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BOROUGH OF



GRAVESEND



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
OF THE  
**Medical Officer of Health**  
FOR THE YEAR 1969

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



HEALTH COMMITTEE 1969/70

THE MAYOR (Alderman Miss A. E. H. Johnson, B.E.M.)

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

Councillor L. H. Hardy (Chairman)

Councillor K. C. W. Pearson (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor R. Farthing

Councillor S. C. Bonner

Councillor A. J. Shuttlewood

Councillor Mrs. E. R. Gardner

Councillor N. Williams

Councillor R. J. Smith

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.

*Clerical and Ancillary Staff*

MISS G. M. PUTTIFER

(Resigned 31st October, 1969)

C. A. PORT

MRS. J. WELLS

MRS. G. C. HOWARD

(Resigned 27th December, 1969)

MRS. L. WINN

(Commenced 29th December, 1969)

H. GREENSLADE

G. ROWE

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

CIVIC CENTRE,

GRAVESEND.

MADAM MAYOR, MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I present my Report on the Public Health, Sanitary Conditions and Vital Statistics for the year 1969.

The format of the causes of death in Gravesend received from the Registrar General is so different that comparison with 1968 is no easy matter. Nevertheless the mortality rate from the major killing diseases closely follows that of the figures for these diseases nationally.

Measles vaccination was continued during the year on a revised basis because of the withdrawal of one of the vaccines during the previous year. Arrangements, however, have been made for the importation of measles vaccine from the U.S.A. and when this is generally available immunisation should be increased.

The population of Gravesend was estimated in 1969 to be 55,310, a slight increase over 1968. There were 1,053 births and 516 deaths.

The redevelopment of one of the areas in the town is proceeding and large blocks of flats now occupy what was at one time an area of slum property. The development of one of the other areas is reaching the stage where building may be expected.

During 1969 two Clearance Orders were represented. These were the Terrace Street and Brunswick Road areas. The Terrace Street area involved 53 houses and the Brunswick Road area 134 houses. Public Inquiries were held on 22nd July, 1969 and on 3rd December, 1969 and the Orders were Confirmed with minor modifications by the Ministry.

Several single properties were represented as unfit in whole or in part.

I wish to thank the Chairman and the Members of the Health and Licensing Committee for their assistance and support which they have given me during the year. Also I would acknowledge the help given to me by all members of the Health Department and the co-operation which I have received from the other departments of the Borough Council.

I am, Madam Mayor, Mr. Chairman, Ladies 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 ..	55,310
Number of Separate inhabited houses (at 31.3.70) ..	16,904
Rateable Value (at 31.3.70) .. .. .	£2,089,044
Sum represented by a Penny Rate .. .. .	£8,350
Rates (to 31st March, 1970) - 14s. 0d. in the £	
Number of Dwelling Houses built during 1969 -	
Borough Council	51
Private Enterprise	14
	<u>65</u>

### REGISTERED LIVE BIRTHS

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate .. .. .	501	490	991
Illegitimate .. .. .	29	33	62
Total live births	<u>530</u>	<u>523</u>	<u>1,053</u>

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population - 19.00

### STILL BIRTHS

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate .. .. .	4	11	15
Illegitimate .. .. .	-	-	-
	<u>4</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>15</u>

Still Birth Rate - i.e., Rate per  
1,000 total (live and still) births - 14.00

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population - 0.27

REGISTERED DEATHS - All causes at all ages - 516

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
	268	248	516

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population - 9.3  
(The previous year it was 10.2)

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES - Nil

NATURAL INCREASE IN POPULATION (Excess of Births over Deaths) .. 537

INFANT DEATHS - under 1 year of age

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate Infants ..	13	5	18
Illegitimate Infants ..	-	-	-
	<u>13</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>18</u>

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

Infant Mortality Rate, i.e. All infants per 1,000 live births .. 17  
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births .. 18

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) .. 11

EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) .. 10

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths) .. 24

COMPARATIVE BIRTH AND DEATH RATES

<i>Rates</i>	<i>Gravesend</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
Birth Rate .. ..	17.48	16.30
Death Rate .. ..	10.78	11.90
Infant Mortality Rate ..	18.00	18.00
Still Birth Rate .. ..	0.27	0.21

**BOROUGH OF GRAVESEND**

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**BIRTHS AND DEATHS**

**BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR LAST TEN YEARS**

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Number of births	1,040	1,069	1,177	1,178	1,153	1,235	1,205	1,063	1,128	1,053
Crude Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	21.18	20.86	22.66	22.12	21.15	22.62	22.21	19.35	20.44	19.00
Number of deaths	501	502	527	552	531	551	551	522	553	516
Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	10.20	9.80	10.14	10.36	9.90	10.10	10.10	9.50	10.02	9.30

CAUSES OF DEATH IN GRAVESEND FOR 1969

AS PROVIDED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

	Male	Female	Total
1. Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	1	1	2
2. Meningococcal Infection .. ..	1	-	1
3. Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, etc.	2	-	2
4. Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus .. ..	2	-	2
5. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach .. ..	5	8	13
6. Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine .. ..	3	7	10
7. Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx .. ..	1	-	1
8. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ..	29	8	37
9. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast .. ..	-	9	9
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus .. ..	-	2	2
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate .. ..	4	-	4
12. Leukaemia .. ..	2	-	2
13. Other Malignant Neoplasms .. ..	20	10	30
14. Diabetes Mellitus .. ..	1	1	2
15. Other Endocrine, etc. Diseases .. ..	-	1	1
16. Anaemias .. ..	1	1	2
17. Mental Disorders .. ..	-	2	2
18. Meningitis .. ..	-	1	1
19. Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	5	8	13
20. Chronic Rheumatic Heart Diseases ..	2	-	2
21. Hypertensive Disease .. ..	1	6	7
22. Ischaemic Heart Disease .. ..	78	51	129
23. Other Forms of Heart Disease .. ..	6	12	18
24. Cerebrovascular Disease .. ..	37	69	106
25. Other Diseases of Circulatory System ..	10	7	17
26. Influenza .. ..	2	3	5
27. Pneumonia .. ..	11	15	26
28. Bronchitis and Emphysema .. ..	15	3	18
29. Asthma .. ..	-	1	1
30. Other Diseases of Respiratory System ..	3	1	4

	Male	Female	Total
31. Peptic Ulcer .. .. .	2	2	4
32. Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia ..	2	1	3
33. Cirrhosis of Liver .. .. .	4	1	5
34. Other Diseases of Digestive System ..	1	4	5
35. Nephritis and Nephrosis .. .. .	-	1	1
36. Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	-	4	4
37. Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System ..	-	1	1
38. Congenital Anomalies .. .. .	1	2	3
39. Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc. ..	7	2	9
40. Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality ..	1	-	1
41. Symptoms and Ill-defined Conditions ..	-	1	1
42. Motor Vehicle Accidents .. .. .	3	1	4
43. All Other Accidents .. .. .	4	1	5
44. All Other External Causes .. .. .	1	-	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING 1969

Disease	Under one year	One and under years					15 and under years			25 and under years		45 and under years		65 years and over	Total	Number Removed to Hospital
		3	5	10	15	25	25	45	45	65						
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Dysentery ..	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	
Food Poisoning ..	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	1	
Infective Jaundice ..	-	-	-	1	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	
Malaria ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Measles ..	12	83	124	131	124	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	354	-	
Meningococcal Infection ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Acute Poliomyelitis - Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Scarlet Fever ..	-	1	4	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	
Whooping Cough ..	3	3	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	
Respiratory Tuberculosis ..	-	1	-	-	-	2	3	3	3	2	2	-	-	11	7	
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	3	1	
	17	90	132	139	132	6	8	9	3	3	1	1	1	405	10	

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

### NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS

The number of live and still births occurring in Gravesend during the year was 1,154. After correction for those whose usual residence is elsewhere (i.e. 181 transferred "out" and 95 transferred "in") the number properly belonging to the Borough was 1,068 (1,053 live births and 15 still births) compared with 1,137 in the previous year.

#### PARTICULARS OF BIRTHS OCCURRING IN GRAVESEND:

Total number of live and still births occurring in Gravesend	..	1,154
Number of live births actually belonging to Gravesend	957	
Number of still births actually belonging to Gravesend	16	
Number of live births (non-residents)	178	
Number of still births (non-residents)	<u>3</u>	
		1,154

#### NUMBER OF BIRTHS OCCURRING IN HOSPITAL:

	Live Births	Still Births
Number of infants born in Hospital - (residents)	589	15
Number of infants born in Hospital - (non-residents)	178	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	.. ..	887
(b)	Individual children between 1 and 5 years	.. ..	1,949
(c)	Total number of attendances at child health clinics	.. ..	13,475

For the year 1968 the figures were:-

(a)	981
(b)	2,224
(c)	15,551

## 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 - 53

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 1969 season the following persons used the Pools:-

Bathers and Spectators	..	..	92,434
Schoolchildren	..	..	20,350
Season Ticket and Pass Holders	..	..	12,430
Club Members	..	..	4,563
National Sea Training School	..	..	-
Old Age Pensioners	..	..	394
			<hr/>
			130,171
			<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 32 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, 1969.

Year of Birth	Primary		Reinforcing	
	Triple	Diph./Tet.	Triple	Diph./Tet.
1969	54	-	-	-
1968	344	8	10	-
1967	22	1	430	118
1966	6	1	159	35
1965	3	1	19	43
1964	1	1	46	358
1962 - 1963	2	1	15	110
1953 - 1961	1	-	5	15
	433	13	684	679

**SMALLPOX PREVENTION**

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

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, 1969.

Year of Birth	Primary	Reinforcing
1968	426	-
1953 - 1961	-	23

## 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, 1969.

Year of Birth	Primary	Reinforcing
1969	41	-
1968	548	-
1967	90	-
1966	40	-
1965	5	67
1964	-	470
1962 - 1963	-	155
1953 - 1961	-	47
	724	739

## MEASLES VACCINATION

The following is a return of the number of children resident in the Borough who were vaccinated during the year ended 31st December, 1969.

Year of Birth	
1969	-
1968	113
1967	161
1966	113
1965	75
1964	37
1962 - 1963	23
1953 - 1961	6
	528

## NOTIFICATION OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS

In 1969, 14 fresh cases were notified. The following table gives comparative particulars over the last ten years.

Year	Estimated Population of Registrar General	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary	Total
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
1969	55,310	11	3	14

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

Chest Physicians .....	11
Private Medical Practitioners	-
Hospitals and Institutions ..	3

## AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF TUBERCULOUS PATIENTS

The following table shows the age and sex distribution of the 14 new cases:-

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

## TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS AND DEATH RATE

There were no deaths registered from Tuberculosis.

The following table compares the figures for 1969 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.	
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
1969	-	-	-	-	-

## TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

The names of 56 persons were removed from the register for the following reasons:-

Deaths	..	..	..	..	6
Left the District	..	..	..	..	9
Recovered	..	..	..	..	28
Diagnosis not Confirmed	..	..	..	..	-
Refused Public Medical Treatment	..	..	..	..	2
Lost sight of	..	..	..	..	8
Emigrated	..	..	..	..	1
De-notified	..	..	..	..	2
					<u>56</u>

One hundred and fifty-nine persons remained on the register at 31st December, 1969. They consist of the following:-

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	73	59	132
Non-Pulmonary	<u>11</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>27</u>
	<u>84</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>159</u>

## 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 1969.

## 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 .. .. .	1	2	3
Gonorrhoea .. .. .	30	23	53
Other conditions .. .. .	55	38	93
	<u>86</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>149</u>

## 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.

## MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

Ninety-three medical examinations were carried out on the staff of the Borough Council during 1969.

## CORONER'S INQUESTS

H.M. Coroner has kindly supplied the following information for the year 1969.

Total number of inquests	.. .. .	15
Number of inquests without post-mortems	.. .. .	-
Number of post-mortems without inquests	.. .. .	61

### Verdicts:-

Accidental deaths	.. .. .	13
Suicides	.. .. .	1
Found drowned	.. .. .	1
Other verdicts	.. .. .	-

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 .. .. .	155
Agricultural Premises .. .. .	6
Cesspools .. .. .	18
Clean Air and Atmospheric Pollution .. .. .	456
Drainage .. .. .	506
Factories .. .. .	243
Food Premises .. .. .	1,388
Food Inspection and Complaints .. .. .	220
Housing .. .. .	3,303
Infectious Diseases .. .. .	89
Miscellaneous .. .. .	2,014
Nuisances other than Dwelling Houses .. .. .	198
Offensive Trades .. .. .	5
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises .. .. .	1,224
Pests .. .. .	31
Pet Shops .. .. .	16
Piggeries and Stables .. .. .	5
Public Conveniences and Urinals .. .. .	14
Rodent Control .. .. .	408
Shops - Hours of Closing and Young Persons .. .. .	33
Sampling .. .. .	311
Verminous Premises .. .. .	52
Yards .. .. .	9
	10,704

### NOTICES SERVED

	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Statutory</i>
In respect of dwelling houses .. .. .	237	17
In respect of other premises .. .. .	311	1

## NUISANCES AND DEFECTS REMEDIED

Accumulations removed .. .. .	46
Animals causing a nuisance .. .. .	5
Cesspools abolished, filled in, repaired .. .. .	14
Chimney stacks - repaired .. .. .	24
Dampness - external walls repointed, rendered or renewed .. .. .	121
- damp-proof courses provided .. .. .	24
- sub-floor ventilation provided .. .. .	6
Door and door sills repaired or renewed .. .. .	29
Drainage - relaid .. .. .	33
- unstopped .. .. .	52
- I.C. chambers or covers provided or repaired .. .. .	11
- soil and ventilating pipes provided or repaired .. .. .	7
- gullies, etc. provided or repaired .. .. .	21
- sewers unstopped .. .. .	48
Floors relaid or repaired .. .. .	57
Guttering or rainwater pipes renewed or repaired .. .. .	37
Lighting and ventilation improved .. .. .	5
Paving relaid or repaired .. .. .	17
Redecorating .. .. .	2
Roofs repaired .. .. .	105
Rooms, passages and staircases - walls repaired .. .. .	135
- ceilings repaired .. .. .	48
- staircases repaired .. .. .	15
Sinks - provided .. .. .	2
- waste pipes renewed or repaired .. .. .	12
Stone steps and thresholds renewed or repaired .. .. .	6
Stoves and fireplaces renewed or repaired .. .. .	4
Verminous premises disinfested .. .. .	45
Water supply - water pipes, etc. repaired .. .. .	20
- internal supply provided .. .. .	1
Wash basins provided .. .. .	1
Water closets - rebuilt .. .. .	3
- repaired and/or cleansed .. .. .	17
- new pans .. .. .	8
- pans cleansed or unstopped .. .. .	6

Water closets - cisterns provided or repaired .. .. .	21
- seats renewed or repaired .. .. .	3
Windows - renewed or repaired .. .. .	84
- sashcords and weights provided or repaired .. .. .	58
- sills renewed or repaired .. .. .	30

#### CLEAN AIR ACTS 1956 AND 1968 - SMOKE CONTROL

Preliminary work has started on a second smoke control area. The boundaries of the proposed area are as follows:-

Old Road East from its junction with Valley Drive to Rochester Road, and then along Rochester Road to the Borough boundary with Strood, following the line of the Borough boundary to its junction with Marling Way and Valley Drive and finally returning along Valley Drive to its junction with Old Road East.

The area extends over 940 acres and it includes approximately 4,000 dwelling houses together with about 40 commercial and other properties.

A survey of approximately 10% of the dwelling houses was carried out during the year and a preliminary report was submitted to the Council, which included an assurance from the Solid Smokeless Fuels Federation that solid smokeless fuel would be available to meet the requirements of the proposed smoke control order, in view of the fact that 1st October, 1971 had been fixed provisionally for the date of operation.

A detailed survey of the dwelling houses in this area has now commenced.

#### PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

Eight premises are licensed within the district and 16 visits of inspection were made.

## RODENT CONTROL

The following report summarises the work carried out by the Rodent Officer during the year 1969.

Number of properties inspected following notification	651
Number of properties found to be infested by:	
(a) Rats	182
(b) Mice	147

### TREATMENT AGAINST RATS IN SEWERS

#### Poison Treatment:

Number of manholes baited	249
Number of manholes showing bait taken	52

## HOUSING

### HOUSING ACT 1957, PART III

The following Clearance Areas were represented:-

Terrace Street/New Street	..	..	50 houses
Terrace Street ..	..	..	2 houses
Albion Terrace ..	..	..	6 houses
Brunswick Road No.1	..	..	2 houses
Brunswick Road No.2	..	..	132 houses
Queen Street ..	..	..	8 houses

The following Orders were made:-

Terrace Street Area Compulsory Purchase Order	..	53 houses
Brunswick Road Area Compulsory Purchase Order	..	134 houses

Public Inquiries were held into the Clifton Grove, Nine Elms Grove and the Terrace Street Areas Compulsory Purchase Orders and were confirmed with modifications.

A Public Inquiry was held into the Brunswick Road Area Compulsory Purchase Order; confirmation is awaited.

In addition, representations in respect of three properties were made:-

47 Wrotham Road	(Part)
28 Albion Road	(Part)
19 Arthur Street	(Whole)

Closing Orders were made in each case.

**RE-HOUSING**

Families were re-housed during the year from the areas of Peppercroft Street Compulsory Purchase Order 1963, Woodville Cottages, Mark Lane Clearance Order 1968, Clifton Grove Area Compulsory Purchase Order 1968 and Nine Elms Grove Area Compulsory Purchase Order 1968, also from properties affected by Closing Orders.

Number of Persons Displaced .. .. .	57
Number of Families Displaced .. .. .	16

**Houses Demolished:-**

**In or adjoining Clearance Areas:-**

(a) Unfit for Human Habitation .. .. .	37
(b) On land acquired under Section 43(2), Housing Act 1957 .. .. .	30

**Houses in which Defects were Remedied:-**

After informal action .. .. .	173
After formal action under Public Health Acts ..	11

**RENT ACT 1957 - FIRST SCHEDULE**

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair ..	1
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, 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, 1961

PART I

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	3	6	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by local authorities	135	148	11	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers premises)	8	67	-	-
	146	221	11	-

2. Cases in which defects were found:

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred</i>		
			<i>To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>	
Sanitary Conveniences -					
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	5	8	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	9	5	-	-	-
	14	13	-	-	-

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 unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel (making, etc.)	17	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture, Upholstery and Loose Cover Makers	1	-	-	-	-	-
	18	-	-	-	-	-

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, 1969, 681 premises had been registered in the following categories:-

Offices	..	..	..	..	..	162
Retail shops	..	..	..	..	..	423
Wholesale shops and warehouses	..	..	..	..	..	20
Catering establishments	..	..	..	..	..	75
Fuel storage depots	..	..	..	..	..	1

The number of persons employed in the 681 premises is:-

Males	..	..	..	..	1,750
Females	..	..	..	..	3,062
					<u>4,812</u>

Analysis of persons employed in classes of workplace:

Offices	..	..	..	..	..	1,537
Retail shops	..	..	..	..	..	2,535
Wholesale shops and warehouses	..	..	..	..	..	205
Catering establishments open to the public	..	..	..	..	..	505
Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	26
Fuel storage depots	..	..	..	..	..	4
						<u>4,812</u>

The following figures show the work carried out during 1969:-

Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection .. ..	573
Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises .. ..	1,224
Number of notices or requests made regarding infringements .. ..	117
Number of notices or requests complied with .. ..	158

The 158 notices and requests complied with during 1969 comprised 304 items, classified as follows:-

Section 4	To cleanse premises .. ..	6
" 6	To provide or improve heating .. ..	5
" 6	To provide thermometers .. ..	46
" 7	To provide or improve ventilation .. ..	9
" 8	To provide or improve lighting .. ..	7
" 9	To provide or improve sanitary conveniences ..	26
" 10	To provide or improve washing facilities ..	20
" 14	To provide seating facilities .. ..	2
" 16	To provide handrails, etc; to keep stairs, passageways and floors clear and maintained .. ..	53
" 17	To fence exposed parts of machinery .. ..	12
" 24	To provide first-aid equipment .. ..	35
" 50	To provide information for employees .. ..	83

#### ACCIDENTS

The number of accidents reported during the year under Section 48 was 22.

## FOOD

There are 452 food premises in the district:-

Bakehouses	..	..	..	8
Bread and cake shops	..	..	..	21
Butchers shops	..	..	..	36
Catering premises and canteens			..	80
Confectionery shops	..	..	..	64
Dairies	..	..	..	1
Fish shops	..	..	..	22
Fruit and greengrocery shops			..	31
Licensed premises	..	..	..	87
Provision shops	..	..	..	76
Supermarkets and multiple stores			..	19
Warehouses/wholesale	..	..	..	7
				452

Attention is devoted to enforcing the relevant Food Hygiene Regulations and for this purpose 1,388 visits were made to food premises, stalls and vehicles, and 76 notices served.

## MILK

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

Registered Dairies .. .. .	1
Registered Milk Distributors .. .. .	80

### Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963:

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

Dealers (Pasteurisers) Licences .. .. .	1
Dealers (Prepacked Milk) Licences .. .. .	162

There is one pasteurising plant in the area dealing with approximately 17,500 gallons per day.

### Biochemical Examinations:

Results of samples taken were as follows:-

<i>Designation</i>	<i>Test</i>	<i>Results</i>	
Pasteurised	Methylene Blue Test	Satisfactory	43
		Unsatisfactory	3
	Phosphatase Test	Satisfactory	46
		Unsatisfactory	-
Sterilised	Turbidity	Satisfactory	4
		Unsatisfactory	-

### Chemical Analysis:

Eleven samples of milk were submitted for analysis, one of which was unsatisfactory.

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

## CREAM

Three samples of fresh cream were submitted for the Methylene Blue Test, the results being satisfactory.

## ICE CREAM

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

For the sale of ice cream .. ..	134
For the manufacture and sale of ice cream	7

### Bacteriological Examination:

Samples were classified as follows:-

Grade 1 .. .. .	43
Grade 2 .. .. .	4
Grade 3 .. .. .	1

### Chemical Analysis:

Seven 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
Bread and Butter Chicken Sandwiches	1	
Bread, Cakes, Biscuits, Pastries	9	
Cereal Products	1	
Cheese	1	
Cheese Rolls	1	
Coconut Oil	1	
Coffee Mixture, Dry	1	
Cream	1	
Drinks, Soft, Liquid	2	
Drinks, Soft, Powder	1	
Drugs, Medical Preparations	15	
Fish Products	4	
Fruit, Canned	1	
Fruit, Dried	2	
Ham Rolls	2	
Herbs, Spices, Condiments	2	
Honey	1	
Ice Cream	7	
Ice Lollies	3	
Malt Drink	1	
Marzipan	1	
Meat Products, Open	44	5
Meat Products, Canned	3	
Milk	11	
Pea Flour	1	
Pudding (Bread)	1	
Sauces, Ketchups - various	1	
Suet, Dripping, Lard	1	
Sugar Confectionery	4	
Vegetables, Canned	1	
Vegetables, Dried	1	
	126	5

## PARTICULARS OF SAMPLES ADULTERATED OR OTHERWISE UNSATISFACTORY

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

Pork Sausages - Insufficient Meat and Contained Undeclared Preservative. A subsequent formal sample was found to have a satisfactory meat content.

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

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

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

## FOOD COMPLAINTS

Forty-eight 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)	20. 1. 69	None		
	25. 2. 69	None		
	26. 3. 69	None		
	21. 4. 69	None		
	27. 5. 69	None		
	25. 6. 69	None		
	22. 7. 69	None		
	26. 8. 69	None		
	23. 9. 69	None		
	27. 10. 69	None		
	25. 11. 69	None		
	17. 12. 69	None		

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF DRINKING WATER

	Number of Samples	Date taken	Probable numbers per 100 ml.		Plate count per ml.
			Coliform bacilli	Bact. Coli (type 1)	
2. Domestic Supplies (treated)	3	20. 1. 69	None		
	3	25. 2. 69	None		
	3	26. 3. 69	None		
	3	21. 4. 69	None		
	1	13. 5. 69	None		
	3	27. 5. 69	None		
	4	25. 6. 69	None		
	4	22. 7. 69	None		
	3	26. 8. 69	None		
	3	23. 9. 69	None		
	4	27. 10. 69	None		
	4	25. 11. 69	None		
	3	17. 12. 69	None		

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF DRINKING WATER

Date taken:	June 1969
Appearance:	Clear, bright
Odour:	None
pH Value	7.2

	<i>Parts per million</i>
Free Chlorine	less than 0.05
Free Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	Nil
Nitrite	Nil
Nitrate	15.00
Chloride	29.00
Alkalinity (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	258.00
Total Hardness	316.00
Permanent Hardness	58.00
Sulphate	10.00
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hours at 80°F	0.05
Total Solids	470.00

Miscroscopic 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	13.5.69	Deep end	None		None
		Shallow end	None		None
		Paddling pool	None		None
	10.6.69	Deep end	None		None
		Shallow end	None		None
		Paddling pool	None		None
	8.7.69	Deep end	None		None
		Shallow end	None		None
		Paddling pool	None		None
13.8.69	Deep end	None		None	
	Shallow end	None		None	
	Paddling pool	None		None	
9.9.69	Deep end	None		None	
	Shallow end	None		None	
	Paddling pool	None		None	

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF BATHING POOL WATER

(b) School Pools	Date taken	Where taken	Probable numbers per 100 ml.		Plate count per ml.
			Coliform bacilli	Bact. Coli (type 1)	
	20 1.69	Gravesend School for Boys	None		None
	25 2.69	Gravesend School for Boys	None		None
	26 3.69	Gravesend School for Boys	None		None
	21 4.69	Gravesend School for Boys	None		None
	13 5.69	St. Joseph's Convent Riverview Wrotham Road Gravesend School for Boys Westcourt	None None None None None		None None None None None
	10 6.69	Westcourt King's Farm St. Joseph's Convent Gravesend School for Boys Wrotham Road Whitehill Riverview	None None None None 1 None None		None None None None 650 None None
	25 6.69	Wrotham Road	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 (contd.)	8. 7. 69	Wrotham Road	None		None
		Whitehill	None		None
		Westcourt	None		None
		King's Farm	None		None
		Gravesend School for Boys	None		None
		Riverview	None		None
	13. 8. 69	Gravesend School for Boys	None		9
		Whitehill	None		1
	9. 9. 69	Gravesend School for Boys	None		None
	23. 9. 69	King's Farm	None		None
Westcourt		None		None	
St. Joseph's Convent		None		None	
27. 10. 69	Gravesend School for Boys	None		None	
25. 11. 69	Gravesend School for Boys	None		None	
17. 12. 69	Gravesend School for Boys	None		None	

ANALYST'S MONTHLY REPORTS ON ANALYSIS OF DEPOSITS FROM STANDARD  
DEPOSIT GAUGES, CALCULATED IN MILLIGRAMMES PER SQUARE METER PER DAY

SITE: Dashwood Lane Nurseries

	1 9 6 8					1 9 6 9						
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.
Rainfall (m.m./day)	2.36	1.37	1.47	1.76	0.91	1.78	0.38	1.54	1.14	3.17	1.73	0.20
pH Value	5.9	4.6	6.0	5.2	5.6	4.6	6.2	7.2	6.4	6.6	6.9	6.4
Undissolved Matter	70.0	131.4	62.2	127.2	183.2	92.8	106.2	262.4	227.8	218.2	222.5	74.1
Soluble in Carbon Disulphide	1.2	0.4	1.2	0.0	0.6	1.2	0.6	0.2	0.6	0.9	1.1	0.0
Ash	52.5	98.1	48.9	100.6	145.8	68.2	82.0	207.9	170.3	148.1	151.6	43.8
Calcium	0.9	0.8	0.7	2.0	1.7	0.6	1.2	3.4	1.3	2.8	5.8	0.8
Dissolved Matter	88.0	106.3	108.9	129.9	135.6	102.8	67.1	167.3	115.4	206.7	166.5	74.5
Calcium Chloride	14.8	19.5	19.5	25.1	28.4	9.8	12.2	27.7	18.8	45.4	26.4	13.6
Sulphates	7.8	12.0	14.4	11.3	14.6	7.4	2.9	7.4	6.2	11.8	8.3	3.0
Total Solids	23.8	41.3	34.1	50.6	51.7	25.1	16.5	40.2	31.6	38.7	34.4	23.7
Estimated Dust from Cement Works	158.8	237.8	171.1	257.1	318.8	195.6	173.4	429.8	343.3	424.8	389.0	148.6
	41.1	44.3	61.5	74.3	74.4	3.0	24.5	49.7	15.5	141.2	64.8	36.8

SITE: Swimming Pool

	1969											
	1968						1969					
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.
Rainfall (m.m. /day)	2.17	1.05	1.22	1.52	0.84	1.70	0.27	1.14	0.85	2.28	1.60	0.09
pH Value	6.0	4.2	4.4	4.8	5.2	4.3	6.0	7.2	6.4	6.2	6.2	6.0
Undissolved Matter	83.8	69.2	62.9	91.4	132.3	83.7	81.1	164.5	95.0	123.8	140.6	63.5
Soluble in Carbon Disulphide	2.3	0.6	2.1	0.6	0.6	1.1	0.4	1.9	1.3	1.9	1.3	0.9
Ash	66.9	49.4	47.1	71.9	107.1	60.2	64.1	128.0	68.9	90.0	96.2	44.1
Calcium	1.1	0.5	0.6	2.0	1.4	0.6	1.0	2.2	1.3	1.6	3.2	0.8
Dissolved Matter	108.8	90.9	87.7	106.2	134.7	89.5	56.2	144.0	78.1	127.6	133.4	48.3
Calcium	20.2	13.9	14.8	23.4	26.3	11.9	10.9	25.6	13.0	22.8	20.5	10.0
Chloride	7.0	11.6	9.7	15.5	17.1	7.5	4.5	6.8	3.1	5.9	7.0	3.1
Sulphates	34.8	33.1	31.0	64.8	50.6	34.6	17.5	35.8	23.3	36.8	34.3	18.0
Total Solids	192.6	160.0	150.6	197.6	267.0	173.3	137.3	308.4	173.0	251.4	274.0	111.9
Estimated Dust from Cement Works	61.6	33.8	41.8	80.8	75.1	20.1	26.2	64.4	28.9	61.9	51.0	27.2

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
31.12.68	- 27. 1.69	53	118	138	496
28. 1.69	- 24. 2.69	46	151	163	541
25. 2.69	- 31. 3.69	26	50	83	107
1. 4.69	- 28. 4.69	30	70	88	241
29. 4.69	- 2. 6.69	34	153	58	288
3. 6.69	- 30. 6.69	19	38	46	273
1. 7.69	- 28. 7.69	27	51	63	190
29. 7.69	- 25. 8.69	18	37	65	132



