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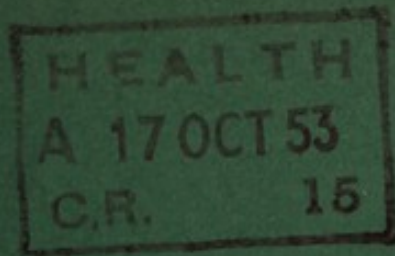
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RURAL DISTRICT OF HAILSHAM



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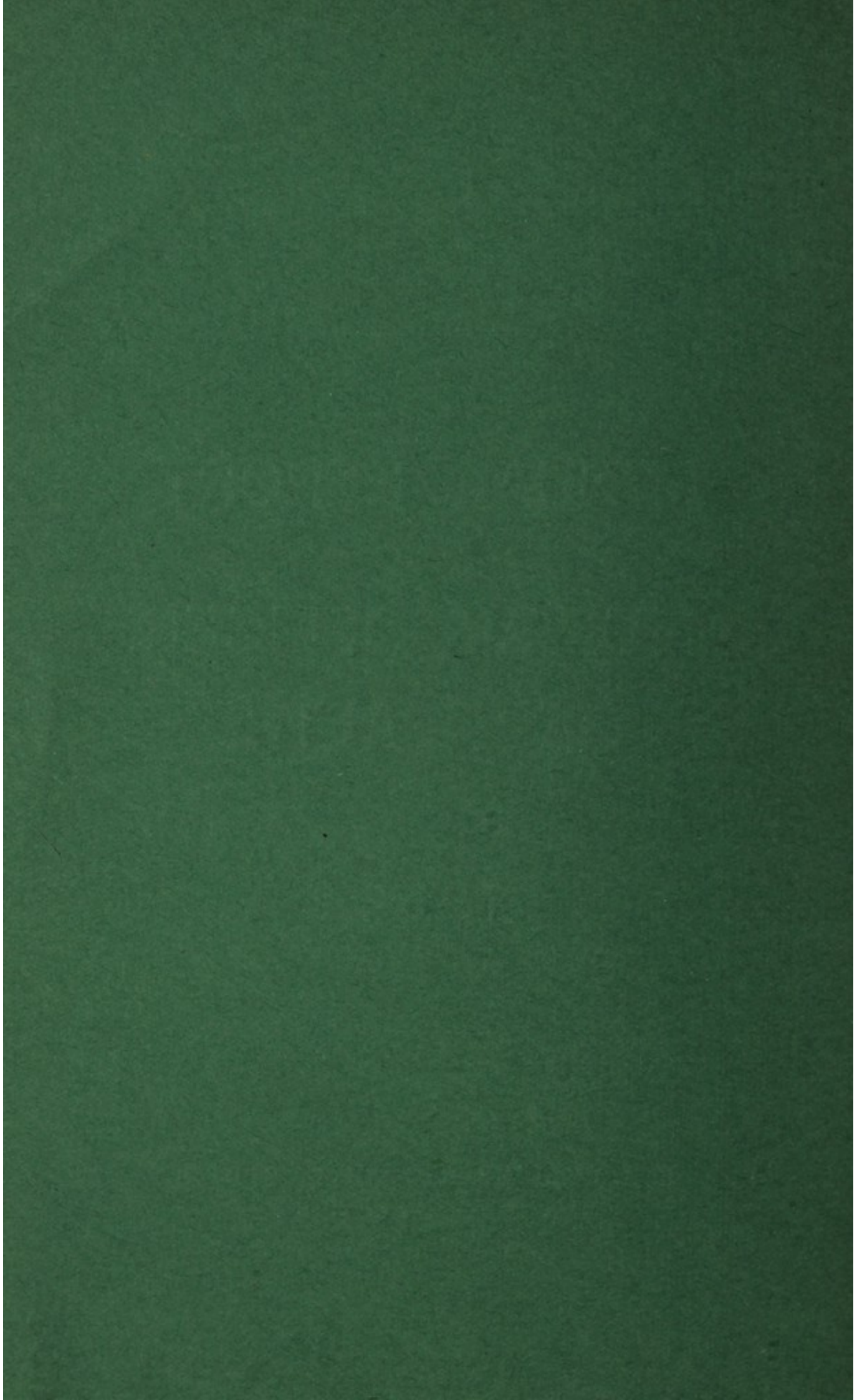
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
OF THE  
**MEDICAL OFFICER**  
**OF HEALTH**

FOR THE YEAR

**1952**

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L. A. COLLINS, M.B., B.CH., D.P.M., D.P.H.  
Medical Officer of Health



ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
TO THE  
HAILSHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
1952

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Hailsham Rural District Council*

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1952.

During the year the incidence of epidemic diseases in the district has been particularly low. There were no cases of typhoid or paratyphoid fever and for the fifth year in succession I am glad to report that there was no case of diphtheria within the district. Evidence of the satisfactory state of the health of this district can be gained by an examination of the vital statistics embodied in this report.

Despite the housing programme of recent years there is still an acute shortage of houses. Other major works required include the extension of water mains and the provision of sewage schemes. Money must be spent if progress is to be maintained.

I am indebted to the staff of the public health department who have worked hard and loyally throughout the year and special mention must be made of Mr. E. J. J. Chapman, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, who has strenuously carried out his responsible duties.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support during the year.

Your obedient Servant,

L. A. COLLINS.

Medical Officer of Health.

## **INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

### **MEASLES :**

There were only 124 cases of measles in the year compared with 581 for the previous year. The majority of these cases occurred in December and may be regarded as the beginning of the large epidemic of 1953. There appears to be a biennial rhythm in the occurrence of measles with epidemics appearing every other year. Thus 1951 and 1953 were epidemic years but no epidemic was present in 1952.

### **WHOOPING COUGH :**

Fifty-four cases were notified as compared with 109 cases for the previous year.

### **SCARLET FEVER :**

There were 78 cases of scarlet fever compared with 20 for the previous year. This large number can be accounted for partly by the increased notification of very mild transient cases. Only 18 cases were admitted to hospital and the majority of these admissions were due to difficult home circumstances. In many other cases not admitted to hospital, the conditions of isolation at home were very poor, but provided the disease retains its present mild nature it seems desirable to avoid admission to hospital whenever possible.

### **DIPHTHERIA :**

For the fifth year in succession there was not one case of diphtheria in this district.

### **TYPHOID FEVER :**

There were no cases of typhoid or paratyphoid during the course of the year. There were still three chronic typhoid carriers at Hellingly Hospital and one in the Eastbourne Isolation Hospital remaining under observation following the small outbreak at Hellingly Hospital in the previous year.

### **DYSENTERY :**

There were two cases of Sonne dysentery notified from one household in Hellingly. This is the common type of dysentery in this country and as it is usually very mild it is probable that a number of cases escape notification.

### **FOOD POISONING :**

There was one case of food poisoning in the year—a child aged 13 months from Waldron. The infective organism was *Salmonella typhi-murium*. It is not usually possible to determine

the source of infection in a single sporadic case such as this, but it is known that mice are frequently carriers of this organism.

#### ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS (INFANTILE PARALYSIS)

There was only one case of Poliomyelitis during the year; a woman aged 25 was admitted to the Isolation Hospital on 30th June. This was a mild case with very little residual paralysis.

A suspected case was admitted to the Isolation Hospital for observation in August and another in November but in neither case was the diagnosis confirmed.

#### VACCINATION RECORDS RECEIVED :

1950	Vaccinations	337	Re-vaccinations	109	Total	446
1951	Vaccinations	3,785	Re-vaccinations	4,644	Total	8,429
1952	Vaccinations	303	Re-vaccinations	86	Total	389

The large number received in 1951 is obviously accounted for by the small outbreak of smallpox in Brighton at the beginning of that year.

#### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION :

It is gratifying to note that after the fall in the immunisation rate of 1951, there was a fresh improvement during 1952. This can be shown by comparing the figures for the last three years.

1950	Complete Course	418	Refresher Doses	830
1951	Complete Course	305	Refresher Doses	654
1952	Complete Course	433	Refresher Doses	851

I have personally conducted frequent clinics at Hailsham, Heathfield, Polegate and Herstmonceux and occasional clinics at Bodle Street Green, Chiddingly, Maynards Green, Vines Cross, Broad Oak, Hankham, Cross-in-Hand, Arlington, Punnetts Town, East Hoathly, Ninfield and Willingdon.

The annual return for 1952 showed a total of 1,366 children under five years, and 4,889 children from five to fifteen years had completed a full course of immunisation at 31st December, 1952.

As the Registrar General no longer produces estimates of the mid-year child population of rural districts, it is not possible to express the above as an exact percentage of the child population of the district. It is roughly considered, however, that about 52% of children under five years, and 95% of children from five to fifteen years, are protected against diphtheria by immunisation.

#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948 :

No formal action has been taken under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

## VITAL STATISTICS :

The satisfactory state of the health of this district is reflected in the table of comparative vital statistics.

The corrected death rate is 9·1 per thousand, compared with 11·3 for the whole of England and Wales.

The corrected birth rate is 13·2 per thousand, compared with 15·3 for the whole of England and Wales. It is probable that the comparability factor used for correction does not completely take into account the high proportion of the population of the district who have settled into this agreeable environment for retirement.

Only four infants under one year of age died during the year, which is very satisfactory, giving an infantile mortality rate of 9·1 compared with a record low infant mortality of 27·6 for the whole of the country.

## STATISTICS

Area in Acres	.. .. .	94,668
Census Population (1951)	.. .. .	36,916
Population estimated to middle year	.. .. .	36,230
No. of inhabited houses	.. .. .	11,782
Rateable value	.. .. .	£305,153
Sum represented by Penny Rate	.. .. .	£1271. 9. 5
Birth Rate per 1,000 population (not corrected)		12·1
Birth Rate per 1,000 population (corrected)	.. .. .	13·2
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Registered Live Births	.. .. .	9·1
Total Deaths per 1,000 (not corrected)	.. .. .	12·5
Total Deaths per 1,000 (corrected)	.. .. .	9·1
Senile mortality as percentage of Total Deaths (65 and over)	.. .. .	76·37

## BIRTHS :

Legitimate :	Total	405	Males	211	Females	194
Illegitimate :	Total	34	Males	16	Females	18

## STILLBIRTHS :

Legitimate :	Total	11	Males	6	Females	5
Illegitimate :	Total	1	Males	1	Females	0
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :						
	Total	4	Males	3	Females	1

## Comparative Vital Statistics

	<i>Birth Rate</i>	<i>Infantile Mortality</i>	<i>Death Rate</i>
Hailsham Rural ..	13.2	9.1	9.1
England and Wales ..	15.3	27.6	11.3

### Causes of Death

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory .. ..	1	1
2. Tuberculosis, other .. ..	—	1
3. Syphilitic disease .. ..	1	—
4. Diphtheria .. ..	—	—
5. Whooping Cough .. ..	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections .. ..	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis .. ..	—	—
8. Measles .. ..	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	4	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, Lung, bronchus	7	6
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ..	—	9
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ..	—	—
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neo- plasms .. ..	22	24
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia .. ..	2	—
16. Diabetes .. ..	2	—
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	35	44
18. Coronary disease, angina .. ..	35	26
19. Hypertension with heart disease ..	4	4
20. Other heart disease .. ..	48	60
21. Other circulatory disease .. ..	11	7
22. Influenza .. ..	—	1
23. Pneumonia .. ..	10	7
24. Bronchitis .. ..	9	3
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	2	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	3	4
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ..	—	—
28. Nephritis and nephrosis .. ..	1	4
29. Hyperplasia of prostate .. ..	3	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ..	—	—
31. Congenital malformations .. ..	3	—
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	15	15
33. Motor vehicle accidents .. ..	6	1
34. All other accidents .. ..	6	3
35. Suicide .. ..	—	—
36. Homicide and operations of war ..	—	—
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	230	223
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## Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health (part-time) also Assistant School Medical Officer for East Sussex County Council.	Dr. L. A. Collins, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.M., D.P.H.
Senior Sanitary and Meat and Food Inspector	E. J. J. Chapman, F.G.S., M.S.I.A.
Additional Sanitary Inspectors	M. F. Warman L. E. Scott R. R. Creasey
Sanitary Assistant and Rodent Operator	J. F. Stanford
Rodent Operator .. ..	R. Cousins
Clerical Assistants .. ..	Mrs. M. Beal to 31.10.52 R. S. Oak from 10.11.52 Mrs. M. O. Stevens Miss R. M. Savage

### Cases of Infectious Diseases in Age Groups

Notifiable Diseases	Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	5-9 yrs.	10-14 yrs.	15-24 yrs.	25 yrs. & over	Total
Scarlet Fever ..	—	5	13	47	10	2	1	78
Whooping Cough	4	9	18	22	1	—	—	54
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Measles .. ..	—	8	14	80	12	5	5	124
Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	3	1	1	10	15
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5
Food Poisoning ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Malaria .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1

### Cases Notified or admitted to Isolation Hospital and Total Deaths

Disease	Total Notified	Admitted to Isolation Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever .. ..	78	18	—
Whooping Cough.. ..	54	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis .. ..	1	1	—
Measles .. .. .	124	—	—
Pneumonia .. .. .	15	1	—
Dysentery .. .. .	2	—	—
Erysipelas .. .. .	5	—	—
Food Poisoning .. .. .	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia.. ..	1	—	—
Malaria .. .. .	1	—	—
Other Observation Cases..	—	5	—

### Number of Cases Removed to Isolation Hospital Each Month

Disease	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Scarlet Fever .. .. .		1		2		2	1	4	2		2	3
Acute Poliomyelitis .. ..						1						
Pneumonia .. .. .											1	
Other Observation Cases ..			1			1	1	1			1	
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	—	1	1	2	—	4	2	5	2	—	4	3

## Tuberculosis

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Res- piratory		Non-Res- piratory		Res- piratory		Non-Res- piratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5 years ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 years ..	1	—	3	1	—	—	—	—
15—25 years ..	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
25—35 years ..	5	6	—	—	—	1	—	1
35—45 years ..	3	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—55 years ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 years ..	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>

### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

#### WATER SUPPLY.

The water supplied by the three Statutory Water Companies has been consistently safe throughout the year and all reports of the chemical and bacteriological analyses have been satisfactory. Periodical trouble is still experienced in one area on account of certain old mains being encrusted with iron oxide.

For natural water supplies the district is mainly dependent on underground sources. The geological formation of this part of the country presents peculiar problems with regard to bores and wells, the supplies from which vary from brackish ferruginous waters to sparkling waters from the sandstone and chalk formations.

In the Wealden areas, comprising the North-Western and West-Central parts of the district, the supplies are unsatisfactory, and a major scheme has been under consideration since 1949 for extensions of the Eastbourne Waterworks Company's mains. This scheme has been approved in principle but despite its urgency has been subject to several modifications and delays, and final approval is still awaited.

Meanwhile householders in these areas continue to be supplied where necessary under an Emergency Scheme for delivery by tankers of 800 or 450 gallons capacity. This has operated with speed and economy. Under this Scheme 626,700 gallons were delivered during the year. This amount is nearly double that delivered during the previous year.

## EXTENSION OF MAINS.

Although no major scheme has been undertaken, mains have been extended by the respective companies as under, to supply housing developments, to increase pressure or to provide for improved circulation in existing routes.

*Eastbourne Waterworks Company.* Extensions : (1) High Street-Vicarage Lane-Mill Road to The Butts, Hailsham. (2) Oldfield Road, Willingdon. (3) The Brow, Friston. (4) Seaford Road, Alfriston. (5) Southfields, Polegate.

*Bexhill Corporation.* Extensions : (1) Stocks Meadow, Ninfield. (2) Foulmile, Herstmonceux. These mains are supplied from Pumping Stations at Cowbeech and Hazards Green which are within the district.

*Heathfield Water Company.* Extensions : (1) Street End-Pigstrod Group Farms, Heathfield. (2) Horebeech Lane-Wickerwood, Horam. Negotiations are in progress regarding extensions to (a) Foxhunt Green, Waldron. (b) Laundry to Horebeech Lane link Horam. (c) Barretts Park, Heathfield.

Appended is a detailed list giving the distribution of mains in the district and showing that approximately 74·83% of the population is provided with main water.

Parish	Estimated Population Supplied by Public or Private main	No. of Houses Supplied by Public Main	By Stand-Pipe	By Private main	New Connections to Houses
Alciston ..	124	—	—	37	—
Alfriston ..	580	162	10	—	5
Arlington ..	188	22	33	—	1
Berwick ..	87	—	—	30	—
Chalvington ..	—	—	—	—	—
Chiddingly ..	—	—	—	—	—
Eastdean ..	705	229	—	—	25
East Hoathly	—	—	—	—	—
Folkington ..	32	10	—	—	—
Friston ..	294	96	—	—	1
Hailsham ..	4452	1698	—	—	54
Heathfield ..	2205	620	32	—	17
Hellingly ..	2029	219	—	—	—
Herstmonceux	910	302	10	—	25
Hooe ..	198	47	—	19	26
Horam ..	1369	424	—	—	1
Jevington ..	159	10	43	—	—

Parish	Estimated Population Supplied by Public or Private main	No. of Houses Supplied by Public Main	By Stand-Pipe	By Private main	New Connections to Houses
Laughton ..	—	—	—	—	—
Litlington ..	97	—	—	37	—
Lullington ..	6	—	—	2	—
Ninfield ..	871	295	—	—	29
Pevensay ..	2251	730	—	—	3
Polegate ..	3683	1176	—	—	2
Ripe ..	—	—	—	—	—
Selmeston ..	—	—	—	—	—
Waldron ..	1624	521	—	—	8
Warbleton ..	149	48	—	—	—
Wartling ..	296	91	—	—	5
Westdean ..	106	25	12	—	6
Westham ..	1766	563	10	—	27
Willingdon ..	2766	898	—	—	7
Wilmington ..	165	48	—	—	1
Total ..	27,112	8,234	150	125	243

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The more populous parts of the Parishes of Hailsham, Heathfield, Horam, Herstmonceux, Polegate, Pevensay, Pevensay Bay and Westham are served by sewers gravitating to outfall works where sewage is treated by filtration before discharge into streams or in the case of the three last named areas where the sewage is screened and macerated by centrifugal pumps before discharge during the most appropriate states of the tide. Whilst works of maintenance and minor improvements and extensions to housing sites have been carried out, no major works have been undertaken.

Although a priority list of urgently needed schemes of sewerage, enlargement and extension of existing works or sewers has been before the Council for a long time and includes sewers and works which are already overloaded with which Housing Schemes have been connected, it is most disappointing to have to report no progress, with the result that pollution of certain streams is avoided only with great difficulty.

The situation is even worse in Alfriston, Wilmington, Selmeston, Ripe and East Hoathly, where no outfall schemes exist and the sewage from the hamlets is conveyed in open

channels or by old and defective sewers ventilating along the thoroughfares in such a manner as to annoy passers-by through nuisance, and causing pollution to river or stream.

In the interests of both health and economy, and having particular regard to the continually rising prices of labour and materials, these long deferred schemes press strongly for early attention.

#### RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Inseparable from the question of drainage and sewerage is the protection of rivers and streams and this subject has received the attention it deserves. Whilst the Cuckmere is the only river completely within the area, it traverses land occupied by hundreds of farms and small-holdings, which have so often been found responsible for contamination by conducting their untreated wastes into one of its streams. In this considerable progress can again be reported resulting from the installation of improved drainage outfalls with filtration or land irrigation before discharge into the watercourse.

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING—HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL.

The supervision of this service is carried out by the Health Department. It includes a weekly removal of domestic refuse from the urban parts and fortnightly from the rural parts and involves the use of six Dennis side-loaders and a dual-purpose vehicle, the latter being equipped as a spare loader as well as for use on tips. By this means the whole district is satisfactorily covered. No scheme exists for the removal of trade waste.

#### TIPPING.

Refuse is conveyed to the most conveniently situated of four tips where the system of controlled tipping is followed as far as practicable. This work is facilitated and the suppression of pests satisfactorily accomplished by the use of a Chaseside Excavator, a machine which has been proved invaluable in excavating soil and consolidating and covering the refuse, and resulting in great extension of the life of the tips.

#### MAINTENANCE DEPOT.

The servicing of all vehicles is undertaken by a Foreman-Mechanic at the Council's Depot, Leap Cross, where the work is greatly handicapped through lack of space. Several attempts have been made by the Council to remove this handicap by the provision of an enlarged central Depot, and several schemes have been submitted to the Ministry. On each occasion the proposals have been disapproved. As the position is an anxious one, the subject must again be raised in the near future.

## DISTRICT SALVAGE SCHEME.

Although a scheme of salvage recovery continues to operate in conjunction with the Public Cleansing Scheme, the general slump in regard to waste paper disposal, which substance was formerly the backbone of the scheme, prohibited its collection, and transformed a substantial profit-making material into a liability, as this material had to be disposed of on tips under conditions which prevented incineration. All other salvageable materials are recovered and disposed of to merchants. During the year the sum realized in this way amounted to £1697 17s. 5d. whilst since the commencement of the scheme the total raised is £27,784 12s. 2d. upon the greater part of which the collectors have received a share in the form of a 10% bonus on monthly totals.

## CESSPOOL CLEANSING.

The two vehicles employed on cesspool cleansing carried out the following work during the financial year.

	<i>Cesspools</i>	<i>Loads</i>
District Scheme . . . . .	1,304	2,393
Heathfield, Horam and Waldron Scheme	1,157	1,477

In view of the large number of orders received for cleansing under the District Scheme, which is operated on a pay-as-we-empty basis, and the increase in the number of cesspools in the Parishes of Heathfield, Horam and Waldron, considerable overtime was necessary to cope with the work, but even so some delay occurred in the frequency of emptying. The Council therefore decided to purchase a third Cesspool Emptier, such vehicle to be delivered in the new year.

Considerable difficulty was experienced during the year in the disposal of the cesspool contents, especially during winter months, as many farmers would no longer allow tipping on the fields. Fortunately it was possible to rent for a nominal sum a large wood in a very rural part of Waldron, where disposal is possible some 300 yards from the highway without causing nuisance.

## REMOVAL OF NIGHT SOIL.

Every effort has been made to operate this insanitary system of removal of this material in the village of Alfriston by tumbler cart twice weekly, in as satisfactory a manner as practicable and the difficulties do not decrease. Practically all the houses now served can be gravitationally served under a water-carriage system as soon as the long-overdue re-drainage of the village has

been undertaken, when the environs of the village and the state of the river will be markedly improved. The subject is urgent and should receive attention at the earliest possible date.

#### FACTORIES ACT.

Routine inspection is made of all factories in the district and a good liaison exists with H.M. Inspector of Factories.

Market Gardens are subject to regular visits and the packing of fruit and vegetables is carried out under hygienic conditions.

#### RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

As the only users of filling materials in the district are those concerned with re-upholstering work, this Act does not apply to them. Whilst the use of unclean material is not suspected, the control of "topping up" material is considered desirable.

#### SHOPS ACT 1950 and FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

No contravention of the requirements of the Shops Act has been referred to the Department during the year, and so far as food premises are concerned the regulation of heating, ventilation, washing facilities and sanitary accommodation is covered by routine inspection in the area.

The general standard of cleanliness and hygiene advances as a result of public demand and regular inspection, and improvement in washing up facilities has probably been most marked in the case of public houses.

#### HOUSING.

Considerable progress has been made in connection with reconditioning and reconstruction of dwellings during the year and this is due in no small degree to the removal of building restrictions and to the increased availability of materials, whilst a satisfactory tendency can be recorded of an improved decorative and cleansing standard by the occupiers where security of tenure was assured.

Whilst reconstruction has included many of the low category houses, there were still a large number where this was not practicable and where palliative steps have been permitted pending replacement.

So far as relieving the housing situation, which it was purported to improve, the Housing Act, 1949 has been most disappointing and ineffective for the type of cottage and owner most in need of assistance, and action for improvement of housing conditions is practically confined to Section 9 or 11 of the Housing



Act, 1936. Two applications for Grant under the 1949 Act have been received and considered, and a grant was approved in one case. This makes two successful applications since the inception of the Act.

During the year 62 new Council houses and 24 flats were completed and occupied.

### Housing Statistics

Number of houses demolished during year as a result of formal or informal procedure .. .. .	3
Number of houses closed in pursuance of an Undertaking under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 and still in force	5
Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during year as a result of informal action under Public Health and Housing Acts .. .. .	209
Number of houses made fit after service of formal Notices under Housing Act, 1936 .. .. .	3

### OVERCROWDING.

Housing of applicants by the Council by the Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee has served to improve the state of overcrowding in parts but it is clear from the large number of applicants still on the waiting list that the building programme has not yet caught up with the demand.

A very encouraging feature of the lettings is the paucity of householders who fail to maintain their premises in a satisfactory state and this again reflects great credit upon the care and judgment exercised by the Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee in their unenviable task.

### MILK AND DAIRIES.

The practice of sampling non-pasteurised milk sold in the district has been continued, the retailers being the main objective. Altogether 51 samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratories at Brighton for biological examination. The results of the samples sent are as follows.

	<i>No of Samples</i>
Infected milk—M. tuberculosis .. .. .	1
Infected milk—Brucella abortus .. .. .	4
Infected milk—Streptococci .. .. .	1
Satisfactory .. .. .	42
No result—guinea pig died .. .. .	3
	—
Total ..	51
	=

In addition to the samples taken by the Department reports were received from other Authorities on milk produced in the area. A summary of these reports is given below.

	<i>No. of Samples</i>
Infected with <i>M. tuberculosis</i> .. ..	14
Infected with <i>Brucella abortus</i> .. ..	21
Infected with Mastitis .. ..	1
Infected with Streptococci .. ..	1
	—
Total ..	37
	—

Six cows were reported to have been taken under the Tuberculosis Order from herds producing milk infected with tuberculosis. Where *Brucella abortus* has been isolated and there are sales of raw milk, quarter samples from each cow are taken in an endeavour to isolate the offending cow or cows. During the year 371 quarter samples were taken and 28 cows were found to be excreting infected milk. Arrangements are made for heat treatment of all milk from these cows.

Distribution of milk to householders in the district is in the hands of 31 producer-retailers and 18 distributors, who range in size from the small man selling two or three gallons daily in a hamlet to the combine selling several hundred gallons daily in the urban areas. It was estimated that the daily sales in the district averaged 2692 gallons made up as follows :—

662 Raw milk (ungraded or T.T.)
1748 Pasteurised
282 T.T. Farm bottled
—
2,692
—

To this figure must be added another estimated 750 gallons of raw milk which is consumed in the households of farmers and their employees.

Several inspections were made during the year of each dairy, not being a dairy farm, and the general standard of cleanliness was good. Two new dairies were put into commission.

## FOOD INSPECTION.

The number of animals killed under the "self-supplier" scheme has continued to decrease during the year, largely due to the increase in the cost of feeding stuffs, but against this the serious outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease, mainly around Hailsham involving 23 farms, raised the number of animals slaughtered before being taken over by the Ministry of Food.

Most of the animals killed for home consumption are dealt with in the eleven slaughterhouses licenced under Section 57 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938; no formal action was necessary in regard to the cleanliness or structural condition of these premises.

The one knackeryard licenced in the area is also well kept.

Routine inspection of all food premises is maintained and where necessary the attention of the occupier is brought to the Clean Food Byelaws; no formal action has yet had to be taken.

The popularity of ice-cream still seems to be maintained; probably 85% of that sold in the area is manufactured by three firms, whose names are known nation-wide. Manufacture of ice-cream is now carried on at only two premises and in each case it is for the maker's own business. Altogether 125 premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream.

One building was converted for the manufacture of "Ice Lollies" for the wholesale trade. Although these premises are outside the scope of Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, frequent visits are made to ensure that hygienic conditions are maintained.

A list showing animals slaughtered and details of food found unfit for human consumption is given in the following pages.

It will be noted that 340 lb. of assorted confectionery were certified as unfit for human consumption. The whole of this quantity was found at the rear of some fixtures when an old sweet shop changed hands, some of the lines had not been manufactured since 1939. In addition the manufacturers agreed to take back an even larger amount of confectionery and other goods as salvage for possible reprocessing.

#### DETAILS OF MEAT FOUND UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

Total No. of animals inspected :		
(1 Heifer, 5 Calves, 8 Sheep, 264 Pigs)		278
Total weight of Carcases inspected	.. ..	61,143 lb.
Total weight of Unsound Meat with-held	..	563 $\frac{3}{4}$ lb.
<i>Abscesses</i>	.. 2 Legs and 2 Hands Pork	45 lb.
	Fleed and Belly Pork	.. 10 lb.
	Home killed Chuck Steak	12 lb.
	—————	67 lb.
<i>Abscesses and Degeneration</i>		
	Home killed beef kidney suet	.. 12 lb.
<i>Bonetaint and Decomposition</i>		
	Imported frozen beef forequarter	102 lb.
<i>Bonetaint and Putrefaction</i>		
	English Pork	.. .. 170 lb.
	English Mutton	.. 12 lb. 182 lb.

<i>Bruised</i> ..	Part legs and loins English Pork	15 lb.
<i>Bruising and Decomposition</i>		
	New Zealand loins Mutton ..	31 lb.
<i>Decomposition</i>	English Bullock's Head	27 lb.
	English Beef .. ..	28 lb.
	English Pork .. ..	10 lb.
	—————	65 lb.
<i>Fevered</i> ..	1 Sheep's Carcase .. ..	50 lb.
<i>Fluke</i> ..	Bovine Liver .. ..	10 lb.
<i>Hydatid Cysts</i>	2 Pigs' kidneys .. ..	$\frac{3}{4}$ lb.
<i>Pneumonia</i> ..	3 sets Pigs' lungs .. ..	9 lb.
<i>Tuberculosis</i> ..	2 loins Pork .. ..	20 lb.

### Summary of Cattle, Sheep and Pigs Slaughtered and Inspected

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
No. killed .. ..	1	—	—	15	270
No. inspected ..	1	—	8	12	254
<i>All diseases, except Tuberculosis</i> Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	1	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	1	—	—	—	6
% of No. inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis .. ..	100	—	—	8.33	2.36
<i>Tuberculosis only</i> Whole carcasses con- demned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	1
% of No. inspected affected	—	—	—	—	0.4

MISCELLANEOUS UNSOUND FOOD DEALT WITH BY  
THIS DEPARTMENT

<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Foodstuff</i>	<i>Weight (lbs.)</i>
206 tins ..	Various tinned fruit .. ..	331 $\frac{1}{2}$
60 tins ..	Various tinned meat .. ..	135 $\frac{3}{4}$
12 tins ..	Various tinned fish .. ..	11 $\frac{1}{4}$
65 tins ..	Various tinned vegetables and soup ..	103 $\frac{1}{2}$
20 tins ..	Condensed milk .. ..	18 $\frac{3}{4}$
Quantity ..	Bacon and Ham .. ..	113 $\frac{1}{2}$
Quantity ..	Meat Pies .. ..	12
Quantity ..	Sausages and Sausage Meat .. ..	56
Part Box ..	Australian Rabbits .. ..	14
16 pkts ..	Shredded Beef Suet .. ..	4
15 pkts. ..	Milk Whipping Compound .. ..	7
3 pkts. ..	Cheese .. ..	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
1 pkt. ..	Prunes .. ..	$\frac{3}{4}$
Quantity ..	Pickle (Mustard, etc.) .. ..	2
1 bottle ..	Coffee Essence .. ..	$\frac{1}{4}$
1 jar ..	Mayonnaise .. ..	$\frac{1}{4}$
Margarine	Herrings .. ..	49
Box ..	Kippers .. ..	14
Quantity ..	Scotch Salmon .. ..	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 pkt. ..	Prunes .. ..	$\frac{3}{4}$
Quantity ..	Sweets and Chocolates .. ..	340
		1231 $\frac{1}{2}$

RODENT CONTROL.

Considerable progress can be reported as a result of the introduction of Warfarin baits, which have been very successful in exterminating both rats and mice and without the risks usually attendant upon other poisons.

Systematic inspections and re-inspections have been carried out of dwelling houses, stores and business premises.

Consequent upon the success and economy in time by the use of Warfarin, an opportunity has been afforded for the inspection of farm premises, the results of which are included in the summary.

The testing of sewers has yielded satisfactory results and as a result of perseverance, the sewers have been practically cleared of the rat pest.

	<i>Total Properties</i>	<i>Number Disinfested</i>
Local Authority's Properties ..	33	17
Dwelling Houses .. ..	9,871	238
Business Premises .. ..	1,121	54
Agricultural Properties .. ..	1,428	27
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	12,453	336
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### SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS

Housing Acts .. .. .	287
Housing Acts Re-inspections .. .. .	680
Requisitioning .. .. .	1
Complaints .. .. .	152
Public Health Nuisances .. .. .	433
Public Health Nuisances Re-inspections .. .. .	489
Pollution of Watercourses .. .. .	177
Keeping of Animals, Birds, etc. .. .. .	100
Offensive Accumulations .. .. .	59
Drains and Sewers Inspected .. .. .	407
Drainage Tested .. .. .	103
Closet Accommodation .. .. .	97
Verminous Premises dealt with (including insect infestations) .. .. .	55
Infectious Diseases .. .. .	88
Rooms Disinfected .. .. .	75
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. .. .. .	344
Rats and mice Destruction .. .. .	692
Schools .. .. .	2
Markets .. .. .	12
Public Cleansing .. .. .	1055
Salvage .. .. .	208
Water Sources examined, protected and/or corrected	
Investigations re sources and applications for mains	428
Water Analyses :	
Chemical—	
Satisfactory Nil	Unsatisfactory 6
Bacteriological—	
Satisfactory 43	Unsatisfactory 44
Milk and Dairies .. .. .	239
Slaughterhouses .. .. .	146
Meatshops, Fish and Fruit Shops, etc. .. .. .	501
Catering Establishments .. .. .	269
Ice Cream Shops .. .. .	146
Knackers' Yards .. .. .	25

Bakehouses .. .. .	66
Factories, Workshops, etc. .. .. .	473
Laundries .. .. .	6
Swimming Pools .. .. .	1
Hawkers' Premises and Vans .. .. .	7
Housing Applicants and Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee .. .. .	1047
Cesspool Emptying .. .. .	205
Miscellaneous .. .. .	366
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	9,534







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