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Contributors

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Publication/Creation

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BOROUGH OF GILLINGHAM ^{KENT}



- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Dr. Didsbury <i>LATER</i> | C.407 |
| 2. Mr. Morley Parry | A.419 |
| 3. Mr. Perry | A.405 |
| 4. Miss Pidgeon | A.408 |
| 5. <u>Mrs Robins</u> | B 1414 |

THE HEALTH OF GILLINGHAM IN 1965

BOROUGH OF GILLINGHAM



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1965

HELEN E. MAIR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Health Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Gillingham, Kent.

Telephone : Medway OME 4 50021



ANNUAL REPORT

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HELEN E. MAIR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Health Department
Municipal Buildings
Gillingham, Kent.

Telephone: FRODOY ONE 4 5011

Health Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Gillingham, Kent.

Telephone: Medway 50021

May, 1966.

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

I am pleased to submit my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1965.

Gillingham's population is growing steadily and during 1965 has increased by 2,700 with a relative increase in the number of live births and this naturally throws a burden on the visiting staff, particularly increasing the health visitors' case loads.

Twydall Clinic was opened in April, 1965 and has been extremely successful not only with high attendances at infant welfare and ante natal clinics, but in providing a centre for the special care clinic, where children under 5 years of age with physical handicaps attend so that their abilities may be more effectively assessed and their future needs provided for. The popularity of the infant welfare clinics continues to increase as the service becomes increasingly more consultative in nature.

We were fortunate in the appointment of a senior health visitor/group adviser during the year and in the filling during the year of a number of health visitor vacancies so that at the end of 1965 we can report that we have only one vacancy on the establishment but a serious need for an increase in establishment.

In September, Dr. Hurman, my deputy, left to take up a post as Senior Medical Officer at Nottingham and we wish him every success in his new appointment.

In February, Mr. Hedgecock, the chief public health inspector, died suddenly and Mr. Langley, the deputy chief public health inspector, died after a serious illness in the same month. Mr. Moule was appointed chief public health inspector and I am happy to report that during the year we were able to fill all vacancies on the public health inspectorate and the department has had a successful

year with the new team who have brought enthusiasm to the re-organisation of the section.

I would like to thank the Council for their support and the staff of the Health Department for their enthusiastic work during the year.

HELEN E. MAIR

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF PUBLIC HEALTH, SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE, AND COUNTY
COUNCIL DELEGATED HEALTH SERVICES

Medical Officer of Health:

Helen E. Mair, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

J.E.J. Hurman, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H. (resigned 3.9.65)

Assistant Medical Officers:

L.M. Corall, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

W. Tooby, M.B., B.S.(Lon.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (commenced 24.5.65)

Assistant Medical Officers: (sessional)

A.L. Kelly, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

N.P. Browne, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

J. Ruffell, M.B., Ch.B.

R. Nichol, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Ophthalmologist: (S.H.S.)

J.D. Clark, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.O.M.S. (part-time)

Dental Surgeons: (S.H.S.)

William C. Griffiths, L.D.S., R.C.S. (part-time) (retired 30.6.65)

H. Causey, L.D.S. (part-time)

D.W. Kyle, B.D.S. (part-time)

A.W. Wallace, L.D.S. (part-time)

E.D. Gimson, B.D.S. (commenced 12.7.65)

Chief Public Health Inspector:

F.J. Hedgecock, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Inst. Mun.E.

(died February, 1965)

H. Moule, C.R.S.H. (commenced 1.4.65)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

R.C. Langley, M.A.P.H.I. (died February, 1965)

N. Smith, M.A.P.H.I. (commenced 1.10.65)

Public Health Inspectors:

F.G. Barney, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (retired 1.3.65)
R. Nethercott, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
J.A. Croydon, A.R.S.H.
J.E. Gibson, M.A.P.H.I. (commenced 29.3.65)
B.J. Naylor, M.A.P.H.I. (commenced 3.5.65)

Student Public Health Inspectors:

J.P. Chatfield
P.J. Payne (commenced 6.9.65)

Technical Assistants:

Mr. R. Taylor
Mr. B.C. Woodard

Health Visitor Group Advisor:

M.M. Byrne, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (commenced 4.1.65)

Health Visitors: (D.H.S./S.H.S.)

M. Crowther, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (resigned 31.3.65)
B.M. Fry, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
J. Tombleson, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
D.G. Purt, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
F.M. Tomlin, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
M.M. Wood, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (resigned 31.3.65)
W. Clements, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
J.H. Kenney, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (resigned 27.4.65)
J.A. Hewitt, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (part-time)
E.C. Tomlinson, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (commenced 29.3.65)
J.H. Mason, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (commenced 26.4.65)
O. Bugbee, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (commenced 14.12.65)
E.M. Turner, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (commenced 1.11.65)
M.A. Crystal, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (part-time) (commenced 1.11.65)

District Nurses: (D.H.S.)

A.M. Darley, S.R.N.
E.C. Davidson, S.R.N. (died 6.3.65)
J.P. Davis, S.R.N.
O. Fenske, S.R.N.
E.J. Flynn, S.R.N.
O.J. Hyland, S.R.N.
F.M. McGargle, S.R.N.
F.B. Morris, S.R.N., S.C.M.
M.H. Rayner, S.R.N., S.C.M.
O. Stirzaker, S.R.N.
A.T. Stonehouse, S.R.N.
R. Warden, S.R.N.
M. Turpin, S.R.N.
H. Waterman, S.R.N.
B.D. Frapple, S.E.A.N. (part-time)

Midwives: (D.H.S.)

M.A. Baldwin, S.R.N., S.C.M.
E. Daly, S.R.N., S.C.M.
K. Holland, S.R.N., S.C.M.
V.C. Hopkins, S.R.N., S.C.M.
K. Lowry, S.C.M.
G.M. McGregor, S.R.N., S.C.M.
M.M. Shorey, S.R.N., S.C.M.
S.I. Shorey, S.E.A.N., S.C.M.
B.E. Foote, S.R.N., S.C.M.
M.E. White, S.C.M.
V.K.L. Ng, S.R.N., S.C.M. (commenced 22.9.65)

Chief Administrative Assistant:

S. Pett, T.D.

District Officer:

P.E. King

Assistant District Officer:

J.M. Preston

Craft Instructor:

G. H. Gibson

Domestic Help Organiser:

D. E. Hammond (resigned 30.7.65)

M. Sharp (commenced 23.8.65)

Senior Administrative Assistant:

M. McKeen

Clerks:

R. C. Thomas (S. H. S.)

C. Kirkpatrick

P. Rome (D. H. S.)

J. Kelso (D. H. S.) (resigned 15. 12. 65)

J. Weir (D. H. S.)

M. M. Morris (D. H. S.) (retired 28.5.65)

E. A. Ethell (D. H. S.) (commenced 28.6.65)

A. D. Negus, (D. H. S.) (commenced 3.5.65)

N. Lacey (D. H. S.) (commenced 12.4.65)

M. Higgins (D. H. S.) (commenced 20.12.65)

B. McCauley

N. Pett (Clinic Clerk - D. H. S.)

C. Greenfield (Clinic Clerk - D. H. S.)

Shorthand/Typists:

K. M. Kingsland

B. W. Reid (resigned 12.3.65)

M. C. Barnes (commenced 1.3.65)

Dental Surgery Assistants: (S. H. S.)

A. F. Wootton

A. E. Turner

Disinfecter:

T. Stevenson

Rodent Operative:

W.E. Goodwin

N.B. - D.H.S. - Delegated Health Service

S.H.S. - School Health Service

Live Births		Stillbirths		Total Live and Stillbirths	
Number of live births	Rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population age 15 years and over	Number of still births	Rate per 1,000 total live and still births		
1	1	1	1	2	1
2	2	2	2	4	2
3	3	3	3	6	3
4	4	4	4	8	4
5	5	5	5	10	5
6	6	6	6	12	6
7	7	7	7	14	7
8	8	8	8	16	8
9	9	9	9	18	9
10	10	10	10	20	10
11	11	11	11	22	11
12	12	12	12	24	12
13	13	13	13	26	13
14	14	14	14	28	14
15	15	15	15	30	15
16	16	16	16	32	16
17	17	17	17	34	17
18	18	18	18	36	18
19	19	19	19	38	19
20	20	20	20	40	20
21	21	21	21	42	21
22	22	22	22	44	22
23	23	23	23	46	23
24	24	24	24	48	24
25	25	25	25	50	25
26	26	26	26	52	26
27	27	27	27	54	27
28	28	28	28	56	28
29	29	29	29	58	29
30	30	30	30	60	30
31	31	31	31	62	31
32	32	32	32	64	32
33	33	33	33	66	33
34	34	34	34	68	34
35	35	35	35	70	35
36	36	36	36	72	36
37	37	37	37	74	37
38	38	38	38	76	38
39	39	39	39	78	39
40	40	40	40	80	40
41	41	41	41	82	41
42	42	42	42	84	42
43	43	43	43	86	43
44	44	44	44	88	44
45	45	45	45	90	45
46	46	46	46	92	46
47	47	47	47	94	47
48	48	48	48	96	48
49	49	49	49	98	49
50	50	50	50	100	50

Infant Mortality Rate		Perinatal Mortality Rate		Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate		Late Neo-natal Mortality Rate	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Total perinatal deaths (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week) per 1,000 total live births	Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Early neonatal deaths (deaths under 7 days) per 1,000 total live births	Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Late neonatal deaths (deaths 7 days to 1 year) per 1,000 total live births	Rate per 1,000 total live and still births
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22
23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23
24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27
28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29
30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31
32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33
34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34
35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35
36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36
37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37
38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39
40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41
42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42
43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43
44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44
45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45
46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46
47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47
48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48
49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49
50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres (land, inland water and foreshore) 11,201

Rateable Value (April, 1965) £2,485,701

The sum represented by a penny rate (1965-66) £10,650

In 1965-66 the total Rate was 10/2 and the water rate 1/2 in the £.

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Total Population (Registrar-General) 79,740

Live Births

Number of Live Births 1,537

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population 19.3

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births 7.4

Stillbirths

Number of Still Births 17

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births 10.9

Total Live and Still Births 1,554

Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year) 28

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births 18.3

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births 17.5

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births 26.5

Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) 11.7

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) 11.1

Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) 10.9

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.0

Deaths (all causes)

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.0
---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	------

	Males			Females		
	Total	Legit.	Illegit.	Total	Legit.	Illegit.
Live Births	764	711	53	773	713	60
Still Births	11	10	1	6	5	1
<u>Deaths of Infants</u>						
Under 1 year of age	15	11	4	13	12	1
Under 4 weeks of age	8	5	3	10	10	-
Under 1 week of age	8	5	3	9	9	-

Analysis of Infant Deaths during 1965

Cause of Death	Age at Death	
	Total under 1 month	Total under 1 year
Prematurity	4	4
Congenital abnormalities	3	5
Pulmonary causes	2	2
Respiratory failure	9	15
Other causes	-	2
Total	18	28

Deaths of infants under 1 year numbered 28, which represents an infant mortality rate of 18.3 per 1,000 live births.

The rate for England and Wales was 19.0 per 1,000 relative live births.

Death rate of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births for Gillingham from 1962-1965:

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Rate per</u> <u>1,000</u>	<u>England and Wales</u> <u>Rate per 1,000</u>
1962	27	19.8	21.4
1963	31	21.7	20.9
1964	26	17.6	20.0
1965	28	18.3	19.0

Maternity Mortality

There were no deaths associated with pregnancy.

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

Causes of Death	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	7	2	9
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	1	1	2
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	16	5	21
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ..	33	9	42
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	20	20
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	5	5
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ..	45	24	69
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	3	3	6
16. Diabetes	2	4	6
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	55	61	116
18. Coronary disease, angina	107	66	173
19. Hypertension with heart disease	12	11	23
20. Other heart disease	37	52	89
21. Other circulatory disease	20	23	43
22. Influenza	1	4	5
23. Pneumonia	25	21	46
24. Bronchitis	39	11	50
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ..	6	2	8
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	6	5	11
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	3	2	5
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	7	4	11
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	32	39	71
(contd.....)			

Causes of Death						Male	Female	Total
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	..	6	3	9
34.	All other accidents	..	..	..	..	13	7	20
35.	Suicide	..	..	..	..	6	5	11
36.	Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	..	-	1	1
All causes						485	391	876

Deaths in Public Institutions

439 or 50% 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 1965 was 661 and for previous years as follows:

<u>Year</u>							<u>Natural Increase of Population</u>
1956	..	..	..	..	..	..	386
1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	462
1958	..	..	..	..	..	..	413
1959	..	..	..	..	..	..	421
1960	..	..	..	..	..	..	509
1961	..	..	..	..	..	..	446
1962	..	..	..	..	..	..	528
1963	..	..	..	..	..	..	549
1964	..	..	..	..	..	..	651
1965	..	..	..	..	..	..	661

	<u>Cancer Death Rate</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Deaths</u>
1956	1.8	17.5
1957	1.9	19.8
1958	1.9	18.6
1959	1.9	17.5
1960	2.0	20.7
1961	2.2	19.3
1962	2.2	19.6
1963	1.9	16.7
1964	2.1	20.0
1965	2.0	18.6

Deaths from motor vehicle accidents numbered 9, from suicide 11, and from "all other accidents" 20.

ANALYSIS OF BIRTHS AND INFANT DEATHS FOR THE YEARS 1956 TO 1965

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Number of still births	22	15	24	31	28	28	26	35	19	17
Number of neo-natal deaths	15	19	20	19	13	23	17	16	16	18
Total number of still-births and neo-natal deaths	37	34	44	40	41	51	43	51	35	35
Number of deaths of infants 1 to 12 months of age	8	12	9	5	6	5	10	15	10	10
Number of live births	1199	1245	1208	1232	1268	1264	1363	1425	1476	1537
Number of still births	22	15	24	31	28	28	26	35	19	17
Total live and still births	1221	1260	1232	1263	1296	1292	1389	1460	1495	1554

MORTALITY RATES CALCULATED PER 1,000 LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS

Still births	18	12	19	24	22	22	19	24	13	11
Neo-natal deaths	12	15	16	15	10	18	12	11	11	12
Perinatal deaths	-	-	-	13	23	37	30	33	21	11
Deaths of infants 1 to 12 months of age	6	9	7	4	4	4	7	10	7	6
Still births and all deaths up to 1 year	37	36	43	44	36	39	39	45	30	29
Infant mortality per 1,000 live births	19	25	24	19	15	22	20	22	18	18

Prevalence of, and Control Over Infectious and Other Diseases

Table showing:-- (a) The distribution in age groups of infectious disease cases notified during 1965.
 (b) The number removed to hospital.

Notifiable Disease	CASES NOTIFIED (Diagnosis Corrected)							
	Years							Removed to Hospital
	All Ages	Under 5	5-14	15-44	45-64	65 and Over	Age Unknown	
Pneumonia	3	1	1	..	..	1	..	..
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Influenzal Meningitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Menigococcal Meningitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Table showing:- (a) The distribution in age groups of infectious disease cases notified during 1965.
(b) The number removed to hospital.

Notifiable Disease	CASES NOTIFIED (Diagnosis Corrected)										Removed to Hospital
	Years										
	All Ages	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 and Over	Age Unknown		
Scarlet fever ..	17	-	1	2	11	1	2	-	-	-	
Whooping cough ..	25	3	1	6	14	1	-	-	-	-	
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Measles ..	682	26	189	178	264	10	9	4	2	-	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Peurperal Pyrexia ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	
Dysentery ..	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	

Particulars of patients from the Gillingham Area dealt with at the Chest Clinic, during 1965.

(These figures were kindly supplied by Dr. S. Roy C. Price, Consultant Chest Physician).

	Adults		Children		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Pulmonary	31	13	2	-	33	13
Non-pulmonary	3	1	-	3	3	4
Total	33	14	2	3	36	17

Total attendances numbered 1785.

Number of patients sent to Sanatoriums or Hospitals - 27.

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
Number on Register at 1st January, 1965	514	85	599
Number on Register at 31st December, 1965	500	86	586

Notifications

Table compiled from local records, giving details with regard to sex, age, etc., of notified new cases during 1965.

Age Periods				New Cases			
				Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	..	..	..	1	-	-	1
5-14 years	..	..	..	1	-	-	1
15-24 years	..	..	..	2	-	-	1
25-44 years	..	..	..	6	7	1	-
45-64 years	..	..	..	6	1	-	-
65 and over	..	..	..	5	2	-	-
Total	..	..	..	21	10	1	3

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
1956	..	..	..	0.10	0.08	0.02
1957	..	..	..	0.07	0.06	0.01
1958	..	..	..	0.12	0.12	0.00
1959	..	..	..	0.09	0.09	0.00
1960	..	..	..	0.02	0.02	0.00
1961	..	..	..	0.11	0.11	0.00
1962	..	..	..	0.05	0.04	0.01
1963	..	..	..	0.08	0.05	0.03
1964	..	..	..	0.01	0.00	0.01
1965	..	..	..	0.11	0.11	0.00

Venereal Diseases

I am indebted to Dr. C.D. Routh, Director of the Medway and Gravesend Hospital Management Committee's Special Clinic in Rochester, for the subjoined figures.

New Patients - Gillingham:

Syphilis	..	..	..	..	..	3
Gonorrhoea	..	..	..	..	..	39
Other conditions	..	..	..	..	..	<u>126</u>
Total	..	..	..	..	..	<u>168</u>

Nursing Homes - Public Health Act, 1936

There were 2 Nursing Homes on the Register at the end of the year, which provided 39 beds for aged persons.

Figures furnished by the Hospital Management Committee's Special Clinics to the Registrar, London, for the year 1935.

Period	New Cases		
	Non-venereal	Venereal	Total
1935	128	33	161
1934	128	33	161
1933	128	33	161
1932	128	33	161
1931	128	33	161
1930	128	33	161
1929	128	33	161
1928	128	33	161
1927	128	33	161
1926	128	33	161
1925	128	33	161
1924	128	33	161
1923	128	33	161
1922	128	33	161
1921	128	33	161
1920	128	33	161
1919	128	33	161
1918	128	33	161
1917	128	33	161
1916	128	33	161
1915	128	33	161
1914	128	33	161
1913	128	33	161
1912	128	33	161
1911	128	33	161
1910	128	33	161
1909	128	33	161
1908	128	33	161
1907	128	33	161
1906	128	33	161
1905	128	33	161
1904	128	33	161
1903	128	33	161
1902	128	33	161
1901	128	33	161
1900	128	33	161

Figures furnished by the Registrar, London, for the year 1935.

Year	Deaths per 1,000 of Population		
	All Causes	Venereal	Non-Venereal
1935	11.3	11.3	11.3
1934	11.3	11.3	11.3
1933	11.3	11.3	11.3
1932	11.3	11.3	11.3
1931	11.3	11.3	11.3
1930	11.3	11.3	11.3
1929	11.3	11.3	11.3
1928	11.3	11.3	11.3
1927	11.3	11.3	11.3
1926	11.3	11.3	11.3
1925	11.3	11.3	11.3
1924	11.3	11.3	11.3
1923	11.3	11.3	11.3
1922	11.3	11.3	11.3
1921	11.3	11.3	11.3
1920	11.3	11.3	11.3
1919	11.3	11.3	11.3
1918	11.3	11.3	11.3
1917	11.3	11.3	11.3
1916	11.3	11.3	11.3
1915	11.3	11.3	11.3
1914	11.3	11.3	11.3
1913	11.3	11.3	11.3
1912	11.3	11.3	11.3
1911	11.3	11.3	11.3
1910	11.3	11.3	11.3
1909	11.3	11.3	11.3
1908	11.3	11.3	11.3
1907	11.3	11.3	11.3
1906	11.3	11.3	11.3
1905	11.3	11.3	11.3
1904	11.3	11.3	11.3
1903	11.3	11.3	11.3
1902	11.3	11.3	11.3
1901	11.3	11.3	11.3
1900	11.3	11.3	11.3

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Essential

Health

Services

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

I am happy to be able to report that during the last eight months of 1965 the Public Health Inspectors Section was at full establishment and during that time a large amount of routine work, which had unavoidably been neglected in the past two years, has now been brought up to date. This is particularly true in the field of food control and hygiene and details of this and other work carried out by the public health inspectors are given in the ensuing pages of the report.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

Purpose and Number of Visits made during the year

Housing

General Housing Purposes	...	...	...	...	...	1346
Houses in Multiple Occupation	...	...	...	...	...	58
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	27
Improvement Areas	...	...	...	...	...	238

Food Control

Food Hygiene Requirements	...	...	...	...	...	778
Food Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	211
Unsound Food	...	...	...	...	...	121
Food Complaints	...	...	...	...	...	94
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	86
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	42
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	291

Atmospheric Pollution

Smoke Control Area No. 3	...	...	...	...	...	1586
Smoke Control Area No. 4	...	...	...	...	...	2044
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	108

Water	...	...	...	...	...	135
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Offices, Shops, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	1452
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Factories	...	...	...	...	...	78
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Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	89
Rodent and Pest Control	...	...	...	...	...	...	1711
Drainage etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1344
Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	150
Scrap Metal Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	260
Public Health Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	230
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	160
Pet Animals	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Hairdressers	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Riding Establishments, Piggeries, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Nurseries	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Diseases of Animals	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
Number of complaints investigated	...	...	...	...	...	...	1918

Notices served during the year

Informal

Housing	...	...	...	...	...	...	184
Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	98
Factories, Offices, Shops, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	181
Miscellaneous Nuisances, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	53

Formal

Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	143
Gillingham Corporation Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	23

HOUSING

Slum Clearance

As previously reported the Council has completed its slum clearance programme but individual properties continue to be represented from time to time. During 1965 representations were made in respect of 13 houses and 4 basements or parts of buildings. 6 Closing Orders were rescinded where the owners had made the properties fit for habitation.

As yet there has been no indication from the Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee regarding any revision of housing standards. However there does seem to be a growing body of opinion which feels that in future obsolescence and lack of amenities must be taken into account, rather than merely the present objective criteria of disrepair, dampness, etc.. Such re-thinking could affect some areas of the town.

Improvement Areas

A pilot survey was undertaken with a view to assessing the desirability of using the new powers of the Housing Act, 1964 regarding compulsory improvement. It was found that well over 80% of the houses in the area selected were owner/occupied and at this stage no great benefit would be achieved by implementing the provisions of the Act.

Houses in Multiple Occupation

58 inspections were made during the year and any improvements necessary were normally obtained by informal action. In one case it was found necessary to serve a statutory notice. In no case were the conditions so bad as to warrant the issue of a management order or a control order.

Overcrowding

It is generally felt that the present legal standard for overcrowding is very low, but out of 27 complaints regarding overcrowding investigated it was found that 11 were justified. The low standard for overcrowding particularly makes itself shown where families are living in very cramped conditions in multiple occupied houses but are not in fact legally overcrowded.

Repairs and General Housing Matters

Houses needing repairs were mainly discovered as a result of the investigation of complaints. A summary of the housing work carried out during the year is given below.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year

Number of Houses inspected for housing defects	...	...	400
Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	1416
Number found to be unfit for habitation	...	...	17
Number found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation			282

Remedy of defects by informal action

Number of houses rendered fit as a consequence of informal action	132
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Action under statutory powers

(a) under the Public Health Acts

Number of houses in respect of which notices were served	...	6	
Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices			
	By owners	...	6
	By local authority		-

(b) under the Housing Acts

Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	...	5
Number of houses rendered fit after service of formal notices						8
Number of Demolition Orders made	...	...	...			2
Number of Closing Orders made	...	...	...	...		9
Houses demolished as a result of formal action	...			...		4
Closing Orders determined	...	...	...	...		6

CONTROL OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

Food Hygiene

There are 639 premises in the borough from which food is sold and these are classified in the following main categories:

Type of Business	Total	No. complying with Reg. 16	No. to which Reg. 19 applies	No. complying with Reg. 19
Cafes, Restaurants	45	45	45	45
Fishmongers	33	10	29	29
Baker/Bakehouses	34	33	10	10
Butchers	85	83	85	84
Grocers	112	110	30	30
Fruiterers etc.	71	30	-	6
General Shops	259	259	6	6

So far as the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations are concerned, the policy of co-operation with the traders continues so that they themselves adopt an outlook which will ensure that good hygiene is practised in their businesses. The following visits were made to food premises by the public health inspectors during the year.

Cafes, Restaurants	..	..	132
Fishmongers	..	..	36

Bakers/Bakehouses	..	..	60
Butchers	..	..	120
Grocers	..	..	112
Fruiterers/Greengrocers	..	..	58
General Shops	..	..	147

During the past two years this work has not received the attention that would normally be desired and it was found that in 98 instances the proprietors' attention had to be drawn to some shortcomings so far as their businesses were concerned. Only one case of seriously bad management was found and this was in an industrial canteen. The bad conditions found were largely the fault of the caterer employed by the contractor. The latter voluntarily agreed to close and demolish the existing canteen and erect a new one.

Visits were also made to various fairs and fetes and such functions as the County Cricket to ensure that the catering arrangements were satisfactory.

Of the total number of food premises in the district 50 are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 for the manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food. All of these premises have received regular inspections.

In the early part of the year some 50 tons of meat which was contaminated with salmonella was released to a local firm for processing. The meat was minced and heated to a temperature of 240°F for 4 hours. The processing of the whole amount took 13 days and necessitated practically day and night supervision. Random samples of each days work showed no bacterial growth.

Food and Drugs - Sampling, etc.

169 samples of various foods and 21 samples of medicine and drugs were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst for examination. The main classification of these samples with results is given as follows:

	Total	Unsatisfactory		Total	Unsatisfactory
Dairy Products	26	-	Drugs	21	-
Fruit & Fruit Products	18	2	Meat Products	33	1
Cereals & Cereal Products	14	-	Poultry Products	12	2
Sugar Products	11	1	Vegetable Products	10	-
Fermentation Products	8	1	Soft Drinks	6	-
Soups	2	-	Fats & Oils	1	-
Coffee, cocoa	5	-	Fish Products	10	-
Spices	9	2	Nut Products	2	-
Food Additives	1	-	Mineral Adjuncts	1	-

Brief particulars regarding the unsatisfactory samples are as follows:

1. A can of "Shandy" was found to contain only 0.7% proof spirit against a reasonable standard of 1.5 to 2.0%. The manufacturers stated that this was old stock and their product now contained 2.0%. Follow up samples proved this to be true.

2. A sample of ground cloves had a low volatile oil content. Again this was old stock and was voluntarily withdrawn from sale.

3. A sample of ground ginger exceeded the B.P. content for ash. This was due to the country of origin and the product was not in fact labelled as complying with the B.P.

4. A tin of mixed fruit jam was wrongly labelled. This jam was produced for export and should not have been released on the home market. It was subsequently withdrawn.

5. A sample of bulked mixed peel contained a part of an insect. This was imported from South Africa and it was not possible to trace the source of the contamination.

6. A sample of minced chicken in jelly contained an undue amount of connective tissue. Follow up samples proved satisfactory.

7. A tin of minced beef was rather low in meat content. Follow up samples were satisfactory.

8. A tin of Chicken Dinner had a low meat content in view of the proposed Regulations. The manufacturers found that this was due to the inclusion of peas which have a high protein content and if the meat content was calculated separately a low figure would be obtained. The recipe has since been adjusted.

9. Some sweet cachous contained prohibited colouring matters. The retailer had purchased them from a representative who had no connection with a reputable company. The remaining stock was voluntarily surrendered and the retailer warned against purchasing foodstuffs from such a source. No stocks were found in other shops.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the Borough. 5 samples were obtained from traders who use liquid egg and submitted to the public analyst. All five samples satisfied the Alpha-Amylase test.

Ice Cream

There are 4 manufacturers and 290 sellers of ice cream on the register. These premises are regularly inspected and 42 visits were made for this specific purpose.

Food Poisoning

No notifications of food poisoning were received during the year, but a number of cases of salmonella infection were investigated, none of which were proved to be food borne. In particular a local maternity home was closed due to an outbreak of salmonella brandenburg, but again the source of infection could not be traced. The home was cleansed and all equipment sterilised under the supervision of the public health inspector.

Food Complaints

14 complaints were received from the public regarding food that had

been purchased in the district. The investigation of food complaints in general necessitated 94 visits and inspections being made by the inspectors. Of the cases reported, three were in respect of loaves of bread containing foreign material - a pencil in one case, a piece of undissolved yeast in another and a small piece of cleaning material in the third. Four of the complaints were about mouldy pies or cakes. The need for proper storage and quick turnover of stock has again been stressed with the retailers and that unless they adopt their own system of date coding it is difficult to establish where the blame lies in these cases. Two tins of meat were found to be unsound when opened due to being punctured by a nail or something similar whilst being packed or unpacked. The retailers were informed of the importance of the need for care in unpacking and examination before display for sale; particularly does this apply to supermarkets where the goods are taken from the shelves by the customer. Four complaints regarding dirty milk bottles were taken up with the dairies concerned.

Some chocolate biscuits had an abnormal taste and after investigation this was found to be due to the fact that decorating was carried out whilst the shop was closed, without the goods being adequately covered. This matter was taken up with the management.

A sample of fudge sweets contained fragments of broken glass due to the careless use of a serving scoop by an attendant. A prosecution was taken in this case and the defendants were fined £15 with £9 costs. In the other cases warning letters were sent to those concerned.

Milk

The milk distributed in Gillingham is produced and bottled outside the borough. There are 9 premises registered as dairies from which milk is distributed and there are 232 other distributors on the register who operate from shops where the sale is direct to the public with no delivery service involved.

At the end of the year 307 licences issued under the Milk Special Designations Order were in operation - 157 for sterilised milk, 144 for pasteurised milk and 6 for untreated.

53 samples of milk were taken and examined by the inspectors on the Gerber apparatus. All were satisfactory and the following table is a summary of

the results obtained:

	Fat	Solids not Fat	Total Solids
Highest	3.9	9.4	13.2
Lowest	3.3	8.3	12.0
Average	3.7	8.8	12.4

50 samples of pasteurised milk supplied to the public and 30 samples of milk supplied to Schools were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. All of the samples passed by the phosphatase test, pointing to efficient pasteurisation and only one failed the methylene blue test. This last sample was taken from a shop and it was thought that unsatisfactory storage conditions were the trouble. These conditions were improved by the shopkeeper and follow-up samples were satisfactory.

26 samples of sterilised milk were taken and examined and all passed the approved test.

Samples of dried milk taken from the Council's Clinics were found to be satisfactory.

Unsound Food

1 ton 14 cwt. of various foods were inspected and found to be unfit for consumption.

It was felt that an unduly large amount of bacon was being condemned in one large store. The storage conditions were investigated and it was decided that they were inadequate. The matter was taken up with the management and considerable improvements have been effected.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The Council has, of course, already agreed in principle to include the whole borough in Smoke Control Areas. The programme tentatively drawn up envisaged that this could be done by 1970. However, the work was held up at one stage, first due to a shortage of funds and secondly to allow an area to be dovetailed into one proposed by the Chatham Borough Council. The progress to date is indicated below:

<u>Area No.</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Date of Operation</u>
1	812	5638	1.11.62
2	1946	209	1.11.63
3	1002	1604	1.11.54
4	292	1475	Surveyed prior to submission

Smoke Control Order No. 3 was confirmed in April and by the end of the year most of the necessary adaptations had been completed. A Government Circular received in March, 1965 indicated that some solid fuels might still be in short supply and stressed that owners and occupiers should still be given freedom of choice when installing new appliances. Many owners and occupiers have taken advantage of this, which has naturally meant an increase in the overall cost of adaptations. 1586 inspections and visits were made by inspectors in respect of the implementation of Smoke Control Order No. 3.

During the year a survey was carried out with a view to presenting Smoke Control Area No. 4 at the end of the year or immediately afterwards. This area is virtually the remainder of the Borough lying to the south of London Road and High Street, Rainham which is not already smoke controlled. 2044 visits and inspections were made by the inspectors for this purpose.

Apart from inspections made in respect of smoke control areas, 108 other visits were made regarding atmospheric pollution. These usually concerned specific complaints, new installations and other matters of a like nature.

During the year approval was given for one new furnace and boiler installation under Section 3 of the Clean Air Act, 1956.

SHOPS, OFFICES, FACTORIES

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

During the year the work of registration and inspection continued to proceed smoothly and by the end of 1965 practically 100% registration had been achieved. Judging from reports received registration appears to have presented some difficulties in other parts of the country.

By the end of the year all of the premises on the register had received a general or initial inspection. The co-operation received from the owners and occupiers was in the main excellent and any desired improvements were normally achieved by an informal approach. The borough does not contain any really old or out of date property coming within the scope of the Act and therefore no serious contraventions were found.

When shortcomings were found those concerned were informed verbally and advised how best to meet the requirements of the Act. Written confirmation was also given in every case. The most consistent contravention was the lack of hot or warm water for washing purposes and, surprisingly, in one well staffed office the employees themselves did not consider that it was really necessary. The siting of additional sanitary conveniences in smaller buildings has presented some problems. Generally speaking the requirements of the local authority have been met quickly, apart from some delays due to shortage of apparatus and labour.

The following tables summarise the work of the inspectors under the general provisions of the Act during the year.

Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. registered during the year	Total No. registered at end of year	No. receiving general inspection
Offices	23	125	57
Retail Shops	64	383	256
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	3	12	6
Catering Establishments	6	27	35
Fuel Storage Premises	-	2	2
Totals	96	549	356

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace

Class of Workplace	No. of persons employed
Offices	1035
Retail Shops	1812
Wholesale shops, warehouses	136
Catering establishments	332
Canteens	-
Fuel Storage depots	50
Total	3355
Total Males	1226
Total Females	2129

Summary of contraventions found

Contraventions	Offices	Shops (Retail)	Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	Catering Establishments	Fuel Stores, etc.	Totals
Thermometers	60	172	9	17	1	259
First-aid Requirements	57	220	8	24	2	311
Hot or Warm Water	42	92	4	3	2	143
Washbasin and sinks	6	17	1	2	1	27
Sanitary Conveniences	6	12	-	1	2	21
Repairs or Marking of S.C.	13	26	2	-	-	41
Heating	6	35	1	-	-	42
Lighting	13	22	-	-	1	36
Ventilation	5	8	-	1	-	14
Overcrowding	6	8	-	-	-	14
Guards on Machinery	-	1	-	-	-	1
Seating Facilities	4	17	1	-	1	23
OSRG Notices	79	273	11	20	1	384
Handrails	10	45	1	5	-	61
Cleanliness/Redecorations	4	15	2	-	1	22
Total Contraventions	311	963	40	73	12	1399

Summary of contraventions outstanding at end of year

Contraventions	Offices	Shops (Retail)	Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	Catering Establishments	Fuel Stores, etc.	Totals
Thermometers	1	4	-	1	-	6
First-aid Requirements	1	4	-	1	-	6
Hot or Warm Water	1	14	-	-	1	16
Washbasin and sinks	1	3	-	-	1	5
Sanitary Conveniences	2	2	-	-	-	4
Repairs or Marking of S.C.	1	1	-	-	-	2
Heating	-	1	-	-	-	1
Lighting	2	1	-	-	-	3
Ventilation	1	3	-	-	-	4
Overcrowding	2	2	-	-	-	4
Guards on Machinery	-	1	-	-	-	1
Seating Facilities	-	-	-	-	-	-
OSRG Notices	-	12	1	1	-	14
Handrails	-	9	1	-	-	10
Cleanliness/Redecorations	4	2	-	-	-	2
Total Contraventions	12	59	2	3	2	78

1,452 visits of all kinds were made by Inspectors to registered premises during the year.

No exemptions were issued and it was not necessary to institute any legal proceedings.

Accidents in Offices, Shops, etc.

25 accidents were reported during 1965 and it was decided that the circumstances warranted investigation in 14 cases. In most instances the cause was beyond the control of the employer and was often due to the employees own carelessness. However, advice was given and acted upon where it was felt that something could be done to prevent a recurrence. Of the 25 accidents notified, 6 involved machinery, 11 were definitely due to the employees carelessness and in 8 cases the factors involved were more or less not controllable.

Summary of accident statistics for 1965

Type of Premises	No. of Accidents		Number Investigated	No. due to contravention	Number Fatal
	Males	Females			
Retail Shops	1	8	6	-	-
Storerooms	3	1	2	-	-
Garages	2	-	1	-	-
Catering Establishments	-	6	3	-	-
Other	2	2	2	-	-
Totals	8	17	14	-	-

Lighting in Offices, Shops, etc.

At the request of the Ministry of Labour a survey was carried out to provide information regarding standards of lighting and in particular certain statistical details were asked for based on inspections carried out during November.

For this purpose 200 premises of various types were surveyed and it was found that in general the lighting standards were fairly good. The biggest exception to this was to be found in stockrooms, packing departments and warehouses, where lighting is often restricted for security reasons. Again, in old converted houses, where the position of the lighting points has not been changed the light did not fall properly on the work surfaces. The evidence gathered showed that strip lighting is by far the best form of artificial illumination and new supermarkets and offices were invariably more than adequately lit.

Statistical information obtained from the survey is shown below in tabulated form and a fuller report has already been submitted to the Ministry of Labour.

SHOPS

Lumens per sq. ft.	COUNTERS			SHOWROOMS WINDOWS, ETC.			STOCKROOMS			PREPARING ROOMS		
	Natural	Artificial	Natural & Artificial	Natural	Artificial	Natural & Artificial	Natural	Artificial	Natural & Artificial	Natural	Artificial	Natural & Artificial
Below 5	7	-	-	13	-	-	10	4	-	7	3	-
5 - 10	-	-	-	6	2	-	3	3	-	-	1	1
10 - 15	2	3	1	1	3	1	2	3	5	1	3	2
15 - 25	-	4	2	2	3	6	2	6	7	-	1	2
Over 25	2	4	8	9	23	24	2	3	7	-	-	3
Totals	11	11	11	31	31	31	19	19	19	8	8	8

OFFICES

Lumens per sq. ft.	ADMINISTRATIVE			TYPING, FILING, ETC.			DRAUGHTSMEN, ETC.		
	Natural	Artificial	Natural & Artificial	Natural	Artificial	Natural & Artificial	Natural	Artificial	Natural & Artificial
Below 5	18	7	-	3	3	-	1	-	-
5 - 10	7	9	3	3	3	-	1	1	1
10 - 15	5	10	4	5	5	2	1	-	-
15 - 25	3	10	9	2	1	4	-	-	-
Over 25	12	9	29	3	4	10	-	2	2
Totals	45	45	45	16	16	16	3	3	3

Factories

The enforcement of the provisions of the Factories Acts has presented no difficulties during the year. The prescribed tables requested in Ministry of Health Circular 1/66 are given below:

(1) Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	33	13	3	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	113	53	4	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	2	12	2	-
Total	148	78	9	-

(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. Inspect.	By H. M. Inspect.	
Want of cleanliness	2	2	1	1	-
Overcrowding	-	-	1	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	1	1	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	1	1	1	-	-
Drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
Unsuitable or defective	10	5	-	1	-
Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	-	-	-	-	-
Total	15	10	3	2	-

Outworkers

61 outworkers were on the August list as required by Section 133 of the Factories Act. 57 of these were engaged in the making of wearing apparel and 4 in the making of curtains and furniture hangings. 89 inspections were made and no premises were found to be in a dirty or unwholesome condition.

RODENT AND PEST CONTROL

During the year under review the system of rodent control has been overhauled, particularly with regard to sewer treatment. The Borough has been divided into 21 suitable areas and all manholes and sewers have been recorded on reference maps. This has been of value in at least two ways - firstly it has been possible to cover a greater length of sewer, although only the same number of manholes are treated, thus effecting a saving in time and materials, and secondly it has been possible to relate surface infestations to sewer infestations in many cases. Good results have already been obtained but it will probably take two or three years before any real benefit is apparent. One fact has already begun to emerge and that is that there seems to be a seasonal movement of the rat population in the sewers when heavy rains cause the sewers in the lower parts of the town to be untenable for rodents and they then move to the higher ground. If and when this movement is definitely established it will be possible to treat at the proper time where there is known to be a heavy population and in time the infestation in the Council's sewers, which at the moment appears to be fairly heavy, should be well under control.

The rodent operator is fully occupied dealing with complaints of surface infestations and there is little time for routine surveys in the more agricultural areas. However, it is hoped that a systematic survey of these areas can be undertaken as it is felt that many surface infestations emanate from them.

A summary of rodent control work for the year is given hereunder:

Complaints and Surface Infestations

	Business		Private		Agricultural		L. A.	
	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice
Complaints Received	22	45	160	91	14	-	2	2
Premises Surveyed	27	47	243	136	16	-	2	2
Premises Treated	27	35	202	110	16	-	1	2
Visits made	96	194	760	380	75	-	10	13
Major Infestations	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-

Sewer Treatment

Total No. of Manholes	1588
No. of Manholes treated	343
No. of manholes covered by treatment	850
Poison used	14 lbs.
Bait Base used	240 lbs.

The two major infestations were found on a farm and on a development site in the vicinity of the sewage disposal works. The Council's refuse tip is treated regularly and has presented no serious problems.

13 sewers and drains were found to be defective as a result of rodent investigations and were subsequently repaired.

In all 1711 visits were made in respect of rodent control.

Other Pest Control

The advice and assistance of the Department was sought in a variety of matters coming within this field as follows -

Pigeons	4	Silverfish	3
Ants	3	Fleas & Bugs	6
Wasps & Bees	7	Mites	4
Cockroaches	5		

A complaint and request for help was received from a local engineering firm whose staff were refusing to handle a consignment of sand of Australian origin because it was heavily infested with unidentified insects. Investigation proved that they were Red Rust Flour Beetles which were probably in the sacks containing the sand and not in the sand itself.

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERS

Swimming Baths

There are 5 swimming baths and one childrens paddling pool in the Town which are in fairly constant use during the season. The water from these baths is regularly sampled and tested. Sometimes a slightly unsatisfactory result is obtained and this is nearly always due to a low residual chlorine content and the desired improvement is effected by adjusting the dosage. The water from two of the school baths was found to be badly contaminated on one occasion. In one case this was due to the fact that the chlorinating apparatus was not being operated properly and in fact the water was not being chlorinated at all; in the other case the filtration system was defective and had to be replaced. Both of these baths were emptied and cleaned and no further trouble has been experienced. The following table is a summary of the results obtained from samples taken.

Source	No. of Samples	No. of samples showing		
		Coliform Bacilli	Bact. Coli (Type)	High Plate Count.
Strand Bath	12	Nil	Nil	Nil
Strand Paddling Pool	4	3	1	1
Brompton Barracks	8	Nil	Nil	1
Fairview School	8	1	Nil	2
Grammar School	4	2	2	1
Wakeley Road School	6	2	Nil	2

Drainage

A summary of the work carried out in this field during the year is given below:

Inspections - Public Sewers	...	...	...	321
Inspections - Drains	...	...	...	504
Reinspections	...	...	...	330
Smoke Tests	...	...	...	56
Water Tests	...	...	...	119

Drains repaired, altered or reconstructed	25
Sewers repaired, altered or reconstructed	15
Cesspool drainage connected to sewer ...	2
Cesspools emptied	228
Choked drains and sewers cleansed ...	912

Infectious Disease

260 visits were made in respect of outbreaks of infectious disease.

Apart from sporadic cases, outbreaks of salmonella infection in a maternity home and sonne dysentery at a day nursery were investigated but no conclusions could be reached as to the cause.

Keeping of Animals, etc.

There are 18 piggeries and other premises in the Borough the occupiers of which are licensed to operate plant under the Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Orders, 1957. These premises have been inspected and strong action had to be taken in one case, because of the manner in which the occupier was operating the plant and his business in general. The trouble was accentuated by the premises being declared an infected area after an outbreak of fowl pest. Follow up visits ensured that conditions were greatly improved.

6 premises were licensed under the Pet Animals Act at the end of the year. They have received regular visits and no adverse comments were made by the inspectors.

There are 2 riding stables in the town which are registered under the Riding Establishments Act. They have been inspected by the public health inspectors and by the veterinary officer. Plans are in hand for the reconstruction of one establishment which was considered unsatisfactory.

Two premises in the Borough are registered under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act. They have been inspected and although generally satisfactory some minor improvements have been effected.

Caravans

Gypsies occasionally pull their caravans on to vacant sites on the outskirts of the borough. If they are allowed to stay too long they sometimes cause annoyance to the residents in the vicinity, but the inspectors have usually persuaded them to move fairly quickly. 24 inspections were made in connection with such matters.

Noise Abatement

Under the Noise Abatement Act, 1960, noise or vibration which is a nuisance is a statutory nuisance under the Public Health Acts. Some complaints have been received, and though they are often difficult to substantiate improvements have been made after consultation between the public health inspectors and those responsible. One complaint regarding automatic bird scarers presented some difficulty but was overcome with the co-operation of the farmers. No complaints were received regarding noise from industrial premises.

Scrap Metal Dealers

There are 12 persons and 7 premises registered under the Act. They do not present any great public health problems but 22 inspections were made for the purpose.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Sewerage

At present two schemes have been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for a proposal to deal with the expansion in the Rainham area.

With regard to the existing drainage system, the soil sewers are reasonably adequate, but there are a few localised areas that either need resewering or having sewers provided. The main problem is the inadequacy of the stormwater sewers which cause localised flooding in various parts of the town.

In the lower parts of the town the problems will be solved as and when redevelopment takes place and the southern parts of the town are a more long term policy.

Sewage Disposal

The following information has been provided by the General Manager of the Rochester, Chatham and Gillingham Joint Sewerage Board.

"During the year covered by your report work continued on major extensions to the Joint Board's sewerage systems and sewage purification works.

The first contract was commenced in March, 1964. This was for a new trunk sewer from Featherby Road, Gillingham to the purification works at Motney Hill.

Commencing at the Works, twin mild steel 46" diameter syphon pipes have been laid to a new valve chamber in Berengrave Lane. Upstream of this valve chamber the sewer is constructed of 63" diameter pre-cast spun concrete pipe until it crosses Pump Lane when it is reduced to 60" diameter, and thus continues to Ladds Corner. From this point to Featherby Road it is constructed as a 60" brick lined sewer. This new sewer and syphons are capable of carrying a maximum flow of 46.5 million gallons per day, and with the existing sewerage system it will be possible to convey 90 million gallons per day to the works. This represents a maximum volume of 300 gallons per person per day from an envisaged ultimate population of 300,000.

In January, 1965, the first contract for extensions involving almost rebuilding the purification works was commenced.

The contract (covering a three year period) is for the construction of new works inlet, preliminary treatment plant, sedimentation plant, administration and laboratory buildings.

The sewage entering the Works will pass through the comminutor house which will have 5 machines, each capable of handling a maximum flow of 20 million gallons per day, thence it will go through two machines for extracting and washing grit and heavy mineral matter. After this process, flows in excess of 30

million gallons per day will be passed into storm sewage tanks. After storm separation the flow for full treatment will be divided into three equal volumes, each part will then pass through a pre-aeration channel. The eight new sedimentation tanks will be 84 feet diameter, 8 feet deep at the periphery, the floor will slope $7\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ towards the centre. Sludge will be swept to the central outlet well by mechanical scraper.

The sludge thus collected will be dewatered by consolidation, and then be pumped into heated digestion tanks, total capacity approximately 1,875,000 gallons. The digesting sludge will provide more than enough gas to heat the contents of the digestion tanks. After leaving the heated digestion tanks sludge will pass into cold digestion tanks, total capacity approximately 3,500,000 gallons for further dewatering.

It will be appreciated from the scope of the work listed above that the contract is less than one third of the way along its span, so no improvement in treatment can be expected as yet. A better quality effluent may be expected by January, 1968, when efficient tank treatment will be given to flows up to 10 million gallons per day dry weather flow, or up to 60 million gallons per day under storm conditions. This would represent the flow likely to be received from a population of 200,000. The latest estimate of populations draining to the Joint Board's Works (June 1965) amounted to 185,390 and represented an increase of 4,740 over the preceding 12 months. If, as anticipated, this trend continues, the Works would only be in step with the population. A second stage of extensions is scheduled to provide for this condition."

WATER

The public water supply of the area is provided by the Medway Water Board and has been satisfactory both in quality and in quantity.

Bacteriological examinations were made of the raw water and of the treated water going into supply. A summary of the results of these examinations and of chemical analysis are given overleaf:

(1) Bacteriological Examinations

Source of Samples	No. of Samples	No. of Samples Showing	
		C. Aerogenes	E. Coli.
Gore P.S. Untreated	52	3	2
Gore P.S. Treated	52	Nil	Nil
Luton P.S. Untreated	54	5	1
Luton P.S. Treated	55	Nil	Nil
Matts Hill P.S. Untreated	102	67	53
Matts Hill P.S. Treated	102	Nil	Nil
Nashenden P.S. Untreated	63	18	8
Nashenden P.S. Treated	63	Nil	Nil
Rainham P.S. Untreated	51	Nil	Nil
Rainham P.S. Treated	51	Nil	Nil
Snodhurst P.S. Untreated	50	1	1
Snodhurst P.S. Treated	50	Nil	Nil
Taps in Various Premises	25	Nil	Nil

(2) Typical Chemical Analyses
(Results in p.p.m.)

	Gore Treated	Luton Treated	Matts Hill Treated	Nashenden Treated	Rainham Treated	Snodhurst Treated
Appearance	Bright & clear	Bright & clear	Bright & clear	Bright & clear	Bright & clear	Bright & clear
Turbidity	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Colour	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
pH	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	8.0	7.3
Electric Conductivity	570	540	460	530	360	510
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	275	260	260	270	200	270
Temp. Hardness	254	244	240	246	26	250
Perm. Hardness	50	40	36	38	13	42
Total Hardness	304	284	276	284	39	292
Chloride	27.0	28.0	21.0	26.0	30.0	24.0
Ammoniacal N.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.29	Nil
Albuminoid N.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrate N.	5.8	6.4	4.5	3.6	Nil	4.0
Nitrate N.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
KMn O ₄ Oxygen	0.12	0.16	0.10	0.12	0.14	0.12
Residual Chlorine	0.05	0.04	0.01	0.20	0.18	0.04
Iron (as Fe)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Fluoride (as F)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.3	Nil
No. of samples examined in 1965	5	5	5	12	4	2

None of the Board's supplies are considered likely to possess plumbo-solvent properties and there are very few lead communication pipes in the borough.

Any pollution detected at the Board's sources is investigated, and the

cause eliminated. However, it is not uncommon for chalk water sources to show evidence of bacteriological pollution particularly after heavy rain. This is especially the case where the surface catchment area is rural in character, and main drainage is absent and the location of possible sources of pollution is not an easy matter.

Regarding treatment, all the Board's sources are chlorinated and this is rigidly controlled.

There are 24,205 houses in the borough which are supplied direct from the Board's mains.

No. of samples examined in 1935					
2	4	12	2	5	5
Electric Conductivity	270	280	280	270	270
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	275	270	270	270	270
Temp. Hardness	254	244	240	244	240
Temp. Hardness	50	40	38	40	38
Total Hardness	304	284	278	284	278
Chloride	27.6	28.6	27.0	27.6	27.0
Ammoniacal N.	NH	NH	NH	NH	NH
Albuminoid N.	NH	NH	NH	NH	NH
Nitrate N.	2.8	2.4	2.8	2.8	2.8
Nitrate N. (%)	NH	NH	NH	NH	NH
KMnO ₄ Oxygen	0.12	0.16	0.10	0.12	0.12
Residual Chlorine	0.02	0.04	0.01	0.02	0.04
Iron (as Fe)	NH	NH	NH	NH	NH
Fluoride (as F)	NH	NH	NH	NH	NH
None of the Board's supplies are considered likely to possess harmful solvent properties and there are very few lead communication pipes in the borough.					
Any pollution detected at the Board's sources is investigated, and the					

DELEGATED HEALTH SERVICES

PART I

Maternity Services
Infant Welfare Services
Health Visiting
District Nursing
Immunisation and Vaccination

PART II Mental Health

PART III Welfare Services

DELEGATED

HEALTH

SERVICES

PART I

Maternity Services
Infant Welfare Services
Health Visiting
District Nursing
Immunisation and Vaccination

PART II Mental Health

PART III Welfare Services

DELEGATED HEALTH SERVICES

Under the Local Government Act of 1958, the Borough is responsible under a scheme of delegation, for the administration of County Council Health and Welfare functions as indicated below.

The County Council continues to be responsible for the remaining services and also for policy and finance in respect of the delegated services.

National Health Service Act, 1946

Section 22	..	..	..	Care of Mothers and Young Children
23	..	..	..	Midwifery
24	..	..	..	Health visiting
25	..	..	..	Home Nursing
26	..	..	..	Vaccination and Immunisation
28	..	..	..	Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care
29	..	..	..	Home Help

Mental Health Act, 1959

National Assistance Act, 1948

Section 29	..	..	..	Welfare arrangements for blind, deaf, dumb and crippled persons, etc.
30	..	..	..	Voluntary organisations for disabled persons' welfare.

Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1958

Nurseries and Child Minders' Regulation Act, 1948

The Care of Mothers and Young Children

Maternity Services

The birth rate continues to be higher than the national average and the inadequacy of the hospital maternity services in the area in providing beds for those other than on medical and social grounds compels a large number of mothers to have domiciliary confinements who would have preferred hospital delivery.

The lack of sufficiently close liaison between the hospital services on the one hand and the domiciliary midwives and general practitioners on the other must be a matter of concern and results from a failure of communication and of understanding of the two parts of the whole.

The future of this part of the service must be in question as the tripartite nature of the N.H.S. is most evident here where the difficulties of this division meet at the level of the individual patient who must accept the apparently unequivocal fact that they have no choice in the matter. Let it be said in defence of the domiciliary service though, that frequently antenatal patients who were distressed by the refusal of a hospital confinement wish to have subsequent confinements at home.

Antenatal Care

One antenatal clinic per week caters for patients who are booked for hospital delivery but are seen at the clinic until the 36th week of pregnancy.

The Midwives each hold regular weekly clinics where the mothers they will deliver in home confinements are seen.

Relaxation and Mothercraft Classes

There is an increasing demand for this type of instruction for expectant mothers. At two centres, Balmoral Gardens and Holding Street, relaxation classes for expectant mothers are held at regular intervals by the department's health visitors and midwives. These classes establish contact between health visitor and mother before the birth of her child and enable the health visitors to teach mothercraft and to introduce material in the health education field; visual aids such as films are used in this work. The happy relationship set up encourages the mothers

to use the clinic as a centre for advice during the infant's early years.

Relaxation classes are held as follows:

Clinic,	Tuesday and Thursday
Balmoral Gardens,	9.30 a.m. to 12 noon
Gillingham.	

The Clinic,	Friday
Holding Street,	9.30 a.m. to 12 noon
Rainham.	

Midwifery Services

There were 11 midwives employed by the authority, and they attended 636 deliveries during the year.

During this period the midwifery staff made 139 visits to patients who had been confined in hospital and discharged home before the 10th day of the lying-in period.

Notification of Births under the Public Health Act, 1936

The following is an analysis of the births notified during 1st January to 31st December, 1965 showing the place of confinement:

<u>Number of Births</u>	<u>Domiciliary</u>	<u>Hospital</u>
1187	635	546

Infant Welfare Services

The early detection of defects and diseases and preventive measures to allay these are the main objectives of the infant welfare services of the 1960's.

The emphasis is placed on the ascertainment of deviations from the normal in the mental and physical health of the child - rather than the repeated sooth sayings and frequent weighings that were the pattern of the infant welfare clinics of

the 40's and 50's. The young mother naturally likes the reassurance that a progressively fattening and increasingly heavy child brings to her prowess as a mother and it takes time and patient understanding from the health visiting and medical staff to find more valid milestones with which to reassure and satisfy the mother of her child's progress. It also requires increased knowledge on the part of the health visitors and medical officers in the whole field of normal child development - once we strayed from the path of the child's digestive processes and resulting physical growth the byways of paediatric knowledge are endless and much remains to be done in bringing the staff up to date in developments in paediatric medicine that is only in part satisfied by their attendance at courses in the special subjects of normal child development and the problems of the various categories of handicapped children.

Child Welfare Centres

The Child Welfare Centres in the borough are as follows:

<u>Centre</u>	<u>Sessions held</u>	<u>Times</u> <u>Sessions held</u>
The Clinic, Balmoral Gardens, Gillingham.	Weekly	Monday, Tuesday and Thursday p. m.
The Clinic, Holding Street, Rainham.	Weekly	Tuesday and Thursday p. m.
The Clinic, Twydall Green, Gillingham.	Weekly	Monday and Wednesday p. m.
The Clinic, 2 Magnolia Avenue, Wigmore.	Weekly	Wednesday p. m.
Hempstead Sports Pavilion.	2nd and 4th in the month	Tuesday p. m.

The total attendances at child welfare centres during the year were 24,619 covering 3,754 children; of these 1,471 under one year of age attended for the first time during this period.

Attendances at clinics were as follows:

Centre	Average Att. per session	New cases				Total Attendances	Sessions
		Born in					
		1965	1964	60-63	Totals		
Balmoral Gardens	74	704	67	121	892	12401	168
Holding Street	48	418	82	39	539	5777	119
Twydall	45	206	59	67	322	4410	98
Wigmore	34	132	13	23	168	1755	52
Hempstead	13	11	2	2	15	276	22
Total		1471	223	252	1496	24619	459

At ante-natal and post-natal clinics there were 683 first attendances and 1,017 subsequent attendances.

Special Care of Premature Infants

During the year notifications were received of 70 babies who weighed 5½ lbs. or less at birth. Details of these are given in the following tabulation.

Notifications were received relating to 8 premature still births, and details of these are also given in the following table:

Weight at Birth	Premature live births								Prem. still- births	
	Born in hospital				Nursed entirely at home or in a nursing home					
	Died				Died				Born	
	Total births	within 24 hours of birth	in 1 and under 7 days	in 7 and under 28 days	Total births	within 24 hours of birth	in 1 and under 7 days	in 7 and under 28 days	in hospital	at home or in a nursing home
1. 2 lb 3 oz or less	5	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
2. Over 2 lb 3 oz up to and incl. 3 lb 4 oz	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
3. Over 3 lb 4 oz up to and incl. 4 lb 6 oz	9	1	2	-	2	-	-	-	1	-
4. Over 4 lb 6 oz up to and incl. 4 lb 15 oz	13	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	3	-
5. Over 4 lb 15 oz up to and incl. 5 lb 8 oz	31	1	-	-	7	-	-	-	1	-
6. TOTAL	59	6	5	-	11	1	-	-	8	-

No cases who were born at home or in a nursing home were transferred to hospital on or before the 28th day.

Health Visiting

I give below the report of the Senior Health Visitor-Group Adviser, Miss M.M. Byrne, on the work of the health visiting staff during 1965.

"For the first half of the year, health visiting duties were carried out under considerable difficulties, owing to acute staff shortages, but in the latter six months, three full time, and one part-time health visitors were appointed, leaving one vacancy on present establishment. This has gone some way towards giving a more equitable distribution of case loads, but from the reorganisation already undertaken, it is obvious that a further increase in staff is desirable. The present emphasis of the health visitor's work is on:-

1. The early detection of abnormality, either physical or mental in the children in her care.
2. Frequent visiting of these children, to observe their progress, and advise and support the parents in what is often a difficult and distressing situation.
3. The giving of anticipatory guidance to young mothers with families in order to promote and maintain mental and physical well being.
4. To recognise psychosocial factors which contribute towards the break down of family unity.
5. Problem families.

To carry out these duties efficiently is time consuming. To function at a satisfactory level a workable case load and area is of paramount importance.

Maternity and Child Welfare Duties

Eight infant welfare sessions are held weekly in different clinics in the borough and attendances are uniformly high.

The new premises at Twydall Green opened in April and the mothers and children of the area have quickly adjusted to these very pleasant and more convenient surroundings.

At Gillingham and Rainham Clinics health visitors give health education classes to expectant mothers who wish to avail themselves of this service, and many do.

Ascertainment of hearing loss is done at special sessions, at present it is confined to children at risk, but the extension of this simple test to all children under one year is hoped for in 1966.

Tests are undertaken on all babies for phenolkytonuria. This condition, which if undetected leads to mental retardation is ascertained by testing the urine of each infant born firstly between 10-14 days and secondly at 4-6 weeks. The health visitor carries out this test as part of her routine, preventive work.

For many years the health visitors have been undertaking visits for the Children's Committee to homes where children have been taken into care and reports submitted direct from the health visitors to the children's officer in these cases.

363 visits have been undertaken to these children during the course of 1965.

School health

During the year, five lay health assistants were appointed to assist at the routine medical examination of school children.

They have been instructed in the preparatory work of vision testing, weighing and measuring by the health visitors, and have proved most capable of assisting at examinations of children in the older groups.

In September, Miss B. M. Fry, health visitor commenced a two hour weekly session on Parentcraft for the senior girls of Orchard Street Secondary Modern School. The importance of instruction in this subject is fully recognised. One would hope that this activity may be extended to other schools.

New Ventures

1. The Counselling Clinics, projected in the 1964 report started in early

November, three morning sessions weekly.

Sixteen children are on the register, covering a wide range of handicaps. Attendances have been good, and the specially appointed staff of three soon achieved the kind of relationship necessary to work well together. The services of a physiotherapist twice weekly is proving a real advantage to these children, some of whom were incapable of much if any co-ordinated movement at the clinic's inception.

The variety of equipment, toys and music, carefully used by the staff with the children, promises to aid in developing them to the limit of their capacities. The involvement of the child's mother in the work and aims of the venture is encouraged and some attend weekly. It is hoped that help and advice from a speech therapist will be available in the near future.

2. Young Wives Club, Rainham

Many householders in the new housing development at Rainham are employed in London, necessitating all day absence from home.

Careful enquiry by the health visitors revealed a real need of some extension of the clinic service for the young wives of the area. Accordingly an inaugural meeting was held on October 15th at 7.30 p.m. Thirty interested people attended, and after lively discussion the meeting decided to form their own club. Officers were elected, and a programme arranged.

Meetings are held at three weekly intervals, the full membership has risen to eighty, and an average attendance of thirty-five members is the rule.

The health visitors attend in an advisory capacity. It is hoped to form a similar club at the Balmoral Gardens Centre when the proposed alterations are completed.

Health Education

Miss C. Tomlinson, Health Visitor, Balmoral Gardens Centre, gave a course of lectures on maternity and child welfare to the Gillingham St. John's Ambulance Brigade.

Invitations to speak to the following community organisations were accepted.

The Medway Soroptomists, The Young Wives Fellowship, Hempstead, The Good Companions, Upbury Manor Secondary Modern Parent/Teachers Association.

The Group Adviser Health Visitor joined a committee at the Methodist Centre, Trafalgar Street, in the setting up of a mothers and toddlers club, held each Thursday afternoon since November.

Future plans

From annual clinic attendance statistics the influence can be drawn that mothers do not consider regular clinic attendance necessary after the child's first birthday.

Each age, however, presents its own problems of physical and emotional development, social adjustment, etc, so that the establishment of Toddler Clinics on an appointments basis would serve a very useful purpose, and here the child could receive a complete annual check up and the mother feel free to discuss any difficulty in management and, or relationship with a particular child."

The number of children under five years of age visited totalled 5,113. First visits were paid to 42 expectant mothers and to 1,448 children under one year of age. The number of families or households visited during the period was 5,145 and the total number of visits paid by health visitors was as follows:-

To expectant mothers		52
To children under 1 year		5,263
To children aged 1 and under 2 years		2,794
To children aged 2 and under 5 years		3,989
To patients with tuberculosis		268
Other visits (hospital care, care of old people, children at risk, etc.)		994
Total Visits		<u>13,360</u>

		<u>No. registered at end of year</u>	<u>No. of places</u>
Day Nurseries		2	80
Daily Minders		5	49

District Nursing Service (January to December)

At the 31st December, 1965 there were 14 district nurses employed in the borough and one employed part-time only.

		Patients who were 65 or over at the time of the first visit in 1965	Children who were under 5 at the time of the first visit in 1965
No. of patients attended	1,040	457	20
No. of Nursing Attendances made by District Nurses	32,124	8,430	202

During the year the following district nurses attended a course of instruction in district nursing training and all were successful in obtaining the National Certificate of District Nursing Training:

Mrs. J.P. Davis
Mr. O. Fenske
Mrs. O.J. Hyland

Immunisation Against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough
Vaccination Against Smallpox and Poliomyelitis, 1965

Immunisation and Vaccination 1965

I have set out below the diphtheria immunisation, whooping cough immunisation, smallpox and poliomyelitis vaccination and Triple Antigen Immunisation figures for 1965.

Triple Antigen Immunisation
(Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus)

Age at Date of Vaccination	Primary Immunisation	Reinforcing Dose
Under 1 year ..	465	17
1-4 years ..	671	531
5-14 years ..	25	351
15 years and over	-	-
Total ..	1161	899

2060 persons were immunised or re-immunised by Triple Antigen injections by general practitioners and local health authority medical officers.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

The following table gives the number of second doses and third doses of oral vaccine given during the year ended 31st December, 1965.

Age at Date of Vaccination	Second	Third	Fourth
Under 1 year	271	230	-
1-4 years	939	1059	115
5-14 years	87	105	773
15 years and over	40	39	
Total all ages	1337	1433	888

3658 persons were vaccinated or re-vaccinated against poliomyelitis by general practitioners and local health authority medical officers.

Vaccination Against Smallpox

Age at Date of Vaccination	Vaccinated	Re-vaccinated
Under 1 year	53	-
1-4 years	637	10
5-14 years	24	8
15 years and over	14	3
Total all ages	728	21

749 persons were vaccinated or re-vaccinated against smallpox by general practitioners and local health authority medical officers.

B.C.G. Vaccination

The carrying out of this vaccination includes all persons of 13 years or over who are in full-time attendance at schools and educational establishments as well as persons in close contact with patients suffering from tuberculosis. By the end of the year 1,110 schoolchildren had been vaccinated at clinics by Assistant Medical Officers.

Home Help Service

The Home Help Service has met a variety of needs during the past twelve months. The figures shown will give an overall picture of the service provided.

Our main work is amongst the aged of the district and we have had close co-operation with the Wardens of the old people's communities, and this has been most helpful. The old folk are happy in these flats and they have proved to be ideal for those who can manage alone with the assistance that can be given by the home helps.

The night service has provided immediate help when required and has helped to relieve some of the burden on the relatives of the aged sick.

Co-operation has been maintained with the Meals-on-Wheels provided by the Women's Voluntary Service.

Another essential part of the Home Help Service is to give assistance in maternity cases - a service where the mother can book up about six weeks in advance, and then when the baby is born, notification is given to the Organizer, when immediate help can be provided; this often involves family care and the Help must be prepared to assist in the numerous tasks that go with running a household.

There have been many applications for Family Care, and we have been able to assist families where the mother has had to go into hospital, thus avoiding the children being separated or being taken into Care. The Family Welfare Service is also available, and instruction given to mothers needing advice in home management.

The figures given below show various categories of households where service was provided during the year.

Maternity (lying-in) patients	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	74
Tuberculosis patients	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	42
Person or persons over 65 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	430
Others, e.g., illness, mental subnormal, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	64
Total households served	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	610
The number of helps employed at the end of the year was	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	64

Family Help Service

Number of applications from the Children's Department	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Number of families in which help has been provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Number of children concerned for care	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	51

The following details show the circumstances calling for the provision of this service:

(a) Mother in hospital for confinement or complications of pregnancy or confinement	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
(b) Mother to hospital	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
(c) Mother deserted the family	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
(d) Mother to convalescent home	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

Family Welfare Service

One case was recommended as suitable for this service, and was continued after 3 months as a family welfare follow-on service.

Night Attendant and Evening Service

The following table gives details of services provided under the above scheme:

			<u>Night</u>	<u>Evening</u>
Number of applications received	..	..	39	4
Number of cases where help was provided	..	..	38	5*
Number of cases terminated during 1965	..	..	38	4
Number of cases carried forward to 1966	..	..	-	1
Average age of patients	..	..	75	83

* 1 case was brought forward in Evening Service from 1964.

Welfare and Mental Health Services

As the function of the welfare services department becomes more widely known in the borough the demand for these services increases but with only two visiting officers I am very concerned that there must be a great number of both handicapped and aged people who could benefit by assistance and advice.

At present in Kent welfare duties are only to those persons registered as physically handicapped or blind, but there are many aged people who do not fall within these categories who must be neglected by the statutory authority and frequently these people are brought to my notice by the voluntary agencies or by staff in my own department who visit them for other purposes, e.g. the provision of home help and there is a great need in the borough for an officer responsible for the aged and infirm and I hope that in future we may be able to offer a comprehensive service in Gillingham.

Physically Handicapped

Through various channels, i.e. hospitals, general practitioners, etc. we became aware of many more physically handicapped persons who needed either adaptations in their homes, occupational craft instruction or holidays. Of the more severely handicapped undertaking handicrafts it will be appreciated that rather more instruction is necessary in these cases in order that they may be able to produce saleable articles. It follows, therefore, that with only one craft instructor it has been necessary to restrict patients to less frequent visits thus depriving many of the help and instruction they require. Partly due to the continual rise in the cost of materials, it becomes more difficult to dispose of the extra work produced. Only three sales of work are held annually at present - at the Public Library, the Park Fete and in the Municipal Buildings, and there is a need for more paid or regular and responsible voluntary help to organise these. While awaiting the establishment of a Day Work Centre in the Medway towns to which a considerable number of handicapped will be conveyed, it has become necessary to introduce a greater variety of handicrafts both to help in keeping the handicapped people occupied and in order to dispose of the finished products more easily.

Handicapped Persons

- 168 persons registered as at 31.12.65.
- 60 persons received regular visits from craft instructress.
- 6 persons supplied with domestic aids.
- 7 persons had adaptations carried out in their homes.
- 22 persons went on holiday.
- 7 new people issued with car badges, making a total of 19.

Chiropody

There has again been an increasing demand for chiropody treatment, available to the aged and to handicapped persons, but regretfully we have been unable to provide all patients with an adequate number of treatments. The chiropodist holds a clinic on two days a week in Gillingham, but, due to commitments in other parts of the county, is now unable to carry out domiciliary visits. The patients who are unable to attend the clinic are now being dealt with by a private chiropodist but the period between visits has been further extended to three months, with extra treatments being made available only on medical recommendation.

During 1965 there were 105 new applicants for chiropody treatment, of which 98 were Old Age Pensioners and 7 Physically Handicapped Persons. The total number of attendances for treatment was 2230 of which 895 (including 470 domiciliary visits) were by a private chiropodist approved by the County Council, and 1335 (including 373 domiciliary visits) by the chiropodist appointed by the County Council to work part-time in Gillingham in addition to other areas.

The charges by private chiropodists are 9s. per visit to the surgery, and 15s. per domiciliary visit.

The maximum amount payable by patients is 4s. per treatment, and of the total number of 387 patients, 179 paid the maximum charge of 4s.; 2 paid lesser amounts, and 206 received treatment free of charge.

At Danecourt School, 38 pupils received 103 treatments.

To give a complete service in the borough to the estimated number of

old people who request and need chiropody it is essential that a full time chiropodist be appointed for the town as soon as possible as there are many old and infirm patients who cannot travel the distance to the clinic. The chiropody service is organised on a County basis and it is not until the County staff are increased that we can hope for an improved service in the borough.

Welfare of Blind and Partially Sighted

With the appointment of an additional Home Teacher of the Blind in the Medway Towns, and the division of case loads, a more adequate service has been provided for the Gillingham blind during 1965. More time has been available for the teaching of Braille, Moon and handicrafts in the blind persons' homes and for the provision of weekly handicraft classes and social afternoons which registered blind and partially sighted people may attend, transport being provided. Many new activities have been introduced at the Social Club to help with the mobility and independence of those attending, the most popular of which has been a drama group which has staged a full length play complete with action and costume. A display and sale of handicrafts made at the blind persons' homes or at the handicraft class was held in September in the Corn Exchange, Maidstone, and although competition was keen, entries being submitted from all over Kent, Gillingham Club was awarded a 2nd prize in the Deaf Blind section in addition to awards of 1st prizes in other blind sections.

With the co-operation of the Blind Persons' Rehabilitation Officer and the Ministry of Labour, the services of the Industrial Rehabilitation Centre, Torquay, were made available to younger newly blinded persons. For those who needed to adapt themselves to the handicap of blindness, the Social Rehabilitation Centres at Torquay and Oldbury Grange, Shropshire, were also available. Reports were received during the year of the progress of the Gillingham blind children attending Blind Schools outside the county, and careful consideration was given to those children during holidays so that they would be integrated with sighted children of their own age. Much use was made during the year of the scheme under which adaptations can be made in the homes of blind persons, and many safety precautions were undertaken by the Health Department. Many Gillingham blind people took advantage of the Kent holiday home at Cliftonville, and the services of the residential homes for the blind in Kent were available.

The number of registered blind and partially sighted persons in the borough at 31st December was 214 and the age-sex grouping is:-

Age Group	BLIND			PARTIALLY SIGHTED		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Under 1 yr.	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4 yrs.	1	-	1	-	-	-
5 - 10 yrs.	-	1	1	-	-	-
11 - 15 yrs.	-	1	1	2	1	3
16 - 20 yrs.	-	-	-	1	-	1
21 - 29 yrs.	7	-	7	-	-	-
30 - 39 yrs.	6	2	8	4	3	7
40 - 49 yrs.	6	1	7	-	-	-
50 - 59 yrs.	7	3	10	-	-	-
60 - 64 yrs.	6	7	13	3	1	4
65 - 69 yrs.	7	8	15	-	-	-
70 - 79 yrs.	12	33	45	-	-	-
80 - 84 yrs.	5	22	27	3	16	19
85 - 89 yrs.	2	24	26	-	-	-
90 and over.	3	16	19	-	-	-
Totals	62	118	180	13	21	34

The following table shows the action taken concerning the examination of persons alleged to be blind during the period 1st January to 31st December 1965:-

	Number of Examinations	Certified Blind		Not Certified Blind	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
New cases	44	3	23	7	11
Re-examinations:					
Previously blind -					
still blind	-	-	-	-	-
now not blind ..	1	-	-	-	1
Previously not blind -					
still not blind ..	4	-	-	-	4
now blind	6	2	4	-	-
Totals	55	5	27	7	16

St. Dunstaners

There are 2 St. Dunstaners registered in the borough, of whom 1 is employed and 1 is unemployable.

Workshop Employment

There was one man employed at the Blind Employment Factory, Waterloo Road, S.E.1. as a brushmaker.

The rates of pay in the workshops are agreed rates fixed through the appropriate negotiating procedure. The workers' actual earnings are augmented by a sum of 15s. a week and additional supplementation as is necessary to bring the earnings plus augmentation up to an agreed minimum wage. The augmentation and supplementation is paid by the Council.

Home Workers

There are two blind persons in the Home Workers Scheme, in the following trades:-

Hand Knitter (and chair caning)	1 Female
Piano Tuner	1 Male

Augmentation at the rate of £4.15s.0d. (female) and £5.5.0d. (male) per week is paid by the Council.

Mental Health

The duties of the mental welfare officer are undertaken here as in the County as part of the duties of the district officer and his assistant.

I consider, however, that we shall never have an adequate domiciliary care service for the mentally ill until more specially qualified officers can be appointed to act as mental health officers with the sole responsibility for the mentally ill and subnormal in the town, as is the case in almost all counties and county boroughs in the country. With only two visiting officers responsible for all sections of the welfare department there is a limit to the amount that can be done for the care of the mentally ill.

Mentally Ill

72 patients were referred to the mental welfare officer during the year, of these 71 were admitted to hospital. In the other case it was decided that no action was necessary under the Mental Health Act.

48 cases were visited in the nature of after-care.

The Sub-normal and Severely Sub-normal

2 patients were admitted to hospital on a permanent basis and 22 were admitted for 'short term care' varying from one to two months.

14 patients remained on the waiting list for suitable hospital accommo-

dation. Friendly oversight is available to 61 males, and by the health visitors to 58 females.

Training Centres

A total of 33 patients attended the training centres, as follows:-

<u>Rochester</u>				<u>Bobbing</u>			
<u>5-15</u>		<u>16 and over</u>		<u>5-15</u>		<u>16 and over</u>	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
7	1	6	6	3	4	4	2

Home training

One patient was receiving home training.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

Tuberculosis - Notifications

During the year 35 persons were notified as suffering from tuberculosis. On the 31st December, 586 persons remained on the registers.

T.B. Care and After-Care - Provision of Extra Foods

40 recommendations made and approved.

Illness Generally - Recuperative Care

Recuperative residential care is provided under Sections 22 and 28 of the Act. This is restricted to instances where a person has suffered from an illness which has been treated either in a hospital or at home and whilst needing further medical and/or nursing care of the type that can be provided by a general practitioner and home nurse, cannot have that care at home.

27 applications for recuperative care were received and arrangements were made for 19 patients to have 2-4 weeks care in suitable nursing homes.

Medical Loans

87 persons were provided with 110 loans.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The work of the School Health Service falls under three main headings - (1) medical and dental inspection of children, (2) the referral of children with special needs to the appropriate services for education and the follow up of the children of all children with special problems of the special education, and (3) the provision of a diagnostic investigation and advice for the child with special needs from the age of two years.

There are 9 sections and 12 sub-sections in the School Health Service. The Department of Health and Social Security, London, has been established on 1st December, 1965. The Department of Health and Social Security, London, has been established on 1st December, 1965. The Department of Health and Social Security, London, has been established on 1st December, 1965.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

In addition, special consideration has been given to the children with special needs who were carried over to the new year. The part of the service which is carried over to the new year is the part of the service which is carried over to the new year.

Handicapped Pupils

Handicapped pupils are defined as those who are handicapped by physical, mental, or emotional defects, or by any other condition which is likely to result in a child being handicapped, by reason of their being

During the year 55 patients were notified as suffering from tuberculosis. On the 31st December, 145 patients remained in the service.

Training Centre

A total of 31 patients attended the training centre, as follows:

<u>Residence</u>				<u>Age</u>			
<u>1-14</u>		<u>15 and over</u>		<u>1-14</u>		<u>15 and over</u>	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1

Home Nursing

One patient was receiving home nursing.

Prevention of Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis - Notification

During the year 55 persons were notified as suffering from tuberculosis. On the 31st December, 145 persons remained in the service.

T.B. Case and After-Care - Provision of Extra Food

55 recommendations made and approved.

Home Nursing - Recuperative Care

Recuperative residential care is provided under Sections 23 and 24 of the Act. This is restricted to instances where a person has suffered from an illness which has been treated either in a hospital or at home and whilst needing further medical advice during care of the type that can be provided by a general practitioner and home nurse, cannot have that care at home.

55 applications for recuperative care were received and arrangements were made for 15 patients to have 4-7 days of treatment in the home.

Medical Team

55 patients were provided with 145 beds.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The work of the School Health Service falls under three main headings - (1) medical and dental inspections of children of different age groups in schools; (2) the referral from these inspections of children with defects to the school clinics for consultation and the follow up in the clinics of all school children with special problems or for special examinations, e.g. for employment; and (3) the provision of a diagnostic ascertainment and advice service for handicapped children from the age of two years.

There are 9 secondary and 24 primary schools in the borough as well as the Danecourt Day Special School. The number of children on the School Rolls on 31st December, 1965 was 11,984, an increase of 371 compared with the previous year. This upward trend has continued for a number of years.

Routine medical inspections were carried out on the following groups of pupils:

- (a) Children in their first year at infant school
- (b) Children in their first year at junior school
- (c) Children in their first year at secondary school
- (d) Children in the last year of secondary education
- (e) Children of any age transferred from other areas to schools in Gillingham.

In addition, special examinations and re-inspections of children with defects were carried out as necessary. This part of the work is specially necessary at the Danecourt Special School and at the Special Units for the handicapped at Marlborough Road, Richmond Road, Woodlands Road and Fairview.

Handicapped Pupils

Handicapped pupils are defined in Part II of the Handicapped Pupils and Special Schools Regulations, 1959, as pupils who require special educational treatment, by reason of their being:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| (a) Blind | (f) Epileptic |
| (b) Partially sighted | (g) Maladjusted |
| (c) Deaf | (h) Physically handicapped |
| (d) Partially hearing | (i) Pupils suffering from speech defect |
| (e) Educationally sub-normal | (j) Delicate |

The Education Act of 1944 places on the Education Authority the responsibility of ascertainment, examination and classification of educationally sub-normal children. These ascertainments and examinations are the duty of the school medical officers who can recommend to the local education authority the appropriate form of special educational treatment that each child requires.

To fully assess the child's future needs the medical officer must have full knowledge of the medical condition of the child which entails detailed hospital reports and close examination of the child's condition and he must also know what provisions can be made by the local education authority in the area.

We are fortunate here in being able to provide appropriate schooling for all forms of handicap and with the opening of the special care clinics for the under 5's we shall soon know the needs of the more severely handicapped children more intimately before they reach school age.

However, there are two groups of children for whom we must still have some concern in the borough. Firstly, the educationally subnormal at the low end of the I.Q. range who may also have other defects and who do not fit in easily to the pattern of a busy and over-full educationally subnormal school because their requirements need even smaller group teaching than is possible.

The other group are the partially hearing children who have successfully passed through some years at the partially hearing units and reached the age of 11 years and whose defect is too great to allow them to integrate fully in the ordinary school and so pass on to the next stage of secondary education locally. In some cases their hearing loss is not so great that they could not cope in an ordinary school where there are senior partially hearing units to which they could go for further help in auditory training.

Total number of children attending special schools and units in Gillingham from Gillingham, Medway and Sittingbourne:

	<u>No. of pupils</u>
Danecourt Day E.S.N. School	125
Partially Hearing Unit:	
(1) Woodlands Road C.P. Infants' School	16
(2) Fairview C.P. J.M. School	12
Physically Handicapped Unit, Richmond Road	8
Special subnormal unit, Marlborough Road	8

Number of Gillingham children admitted to special schools and units during 1965:

	<u>No. of pupils</u>
Danecourt Day Special School: E.S.N.	21
Glencoe Special Classes, Chatham: E.S.N.	8
Special subnormal unit, Marlborough Road: E.S.N.	3
Residential Special Schools: E.S.N.	1
Residential Special Schools: Physically Handicapped	4
Physically Handicapped Unit, Richmond Road	4
Residential Special Schools: Deaf	1
Residential Special Schools: Partially Hearing	2
Partially Hearing Units:	
(1) Woodlands C.P. Infants	5
(2) Fairview C.P. Junior Mixed	1
Residential Schools: Delicate	3
" " Partially sighted	1
" " Maladjusted	1

No. of Gillingham children of school age on 31.12.65 formally ascertained as handicapped pupils requiring special educational treatment	Blind	Partially sighted	Deaf	Partially hearing	Delicate	Physically handicapped	E.S.N.	Maladjusted	Epileptic	Speech defect	Dual defect	TOTAL
Attending day special school/units	-	-	-	15	-	6	67	-	-	-	24*	88
Awaiting placement in day special school/units	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	9
Attending residential special schools	1	2	6	2	6	6	6	8	-	-	1*	37
Awaiting placement in residential special school	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	6	-	1	-	11
Total number of children of school age requiring special educational treatment	1	2	6	17	8	13	83	14	-	1	25*	145
Children of school age on register of handicapped pupils but not requiring special educational treatment and attending ordinary school	-	5	-	11	20	44	22	71	4	64	1*	232

* Included in total

In addition to the above table, 18 children were ascertained but found not to be E.S.N. but required special help. 1 child is physically handicapped and partially sighted and required home tuition. 1 child, who is physically handicapped is in a hospital school.

UNDER FIVE HANDICAPPED

	Blind	Partially sighted	Deaf	Partially hearing	Delicate	Physically handicapped	E.S.N.	Maladjusted	Epileptic	Speech defect	Dual defect*	TOTAL
Children aged 2-5 years on 31.12.65 formally ascertained as handicapped pupils requiring special educational treatment												
Receiving	-	-	-	6	-	4	1	-	-	-	1	11
Awaiting	-	-	-	3	1	2	4	-	-	1	1	11

* Not included in total

Danecourt School - Report for 1965

The school was enlarged during the year by the addition of two classrooms plus cloaks, toilets and showers; increased hall space and a new and larger kitchen. The accommodation came into use at the beginning of the summer term. The increased accommodation has been well-planned and provided two excellent classrooms.

The number on roll was increased from 89 to 125. The age range is now 7 years to 16+ years with 68 boys and 57 girls in 7 class groups of mixed sexes.

Despite the increase in places the pressure still remains. During the year 1966 the possible admissions will be no more than 12. The position is made more acute by more requests for older children to stay for an extra year. This is brought about by the poor provision for further training for school leavers, both locally and nationally. This need for such provision must be met to enable the more doubtful regarding employment to be assessed as to their potential before they try employment in an unready state and quickly lose job after job and become unemployable. Additional training would further enhance the prospects of those who now take employment straight from school.

It is planned for the pre-school Unit to open by Easter 1966. This unit will cater for children around 6 years and perhaps a few older children who present complex problems and whose place in a special school is in doubt.

The general health of the school continues to be good. Absences in the main have been due to minor ailments. All admissions and leavers have routine medical examinations. Children who cause concern are medically examined as necessary and review medicals are also held in school. Dental and ophthalmic services are provided at the clinics and these services are up to date with cases requiring treatment. The standard of personal cleanliness and clothing of a small group of children requires constant supervision. The majority maintain a good standard of personal hygiene.

The long term benefits of having the services of a remedial specialist for children with poor muscular control and or co-ordination or poor posture defects are now very noticeable. Children who without this individual or small group treatment would remain forever earthbound can now be seen running, jumping and climbing.

Remedial speech in school is given for up to 10 periods a week by a member of staff guided by the speech therapist, who visits regularly.

The services of the Educational Psychologist continue to be readily available and case conferences and discussions are held regularly.

All normal activities continue as in previous years (sports, visits, camping, outings and festivals). A new venture this year was a full day educational visit for 40 senior children, to Greenwich and then by river to London and the Zoo. A Go Kart was purchased for the school by the P.T.A. A club has been formed and meets weekly after school.

The school continues to benefit from the work of the P.T.A. and also the generosity of individuals and firms not directly connected with the school, by donations and gifts.

Since September 1964 evening classes in basic subjects have been held once a week for leavers and those about to leave. The response has been encouraging, up to ten attending regularly. Classes in woodwork have also commenced, but so far the response is poor.

During the year 14 children, 5 boys and 9 girls left and obtained employment, all except 1 girl being still employed. There were three transfers. A survey of all leavers and their employment histories is at present under way. During the year 53 children were admitted.

Partially Hearing Units

Schooling for the partially hearing was consolidated in 1965 into two units - one at Woodlands Road for the 3-7 year olds and the other at Fairview School for the 8-11 year age group. The Fairview Annexe at the Medway Hospital was closed at the end of the summer term and of the 5 children attending there, 2 went to schools for the partially hearing, 2 to schools for the deaf and 1 to Fairview Unit to await transfer.

During the year 13 children passed through the nursery group at Woodlands Partially Hearing Unit and 9 older children attended.

The numbers attending in the autumn term were:

9 in the nursery group
7 older children.

At the Fairview class, 6 attended full time and one part-time for auditory training during the first two terms of 1965. In the autumn term the numbers were:

8-11 years	9 partially hearing also 1 awaiting transfer.
7+ years	3

This younger group included one profoundly deaf child awaiting transfer and in addition to these 13 children a much older boy attended part-time for auditory training.

During the year, 6 children transferred to residential schools for the deaf and one to a residential partially hearing school.

The immense value of the training provided at these units is evident in the return of 2 children to ordinary school and a third who removed to Beltinge, is also receiving schooling in a class of normally hearing children.

The staffing of the units remained unchanged, viz: 4 teachers, an assistant and 1 visitor, who continues to provide invaluable advice to the parents of the younger children on management and speech training.

Despite the gratifying results, more could be done to help the teachers and medical officers if the hope of specialist advice from an experienced audiologist had been realised. There is also still insufficient liaison with consultants concerned, except in the case of the nursery group, some of whom are referred by the Assessment Panel. It is to be hoped that in the near future a combination of effort will enable more children deprived of normal hearing to take their place with confidence and minimum handicap in a society of hearing adults.

Report on Handicapped Unit (1965)

The complement of the group has changed during the year 1965 and only two of the children who were in the class twelve months ago are still with us.

Four have gone to Valence School, Westerham (one of these children has since returned home and has home tuition). A boy has gone to Blatchington Court School for the partially sighted at Seaford, a girl has joined the special unit at Glencoe Road, Chatham and a boy has returned to his normal day school having recovered from an arm injury. The death of one child occurred during a school holiday.

There are seven children in the group at present with another admission to be made shortly. One of the class is attending classes in the ordinary school. There are three spastics, one hemiplegia, one heart case and one maladjusted child who is awaiting transfer to a more suitable unit.

The unit is now officially recognised by the Ministry of Education.

A physiotherapist attends twice each week and we had several visits from an occupational therapist who advised on aids.

The average age of the class is now 5-6 years compared with 7+ years last year. The youngest child is just five and the oldest almost seven. Most of the children live in Gillingham but admissions have also been made from Chatham and Strood.

The physical and intellectual capabilities of the group are very varied. The ability range is from a probable 3 years to a very high I.Q.

The children continue to be conveyed to school by taxi and while in the unit are in the care of a qualified teacher and welfare worker. Close co-operation between parent and school has been encouraged and in such cases as the thalidomide child the parent has spent short periods in the classroom. This has also been done where parents have at first shown anxiety.

The children have been drawn into the life of the ordinary school as much as possible.

All the children are seen during the school year by the school medical officer and assessments of physical and intellectual developments made and great help and assistance has been gained by the visits of the occupational therapist from the Medway Hospital who has given advice as to aids in the classroom for the more severely handicapped children, some of whom have specially adapted chairs and typewriters.

Marlborough Road Unit - Report for 1965.

Despite the disadvantages of limited accommodation and inadequate facilities, this unit has continued to provide worthwhile training, play therapy and the rudiments of schooling for the young E.S.N. child.

During 1965 twelve children passed through the unit, two of them being subsequently admitted to Danecourt, where they have settled well and are making satisfactory progress. One E.S.N. boy was transferred to another area and a severely subnormal girl will be admitted to a training centre on 10th January.

There remain six E.S.N. children and two mongols attending at present, all children who could not possibly have been integrated in an ordinary school, thereby stressing the necessity of maintaining such a unit, where facilities are available for training this type of child. Ascertainment of pre-school children has continued throughout the year and nine children under five were assessed. Two of these will require the individual and specialised help provided at the unit.

STATISTICAL TABLES

PART I - MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED AND ASSISTED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Age Groups Inspected (By year of birth) (1)	No. of pupils Inspected (2)	Physical Condition of Pupils Inspected			
		Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
		No. (3)	% of Col. 2 (4)	No. (5)	% of Col. 2 (6)
1961 and later	2	2	100.0	-	-
1960	595	575	96.7	20	3.3
1959	677	638	94.2	39	5.8
1958	123	118	95.9	5	4.1
1957	670	640	95.5	30	4.5
1956	296	287	96.9	9	3.1
1955	27	27	100.0	-	-
1954	79	79	100.0	-	-
1953	586	563	96.1	23	3.9
1952	297	286	96.3	11	3.7
1951	424	410	96.7	14	3.3
1950 and earlier	751	730	97.2	21	2.8
Total	4527	4355	96.2	172	3.8

OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections	..	..	..	..	394
Number of Re-inspections	..	..	..	..	530
Total	..	..	..	..	924

PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT AT PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

(excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin)

Age Groups Inspected (By year of birth)	For defective vision (excluding squint)	For any of the other conditions recorded	Total individual pupils
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1961 and later	-	-	-
1960	14	100	101
1959	26	163	166
1958	4	36	37
1957	78	122	169
1956	18	54	57
1955	1	1	2
1954	16	11	22
1953	44	112	146
1952	34	41	64
1951	46	79	106
1950 and earlier	99	130	211
Total	380	849	1081

EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	223
Errors of refraction (including squint)	983
Total	1206
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed	134

Defects found by medical inspection during the year

Defect Code No. (1)	Defect or Disease (2)	Periodic Inspections								Special Inspections	
		Entrants		Leavers		Others		Total		T (11)	O (12)
		T (3)	O (4)	T (5)	O (6)	T (7)	O (8)	T (9)	O (10)		
4	Skin	20	6	82	7	57	9	159	22	4	2
5	Eyes -										
	a. Vision ..	44	95	145	68	191	79	380	242	17	10
	b. Squint ..	24	13	2	-	15	10	41	33	3	1
	c. Other ..	8	1	2	-	19	2	29	3	1	-
6	Ears -										
	a. Hearing ..	36	45	8	2	25	31	69	78	3	6
	b. Otitis Media ..	3	5	-	-	2	3	5	8	2	-
	c. Other ..	1	3	-	-	3	4	4	7	1	-
7	Nose and Throat ..	94	37	17	3	63	46	174	86	5	2
8	Speech	9	25	-	-	6	6	15	31	5	2
9	Lymphatic Glands ..	1	2	1	-	-	2	2	4	-	1
10	Heart	7	16	5	1	4	6	16	23	-	1
11	Lungs	12	10	7	4	6	16	25	30	2	-
12	Development -										
	a. Hernia ..	4	4	-	1	6	1	10	6	-	-
	b. Other ..	6	30	5	1	7	39	18	70	1	5
13	Orthopaedic -										
	a. Posture ..	2	6	2	7	7	31	11	44	-	-
	b. Feet ..	50	17	20	6	60	14	130	37	5	1
	c. Other ..	6	13	21	4	25	13	52	30	5	2
14	Nervous System -										
	a. Epilepsy ..	-	-	3	-	1	-	4	-	1	-
	b. Other ..	1	12	3	1	9	1	13	14	-	-
15	Psychological -										
	a. Development ..	2	3	-	-	3	6	5	9	-	3
	b. Stability ..	4	13	2	2	11	10	17	25	2	2
16	Abdomen ..	8	5	12	1	6	8	26	14	-	-
17	Other ..	1	4	17	6	6	23	24	33	3	2

T = Treatment

O = Observation

Ophthalmic Clinics

Ophthalmic clinics are held at the School Clinic at Balmoral Gardens and conducted by a consultant working on a sessional basis. The work of the clinic may be summarised thus:

Sessions held	..	..	..	..	..	66
Number of children examined for first time	..	..	..	..	..	144
Number of children re-examined	..	..	..	..	..	760
Total attendances	..	..	..	..	..	904
Glasses prescribed	..	..	..	..	..	134
Glasses not required or no change necessary	..	..	..	..	..	625
Referred to hospital	..	..	..	..	..	1

DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

					Number of cases known to have been dealt with
Received operative treatment					
(a) for diseases of the ear	..	..	..	..	-
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	..	..	..	..	11
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	..	..	..	..	10
Received other forms of treatment	..	..	..	..	-
Total	..	..	..	..	21
Total number of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids					
(a) in 1965	..	..	..	..	3
(b) in previous years	..	..	..	..	28

ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

	Number of cases known to have been treated
(a) Pupils treated at clinics or out-patients departments	-
(b) Pupils treated at school for postural defects	49
Total	49

DISEASES OF THE SKIN

	Number of cases known to have been treated
Ringworm - (a) Scalp	-
(b) Body	-
Scabies	-
Impetigo	3
Other skin diseases	28
Total	31

Child Guidance

A total of 26 children from Gillingham were treated at the Kent Education Committee's clinic in Chatham. There has been considerable pressure on this clinic which serves a wide area and the waiting list has varied throughout the years. There has never been any difficulty in arranging for priority in the treatment of urgent cases.

Speech Therapy

The work of this department which is under the control of the Kent Education Committee has been handicapped by shortage of staff. 20 children from Gillingham were known to have been treated during the year but expert advice was available for other children referred to whom therapy was not available on a regular basis.

OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
(a) Pupils with minor ailments	153
(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements	-
(c) Pupils who received B.C.G. vaccination	1110
(d) Other than (a), (b) and (c) above	
Please specify:	
Catarrh, sore throats	-
Total (a)-(d)	1263

Provision of Milk

Milk is provided free of charge to all school children. During December 10,037 children were supplied with milk each day. This represents 81% of the total number of children on the roll.

Summary of Health Visitors' Work in Schools in Gillingham during 1965

(1) Total visits to schools	270
(2) Attendances at routine medical inspections	135
(3) Attendances at clinics	150
(4) Visits to homes	82
(5) Examination of heads and bodies re cleanliness	7,653
(6) Notices sent re nits (children not excluded from school) ..	106
(7) Notices sent re nits and vermin (children excluded from school)	43

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

(a) Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by school nurses or other authorised persons	7,653
(b) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested ..	217
(c) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act, 1944) ..	-
(d) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3), Education Act, 1944) ..	-

School Clinics

During the year 559 children were seen by the school medical officers at their consultation sessions and 452 attendances were made at the nurses' sessions. Attendances at the various clinics were as follows:

Gillingham	639
Rainham	372
Total	1,011

Attendances at treatment clinics

				<u>Balmoral</u>	<u>Rainham</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
				<u>Gardens</u>		<u>1965</u>	<u>1964</u>
Ringworm	..	..	..	-	-	-	1
Ear defects	..	..	..	54	18	72	262
Impetigo	..	..	..	2	3	5	12
Scabies	..	..	..	-	-	-	10
Other skin diseases		..		49	185	234	260
External eye disease		..		17	2	19	48
Other conditions	..	..		227	33	260	729
Totals	..	..		349	241	590	1322

Children suffering from the following conditions made first attendances for inspection:

	<u>Balmoral Gardens</u>	<u>Rainham</u>	<u>Total 1965</u>	<u>Total 1964</u>
Catarrh, sore throats, colds, etc.	3	-	3	6
Vermin of head or body, nits, etc.	21	-	21	51
Ringworm	-	-	-	1
Impetigo	2	1	3	4
Scabies	-	-	-	4
Other skin diseases ..	28	29	57	35
Defective vision, sore eyes, etc.	22	4	26	57
Nose and throat diseases ..	2	2	4	-
Nervous system:				
(a) Epilepsy	-	-	-	3
(b) Other	1	1	2	2
Hearing - otitis media, etc.	19	13	32	150
Heart and circulation ..	1	-	1	3
Orthopaedic:				
(a) Posture	-	-	-	2
(b) Flat feet	-	-	-	4
(c) Other	5	8	13	9
Other diseases and defects	12	2	14	63
Totals	116	60	176	394

Employment of Children

175 pupils were examined for fitness for employment out of school hours and certificates given for all these children.

Staff Medical Examinations

The following medical examinations were carried out and x-ray arrangements made in respect of the following during 1965:

School meals service staff	..	..	..	..	..	77
Caretakers and cleaners	..	..	..	..	..	30
Prospective student teachers	..	..	..	..	..	43
Teachers	..	..	..	..	..	36
Clerical and other staff	..	..	..	..	..	20
Total:	..	..	..	..	..	206

Dental Services

During 1965 we were fortunate in obtaining the services of a full time dental surgeon with the result that a more uniform service was obtained in the borough and there has been a considerable increase in the number of children inspected and treated.

The following is the report of Mr. Gimson, dental surgeon:

"Since commencing work in Gillingham last July, all but two of the schools served by the Balmoral Gardens Clinic have been visited and over 7,000 children examined.

In the eleven plus age group there is much evidence of regular visits to a dental surgeon and in general the dental condition of these children is quite good.

The infants and juniors, however, are not up to the same standard, approximately 70% of the children requiring treatment. It is noted that whilst a large number of the older children tend to visit the family dental surgeon a very high percentage of the infants and juniors attend the school clinic.

Unfortunately with only one full time dental surgeon working in the area it is not possible to keep up with the demand for treatment. The situation is aggravated by the fact that in the younger age groups dental decay tends to be more rapid and therefore more frequent inspections are desirable. At the moment however an annual school inspection is all that is possible otherwise no surgery time would remain for treatment.

The dental surgery at Twydall Green is now in use on one day a week when a morning and afternoon session are worked. Children from the Danecourt School form the main bulk of the patients seen here as most of the neighbouring schools come under the Rainham Clinic.

As at present there is a large backlog of work to be done at the Balmoral Gardens Clinic it is felt that treatment must in the main be reserved for patients attending that clinic. A few patients from the Balmoral Gardens Clinic have been transferred to Twydall but on the whole this is not popular owing to the extra travelling involved.

It would seem that with the large number of pupils in the area there is a case for having at least three full time dental surgeons. It is to be hoped that in the near future more dental surgeons will be attracted to the school dental service and that we will be able to keep all our surgeries working full time."

A total of 8,025 children were inspected by the school dentist during the year and 1,604 children were treated.

The following table gives a summary of the work carried out by the dental service:

A	(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers -					
	(a) At periodic inspections	..	..	..	..	7066
	(b) As specials	..	..	..	..	959
	Total (1)	..	..	..	..	<u>8025</u>

(2) Number found to require treatment (includes 1(b)) 3710

(3) Number offered treatment 3583

(4) Number actually treated 1604

B

(1) Number of attendances made by pupils for
treatment excluding those recorded at C(1) .. 3756

(2) Half days devoted to:

(a) Periodic (School) Inspection 40

(b) Treatment 548

Total (2) 588

(3) Fillings: (a) permanent teeth 1261

(b) temporary teeth 1549

Total (3) 2810

(4) Number of teeth filled: (a) permanent teeth .. 994

(b) temporary teeth .. 1331

Total (4) 2325

(5) Extractions: (a) permanent teeth 155

(b) temporary teeth 1060

Total (5) 1215

(6) Administration of general anaesthetics for
extraction 580

C

Orthodontics:

(1) Cases commenced during the year 26

(2) Cases carried forward from previous year 38

(3) Cases completed during the year 6

(4) Cases discontinued during the year	24
(5) Pupils treated with appliances	-
(6) Removable appliances fitted	25
(7) Fixed appliances fitted	2
(8) Pupils referred to Hospital Consultant	5
(9) Number of pupils supplied with artificial teeth ..	-

I N D E X

	<u>Page</u>
Animal Boarding Establishments	43
Atmospheric Pollution	30
Ante Natal Care	51
Attendances - Welfare Centres and Clinics	54, 93
B.C.G. Vaccination	63
Births - Illegitimate	8, 9
- Legitimate	8
- Live and Still	8, 9, 14
Blind and Partially sighted	69, 70, 71
Caravans	44
Centres and Clinics - Attendances	54, 93
Child Guidance	89
Child Minders	60
Chiropody	68
Condemned Food - Disposal	29
Danecourt School	79
Deaths - Infants - Ages and causes	9, 11
- Rates	8, 9, 10
Dental Services	94, 95, 96
Diphtheria Immunisation	62
District Nursing Service	61
Drainage	42

Early Neo-natal mortality	8
Employment of Children	94
Factories Acts	38
- Details of Defects	38, 39
- Inspections for Purposes of Provision as to Health	20, 38
- Outwork	39
Family Help Service	65
Family Welfare Service	65
Food - Hygiene	20, 24, 25
- Sampling	25, 26, 27
Foodstuffs Surrendered	29
Forward	1, 2
Handicapped Persons	68
- Pupils	74, 77, 78
- Unit	82
Health Education	58
Health Visiting	56, 57, 58, 59
- Home Visits	59
- Schools	91
- Staff	4
Home Help Service	64
- Maternity Cases	65
- Mental Illness	65
- Staff	6
- Tuberculosis	65
- Year's Work	64
Home Nursing Service	49
- Record of Patients Nursed	61
- Staff	5
- Training	61

Housing								
- Action under statutory powers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23, 24
- Informal action	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22, 23
- Inspection of Dwelling houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Houses in Multiple Occupation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Ice Cream	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Improvement areas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Immunisation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
- Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	62
- Tetanus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	62
- Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	62
Infant Mortality	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8, 9, 10
Infant Welfare Services	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52, 53
Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15, 16, 43
Infestation with vermin	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	91
Inspection and Supervision of Food Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Marlborough Road Unit	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	83
Maternity Services	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	51, 56
Maternal Mortality	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9, 10
Medical Inspection - Defects	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	87
- Treatment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	85
Mental Health Service	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	67, 72, 73
Midwifery Service	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52
- Staff	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
- Visits by midwife	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52
Milk supply	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
- Licensing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
- Registrations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
- Sampling	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28, 29
Mortality - Infant	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
- Maternal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
- Neo-natal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
- Peri-natal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8

Neo-natal Mortality	8
Night attendance and evening service	65, 66
Noise abatement	44
Notices - Informal	22
- Statutory	22
Notification of Births	52
Notification of Infectious Diseases	15, 16
Nuisances, Details of	21
Nurseries and Child Minders	60
Nursing Equipment - Loan of	73
Nursing Homes	19
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37
Ophthalmic Clinics	88
Orthopaedic and Postural Defects	89
Outworkers	39
Overcrowding	23
Oxygen, administration of	31
Partially hearing Units	80, 81
Pet Animals Act	43
Peri-natal mortality	8
Periodic Medical Inspections	84
Physically handicapped unit	67
Poliomyelitis vaccination	63
Population	10
Premature babies	55
- Deaths of	55
Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care	73

Relaxation and Mothercraft	..	..	..	..	..	..	51, 52
Riding establishments	..	..	..	..	..	..	43
Rodent and insect pests	..	..	..	..	..	..	40, 41
Sampling - Milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	28, 29, 90
School Health Service	..	..	..	..	..	..	57, 74
Scrap metal dealers	..	..	..	..	..	..	44
Sewerage	..	..	..	..	..	..	44, 45
Smallpox vaccination	..	..	..	..	..	..	63
Smoke control areas	..	..	..	..	..	..	30
Special schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	76
Speech therapy	..	..	..	..	..	..	90
Staff - Health, School Health Service and Delegated Health Service	..	..	..	..	..	..	3, 4, 5, 6, 7
- Medical inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	94
Statistics							
- Area	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
- Atmospheric pollution	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
- Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	8, 14, 52
- Blind	..	..	..	..	..	..	70
- Cancer	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
- Day nurseries	..	..	..	..	..	..	60
- Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	9, 10, 11, 12, 14
- Dental	..	..	..	..	..	..	95, 96, 97
- Eye Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	86
- Home Help Service	..	..	..	..	..	..	65, 66
- Home Nursing Service	..	..	..	..	..	..	61
- Immunisation and Vaccination	..	..	..	..	..	..	62, 63
- Infant Mortality	..	..	..	..	..	..	8, 9, 14
- Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	15, 16
- Maternal Mortality	..	..	..	..	..	..	9, 10
- Medical inspections: Defects	..	..	..	..	..	..	87, 93
- Medical inspections: Treatment	..	..	..	..	..	..	85, 92
- Neo-natal deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	8, 14
- Periodic medical inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	84

Statistics

- Population	8
- Skin diseases	89
- Stillbirths	8, 14
- Tuberculosis	17, 18, 73
- Vital	8
- Vermin infestation	91
- Welfare centres	54
Stillbirths	8, 14
Swimming bath water	42
Tetanus - Immunisation	62
Training Centres	73
Treatment clinics	92
Tuberculosis	
- B.C.G. vaccination	63
- Register	17, 73
Vaccination - B.C.G.	63
- Poliomyelitis	63
- Smallpox	63
Venereal Disease	19
Vital statistics	8
Violence	13
Water supply	46, 47, 48, 49
Welfare Centres	53
- Attendances	54
Welfare and Mental Health Service	67
Whooping cough	62
- Vaccination	62
Workplaces	32
Workshop employment	71