss D. Dumbrell (temporary).

Miss E. Bowgen (temporary).

Miss C. Rogers (temporary).

### *Ambulance Driver and Mortuary Attendant:*

John Sparks

\*Indicates officials to whose salaries contribution is made under the Public Health Acts or by Exchequer Grants.

†Indicates general trained nurse.

‡Also Inspector under Shop Acts.

§Two-thirds time given to Maternity and Child Welfare, one-third to School Medical work.

||Half-time given to School Medical work, half to Maternity and Child Welfare.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres (land, inland water and foreshore)	11,201
Rateable Value (April, 1945) ... ..	£377,178
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate (1944-5) ...	£1,450
In 1944-5 the total Rates were 14/6 in the £ (excluding water rates and charges).	
Average weekly number of persons in receipt of Outdoor Relief during the year ended 31st March, 1945	153
Amount paid in Outdoor Relief, year ended 31st March, 1945 ... ..	£9,498/17/1
Number of Gillingham persons admitted to the County Hospital, Chatham, during the year ended 31st March, 1945 ... ..	560

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Population ... .. 52,800

#### Live Births :

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident civilian population ... .. 22.95

#### Still Births :

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... 22.58

#### Deaths (all causes) :

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population ... .. 12.65

#### Deaths from Puerperal Causes :

	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal and post abortive sepsis ...	Nil
Other Maternal Causes ... ..	Nil
Total ... ..	Nil

#### Death Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age :

All Infants per 1,000 live births ... ..	47
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..	46
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	60

**Deaths in Public Institutions :**

Two hundred and sixty-six deaths or 39.8 per cent. of the total, took place in Institutions.

**Natural Increase of Population :**

This is measured by the excess of births over deaths. The figure for the year 1944 was 544 and for the previous years as follows :—

Year						Natural Increase of Population.
1938	...	...	...	...	...	373
1939	...	...	...	...	...	324
1940	...	...	...	...	...	160
1941	...	...	...	...	...	239
1942	...	...	...	...	...	287
1943	...	...	...	...	...	468
1944	...	...	...	...	...	544

**Cancer :**

				Cancer Death Rate.	Percentage of Total Deaths.	
1938	...	...	...	1.6	...	16.8
1939	...	...	...	1.4	...	13.0
1940	...	...	...	1.9	...	13.1
1941	...	...	...	1.8	...	12.7
1942	...	...	...	2.0	...	14.7
1943	...	...	...	2.0	...	16.1
1944	...	...	...	2.0	...	15.9

**Road Traffic Accidents :**

Deaths numbered 8 compared with 3 in the previous year.

Deaths from suicides numbered 3 and from "other violent causes," 28 (18).

**GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES****Midwives :**

The number of registered midwives at 31st December was 10, of whom 5 are members of the Corporation Staff.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

### Vaccination :

The percentage of infants known to be successfully vaccinated was 55. The percentage of statutory declarations was 23.6

I am indebted to the Vaccination Officer for the following figures :—

1.	Number of cases on Birth lists received during 1944, but actually registered between 1st December, 1943, and 30th November, 1944	1110
2.	Number of Vaccination Certificates received between 1st January, 1944, and 31st December, 1944	614
3.	Number of Statutory Declarations received between 1st January, 1944, and 31st December, 1944	262
4.	Number of Postponement Certificates received between 1st January, 1944, and 31st December, 1944 :—	
	(a) Health of Child	22
	(b) Conditions of house or prevalence of Infectious Disease in District	— Nil
5.	Number of Certificates of Insusceptibility received between 1st January, 1944, and 31st December, 1944	5
6.	Number of cases removed from District	74
7.	Number of cases not traced	7

### Scarlet Fever :

Notifications numbered 83. Twenty-six (31 per cent.) were removed to hospital. There were no deaths.

Number of houses in which			
One case occurred	...	...	58
Two cases occurred	...	...	9
Three cases occurred	...	...	1
Four cases occurred	...	...	1
Number of " return cases "	...	...	1

## TABLE SHOWING NOTIFICATION OF DIPHTHERIA

From 1918 to 1944

Period	No. Notified	Deaths Registered
1918-27	78 (Avg.)	—
1928	213	10
1929	179	17
1930	42	1
1931	19	1
1932	8	—
1933	17	1
1934	52	4
1935	27	5
1936	17	2
1937	42	1
1938	157	4
1939	86	1
1940	28	1
1941	5	0
1942	7	0
1943	3	0
1944	3	0

The following table summarises the work of the Clinic since its inception in April, 1935.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINICS.

Clinic	Year	Number of 1st Schick Tests	Results		Number of Inoculations			Total Attendances
			Pos.	Neg.	1st	2nd	3rd	
Rainham	1935	—	—	—	112	109	100	—
	1936	4	1	3	196	187	187	—
	1937	2	—	2	163	164	149	—
	1938	—	—	—	295	298	294	—
	1939	—	—	—	97	96	73	—
	1940	—	—	—	31	24	2	57
	1941	—	—	—	382	307	2	691
	1942	—	—	—	608	559	—	1167
	1943	—	—	—	334	472	—	806
	1944	—	—	—	230	234	—	464
Gillingham	1935	5	3	2	339	310	275	—
	1936	27	11	11	472	461	471	—
	1937	25	18	9	551	543	549	—
	1938	—	—	—	718	693	658	—
	1939	3	—	3	571	575	346	—
	1940	4	1	3	129	127	56	328
	1941	12	7	5	1252	1153	2	2431
	1942	2	—	2	2081	2013	—	4094
	1943	—	—	—	1267	1438	—	2705
	1944	—	—	—	678	728	—	1406

## SUMMARY OF CASES IMMUNISED AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

YEAR	Under 5 years of age			5—12 years of age			Over 12 years of age			GRAND TOTAL
	Gillingham	Rainham	Total	Gillingham	Rainham	Total	Gillingham	Rainham	Total	
1935 ...	72	28	100	158	73	231	39	5	44	375
1936 ...	140	47	187	301	130	431	36	4	40	658
1937 ...	168	49	217	365	99	464	16	1	17	698
1938 ...	235	88	323	411	197	608	12	9	21	952
1939 ...	261	44	305	353	55	408	12	2	14	727
1940 ...	114	44	158	66	10	76	26	—	26	260
1941 ...	695	162	857	775	189	964	166	11	177	1988
1942 ...	953	250	1203	920	287	1207	140	22	162	2572
1943 ...	754	211	965	526	206	732	121	39	160	1857
1944	495	163	658	217	69	286	16	2	18	962

During 1944, the number of children who failed to attend for a complete course of injection was 54. Re-immunisations numbered 193.

**Diphtheria :**

Nine cases were notified but in six the diagnosis was not confirmed. Of the remaining three none was immunised. There were no deaths. The immunisation scheme was started in 1935, but an appreciable number of children was not protected until 1941, in which year the Ministry of Health conducted a national propaganda campaign. During 1944, 962 children were immunised, of whom 658 were under 5 years of age. At the close of the year the number protected under 5 years of age was 2,417 (49%) and between 5 and 15 years — 6,587 (84%).

**Cerebro-Spinal Fever :**

Two patients were notified, but the diagnosis was not confirmed in one case.

**Dysentery :**

Three cases were notified from one house. The causal organism was *B. Dys. Sonné*.

**Pneumonia :**

Notifications numbered 46

Influenzal Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	4
Acute Primary Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	42

**Measles and Whooping Cough :**

The following cases were notified :—

Measles	...	...	...	...	488
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	130

**HOSPITAL TREATMENT OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

Admissions to Keycol Hill Hospital numbered 38 compared with 75 in the previous year.

The following table gives details :—

Disease	Cases	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	26	—
Diphtheria	9*	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	2†	1†
Erysipelas	1	—

\*6 incorrectly diagnosed.

†One later diagnosed as Influenzal Meningitis.

**Scabies :**

During the year treatment centres were opened at two of the gas cleansing Civil Defence centres. Cases were treated by the Civil Defence personnel. Contacts were painted once with Benzyl Benzoate Emulsion and cases twice.

Cases treated	...	...	...	145
Contacts treated	...	...	...	12

**Disinfections :**

Houses disinfected by Formalin spraying in connection with tuberculosis cases numbered 87.

**Tuberculosis :**

Notification of new cases :—

	Pulmonary. Rate per 1,000 of population	Non-Pulmonary Rate per 1,000 of population.
1937 .....	0.7	0.3
1938 .....	0.8	0.2
1939 .....	0.6	0.4
1940 .....	1.3	0.2
1941 .....	1.3	0.5
1942 .....	1.5	0.4
1943 .....	1.7	0.4
1944 .....	2.27	0.5

**PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS,  
1930**

	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Total
Number on Register at 1st January, 1944 ... ..	278	136	414
Number on Register at 31st Decem- ber, 1944 ... ..	358	153	511

Table compiled from local records, giving details with regard to sex, age, etc., of notified new cases during 1944.

Age Periods	New Cases			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—
1—5 years	—	—	—	3
5—15 "	9	—	4	8
15—25 "	20	18	1	2
25—35 "	16	15	1	4
35—45 "	13	8	—	1
45—55 "	9	1	—	1
55—65 "	9	2	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	1
Total ...	76	44	6	20

### Tuberculosis Death Rate :

The following table is inserted for purposes of comparison :

Year	Death Rates per 1,000 of Population		
	All Forms	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1938	0.58	0.49	0.08
1939	0.50	0.44	0.05
1940	0.97	0.80	0.17
1941	0.91	0.78	0.12
1942	0.92	0.73	0.19
1943	0.87	0.74	0.13
1944	0.83	0.72	0.11

Particulars of patients from the Gillingham District who were dealt with at the County Tuberculosis Dispensary during the year ended December 31st, 1944 :—

Number of New Cases :

Male (including children)	...	...	221
Female ,, ,,	...	...	270
Total ...	...	...	<u>491</u>

These figures were kindly supplied by Dr. Price, the tuberculosis officer.

**Venereal Diseases :**

I am indebted to Dr. Nicol, medical officer in charge of the County Council V.D. Clinic in Rochester, for the subjoined figures.

New Patients — Gillingham :

	Male	Female	Total
Syphilis .....	5	7	12
Soft sore .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
Gonorrhœa .....	7	9	16
Non-Venereal ...	26	25	51
Totals	38	41	79

**MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE****Public Health Act, 1936 :**

99.4 per cent. of births were notified by midwives.

52.3 per cent. took place in institutions.

Twin births numbered 15.

**Home Visiting :**

Home visits under the M. and C.W. Scheme numbered 10,534.

The following is a summary of home visits :—

	1944	1943
Visits to expectant mothers ... ..	191	240
First visits to living infants ... ..	1145	1058
Re-visits under 1 year ... ..	3018	3271
Visits 1 to 5 years ... ..	5529	6140
Visits <i>re</i> Milk Order ... ..	4	3
Visits <i>re</i> Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	2	5
Visits <i>re</i> Measles ... ..	141	115
Visits <i>re</i> <b>Whooping Cough</b> ... ..	69	49
Visits <i>re</i> Chicken Pox ... ..	13	17
Visits <i>re</i> <b>Mumps</b> ... ..	2	5
Visits <i>re</i> Boarded-Out Children ... ..	102	103
Visits <i>re</i> Cases of Diarrhœa ... ..	Nil	2
Other Visits ... ..	318	521
Totals	10534	11529

**Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids :**

Children under 5 years are examined at the child welfare centres and, if requiring operation, referred to a private doctor or to hospital. Two children were referred to hospital.

**Ophthalmic Treatment :**

Twenty-two children affected with defective vision were examined at the ophthalmic clinic by Dr. Dunlop and glasses prescribed for 16. Attendances numbered 39.

**Dental Defects :**

The following is a summary of the work during the year :—

Number of sessions held	...	...	...	...	23
Number of expectant mothers treated	...	...	...	...	92
Number of nursing mothers treated	...	...	...	...	12
Number of children treated	...	...	...	...	62
Total attendances of expectant mothers	...	...	...	...	114
Total attendances of nursing mothers	...	...	...	...	21
Total attendances of children	...	...	...	...	65
Extractions :					
Permanent—Expectant mothers	...	...	...	...	515
Permanent—Nursing mothers	...	...	...	...	77
Temporary	...	...	...	...	225
Fillings :					
Expectant mothers	...	...	...	...	14
Nursing mothers	...	...	...	...	2
Children	...	...	...	...	—
Administrations of Anæsthetics					
Expectant mothers	...	...	...	...	101
Nursing mothers	...	...	...	...	16
Children	...	...	...	...	53
Other Operations					
Expectant mothers	...	...	...	...	—
Nursing mothers	...	...	...	...	—
Children	...	...	...	...	—

## Dentures supplied :—

Full upper and lower	...	...	23
Full upper and part lower	...	...	7
Full upper	...	...	3
Part upper and lower	...	...	1
Gross cost	...	...	£209/13/0
Amount recovered from patients	...	...	£70/14/0
Net cost to Corporation	...	...	£138/19/0

## Child Welfare Centres :

Total attendances numbered 22,097, of which 3,633 were in respect of children aged 1 to 5 years.

## Attendances :

				Balmoral Gardens	Rainham Centre
1938	...	...	...	17,871	3,336
1939	...	...	...	14,822	4,112
1940	...	...	...	10,592	3,455
1941	...	...	...	13,241	4,958
1942	...	...	...	12,048	4,250
1943	...	...	...	15,622	4,655
1944	...	...	...	17,808	4,289

The following Table gives details of each Centre during the year :—

				Balmoral Gardens	Rainham Centre
Children under 1 year on register for first time				791	212
Children 1 to 5 years on register for first time				103	27
Average attendance per session	...	...		89	84
Total children on register, December, 1944	...	...		1127	551
Children referred for treatment to hospital or private doctor	...	...	...	61	6
Umbilical Hernia strapped	...	...	...	47	7

## SUPPLY OF MILK TO MOTHERS AND CHILDREN

### Corporation Scheme :

Number of packets of dried milk supplied during 1944 :—

				Rainham	Gillingham	Total
(a)	Free	...	...	3	6	9
(b)	Sold	...	...	1391	8153	9544
Totals				1394	8159	9553

### Distribution of National Dried Milk :

		Number of Packets		
		Supplied Free.	Sold.	Total.
Distributed for the Milk Officer	...	579	20826	21405
Supplied by the Corporation	...	27	Nil	27
Totals		606	20826	21432

Cost of dried milk supplied free by the Corporation :—

			£	s.	d.
Various dried milks	...	...	0	15	0
National dried milk	...	...	1	11	6
Total			£2	6	6

### Fruit Juices and Cod Liver Oil for Children

These were distributed on behalf of the Ministry of Food, three times weekly at the Balmoral Gardens Health Centre, and twice weekly at the Rainham Centre, and once weekly at Wigmore First Aid Post and at Church Hall, Brompton. Many parents fail to take advantage of these products.

### CLINICS FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS

The number of expectant mothers attending for the first time was 389 compared with 433 in the previous year.

**Summary :**

	Balmoral Gardens Centre.	Rainham Centre.
Expectant mothers ... ..	328	61
Attendances by expectant mothers ...	996	167
Expectant mothers referred for treatment to private practitioners or hospitals ... ..	11	2
Post-natal cases ... ..	36	15
Attendances by post-natal cases ...	45	21
Post-natal cases referred for treatment	1	2
Found not pregnant ... ..	6	2
Cases referred to Maternity Homes ...	9	—
Average attendance per session ...	20	7

The attendances, etc., were as follows:—

	Balmoral Gardens Centre.	Rainham Centre.	Total 1944	Total 1943
New cases, post-natal included ...	331	66	397	476
Attendances ...	1041	188	1229	1163

**Ante-natal and Post-natal Examinations by Private Practitioners :**

The following is a summary of the examinations made:—

Number of first ante-natal examinations .....	332
Number of second ante-natal examinations .....	233
Number of post-natal examinations .....	154
	—
Total ...	719
	—

**Institutional Midwifery :**

One case was referred to the Naval Maternity Home, and 8 to the County Hospital, Chatham. 113 were evacuated to emergency maternity homes, under the County Council's scheme.

### Supervision of Midwives :

The Corporation is the Local Supervising Authority under the Midwives' Act, 1902-1936. Eleven midwives gave notice of their intention to practise during the year.

The following return was made to the Ministry of Health :—

		Domicil'y Midwives	Midwives in Inst'ns	Totals
1.	Total number of midwives practising at the end of the year in the area of the Local Supervising Authority :—			
	(a) Employed by the Local Supervising Authority ... ..	5	—	5
	(b) Employed by Voluntary Associations :— ... ..	—	4	4
	(c) In private practice ... ..	1	—	1
	TOTALS ... ..	6	4	10
		Domicil'y Cases	Cases in Inst'ns	Totals
2.	Number of cases in the area of the Local Supervising Authority attended during the year by midwives :—			
	(a) Employed by the Council :—			
	As Midwives ... ..	365	—	365
	As Maternity Nurses ... ..	117	—	117
	(b) Employed by Voluntary Associations :—			
	As Midwives ... ..	—	265	265
	As Maternity Nurses ... ..	—	343	343
	(c) In private practice—			
	As Midwives ... ..	52	—	52
	As Maternity Nurses ... ..	13	—	13
	TOTALS			
	As Midwives ... ..	417	265	682
	As Maternity Nurses ... ..	130	343	473

3. Number of cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year under Section 14 (i) of the Midwives Act, 1918, by a midwife :—

(i) engaged in domiciliary practice	...	...	105
(ii) in institutional practice	...	...	138
			—
Total	...	...	243

### Records of sending for Medical Help

Year	Notifications Received			Percentage of Births in which Medical help was called
	On behalf of Mother	On behalf of Child	Total	
1939	252	37	289	27%
1940	176	34	210	26%
1941	140	14	154	20%
1942	155	23	178	18%
1943	139	31	170	17%
1944	184	59	243	21%

The following notifications were also received from midwives :

Discontinuance of breast-feeding	...	...	7
Death of child	...	...	5
Still-births	...	...	3
Having laid-out a dead body	...	...	1
Liability to be a source of infection	...	...	1
			—
Total	...	...	17

### Midwives Act, 1918 (Section 14) :

The Ministry prescribes the scale of fees to be paid by Local Supervising Authorities to medical practitioners called in by midwives.

Forty-eight accounts amounting to a total of £88/16/6 were paid by the Corporation.

In accordance with the Corporation's scale of income £50/11/0 was due to be paid by patients.

Whole fees due to be paid by the patient	...	23
Part fees due to be paid by patient	... ..	12
Whole fees due to be paid by Corporation	...	13

### Home Helps :

These were employed on 31 occasions.

	£	s.	d.
Gross cost to Corporation	...	181	8 8
Amount to be recovered	... ..	80	12 5
Amount recovered at 31st December		76	3 11

On account of war conditions the number of applications for the services of a home help increased but, unfortunately, the demand was greater than the supply. Efforts were made to appoint one whole-time help but no suitable applications were received.

### Consultant for Midwifery Patients :

A consultant was called in on one occasion.

## INFANT LIFE PROTECTION

### Summary :

Number of foster-mothers (December, 1944)	...	23
Foster children (December, 1944)	... ..	25
Visits by Nurses	... ..	102
Total number of children removed from the register during the year	... ..	21
Returned to parents	... ..	6
Over age	... ..	6

### Infant Mortality :

Deaths of Infants under 1 year numbered 57, which represents an infant mortality rate of 47.03 per 1,000 births compared with 44.8 per 1,000 in the previous year.

The rate for London was 61, and for England and Wales 46.



**Mortality Rates Calculated per 1,000 live and Still Births:**

	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Still Births .....	28	25	29	27	34	34	26	22
Neo Natal Deaths	30	28	23	31	22	35	25	23
Deaths 1 to 12 mths	23	14	8	12	19	20	18	22
Still Births and all deaths up to 1 yr.	79	68	60	69	75	88	70	68
<hr/>								
Infant Mortality per 1,000 Live Births	53	44	32	47	44	56	45	47

**Percentages of Total Deaths (Under 12 months—Still Births):**

	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Still Births .....	34	37	49	39	45	38	38	33%
Neo natal deaths	36	41	38	44	29	38	36	34%
Deaths 1-12 mths	29	20	12	16	25	22	26	33%

During 1944 50.8 per cent. of infants dying under 12 months died during the first 4 weeks of life, and in 50 per cent. of these the cause of death was certified to be prematurity.

**Care of Premature Infants :**

In accordance with Circular 20/44 arrangements were made for the insertion of the baby's weight, if  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. or less, on the notification of birth cards. The Corporation now provides on loan, electric blanket pads, feeding tubes, mucus catheters and breast pumps. A draught proof cot is also available. All midwives have been notified of these appliances and encouraged to use them in appropriate cases in an endeavour to reduce the death rate among premature infants.

**Maternal Mortality :**

There were no deaths associated with pregnancy.

**Birth Control Clinic :**

This is conducted by Dr. Dunlop.

Number of sessions	...	...	...	...	6
New cases	...	...	...	...	9
Number of attendances	...	...	...	...	12
Number advised	...	...	...	...	9

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The subjoined Table shows the premises on the registers and the number of inspections made.

	On Register 31st Dec.	No of visits during 1944	No. of Notices	Number of defects remedied
Bakehouses ... ..	18	52	—	—
Dairies and Milkshops ...	25	} 311	—	—
Retailers of bottled sterilised milk ... ..	73			
Cowsheds ... ..	10			
Slaughterhouses ... ..	—	6	—	—
Fried Fish Shops ... ..	19	47	—	—
Pressed and Preserved Meat Premises ... ..	47	157	—	—
Restaurants ... ..	30	48	—	—

### MILK SAMPLES

Seven samples from dairy herds proved negative for T.B.

#### Food and Drugs Act, 1938 :

Particulars of samples taken by the Sanitary Inspector during the year :—

Articles	No. of Samples
Beer ... ..	4
Bramble Jelly ... ..	1
Butter ... ..	1
Cake Mixture ... ..	1
Cheese ... ..	1
Chilled Cordial ... ..	1
Currie Powder ... ..	1
Lard ... ..	1
Lemon Squash ... ..	1
Margarine ... ..	1
Marmite ... ..	1
Milk ... ..	164
Paste — Salmon and Shrimp ... ..	1
Self-Raising Flour ... ..	1
White Pepper ... ..	1

**Unsound Food :**

Amount of food condemned weighed 7 ton 12 cwt. 1 qr.  $3\frac{3}{4}$  lb.  
This included tinned foods, flour, cheese and hams.

**HOUSING SUMMARY**

1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the Year :—	
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	1,021
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	4,588
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (including under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	3
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	495
2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :—	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	133
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—	
Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	371
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners ... ..	207
(b) By local authority in default of owners	49

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Water Supply :

#### Results of Bacteriological Examinations of Samples

#### Chatham and District Water Company :

Thirteen samples were taken. All proved satisfactory.

#### Rainham Water Company :

Twenty-five samples were taken at intervals throughout the year. All proved satisfactory.

18,204 houses are supplied directly from the mains. 16 houses are supplied by stand pipes in the yard.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

This portion of the report has been prepared from information supplied by Mr. D. Ball, Chief Sanitary Inspector.

### PREMISES, Etc., VISITED DURING 1944

	No. of Visits
Milk shops and dairies and retailers of bottled sterilised milk ... ..	311
Cowsheds ... ..	37
Bakehouses ... ..	52
Slaughterhouses ... ..	6
Factories, workshops and workplaces ... ..	403
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance ... ..	34
Re notified infectious diseases ... ..	186
Houses (filthy or verminous) ... ..	109
Refreshment houses or premises where food is prepared ...	324
School lavatories ... ..	290
Shops under Shops Acts ... ..	2229
Public lavatories ... ..	1499
Drains tested ... ..	49
<b>NUISANCES ABATED</b>	
Complaints received ... ..	306

## Water Closets :

New L.C.C. pans and traps fitted	...	...	...	41
Water closets re-built	...	...	...	Nil
Water closet fittings repaired (water)	...	...	...	104
Water closet seats, doors, floors, brickwork repaired				80
Water closet pans cleansed by tenants	...	...	...	Nil

## Water Supply :

Pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	13
----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

## Yards :

Drained and paved with cement concrete	...	...	...	31
--	-----	-----	-----	----

## Sinks and Baths :

Glazed stoneware sinks fixed	...	...	...	5
Sink waste pipes provided and fixed	...	...	...	39

## Drainage :

Drains Repaired	...	...	...	...	24
Subsidiary sewers cleared by Health Department	...	...	...	...	1203
Drains cleared by owners	...	...	...	...	40
Inspection chambers repaired by owners	...	...	...	...	7
Vent shafts repaired by Works Department	...	...	...	...	1

## Dampness :

Roofs repaired and made watertight	...	...	...	...	156
Eaves guttering and down water pipes provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	161
External walls protected from dampness	...	...	...	...	132
Damp-proof courses inserted under walls	...	...	...	...	16
Ventilation provided under floors	...	...	...	...	12
Forecourts paved with cement concrete	...	...	...	...	10

## General :

Disused cesspools filled in	...	...	...	...	Nil
Accumulation of refuse in yard removed	...	...	...	...	17
Cellar walls cleansed and concrete laid to floor	...	...	...	...	8
Cooking ranges and coppers repaired	...	...	...	...	82
Sashes, doors, frames, floors, and stairs repaired	...	...	...	...	346
Rooms re-paper and ceilings repaired and distempered	...	...	...	...	342
Smoke nuisance abated	...	...	...	...	10

## PRELIMINARY AND ABATEMENT NOTICES

During the year the following notices were served :—

Informal Notices for the abatement of various nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	563
Abatement Notices concerning various nuisances (Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936)	...	...	...	...	...	267
Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Maintenance of a public sewer)	...	...	...	...	...	22
Section 39a of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Defective sanitary appliance)	...	...	...	...	...	53
Section 44 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Construction of W.C.)	...	...	...	...	...	1
Section 79 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Notice to remove noxious matter)	...	...	...	...	...	8
Section 50 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Leaking Cesspools)	...	...	...	...	...	9
Section 83 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Verminous Premises)	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gillingham Corporation Act, 1931, Section 72, respecting choked or defective drains	...	...	...	...	...	69
Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919	...	...	...	...	...	3

**Provisions of Sanitary Dustbins :**

Section 100 of the Gillingham Corporation Act, 1931, requires the service of notices upon owners to provide regulation sanitary dustbins.

The following figures show the position at 31st December, 1944 :—

	Total to 31st Dec.,
Number of notices served ...	3492
Number of notices complied with ...	3385

### Factories Act, 1937 :

There are 137 factories on the register ; 403 inspections were made. Outworkers' premises numbered 165.

### Eradication of Bed-Bugs :

The number of houses found to be infested was :—

Council Houses	...	...	...	...	33
Other Houses	...	...	...	...	99
				Total	132
Number of Houses sprayed	...	...	...	...	202
Number of Houses fumigated	...	...	...	...	4
Number of Houses sprayed and fumigated	...	...	...	...	7
Total number of rooms fumigated or sprayed	...	...	...	...	593
Bedding removed and disinfested	...	...	...	...	10

### Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919 :

The Inspector appointed under the Act investigated 476 complaints.

### Shops Acts and Shops (Early Closing) Order :

One of the Sanitary Inspectors is also Shops Inspector and gives approximately one-third of his time to duties concerned with the Shops Acts.

Visits to shops numbered 2229.

## LICENCES

Licences were granted for the following :—

Petroleum	...	...	...	...	3
Hackney Carriages	...	...	...	...	58
Hackney Carriage Drivers	...	...	...	...	47
Slaughtermen	...	...	...	...	1

## MORTUARY

Seventy-five bodies were received and 28 post-mortems performed.



**Causes of Deaths amongst Civilians, Live Births and Still Birth  
as provided by the Registrar-General:—**

CAUSES OF DEATH						Male	Fem'le	Total
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	19	19	38
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	2	4	6
8.	Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	5	—	5
9.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
10.	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
11.	Acute polio-myelitis & polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
12.	Acute Infectious Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
13.	Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (males only) and Uterus	...	...	...	...	7	7	14
14.	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	12	7	19
15.	Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	...	1	13	14
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	...	27	32	59
17.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	7	8
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	29	32	61
19.	Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	87	92	179
20.	Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	...	...	...	...	7	1	8
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	19	24	43
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	24	18	42
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	5	2	7
24.	Ulceration of the Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	...	4	1	5
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	7	3	10
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	5	2	7
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	10	8	18
28.	Nephritis	...	...	...	...	13	3	16
29.	Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
30.	Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	10	4	14
32.	Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease	...	...	...	...	8	4	12
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	5	3	8
35.	Other Violent Causes	...	...	...	...	15	13	28
36.	All Other Causes	...	...	...	...	20	20	40
ALL CAUSES						348	320	668
Deaths of Infants under 1 year :—								
	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	33	19	52
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	4	1	5
	Total	...	...	...	...	37	20	57
Births						For Infant Mortality, etc.		
						M.	F.	Total
LIVE BIRTHS :—								
	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	590	539	1129
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	35	48	83
	Total	...	...	...	...	625	587	1212
STILL BIRTHS :—								
	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	18	7	25
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
	Total	...	...	...	...	20	8	28

BOROUGH OF GILLINGHAM  
KENT  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Annual Report  
OF THE  
School Medical Officer

W. A. MUIR, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

FOR THE

Year ending December, 31st, 1944

## STAFF

### *School Medical Officer :*

W. A. Muir, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

### *Assistant School Medical Officer :*

Meta L. Dunlop, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

### *Dental Surgeon*

R. N. Merrett, L.D.S. (part time)

### *Dental Anaesthetist :*

Agnes L. Kelly, B.A., M.B. (part time and temporary)

### *Operative Treatment of Tonsils and Adenoids :*

\*A. G. Woodforde, Esq., M.B.

### *Nurses :*

Miss W. Brandreth, (whole time)

Miss N. Legg (half time)

Miss E. M. Ross (half time)

Miss R. Hopkins (one-third time)

Miss H. Parry (one-third time)

Miss V. Fulford (one-third time)

Miss C. E. Mason (one-third time)

### *Clerks :*

*Chief Clerk*— { F. Eric Young (Military Service, 3/43)  
                  { Miss G. Palmer (commenced 3/43)

*Clerk*— Miss R. C. Avery (commenced 2/44)

### *Dental Attendant :*

Mrs. Scott

\* Hon. Staff, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester

MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,  
GILLINGHAM, KENT.

*March, 1945*

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my report on the School Medical Department for the year ended 31st December, 1944. As requested by the Ministry of Education it has been made as brief as possible.

The health and well-being of the children continue at a satisfactory level. Of those examined at routine inspections 22 per cent were classified as of excellent nutrition and 73 per cent as of normal nutrition. There was a welcome fall in the incidence of scabies and also in the number of verminous children.

This is my final report as School Medical Officer to the Education Committee as at present constituted. As I consider that the School Medical service has been efficiently administered in the majority of Part III Authority areas, it is to be hoped that County Education Committees will delegate as many duties as possible to Divisional Executives and their officers. If non-county borough Medical Officers are appointed "Divisional Medical Officers" under the new Education Act an efficient service would be ensured. As, however, some matters will require to be referred to the County Committees, it seems evident that administration of the service will be slower and more cumbersome.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

W. A. MUIR.

*School Medical Officer*

### SUMMARY

Number on School Roll	...	...	6533
Average attendance December, 1944		...	5810
"Routine" cases examined	...	...	2191
Total medical examinations	...	...	4107
Visits to schools by nurses	...	...	341
Visits to homes by nurses	...	...	2035
Inspections by school dentist	...	...	2477
Treated by school dentist	...	...	1440
Percentage of average attendance found verminous			8.9
Percentage of average attendance excluded for verminous conditions	...	...	3.4
Total attendances at various clinics (dental excluded)			6673

## NUTRITION

In accordance with the requirements of the Board of Education children examined at routine inspections are classified as *Excellent*, *Normal*, *Slightly subnormal*, or *Bad*.

The figures for the past 6 years are as follows—

	Excellent	Normal	Slightly Sub-normal	Bad
	%	%	%	%
1939	15.9	82.2	1.9	—
1940	17.92	79.20	2.88	—
1941	15.02	81.98	2.76	0.24
1942	20.07	74.69	5.19	0.05
1943	20.00	75.74	4.27	00.8
1944	22.14	73.03	4.65	0.18

## HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS

Age.	BOYS			GIRLS		
	Number examined	Average		Number examined	Average	
		Height in inches	Weight in lbs.		Height in inches	Weight in lbs.
5-6 years	427	43 $\frac{3}{4}$	43 $\frac{3}{4}$	420	43	42 $\frac{1}{2}$
6-7 "	188	44 $\frac{3}{4}$	47 $\frac{1}{4}$	188	45	46
7-8 "	31	47 $\frac{1}{2}$	53 $\frac{1}{2}$	64	47	49 $\frac{3}{4}$
8-9 "	12	48 $\frac{3}{4}$	55	8	49	57 $\frac{1}{2}$
9-10 "	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-11 "	—	—	—	—	—	—
11-12 "	—	—	—	—	—	—
12-13 "	202	57 $\frac{1}{2}$	83 $\frac{3}{4}$	250	58 $\frac{3}{4}$	88
13-14 "	137	60	91	196	60 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$
14-15 "	31	62 $\frac{1}{4}$	103 $\frac{1}{4}$	22	61 $\frac{1}{4}$	104 $\frac{1}{4}$

## PROVISION OF MILK

The Education Secretary has supplied the following information :-

### (a) Free Milk for Necessitous Children

Number of necessitous children provided with free milk at the end of the year	...	97
Maximum number of children to whom milk was supplied during any one week	...	131
Total quantity of milk supplied during the year,	45,200 bottles (one-third pint)	

### (b) "Milk in Schools Scheme"

The number of children supplied with milk on one day during October was 3461 (representing 61.6 per cent of the total number of children on roll). Of this number 1490 children had milk in the morning only and 1971 morning and afternoon.

## SCHOOL MEALS

Meals are provided for school children at Rainham Junior Council School canteen and at six British Restaurants, three of which are in school premises.

During November the average daily attendance was 814.

The prices per meal charged at the British Restaurants are as follows :

Children under 12 years of age, 4d.

Children of 12 years and over, 6d.

At Rainham Junior School Canteen the prices charged are : Infants 3d ; Juniors and Seniors 4d.

In all cases an additional sum of 2d per meal (to cover overhead expenses) is paid by the Education Committee.

The Committee pays the full cost of meals supplied to necessitous children.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following summary gives the number of patients excluded during the years 1939-44 (Private schools included)

			Scarlet Fever Cases	Diphtheria Cases
1939	...	...	121	49
1940	...	...	7	11
1941	...	...	8	2
1942	...	...	101	4
1943	...	...	222	1
1944	...	...	54	1

### MEASLES, WHOOPING COUGH, CHICKEN-POX, MUMPS

	Year		1942	1943	1944
Measles	...	...	645	211	423
German measles	...	...	15	51	142
Whooping cough	...	...	263	75	75
Chicken-pox	...	...	171	385	168
Mumps	...	...	387	168	191
Jaundice	...	...	—	26	7

### FOLLOWING-UP BY NURSES

The nurses paid 2035 home visits, of which 1127 were to make enquiries with regard to children suffering from infectious diseases.

#### Summary of School Medical Work

		1942	1943	1944
(1) Total visits to schools	...	272	323	341
(2) Attendances at routine medical inspections	... ..	99	63	119

		1942	1943	1944
(3) Attendances at clinics	...	857	668	717
(4) Visits to home re				
(a) Defective children	...	893	1501	908
(b) Infectious diseases	...	2102	906	1127
(5) Examination of heads and bodies re cleanliness	... ..	17,057	25,575	22,343
(6) Notices sent re nits (children not excluded from school)	...	334	522	354
(7) Notices sent re nits and vermin (children excluded from school)		252	322	281

### MEDICAL TREATMENT

Total attendances numbering 5,524 were made by 1700 children.

#### ATTENDANCES AT TREATMENT CLINICS

		Balmoral Gardens	Rainham	Total 1944	Total 1943
Ringworm	... ..	329	54	383	231
Ear defects	... ..	179	114	293	348
Impetigo	... ..	706	130	836	738
Scabies	... ..	247	59	306	346
Other skin diseases	... ..	280	15	295	544
External eye disease	... ..	249	172	421	433
Other conditions	... ..	1,384	1,606	2,990	2,394
Total	... ..	<u>3,374</u>	<u>2,150</u>	<u>5,524</u>	<u>5,034</u>

Children suffering from the following conditions made **3538** first attendances for inspection. :--

	Balmoral Gardens	Rainham	Total 1944	Total 1943
Catarrh, sore throats, colds, etc.	160	33	193	251
Vermin of head or body, nits, etc.	220	101	321	275
Ringworm ... ..	37	7	44	33
Impetigo ... ..	214	59	273	275
Scabies ... ..	109	53	162	236
Other skin diseases ... ..	166	22	188	313
Defective vision, "sore eyes," etc.	232	76	308	312
Nose and throat diseases ...	173	76	249	277
Tubercular and pretubercular conditions ... ..	3	3	6	12
Chorea ... ..	3	3	6	6
Epilepsy ... ..	—	—	—	4
Ear disease ... ..	72	25	97	134
Heart disease ... ..	3	—	3	8
Rheumatism ... ..	5	5	10	9
Deformities ... ..	7	3	10	11
Convalescents from infectious diseases ... ..	175	31	206	285
Other diseases or defects ...	799	663	1462	1276
Totals ... ..	<u>2,378</u>	<u>1160</u>	<u>3,538</u>	<u>3,717</u>

## ORTHOPTIC CLINIC

During the year the Committee made an agreement with St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester for the orthoptic treatment of children suffering from squint.

Suitable cases are selected by the Assistant School Medical Officer. The number referred was 19. Under the agreement the Committee pays the Hospital £2 2s. per course of treatment. If the parents are members of the Hospital Contributory Scheme the charge is £1 1s.

### NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS

125 children received operative treatment at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester; the parents of 55 of these were subscribers.

Nine children received operative treatment elsewhere.

### OPHTHALMIC CLINIC

180 children made 320 attendances; glasses were prescribed in 130 cases, and obtained in 124 (95·4%).

#### *Errors of Refraction:*

Hypermetropic astigmatism	...	...	...	32 = 25·81%
Myopic astigmatism	...	...	...	3 = 2·42%
Mixed astigmatism	...	...	...	12 = 9·68%
Hypermetropia	...	...	...	39 = 31·45%
Myopia	...	...	...	38 = 30·65%
Total				124

The work of the clinic may be summarised thus:—

Sessions held	...	...	...	48
Individual children attended	...	...	...	180
Total attendances	...	...	...	320
Glasses prescribed	...	...	...	130
Glasses not required or no change necessary				38
Referred to hospital	...	...	...	14

## PARENT'S PAYMENTS FOR TREATMENT

Parents pay a proportion of the cost of treatment except when they are necessitous.

	Parents' payments			Net Cost to Committee		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Operations for throat and nose defects	17	8	0	133	2	
Provision of spectacles... ..	40	0	4	43	6	6
Dental treatment ... ..	36	18	0			
	<hr/>					
Total ...	£94	6	4			
	<hr/>					

Since April 1944 dental treatment has been free.

## UNCLEANLINESS

The average number of visits by nurses to school departments was 5. Total examinations numbered 22343 and 518 individual children were found unclean.

The following percentages are interesting:—

Year	Percentage of average attendance found verminous	Percentage of average attendance excluded
1936 ... ..	6.6	2.9
1937 ... ..	7.1	3.2
1938 ... ..	6.4	3.2
1939 ... ..	4.6	1.3
1940 ... ..	7.1	1.7
1941 ... ..	6.4	2.2
1942 ... ..	11.2	4.9
1943 ... ..	10.9	3.3
1944 ... ..	8.9	3.4

## SCABIES

Arrangements were made for cases and their contacts to be treated at gas cleaning stations at Rainham Senior and Napier Road Boys' Schools. The routine treatment consisted of two paintings of Benzyl Benzoate Emulsion, and the results were most satisfactory. Compared with the previous year there was a marked reduction in the number of cases:—162 as against 236.

## SPEECH DEFECTS

In accordance with an arrangement made with the County Education Committee selected children attend the special Clinic at Dartford.

## CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC

As a Child Guidance Clinic has not yet been established in the Medway Towns, appropriate cases are referred to a clinic held at the County Health Department, Maidstone.

## SPECIAL SCHOOLS

The number of children in residence at the end of the year was as follows :—

Mentally Defective	...	...	5
Blind (including partially blind)	...	...	5
Deaf	...	...	6
Physically Defective	...	...	9
Epileptics	...	...	1

## KENT VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR MENTAL WELFARE

I hereby submit extract from the report on work carried out by the Kent Voluntary Association for Mental Welfare :

The number of children and young people under the supervision of the Association on the 1st January, 1944 was twenty-eight. Two names have been added to the list (one re-examined and one returned to area) making a total of thirty

The details are as follows :—

### 1. DISPOSALS.

Transferred to the County Mental Deficiency Committee for Statutory Supervision	...	...	...	1
Transferred to the County Mental Deficiency Committee for Friendly Supervision	...	...	...	4
Withdrawn from supervision	...	...	...	2
Admitted to Approved Schools	...	...	...	2

The two boys admitted to Approved School were brought before the Juvenile Court; one for petty pilfering and the other for being beyond control of his parents.

### 2. SUPERVISED FOR EDUCATION COMMITTEE under 16 years of age.

Attending Elementary School	...	...	...	7
Attending Private School	...	...	...	1
Included in the Home Teaching Scheme	...	...	...	1
Attending no school	...	...	...	1
Residential Special School	...	...	...	3
In employment	...	...	...	3

### 3. SUPERVISED FOR EDUCATION COMMITTEE over 16 years of age.

At home...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
In employment	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

Total number of children and young people under the supervision of the Association on 31st December,

1944	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
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### HOME TEACHING SCHEME.

The number of children receiving instruction under this Scheme is six. They all enjoy and look forward to the lessons and the majority are making satisfactory progress. The curriculum includes handwork (rug making, knitting, sewing,) physical exercises, singing, games, etc.

The continued generosity of friends made it possible for each of the children to receive a Christmas gift.

Board of Education  
STATISTICAL TABLES

**TABLE I—MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF CHILDREN  
ATTENDING PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

**A.—Routine Medical Inspections**

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups					
Entrants	...	...	...	...	1225
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	27
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	790
		Total	...	...	2042
Number of other Routine Inspections				...	149
				GRAND TOTAL	2191

**B.—Other Inspections**

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections ... 1916

**TABLE II**

**Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the year  
in the Routine Age Groups.**

Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly Subnormal)		D (Bad)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
2191	485	22.14	1600	73.03	102	4.65	4	0.18

TABLE III.

## Treatment Tables

Group I.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table V.).

Disease or Defect.	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Skin :			
Ringworm-Scalp			
(i). X-Ray Treatment. If none, indicate by dash.	1	—	1
(ii). Other Treatment ...	9	1	10
Ringworm-Body ... ..	32	1	33
Scabies ... ..	161	1	162
Impetigo ... ..	273	—	273
Other skin diseases ... ..	158	—	158
Minor Eye Defects ... .. (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II).	165	7	172
Minor Ear Defects ... ..	78	3	81
Miscellaneous ... .. (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.).	864	169	1033
Total ... ..	1741	182	1923

**Table III. (Continued).**

**Group II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.).**

	No. of defects dealt with		
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
Errors of Refraction (including squint). ... ..	168	—	168
Other Defect or Disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I) ... ..	—	—	—
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>168</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>168</b>
No. of Children for whom spectacles were			
(a) Prescribed ... ..	130*	—	130
(b) Obtained ... ..	131	—	131

\*124 obtained in 1944 which were prescribed in 1944.  
7 obtained in 1944 which were prescribed in 1943.

131

**Table III. (Continued).**

**Group III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT**  
**NUMBER OF DEFECTS.**

Received Operative Treatment.			Received other forms of Treatment	Total number treated.
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital. (1)	By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Total. (3)		
125	9	134	4	138

TABLE IV.—DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

- (1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist  
(a) Routine age-groups

AGE	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Total
Number ...	72	175	140	139	176	228	153	138	156	108	1485
(b) Specials ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	992
(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2477
(2) Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2053
(3) Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1440
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2358
(5) Half-days devoted to :—											
Inspection		11									
Treatment		204									
Total							...	...	...		215
(6) Fillings :											
Permanent Teeth			945								
Temporary Teeth			—								
Total							...	...	...		945
(7) Extractions :—											
Permanent Teeth			361								
Temporary Teeth			3230								
Total							...	...	...		3591
(8) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions										...	1318
(9) Other Operations :—											
Permanent Teeth			—								
Temporary Teeth			—								
Total							...	...	...		—

TABLE V.—UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

All cases of uncleanliness, however slight, are recorded.

(i) Average number of visits per school department made during the year by the School Nurses	...	...	5
(ii) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	...	...	22343
(iii) Number of individual children found unclean	...	...	518
(iv) Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921			—
(v) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken:			
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	...	...	—
(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	...	...	12

**TABLE VI.**

**Blind and Deaf Children.**

Number of totally or almost totally Blind and Deaf children who are NOT at the present time receiving education suitable for their special needs.

	1 At a Public Elementary School.	2 At an Insti- tution other than a Special School	3 At no School or Institution.
Blind Children	1*	Nil	Nil
Deaf Children	Nil	Nil	Nil

1\* Admitted to Special School, January, 1945.