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Contributors

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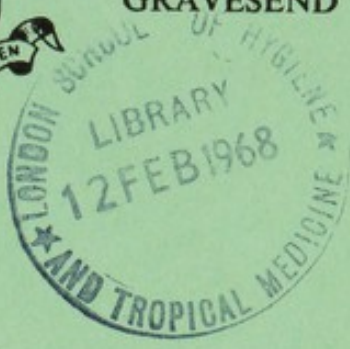
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BOROUGH OF



GRAVESEND



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1959



H. S. DAVIES,
M.D., B.S.(LOND.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.



HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1959

THE MAYOR (Councillor W. H. B. MACKENZIE, J.P., C.C.)

Alderman R. H. GOODWIN (*Chairman*)

Alderman MISS A. E. H. JOHNSON, B.E.M. (*Vice-Chairman*)

Alderman H. DAVIDSON

Councillor E. W. MASTIN

Councillor Mrs. N. Q. MILTON

Councillor C. H. SUTOR

Councillor A. J. COLES

Councillor C. A. WHITE

Councillor MRS. M. O. CREESE, M.B.E.

Councillor MRS. M. E. NEUDEGG

Councillor K. C. W. PEARSON

Councillor D. I. McMILLAN

Councillor T. H. BARR

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

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

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

DANIEL DESMOND, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., (N.U.I.).

Chief Public Health Inspector :

*K. MCINTYRE, M.A.P.H.I., Cert.S.I.B.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :

*K. V. SPROAT, M.A.P.H.I., Cert.S.I.B.

District Public Health Inspectors :

*M. G. GRAVETT, M.A.P.H.I., Cert.S.I.B.

*J. A. STOKER, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. S.I.B.

*A. G. BRIMBLE, M.A.P.H.I., Cert.S.I.B. (appointed July, 1959).

Pupil Public Health Inspector :

D. HITCHCOCK.

Clerical Staff :

A. H. BAKER, Chief Clerk to Public Health Inspector.

MISS G. PUTTIFER.

MISS V. NEAVES, Clerk to Medical Officer (resigned October, 1959).

MISS P. J. BENNETT, Clerk to Medical Officer.

MISS J. FIRMIN, (appointed September, 1959).

NOTE—*Hold Meat and Food Inspection Certificate.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
WOODVILLE TERRACE,
GRAVESEND.

MR. MAYOR, MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report on the health of Gravesend for the year ending 31st December, 1959.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population is now 48,370. 911 Live births were registered, the birth rate was 18.26 compared with 17.77 for last year. The death rate was 11.19 and the infant mortality rate 21.95.

We are very fortunate in Gravesend in having a number of voluntary organisations doing valuable and much needed work. There is, for example, the Gravesend Old People's Welfare Committee, the Social Club for the Hard of Hearing, the Tuberculosis Care Committee, and the Moral Welfare Council. A short note on some of these Societies will be found on page 16 of this report.

In conclusion, may I express to the Chairman and to every member of the Health Committee my appreciation for the keen interest they have always shown in the work of the Health Department and for their unfailing support throughout the year. My thanks are due also to my staff for their continued enthusiasm and co-operation.

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

Your obedient Servant,

H. S. DAVIES,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION "A"

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH.

Area of the Borough (acres)	4,619
Registrar-General's estimate of the Population	48,370
Number of separate inhabited houses (at 31.3.60)	14,112
Rateable Value (at 31.3.59)	£694,631
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£2,774

Rates (to 31st March, 1960)—19s. 10d. in the £.

Number of Dwelling Houses built during 1959—

	Corporation	Houses	69
		Flats and Maisonettes	69
	Private Enterprise	Houses	401
		Bungalows	90
			629

INDUSTRIES AND EMPLOYMENT.

The chief industries in the locality are—Paper making, cement, light and marine engineering, cable and telegraph works, printing. A number of men are employed in the Merchant Navy, on river craft, and in dock work.

Unemployment has remained at a low level, but statistics which apply only to the Borough are not available.

REGISTERED LIVE BIRTHS.

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	448	408	856	
Illegitimate	31	24	55	
Total live births	479	432	911	

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population—18.83.

STILL BIRTHS.

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	..	..	..	8	8	16
Illegitimate	..	..	..	—	—	—
				<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>16</u>

Still Birth Rate—i.e., Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—17.26
 Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population—0.33

REGISTERED DEATHS.—All causes at all ages—497.

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
	273	224	497
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population—10.27 (The previous year it was 10.39)			

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.—Nil

NATURAL INCREASE IN POPULATION (Excess of Births over Deaths) .. 414

INFANT DEATHS—under 1 year of age.

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate Infants	..	..	..	11	8	19
Illegitimate Infants	..	..	..	—	1	1
				<u>11</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>20</u>

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE :—

Infant Mortality Rate, i.e., All infants per 1,000 live births	..	21.95
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	22.20
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	18.18
NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	..	15.37
EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	..	13.17
PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	..	30.20

COMPARATIVE BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

<i>Rates</i>	<i>Gravesend</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
Birth Rate	18.26	16.5
Death Rate	11.19	11.6
Infant Mortality Rate	21.95	22.2
Still Birth Rate	0.33	0.35

BOROUGH OF GRAVESEND

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR LAST TEN YEARS

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
YEAR	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Number of births	760	702	767	767	768	773	788	793	855	911
Crude Birth rate (per 1,000 population)	17.16	15.85	16.95	16.85	16.71	16.66	16.53	16.90	18.32	18.83
Number of deaths	483	488	469	481	416	496	495	445	485	497
Crude Death rate (per 1,000 population)	10.91	11.02	10.36	10.56	9.05	10.69	10.38	9.48	10.39	10.27

CAUSES OF DEATH IN GRAVESEND FOR 1959
AS PROVIDED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL.

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	2	2	4
2. Tuberculosis, Other forms	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	2	2
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	6	10
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	17	2	19
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	9	9
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	5	5
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	13	17	30
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	—	1
16. Diabetes	1	2	3
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	49	49	98
18. Coronary disease, angina	41	34	75
19. Hypertension with heart disease	5	4	9
20. Other heart disease	33	29	62
21. Other circulatory disease	10	13	23
22. Influenza	2	1	3
23. Pneumonia	5	7	12
24. Bronchitis	32	12	44
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	2	5
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	5	1	6
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	2	1	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	7	—	7
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	4	2	6
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	19	21	40
33. Motor vehicle accidents	7	1	8
34. All other accidents	7	1	8
35. Suicide	3	—	3
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
Total—All causes	<u>273</u>	<u>224</u>	<u>497</u>

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING 1959.

DISEASE	Under one year		One and under 3 years		5 and under 10 years		15 and under 25 years		25 and under 45 years		45 and under 65 years		65 years and over		Total	Number Removed to Hospital
	3	5	3	5	5	10	15	25	25	45	45	65	65	over		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	29	152	184	418	12	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	800	2
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis—Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	6	13	41	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	5	5	12	15	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	—	1	—	2	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	36	163	210	478	30	19	21	21	21	21	21	79	79	985	37	37

SECTION "B"

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS.

There are 21 doctors residing in the area who are engaged in general practice.

2. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The following specimens were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Preston Hall, Maidstone, for examination :—

A.	(1) Faeces	—	Examination for Pathogenic Organisms	30
	(2) Throat swabs	—	„ „ Streptococci	3
	(3) Nose swabs	—	„ „ „	3
				36
B.	(1) Milk	—	Turbidity Test	24
	(2) Water	—	Public Supplies—Bact. Examination	54
			Swimming Pool—	12
	(3) Ice Cream	—	Bacteriological Examination	58
				148
			Total	148

3. COUNTY AMBULANCE SERVICE.

Twelve ambulances (7 stretcher and 5 sitting cases) are stationed at the Harden V.C. Memorial Hall, Hall Road, Northfleet. Telephone—Gravesend 5257/8.

4. HOME NURSING SERVICE.

The County Council provides a service free of charge for the attendance on persons whose doctors require them to be nursed in their own homes. In cases of chronic sickness in patients who are over 70 years of age, a night service is provided. The nurse's attendance is normally arranged by the doctor, but the name and address of the appropriate nurse for any particular district is obtainable from the under-mentioned District Office of the County Council :—

Arthur Street, Gravesend. (Tel. Gravesend 166).

The following services are provided by the County Council:—

5. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

- (1) Ante-Natal Clinics.
- (2) Infant Welfare Clinics.
- (3) Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics.
- (4) Dental Clinics.
- (5) Speech Therapy Clinics.

6. MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

There are seven County Midwives serving the Gravesend area.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Telephone Number</i>	
Mrs. K. M. Polson,	15 Taunton Vale, Gravesend	Gravesend	4707
Miss L. M. Mills,	85 Whitehill Road, Gravesend	„	2980
Miss W. M. Hunt,	77 Dickens Road, Gravesend	„	4166
Miss M. A. G. Gaskell,	„ „ „ „	„	„
Mrs. F. E. Dudley,	25 Arnold Road, Gravesend	„	5976
Miss A. A. Gibson,	c/o 42 Cobham Street, Gravesend		
Mrs. J. Showler,	7 Goodwood Crescent, Gravesend	„	4880

7. DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

This is a County Service giving domestic help to old people, maternity patients and persons suffering from illness, and other cases of emergency. Application is made to the District Office, Arthur Street, Gravesend. Telephone Gravesend 166.

CHEST CLINIC.—(South-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board).

The Chest Clinic is held at the Gravesend and North Kent Hospital every Wednesday at 9.30 a.m.

VENEREAL DISEASE CLINIC.—(South-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board).

Dr. C. D. Routh is in attendance at the Gravesend Clinic, 22 Cobham Street, at the following times:—

Tuesday

Male .. 11.0 a.m. to 1.0 p.m.
Female .. 1.0 p.m. to 2.0 p.m.

Saturday

Male and Female 9.0 a.m. to 10.0 a.m.

GRAVESEND AND NORTH KENT HOSPITAL.

The Out-patient Clinics at the Hospital are as follows :—

MONDAY

9.30 a.m.	Ear, Nose & Throat Clinic	Mr. Golding-Wood
9.30 a.m.	Medical	Dr. J. Craig
9.30 a.m.	Physical Medicine	Dr. Hickey
1.45 p.m.	Paediatric Clinic	Dr. Fisher
2.00 p.m.	Medical	Dr. Moir
6.30 p.m.	Family Planning Association	Mrs. Filmer

TUESDAY

9.00 a.m.	Dental Clinic	Mr. F. T. Wilkinson
9.30 a.m.	Dermatology Clinic	Dr. Cairns
10.30 a.m.	Ophthalmic Clinic	Dr. Ormrod
11.30 a.m.	Surgical Clinic	Mr. M. Landau
2.00 p.m.	Chest Clinic	Dr. H. J. Robinson
3.00 p.m.	Obstetric Clinic	Mr. A. M. Hunter
4.00 p.m.	Gynaecological Clinic	Mr. A. M. Hunter

WEDNESDAY

9.00 a.m.	Surgical Clinic	Mr. B. E. C. Stanley
9.30 a.m.	Chest Clinic	Dr. H. J. Robinson
9.30 a.m.	Speech Therapy	Miss Halfpenny
2.00 p.m.	Chest Clinic	Dr. H. J. Robinson
2.30 p.m.	Psychiatric Clinic	Dr. S. W. Hardwick
2.30 p.m.	Psychiatric Clinic	Dr. Crawford
2.30 p.m.	Psychiatric Clinic	Dr. Stewart

THURSDAY

9.30 a.m.	Ophthalmic Clinic	Mr. G. L. Simmons
9.30 a.m.	Orthopaedic Clinic	Mr. R. H. V. Hafner
1.45 p.m.	Medical	Dr. J. Craig
2.30 p.m.	Orthopaedic Clinic	Mr. R. H. V. Hafner
6.30 p.m.	Family Planning Association	Mrs. Filmer

FRIDAY

9.00 a.m.	Dental Clinic	Mr. F. T. Wilkinson
9.00 a.m.	Gynaecological Clinic	Dr. Dalley
10.30 a.m.	Fracture Clinic	Mr. R. H. V. Hafner
11.00 a.m.	Obstetric Clinic	Mr. Gross
2.00 p.m.	Surgical Clinic	Mr. Sol. M. Cohen
2.00 p.m.	Psychiatric Clinic	Dr. Haynes
2.00 p.m.	Psychiatric Clinic	Dr. Crawford

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the administrative arrangements for the Maternity and Child Welfare Services passed from the Borough Council to the Kent County Council.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

Notification of births are sent direct to the County Medical Officer at Maidstone.

The number of live and still births occurring in Gravesend during the year was 742. After correction for those whose usual residence is elsewhere (i.e., 107 transferred "out" and 292 transferred "in") the number properly belonging to the Borough was 927 (911 live births and 16 still births) compared with 877 in the previous year.

PARTICULARS OF BIRTHS OCCURRING IN GRAVESEND.

Total No. of live and still births occurring in Gravesend	..	742
No. of live births actually belonging to Gravesend..	..	625
No. of still births actually belonging to Gravesend	..	10
No. of live births (non-residents)	.. ..	101
No. of still births (non-residents)	.. ..	6
	—	742

NO. OF BIRTHS OCCURRING IN HOSPITAL.

		<i>Live Births</i>	<i>Still Births</i>
No. of infants born in Hospital—(residents)	..	240	7
No. of infants born in Hospital—(non-residents)	..	101	6

HEALTH VISITORS.

Nurses with special qualifications are appointed for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of young children, persons suffering from illness and expectant and nursing mothers and as to the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection.

The following Health Visitors are employed in the Gravesend area and can be contacted at their respective welfare centres :—

- Miss M. C. Craddock, S.R.N., S.C.M., Windmill Street Welfare Centre.
- Miss M. Ellis, S.R.N., S.C.M., Windmill Street Welfare Centre.
- Mrs. E. O. Curling, S.R.N., S.C.M., "The Nest," Welfare Centre.
- Miss C. James, S.R.N., S.C.M., "The Nest," Welfare Centre.
- Miss E. M. Kenworthy, S.R.N., S.C.M., Whitehill Welfare Centre.
- Miss K. M. Munday, S.R.N., S.C.M., Whitehill Welfare Centre.

PREMATURE INFANTS.

Premature infants nursed at home are visited regularly by the Midwives and Health Visitors.

The following special equipment is available for loan at the Welfare Centres :—

Draught-proof cot with detachable lining, suitable warm clothing, hot water bottles, special feeding bottles, thermometer, mucus catheter, etc.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

The three Welfare Centres in the Borough are Windmill Street (Central), Whitehill (King's Farm Estate), and "The Nest" (Denton and Chalk district).

The sessions are as follows :—

	<i>Windmill Street. Afternoon</i>	<i>Whitehill. Afternoon</i>	<i>"The Nest" Afternoon</i>
MONDAY	Child Welfare Clinic— Medical Officer in attend- ance Diphtheria Immuni- sation and Vaccinations; Health Visitors Con- sultations; Baby weighing; Sale of Foods, etc.	Child Welfare Clinic— Medical Officer in attendance; Health Visitors Consulta- tions; Baby weighing; Sale of Foods, etc.	Child Welfare Clinic — Medical Officer in attend- ance; Health Visi- tors Consultations Baby weighing; Sale of Foods, etc.
TUESDAY	—	<i>Afternoon</i> Ante - Natal Clinic and Midwives' Clinic combined.	—
WEDNESDAY	<i>Afternoon</i> Midwives' Clinic.	—	<i>Afternoon</i> Child Welfare Clinic— Medical Officer in attendance; Health Visitors Consultations; Baby weighing; Sale of Foods, etc.
THURSDAY	<i>Afternoon</i> Ante-Natal Clinic.	<i>Afternoon</i> Child Welfare Clinic— Medical Officer in attendance; Health Visitors Consultations; Baby weighing; Sale of Foods, etc.	<i>Morning and Afternoon</i> Speech Therapy Clinic.
FRIDAY	<i>Afternoon</i> Child Welfare Clinic— Medical Officer in attendance; Health Visitors Consultations; Baby weighing; Sale of Foods, etc.	<i>Afternoon</i> **Mothercraft and Relaxation Classes	<i>Afternoon</i> *Ante-Natal Clinic. Midwives' Clinic.

*First and third Fridays in each month.

**Except second Friday in each month.

ATTENDANCE AT CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

The attendances at the three Welfare Centres during the year were :—

(a) Individual children under 1 year of age	714
(b) Individual children between 1 and 5 years	1,069
(c) Total number of attendances of all children under 5 years	16,681

For the year 1958 the figures were :—

(a) 650	(b) 982	(c) 15,372
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LADIES' VOLUNTARY COMMITTEE.

The Ladies' Voluntary Committee continue to serve at the three Welfare Centres in the town and their work is greatly appreciated.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

Ante-Natal clinics are held once a week at Windmill Street and Whitehill Welfare Centres and the first and third Friday in each month at "The Nest" Welfare Centre. A doctor is in attendance at each session.

In all, 258 expectant mothers attended the clinics. The total attendances for the year were 436.

WOMEN'S WELFARE CLINIC.

Married women requiring advice are referred to the Gynaecological Clinic at Gravesend and North Kent Hospital, by their private medical practitioners. This clinic is held on Tuesday afternoon at 4 p.m.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers, children under five years and school children is provided at the Dental Clinic, Manor Road.

The clinic is open at the following times :—

Monday	A.M. 9.0 to 10.30
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday	A.M. 9.0 to 12 noon P.M. 1.30 to 4.30
Friday	A.M. 9.0 to 10.30

OPHTHALMIC TREATMENT.

The County Ophthalmic Clinic is held at the Gravesend and North Kent Hospital. Further details on page 11.

MINOR AILMENT CLINICS—SCHOOL CHILDREN.

These clinics are held at the following times :—

Windmill Street	Wednesday and Friday	9 a.m. to 10 a.m.
Whitehill, King's Farm	Tuesday	9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

REGISTRATION AND SUPERVISION OF NURSING HOMES.

There are no Nursing Homes registered by the Borough Council. A Nursing Home, mainly for old people, is supervised by the Kent County Council under Section 37 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR THE DISCOVERY OF UNREGISTERED HOMES.

1. The returns from the local Registrar are examined to check the addresses at which births and deaths occur.
2. Health Visitors and the staff are asked to keep a look out for unregistered homes.

MORAL WELFARE.

The Gravesend branch of the Rochester Diocesan Council for Moral Welfare has continued its important work in helping young people in trouble, loneliness or moral danger. They have a concern for the unmarried mother and her child, and for parents in perplexity. Temporary shelter was given to women and girls in immediate need.

This is a work which deserves more interest and support than it is at present receiving.

WELFARE OF OLD PEOPLE.

The Gravesend and District Old People's Welfare Committee have always realised the value of home visiting. They have found that much can be done to relieve the loneliness of old people and to help them maintain a brighter outlook. This is especially true in the case of many who rarely feel well enough to go out by themselves. The home visitors also make recommendations in regard to coach outings. A large number of old people from Gravesend and District have enjoyed visits to the seaside and the country.

THE GRAVESEND AND DISTRICT SOCIAL CLUB FOR THE HARD OF HEARING.

The work of this organisation continues to increase in usefulness. The programme is very varied; the mime group continues to be a fruitful and rewarding activity and the lip-reading classes are well supported and of the greatest use to members.

**REMOVAL TO SUITABLE PREMISES OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION.
(Section 47, National Assistance Act, 1948, and Amendment Act, 1951).**

All cases were dealt with successfully by persuasion, and it was not necessary to make use of the above legislation.

Mr. K. McIntyre, Chief Public Health Inspector, has supplied the statistics relating to Sanitary Inspection, Housing, Food and Factory Inspection and Atmospheric Pollution.

SECTION "C"

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

PUBLIC DRINKING SUPPLIES.

The Medway Water Board supply water to the Borough.

The water has been satisfactory—

(a) in quantity (b) in quality

The water is hard and there is no evidence of plumbo-solvent action.

Thirteen dwelling houses are supplied from public mains by means of stand pipes.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Samples were taken at regular intervals and were all reported to be satisfactory.

Number of samples taken:—

Raw water	..	12
Treated water	..	42
		<hr/>
		54
		<hr/>

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

Three samples of treated water were taken and were reported to be satisfactory.

Note.—Tabulated summaries of all water samples taken and results of examination are shown on pages 41, 42, 43, and 44.

CORPORATION BATHING POOL.

The Open-air Bathing Pool opened in 1938 has accommodation for 1,200 bathers. The main pool is 150 feet long by 75 feet wide and has two shallow areas and a diving pit. The 400,000 gallons of water in the pool are filtered, aerated and sterilised. Wide surrounds and large areas are provided for sun-bathing, whilst a spectators' terrace surrounds the site. On the first floor of the building a Cafe and Spectators' Gallery is provided, affording a splendid view of the whole site. There is also a Children's Paddling Pool, 50 feet by 50 feet, with its own surround, separated from the main pool by a terrace.

During the 1959 season the following persons used the Pools :—

Bathers and Spectators	..	..	..	..	..	157,089
Schoolchildren	..	..	..	..	..	25,598
Season Ticket Holders	..	..	..	..	..	16,127
Club Members	..	..	..	..	..	8,240
						<hr/>
						207,054
						<hr/>

HYGIENIC ARRANGEMENTS.

The Medical Officer of Health has continued to keep the hygienic arrangements at the Pool under supervision. "Breakpoint Chlorination," which was put into operation in 1948 appears to be working efficiently.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER.

Twelve examinations were made. See tabulated summary on page 44.

SLIPPER BATHS.

The Slipper Baths at the Corporation Bathing Pool were opened in January, 1949.

There are separate sections for males and females—7 baths being allocated to males and 3 to females.

This service is working very satisfactorily and is much appreciated by the residents of the town. The attendances for the year 1959 were as follows :—

Males	..	..	..	13,911
Females	..	..	..	2,324
				<hr/>
				16,235
				<hr/>

ADMINISTRATION OF FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The Council has the duty to enforce certain provisions of Parts I, IV and VIII of the Factories Act, 1937.

Administrative arrangements include the following :—

Part I—Health (General Provisions).

- (1) Registration of all factories.
- (2) Inspection of sanitary conveniences in all factories.
- (3) Inspection with regard to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and drainage of floors in all factories in which mechanical power is not used.

Part IV—Basement Bakehouses.

- (1) The quinquennial examination of basement bakehouses and the renewal or cancellation of Certificates of Suitability.

Part VIII—Home work.

- (1) Examination of lists, supplied to the Council by employers of outworkers in certain specified trades.
- (2) Notification of name and place of employment of any home worker employed outside the Borough to the Council in whose district his employment is situated.
- (3) Inspection of premises in which the outworker pursues his occupation.

The provisions of the Act, so far as they affect local authorities, have been enforced.

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937 PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Owners Prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	31	103	4	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by local authorities	121	205	4	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers premises)	4	—	—	—
	<u>156</u>	<u>308</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>—</u>

In addition to the written notices recorded above, 7 verbal requests were also recorded.

2. Cases in which defects were found :—

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness ..	4	8	—	1	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :—					
(a) insufficient ..	—	1	—	2	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	10	20	—	2	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	—	1	—
	<u>15</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>—</u>

PART VIII OF THE ACT
OUTWORK—SECTION 110 AND 111

Nature of work.	SECTION 110		SECTION 111			
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Sec. 110 (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
Wearing apparel (making, etc.)	9	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture and Upholstery	2	—	—	—	—	—
	<u>11</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>

1. Total number of outworkers notified to Gravesend Council in 1959 (under 1(e) of Sec. 110 Factories Act 1937) 7

	NOTICES SERVED		<i>Informal</i>	<i>Statutory</i>
In respect of dwelling houses	416	78
In respect of other premises	205	—

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS REMEDIED

HOUSES:

Accumulations removed	..	..	..	..	..	51
Animals causing a nuisance	..	..	..	..	..	7
Dustbins provided	..	..	..	..	..	232
Cesspools—repaired	..	..	..	..	..	1
—filled in	..	..	..	..	..	6
Chimney stacks—repaired	..	..	..	..	..	12
—new pots provided	..	..	..	..	..	5
Coppers provided or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	2
Dampness—sub-floor ventilation provided	..	..	..	..	..	2
—external walls repointed or rendered	..	..	..	..	..	48
Doors and door sills repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	24
Dirty houses cleansed by tenants	..	..	..	..	..	2
Drainage—partly relaid	..	..	..	..	..	21
—wholly relaid	..	..	..	..	..	4
—unstopped	..	..	..	..	..	47
—I.C. chambers or covers provided or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	7
—soil and ventilating pipes provided or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	8
—soil and ventilating pipes removed	..	..	..	..	..	6
—gullies, etc. provided or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	12
—sewers unstopped	..	..	..	..	..	23
Floors relaid or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	40
Guttering or rainwater pipes renewed or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	66
Lavatory basins renewed or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	5
Light and ventilation improved	..	..	..	..	..	1
Paving relaid or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	10
Roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	..	75
Rooms, passages and staircases—						
walls repaired	..	..	..	..	..	82
ceilings repaired	..	..	..	..	..	45
staircases, balusters repaired	..	..	..	..	..	6
Sinks, new provided	..	..	..	..	..	3
Sink or bath waste pipe renewed or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	11
Stoves and fireplaces renewed or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	24
Stonesteps and thresholds renewed or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	2
Verminous premises disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	15
Water supply—water pipes, etc., repaired	..	..	..	..	..	7
Water closets—rebuilt	..	..	..	..	..	1
—repaired and/or cleansed	..	..	..	..	..	16
—new pans	..	..	..	..	..	8
—pans cleansed or unstopped	..	..	..	..	..	5
—cisterns provided or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	31
—seats renewed or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	10
Windows—renewed or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	48
—sashcords and weights provided or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	26
—sills renewed or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	20

FOOD PREMISES:

Premises repaired or cleansed	151
Utensils, equipment, etc., repaired or cleansed	53
Improvements	90
Personal cleanliness contraventions	8
Names and address on vehicles	4

THE RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

Two premises are registered within the district and these have been kept under supervision.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Four premises are licensed within the district and 17 visits of inspection were made.

CESSPOOL AND PAIL SYSTEM.

There are still premises in the Eastern and Southern parts of the Borough where the drainage discharges into cesspools.

The Health Department is responsible for this work but the actual emptying of cesspools is carried out on behalf of the Department by the Borough Engineer's Department, a combined road gully and cesspool emptying machine being used for the purpose.

During the year 9,803 tons of sewage were removed, requiring 982 emptyings, compared with 11,965 tons requiring 1,019 emptyings during the previous year.

Pail closets are still used at 10 dwelling houses in the Borough.

HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL.

(a) COLLECTION.

Refuse collected during the year amounted to 13,813 tons, compared with 13,267 tons the previous year, these amounts being ascertained by test weighing.

(b) DISPOSAL.

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping. The tip is a disused chalk pit in Vale Road, Northfleet and is operated by the Northfleet Urban District Council.

It is used jointly by Gravesend, Northfleet and Swanscombe, and the operating costs are borne by each authority on a proportionate basis, according to population.

SALVAGE.

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

<i>Materials</i>	<i>Weight</i>				<i>Value</i>		
	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste paper	438	13	2	—	3,475	8	9
Metals	2	17	0	—	34	19	3
Miscellaneous		6	2	—	1	12	8
	441	17	0	—	£3,512	0	8

DISINFECTION OF PREMISES.

Disinfection of rooms and bedding where necessary for the prevention of infectious diseases was carried out at 39 premises.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The Health Department is responsible for the staffing and cleansing of public conveniences in the Borough.

Conveniences at 13 licensed premises are also cleansed by Health Department employees in consideration of the fact that they are available for the use of the general public at all times.

Conveniences attached to other licensed premises have also been kept under supervision.

RODENT CONTROL.

All infested premises notified to the Health Department or discovered during the course of inspection during the year were dealt with. The cost of disinfection at business premises by the Council's Rodent Officer is charged to the occupiers, but the work at dwelling houses is carried out free.

The following report summarises the work carried out by the Rodent Officer during the year 1959 :—

Infested premises under treatment at the end of 1958	5
Premises found to be infested during 1959	364
Premises treated and cleared	364
Premises still under observation at the end of the year	5
Total number of visits	1,034

Sewer maintenance treatments were carried out in the Spring and Autumn with the undermentioned results:—

	<i>No. of manholes baited.</i>	<i>No. showing complete takes.</i>
Spring	799	57
Autumn	476	12

Experimental sewer treatment was carried out by a research team of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in one part of the Borough to establish the comparative efficiency of two poisons. The results were satisfactory and provide valuable information for future work.

SECTION "D"

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :—	
(1) Total number inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	944
(2) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	2,088
(3) Number found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	56
(4) Number found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	174
2. Remedy of defects :—	
(1) After informal action by Local Authority	143
(2) After formal notice under Public Health Acts :—	
(a) by owners	46
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
3. Demolition and Closure Procedure :—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	—
(3) Number of dwelling houses demolished as a result of informal procedure	—
(4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	7
(5) Number of dwelling houses closed in pursuance of Closing Orders	6
(6) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined	1
4. HOUSING ACT, 1957, PART III.	
The following Clearance Areas were represented:—	
Eden Place	18 houses
Bentley Street and Cottage Place	29 houses
A Clearance Order was made and confirmed as follows:—	
Esther Place and John Street	8 houses
Compulsory Purchase Orders were made as follows:	
Eden Place	18 houses
Bentley Street and Cottage Place	42 houses
The following Compulsory Purchase Orders were confirmed:	
Darnley Grove and Nine Elms Grove	16 houses
Arthur Street and Arthur Cottages	12 houses
Gladstone Place and Cutmore Street	10 houses

Rehousing of the occupants of the Queen Street, The Terrace and Terrace Street Compulsory Purchase Order, 1957, and the Robert Street Clearance Order, 1957, was completed during the year and proceeded in respect of other confirmed Orders.

RENT ACT, 1957—FIRST SCHEDULE.

Part I—Applications for Certificates of Disrepair :

(1) Number of applications for certificates	7
(2) Number of decisions not to issue certificates	Nil
(3) Number of decisions to issue certificates—	
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	4
(b) in respect of all defects	3
(4) Number of undertakings given by landlords	5
(5) Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority	Nil
(6) Number of certificates issued	Nil

Part II—Application for Cancellation of Certificates : Nil

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION.

Visits numbering 72 have been made to premises where the environmental conditions have been reported as unsatisfactory. Seven of the cases were referred to the Housing Officer.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Public Health Act, 1936. Legal proceedings were taken against an owner for failing to comply with an abatement notice. An Order was made by the magistrates for the outstanding items in the notice to be dealt with within a period of twenty-eight days and costs were awarded against the defendant.

Housing Act, 1957. Legal proceedings were taken against the owners for contravention of a Closing Order—Section 27 (1). They were fined £2.

SECTION "E"

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Inspection of food premises is being maintained, and the following is a summary of the visits made and the results of inspections:—

	<i>No. of premises</i>	<i>No. of visits</i>	<i>Number of notices Served. Complied with.</i>	
Bakehouses	11	61	3	6
Butchers	36	291	15	22
Cake and bread shops ..	21	101	7	11
Canteens	29	41	1	5
Catering premises	70	516	38	34
Confectioners	61	247	5	6
Cooked meat shops	15	71	1	2
Dairies and milkshops	72	154	1	1
Licensed premises	99	317	27	30
Fish-frying establishments ..	14	51	—	3
Fishmongers	17	174	8	5
Greengrocers	47	494	22	23
Ice cream premises	124	226	2	1
Provision dealers	124	701	57	68
	740	3,445	187	217

Note.—Where premises carry on more than one type of business they are recorded under each appropriate type.

Forty-four premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale, and 14 for the preparation and sale of fried fish.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are no dairy farms in the Borough. Dairies other than dairy farms and milk distributors are registered by local authorities and there are now on the register 2 dairies and 70 distributors.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

Two hundred and eight samples of milk were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination and the following is an analysis of the results obtained:—

<i>Designation.</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>		<i>Results.</i>	
Pasteurised	123	Methylene Blue Test	Satisfactory	81
			Unsatisfactory	4
		Phosphatase Test	Satisfactory	37
			Unsatisfactory	1

<i>Designation</i>	<i>No .of samples</i>		<i>Results</i>	
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	61	Methylene Blue Test	Satisfactory	30
			Unsatisfactory	—
		Phosphatase Test	Satisfactory	31
			Unsatisfactory	—
Sterilised	24	Turbidity Test	Satisfactory	23
			Unsatisfactory	1

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949 to 1954.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS 1949-1953.

Licences issued under these Regulations were as follows:—

“ Tuberculin Tested ”	Dealer’s Licences	7
	Dealer’s Supplementary Licences ..	3
“ Pasteurised ”	Pasteurisers’ Licences	2
	Dealer’s Licences	32
	Dealer’s Supplementary Licences ..	4
“ Sterilised ”	Dealer’s Licences	68
	Dealer’s Supplementary Licences ..	4

ICE CREAM.

One hundred and twenty-four premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 for the sale of ice cream, and one for the manufacture and sale of ice cream. Two hundred and twenty-six inspections were made in 1959.

Fifty-eight samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination with the following results:—

	<i>Number of Samples</i>		
Grade 1			49
Grade 2	8
Grade 3	1
Grade 4	—
			58

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There is one licensed slaughterhouse in the Borough. Visits of inspection made during the year numbered 4.

The provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 to 1954 relating to humane

slaughtering of animals have been complied with. The number of slaughtermen holding licences at the end of the year was 6.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Sheep Calves and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed	—	6	—	8	—
Number inspected	—	6	—	8	—
Condemnation	Nil.				

CONDEMNED FOOD.

The following food was condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

(a) *As a result of inspections at slaughterhouse* Nil

(b) *Other carcase meat and offal* :—

Beef	86 lbs.	Kidneys	56lbs.
Plucks	54 lbs.	Liver	10lbs.

(c) *Miscellaneous* :—

Rabbits	277 lbs.	Poultry	111 lbs.
Fish	76 lbs.	Butter	20 lbs.
Bacon	47 lbs.	Cheese	70 lbs.
Eggs	540 lbs.		

(d) *Tinned, bottled or packaged foods* :—

Meat	669 tins	Fruit and vegetables	2137 tins
Chicken	23 tins	Fish	158 tins
Milk	162 tins	Rice pudding	148 tins
Soup	105 tins	Jam	35 tins
Baby food	29 tins	Spaghetti	27 tins
Cream	4 tins	Meat pudding	3 tins
Peanut butter	28 jars	Meat and fish paste	7 jars
Sandwich spread	4 jars	Lemon curd	2 jars
Sauces	20 bots.	Jellies	4 pkts.
Pickles	59 bots.	Chocolate spread	1 pkt.
Salad cream	4 bots.		

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD.

Condemned meat is disposed of to a glue and fertiliser manufacturer. Tinned and other food is disposed of by burying at the refuse tip.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

Samples taken during the year and submitted for analysis were as follows:—

<i>Article</i>	<i>Number of Samples</i>		<i>Result of Analyses</i>	
	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Not Genuine</i>
Aniseed tablets	—	1	1	—
Aspirin tablets	—	3	3	—
Backache pills	—	1	1	—
Baking powder	—	1	1	—
Biscuits	—	1	1	—
Brandy	1	—	1	—
Bronchial mixtures	—	4	4	—
Butter	—	1	1	—
Cakes	—	3	3	—
Chicken	—	1	1	—
Chocolate	—	1	1	—
Coconut	—	1	1	—
Cough candy	—	1	1	—
Citrus peel	—	1	1	—
Cream	—	1	1	—
Gin	1	—	1	—
Glycerine	—	1	1	—
Ice cream	—	15	15	—
Influenza mixture	—	1	1	—
Luncheon meat	—	2	2	—
Meat pies	—	3	3	—
Milk	22	14	33	3
Minced beef	—	2	2	—
Oil of citronella	—	1	1	—
Rum	1	—	1	—
Sardines	—	1	1	—
Sausage meat	—	2	1	1
Sausages	—	4	3	1
Spice	—	1	1	—
Sponge mix	—	1	1	—
Steak	—	4	4	—
Suet	—	1	1	—
Vinegar	—	2	1	1
Vitamin tablets	—	1	1	—
Whisky	1	—	1	—
Zinc ointment	—	1	1	—
	26	78	98	6

PARTICULARS OF SAMPLES ADULTERATED OR OTHERWISE GIVING RISE TO IRREGULARITY:

Three milk samples were deficient in non-fatty solids, but the values for the Hortvet freezing point did not indicate the addition of water. Letters were sent to the vendors concerned.

A sample of pork sausage meat and one of beef sausages both contained preservative (sulphur di-oxide) which was not declared. Letters of caution were sent to the vendors concerned.

A sample of vinegar contained a deposit composed of wood fibres, cotton and wool threads and yeast cells. Further investigation showed that the sample was taken when the cask was nearly empty. A letter of caution was sent to the vendor.

A sample of "back, kidney and bladder" pills was considered to be unsatisfactorily labelled and the matter was taken up with the vendor.

COMPLAINTS.

Complaints were received as follows and investigated:—

Butter purchased from a shop contained a growth of mould. Arrangements were made for the remainder of the trader's stock to be disposed of.

A wrapped loaf purchased from a shop was found to be mouldy. The manufacturer was written to in this instance.

A cream horn purchased from a shop was found to be mouldy. A warning letter was sent to the trader concerned.

A loaf of wrapped bread purchased from a delivery van was found to be mouldy. A letter of warning was sent to the trader concerned.

SECTION "F"

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND "OTHER DISEASES."

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following notifiable infectious diseases were recorded :—

Measles	800
Whooping Cough	41
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	29
Non-Respiratory	3
Pneumonia	17
Scarlet Fever	76
Erysipelas	6
Puerperal Pyrexia	10
Food Poisoning	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1
Enteric Fever	1
Total ..	985

A table showing other particulars is given on page 8.

There were no cases of Smallpox or Diphtheria.

INSTITUTIONAL ACCOMMODATION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Patients needing institutional accommodation for treatment or isolation were sent to Joyce Green Hospital, Dartford.

Other arrangements include the following :—

- (a) Ophthalmia Neonatorum—Kent Ophthalmic Hospital, Maidstone.
- (b) Smallpox—The River Hospital (Long Reach) Dartford.
- (c) Tuberculosis—Bow Arrow Hospital, Dartford, and other hospitals and sanatoria arranged by the Chest Physicians.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

This work is under the control of the Kent County Council and the following arrangements are in operation :—

1. Immunisations are carried out at special sessions at the Welfare Centres and School Clinics.
2. Immunisations on behalf of the Local Health Authority are carried out by General Practitioners at their surgeries.
3. Notices are sent to parents of every infant at the age of 8 months.

4. The Health Visitors follow up all cases in which there is no record of the injections having been given.

The following is a return of the number of children under the age of 15 years on 31st December, 1959, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (i.e., at any time since 1st January, 1945).

<i>Year of Birth.</i>	<i>Last complete course of injections (primary or booster)</i>	
	1955-1959.	1954 or earlier.
1959	144	—
1958	492	—
1957	399	—
1956	424	—
1955	478	—
1954	522	29
1953	277	255
1952	216	298
1951	363	257
1950	263	330
1949	103	490
1948	436	243
1947	637	272
1946	70	398
1945	14	376
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	4,838	2,948
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The following is a return of the number of children resident in the Borough who were immunised against Diphtheria during the year ended 31st December, 1959:—

<i>Year of Birth.</i>	<i>Primary Inoculation.</i>	<i>Re-inforcing Inoculations.</i>
1959	144	—
1958	401	—
1957	45	—
1956	17	—
1955	11	14
1954	11	136
1953	3	42
1952	1	8
1951	2	5
1950	2	7
1949	—	7
1948	—	1
1947	2	2
1946	—	—
1945	—	—
Before 1945	—	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	639	223
	<hr/>	<hr/>

SMALLPOX PREVENTION.

Vaccination.

When the National Health Service Act, 1946, came into operation the Vaccination Acts were repealed and infant vaccination ceased to be compulsory.

The following is a return of the number of persons who were vaccinated against Smallpox during the year ended 31st December, 1959:—

<i>Year of Birth.</i>	<i>Primary Vaccination.</i>	<i>Re-Vaccination.</i>
1959	200	—
1958	258	—
1957	8	—
1956	6	—
1955	3	3
1954	3	—
1953	2	—
1952	3	1
1951	—	—
1950	1	—
1949	—	2
1948	—	—
1947	—	—
1946	1	1
1945	—	1
Before 1945	10	37
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	495	45
	<hr/>	<hr/>

WHOOPIING COUGH IMMUNISATION.

The following is a return of the number of persons who were immunised against Whooping Cough during the year ended 31st December, 1959:—

<i>Year of Birth</i>	<i>Primary Immunisation</i>
1959	278
1958	343
1957	46
1956	23
1955	11
1954	9
1953	2
1952	1
1951	1
1950	2
1949	—
1948	2
1947	1
1946	—
1945	—
Before 1945	—
	<hr/>
	719
	<hr/>

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION.

The following table gives the number of persons resident in the Borough who received injections against Poliomyelitis during the year ended 31st December, 1959:—

<i>Year of Birth</i>	<i>Given two injections</i>	<i>Given third injection</i>
1959	52	—
1958	507	201
1957	127	395
1956	77	384
1955	67	376
1954	68	388
1953	92	430
1952	102	389
1951	84	413
1950	85	430
1949	77	430
1948	111	465
1947	137	507
1946	110	508
1945	80	378
1944	77	327
1943	182	200
Before 1943 ..	1,664	533
Others	280	121
	3,979	6,875

TUBERCULOSIS.

Close co-operation has been maintained between the Health Department and the Chest Physicians.

Diagnosis.

The Chest Clinic is provided at the Gravesend and North Kent Hospital where patients are seen every Wednesday at 9.30 a.m.

NOTIFICATION OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS.

In 1959, 32 fresh cases were notified. The following table gives comparative particulars over the last ten years :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Estimated Population of Registrar</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
	<i>General.</i>	<i>Pulmonary.</i>	<i>Pulmonary.</i>		
1950	44,290	65	9		74
1951	44,280	54	1		55
1952	45,260	77	3		80
1953	45,530	48	3		51
1954	45,960	57	6		63
1955	46,390	36	3		39
1956	47,670	31	5		36
1957	46,930	29	6		35
1958	46,660	27	1		28
1959	48,370	29	3		32

The sources from which the notifications of tuberculosis were received :—

Chest Physicians	22
Private Medical Practitioners ..	2
Hospitals and Institutions	8

AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION.

The following table shows the age and sex distribution of our 32 new cases :—

Age Periods	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0-1	—	1	—	—
1-5	—	1	—	—
5-10	—	—	1	—
10-15	1	1	—	—
15-20	—	1	—	—
20-25	2	4	1	—
25-35	1	2	—	—
35-45	4	—	—	1
45-55	3	3	—	—
55-65	4	—	—	—
65 and over	1	—	—	—
	<hr/> 16	<hr/> 13	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 1

OCCUPATIONAL ANALYSIS.

	Male	Female
Assistant Chemist	1	—
Barman (Orient Line)	1	—
Bricklayer	2	—
Carpenter	1	—
Clerk	—	2
Coal Porter	1	—
Deck Hand	1	—
Housewife	—	4
Insurance Agent	1	—
Labourer	2	—
Laundry Hand	—	1
Paper Mill Worker	1	—
Representative	1	—
Sergeant W.R.A.C.	—	1
Self Employed	1	—
Shop Assistant	—	1
Steel Erector	1	—
Stoker	1	—
Waterman and Lighterman	1	—
Scholar	2	1
Infants under 5 years of age	—	2
No occupation	—	2
	<hr/> 18	<hr/> 14

DEATHS AND DEATH RATE

There were 5 deaths registered from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. This gives a death rate of .10 per 1,000 population for all forms of tuberculosis.

The following table compares the figures for 1959 with those of previous years :—

Year.	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total Rate per 1,000 Pop.
	Number of deaths.	Rate per 1,000 Pop.	Number of deaths.	Rate per 1,000 Pop.	
1950	14	.32	—	—	.32
1951	11	.25	2	.04	.29
1952	11	.24	1	.02	.26
1953	11	.24	1	.02	.26
1954	9	.19	2	.04	.23
1955	9	.19	—	—	.19
1956	4	.08	1	.02	.10
1957	7	.14	—	—	.14
1958	5	.11	2	.04	.15
1959	5	.10	—	—	.10

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER.

The names of 41 persons were removed from the Register for the following reasons :—

Deaths	..	..	..	..	6
Left the District	..	..	..	..	14
Recovered	..	..	..	..	17
Lost sight of	..	..	..	..	2
Diagnosis not Confirmed	..	..	..	..	—
Refused Public Medical Treatment	..	..	..	..	2
					<hr/> 41 <hr/>

Four hundred and ninety-seven persons remained on the Register at the 31st December, 1959. They consist of the following :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Pulmonary	259	209	468
Non-Pulmonary	16	13	29
	<hr/> 275 <hr/>	<hr/> 222 <hr/>	<hr/> 497 <hr/>

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

We were fortunate in having a further visit from the Mass Radiography Unit during the year. The previous campaign was held in 1957.

Dr. G. Rees Jones, the Director, Mass Radiography Service, has kindly supplied the following statistics:—

St. Aidan's Church Hall, St. Aidan's Way.

10th-11th November, 1959.

Number of Volunteers:—

Males	..	349
Females	..	564
		<hr/>
		913

Results:—

Active Tuberculosis.

Males	—
Females	1
	<hr/>
	1

Inactive Tuberculosis :

Males	2
Females	6
	<hr/>
	8

Carcinoma of Lung—Male 1

Christchurch Parish Hall, Central Avenue.

23rd-27th November, 1959.

Number of volunteers:—

Males	..	303
Females	..	498
		<hr/>
		801

Results:—

Active Tuberculosis :

Males	—
Females	—
	<hr/>
	—

Inactive Tuberculosis :

Males	4
Females	3
	<hr/>
	7

Carcinoma of Lung—Male 1

Corporation Bathing Pool, Ordnance Road :

2nd-27th November, 1959.

Number of Volunteers:—

Males	..	1534
Females	..	1823
		<hr/>
		3357

Results:—

Active Tuberculosis :

Males	1
Females	3
	<hr/>
	4

Inactive Tuberculosis :

Males	8
Females	12
	<hr/>
	20

It should be noted that the above statistics include not only Gravesend residents but also persons living in neighbouring districts.

ADMISSION TO HOSPITAL AND SANATORIA.

Twenty-one patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis and four patients suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis were admitted during the year. There has been a continued improvement in obtaining early admission to hospital and sanatoria, and the delay in obtaining admission for patients needing Thoracic Surgery has been considerably reduced.

B.C.G. VACCINATION.

A substantial number of children have been vaccinated with B.C.G.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

No action was necessary during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Dr. C. D. Routh, the Medical Officer in charge of the Gravesend Clinic, has kindly supplied the following statistics:—

<i>New Patients—Gravesend.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Syphilis	2	2	4
Gonorrhoea	20	16	36
Non-Venereal	84	27	111
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	106	45	151
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total No. of New Patients from all areas	..	..	278
Total No. of attendances from all areas ..	..	..	1,278
Total No. of attendances from Gravesend	..	..	836

Discharged cured (all districts) :—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Syphilis	3	3	6
Gonorrhoea	24	19	43
Non-Venereal	147	41	188
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	174	63	237
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Defaulters before completion of treatment or final tests from the Gravesend area.

Gonorrhoea .. .. .	..	..	10
Non-Venereal .. .. .	..	..	6

CLEANLINESS, GOOD HEALTH AND ELIMINATION OF VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

The Health Visitors and Public Health Inspectors have been active in their educative work in regard to cleanliness and freedom from vermin.

ERADICATION OF VERMIN.

The work of disinfection of Council houses is carried out by the Local Authority, infested rooms being sprayed with an insecticide.

Premises belonging to private owners are also disinfested on request and the cost of the work is charged to the persons concerned.

Fifteen houses were disinfested by the Health Department during the year.

BOROUGH MORTUARY.

The Mortuary, situated in Swan Yard, provides facilities for six bodies and there is a well equipped post-mortem room.

During the year, 129 bodies were received and 129 post-mortem examinations performed.

CORONER'S INQUESTS.

H.M. Coroner has kindly supplied the following information :—

Total number of inquests	27
Number of inquests without post mortems	—
Number of post mortems without inquests	103

Verdicts :—

Accidental deaths	21
Suicides	3
Found drowned	—
Other verdicts	3

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF DRINKING WATER

Date taken.	<i>B. Coli</i> (presumptive) per 100 ml.	<i>Faecal B. Coli</i> per 100 ml.	Remarks.
(a) Leith Park Road well (untreated)			
19.1.59	2	None	Satisfactory
17.2.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
16.3.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
20.4.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
19.5.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
15.6.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
20.7.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
17.8.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
21.9.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
19.10.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
16.11.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
21.12.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
(b) Reservoir (treated)			
19.1.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
17.2.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
16.3.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
20.4.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
19.5.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
15.6.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
20.7.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
17.8.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
21.9.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
19.10.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
16.11.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
21.12.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF DRINKING WATER.

	Date taken.	<i>B. Coli</i> (presumptive) per 100 ml.	<i>Faecal B. Coli</i> per 100 ml.	Remarks.
(c) Domestic Supplies (treated)	19.1.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	19.1.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	17.2.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	17.2.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	16.3.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	16.3.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	20.4.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	20.4.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	19.5.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	19.5.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	15.6.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	15.6.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	20.7.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	20.7.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	20.7.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	17.8.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	17.8.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	17.8.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	21.9.59	25	None	Satisfactory
	21.9.59	25	None	Satisfactory
	21.9.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory
19.10.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory	
19.10.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory	
19.10.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory	
16.11.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory	
16.11.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory	
16.11.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory	
21.12.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory	
21.12.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory	
21.12.59	None	None	Highly satisfactory	

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF DRINKING WATER.

Date taken	..	17.11.59	17.11.59	17.11.59
Appearance	..	Clear	Clear	Clear
Odour	..	Nil	Nil	Nil
			<i>Parts per million</i>	
Chlorine in chloride		18.0	22.0	16.0
Nitrogen as Nitrates		4.50	8.25	4.50
as free ammonia		nil	nil	nil
as Albuminoid ammonia		nil	nil	nil
as Nitrates	..	not found	not found	not found
Oxygen absorbed from				
Permanganate in 4 hours		0.02	0.02	0.02
Hardness, total	..	274	292	263
Hardness, temporary		245	255	238
Hardness, non-carbonate (permanent)		29	37	25
Total matter in solution		316	326	305
pH value	..	7.3	7.3	7.3
Microscopical examination	..	Unimportant	Unimportant	Unimportant

OPINION:

These three samples are in a satisfactory condition and represent waters of a high organic purity, free from sewage contamination.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF BATHING POOL WATER.

<i>Date taken.</i>	<i>Where taken.</i>	<i>B. Coli (presumptive) per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Faecal B. Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
19.5.59	Deep end	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	Shallow end	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	Paddling pool	None	None	Highly satisfactory
22.6.59	Deep end	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	Shallow end	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	Paddling pool	None	None	Highly satisfactory
20.7.59	Deep end	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	Shallow end	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	Paddling pool	None	None	Highly satisfactory
17.8.59	Deep end	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	Shallow end	None	None	Highly satisfactory
	Paddling pool	None	None	Highly satisfactory

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Data extracted from the Analyst's monthly reports was also supplied to the Thameside Joint Committee in the form shown in the following tables.

(See notes at end of tables for details of abbreviations).

Site : Dashwood Lane, Nurseries.

Month	Rain mm.	pH. Value	Deposit (grams per 100 square metres)								
			TWIM	S/CS ₂	Ash	OCM	TWSM	Ca	Cl	SO ₄	TS
1958											
Oct.	59.64	6.81	247	1	189	57	416	84	38	158	663
Nov.	36.10	7.23	304	2	231	71	459	94	27	190	763
Dec.	62.65	6.06	342	2	269	71	561	110	43	285	903
1959											
Jan.	36.23	6.73	390	3	310	78	680	144	58	317	1070
Feb.	0.65		177	2	138	37	228	51	14	122	404
March	30.87	7.40	225	4	182	39	298	68	24	189	523
Total	226.14	34.23	1685	14	1319	353	2642	551	204	1261	4326
Mean	37.69	6.85	281	2	220	59	440	92	34	210	721
1959											
April	38.84	7.56	258	2	208	48	255	55	26	107	513
May	19.09	7.56	281	2	220	59	240	51	17	106	521
June	14.91	7.96	403	2	302	99	253	55	19	80	656
July	27.07	7.63	641	4	527	109	327	65	26	89	968
Aug.	15.17	8.98	362	4	247	111	264	60	16	73	625
Sept.	1.43		281	2	225	54	271	39	27	131	552
Total	116.51	39.69	2226	16	1729	480	1610	325	131	586	3835
Mean	19.42	7.94	371	3	288	80	268	54	22	98	639

Site : Swimming Pool.

Deposit (grams per 100 square metres)

Month	Rain mm.	pH. Value	TWIM	S/CS ₂	Ash	OCM	TWSM	Ca	Cl	SO ₄	TS
1958											
Oct.	56.58	6.82	313	3	228	83	353	74	34	129	666
Nov.	37.76	7.01	311	2	223	85	395	76	29	161	706
Dec.	61.06	6.01	426	4	330	93	603	116	42	283	1029
1959											
Jan.	40.13	6.86	604	5	488	110	732	158	63	338	1335
Feb.	0.66		234	3	186	45	266	55	20	131	499
March	1.31	7.34	446	5	363	79	363	63	29	220	810
Total	197.50	34.04	2334	22	1818	495	2712	542	217	1262	5045
Mean	32.92	6.81	389	4	303	83	452	90	36	210	841

1959											
April	35.92	7.64	387	4	311	72	418	95	32	164	806
May	8.55	7.62	289	3	183	104	242	46	16	100	531
June	4.08	8.23	510	4	328	178	262	54	23	94	772
July	20.00	7.70	496	3	270	223	338	76	25	84	834
Aug.	11.05	8.36	388	4	205	180	278	68	17	87	667
Sept.	0.92		251	2	190	59	321	54	34	160	572
Total	80.52	39.55	2321	20	1487	816	1859	393	147	689	4182
Mean	13.42	7.91	387	3	248	136	310	66	25	115	697

Abbreviations :—

TWIM—Total water insoluble matter.

S/CS₂—Soluble carbon bisulphide.

OCM—Other combustible matter.

TWSM—Total water soluble matter.

Ca—Calcium.

Cl—Chloride.

SO₄—Sulphur dioxide.

TS—Total solids.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Measurement of Deposited Matter by Deposit Gauges. Estimation of Sulphur by Lead Peroxide Instruments.

<i>Site.</i>	<i>Rainfall inches.</i>	<i>Insoluble Deposit (Tons per square mile).</i>	<i>Soluble Deposit</i>	<i>Total Solids.</i>	<i>SO₃ (sulphur trioxide) collected per day (milligrammes).</i>
DASHWOOD LANE NURSERIES.					
1959					
January	1.42	9.95	17.34	27.29	3.50
February	0.02	4.50	5.80	10.31	1.94
March	1.22	5.73	7.60	13.34	1.27
April	1.53	6.58	6.50	13.08	1.12
May	0.75	7.17	6.12	13.29	1.14
June	0.59	10.28	6.45	16.74	0.93
July	1.06	16.33	8.34	24.67	0.65
August	0.59	9.22	6.72	15.94	0.87
September	0.05	7.15	6.92	14.07	1.17
October	1.63	10.75	9.34	20.09	1.10
November	2.78	3.81	6.80	10.61	1.06
December	2.99	4.01	8.67	12.68	1.58
Mean	1.22	7.96	8.05	16.01	1.36
SWIMMING POOL.					
1959					
January	1.58	15.39	18.66	34.05	3.83
February	0.66	5.96	6.78	12.74	2.17
March	1.31	11.38	9.26	20.65	1.31
April	1.41	9.87	10.67	20.55	1.27
May	0.34	7.37	6.18	13.54	0.96
June	0.16	13.00	6.68	19.68	1.13
July	0.79	12.66	8.62	21.28	0.65
August	0.43	9.91	7.10	17.00	0.95
September	0.03	6.40	8.19	14.59	1.04
October	1.85	9.73	10.74	20.47	1.31
November	2.85	7.35	7.58	14.93	1.63
December	3.13	9.53	14.10	23.63	1.90
Mean	1.21	9.88	9.55	19.43	1.51

Sulphur Dioxide (PbO₂ method)

SO₃ (sulphur trioxide collected per day (milligrammes)).

SITE	1958			1959				
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Sum.	Mean
Dashwood Nurseries	1.31	1.92	1.90	3.50	1.94	1.27	11.84	1.97
Swimming Pool	1.42	2.06	2.55	3.83	2.17	1.31	13.34	2.22

SITE	1959							
	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Sum.	Mean
Dashwood Nurseries	1.12	1.14	0.93	0.65	0.87	1.17	5.88	0.98
Swimming Pool	1.27	0.96	1.13	0.65	0.95	1.04	6.00	1.00

INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION,
SMOKE AND SULPHUR DIOXIDE BY VOLUMETRIC METHOD.

SITE:—3 Woodville Terrace.

	<i>Smoke.</i>			<i>Sulphur Dioxide.</i>		
	<i>Concentration mg/100 m³</i>			<i>Concentration p.p. 100 m</i>		
	<i>Average value</i>	<i>Highest value</i>	<i>Lowest value</i>	<i>Average value</i>	<i>Highest value</i>	<i>Lowest value</i>
1959						
January	34	112	3	13.1	74.5	1.5
February ..	25	62	8	8.8	22.3	3.1
March ..	13	40	3	4.7	12.1	1.8
April ..	8	17	2	4.0	10.2	1.5
May ..	6	13	3	3.8	6.9	1.6
June ..	3	8	1	2.9	6.9	0.2
July ..	3	6	0	2.1	6.2	0.2
August ..	4	7	1	2.8	6.1	0.3
September	5	10	2	3.9	6.5	1.1
October ..	9	25	2	3.8	9.2	1.1
November	20	60	4	5.8	16.2	0.6
December ..	14	65	4	5.1	29.8	0.4