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**BOROUGH OF**



**GRAVESEND**

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OF THE**  
**Medical Officer of Health**  
**FOR THE YEAR 1968**

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**G. P. MERSON**  
**M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**  
**Medical Officer of Health**







## HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1968

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THE MAYOR (Alderman C. H. Sutor, J.P.)

Alderman C. A. White, J.P. (*Chairman*)

Alderman Mrs. G. M. Batson, J.P.

Councillor L. H. Hardy (*Vice-Chairman*)

Councillor K. C. W. Pearson

Councillor R. Farthing

Councillor F. G. K. Bowles

Councillor A. J. Shuttlewood

Councillor R. F. Chuck

Councillor V. P. Gardner



## HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

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### *Medical Officer of Health*

GEORGE POLSON MERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

### *Chief Public Health Inspector*

K. MCINTYRE, M.A.P.H.I.

### *Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector*

K. V. SPROAT, M.A.P.H.I.

### *District Public Health Inspectors*

B. L. M. CLARK, M.A.P.H.I.

J. WANN, M.A.P.H.I.

G. P. MUTIMER, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.  
(Commenced 1st August, 1968)

### *Pupil Public Health Inspector*

A. ASSHETON  
(Resigned 9th May, 1968)

### *Clerical and Ancillary Staff*

MISS G. M. PUTTIFER

MRS. J. WELLS

MISS C. BRIGGS  
(Resigned 31st October, 1968)

MRS. G. C. HOWARD  
(Commenced 22nd October, 1968)

H. GREENSLADE

C. A. PORT

G. ROWE

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

CIVIC CENTRE,

GRAVESEND.

MR. MAYOR, MR. CHAIRMAN, LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I present my Report on the Public Health, Sanitary Conditions and Vital Statistics for the Borough of Gravesend for the year 1968.

In comparing the causes of death in Gravesend for 1968 with 1967, I would like to highlight certain trends which I hope auger well for the future. There were 3 fewer deaths from cancer of the lung or bronchus, 27 as against 30, and only one death from cancer of the uterus as against 6 last year. Other malignant neoplasms in Gravesend decreased from 57 to 43. These decreases may suggest that we may be approaching a general decrease in the incidence of these killing diseases.

The Public Health (Infectious Jaundice) Regulations 1968 came into operation on the 15th June, 1968. During 1968 11 cases were notified; although I would agree that it is a step forward to make infectious jaundice a notifiable disease, the numbers of cases notified in Gravesend have indicated that Infective Jaundice constitutes no great problem.

Measles vaccination was started during the year under review and I am of the opinion that the decrease in the number of measles cases notified from 854 to 134 must be attributed to the use of measles vaccine. Measles today is not the debilitating disease that it was 20 years ago, but any Public Health measures which save a child from a febrile illness, with objectionable complications, must be considered justifiable. From the demand for the vaccine from the mothers of young children I consider that measles vaccination is definitely worthwhile. Although one of the vaccines has since been withdrawn no ill effects of measles vaccination occurred in Gravesend.

The population of Gravesend was estimated in 1968 to be 55,160 - an increase of 230 over 1967. There were 1,128 live births and 553 deaths during 1968.

Gravesend has been criticised by many because of the areas of devastation in the centre of the Town, caused by the demolition and clearance of slum properties. It is pleasing to note that much of these areas are now in the planning stage for re-development. From the Public Health point of view it must be understood that any area of devastation is preferable to the poor worn-out properties, but it is unfortunate that these areas should have to go through this period of dilapidation and devastation before re-development can proceed.



I gratefully acknowledge my indebtedness to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Licensing Committee for the support and consideration which they have kindly extended to me throughout the year. I would also like to express my thanks to all the members of the Health Department for their loyal and efficient support and to my colleagues in the other departments of the Council for their assistance and help.

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

Your obedient Servant,

G. P. MERSON

Medical Officer of Health

# STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH

Area of the Borough (acres)	..	..	..	4,619
Registrar-General's estimate of the Population	..			55,160
Number of separate inhabited houses (at 31.3.69)	..			16,840
Rateable Value (at 31.3.69)	..	..	..	£2,068,377
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	..	..	..	£8,277

Rates (to 31st March, 1969) - 12s. 9d. in the £

Number of Dwelling Houses built during 1968 -

Borough Council	Number of Units completed	98
Private Enterprise	Number of Units completed	78
		<u>176</u>

## REGISTERED LIVE BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate .. ..	517	538	1,055
Illegitimate .. ..	<u>40</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>73</u>
Total live births	<u>557</u>	<u>571</u>	<u>1,128</u>

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population - 20.44

## STILL BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate .. ..	4	3	7
Illegitimate .. ..	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>
	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>9</u>

Still Birth Rate - i.e., Rate per  
1,000 total (live and still) births - 7.85

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population - 0.16



REGISTERED DEATHS - All causes at all ages - 553

<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
305	248	553

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population - 10.02  
(The previous year it was 9.5)

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES - Nil

NATURAL INCREASE IN POPULATION (Excess of Births over Deaths) .. 575

INFANT DEATHS - under 1 year of age

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate Infants ..	11	9	20
Illegitimate Infants ..	3	1	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	14	10	24
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE:

Infant Mortality Rate, i.e. All infants per 1,000 live births .. 21.27  
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births .. 18.95

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000  
total live births) .. 11.52

EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 1 week per  
1,000 total live births) .. 9.75

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (stillbirths and deaths under 1  
week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths) .. 17.59

COMPARATIVE BIRTH AND DEATH RATES

<i>Rates</i>	<i>Gravesend</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
Birth Rate .. ..	18.80	16.90
Death Rate .. ..	11.50	11.90
Infant Mortality Rate .. ..	18.21	18.00
Still Birth Rate .. ..	0.16	0.24

# BOROUGH OF GRAVESEND

## BIRTHS AND DEATHS

### BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR LAST TEN YEARS

	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Number of births	911	1,040	1,069	1,177	1,178	1,153	1,235	1,205	1,063	1,128
Crude Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	18.83	21.18	20.86	22.66	22.12	21.15	22.62	22.21	19.35	20.44
Number of deaths	497	501	502	527	552	531	551	551	522	553
Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	10.27	10.20	9.80	10.14	10.36	9.90	10.10	10.10	9.50	10.02



**CAUSES OF DEATH IN GRAVESEND FOR 1968**  
**AS PROVIDED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL**

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..	1	-	1
2. Other Tuberculosis, inc. Late <b>Effects</b>	2	1	3
3. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	2	-	2
4. Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach ..	6	2	8
5. Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus ..	18	9	27
6. Malignant Neoplasm - Breast .. ..	1	8	9
7. Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus .. ..	-	1	1
8. Leukaemia .. .. .	2	1	3
9. Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc. ..	30	13	43
10. Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms ..	1	2	3
11. Diabetes Mellitus .. .. .	5	6	11
12. Other Endocrine, etc. Diseases ..	-	2	2
13. Mental Disorders .. .. .	1	-	1
14. Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	6	4	10
15. Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease ..	2	1	3
16. Hypertensive Disease .. .. .	4	5	9
17. Ischaemic Heart Disease .. .. .	86	63	149
18. Other Forms of Heart Disease ..	8	17	25
19. Cerebrovascular Disease .. .. .	46	49	95
20. Other Diseases of Circulatory System	10	12	22
21. Influenza .. .. .	-	2	2
22. Pneumonia .. .. .	16	14	30
23. Bronchitis and Emphysema .. .. .	16	4	20
24. Asthma .. .. .	2	-	2
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	4	2	6
26. Peptic Ulcer .. .. .	3	1	4
27. Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia ..	2	-	2

	Male	Female	Total
28. Other Diseases of Digestive System ..	1	2	3
29. Nephritis and Nephrosis .. ..	1	-	1
30. Hyperplasia of Prostate .. ..	1	-	1
31. Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	2	7	9
32. Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	-	1	1
33. Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System ..	1	2	3
34. Congenital Anomalies .. ..	2	8	10
35. Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	1	1	2
36. Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality ..	6	1	7
37. Symptoms and Ill-defined Conditions ..	-	2	2
38. Motor Vehicle Accidents .. ..	5	1	6
39. All Other Accidents .. ..	4	1	5
40. Suicide and Self-inflicted Injuries ..	5	2	7
41. All Other External Causes .. ..	2	1	3



# INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING 1968

Disease	Under one year	One and under 3 years	3 and under 5 years	5 and under 10 years	10 and under 15 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
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery ..	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Food Poisoning ..	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	-
Infective Jaundice ..	-	-	-	3	2	2	-	-	-	11	-
Malaria ..	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	4	4
Measles ..	8	40	47	37	2	-	-	-	-	134	-
Meningococcal Infection ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis - Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever ..	-	-	4	6	1	-	-	-	-	11	-
Whooping Cough ..	2	11	10	5	-	-	-	-	-	28	-
Respiratory Tuberculosis ..	-	-	-	-	1	7	2	1	1	11	7
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	-	-	1	1	3	2	2	1	9	5
	11	51	61	52	8	7	14	5	2	211	16

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

### NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS

The number of live and still births occurring in Gravesend during the year was 1,281. After correction for those whose usual residence is elsewhere (i.e. 215 transferred "out" and 71 transferred "in") the number properly belonging to the Borough was 1,137 (1,128 live births and 9 still births) compared with 1,086 in the previous year.

### PARTICULARS OF BIRTHS OCCURRING IN GRAVESEND:

Total number of live and still births occurring in Gravesend	..	..	1,281
Number of live births actually belonging to Gravesend		1,057	
Number of still births actually belonging to Gravesend		9	
Number of live births (non-residents)		212	
Number of still births (non-residents)		<u>3</u>	1,281

### NUMBER OF BIRTHS OCCURRING IN HOSPITAL:

	Live Births	Still Births
Number of infants born in Hospital - (residents)	652	4
Number of infants born in Hospital - (non-residents)	212	3



## ATTENDANCE AT CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

The attendances at the four Welfare Centres during the year were:-

(a)	Individual children under 1 year of age	.. ..	981
(b)	Individual children between 1 and 5 years	.. ..	2,224
(c)	Total number of attendances of all children under 5 years	.. ..	15,551

For the year 1967 the figures were:-

(a)	960
(b)	2,182
(c)	16,411

## ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

No Ante-Natal Clinics were held in the Local Authority Clinics.

Ante-Natal Clinics are now held in the General Practitioners' Surgeries.

## 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.

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

Samples were taken at regular intervals and were found to be satisfactory!

Number of samples taken - 52

#### CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

One sample of treated water was taken and reported to be satisfactory.

Note: Tabulated summaries of all water samples taken and results of examination are shown on pages 36, 37, 38, 39, 40 and 41.



## CORPORATION BATHING POOL

During the 1968 season the following persons used the Pools: -

Bathers and Spectators	..	..	70,797
Schoolchildren	..	..	25,669
Season Ticket and Pass Holders	..		13,402
Club Members	..	..	5,614
National Sea Training School	..		-
Old Age Pensioners	..	..	275
			<hr/>
			115,757
			<hr/>

## HYGIENIC ARRANGEMENTS AT BATHING POOL

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 BATHING POOL WATER

Fifteen samples were taken from the Corporation pool and 34 from school pools. See tabulated summary on pages 39, 40 and 41.

## 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.

# PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND "OTHER DISEASES"

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following is a return of the number of children resident in the Borough who were immunised during the year ended 31st December, 1968.

Year of Birth	Primary		Reinforcing	
	Triple	Diph./Tet.	Triple	Diph./Tet.
1968	411	1	-	-
1967	396	3	18	1
1966	35	4	420	88
1965	16	1	139	30
1964	9	-	22	50
1961 - 1963	15	11	164	629
1952 - 1960	2	3	7	18
	884	23	770	816

## SMALLPOX PREVENTION

Vaccination is carried out at the Kent County Council Clinics and by General Practitionery.

The following is a return of the number of persons who were vaccinated against Smallpox at the Kent County Council Clinics during the year ended 31st December, 1968

Year of Birth	Primary	Reinforcing
1966 - 1967	687	-
1952 - 1963	-	37



# POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The following table gives the number of persons resident in the Borough who received immunisation against Poliomyelitis during the year ended 31st December, 1968.

<i>Year of Birth</i>	<i>Primary</i>	<i>Reinforcing</i>
1968	251	-
1967	701	-
1966	129	-
1965	42	-
1964	12	46
1961 - 1963	5	752
1952 - 1960	-	7
	1,140	805

# NOTIFICATION OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS

In 1968, 20 fresh cases were notified. The following table gives comparative particulars over the last ten years.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Estimated Population of Registrar General</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non- Pulmonary</i>	<i>Total</i>
1959	48,370	29	3	32
1960	49,110	21	5	26
1961	51,240	20	3	23
1962	51,950	26	6	32
1963	53,250	13	4	17
1964	53,590	14	6	20
1965	54,550	14	6	20
1966	54,250	11	6	17
1967	54,930	24	4	28
1968	55,160	11	9	20

The sources from which the notifications of Tuberculosis were received:-

Chest Physicians ..	14
Private Medical Practitioners ..	-
Hospitals and Institutions ..	6

## AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF TUBERCULOUS PATIENTS

The following table shows the age and sex distribution of the 20 new cases: -

Age Periods	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 1	-	-	-	1
2 - 4	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	1
15 - 19	-	1	-	-
20 - 24	-	-	-	1
25 - 34	1	2	-	2
35 - 44	2	2	1	-
45 - 54	1	-	-	-
55 - 64	1	-	2	-
65 & over	1	-	-	1
	6	5	3	6

## TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS AND DEATH RATE

There were 4 deaths registered from Tuberculosis. This gives a death rate of .06 per 1,000 population for all forms of Tuberculosis.

The following table compares the figures for 1968 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.	
1959	5	.10	-	-	.10
1960	9	.18	-	-	.18
1961	10	.19	-	-	.19
1962	8	.15	-	-	.15
1963	3	.05	-	-	.05
1964	5	.09	-	-	.09
1965	1	.01	1	.01	.02
1966	3	.05	-	-	.05
1967	2	.03	-	-	.03
1968	1	.01	3	.05	.06



## TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

The names of 99 persons were removed from the register for the following reasons:-

Deaths .. .. .	10
Left the District .. .. .	9
Recovered .. .. .	59
Diagnosis not Confirmed .. .. .	1
Refused Public Medical Treatment .. .. .	3
Lost sight of .. .. .	17
Emigrated .. .. .	-
De-notified .. .. .	-
	<hr/>
	99
	<hr/>

One hundred and ninety-six persons remained on the register at 31st December, 1968. They consist of the following:-

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	97	68	165
Non-Pulmonary	13	18	31
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	110	86	196
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

## MASS RADIOGRAPHY

Two routine visits of the radiography unit in connection with regular chest X-ray examinations of men over the age of 45 were made during 1968.

## INNOCULATION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS

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

# VENEREAL DISEASES

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

			Males	Females	Total
New Patients - Gravesend:					
Syphilis	..	..	-	2	2
Gonorrhoea	..	..	25	28	53
Other conditions	..	..	76	46	122
			<hr/> 101	<hr/> 76	<hr/> 177

## VENEREAL DISEASE CLINIC - (South-Eastern Metropolitan Hospital Board)

Dr. C. D. Routh is in attendance at the Gravesend Clinic, 22 Cobham Street (telephone Gravesend 3061), at the following times:-

### TUESDAY

Male	..	..	..	11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.
Female	..	..	..	1.00 p.m. to 2.00 p.m.

### SATURDAY

Male and Female	..	..	..	9.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.
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## MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

One hundred and one medical examinations were carried out on the staff of the Borough Council and seven on the staff of the Medway Water Board.

## CORONER'S INQUESTS

H.M. Coroner has kindly supplied the following information for the year 1968.

Total number of inquests	..	..	..	27
Number of inquests without post-mortems	..	..	..	-
Number of post-mortems without inquests	..	..	..	96

### Verdicts: -

Accidental deaths	..	..	..	14
Suicides ..	..	..	..	11
Found drowned	..	..	..	-
Other verdicts	..	..	..	2

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

## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION

### SUMMARY OF VISITS BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Accumulations of Refuse .. .. .	85
Agricultural Premises .. .. .	9
Clean Air and Atmospheric Pollution .. .. .	199
Drainage .. .. .	481
Factories .. .. .	249
Food Premises .. .. .	1,091
Food Inspection and Complaints .. .. .	230
Housing .. .. .	2,005
Infectious Disease .. .. .	20
Miscellaneous .. .. .	1,425
Offensive Trades .. .. .	8
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises .. .. .	909
Pests .. .. .	36
Pet Shops .. .. .	32
Piggeries and Stables .. .. .	12
Public Conveniences and Urinals .. .. .	13
Rodent Control .. .. .	382
Shops - Hours of Closing and Young Persons .. .. .	42
Sampling .. .. .	294
Verminous Premises .. .. .	47
Yards .. .. .	2
	<hr/>
	7,571

### NOTICES SERVED

	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Statutory</i>
In respect of dwelling houses ..	217	11
In respect of other premises ..	273	-

# NUISANCES AND DEFECTS REMEDIED

Accumulations removed .. .. .	27
Cesspools abolished, filled in, repaired .. .. .	7
Chimney stacks - repaired .. .. .	6
Dampness - external walls repointed or rendered .. .. .	17
- damp-proof courses provided .. .. .	3
Doors and door sills repaired or renewed .. .. .	5
Drainage - relaid .. .. .	13
- unstopped .. .. .	45
- I.C. chambers or covers provided or repaired .. .. .	2
- soil and ventilating pipes provided or repaired .. .. .	12
- gullies, etc. provided or repaired .. .. .	4
- sewers unstopped .. .. .	37
Floors relaid or repaired .. .. .	24
Guttering or rainwater pipes renewed or repaired .. .. .	30
Paving relaid or repaired .. .. .	2
Roofs repaired .. .. .	57
Rooms, passages and staircases - walls repaired .. .. .	96
- ceilings repaired .. .. .	13
- staircases repaired .. .. .	4
Sinks - waste pipes renewed or repaired .. .. .	7
Stone steps and thresholds renewed or repaired .. .. .	3
Stoves and fireplaces renewed or repaired .. .. .	1
Verminous premises disinfested .. .. .	16
Water supply - water pipes, etc. repaired .. .. .	8
- internal supply provided .. .. .	1
Wash basins provided .. .. .	3
Water closets - repaired and/or cleansed .. .. .	10
- new pans .. .. .	6
- pans cleansed or unstopped .. .. .	6
- cisterns provided or repaired .. .. .	12
- seats renewed or repaired .. .. .	1
Windows - renewed or repaired .. .. .	33
- sashcords and weights provided or repaired .. .. .	28



## PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Eight premises are licensed within the district and 32 visits of inspection were made.

## RODENT CONTROL

The following report summarises the work carried out by the Rodent Officer during the year 1968.

Number of properties inspected following notification	..	..	..	651
Number of properties found to be infested by:				
(a) Rats	..	..	..	283
(b) Mice	..	..	..	99

## TREATMENT AGAINST RATS IN SEWERS

### Test Baiting:

Number of manholes tested	..	..	..	312
Number of manholes showing bait taken	..	..	..	35

## HOUSING

### HOUSING ACT 1957, PART III

The following Clearance Areas were represented:-

Woodville Cottages, Mark Lane	..	..	9 houses
Clifton Grove	..	..	26 houses
Nine Elms Grove No.1	..	..	2 houses
Nine Elms Grove No.2	..	..	26 houses

The following Orders were made:-

Woodville Cottages, Mark Lane Clearance Order	..	9 houses
Clifton Grove Area Compulsory Purchase Order	..	29 houses
Nine Elms Grove Area Compulsory Purchase Order	..	37 houses

A Public Enquiry was held into the Woodville Cottages, Mark Lane Clearance Order and it was confirmed without modification.

Houses in which defects were remedied:-

After informal action	..	..	149
After formal notice under Public Health Acts	..	..	13

Houses Demolished:-

In or adjoining Clearance Areas:-

(a) Unfit for human habitation	..	..	142
(b) On land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act 1957	..	..	16

Re-housing continued throughout the year from the area of the Peppercroft Street Compulsory Purchase Order 1963, and commenced from houses included in the Woodville Cottages, Mark Lane Clearance Order 1968.

Number of persons displaced	..	..	328
Number of families displaced	..	..	102

### RENT ACT 1957 - FIRST SCHEDULE

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair	..	Nil
Applications for Cancellation of Certificates	..	Nil

## FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The Council has the duty to enforce certain provisions of Parts I, IV and VIII of the Factories Act, 1961.

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, over-crowding, 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 bake houses 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, 1961

PART I

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

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Owners Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	3	8	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by local authorities	130	115	8	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority, (excluding outworkers premises)	10	120	-	-
	143	243	8	-

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	
Sanitary Conveniences -					
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	7	5	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	2	1	-	-	-
	9	6	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT  
OUTWORK - SECTIONS 133 AND 134

Nature of Work	SECTION 133			SECTION 134		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Sec.133(1) (c)	No. of cases in default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole-some premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel (making, etc.)	26	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture and Upholstery	1	-	-	-	-	-
	27	-	-	-	-	-

BASEMENT BAKEHOUSES

PART IV OF THE ACT

Certificates of suitability are in operation in respect of two basement bakehouses.

# OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

At 31st December, 1968, 659 premises had been registered in the following categories:-

Offices	..	..	..	152
Retail shops	..	..	..	415
Wholesale shops and warehouses	..	..	..	20
Catering establishments	..	..	..	72

The number of persons employed in the 659 premises is:-

Males	..	..	1,790
Females	..	..	2,935
			<u>4,725</u>

Analysis of persons employed in classes of workplace:

Offices	..	..	..	1,442
Retail shops	..	..	..	2,561
Wholesale shops and warehouses	..	..	..	220
Catering establishments open to the public				475
Canteens	..	..	..	27
				<u>4,725</u>



The following figures show the work carried out during 1968:-

Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection .. ..	402
Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises .. ..	909
Number of notices or requests made regarding infringements .. ..	125
Number of notices or requests complied with ..	87

The 87 notices and requests complied with during 1968 comprised 142 items, classified as follows:-

Section 4	To cleanse premises .. ..	2
" 6	To provide or improve heating .. ..	6
" 6	To provide thermometers .. ..	16
" 7	To provide or improve ventilation .. ..	1
" 8	To provide or improve lighting .. ..	1
" 9	To provide or improve sanitary conveniences ..	21
" 10	To provide or improve washing facilities ..	16
" 15	To provide eating facilities .. ..	1
" 16	To provide handrails, etc; to keep stairs and passageways clear ..	11
" 17	To fence exposed parts of machinery .. ..	6
" 24	To provide first-aid equipment .. ..	15
" 50	To provide information for employees .. ..	46

## ACCIDENTS

The number of accidents reported during the year under Section 48 was 24.

## FOOD

There are 447 food premises in the district:-

Bakehouses	..	..	7
Bread and cake shops	..	..	20
Butchers shops	..	..	37
Catering premises and canteens	..	..	76
Confectionery shops	..	..	60
Dairies	..	..	1
Fish shops	..	..	19
Fruit and greengrocery shops	..	..	24
Licensed premises	..	..	88
Miscellaneous	..	..	12
Provision shops	..	..	103
			<hr/>
			447
			<hr/>

Attention is devoted to enforcing the relevant Food Hygiene Regulations and for this purpose 1,091 visits were made to food premises, stalls and vehicles, and 49 notices served.

## MILK

### Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959:

Registered Dairies .. ..	1
Registered Milk Distributors .. ..	79

### Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963:

Licences issued to operate until 31st December, 1970 are as follows:-

Dealers (Pasteurisers) Licences .. ..	1
Dealers (Prepacked Milk) Licences .. ..	140

There is one pasteurising plant in the area dealing with approximately 15,500 gallons per day.

### Biochemical Examinations:

Results of samples taken were as follows:-

Designation	Test	Results	
Pasteurised	Methylene Blue Test	Satisfactory	46
		Unsatisfactory	1
	Phosphatase Test	Satisfactory	47
		Unsatisfactory	-
Sterilised	Turbidity	Satisfactory	12
		Unsatisfactory	-

### Chemical Analysis:

Twenty-two samples of milk were submitted for analysis, one of which was unsatisfactory.

These twenty-two samples are also included under Food and Drugs Act 1955 - Sampling.



## ICE CREAM

Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955: -

For the sale of ice cream .. ..	128
For the manufacture and sale of ice cream	7

### Bacteriological Examination:

Samples were classified as follows:-

Grade 1 .. .. .	50
Grade 2 .. .. .	4
Grade 3 .. .. .	2

### Chemical Analysis:

Four samples of ice cream were submitted for analysis and found to be satisfactory.

## INSPECTION OF FOOD

The Public Health Inspectors spend a great deal of their time on food inspection, and a large quantity of food was surrendered as unfit for human consumption during the year.

The surrendered food is disposed of at the joint refuse tip at Northfleet, under supervision.

# Food and Drugs Act 1955 - Sampling

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

Article	Result of Analysis	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Angelica	1	
Cakes, Biscuits	2	
Cheese	1	
Chocolate, Diet	1	
Chocolate, Drinking	1	
Coffee	3	
Cream	2	
Dates	1	
Drugs, Medical Preparations	26	3
Fish, Canned	3	
Fish, Paste	1	
Flour	1	
Fruit, Canned	11	1
Fruit, Dried	1	
Fruit, Juices	3	
Ginger	1	
Honey	1	
Ice Cream	4	
Ice Cream Powder	1	
Ice Lollies	2	
Jams	1	
Jellies	2	
Marzipan	1	
Meat Products	8	2
Milk	22	1
Carried forward	101	7

Article	Result of Analysis	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Brought forward	101	7
Milk Powder Substitute	3	
Pickles	2	1
Pies	2	
Rice	2	1
Sandwich Spread	1	
Sauces, Ketchups - various	2	
Soups	2	
Sugar	1	
Sugar confectionery	5	1
Syrup	1	
Tea	1	
Vegetables	2	
Vinegar	1	
	126	10



## PARTICULARS OF SAMPLES ADULTERATED OR OTHERWISE UNSATISFACTORY

Tincture of Iodine - Deficient in Potassium Iodine. No further stocks were available at the retailers and it was found that the wholesalers had ceased business.

Lemon Pickle - Unsatisfactory Label. The attention of the retailer was drawn to this matter.

Lotus Root Chips - Unsatisfactory Description. The attention of the retailer and supplier was drawn to this matter.

Healthvita - Unsatisfactory Label. The attention of the retailer was drawn to this matter and they confirmed that a new label had been produced.

Creamed Rice (Canned) - Unsatisfactory Label. The attention of the retailer and supplier was drawn to this matter.

Milk - Low in Fat. A subsequent formal sample taken from the same source was found to be satisfactory.

Fondants - Contained Blue V.R.S. Existing supplies at the retailer's shops withdrawn from sale. The attention of the wholesaler was drawn to this matter.

Sausage Meat - Contained Undeclared Preservative. The attention of the retailer and manufacturer was drawn to the requirements of Section 5 of the Preservatives in Food Regulations 1962.

Pork Sausages - Contained Undeclared Preservative. The attention of the retailer and manufacturer was drawn to the requirements of Section 5 of the Preservatives in Food Regulations 1962.

Cough Syrup - Contained a Deposit and the Label was not Satisfactory. The attention of the manufacturer/retailer was drawn to these matters.

## FOOD COMPLAINTS

Thirty-six complaints were received involving foreign bodies, mould, etc. in food. Two of these were reported to the Health Committee and warning letters were sent.

# BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF DRINKING WATER

	Date taken	Probable numbers per 100 ml.		Plate count per ml.
		Coliform bacilli	Bact. Coli (type 1)	
1. Leith Park Road Pumping Station (treated)	2. 1.68	None	None	
	22. 1.68	None	None	
	27. 3.68	None	None	
	22. 4.68	None	None	
	14. 5.68	None	None	
	26. 6.68	None	None	
	22. 7.68	None	None	
	27. 8.68	None	None	
	18. 9.68	None	None	
	29. 10.68	None	None	
	26. 11.68	None	None	
	18. 12.68	None	None	

# BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF DRINKING WATER

	Number of Samples	Date taken	Probable numbers per 100 ml. Coliform bacilli	Bact. Coli (type 1)	Plate count per ml.
2. Domestic Supplies (treated)	3	2. 1.68	None		
	3	22. 1.68	None	None	
	3	27. 2.68	None		
	3	27. 3.68	None		
	3	22. 4.68	None		
	3	14. 5.68	None		
	3	26. 6.68	None		
	3	22. 7.68	None		
	3	27. 8.68	None		
	3	18. 9.68	None		
	2	21. 10.68	1	None	
	1	29. 10.68	None		
	3	26. 11.68	None		
	3	18. 12.68	None		



# CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF DRINKING WATER

Date taken:	June 1968
Appearance:	Clear, bright
Odour:	Chlorinous
pH Value:	7.3

	<i>Parts per million</i>
Free Chlorine	0.15
Free Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.16
Nitrogen as Nitrites	Nil
Nitrogen as Nitrates	16.50
Chlorine as Chloride	28.00
Alkalinity (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	270.00
Total Hardness	332.00
Permanent Hardness	62.00
Sulphate	13.00
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hours at 80°F	0.05
Total Solids	480.00

Microscopic examination

Revealed very little mineral or vegetable matter.

OPINION: Chemically this water was satisfactory.

# BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF BATHING POOL WATER

	Date taken	Where taken	Probable numbers per 100 ml.		Plate count per ml.
			Coliform bacilli	Bact. Coli (type 1)	
(a) Corporation Pool	28.5.68	Deep end Shallow end Paddling pool	None		None
			None		None
			None		None
	11.6.68	Deep end Shallow end Paddling pool	None		None
			None		None
			None		None
	9.7.68	Deep end Shallow end Paddling pool	None		None
			None		None
			None		None
	13.8.68	Deep end Shallow end Paddling pool	None		2
			None		None
			None		14
	10.9.68	Deep end Shallow end Paddling pool	None		None
			None		None
			None		None

# BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF BATHING POOL WATER

	Date taken	Where taken	Probable numbers per 100 ml.		Plate count per ml.
			Coliform bacilli	Bact. Coli (type I)	
(b) School Pools	28.5.68	St. Joseph's Convent Riverview	2 or more	1	None
		Whitehill	None		None
		King's Farm	None		None
		Cecil Road	None		None
		Wrotham Road	None		None
		Gravesend School for Boys	None		None
	11.6.68	Westcourt	None		None
		Cecil Road	None		None
		King's Farm	None		None
		St. Joseph's Convent	None		None
	9.7.68	Gravesend School for Boys	None		None
		Wrotham Road	None		None
		Whitehill	2 or more	None	None
		Wrotham Road	None		None
		Cecil Road	None		None
		Whitehill	None		None
		Westcourt	None		None
		King's Farm	None		None
		St. Joseph's Convent	None		None
		Gravesend School for Boys	None		None



# BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF BATHING POOL WATER

		Probable numbers per 100 ml.			Plate count per ml.
		Date taken	Where taken	Coliform bacilli	
(b) School Pools (contd.)		13. 8. 68	Whitehill Milton Road	None None	None None
		10. 9. 68	Gravesend School for Boys	None	None
		18. 9. 68	Whitehill Cecil Road King's Farm Wrotham Road Riverview	None None None None None	3 2 1 None None
		21. 10. 68	Gravesend School for Boys Riverview	None None	None None
		26. 11. 68	Gravesend School for Boys	None	None
		18. 12. 68	Gravesend School for Boys	None	None

# ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Data extracted from the Analyst's monthly reports was 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

## CALCULATED DEPOSITION PER DAY

Month	Rain mm	pH Value	Milligrammes per square metre								
			TWIM	S/CS2	Ash	OCM	TWSM	Ca	Cl	SO4	TS
1967											
Oct.	1.1	6.3	58.4	0.8	36.6	21.1	59.3	6.8	11.8	22.8	117.7
Nov.	0.2	6.6	129.8	0.8	87.3	41.7	51.3	6.2	9.1	19.6	181.1
Dec.	1.4	6.8	191.2	1.4	158.1	31.7	155.3	33.4	13.5	59.8	346.5
1968											
Jan	1.2	7.0	103.2	2.1	81.6	19.5	152.7	30.1	11.8	62.2	255.9
Feb.	1.4	8.2	114.4	2.4	86.1	25.8	155.1	12.5	11.7	62.4	269.5
Mar.	0.68	7.3	128.5	2.1	97.6	28.8	118.5	25.1	11.8	41.2	247.1
Apr.	1.8	6.1	153.0	2.1	109.3	41.6	182.2	15.0	12.2	34.1	335.2
May	0.9	6.8	181.2	0.5	129.7	51.0	110.0	14.5	6.9	26.6	291.2
June	1.4	5.7	90.8	1.6	72.7	16.5	76.7	9.9	7.6	13.9	167.6
July	1.9	7.0	304.1	2.4	226.5	75.2	190.7	32.9	11.8	23.0	494.8
Aug.	3.2	5.2	325.0	1.4	238.0	85.6	187.0	17.9	14.3	33.9	511.9
Sep.*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Site: Swimming Pool

CALCULATED DEPOSITION PER DAY

Month	Rain mm	pH Value	Milligrammes per square metre								
			TWIM	S/CS2	Ash	OCM	TWSM	Ca	Cl	SO4	TS
1967											
Oct.	1.1	5.4	58.4	1.8	36.8	19.8	65.4	8.7	11.0	28.7	123.8
Nov.	1.1	4.4	92.7	0.8	70.7	21.1	110.6	10.1	13.2	40.5	203.2
Dec.	1.1	5.9	108.2	1.7	80.1	26.4	119.7	22.8	12.7	62.6	228.0
1968											
Jan.	1.2	5.4	141.3	1.3	117.4	22.6	176.6	27.9	18.7	59.1	317.9
Feb.	1.2	5.2	82.7	1.5	65.4	15.8	108.5	12.1	9.1	54.4	191.2
Mar.	0.51	6.7	156.6	2.8	110.2	43.6	103.4	15.7	13.0	37.4	260.0
Apr.	1.6	5.9	159.4	2.3	128.4	28.7	156.2	14.3	10.5	41.6	315.6
May	0.7	6.7	142.5	0.3	92.4	49.8	85.5	12.3	7.4	29.3	228.0
June	1.1	6.3	117.8	2.2	93.9	21.7	75.1	12.9	7.8	21.5	192.9
July	1.7	6.3	119.7	1.7	97.5	20.5	107.0	14.9	10.2	22.4	226.7
Aug.	3.22	5.0	106.1	1.2	71.6	33.2	149.8	12.9	14.3	30.3	256.0
Sep.*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Abbreviations:

TWIM	Total water insoluble matter
S/CS2	Soluble in carbon disulphide
OCM	Other combustible matter
TWSM	Total water soluble matter
Ca	Calcium
Cl	Chloride
SO4	Calculated as sulphate
TS	Total solids

\* No results available - gauge full, presumably overflowed.



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

SITE: Civic Centre

				SMOKE		SULPHUR DIOXIDE	
				Microgrammes per cubic metre		Microgrammes per cubic metre	
				Average value	Highest value	Average value	Highest value
30. 4.68	-	27. 5.68		36	62	87	219
28. 5.68	-	1. 7.68		14	29	38	106
2. 7.68	-	29. 7.68		19	33	32	85
30. 7.68	-	26. 8.68		15	29	43	89
27. 8.68	-	30. 9.68		23	63	43	168
1.10.68	-	28.10.68		40	107	91	243
29.10.68	-	25.11.68		57	129	84	184
26.11.68	-	30.12.68		54	113	118	273





