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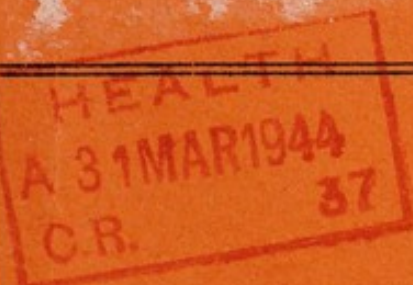
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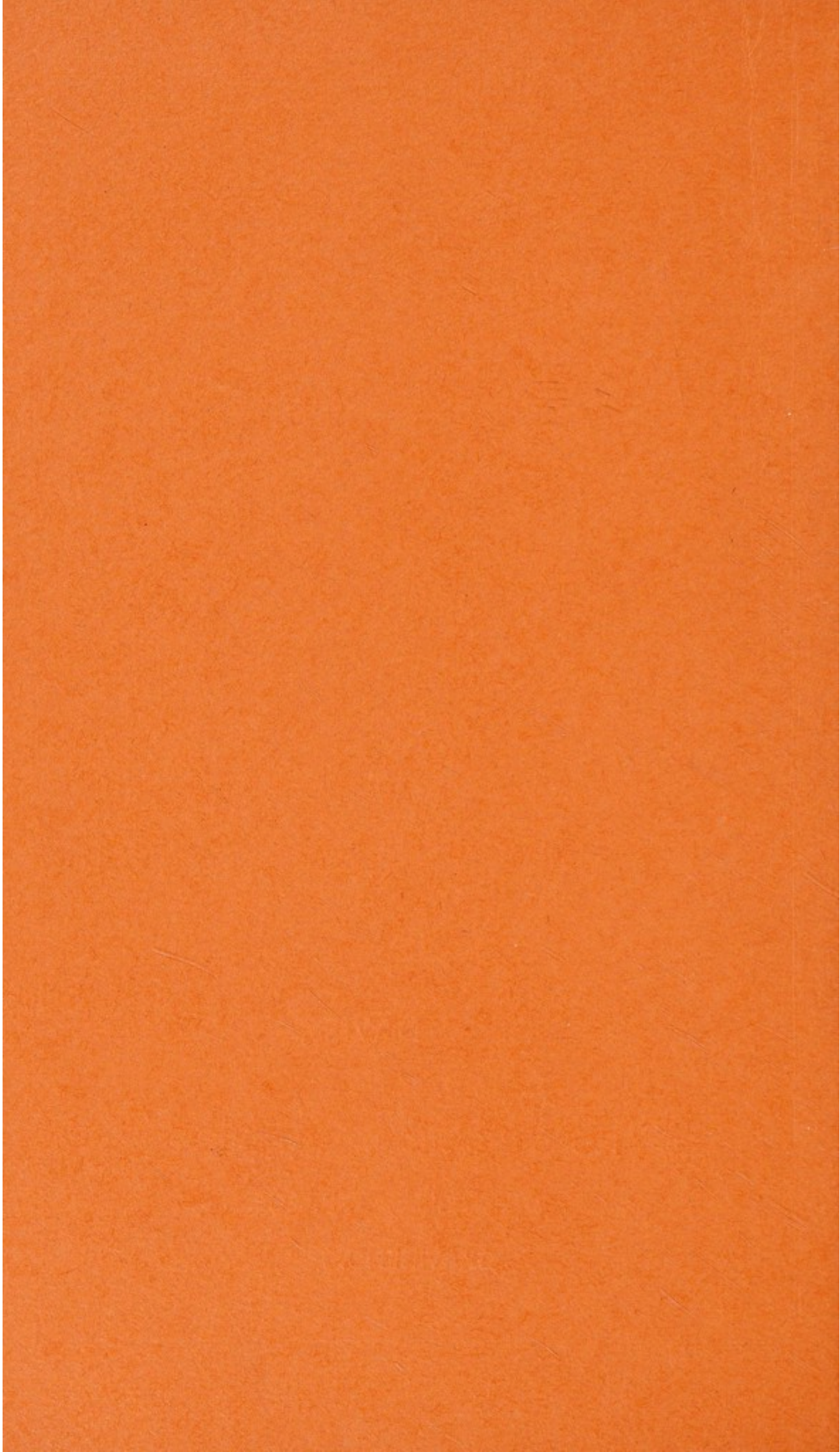
Borough of



Gravesend.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
For the Year 1942.

H. S. DAVIES,
M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
3 WOODVILLE TERRACE,
GRAVESEND.



PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

HERBERT S. DAVIES, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (Lond.), M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., *Medical Officer of Health.*

DANIEL DESMOND, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H. (Cork), *Assistant Medical
Officer of Health.*

R. A. TRAN, L.D.S. (Eng.), *Dental Surgeon.*

*J. E. BAKER, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., *Chief Sanitary Inspector.*

District Sanitary Inspectors.

*R. BROOKS, C.R.S.I.

O. B. DODDS, C.R.S.I.

*L. G. OWEN, C.R.S.I. (On Active Service.)

Health Visitors.

Miss S. A. CROSS, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss C. BOVINGTON, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Health Visitor's
Certificate.)

†Mrs. A. WALTON, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Health Visitor's Certificate.)

Clerks.

S. V. TONGE.

A. H. BAKER.

Mrs. W. M. SANDFORD.

Miss E. K. GREGORY. (Appointed December, 1942.)

Mrs. G. H. STEWARD. (Appointed July, 1942.)

Miss E. CLINCH. (Appointed July, 1942.)

* Also holds Meat and Food Inspector's Certificates.

† Resigned July, 1942.

Appointment of Health Visitor—School Nurse—vacant.

Public Health Department,
Woodville Terrace,
Gravesend.

December, 1943.

MR. MAYOR, ALDERMAN AXCELL, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough for the year ending December 31st, 1942.

The report, in accordance with the requirements of war-time conditions, is again limited to essential statistics and comment.

During the year, excellent progress has been made with the diphtheria immunisation campaign. This is particularly noticeable among children of school age. We should continue to work for an increased response among the pre-school children.

The attendances at the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics show a marked increase over those of the preceding year. This is especially welcome as an indication of the spread of knowledge and interest in the intelligent care of children.

Two war-time Nurseries have been opened during the year. They are well attended and greatly appreciated by the mothers. With these also, we greatly welcome our extended opportunity to educate and co-operate with parents in their desire to learn the best methods of child care. A third Nursery has been opened early in 1943.

The work of the Civil Defence Casualty Services proceeded throughout the year. It will be appreciated that this service greatly adds to the work and responsibilities of the Health Department staff.

During the year the Council acquired No. 3 Woodville Terrace for its new Health Department. Work on these premises proceeded most satisfactorily and they were ready for occupation on January 1st, 1943.

I desire to express my thanks to the Council, and especially to Alderman Axcell and the Health Committee for their interest and support. It is in no small measure due to their loyal co-operation that the general health of the Borough has remained highly satisfactory.

I also wish to take the opportunity of thanking my staff for their hard work and valued assistance.

I am,

Yours obediently,

HERBERT S. DAVIES.

SECTION "A."

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area	4,619 acres
Rateable value	£338,643
Sum represented by penny rate	£1,333

Registered Births.

	Males	Females	Total
Live births—Legitimate	351	350	701
Illegitimate	16	13	29
Total live births	367	363	730

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population=20.6.

Still births—Legitimate	10	6	16
Illegitimate	2	—	2
Total still births	12	6	18

Deaths Registered.

	Males	Females	Total
Total	256	192	447

The death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population=12.6.

Death rate of infants under one year of age.

	Males	Females	Total
Infants under 1 year:			
Legitimate	14	7	21
Illegitimate	1	—	1
Total	15	7	22

Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 registered live births)=30.1

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births 29.9

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births 34.4

Causes of deaths of infants under one year.

Cause of Death	Under 1 week		Under 1 month		1 and under 3 mths		3 and under 6 mths		6 and under 9 mths		9 and under 12 mths		Total
	m.	f.	m.	f.	m.	f.	m.	f.	m.	f.	m.	f.	
Prematurity ...	4	2	2	1									9
Pneumonia ...					1				1				2
Suffocation ...						1	1						2
Meningitis ...							1		1				2
Enteritis ...							1						1
Atelectasis ...	1												1
Bronchitis ...					1								1
Congenital Malformation						1	1						2
Septicæmia ...					1								1
Natural Causes...											1		1
Total ...	7		3		5		4		2		1		22

	Number	Rate per 1,000
Deaths from Cancer	72	2.0
" " Measles	—	—
" " Whooping Cough	—	—
" " Diarrhoea	1	.02
" " Tuberculosis	24	.67
" " Diphtheria	1	.02
" " Influenza	4	.11

Maternal Causes.

Nil.

Two women who were non-residents died in institutions in the Borough. The certified causes of death gives the complication of maternity as secondary classification. These were transferred out.

Certified causes of death.

	Males	Females	Total
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	1	1
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	1	1
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	1	1
6. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	12	6	18
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	6	—	6
8. Syphilitic diseases	4	—	4
9. Influenza	3	1	4
10. Measles	—	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio Encephalitis	—	—	—
12. Acute Encephalitis—Infantile ...	—	—	—
13. Cancer—oesophagus and uterus ...	5	8	13
14. Cancer—stomach and duodenum ...	12	5	17
15. Cancer of breast	—	9	9
16. Cancer of all other organs	19	14	33
17. Diabetes	2	5	7
18. Intracranial vascular lesions	29	26	55
19. Heart disease	52	43	95
20. Other diseases of the circulatory system	5	7	12
21. Bronchitis	21	11	32
22. Pneumonia	10	3	13
23. Other respiratory diseases	1	2	3
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ...	6	—	6
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	1	—	1
26. Appendicitis	1	3	4
27. Other digestive diseases	4	4	8
28. Nephritis	7	7	14
29. Puerperal and post abortion sepsis ...	—	—	—
30. Other maternal causes	—	—	—

31.	Premature births	...	...	...	7	2	9
32.	Congenital births, malformations, etc.				2	3	5
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	1	1	2
34.	Road Traffic accidents	...	...		2	1	3
35.	Other violent causes	...	...	...	14	3	17
36.	All other causes	...	...	...	30	24	54
Total—All causes					256	191	447

Table of birth and death rates for last five years.

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate
1938	17.4	12.1
1939	16.88	10.56
1940	17.46	14.23
1941	16.51	13.78
1942	20.58	12.60

SECTION " B."

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory Facilities.

Specimens are sent from the Public Health Department to the County Laboratory at Maidstone, and this arrangement has proved entirely satisfactory.

The results were as follows:—

	Positive	Negative	Total
Tuberculosis	21	—	21
Diphtheria	1	24	25
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—
Hæmolytic Septicæmia	—	2	2

Ambulance Facilities.

The Borough maintains one ambulance exclusively for cases of infectious disease. The Civil Defence Services have now a fleet of efficient ambulances in addition to the normal establishment of one St. John and two Police ambulances, so that the Borough is adequately served in this respect.

Home Nursing.

The Kent County Nursing Association is working in the Borough. Another voluntary organisation, the Gravesend Home Nursing Service, is also doing valuable work.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

There are three centres in the Borough—at Windmill Street, Whitehill and Denton Estate. The Medical Officer attends each centre for one session a week. The Health Visitors attend for baby-weighing and routine advice on the following afternoons:—

Windmill Street	—	Monday and Tuesday.
Whitehill	—	Thursday.
Denton	—	Wednesday.

Attendances at Welfare Centres.

Individual children (at all centres) under 1 year of age ...	574
Individual children between one and five years of age ...	747
No. of attendances of all children under 5	2,349

Distribution of Dried Milk and Medical Extras.

Free milk and extras were allowed to mothers in these amounts:

Dried Milk	...	...	...	...	22 lbs.
Virol	...	...	...	...	40 lbs.
Malt and Oil	...	...	...	...	11 lbs.

Ladies' Voluntary Committee.

The members of the Ladies' Voluntary Committee have continued throughout the year to give service at the Welfare Centres in connection with sale of foods at cost price, and miscellaneous clerical and social work among the mothers. They make a valuable contribution to the success of the centres, which is greatly appreciated by staff and mothers alike.

Evacuation of Expectant Mothers.

During the year 1942 four expectant mothers were evacuated to the Langton Green Maternity Home, Tunbridge Wells, under the Kent County Scheme.

Home Helps.

Twenty-one women were attended during confinement by the Home Helps engaged by the Council. The normal period of 14 days was allowed in each case.

Midwifery Service.

The Midwifery Service is administered by the Kent County Council. There are five midwives working in the district.

Institutional Provision for Maternity Cases.

Abnormal maternity cases can be accommodated in the Gravesend and North Kent Hospital. 19 such cases were admitted during the year.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

Four cases of Puerperal Pyrexia occurred during the year. One was admitted to the Gravesend and North Kent Hospital and one occurred in a Nursing Home. Two cases remained under the care of their private medical practitioners.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Two cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were reported in the town. These received treatment in the Maidstone Ophthalmic Hospital and were cured without any impairment of the vision.

Poliomyelitis.

A case of poliomyelitis occurred in a child of $4\frac{1}{2}$ years. The child was removed to the Dartford Infectious Diseases Hospital and recovered after 15 days.

Whooping Cough.

Twenty-seven cases of Whooping Cough were notified in children under 5 years of age. 25 of these were visited by the Health Visitors and one, a child of eight weeks, was admitted to the Dartford Infectious Diseases Hospital. No deaths were registered from this disease.

Measles.

Twenty-six cases of Measles were notified in children under 5 years of age. 25 of these were visited by the Health Visitors. No deaths were registered.

Dental Provision.

Expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5 years of age received dental treatment at the Borough's Dental Clinic in Manor Road.

Maternity and Child Welfare Dental Cases.

Number of Mothers inspected	...	...	...	...	60
Number of Mothers referred for treatment	...	...	...	...	57

Treatment.

Fillings	...	...	6	Extractions	...	...	711
Other operations	...	125		Number of Gas cases	...	108	
Number of Mothers treated	...	...	...	...	...	71	
Attendances by Mothers for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	345	
Dentures supplied	...	...	...	...	...	61	

Children.

Number of pre-school children inspected	...	...	...	23
Number referred for treatment	...	...	...	21

Treatment.

Extractions	...	...	33	Other operations	...	—
Number of Gas cases	...	16				
Number of pre-school children treated	...	...	...	17		
Attendances for treatment	...	...	...	26		
Cash received: Mothers	...	...	£82	15s. 6d.		
Pre-school children	...	...	£ 1	6s. 0d.		
Total	...	...	£84	1s. 6d.		

Notifications of Births.

District	Live Births	Still Births	Total
Gravesend	220	3	223
Milton	325	9	334
Denton-Chalk	188	4	192
Total	733	16	749

In addition to the above 122 children were born of non-residents and were transferred out.

Health Visiting.

The number of visits made by the Health Visitors are recorded below.

Nurse Walton, Health Visitor and School Nurse for Denton and Chalk district, resigned on July 7th, 1942.

GRAVESEND.

Number of individual houses visited	...	...	776
First visits to infants under 1 year of age	...	...	244
Secondary visits to infants under 1 year of age	...	...	327
Subsequent visits to infants over 1 and under 5	...	...	1287
Visits to expectant mothers, first visits	...	...	79
Visits to expectant mothers, secondary visits	...	...	44
Visits re Adoption Orders	...	...	6
Visits re Still Births	...	...	6
Visits to Abnormal Maternity cases	...	...	3

Visits to Foster Children	...	...	...	...	...	1
Visits to Scabies cases	...	...	...	...	...	3
Attendances at Welfare Centres	...	...	...	...	...	177
Attendances at treatment sessions for Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	15
Attendances at School Clinics	...	...	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	3

MILTON AND DENTON DISTRICTS.

Number of individual houses visited	...	...	...	...	...	2002
First visits to infants under 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	...	296
Secondary visits to infants under 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	...	633
Subsequent visits to infants over 1 and under 5	...	...	...	...	...	1370
Visits to Expectant Mothers, first visits	...	...	...	...	...	82
Visits to Expectant Mothers, secondary visits	...	...	...	...	...	26
Visits to Foster Children	...	...	...	...	...	24
Visits re Adoption Orders	...	...	...	...	...	5
Visits re Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	11
Visits re Abnormal Maternity cases	...	...	...	...	...	11
Visits re Neglected Children	...	...	...	...	...	3
Visits to Orthopædic cases	...	...	...	...	...	1
Visits re Home Helps	...	...	...	...	...	2
Accompanying Mother and Child to Maidstone	...	...	...	...	...	1
Accompanying Child to Dartford Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	1
Attendance at treatment sessions for Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	14
Routine Medical Inspections at Schools	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other visits to Schools	...	...	...	...	...	2
Visits to School Children	...	...	...	...	...	17
Head Inspections at Schools	...	...	...	...	...	6
Immunisation Sessions	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dental Clinic Session	...	...	...	...	...	1
A.R.P. Exercise	...	...	...	...	...	1

DENTON AND CHALK DISTRICT (JANUARY TO JULY)

Number of individual houses visited	...	...	...	...	...	263
First visits to Infants under 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	...	184
Secondary visits to Infants under 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	...	795
Subsequent visits to Infants over 1 and under 5	...	...	...	...	...	407
Visits to Expectant Mothers, first visits	...	...	...	...	...	2
Attendances at Welfare Centres sessions	...	...	...	...	...	27
Attendances at School Clinics	...	...	...	...	...	72
Head Inspections at Schools	...	...	...	...	...	14
Attendances at Dental Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	19
Routine Medical Inspections at Schools	...	...	...	...	...	5
Immunisation Sessions	...	...	...	...	...	8

Foster Children.

Five children were boarded out under the Children's Act with five Registered Foster Mothers. Twenty-five supervision visits were

made by the Health Visitors to these children and in all cases the home conditions were satisfactory and the children properly cared for. In one instance a mother was warned against having clothes on a fire guard.

Conditions met with at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Expectant mothers ...	26	External eye disease ...	13
Feeding difficulties ...	303	Exzema ...	10
Teething ...	91	Tonsils & Adenoids ...	6
Dental defects ...	11	Sore Throat ...	4
Circumcision ...	25	Injury, cuts, etc. ...	15
Bronchitis ...	34	Orthopædic Defects ...	23
Hernia ...	53	Vaccination ...	2
Bronchial catarrh ...	67	Tongue Tie ...	3
Septic Sores ...	49	Thrush ...	3
Vomiting ...	10	Debility ...	8
Diarrhoea ...	15	Infectious Disease ...	11
Otitis Media ...	18	Varicose Veins ...	6
Cold ...	30	Albumenuria ...	3
Buttocks, sores ...	25	Worms ...	11
Rash ...	67	Weaning ...	13
Scabies ...	10	Immunisation ...	17
Enlarged glands ...	4	Miscellaneous ...	149
Eyesight, squint ...	10		

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The scheme for the immunisation of children against Diphtheria was energetically pursued during the whole of the year 1942. The scheme provides for free immunisation at the welfare Centres, in the schools, and also by private doctors, in the case of children of parents whose income does not exceed £250 per annum.

During the year 4,106 Gravesend children were completely immunised, the figures being made up as follows:—

Immunised by:	Under five yrs. of age	Over five yrs. of age	Total under 15 yrs.
Public Health Officers ...	611	3102	3713
Private Practitioners ...	170	223	393
Total ...	781	3325	4106

To the 31st December, 1942, the total number of Gravesend children who had been immunised was as follows:—

	Under 5 yrs.	5—15 yrs.	Total
By the Public Health Officers ...	1005	4062	5067
By Private Medical Practitioners	336	623	959
	1341	4685	6026

The percentage of the child population shown to have been immunised up to December 31st, 1942, is as follows:—

	Under 5 yrs.	5—15 yrs.	Total
Estimated number of children ...	3000	6170	9170
Percentage of child population immunised	44.7	75.93	65.71

Good progress was maintained throughout the year, particularly in the later months.

It should be noted that a number of children who have returned from evacuation have been immunised, but it is not possible to estimate this number accurately.

Hospitals.

The Gravesend and North Kent Voluntary Hospital is used extensively by the inhabitants of the district.

Public Assistance Administration.

The Public Assistance Institution in Trafalgar Road is under the control of the Kent County Council and is used as an auxiliary to the County Hospital at Dartford.

Nursing Homes.

There are two registered Nursing Homes in the Borough, one for medical and one for maternity patients. Five visits were made to these homes by the Medical Officer for the purpose of supervision.

Orthopædic Treatment.

By arrangement with the Gravesend and North Kent Hospital pre-school children are referred to Mr. Batchelor, F.R.C.S., who is the Specialist in attendance at that hospital.

One child, aged 4, was referred to Mr. Batchelor for treatment during the year. The child was subsequently admitted to St. Vincent's Orthopædic Hospital, Stanmore, for treatment.

Infectious Diseases.

The total number of cases notified, 230. An attack rate of 6.4 per 1,000 of the population.

Excluding Measles and Whooping Cough, the number is 124, or an attack rate of 3.49 per 1,000 population.

The cases notified were as follows:—

				No. removed to Hospital for isolation & treatment
Diphtheria	...	...	8	8
Scarlet Fever	...	...	35	21
Pneumonia	...	...	11	2

Erysipelas	...	...	...	6	I
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	I	1
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	2	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	2	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	4	I
Measles	...	...	...	67	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	39	I
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	...	...	...	43	23
„ Non-Respiratory	...	...	...	12	7
Total	...	...	...	230	69

AGE DISTRIBUTION.

	Under 1 year		1 to 5 years		5 to 15 years		15 to 25 years		25 to 35 years		35 to 45 years		45 to 55 years		55 to 65 years		65 yrs. and over	
	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f
Diphtheria			1			3		4										
Scarlet																		
Fever			5	4	9	17												
Pneumonia			1		3	1			1	2						2	1	
Erysipelas												1		2	1		1	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever										1								
Polio-myelitis			1		1													
Ophthalmia																		
Neon :	1	1																
Puerperal																		
Pyrex :								1		2		1						
Measles	1	2	14	9	18	16	4	2		1								
Whooping Cough	2	2	9	14	5	6	1											
Tuberculosis	4	5	31	27	36	43	5	7	1	6		2		2	1	2	2	1
Respiratory					3	1	7	9	2	16	24	23			11		1	
Non-respiratory	1		5		2			1	1	1						1		
	5	5	36	27	41	44	12	17	4	7	7	4	4	4	4	34	2	

Deaths from notifiable infectious diseases numbered 27.

Typhoid Fever	I
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	I
Diphtheria	I
Respiratory Tuberculosis	18
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	6

The death from Typhoid Fever was registered in a person temporarily residing outside the district.

Tuberculosis.

55 Primary notifications were received during the year of persons suffering from Tuberculosis, viz.:—

	Males	Females	Total
Respiratory	26	17	43
Non-Respiratory	11	1	12

SOURCE FROM WHICH NOTIFICATIONS WERE RECEIVED.

Tuberculosis Officer	21
General Practitioners	22
General Hospitals	8
R.A.F. Hospital	2
Army and Navy Hospitals	2

The Occupations with ages are recorded as follows:—

MALES.	FEMALES.
General Labourers, 14, 19, 35, 40, 53, 53, 61	Housewife 24, 28, 40, 42, 54, 60
Ex-R.A.F. 20, 21, 28	Clerk 17, 17
Ex-Army and Navy 21, 22	Munition Worker 20, 21
Engineer 39, 61	Widow 72
Tyre Moulder 29	Cement Labourer 18
Master Mariner 54	Civil Defence 24
Paper Maker 38, 17	Laundry Worker 17
Painter 45	Machinist 20
Locomotive Driver 67	Porteress 46
Bricklayer 58, 26	Waitress 16
Civil Defence 65	..... 14
Lorry Driver 40	
Sweep 43	
Clerk 16	
Fish Curer 37	
School age 8, 10, 12	
..... $\frac{1}{2}$, 4, 4, 3, 3, 5, 4	

Twenty-three patients were admitted to Sanatoria suffering from respiratory and seven to Hospitals for non-respiratory diseases.

The names of 36 persons were removed from the Tuberculosis Register during the year for the following reasons:—

Deceased	...	...	...	...	...	25
Left district	...	...	...	...	...	5
Recovered	...	...	...	...	...	2
Not confirmed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Lost sight of	...	...	...	...	...	2

The total number of persons residing within the Borough as shown by the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year was:—

	Males	Females	Totals
Respiratory	122	73	195
Non-Respiratory	22	18	40
	<hr/> 144	<hr/> 91	<hr/> 235

This shows an increase of 33 over the similar figure for the previous year.

Deaths from Tuberculosis during the year numbered 24—13 respiratory and 6 non-respiratory. This gives a death rate of .67 per 1,000 of the population. This compares with 17 deaths registered and a rate of .49 per 1,000 for the previous year.

One death from Tuberculosis was registered which had not previously been notified.

Cancer.

Seventy-two deaths were registered from Cancer, giving a Cancer rate of 2.63 per 1,000 of the population.

The corresponding figures for last year were 72, with a rate of 2.11.

The disease was classified as follows:—

	Males	Females	Totals
Aesophagus	5	8	13
Stomach	12	5	17
Breast	—	9	9
Other organs	19	14	33
	<hr/> 36	<hr/> 36	<hr/> 72

ABSTRACT FROM ANNUAL RETURN—1942.

Gravesend K.C.C.—V.D. Clinic.

NEW PATIENTS—GRAVESEND.

	Male	Female	Total
Syphilis	14	1	15
Soft Sore	—	—	—
Gonorrhœa	19	4	23
Non-venereal	7	15	22
	—	—	—
	40	20	60
Total No. of new patients from all areas			184
Average No. of Gravesend patients under daily treatment or observation during 1942	84	49	133
No. of attendances of Gravesend patients			1084
Total No. of attendances—all areas ...			3419

DISCHARGES (all districts).

Discharged cured :

Syphilis	17	16	33
Soft Sore	—	—	—
Gonorrhœa	53	10	63
Non-venereal	38	31	69

Defaulted before final test of cure :

Syphilis	1	—	1
Gonorrhœa	4	1	5

Defaulted before completion of treatment :

Syphilis	9	6	15
Gonorrhœa	14	8	22

(signed) HAMISH NICHOL, F.R.C.S.,
Surgeon in Charge.

19th January, 1943.

SECTIONS " C," " D " AND " E."

Sanitary Conditions of the Area.

The following statistics have been supplied by the Chief Sanitary Inspector:—

Summary of Inspections and Revisits.

Dwelling houses inspected	375
Re-inspections	841

Visits to other Premises:

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	1256
Butchers' shops (for inspection of meat)	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Dairies and milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Provision shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	560
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	375
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Dining rooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	172
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	...	445
Butchers' shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	322
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Other food preparing premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Offensive trades—Fish frying	...	...	...	...	...	...	161
Gut scraping	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Shops Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Factories (with power)	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Factories (without power)	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Stables	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Urinals	...	...	...	...	...	...	114
Public conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	792
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Places of entertainment	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Rats and mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	186
Infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
Re overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	775
Total visits of all kinds							6854

Notices Served and complied with.

In respect of dwelling houses:

Informal notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	284
Statutory notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	...	280

Miscellaneous:

Informal notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	...	39

Nuisances and Defects remedied.

Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Animals in unfit state	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ashbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	136
Ceilings repaired and/or cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Cesspools filled in	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Chimney stacks—Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
New pots provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

Coppers—New provided	...	...	...	...	...	3
Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	8
Dampness—Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	26
Guttering repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	8
Hopper heads provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
R.W.P.'s repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	10
External walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
External walls repointed	...	...	...	...	...	4
External walls rendered	...	...	...	...	...	4
Sub-floor ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	...	4
Damp-proof courses provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Doors and door sills repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dirty houses cleansed by occupiers	...	...	...	...	...	8
Drainage—Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drains relaid	...	...	...	...	...	12
Drains partly relaid	...	...	...	...	...	3
Drains unstopped	...	...	...	...	...	41
Inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	...	...	16
Soil and vent pipes, new provided	...	...	...	...	...	4
Soil and vent pipes, repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
Floors repaired or relaid	...	...	...	...	...	17
Paving relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	8
Sinks, new provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sink or bath waste pipes renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Stoves renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	11
Staircase hand-rails provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Stair treads repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Urinals cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	9
Verminous rooms disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	71
Walls, internal, repaired and/or repapered, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	29
Water supply—Internal supply provided	...	...	...	...	...	5
Water pipes, etc., repaired	...	...	...	...	...	10
Water closets—Number dealt with	...	...	...	...	...	41
New constructed	...	...	...	...	...	11
Repaired and/or cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	13
New pans	...	...	...	...	...	24
Flushing cisterns provided	...	...	...	...	...	13
Flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	...	7
Windows—Renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	5
sash cords provided	...	...	...	...	...	13
Other matters	...	...	...	...	...	35

Housing.

Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	375
Number of inspections made for that purpose	...	...	1216
Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	284

Remedy of defects without service of formal notices:	
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	280
Action under statutory powers (Public Health Act):	
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	1
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which such defects were remedied	0

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

The work of disinfection is carried out by the local authority. Infested rooms and furniture are sprayed with insecticide, and two or more sprayings, as found necessary, are applied with intervals of from three to seven days.

Where necessary, belongings of tenants are sprayed before removal to Council houses and again on moving into the houses.

Particulars of action taken during 1942:—

	Council houses.	Other houses.	Total.
Number of houses found to be infested	20	22	42
Number of house disinfested ...	20	22	42

Factories Act, 1937.

	No. of inspections.	No. of defects.	No. remedied.
Bakehouses	56	2	2
Factories (with power) ...	28	2	2
Factories (without power) ...	8	—	—
	<hr/> 92 <hr/>	<hr/> 4 <hr/>	<hr/> 4 <hr/>

Shops Acts, 1912-1934.

Shops have been kept under observation during the year, and no infringements were found.

Cesspool and Pail System.

6,024 tons of sewage were removed from 432 cesspools as against 6,824 tons from 545 cesspools the previous year.

There are approximately 30 pails in use in the Borough. Seven of these are emptied twice weekly by the Public Health Department, and the remainder are dealt with by the owners or occupiers.

House and Trade Refuse Removal and Disposal.

Six Shelvoke and Drewry freighters and two Eagle-Thornycroft vehicles are employed in the collection of house and trade refuse and salvage.

House and trade refuse is disposed of by means of controlled tipping at the Gravesend Co-operative Sports Ground, Old Road East.

7,417 tons of refuse were collected and tipped during the year as against 7,873 tons the previous year.

Salvage.

Salvaged materials collected and sold during the year were as follows:—

Materials.	Weight.			Value.		
	Tons.	cwts.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste paper	322	7	34	1859	4	9
Ferrous metals	80	9	56	120	14	1
Tins	129	9	56	194	4	1
Non-ferrous metals		16	37	18	3	2
Textiles	4	4	106	53	2	5
Bottles and jars	27	2	66	104	1	5
Food waste	465	1	102	780	18	9
Bones	9	0	94	34	2	11
String	1	9	59	12	7	4
Batteries	3	5	105	2	9	6
Razor blades			31	1	15	2
Gramophone records		7	53	1	16	9
Rubber	22	16	44	45	9	4
Miscellaneous			19		8	11
	1066	12	78	£3228	18	7

Disinfection of Premises.

124 rooms were disinfected and 249 batches of clothing and bedding were removed to the Isolation Hospital and disinfected and returned or, in some cases, destroyed.

Public Conveniences and Schools.

The public conveniences and sanitary arrangements of certain schools under the control of the Education Committee have been cleansed and flushed daily by the Health Department during the past year.

The conveniences attached to licensed premises have been kept under supervision and 114 inspections were made. Six urinals were cleansed at the request of this Department.

The conveniences at 14 licensed premises are cleansed by the Health Department in consideration of the fact that they remain open for use of the general public.

Rats Orders.

23 premises were reported as being infested with rats, and eight were brought forward from 1941. Inspections were made in each case and the occupiers advised as to the best procedure.

The total number of visits made was 186. Premises were cleared in 29 cases, and two were still under observation at the end of the year.

Water Supply.

Samples taken and submitted for bacteriological examination were as follows:—

	Total.	Satis- factory.	Unsatis- factory.
Gravesend and Milton Water Co.'s Supply	14	14	—
Higham and Hundred of Hoo Co.'s Supply	11	11	—
Gravesend Swimming Pool Emergency Drinking Water Supplies	10	8	2
	13	12	1
	—	—	—
	48	45	3
	—	—	—

Two samples—one of the Gravesend supply and one of the Higham and Hundred of Hoo supply—were taken and submitted for chemical analysis. The reports were as follows:—

Description or Number of Sample.	No. 1.	No. 2
	"Downs Road" Pumping Station.	"West Court School" (Higham and Hundred of Hoo Supply).
Appearance	Clear	Clear
Colour	Green-blue	Green-blue
Smell	Normal	Normal
Chlorine in Chlorides ...	1.05	1.19
Phosphoric Acid in Phos- phates	None	None
Nitrogen in Nitrates ...	0.44	0.42
Ammonia	None	0.0006
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	0.0020	0.0017
Oxygen absorbed in 15 mins.	Trace only	Trace only
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs.	0.016	0.010
Hardness before boiling (total)	19.2	18.3
Hardness after boiling (permanent)	2.4	3.0
Total solid matter ...	23.52	23.94

Microscopical examination of deposit	Slight and unimportant	Slight and unimportant
Metallic impregnation (Copper, Lead, Zinc) .	None	None

REMARKS.—The above results are satisfactory throughout and indicate, in both cases, water organically pure and free from sewage percolation.

The Microscopical Examination is also satisfactory.

N.B.—All numerical results expressed in grains per gallon.

Milk Supply.

There are three dairy farms in the Borough. 13 visits of inspection were made. 62 visits of inspection to milkshops and dairies were made.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

The following table shows the number of samples taken and the results obtained on bacteriological examination:—

Sample.	Total.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Pasteurised	19	16	3
Ordinary	19	13	6
	—	—	—
	38	29	9
	—	—	—

14 samples were also examined for the presence of tubercle bacilli. 12 samples gave a negative result. Two samples showed the presence of tubercle bacilli, and the necessary action was taken under the Tuberculosis Order regarding these samples.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

The following licences were issued during the year under the above Order:—

"Tuberculin Tested" Milk	Bottling licences	...	...	2
	Dealers' supplementary licences			2
"Pasteurised" Milk	Pasteurisers' licences	...	...	2
	Dealers' licences	...	...	8
	Dealers' supplementary licences			2
"Accredited" Milk	Bottling licence	...	...	1

Slaughterhouses.

There are two licensed slaughterhouses in the Borough, both being under the Ministry of Food. Visits of inspection made during the year numbered 1,256.

The provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, relating to humane slaughtering of animals, have been complied with. The number of slaughtermen holding licences at the end of the year was 21.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

The following table shows the number of carcasses inspected and the results of the inspections:—

MEAT INSPECTION—CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle (excluding cows).	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs
Number known to have been killed	1661	1056	1465	10865	1537
Number inspected	1659	1056	1465	9654	1537
<i>All diseases except</i>					
<i>Tuberculosis :</i>					
Whole carcasses con- demned	—	6	2	18	9
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	65	131	1	35	11
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	13.92	12.97	.20	.55	1.30
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i>					
Whole carcasses con- demned	4	43	1	—	10
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	135	525	—	—	62
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	8.38	53.79	.07	—	4.63

[illegible]

Unsound Food.

Beef	...	...	730 lbs.	Lyle's Syrup	...	5 lbs.
Pork	...	...	100	Apples	...	4
Mutton	...	...	192	Dried Apricots	...	25
Bacon	...	...	10	Milk	...	1304 Tins
Brawn	...	...	19	Soup	...	15
Galantine	...	...	10	Corned Beef Hash	...	3
Meat Roll	...	...	17	Beans	...	111
Pressed Beef	...	...	7	Carrots	...	38
Corned Beef	...	...	1376	Plums	...	28
Sausages	...	...	2	Peaches	...	12
Sausage Meat	...	...	100	Pears	...	14
Chopped Ham	...	...	62	Pineapple	...	70
Luncheon Meat	...	...	447	Rhubarb	...	4
Ox Tongue	...	...	12	Pilchards	...	32
Lambs' Tongues	...	...	3	Salmon	...	26
Butter	...	...	40	Spaghetti	...	14
Margarine	...	...	62	Vegetable Stew	...	87
Cheese	...	...	104	Peas	...	133
Sugar	...	...	186	Tomatoes	...	43
Sago	...	...	50	Pork and Beans	...	27
Oatmeal	...	...	74	Curried Mutton	...	72
Rolled Oats	...	...	29	Roast Pork Stuffing	...	11
Beans	...	...	15	Fish Paste	...	26 jars
Peas	...	...	17	Pickles	...	13
Rice	...	...	5	Sauce	...	3 bottles
Fish Cake Roll	...	...	200			
Tomatoes	...	...	120	Eggs	...	712
Pearl Barley	...	...	41			

FISH.

Cod	...	...	98 lbs.
Huss	...	...	12
Kippers	...	...	40
Crab	...	...	70
Whelks	...	...	196
Cockles	...	...	12
Coley	...	...	77
Herrings	...	...	392

Approximate Weights:

			Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.
Beef and organs	...	...	37	6	0
Pork and organs	...	...	1	14	1
Mutton and organs	...	...		11	2
Fish	...	...		8	0
Miscellaneous	...	...	2	7	0
			42	6	3

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

114 samples were taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and submitted to the Public Analyst. Particulars of the samples and a summary of the results is shown in the following table:—

Samples.	Number of		Results of Analyses	
	Formal.	Informal.	Genuine.	Adulterated.
Anti-gas Ointment ...		6	6	
Ammoniated tincture of quinine		1	1	
Arrowroot	1		1	
Baking powder	1	2	3	
Blancmange powder substitute	1		1	
Butter	5		5	
"Cake Flour"	1	2	3	
Camphorated oil		1	1	
Castor oil		1	1	
Chocolate spread	1		1	
Cocoa	1		1	
Cod liver oil		1	1	
Coffee	2		2	
Custard Powder	1	3	4	
"Dessert Powder"	1		1	
Dried Egg	1		1	
Egg powder substitute .		3	3	
Fish paste		2	2	
Lard	5		5	
Linseed oil		1	1	
Margarine	4		4	
Milk	43	2	45	
Mineral Water	1	2	3	
Mustard		1	1	
Oatmeal	1		1	
Pepper		2	2	
"Puff Pastry"	1		1	
Rice	1		1	
"Sage and onion" stuffing	1		1	
"Sandwich spread" ...	1		1	
Sausages	3		3	
Sausage meat	2		2	
Soda water		1	1	
Sugar	1		1	
Tea	1		1	
Tincture of iodine ...		1		1
Vinegar substitute ...	1		1	
	82	32	113	1

PARTICULARS OF ADULTERATED SAMPLE.

TINCTURE OF IODINE: This sample contained 2.34 per cent. of iodine and 1.83 per cent. of potassium iodide instead of 2.45 and 1.55 per cent. respectively. The Public Analyst reported that it was probably correctly made up, but altered on keeping, and that, in his opinion, it was not a case where further action should be taken.

Legal Proceedings.

There were no legal proceedings during the year.

Borough of



Gravesend.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
For the Year 1942.

H. S. DAVIES,
M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
3 WOODVILLE TERRACE,
GRAVESEND.

GRAVESEND EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

THE MAYOR (Councillor G. A. PRATT, J.P.).

Chairman: Alderman THOMAS, J.P., C.C.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor CROFT.

Alderman CLUNN, J.P.	Councillor OVERY.
Councillor Dr. HAGARD.	„ OSBORNE.
„ COLE, J.P.	„ RICKETTS.
„ GOODING, J.P., C.C.	„ LINES.
„ FLETCHER.	„ E. J. HOWCROFT.
Mrs. F. E. THOMAS.	*Mrs. G. E. TATCHELL, J.P.
*Rev. H. J. POWELL.	Mrs. F. FLETCHER.
Rev. F. H. KEMP.	Mr. T. J. TINKER, J.P.
Rev. Father McNALLY.	

Mr. F. P. BEX (Teachers' Representative).

* County Council Representatives.

STAFF OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

HERBERT S. DAVIES, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (Lond.), M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., School Medical Officer.

DANIEL DESMOND, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H. (Cork), Assistant School
Medical Officer.

M. F. McDONNELL, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., Medical Officer, Eye
Department (Part-time).

R. A. TRAN, L.D.S. (Eng.), School Dental Surgeon.

Miss E. MARTIN, S.R.N., S.C.M., School Nurse.

Mrs. A. WALTON, S.R.N., S.C.M., School Nurse and Health
Visitor.

S. V. TONGE, Clerk (Part-time).

Miss E. GREGORY, Clerk.

Miss L. MILLS, Clerk.

Public Health Department,
3, Woodville Terrace,
Gravesend.

December, 1943.

Mr. Mayor, Councillor Croft, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure in submitting to you the Annual Report of the School Medical Service for 1942.

During this year excellent progress has been made in the Diphtheria immunisation scheme in the schools. Many parents have now taken advantage of the scheme, but we shall not be satisfied until every child has been protected.

The policy of optimum nutrition for every school child, foreshadowed in the Report for 1941, has been vigorously pursued through the medium of school milk and canteens. I must thank the teachers for their invaluable assistance in regard to this. Without real co-operation from them such a scheme can never be more than partially successful.

Whereas the health of the school children has been very good, some concern has been felt regarding the problem of uncleanness. It is intended, with the support of the Committee, to undertake a vigorous campaign for improvement in this respect.

Another matter which calls for attention is the formation of an orthoptic clinic. A considerable number of children in the Borough suffer from squint, which, if allowed to persist uncorrected, will be a great handicap in later life and may result in loss of the sight in one eye. By the establishment of an orthoptic clinic, where corrective exercises can be given, this disability can be largely overcome.

The problem of Mental Defect is also one which requires increasing attention. It is hoped to give more time to the ascertainment and grading of children of subnormal mental attainment in the schools, in order that they may receive the most satisfactory training possible, appropriate to their abilities. For children who, while mentally normal, present other types of behaviour difficulty in school and home, it is suggested that the establishment of a Child Guidance Clinic in the post-war years would bring ample reward to a far sighted education authority, both in the avoidance of juvenile delinquency and in the prevention of "misfit" and unproductive citizens in later life.

I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee for their unfailing co-operation and support.

I am,

Yours obediently,

HERBERT S. DAVIES.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF.

The administrative positions are held by the Officers of the Corporation:

Secretary: H. H. BROWN, Esq., B.A.

Treasurer: H. J. KING, Esq., F.C.A.

Engineer and Surveyor: G. E. HILL, Esq., B.A., A.M.I.C.E.,
A.M.I.M. & Cy. E.

Architect: JOHN G. BENNETT, Esq., F.R.I.B.A.

Education Clerk: Mr. C. H. BARDOE (on Active Service).

TEACHING STAFF.

	Normal Staff.	Present Staff including Temporary.
Head Teachers	22	20
Certified Assistants	106	83
Uncertificated Assistants	16	14
Domestic Subjects	4	4
Handicrafts	4	—
Supplementary	2	9
Untrained		2
	154	132

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

There are nine Provided and three Non-Provided Elementary Schools. The non-provided schools are: St. John's Roman Catholic, Holy Trinity Church of England, and St. George's Senior Church of England.

The total accommodation in the schools is	...	6493
The number of children on the registers	...	4361
The average attendance for the year	...	3684

ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

The following table gives the number of elementary school-children examined by the School Medical Officers at the Routine Inspections during the year 1942:

Age Group.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Entrants	44	45	89
Intermediate	16	23	39
Leavers	86	305	391
Other Age Groups	37	34	71
	183	407	590
Total ...	183	407	590

The following table summarises the results of the Routine Medical Inspections in 1942. The children are classified into those free from defect, with the number having defects requiring treatment and those with slight defects which should be kept under observation.

Age Group				Number of children inspected	Children found with no defects	Children found to require treatment	Percentage requiring treatment	Children with slight defects to be kept under observation
Entrants	...	...	...	89	46	15	16.8	28
Intermediates	...	...	...	39	24	9	23.0	6
Leavers	...	...	...	391	224	72	18.4	95
Other ages	...	...	...	71	41	12	16.9	18
Total				590	335	108	18.3	147

The following table gives the number of children inspected in the Age Groups in the different schools in the Borough:

	Boys			Girls			Total
	Entrants	Intermediates	Leavers	Entrants	Intermediates	Leavers	
	Entrants	Intermediates	Leavers	Entrants	Intermediates	Leavers	
St. George's	—	—	18	—	—	30	48
Gordon	—	—	44	—	—	252	296
St. John's R.C.	12	—	3	10	—	4	29
Cecil Road	32	—	—	35	—	—	67
Westcourt	—	16	—	—	23	—	39
Whitehill	—	—	21	—	—	19	40
Northcourt	—	37	—	—	34	—	71
(Other ages)							
	44	53	86	45	57	305	590

NUTRITION SURVEY.

School.	Boys.				Girls.			
	Excel- lent A	Normal B	Slightly sub- normal C	Bad D	Excel- lent A	Normal B	normal sub- Slightly C	Bad D
St. George's	1	20	—	—	5	24	1	—
Gordon	10	21	6	5	40	162	24	11
St. John's	1	8	2	4	—	10	4	3
Cecil Road	1	22	9	2	—	21	12	4
Westcourt	3	13	2	—	7	15	—	3
Northcourt	5	26	6	1	4	26	4	2
Whitehill	3	17	1	—	3	13	—	3
Total	24	127	26	12	59	271	45	26

Classification of the Nutrition of Children inspected during the year with percentages:—

No. of children Inspected.	Excellent		Normal		Slightly sub-normal		Bad	
	A		B		C		D	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
590	83	14.7	398	67.46	71	12.03	38	6.44

Defects found at the Routine Inspections.

The following is a summary of the defects or diseases discovered at the Routine Medical Inspections:—

				Slight defects requiring to be kept under observation.	Defects requiring treatment.
Skin Diseases	Scabies	...	...	—	7
	Impetigo	...	...	—	4
Eye Diseases	Blepharitis	...	...	—	1
	Defective Vision	...	...	38	31
Nose and Throat	Enlarged Tonsils	...	...	103	80
	Adenoids only	...	...	1	3
	Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...	1	4
Ear Disease—Slight Deafness	...	...	...	1	—
Heart Disease—Valvular	...	...	...	7	—
Non-Tuberculous Diseases—Bronchitis	...	...	...	4	—
Deformity—Spine, Foot	...	...	...	1	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis (quiescent)	...	...	...	1	—

The children suffering from the above defects were referred to the Minor Ailments Clinic for the necessary treatment.

THE MINOR AILMENTS CLINICS.

The total number of individual children who attended the Clinics	1710
Number of attendances made for treatment	6127
Number of defects or diseases for which treatment was given	3282
Number of children Immunised (completed)	3713
Orthopaedic cases—Referred to Hospital	23
Admitted to Hospital	2
Attendances made	42
Surgical appliances supplied	2
Children sent to Open-air School	1
Referred to Hospital for artificial light treatment	2
Referred to Tuberculosis Officer	12
Referred to Psychiatrist for report	1
Admitted to special school as mental defective	1
Specially examined for mental deficiency	21
Notified under the Mental Deficiency Acts to the K.C.C.	8
Tonsils and adenoids—referred for operative treatment	82
Defective eyesight examinations	187
Children found verminous	187
Exclusion certificates issued	1381

The following is a classified list of defects and diseases discovered at the Minor Ailments Treatment Clinic in the course of the Special Medical Inspections:—

Diseases of the Skin	{	Ringworm	...	...	...	...	7
		Impetigo	...	...	...	...	545
		Scabies	...	...	...	...	128
		Eczema	...	...	...	...	13
		Urticaria	...	...	...	...	18
		Septic sores and other skin conditions					70
Eye Diseases	{	Blepharitis	...	...	...	...	15
		Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	...	17
		Other external eye diseases	...	...	...	...	28
Ear Diseases	{	Otitis Media	...	...	...	...	36
		Deafness	...	...	...	...	13
		Other ear diseases	...	...	...	...	45
Cold, sore throat, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	314
Malnutrition or debility	...	...	...	...	...	...	567
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	367
Gastric catarrh	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Enlarged tonsils	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Enlarged tonsils and adenoids	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Adenitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	99
Mumps	...	...	...	...	...	...	129
Chicken pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	16

Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Scarlet fever (contacts)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Diphtheria (contacts)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Swollen glands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Shingles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ulceration of mouth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Abscesses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Boils, cuts, warts, miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	373

TREATMENT OF DEFECTS.

Defective Vision.

Number of defects found	...	...	...	...	...	...	256
Routine Inspections—							
Slight	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Marked	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Special Inspections—							
Slight	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Marked	...	...	...	...	...	...	187
Re-examinations	...	...	...	...	...	...	55

Of the total number of children found to be suffering from defective eyesight, 187 were referred for examination by the Medical Officer, Eye Department. Included in this number there were 13 children for whom spectacles were not prescribed. There were three instances where children were given exercises for strabismus. Spectacles were prescribed and provided under the assisted treatment scheme in 174 instances.

No children were recommended for operative treatment for strabismus.

Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids.

At the Routine Medical Inspections 192 children were found to be suffering from enlarged tonsils and adenoids; of this number 87 were referred for treatment. The total number of children who received operative treatment during the year was 81.

This shows an increase over the previous year of 13.

Skin Diseases.

At the Routine Medical Inspections only 11 children were found to be suffering from diseases of the skin, namely, 7 Scabies and 4 Impetigo. These were all referred to the Minor Ailments Clinic for treatment.

Altogether 781 children received treatment for diseases of the skin:—

Ringworm	7	Urticaria	18
Impetigo	545	Eczema	13
Scabies	128	Other septic conditions	70

Ear Defects.

One child was discovered at the Routine Medical Inspection to have slightly defective hearing. 94 children had diseases of the ears when examined as "specials." These were: Otitis Media, 36; Deafness, 13; Ear Ache, etc., 45. One child was specially examined as a totally deaf patient and recommended for admission to a Special Residential School. At the end of the year there were three girls maintained by the Education Committee, two in the Brighton School for the Deaf and one in the Royal School for the Deaf and Dumb.

Heart Disease.

Valvular disease of the heart was diagnosed in 9 children and Chorea was marked in two others. These cases were kept under observation and appropriate directions were given to the school teachers.

Orthopaedic Defects.

21 children were discovered at the Special Inspections and subsequently referred to the Orthopaedic Specialist at the Gravesend and North Kent Hospital for advice and treatment. In six instances no special treatment was considered necessary. Surgical appliances were provided for two children and adjustments carried out for two others. Treatment was undertaken in 11 cases. Of the latter, two children were admitted to the Orthopaedic Hospital at Stanmore. One boy was discharged from this Hospital during the year.

The number of attendances made for out-patient treatment was 42. Two children received X-Ray treatment. One child was found to be suffering from tuberculosis of the hip and admitted to the Children's Hospital at Sevenoaks under the Kent County treatment scheme. One child returned from evacuation and continued treatment under the Central Council for the Care of Cripples. A girl aged 15 was maintained by the Education Committee at the Heritage Craft Residential Special School for Crippled Children.

Tuberculosis.

One child was examined at the Routine Medical Inspections and found to be a quiescent case of pulmonary tuberculosis. The child was attending school and remained under the supervision of the Tuberculosis Officer.

From the Special Inspections there were 12 children of school age referred during the year for examination and report by the Tuberculosis Specialist. Three children received a course of treatment in sanatoria, of whom two were discharged during the year. In nine instances no positive diagnosis of Tuberculosis was made after Clinical and X-Ray examination.

At the end of the year 19 children of school age were registered as suffering from tuberculosis either active or quiescent.

Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
7	6	2	4

Fifteen of these children remained under treatment or supervision, including five respiratory and three non-respiratory who were admitted to sanatoria or hospital.

Artificial Light Treatment.

One child was referred to the Gravesend Hospital for light treatment following skin grafting operations at the Plastic Surgery Department of St. James' Hospital. One other child attended on five occasions for sunlight treatment.

Blind Children.

No children have been reported as totally blind during the year. There are three partially blind children on the School Registers. They are under the supervision of the Medical Officer in charge of the Eye Clinic and are not regarded as being prevented by reason of this defect from gaining full benefit from instruction in an elementary school.

A boy, aged 16, who has received education and training in the Brighton Blind School for the past eight years, was discharged last year. He is at present at home awaiting a vacancy in the Royal Midland Institute for the Blind to continue his training in basket making, up to the age of 18 years.

Dental Treatment.

The following is a summary of the Report of the School Dental Surgeon on the inspection and treatment of Elementary School children during the year 1942.

Number of children inspected:

(a)	Routine inspection	...	...	...	...	1675
(b)	Specials or casuals	...	...	...	...	422
Total		...	...	...	...	2097

Number found to require treatment under:							
(a)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1013
(b)	...	...	...	...	...	...	407
Total							1420

Percentage requiring treatment under (a) ... 60.4%
 (1941, 65.2%. 1940, 67.3%. 1939, 84.1%)

Treatment.

Fillings (Permanent teeth)	...	...	...	...	411
(Temporary teeth)	...	...	...	...	2
Total					413

Extractions (Permanent teeth)	...	...	...	...	641
(Temporary teeth)	...	...	...	...	1532
Total					2173

Number of gas cases	...	...	...	...	819
Other operations	...	...	...	...	246
Number of children treated	...	...	...	...	884
Attendances made for treatment	...	...	...	...	1416
Cash received	...	...	...	...	£83/0/6
Cases receiving free treatment	...	...	...	...	38

Malnutrition.

Of the total number of children examined at the Routine Medical Inspections, 18 per cent. were discovered to be below or slightly below the normal standard of nutrition. Of this number only 6 per cent. were graded as "bad." The classification of these children will be seen earlier in this Report.

All the children found to be below normal nutrition were recommended for school dinners and milk in school.

78 children were recommended for free dinners. 13 children were also assisted with free milk under the Milk in Schools Scheme. 1,947 one-third pint bottles were supplied.

One child who was recovering from Rheumatic Fever and unable to attend school was permitted 1 pint of milk per day in her home for a period of three months.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During the year 1942, 3,713 children were completely immunised against diphtheria by the Officers of the Public Health Service. In addition 393 children were immunised privately by General Medical Practitioners, making a total number of 4,106.

This number is made up as follows:—

	Under 5 years.	5 to 15 years.	Total.
By the Public Health Service	611	3102	3713
By Private Medical Practitioners	170	223	393

The total number of Gravesend children who were immunised up to December 31st, 1942, were as follows:—

	Under 5 years.	5 to 15 years.	Total.
By Public Health Services ...	1005	4062	5067
By the Medical Practitioners	336	623	959
Total	1341	4685	6026

The percentage of the child population shown to have been immunised up to the 31st December is as follows:

	Under 5 years.	5 to 15 years.	Total.
Estimated number of children	3000	5170	9170
Percentage of child population immunised	44.7	75.93	65.71

Good progress has been maintained throughout the year, particularly in the later months.

It should be noted that a number of children who have returned from evacuation have been immunised, but it is not possible to estimate this number accurately.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases of infectious disease were notified affecting children of school age.

Diphtheria	3
Scarlet Fever	25
Measles	39
Whooping Cough	11
Pneumonia	2
Poliomyelitis	1

Certificates were issued under the provision of the Code in respect of infectious diseases affecting the Infants' Department of Whitehill School for three weeks in April and Wrotham Road Infants' Department for two weeks in March. It was not necessary to close any of the schools.

During these periods Mumps, Whooping Cough and Measles were prevalent, but the number of cases greatly diminished after the summer.

RESIDENTIAL SPECIAL SCHOOLS, OPEN-AIR SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS.

The following children were maintained in the following schools under the Education Act, for part or whole of the year:—

All Souls Special School, Hillingdon (M.D.)	...	...	2
St. Joseph's Special School, Dunmow (M.D.)	...	...	4
St. Elizabeth's School for Epileptics, Much Hadham	...	...	3
Brighton School for the Deaf	...	...	2
Margate Royal Deaf and Dumb School, Goring on Thames	...	...	1
Heritage Craft School, Chailey (Cripples)	...	...	1
St. Vincent's Open-air School, Liphook	...	...	2
Oak Bank Open-air School, Sevenoaks	...	...	1
Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore	...	...
St. Vincent's Orthopaedic Hospital, Pinner	...	...	3
Royal Midland Institute for the Blind, Nottingham	...	...	1
Chipping Ongar L.C.C. School (M.D.)	...	...	1

MENTALLY DEFECTIVES.

Twenty-one children were specially examined for mental deficiency. As the result of these examinations eight children were found to be ineducable and formally notified to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority, six as imbeciles and two as idiots.

A vacancy was obtained for one child in a Special Residential School and three other children were kept under observation.

One child was found to be backward but not incapable of receiving benefit from instruction in an ordinary elementary school.

One child was referred to a Psychiatrist for a report. One boy was discharged from a special school on attaining the age of 16 and has now taken up normal work.

The Education Committee maintained seven mentally defective and three epileptic children in special residential schools during the year:—

All Souls Special School Hillingdon	...	...	2
St. Elizabeth's School, Much Hadham	...	...	3
St. Joseph's School, Dunmow	...	...	4
Chipping Ongar L.C.C. School	...	...	1

UNCLEANLINESS.

During the year 10,391 children were examined in the schools by the School Nurses for condition of uncleanness. Of this number 187 individual children were found verminous or unclean. Constant supervision was maintained in these cases and in some instances the children were cleansed on the premises of the School Clinic. No legal proceedings were taken under the Education Act.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN BETWEEN SCHOOL HOURS.

No applications were received during the year for children of school age to be employed between school hours.

GOVERNMENT EVACUATION SCHEME.

Number of children evacuated during the year 1942	...	8
Approximate number of children evacuated	... ..	318

Reception Areas:

Wymondham	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Toftwood and Dereham	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Windsor	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Totnes and Darlington	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Buckfastleigh	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Buckfast	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Leek, Staffs	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Dilhorne, Staffs	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Southam, Warwicks	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Newton Regis, Warwicks	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Draycott	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Cellarhead and Werrington	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Trickle Evacuation under London County Council:

Sudbury	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Banbury	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Frome	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Titchmarsh	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Letterston	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Exeter	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Prickwillow	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Little Downham	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ampthill	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Rhondda	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Poole	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Gallygaer	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Northampton	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Bedford	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Oxford	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Blaby	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Mere and Tisbury	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Kettering	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Brexworth	2
Daventry	1

Number known to have returned during the year 1942	...	91
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