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HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT

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1958  
Annual Report  
of the  
Medical Officer  
of Health

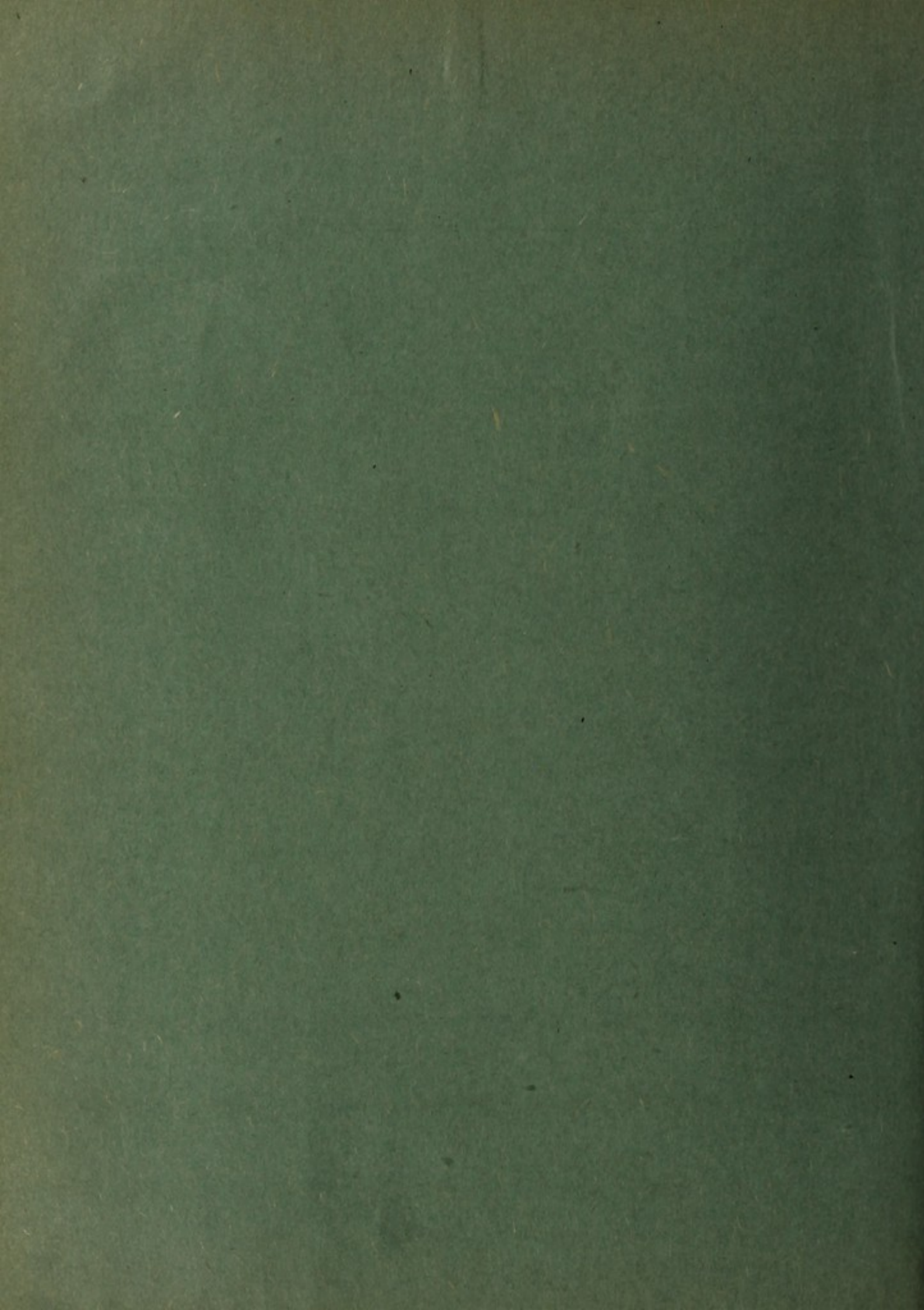
G. L. BROCKLEHURST, M.D. (Lond.), B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

WITH WHICH IS INCLUDED THE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
AND HOUSING MANAGER

C. J. CLARK, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

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HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

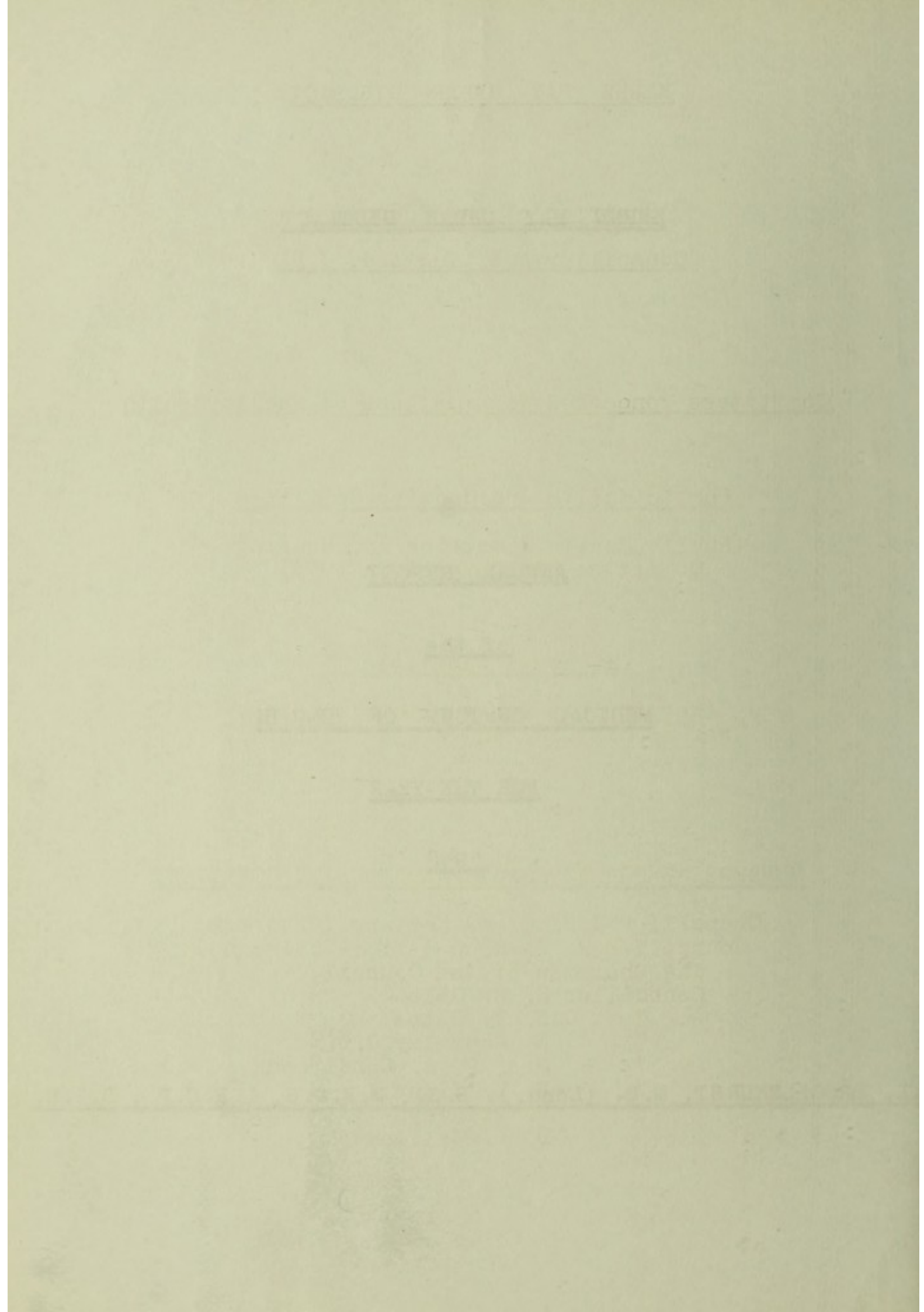
of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1958

G.L. BROCKLEHURST, M.D. (Lond.), B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.



HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT

Chairman of the Council :

Councillor A.E. Tugwood, J.P.

Committees concerned with matters of Public Health

Public Health and Housing Committee

(Public Health Committee and Housing  
Committee amalgamated in 1953)

Highways Committee

(Responsible for public cleansing,  
refuse disposal and sewage disposal)

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

Councillor Mrs. G. E. Fortune (Chairman)

Councillor R. V. Rice ( Vice-Chairman )

The Chairman of the Council

Councillor H. R. Cole

" F. W. Gates

" E. Roughley O.B.E.

" Mrs. P. A. Sandercock

" R. V. Sidnell

" R. Stanley

" D. L. Williams

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF - 1958

Medical Officer of Health  
and  
Principal Medical Officer  
Area No. 2. K.C.C

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

Official Address

34, Grosvenor Place, Margate.  
'phone Thanet 22201.

Senior Public Health Inspector : C.J. CLARK, M.A.P.H.I.,  
M.R.S.H.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary  
Inspector's Examination Joint Board :  
Meat Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Society of Health:  
Smoke Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Society of Health:

Duties :

Statutory duties of a Public Health Inspector :  
Housing Management.  
Shops Acts Inspector.  
Public Lighting and Petroleum Inspector.

Additional Public Health Inspector : W.F. WELLER, D.P.A.,  
M.A.P.H.I.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary  
Inspector's Examination Joint Board :  
Meat Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Society of Health:  
Smoke Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Society of Health.

Duties :

Statutory duties of a Public Health Inspector :  
Shops Acts Inspector.

Clerical Staff : ) Miss P.K. Flight  
                  ) Miss B.L. Hopkins

General Assistant and Rodent Operator : R. Watson.

KENT COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES STAFF - 1958

in the Herne Bay Urban District

Health Visitor, School Nurse } Miss D.A. Tremble, S.R.N., S.C.M.,  
and Infant Life Protection } H.V.  
Officers: } Miss J. Polyblank, S.R.N., CMB.1.  
B.T.A., H.V.

Tuberculosis Health Visitor : Miss M. Brangan, S.R.N., S.C.M.,  
Cert. R.S.I., H.V.

Midwife : Mrs. H. Hall, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Home Nurses : Mrs. D.M. Thompson, S.R.N., S.C.M.,  
Q.N., R.F.N.

Mrs. V.F. Ray, S.R.N.

Miss O. Sanders, S.R.N., S.F.N.,  
Q.N.

Miss C. Dory, S.R.N.

Domestic Help Area Organizer: Mrs. A. Kingston.

District Officer : H.T. Suckling.

Assistant District Officer : D.H. Bartlett.

Registrar of Births and Deaths : D.S. Ryeland.

School Enquiry Officer : K.W. Ford.

Other Staff : South-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

Chest Physician and Adviser  
on After-care of Tuberculosis : Owen Clarke, M.D., M.R.C.P.

Council Offices,  
Herne Bay.

July, 1959.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Herne Bay Urban District Council.

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my sixteenth Annual Report of the health of Herne Bay for the year 1958, with which is included the report of the Senior Public Health Inspector.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

The vital statistics of the urban district show an increase in the population (as estimated by the Registrar General) of some 180 people. A decrease in the Birth Rate is shown, 14.2 in 1958 as compared with 15.6 in 1957. The total number of births fell from 224 in 1957 to 207 in 1958. The Death Rate increased from 10.0 in 1957 to 11.0 in 1958. This can be accounted for by elderly retired people taking up residence in the down, and the tendency for younger people to leave the area to take up work in industrial areas of the country. There was again a disturbing rise in deaths from Cancer of the Lung from 8 in 1957 to 17 in 1958. For the first time since statistics have been recorded, there were no deaths of infants under the age of one year, in relation to some 224 births. This is indeed remarkable evidence of the improvement in social and preventive medicine services during the present century.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

There was little infectious disease. Only one case of Poliomyelitis was reported compared with 6 in 1957.

### HOUSING.

The Council during the year made further progress with the five year programme of slum clearance. Details are given by the Senior Public Health Inspector.

## HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES.

The Health Services provided in the town, through the National Health Service Act, are set out in the report in some detail; they are available to all the inhabitants and they are adequate.

Mention should again be made of much good work carried out in the District during the year by members of the staff of the Health Services operated by the County Council, with particular reference to the many and varied duties performed by Health Visitors, Midwives, Home Nurses, Children's Welfare Officers, District Officers, Domestic and Home Helpers, etc., and also the various voluntary organisations in the town such as the W.V.S., Old People's Welfare Committee, the British Red Cross Society, the St. John Ambulance Association and others. These workers do much for the comfort and well-being of the inhabitants of the town, and their work is greatly appreciated by the people concerned.

### GENERAL.

In making a general survey of the year's work, I would say that the health of the people of the town was satisfactory during the twelve months.

In one of the reports of the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, we read - "In this era of social improvement, the early pioneers of the Health Services saw clearly the necessity for community effort in the campaign against distress caused by disease, which for centuries had burdened the lives of men in all societies. It was realised that to protect the individual against infection and from the evils of insanitary and overcrowded houses and factories, a new and wider conception of medicine was necessary, whereby its principles could be applied to measures of control and prevention as well as to the treatment of established diseases. Throughout the past century the Public Health Services have steadily progressed from an almost entire pre-occupation with the suppression of nuisances and the establishment of sound sanitation to the larger sphere of the personal health and welfare services".

The work of the Health Department at the present time falls into two main categories - "The Environmental Health

Services" and "The Personal Health Services".

**Environmental Services:-** These services, in addition to housing, include the inspection and remedying of defects in homes, shops, food premises and factories, and in the surrounding environment, which is likely to be a danger and hazard to health; the supervision of food supplies; the mitigation of smoke nuisance and the control of epidemic disease; the giving of advice and guidance to householders and the owners of business premises. It is now clearly understood that both historically and in practice the public health services rest upon a sound and effective basic foundation of environmental hygiene, and the members of the staffs of the public health departments must always maintain a firm grasp of the environmental needs of the communities with whose welfare they are concerned.

**Personal Health Services:-** To quote again the Chief Medical Officer, he states - "Despite the improvements in environmental hygiene, the vital statistics at the commencement of the 20th century revealed that they alone were not enough. The era of personal hygiene, with emphasis 'on the person rather than the premises', now saw its beginnings in the growth of maternal and child welfare movement and the establishment of school health service, the tuberculosis service and the local authority clinics. It should be remembered that each of these developments was the result of disturbed public opinion and the acceptance of the fact that only by planned and organised effort could improvements in these fields be attained".

This section now includes the work of the clinics - maternal and child welfare, school, dental, tuberculosis, home nursing, the care of the old people, the control of infectious diseases, and the aftercare of the deaf, blind and mentally disturbed.

Preventive medicine is now therefore moving into new fields. The relation between certain diseases and the modern way of life are as yet imperfectly understood; Mental ill health; Arterial disease and Coronary Thrombosis are on the increase. In the light of past experience with other diseases, it seems reasonable that environmental factors play a major part in the development of these incapacitating and often fatal ailments, and environmental factors are preventable. Again cigarette smoking has some connection with Cancer of the lung, which is increasing disturbingly each year. Therefore, the importance of Health Education grows and much of the work

of the Public Health Service is devoted to this essential field of social service.

It is through personal contact with the public, which is such an integral part of a public health department, that a true "Public Relations" service has been built up and is being maintained by the present day public health departments of local government.

In conclusion, I should like to take this opportunity of expressing to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee my appreciation for their support and encouragement during the year.

My thanks are also due to all members of the Health Department for the loyal and efficient way in which they have carried out their duties; to my colleagues in other Departments; to the Staffs of the Kent County Health Services and the Regional Hospital Board Services covering the Herne Bay District, and to the Medical Practitioners practising in the area, for their willing co-operation and assistance at all times in the public health work of our town.

I have the honour to be Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

G.L. Brocklehurst,

Medical Officer of Health and Principal  
Medical Officer of Health, Area No. 2, K.C.C.

HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (including inland water - 8,566 acres)  
 (tidal water - 323 acres) 8,889

Population, 1958 (Registrar General -  
 mid year ) 18,410

\*Rateable Value (1st April, 1959) £331,669

\*Estimated sum represented by the 1d. rate £1,330

\*Note: figures shown are for 1959.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

	Total	M	F		<u>Herne Bay U.D.</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales</u>
Live Births	207	100	107	Birth Rate Per 1,000 estimated population mid-1958	11.25	16.4
				* Adjusted Birth Rate	14.17	
Stillbirths	3	1	2	Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	14.29	21.6
Total live and stillbirths					210	
Infant Deaths					Nil	
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births						
	Total				Nil	22.5.
	Legitimate				Nil	
	Illegitimate				Nil	
Neo-Natal (First four weeks) Rate per 1,000 live births					Nil	16.5 (1957)

Herne Bay U.D.      England & Wales

Illegitimate live births <u>per</u> <u>cent</u> of total live births				8.7%	
Maternal Deaths (including Abortion)				Nil	
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths				Nil	
<u>Deaths</u>	Total	M	F	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1958	
	355	154	201	19.29	11.7
				* Adjusted Death Rate	10.8

\* The figures shown as "adjusted Birth Rate" and adjusted Death Rate" are corrected by a comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT DURING 1958.

CAUSES.	Males	Females
	154	201
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	1	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	4
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	16	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	9
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	19	17
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	19	33
18. Coronary disease, angina	26	16
19. Hypertension with heart disease	4	5
20. Other heartdisease	21	57
21. Other circulatory diseases	13	9
22. Influenza	-	1
23. Pneumonia	8	11
24. Bronchitis	9	5
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	2	4
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	19
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	-
34. All other accidents	-	4
35. Suicide	1	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Herne Bay is a seaside holiday resort on the northern coast of Kent, at the mouth of the Thames Estuary. Bounded on the north side by the North Sea, it is almost surrounded by the rural villages of the Bridge-Blean Rural District: from the east and west it lies between the Whitstable Urban District and Birchington in the Borough of Margate, and the south side of the town is approximately eight miles from the City of Canterbury.

The town is essentially a holiday resort, and a large percentage of the population is engaged in catering for the needs of the visitors who take holidays there during the summer months, when the population figure is almost double that of the winter period.

There is a large residential area in the Urban District and as the town is within easy reach of London, many of the inhabitants travel each day to their employment in the City.

In addition to the town's education and utility services (Schools, electricity, gas, water, fire, transport, local government and postal services), there are a number of professional and commercial establishments and light industrial undertakings which provide employment for a good percentage of workers. Agricultural employment is provided in the rural area.

The Kent County Council is the Education Authority for the Urban District, and there are four County Primary and Junior schools, and one County Modern School under this Authority. There is also a number of boarding and day schools and convalescent and children's homes, as well as residential and day nurseries; holiday homes and homes for old people and the chronic sick; also the Cripplecraft Home for disabled people; Herne Bay Hospital and Herne Hospital at Herne Common where a number of nursing and domestic workers are employed.

### Meteorology.

The Council maintain a meteorological station on the sea front and daily weather readings are transmitted to the Air Ministry. The following are the readings for the year 1958 :

Period.	Sunshine Hours:	Rainfall Inches :
1958	1464.4	32.1
Daily Average.	4.01	0.08

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

AS PROVIDED BY THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

Laboratory Facilities.

All pathological and bacteriological work for the Urban District is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Preston Hall, Maidstone, free of charge.

Nursing in the Home.

The Kent County Council provide a free Home Nursing Service, and apart from cases of emergency and accident, a patient may obtain the services of a home nurse if requested by the medical practitioner in attendance. The home nurses appointed to serve in the Urban District are :

Mrs. D.M. Thompson, Mrs. V.F. Ray,  
Miss O. Sanders and Miss C. Dory.

Domestic Help Service.

Domestic help is obtainable for the sick and aged and infirm., and in cases of urgent need; the scheme is operated from the Kent County Council's Clinic in King's Road, under the supervision of the Area Organizer, Mrs. A. Kingston.

Health Visitors, School Nurse and  
Infant Life Protection Officer.

The health visiting, school nursing and infant life protection services are carried out by the County Council, who provide two nurses. During 1958 these duties were shared by Miss D.A. Tremble, and Miss J. Polyblank.

The Tuberculosis health visiting is carried out by Miss M. Brangan.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Clinics continued to be held regularly throughout the year at the Kent County Council's Health Centre, Kings Road, Herne Bay, (Tuberculosis Dispensary in Cavendish Road). The following table gives the days and times when the various sessions are held :

CLINICS.	SESSIONS:	
	Days.	Times
<u>Maternity Clinics:</u> Ante-Natal Clinics	Fridays	2 - 4 p.m.
<u>Child Welfare Clinic</u> (Vaccination against Small-pox by appointment at this Clinic). The Health Centre, King's Road.	Monday and Thursdays.	Afternoons.
Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunization Clinic	Held monthly by the Medical Officer of Health, usually on middle Wednesday in month.	
B.C.G. Vaccination Clinic	Held monthly by Chest Physician at times arr- anged with Tuberculosis Health Visitor.	
Poliomyelitis Vaccination Clinic.	Held by arrangements made by Medical Officer of Health County Hall, Maidstone.	

Dental Clinic.

Patients receive attention at the Dental Clinic, Health Centre, King's Road, Herne Bay, by appointment only on Monday mornings and afternoons.

### School Health Service.

Medical and dental treatment is provided by the County Council as follows :

Minor Ailments Clinics.	Days and Attendance of Medical Officer.
The Health Centre, King's Road, Herne Bay.	Monday and Wednesdays of each week, and 2nd and 4th Saturday mornings in each month.
The Masonic Hall, Whitstable.	Every Saturday morning.

### Specialist School Clinics.

Attendance at these County Council Clinics is by appointment only, application for treatment being made to the County Medical Officer :

Clinics	Address of Centres
Child Guidance	51, London Road, Canterbury.
Ophthalmic	The Health Centre, King's Rd. and Kent and Canterbury Hosp.
Orthopaedic	Kent and Canterbury Hospital.
Speech Defects	County Clinic, 94, Whitstable Road, Canterbury.

### Clinic Services provided through the Hospital Service:

The following Clinics are administered by the Hospital Management Committee of the Regional Hospital Board:

Clinic	Sessions	
	Days	Times
<u>Tuberculosis Dispensaries:</u> K.C.C. Chest Clinic, Cavendish Road, Herne Bay.	Tuesdays	10. 0. a. m. to 12. 30. p. m.
Queen Victoria Hospital, Herne Bay. Refills.	Tuesdays	1. 45. p. m.
<u>Venereal Diseases Clinic:</u> Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury.	(Women) Tuesdays	2. 00. p. m. to 3. 00. p. m.
	(Men) Tuesdays	3. 00. p. m. to 4. 00. p. m.

### Hospitals.

The hospitals serving the Urban District are operated by the Local Hospital Management Committee, which is under the control of the South Eastern Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

The hospitals serving the Urban District are :

#### Isolation Hospital :

Haine Isolation Hospital, Ramsgate.

#### General Hospitals :

Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury.

Herne Bay Memorial Hospital.

Whitstable and Tankerton Hospital.

Herne Hospital.

Nunnery Fields Hospital, Canterbury (for old people).

The following children's convalescent home is also administered by the Hospital Management Committee :

Crole Wyndham Convalescent Home for Children.

Smallpox Hospital Accommodation.

The Regional Hospital Board have a scheme in operation whereby smallpox patients may be admitted to the River Hospitals, (Long Reach) Dartford, Kent. No cases notified.

Registration of Nursing Homes.

Sections 187 to 194, Public Health Act, 1936.

Only one nursing home was operating during 1958, and the following table gives particulars of the number of beds available.

Year 1958.	No. of Homes	No. of beds provided for		Totals
		Maternity	Others	
Homes first registered during the year	-	-	-	-
Homes on register at end of the year	1	-	15	15

Convalescent Homes, Holiday Homes, etc.

There are 4 convalescent homes in the Urban District with accommodation for some 280 patients.

There are also 4 holiday homes, accommodating approximately 120 women and children.

"Batesholme" Grand Drive, accommodates 20 children under the care of the K.C.C.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

It was not necessary during 1958 to undertake the burial of any person under Section 50 of the above Act.

## Public Mortuary.

The Council own an up-to-date public mortuary comprising a post-mortem room with refrigeration facilities for four bodies, also a panelled chapel and viewing room, which has independent access. Records are kept of all bodies admitted and of post-mortem examinations. Mr. Jempson continues to maintain an attractive garden at the mortuary entrance. This he does as a voluntary effort in his retirement.

During the year 32 bodies were admitted, and upon 30 of these post mortem examinations were held.

## Schools.

There are 3 independent Boarding Schools, and 2 independent Day Schools in the Urban District, with accommodation for some 600 pupils.

In addition there are 4 County Primary and Junior Schools, and one County Modern School. These are attended by 1,672 pupils.

The County Modern School at Greenhill, and the Hampton Junior and Infants School, have been built during recent years. Herne Church of England School, which is attended by 147 pupils has been extended and improved.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND  
OTHER DISEASES.

The following is a summary of the incidence of infectious diseases during the year, with an analysis of cases under age groups:

D I S E A S E S	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	8	8	-
Whooping Cough	10	-	-
Measles	8	-	-
Chickenpox	23	1	-
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	1	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	4	-	-
T O T A L S	54	9	-

From the above figures it will be noted that the number of cases of infectious diseases showed a substantial decrease upon the previous year's total notified cases - 54 as against 524.

Scarlet Fever :

1 case occurred in the first quarter and 7 in the last quarter of the year.

Measles :

The number of cases of Measles notified during 1958 was almost negligible compared with those for the preceding year - 8 cases as against 284 for 1957.

The following table shows the incidence of measles for the last 5 years :

YEAR	Children 1 - 5 Years	Children 5 - 15 Years.	Adults	TOTALS
1954	4	1	1	6
1955	128	125	4	257
1956	2	6	1	9
1957	118	164	2	284
1958	3	5	-	8

#### Chickenpox.

The following table shows the incidence of chickenpox for the last 5 years :

YEAR	Children 1 - 5 Years	Children 5 - 15 Years.	Adults	TOTALS
1954	86	54	4	144
1955	35	96	6	137
1956	14	31	2	47
1957	59	152	12	223
1958	6	16	1	23

#### Poliomyelitis :

The case of poliomyelitis affected an 11 year old school-boy, but the attack was very slight. He had been immunised against poliomyelitis.

The following table gives the age incidence of the various notifiable infectious diseases which occurred during the year :

DISEASES.	Under 1	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 20	20 - 35	35 - 45	45 and over
Scarlet Fever	1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	1	1
Whooping Cough	1	1	1	1	3	5	1	1	1	1	1
Measles	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	1	1	1	1
Chickenpox	1	1	1	3	2	15	1	1	1	1	1
Poliomyelitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tuberculosis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

Public Health Act, 1936 - Section 172.

No action was taken during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Disinfection.

During the year the following disinfection was carried out:

Houses disinfected . . . . . 20  
 Mattresses and bedding  
                                   disinfected .. 11  
 Mattresses and bedding  
                                   destroyed .. 7  
 Visits made re infectious  
 diseases and disinfection 56

The Urban District Council owns a plant which disinfects bedding by vapourising a chemical germicide in a sealed chamber.

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and mortality during the year 1958.

Age Periods	NEW CASES:				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 65	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:	3	2	2	-	-	-	-	-

Inward and Outward Transfers Recoveries, etc.	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F
Inward transfers from other areas	6	3	-	-
Outward transfers to other areas	4	1	-	-
Restored to Register on return to district	-	-	-	-
Reported to be "Recovered"	8	2	1	-
Removed from Register upon declining medical treatment	-	-	-	-

The number of cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1958 was :

Type of Case:	Male	Female	TOTALS
Pulmonary Cases	78	67	145
Non-Pulmonary Cases	16	14	30
Totals:	94	81	175

#### Prevention of Tuberculosis : Care and After-Care.

A scheme is operated jointly by the Kent County Council and the Kent Council of Social Service for the provision of care and after-care of patients suffering from tuberculosis. Through this scheme arrangements are made, where necessary, for assistance to be rendered in various ways, viz., the provision of shelters; extra meat and milk; the provision of beds, bedding and clothing.

Home visiting is carried out by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor for the area, who gives suitable advice to the patients.

Where there is need, help is given in solving housing problems, and assisting with removal expenses; the admission of patients to Holiday Homes is arranged; in the case of unemployment endeavours are made to find suitable posts for patients who are fit for work; and materials are provided for recreational therapy.

#### Mass Radiography Survey.

This was held in the early part of 1958, when 3,394 adults and children were examined (43% for the first time) with the following results :

No active tuberculosis was detected, but there were 21 inactive cases. In addition, there were 3 cases of carcinoma of the lung in males, and one school child with an active primary focus. At the mass radiography in 1955, there were 4 active, and 54 inactive cases detected.

Immunisation against Diphtheria. 1958.

The following is a return of the number of children under the age of 15 years on 31st December, 1958, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1944).

Year of birth	1944 1945 1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952 1953 1954 1955 1956 1957 1958	Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster) 1944 - 1958	27 68 159 175 164 138 153 143 127 191 154 148 116 122 14	1899
1943 or earlier	139 153 96 109 78 91 70 63 74 7 - - - - -	880

Poliomyelitis Vaccination. 1958.

The following table gives the numbers of persons resident in the Herne Bay Urban District who received injections against poliomyelitis during the year ended 31st December, 1958.

Year of birth	1958 1957 1956 1955 1954 1953 1952 1951 1950 1949 1948 1947 1946 1945 1944 others	Total
Given two injections	8 105 128 124 98 116 75 99 84 67 80 89 171 118 131 191	1684
Given third injection	1 3 32 35 8 16 6 11 17 13 20 19 - - 1 7	188

Immunisation & Vaccination.

Set out below are the diphtheria immunisation, whooping - cough immunisation and smallpox vaccination figures for 1958.

Year of birth	Diphtheria Immunisation		Smallpox Vaccination		Whooping-cough Immunisation
	Primary	Reinforcing	Primary	Revaccination	Primary.
1958	14	-	49	-	48
1957	111	-	40	-	112
1956	12	-	1	-	21
1955	9	-	-	-	18
1954	4	9	-	-	12
1953	2	42	1	-	7
1952	-	16	1	-	2
1951	1	5	1	-	2
1950	-	1	1	-	-
1949	2	9	1	-	-
1948	1	-	1	-	1
1947	-	1	1	-	-
1946	-	1	-	1	-
1945	-	1	-	-	-
1944	-	-	2	1	-
Before 1944	-	-	4	15	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>223</b>

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
Harris Bay  
June 1952.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Harris Bay Urban District Council

R E P O R T

of the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

and

HOUSING MANAGER

C.J. Clark, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Annual Report 1976

Department of Health and Social Security, London

Year	Whoping-cough		Measles	
	Number of cases	Deaths	Number of cases	Deaths
1975	10,000	100	10,000	100
1976	10,000	100	10,000	100
1977	10,000	100	10,000	100
1978	10,000	100	10,000	100
1979	10,000	100	10,000	100
1980	10,000	100	10,000	100
1981	10,000	100	10,000	100
1982	10,000	100	10,000	100
1983	10,000	100	10,000	100
1984	10,000	100	10,000	100
1985	10,000	100	10,000	100
1986	10,000	100	10,000	100
1987	10,000	100	10,000	100
1988	10,000	100	10,000	100
1989	10,000	100	10,000	100
1990	10,000	100	10,000	100
1991	10,000	100	10,000	100
1992	10,000	100	10,000	100
1993	10,000	100	10,000	100
1994	10,000	100	10,000	100
1995	10,000	100	10,000	100
1996	10,000	100	10,000	100
1997	10,000	100	10,000	100
1998	10,000	100	10,000	100
1999	10,000	100	10,000	100
2000	10,000	100	10,000	100
2001	10,000	100	10,000	100
2002	10,000	100	10,000	100
2003	10,000	100	10,000	100
2004	10,000	100	10,000	100
2005	10,000	100	10,000	100
2006	10,000	100	10,000	100
2007	10,000	100	10,000	100
2008	10,000	100	10,000	100
2009	10,000	100	10,000	100
2010	10,000	100	10,000	100
2011	10,000	100	10,000	100
2012	10,000	100	10,000	100
2013	10,000	100	10,000	100
2014	10,000	100	10,000	100
2015	10,000	100	10,000	100
2016	10,000	100	10,000	100
2017	10,000	100	10,000	100
2018	10,000	100	10,000	100
2019	10,000	100	10,000	100
2020	10,000	100	10,000	100
2021	10,000	100	10,000	100
2022	10,000	100	10,000	100
2023	10,000	100	10,000	100
2024	10,000	100	10,000	100
2025	10,000	100	10,000	100
2026	10,000	100	10,000	100
2027	10,000	100	10,000	100
2028	10,000	100	10,000	100
2029	10,000	100	10,000	100
2030	10,000	100	10,000	100

Dr. J. G. ... M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.P.

HOUSING ...

and

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

REPORT

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
Herne Bay,

June 1959.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Herne Bay Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to present my report for the year 1958,  
the twenty-second year of my service at Herne Bay.

Housing has again taken up a large part of this  
report. The year 1958 brought its usual crop of housing  
problems of various kinds. In this Department we have  
the complete range of housing problems, because we also  
deal with housing management which concerns the growing  
list of housing applicants and the control of the Council's  
houses.

Further progress was made with the Five Year "Slum  
Clearance" Programme. During the year five unfit houses  
were closed and two demolished. At Herne, nine unfit  
houses were represented for demolition under Clearance  
Area procedure. Elsewhere 53 unfit houses were repaired.

It was decided to build more flats in 1959, which  
continues the policy of the last two years when flats have  
been built at Pier Avenue, Western Avenue and Clarence  
Street.

This policy is justified by the large proportion of  
old people on the housing register. It indirectly assists  
younger applicants with families because some of the flats  
are let to tenants transferred from under-occupied Council  
houses.

There has been a further increase in the number of  
waiting applicants. I have given my views upon the reasons  
for the increase.

Other activities of the Health Department are dealt  
with fully in the report. These did not give rise to any  
matter to which I need direct special attention.

I acknowledge with appreciation the assistance I received from the Chairman and members of the Public Health and Housing Committee, from the Clerk and his Deputy, and the chief officers of other Departments. I am grateful to my staff for the interest they take in their duties which they conscientiously discharge.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

*W. J. Clark*

Senior Public Health Inspector  
and Housing Manager.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE

AREA.

Water.

The public water supply is provided by the Canterbury and District Water Company and is consistently pure. Regular and frequent samples show that it is of excellent organic quality and bacteriological standard.

Formerly the local supply was distributed by the Herne Bay Waterworks Company from a deep well at Ford. That Company has ceased to exist and its functions have been taken over by the Canterbury and District Water Company.

Early in 1957 a 6" main was extended from Whitstable to Herne Bay conveying water from the Canterbury supply. The local water derived from Ford is chlorinated before distribution and is exceedingly hard. For several years the Analyst has commented upon the progressive increase in salinity which has risen by 50% since 1948. The Canterbury supply is not hard and has no abnormal salinity. The mixture of Canterbury water with the local supply has improved palatability and reduced hardness.

A few properties in the parish of Chislet also obtain main water supply direct from Canterbury.

Examination of Water Samples.

Public Supply. Samples of the public water supply were taken during the year and the following are the results of examination by the Pathologist and the County Analyst.

<u>Bacteriological Examination.</u>	:	5 samples taken	All satisfactory
<u>Chemical Analysis.</u>	:	5 samples taken	All satisfactory

One of the samples submitted for bacteriological examination was untreated and the remaining 4 samples were taken after the supply had been chlorinated.

### Private Wells and Springs.

Five samples of untreated water were taken from private wells etc., and submitted for examination. One of the samples proved to be unsatisfactory and unfit for drinking purposes unless previously boiled.

### Number of dwelling houses supplied from the public water mains.

There are 7,464 houses and flats in the Urban District and all but 15 are supplied from the public water mains. Four dwellings receive a public water supply from outside standpipes. We are informed that during 1958, 1,891 yards of new water main were laid by the local Company to supply new houses and bungalows constructed by private enterprise.

### DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

There are now 116 cesspools which are emptied from time to time by the Council - some of these serve more than one property. There are also 29 properties served by pail closets. During 1958, there was a short extension to the sewer at Pigeon Lane which enabled two cesspools to be abolished. Another cesspool was abolished at Mill Lane when a house drainage system was connected to the sewer.

The modernisation and extension of the Council's sewage disposal works at May Street was completed and in full operation in June. The final effluent is now satisfactory. These works receive sewage mainly from Beltinge, Herne, and Broomfield. The sewage from the remainder of the Urban District passes by gravity, or is pumped, to a disintegrator station at the East Cliff and thence to the sea.

At 41 occupied dwellings choked drains were cleansed by informal means. Most of these choked drains were cleared by the Public Health Department and a charge made to cover the cost. This service is much appreciated by the public because it enables prompt attention to be given to a matter which should be dealt with promptly. The alternative is the slow method of serving notices upon owners, or occupiers, with inevitable delay.

At a further 16 properties drains were repaired or relaid by informal action, and two after service of formal notices. Thirty-three sanitary appliances of various kinds

were renewed and 4 water closet compartments were provided or repaired.

Two private sewers were repaired by the Council by agreement with the owners of the 15 properties draining into them.

At Margate Road Broomfield, an additional cesspool was constructed to abate a long standing nuisance.

Tests were carried out upon 5 house drainage systems at the request of their owners and upon payment of the Council's fees. The charge varies from two to three guineas per test according to the size of the drainage system.

#### RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The River Wantsum forms the south-eastern boundary of the district before it passes to the sea, and is free from pollution.

The brook at Hampton is sprayed in the summer to prevent it becoming a breeding place for insect pests.

Plenty Brook at Eddington is troublesome from time to time and occasionally nuisance arises from a storm water overflow which discharges into the water course from the sewerage system.

#### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The Council's 14 public conveniences for men and women are under the control of the Health Department. These conveniences have approximately a million users a year.

Four for women and two for men have turnstiles, and the remainder have independent coin locks upon entry doors. Cage pattern turnstiles were strongly disliked at womens conveniences where they have now been replaced by turnstiles of a low pattern. The cage pattern turnstiles remain in use at the mens conveniences where they appear to be accepted, as no objections have been received. Income increased by 100% when turnstiles were installed.

Since 1956 two new conveniences have been constructed, one at Herne, and the other at William Street. An unsatisfactory convenience for men at the Pier Pavilion has been abolished and a former convenience with external access has been reconstructed and refitted. The appropriate Committee has been recommended to consider a scheme for reconstruction and modernisation of the ladies conveniences at the Pier Pavilion.

Minor improvements have been made at St. George's and King's Hall conveniences where an extraction fan has successfully removed a long standing cause for complaint of vitiated atmosphere.

The Council has, so far, been prevented from building public conveniences at Beltinge, because of objections to the siting of the proposed conveniences. Early in 1958, a local enquiry was held at Beltinge to consider objections to the Council's proposal to construct a public convenience upon land at the junction of Reculver Road and Terminus Drive. These objections were upheld by the Minister.

At Reculver substandard "temporary" conveniences constructed in 1936 were abolished. It is now considered that the needs of the public at Reculver are adequately met by the conveniences upon several Caravan Sites.

In November, 1957, a sub-committee was appointed to inspect and report upon improvements considered necessary or desirable at the Council's public conveniences. Following the inspection a report was submitted to the Public Health and Housing Committee and adopted. It was decided to carry out improvements in stages, and in 1958 the Tower conveniences for women were dealt with and a start was made upon the Tower conveniences for men. These are to be completed in 1959 and improvements required at other conveniences will be commenced.

#### Wash and Brush-up Facilities.

It is the policy to provide washing facilities at all of the Council's public conveniences and each year further progress is made to this end. Where wash hand basins are installed, paper towel vending machines are provided. This

arrangement applies also at conveniences where there are whole time attendants, and is a facility which is offered as an alternative to linen towels if required. In effect, at these conveniences there are two grades of washing facilities, namely, a 6d wash with linen towel, and a 3d wash with paper towel. This has proved popular and meets the needs of those who merely wish to wash their hands.

During the 1958 holiday season there were nearly 12,000 washes with linen towels and paper towels in approximately equal proportions. In 1956, the last year when linen towels only were available, the total number of washes amounted to 8,123.

It will be seen that the "cheap" wash has considerably increased the total number of washes, and this has been done without substantially reducing the washes with linen towels. Records show that women have gone over almost entirely to paper towels, whereas the men seem to prefer linen towels when available. The charge for a wash with linen towel has been 5d for many years. It was increased to 6d in May, 1957, to cover increased costs.

There are slipper baths at two conveniences, one for men and the other for women. These baths are used on an average of 600 times each year.

### Staffing.

There are now more cleaners and less attendants. Full staffing with attendants is arranged only in the summer season, and even during the summer the smaller conveniences are now maintained by visiting cleaners to save upon the expense of employing whole time attendants. During the winter all conveniences which remain open are maintained by visiting cleaners. In this way the wages bill for cleaners and attendants has risen 29% since 1951 although wages have risen by 60% over the same period. This 29% increase includes the cost of labour at two new conveniences - William Street and Herne. (£525. per annum). It would be fair to exclude this amount from the calculation and the real increase over costs in 1951 is then shown to be 12%.

### Weighing Machines.

In 1957 eight weighing machines were installed at a cost of £400, and in 1958, a further two machines were installed at a cost of £100. Expectations of revenue from these machines were more than realised during the first season when receipts amount to £250. In 1958, £265 was collected from ten machines. Total receipts in two years were sufficient to meet the cost of the ten machines.

Previously the Council received £7. a year from a private Company for the weighing machine concession. There is scope for more machines and another is to be purchased in 1959.

A "left luggage" service operates during the summer at William Street conveniences. This yields a small revenue and is much appreciated by visitors.

Conveniences cannot be self supporting and any receipts should be regarded as a contribution towards their cost and maintenance. The revenue from weighing machines, etc., helps to increase that contribution.

### CONVENIENCES AT LICENSED PREMISES.

The Council has an arrangement by which external urinals and water closets at five licensed premises are allowed to remain open beyond licensing hours for use by the general public. The daily lighting and cleansing of these conveniences is undertaken by the Council.

### PUBLIC CLEANSING.

This service is administered by the Council's Surveyor. Domestic refuse is collected weekly from dwelling houses and conveyed by modern covered moving-floor vehicles to the refuse tip at Broomfield. Since 1952 the tip has been enlarged by 40 acres following a local enquiry. Control tipping at Broomfield has brought about considerable improvement in conditions at the refuse tip. After removal of marketable products the refuse is tipped in shallow layers and covered at the end of each day. This has resulted

in a considerable reduction in the number of rats and these are now a minor problem at the tip.

Collection of refuse from Hotels, Restaurants, and some trade premises is carried out more frequently when required during the holiday season.

The Health Department is informed of any defective or unsatisfactory dustbins and during 1958 seven dustbins were supplied by owners and occupiers upon informal intimation that such were required. In one instance only was it necessary to serve a statutory notice under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, (Section 75).

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Total number of visits of all kinds made during the year .....	5,246
Total number of interviews at the office with property owners, housing applicants, tenants, traders and others .....	1,599
Number of notices served - Statutory .....	18
"    "    "    "    - Informal .....	481
-----	
Number of inspections made upon receipt of complaints .....	180
Routine visits and inspections (not complaints) .....	4,351
Revisits to ensure compliance with requirements .....	593
Number of inspections to investigate living conditions of housing applicants .....	157

SUMMARY OF VISITS, INSPECTIONS, &C.

Housing, drainage and nuisances :

Inspections and revisits for repairs and cleanliness (includes 49 Council house inspections)	797
To remedy nuisances, disinfestation and cleansing ..	66
To abate overcrowding .....	12
Visits to Housing Applicants .....	157
Water supply, drainage and closet accommodation ....	173
Drain tests and cleansing blocked drains .....	47
Rent Act, 1957 - Inspections for Certificates of Disrepair .....	28

Infectious Diseases and Disinfection :

Visits made re infectious diseases and disinfection.	43
Houses disinfected .....	20
Mattresses and bedding disinfected .....	11
"          "          " destroyed .....	7

Food Premises :

Food poisoning enquiries .....	16
Inspections of Bakehouses and Confectionery Shops ..	23
"          " Butchers' Shops and Slaughterhouses .	23
"          " Dairies and Milk Shops .....	47
"          " Fish Shops (Wet and Fried) .....	10
"          " Grocery, Greengrocery and Fruiterers.	63
"          " Hotels and Restaurants .....	32
"          " Ice Cream Premises .....	17
"          " Other Food Premises .....	6
Samples collected (Milk, Ice Cream, and Water etc) .	130
Other Pathological Specimens collected .....	102

Factories, Shops and Cinemas :

Factories and Outworkers' Premises .....	49
Shops (Health and comfort of Shopworkers).....	36
Shops (Hours of Closing, etc) .....	54

cont.

SUMMARY OF VISITS, INSPECTIONS, &C. cont.

Miscellaneous Inspections and Visits :

Accumulations, and the keeping of Animals .....	75
Ditches, Watercourses and Ponds .....	60
Public Mortuary .....	65
Public Conveniences .....	374
Rat and Mice Infestations .....	1,985
Abatement of Smoke Nuisances .....	19
Camping Sites and Gipsy Caravans .....	130
Complaints concerning holiday accommodation .....	5
Schools .....	5
Refuse Tip .....	39
Provision of satisfactory dustbins .....	54
Insect Pests .....	135
Other Public Health purposes .....	253

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED AND IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.

Drainage and Sanitation :

Cesspools abolished and premises connected to sewer	2
Drains tested .....	5
Drains re-laid and repaired .....	11
Choked drains cleared .....	41
Inspection chambers constructed or repaired .....	5
Water closets constructed or fittings repaired or renewed .....	14
Defective and worn sinks and wastepipes replaced ..	6
Soil pipes/Vent pipes renewed or repaired .....	2
W.C. flushing cisterns repaired or renewed .....	11
Baths installed voluntarily by owners .....	12

Dampness remedied :

Roofs, gutters and downspouts repaired .....	28
Dampness remedied by insertion of dampcourses, rendering, etc .....	29

cont.

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED AND IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED cont.

General defects remedied :

Natural light and ventilation of rooms improved ...	2
Staircases, etc. repaired .....	5
Floors repaired, ventilation improved and dry rot eradicated .....	8
Walls rebuilt or repaired .....	5
Walls repointed .....	10
Chimney stacks repaired .....	3
Window frames, sashcords, &c. repaired or renewed..	62
Doors repaired or renewed .....	9
Stoves and Firegrates repaired or renewed .....	10
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired .....	31
External wood and ironwork repainted .....	2
Walls and ceilings of rooms cleansed .....	11
Yard paving repaired .....	4

Miscellaneous Defects or other matters dealt with :

Dirty conditions remedied or improved .....	2
Overcrowding abated .....	8
Ditches and watercourses cleansed and regraded ....	1
Accumulations removed .....	30
Animal nuisances abated .....	2
Dustbins provided by owners or occupiers .....	7
Sanitary accommodation provided or improved at factories .....	1
Smoke nuisances .....	6

Disinfestation :

Houses disinfested of fleas .....	5
Treatment applied for destruction of other insect pests .....	37
Premises treated for destruction of rats or mice ..	225

Water Supply :

Water services repaired or reinstated .....	5
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cont.

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED AND IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED cont.

Food Premises - Improvements resulting mainly from the new Food Hygiene Regulations.

Unsatisfactory food storage premises closed .....	1
Structural repairs and improvements .....	2
Wash hand basins complete with hot and cold water installed .....	7
Sinks complete with hot and cold water installed ..	4
Refuse bins provided .....	4
Dirty premises cleansed .....	2
Warnings given re use of tobacco .....	1
Natural light and ventilation improved .....	1
Constant hot water supply installed over sinks and/or basins .....	8
Accommodation for outdoor clothing provided .....	2
Warnings re unhygienic practices .....	2

SMOKE CONTROL.

Herne Bay is a residential and holiday resort with little industry so it is free from the problems of industrial smoke, with the exception of the occasional emission from Laundry chimneys.

Domestic smoke is a problem in every town and, even at industrial towns, it is a major cause of atmospheric pollution.

It is important therefore to prevent domestic smoke by the burning of smoke-less fuels, and by the installation of grates designed to burn coal which is not smoke-less, and to do so with very little smoke emission.

The Council has not yet adopted the model byelaw which is designed to prevent smoke emission from new buildings by requiring the installation of appliances for heating or cooking which will either burn smoke-less fuels or be capable of burning smoke producing fuels with very little smoke emission.

The Clean Air Act, 1956, is a great help in dealing with the smoke problem. The Act has four main purposes:-

- (a) To prohibit the emission of dark smoke from chimneys, railway engines, and vessels, subject to certain qualifications.
- (b) To prohibit the installation of new industrial furnaces unless they are capable, so far as practicable, of being operated without emitting smoke.
- (c) To require that the emission of grit and dust from existing industrial furnaces shall be minimised, and that new industrial furnaces shall be provided with grit arresting equipment.
- (d) To empower Local Authorities by order, subject to approval by the Ministry concerned, to declare "smoke-control areas" in which the emission of smoke from chimneys will constitute an offence.

It is unlikely that there will ever be the need to make a "smoke control area" at Herne Bay. However, as the town grows we must be alive to the increased domestic smoke emission which will result, and the time to do this is when the buildings are erected.

To keep our knowledge on atmospheric pollution and smoke prevention up to date, Mr. Weller and I attended a Clean Air and Smoke Prevention course at Canterbury Technical College.

#### SHOPS AND OFFICES.

36 visits were made to shop premises and these were inspected concerning the requirements of the Shops Act, 1950 relating to the health and comfort of shop workers. The few defects and deficiencies which were noted were remedied by informal action.

It was not necessary during the year to take any action concerning unsatisfactory office accommodation.

ERADICATION OF VERMIN.

During the year five houses were treated for destruction of fleas. No houses were found to require treatment for the destruction of bugs.

I am pleased to comment again upon the continued improvement in the general standard of cleanliness. Verminous houses are now rarely encountered.

Before the occupation of a house owned or controlled by the Council, the incoming tenant's furniture is examined if there is any doubt as to the possibility of infestation. Many tenants are so obviously clean that this check is not necessary in all cases.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

The following tables give the prescribed particulars which are required to be furnished by Section 128 (3) of the Factories Act, 1937, with respect to matters under Part 1 of the Act, which are administered by the District Council. (Section 1. - Inspections for purposes relating to health provisions. Section 2 - Cases in which defects were found) :

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

Section 1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises.	No. on Register	Inspections	Number of:	
			Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	8	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	74	47	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority * excluding out-workers premises	2	2	-	-

\* i.e. Electrical stations (Section 103(i), institutions (Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

Section 2. NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

	Found	Remedied	Referred		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			to H. M. Inspector	by H. M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	1	1	-	-	-
Over-crowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature.	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors.	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (a) insufficient.	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS :</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

## Outwork:

This is work given out to be done at the worker's home which is subject to inspection to ensure that the work is performed under satisfactory conditions. Outworkers were visited at their homes which were considered to be satisfactory for the work performed.

## MOVEABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING SITES.

I dislike repetition, but if members are to have complete information under this heading, I cannot avoid repeating some information which has appeared in previous Annual Reports.

There are twelve licensed camping sites in the Urban District which accommodated 1,274 caravans when a census was taken in July, 1958.

The caravan holiday continues to retain its popularity, especially with families having young children. There is much to be said for the freedom of the caravan holiday upon a choice site with good summer weather. There must be approximately 5,000 persons staying at licensed sites at Herne Bay during the holiday season. To this must be added the many young people who stay at tented camps during school holidays.

The largest camp is conducted by the Council upon two sites at Reculver. The site south of Reculver Towers is well provided with amenities and useful facilities. It has an ample number of water closets, ablution basins, as well as showers and footbaths, all of which are contained in two spacious brick buildings - one for each sex. There are also facilities for washing personal clothing - very necessary where there are small children upon a holiday of more than one week. These arrangements are repeated upon the Council's west site where a large brick building was completed in 1957.

The conveniences and washing arrangements provided by the Herne Bay Council at its Reculver Caravan Sites are a model of what such facilities should be. There is also an administrative building and a warden in charge of the sites.

It is intended to appoint a camp manager to administer these municipal caravan sites, and he will commence his duties in 1959. At the administrative building all manner of useful services are available for caravaners. In recent years a local doctor has been in attendance on certain evenings each week to deal with campers ailments and give medical attention when necessary.

Each of the twelve caravan sites have water closets and satisfactory systems of drainage. Seven sites are drained to the public sewer; three have private purification plants, including the Council's caravan sites at Reculver. The remaining sites are drained to cesspools which are regularly emptied by the Council at the expense of the licensees. At the Council's site south of Reculver Towers, concrete roads have been extended and additional gullies together with standpipes provided for the convenience of campers.

Licensed sites are generally of good type as the Council insists upon high standards of sanitation, cleanliness and general good management. Regular inspections are made throughout the summer months to ensure that the standard is maintained. In July each year it is the practice for the chairman and members of the Public Health and Housing Committee to carry out an inspection of caravan sites.

Owners of camp sites are encouraged to provide adequate artificial lighting, especially at conveniences. The occupation of all tents and caravans upon licensed sites is restricted to prevent winter occupation of caravans which is considered by the Council to be undesirable.

The following licensed sites are in regular use during the summer months. Figures in brackets show the number of caravans at each site during the summer of 1958.

- (604) Two Herne Bay Urban District Council camps, Reculver, (west and south of Reculver Towers.)
- {42} Glencourt Caravan Site, Fairfax Drive, Beltinge.
- {24} Camp at Coastguard House, Swalecliffe.
- {120} Camp at "Waterways" Tea Gardens, Reculver.
- {110} Cliff Pavilion, Glenbervie Drive, Beltinge.
- {45} Cliff Top, Standard Avenue, Studd Hill.
- {89} Kendall's Camp, Beltinge.

- (57) S. W. Farrow's Camp, Reculver.
- (35) Hillborough Park - formerly the London Boys Camp.
- (75) Westbrook Camp, Sea Street.
- (77) Hoathwood Caravan Site, Herne Common.

An additional licence was granted in 1957 to Mr. S. W. Farrow to permit him to station caravans upon land opposite his existing site. This additional site, together with conveniences etc., was ready for the 1958 holiday season.

The former London Boys Camp at Hillborough was purchased by Mr. A. Fitt who intends to develop it as a superior type of caravan site with club house for members. This intention was partly implemented in 1958 when 35 caravans were sited. It is intended to site a much larger number when the necessary facilities can be provided.

At the nearby Keat Farm 32 tents and caravans were sited in July and August upon land which was not licensed under the Public Health Act.

Temporary winter occupation of five caravans at Westbrook Farm was permitted for the winter of 1958/59 only.

During the school holidays numerous tented camps are set up by Youth Organisations, which are exempted from the licensing requirements of the Public Health Act. These camps are well organised and conducted.

Abbotswood Estate, at the west end of the town, was sold as building plots many years ago, but has not been developed. Some of the plot owners make use of their sites for short period camping during summer holidays. The land is not licensed under the Public Health Act.

#### INSECT PESTS.

Forty-two applications were received and dealt with for the destruction of fleas, flies, cockroaches, ants, red mite, furniture beetles, wasps and bees. Ponds and streams were regularly sprayed throughout the summer months for the destruction of mosquitoes etc.

Occasionally we are asked to give advice concerning insects which are unknown to us. These we send to the

British Museum (Natural History Section) for identification. The Entomologist promptly supplies full information of life history, habits and methods of destruction.

### RODENT CONTROL.

A free service is provided by the Council at private dwelling houses for the destruction of rats and mice. Half the cost of operating the service is recovered from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, but a charge is made at business premises, including farms, as these are not recognised by the Ministry for grant purposes.

During the year under review 225 premises were treated for destruction of rats and mice. All adjoining premises were surveyed to ascertain the extent of infestations reported or discovered. A total of 1,976 visits were made for survey of premises and treatment where rats were found.

Rat destruction nowadays is not a haphazard process. A standard technique is carefully followed, and advantage is taken of new poisons and improved methods as these are developed by the Research Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, whose assistance I am pleased to acknowledge with gratitude. Efforts of neighbouring local authorities are co-ordinated and joint meetings are held from time to time.

Treatment was applied for rat destruction at :

	<u>Degree of infestation.</u>	
	<u>Major.</u>	<u>Minor.</u>
Private dwellinghouses	-	144
Business premises	-	20
Farms	-	1
Refuse Tip	-	15
Other Council properties	-	3

Treatment was applied for mice destruction at :

Private dwellinghouses	27
Business premises	10
School canteens	5

A "Major" infestation is one where there are twelve or more rats; less than that number is regarded as a "Minor" infestation.

It was not necessary during the year to serve any statutory notices to secure destruction of rats at infested premises.

The Council's refuse tip at Broomfield is treated regularly each month throughout the year for rat destruction. A refuse tip is a special attraction to rats and it is interesting to record that during the major part of 1958 the tip was again free from rats. This is no doubt the result of controlled tipping and continuous baiting.

Agricultural land and premises were systematically surveyed throughout the district; at only one farm were rats discovered. Particular attention is paid to ricks during threshing, when guards have to be erected to prevent escape of rats which may be in the rick.

Accumulations were removed frequently from undeveloped land, for if allowed to remain they afford harbourage for rats and mice.

RAT DESTRUCTION IN SEWERS.

Sewers are treated regularly twice each year for rat destruction. In April, five sections of the sewerage system were included in the treatment. In two of these, bait was taken at 11 manholes which were poison baited.

In the Autumn, these two sections were again poison baited. On that occasion bait was laid in 56 manholes and at 13 the bait was taken.

The cost of both treatments amounted to approximately £63. half of which will be recovered from the Ministry of

## Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Treatment of sewers for destruction of rats is considered to be important because sewer infestations so often give rise to surface infestations. If rats are to be controlled upon the surface, sewers must not escape treatment. It is fortunate for the purpose of rat control that the sewerage system at Herne Bay is composed of nine separate sections. This isolates infestations and facilitates rat destruction treatment. In four of the sections there have been no rats since 1947.

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

This Act, which came into force on the 1st November, 1951, is intended to secure the use of clean filling materials, for which purpose a local authority must :

- (a) Consider the granting, renewing or withholding of licences for premises relating to rag flock;
- (b) Carry out inspections of registered and licensed premises as often as may appear to be necessary;
- (c) Grant certificates of registration in respect of premises using filling materials to which the Act applies;
- (d) Take proceedings for offences under the Act.

Four premises in the Urban District are registered under the Act.

### HOUSING.

#### Inspection, Repair, Closure and Demolition.

- (a) Number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts..... 261
- (b) Number of houses found to be in any respect unfit for human habitation ..... 120

(c)	Number of houses found to be unfit for human habitation and incapable of repair at reasonable expense. (Includes the Herne Clearance Area) .....	14
(d)	Number of houses at which defects were remedied by informal action .....	53
(e)	Number of houses rendered fit after service of formal repair notices. (2 by owners, and 1 by the Council in default of the owner) .....	3
(f)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which demolition orders were made .....	1
(g)	Number of houses demolished. (Hawthorne Grange and Hawthorne Cottage) .....	2
(h)	Number of houses closed in pursuance of Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957 .....	5
(i)	Number of houses reconditioned and undertakings cancelled .....	3

Notes upon the above.

- (f) A Demolition Order was made in respect of Hawthorne Cottage.
- (g) Houses demolished were Hawthorne Grange, and Hawthorne Cottage near the Chez Laurie, Thanet Way.
- (h) Houses closed for human habitation were:
- "Buff Cott", 13 Terminus Drive.  
5 New Street.  
96 High Street,  
122 Ridgeway.  
65 King's Road.
- (i) Houses reconditioned, improved and made fit include the following:
- 5 & 6 Hill Cottages, Herne,  
(formerly 1 & 2 Sayer's Cottages)  
2 Hill Cottages, Herne.

THE "FIVE YEAR PROGRAMME" - PROGRESS REPORT.

In 1955, 139 houses were surveyed and 70 of them were scheduled as unfit. They are to be dealt with by demolition or closure, during a five year period from August 1955/1960. This survey was carried out by all local authorities as a requirement of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954. By December 1958 the following progress had been made with the Five Year Programme. 40 houses, or parts of houses, had been closed or demolished or were in process of closure or demolition. This figure includes Nos. 1 - 10 Beach Street, and 6 houses in the Herne Clearance Area. In addition 27 houses, not included in the Five Year Programme, were found to be unfit and were closed for human habitation. Of this total of 67 houses dealt with since the Autumn of 1955, in 33 instances it was necessary, or will be necessary, for the Council to rehouse tenants. 19 houses and 3 parts of houses were vacant when closed.

THE HERNE CLEARANCE AREA.

This Clearance Area comprises Nos. 1 - 5 South View Cottages and 1 - 4 Sheppards Cottages, Herne Street.

They were represented by the Medical Officer of Health in December 1958. It is intended to purchase the sites for construction of flats for old people.

IMPROVEMENTS AND CONVERSIONS - HOUSING ACT, 1949.

Grants under the Housing Act, 1949 were resumed in September, 1956, after a short period when they were discontinued. Applications for grants are dealt with by Mr. W. W. Smith, the Council's Engineer and Surveyor.

Schemes submitted and approved during the year .....	13
Total cost of such schemes .....	£6,187
Amount of grants approved (50% of cost) .....	£3,149

HOUSING ACT, 1936 - OVERCROWDING.

1.	(a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .....	10
	(b) Number of families dwelling therein ..	17
	(c) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	67
2.	Number of new cases of overcrowding recorded during the year .....	2
3.	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .....	8

Note re item 2.

None of these cases of overcrowding occurred at premises where overcrowding had previously been relieved.

Sub-Letting at Council Houses.

The Council makes a charge of 5s. 0d a week for permitted sub-letting at Council houses, and 2s. 6d. per week in respect of lodgers, where permitted.

In June it was decided to discontinue charges in respect of 6 aged parents living with sons and daughters. These aged parents had no income other than the State pension.

By the end of 1958 there were 23 sub-tenants and lodgers residing at Council houses with consent.

CAR PARKING AT COUNCIL HOUSES.

During the past few years the parking of cars upon front lawns and forecourts has become a growing practice. The Council decided to prohibit this parking, which damages lawns and detracts from the good appearance of the Council's estates. It has been necessary to threaten tenants with notice to quit to abate offences.

The Council has provided two garages at Council houses on tenant's request. They are let at rents which will meet the rates and loan repayments. A few tenants have been allowed to erect garages. There seems to be a need for some lock-up garages at Council housing estates. The Housing Manager was given instructions to ascertain the number of tenants requiring garages who would be willing to rent lock-up garages if constructed.

#### POULTRY KEEPING AT COUNCIL HOUSES.

Regulations continue in force for the control of poultry keeping at Council houses. The keeping of cockerels is prohibited and hens must not exceed six in number.

Hen-houses must be constructed according to a standard design.

The object of the regulations and standardised hen-houses is to ensure that poultry are not kept so as to become an unsightly nuisance, which so often happens when poultry keeping is uncontrolled.

#### NEW HOUSES ERECTED AND UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

The number of new houses erected during the year and the number under construction on 31st December, 1958, was as follows:-

Houses and flats erected by :	Number erected	Number under construction
The Local Authority	-	26
Other bodies and persons	162	110
TOTALS	162	136

## HOUSING ACCOMMODATION OWNED BY THE COUNCIL.

The total number of houses, flats etc., owned by the Local Authority at 31st December, 1958, was 720. The number includes 165 pre-war three bedroom houses and 11 miscellaneous pre-war properties. The balance includes 421 post-war houses, 74 post-war flats and 49 prefabricated bungalows.

The 421 post-war houses are mainly of the three bedroom type, but there are some with two bedrooms and a few with four bedrooms.

Work upon 26 single bedroom flats at Pier Avenue and Clarence Street, was about to commence at the end of the year.

The Council's tenancy agreement was completely revised in 1958, and made applicable to all tenants of Council houses.

## RENTS.

Rents of Council houses at Herne Bay are no longer subsidised by direct subsidy from the local rates. The local rate subsidy was withdrawn early in 1956.

Rents, including rates, vary from £1. 1. 9d per week for three bedroom, pre-war houses, to £2. 0. 7d per week for three bedroom, post-war houses. Post-war four bedroom houses are £1. 19. 6d per week. Flats are let at £1. 5. 8d and £1. 6. 3d per week. (These rents include rates levied for the financial year commencing the 1st April, 1959.)

A differential rent scheme was considered by the Council but was not proceeded with.

## COUNCIL HOUSE GARDENS COMPETITION.

This is a useful method of encouraging tenants to cultivate attractive gardens. At the same time it gives opportunity for members of the Public Health and Housing Committee to become acquainted with the Council's housing estates. Inspection of the gardens and judging is done by Members themselves who decide upon the gardens worthy of prizes. The first prize is a Silver Challenge Cup held for

one year by the tenant having the best front and back garden. The holder also receives a cheque for three guineas. There are second and third prizes in that class and a further three prizes, first, second and third, for houses with back gardens only.

#### HOUSING OF APPLICANTS AND TRANSFER OF TENANTS.

During the year 30 applicants whose names appeared on the Council's housing register, were housed by the Herne Bay Council. Members of the Council's staff were given tenancies of two houses. In addition 11 tenants were rehoused from houses unfit for human habitation at the Beach Street Clearance Area and elsewhere.

21 of these families were placed at accommodation given up by tenants for various reasons.

In addition to the above, 18 tenants were transferred to accommodation more suitable to the needs of their growing or diminishing families. Three tenants were required to transfer to smaller accommodation from under-occupied four bedroom houses.

5 exchanges of tenancy were permitted with tenants of Council houses at various towns.

It was decided to assist a new industry by agreeing to offer housing accommodation to four key workers.

One tenant was housed after eviction by Order of the Court.

#### SELECTION OF TENANTS.

It is still the practice before each housing allocation to visit applicants who have been waiting for a year or more. Not only does this provide up-to-date information upon the living conditions of applicants, but it enables the housing register to be revised by the deletion of names of those who have left the district without notification, or who no longer have a genuine housing need.

## HOUSING REGISTER.

The register at the end of the year contained the names of 355 applicants, all but 4 of whom were local residents. The 4 non-residents qualify as applicants because they are employed at Herne Bay.

In September, the composition of the waiting list was analysed, and applicants classified according to the type of accommodation they would need which was as follows:-

Applicants with children needing 2 or 3 bedroom houses.	148
Couples needing 2 bedroom flats.	87
Single applicants (mostly elderly) needing one bedroom flats.	101

The waiting list, which reached a peak of nearly 1,000 in the early post-war years, reduced to 260 by December, 1956. It has since risen to 355 and it will probably continue to rise for the following reasons:-

- (a) The Rent Act, 1957, has so increased the rents of privately owned properties that Council houses are now a better proposition - a better house with modern amenities at a rent which is generally lower than a comparable house privately owned.

Tenants who were prepared to endure low rented houses in poor repair and lacking in amenities have had to meet heavy rent increases and are seeking better value for their money.

- (b) The construction of flats at Pier Avenue has stimulated a flow of new applicants from many elderly people who have not previously considered applying for Council accommodation. Many of these are having to pay higher rent increases than they can afford, and others are finding it difficult to live in large houses they cannot maintain.

The following table shows the position of the housing register since 1950 :

December	1950	-	645	applicants.
"	1951	-	495	"
"	1952	-	512	"
"	1953	-	323	"
"	1954	-	346	"
"	1955	-	317	"
"	1956	-	260	"
"	1957	-	305	"
"	1958	-	355	"

#### HOUSES GIVEN UP BY THEIR TENANTS.

It will be noted under a previous paragraph that 21 tenancies were given up during 1958. This is a reduction on the number of houses given up in 1957, and we might expect a further reduction in the number in 1959. It is now more difficult to obtain well paid employment in other parts of the country and this is having its effect.

Houses given up in	1951	-	Nil
"	"	"	6
"	"	"	6
"	"	"	19
"	"	"	23
"	"	"	21
"	"	"	29
"	"	"	21

#### FUTURE HOUSING POLICY.

In November a special meeting of the Public Health and Housing Committee was held to consider future housing policy. It was decided to continue with the building of flats and to use the building quota for 1959 for construction of flats with one and two bedrooms.

In July it was decided to purchase a large house for conversion to 6 - 2 room flats for old people. This occurred after a visit to Brighton where similar conversions were

inspected by the Chairman and members of the Public Health and Housing Committee.

Housing policy is still determined centrally to a large extent, and local authorities are not free to build as many houses as they wish. Quotas, introduced as an anti-inflationary measure, have not been lifted. The building quota for 1959 is 28 flats which have to suffice for all purposes - general need and rehousing tenants from unfit houses. It has been decided to build most of these at the Sea Street and Beaumont Street site. Each year the Council reviews its housing policy. It was decided to continue for a further year the policy of building no more houses.

The policy of the Government upon housing subsidies was revised in 1957. No subsidies are now payable in respect of houses built for "general purposes", namely for applicants upon the waiting list. Houses built to accommodate tenants from unfit houses closed or demolished under the Housing Act, qualify for a subsidy of £22. 1. 0d per annum for 60 years, and single bedroom flats qualify for a subsidy of £10. 0. 0d per annum for the same period.

This discourages the building of houses by Council's except for housing persons to be displaced from unfit houses.

High building costs, high rates of interest, and discontinuance of subsidies are still a considerable financial deterrent to the building of houses for general purposes. At Herne Bay housing for general needs is now dependant almost entirely upon termination of existing tenancies.

#### RENT ACT, 1957.

This Act, which has raised much controversy, came into operation on 6th July, 1957. Briefly, it decontrols certain houses and allows the rents of others to be increased, subject to reasonable repair.

A tenant can serve upon the landlord a notice setting out particulars of the repairs considered necessary. After a period of 6 weeks, if the landlord and tenant have not agreed upon what is to be done, and no undertaking has been given by the landlord, application can be made to the Council

for a "Certificate of Disrepair".

When such a certificate is granted the tenant can make certain rent deductions until it is cancelled upon completion of the necessary works. During 1957, fifteen applications were made for Certificates of Disrepair, and in 1958 there were eleven. All of these were granted.

Repairs which a tenant considers necessary should be agreed upon with the landlord. The Council is not concerned unless application for a Certificate of Disrepair is made by a tenant who has failed to reach agreement with his landlord.

An inspection is then made, and more often than not the list of defects prepared by the tenant is found to omit important items of disrepair.

The Act makes another important change in the law relating to landlord and tenant. It abolishes one week's notice to quit and substitutes a minimum of 4 weeks. This longer notice applies to Council houses and to furnished lettings. It applies whether the notice is served by the landlord or the tenant.

#### MILK.

The number of dairies and distributors operating in the Urban District at the end of the year was as follows :

#### Registered under the Milk and Dairies

#### Regulations, 1949.

Distributors	-	10
Retail Dairies	-	3

In addition, there are 31 general shops from which small quantities of bottled milk is sold. The number of registered dairies is reduced to three because other milk distributors now receive milk already bottled at registered premises.

The sale of bottled milk at general shops is on the increase and, as a measure of protection, traders are

encouraged to keep the milk in a refrigerator or in a cool place. Any milk unsold on the day of delivery is collected by the supplier.

Much of the milk sold at Herne Bay - particularly during the summer months - is derived from sources outside the town.

#### Examination of Samples.

The following samples of milk were collected and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Maidstone, for examination :

Grade of Milk	No. of samples taken.	Satisfied the test.	Failed the test.
Tuberculin Tested. (Raw Milk)	57	41	16
Pasteurised Milk.			
Methylene Blue Test.	34	34	-
Phosphatase Test.	34	34	-

In addition, one sample was examined for Tuberculosis with negative result.

Note: Samples of Tuberculin tested milk are taken on arrival at retailers' premises in series of three consecutive samples from each producer.

If more than one sample fails in a series, a report is obtained from the Provincial Milk Officer, of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

#### Milk Utensils.

During the year utensils of all kinds were again bacteriologically tested for cleanliness, and all were found to have been efficiently cleansed.

### Keeping Quality of Milk.

Local dairies and milk distributors' premises are equipped with refrigerators which help to preserve the keeping quality of milk until sent out on the rounds for delivery to consumers.

### ANNUAL LICENCES TO RETAIL MILK UNDER SPECIAL DESIGNATION.

The following licences were granted to milk distributors during 1958 :

#### Type of Licence :

Dealer's Licence to sell	
"Tuberculin Tested" Milk .....	14
Supplementary Licence .....	1
Dealer's Licence to sell	
"Pasteurised" Milk .....	40
Supplementary Licence .....	1
Dealer's Licence to sell	
"Sterilised" Milk .....	18

### PASTEURISATION PLANT.

There is a small pasteurising plant in the Urban District. It is licensed by the Kent County Council, which is the Food and Drugs Authority. This plant, formerly the "Holder method", was replaced by the more modern High Temperature Short Time Pasteurising Plant during the year under review.

### THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (SPECIFIED AREAS) (NO. 2) ORDER, 1955.

This Order came into force on 6th December, 1955, and applies to an area which includes Herne Bay. The Order has the effect of restricting the sale of milk to that which is pasteurised, sterilised, or tuberculin tested.

More than 90% of the population of England and Wales now live in specified areas within which only the above specially designated "safe" milk may be sold by retail.

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

### Meat Inspection and Slaughter Arrangements.

At the out break of war there were four licensed slaughter houses in use at Herne Bay. By the end of 1956 there remained only one licensed slaughter house, and it has not been used since 1939. The licence was renewed again for 1958.

Of the four slaughter houses, one licence was allowed to lapse, one was not renewed by the Council because the slaughter house was considered to be unsatisfactory, and during 1956 the third slaughter house was sold to a firm of timber merchants. During the years since the end of the war the problem of slaughter houses at Herne Bay has received much careful consideration by members of the Public Health and Housing Committee. The problem, which at one time seemed so complex has been quietly resolved.

I do not propose in this report to repeat in detail the many phases which have led up to the present position. That was fully described in my Annual Report for 1957 and in earlier reports.

Briefly, a questionnaire sent to local butchers revealed that Canterbury Abattoir is substantially meeting the needs of this town for the slaughter of home killed meat supplies. The Canterbury Abattoir is one of five which was constructed by the Ministry of Food during the period of control of meat supplies.

It is an up-to-date abattoir operating on the "line system" and has been purchased by the Canterbury City Council.

Government Policy on slaughtering has undergone considerable modification. During the war slaughtering was concentrated at relatively few slaughterhouses (500) taken over by the Ministry of Food.

"Moderate concentration" of slaughtering was then the long term policy. It was welcomed by Public Health Authorities as a means of concentrating slaughtering at good abattoirs where the throughput would justify the cost of

providing satisfactory facilities in good buildings.

Before the war, slaughtering in England and Wales was carried out at 12,000 private slaughterhouses, most of which were old, out of date, and badly sited.

It is regretted that many of these have been re-opened as a result of relaxation of Government policy on moderate concentration. This is unlikely to affect Herne Bay for the reason already stated, viz., that the Abattoir at Canterbury is fulfilling local requirements.

Slaughterhouse licences are now of four different classes viz :-

- (1) A "new licence" for "new premises".
- (2) A "new licence" for "existing premises"
- (3) A "renewed licence" in respect of "new premises"
- (4) A "renewed licence" in respect of "existing premises".

The licence renewed in December for the year 1959 is within class (4).

Construction Regulations have been issued and these will ultimately apply to all classes of slaughterhouses. In due course the Minister will announce an appointed day for the application of the Regulations to class (4) slaughterhouses. The Regulations will then affect any further application for renewal of the one remaining licensed slaughterhouse at Herne Bay.

#### Meat Transport.

The transport of meat is controlled by legislation and meat vans are inspected from time to time when seen unloading in the town. Representations have been made which have secured improvements in transport and handling of meat.

The very latest type of wholesale meat delivery van has been introduced by the Fat Stock Marketing Corporation. This van, as well as being insulated and lined with metal, is

provided with much improved loading and un-loading arrangements. These operations can be carried out without the need for the carrier to enter the van. This avoids the risk of contamination of the van by unclean footwear.

### UNSOUND FOOD.

During the year 227 lbs of food of all kinds was found to be unfit for human consumption and was surrendered by various traders. Although carcasses and organs of animals are inspected at the Abattoir after slaughter, conditions are occasionally met with at butchers shops which could not be detected at time of slaughter. I refer to such conditions as deep-seated bruising, bone taint, abscesses, advanced fatty change etc. which are dealt with by your own inspectors, both of whom are qualified inspectors of meat and other foods.

Condemned food is disposed of by burial.

### THE FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1955.

In previous annual reports I have outlined the action taken since these important Regulations came into operation on 1st January, 1956. All food premises were inspected in 1956, and they have since been revisited, to secure compliance with legal requirements.

Premises and equipment have generally been brought up to the required standard, indeed many have exceeded the minimum legal standards imposed by the Regulations.

During 1958 the following were required at food premises inspected :-

Insanitary food preparing room - use discontinued .....	1
Warnings re unhygienic practices .....	2
Sinks provided .....	5
Hot water provided over sink or wash hand basin .....	8
Wash hand basin provided .....	7
Store provided for outdoor clothing .....	3
Walls etc. cleansed .....	1
Refuse receptacles provided .....	1

## Education - Food Hygiene.

Talks are given to food handlers whenever the opportunity occurs.

### ICE CREAM.

Premises at which ice cream is manufactured or sold are subject to control by the Food and Drugs Act. The manufacture and sale of ice cream is also controlled by the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, and the Food Hygiene Regulations.

At the end of 1958 a total of 98 premises were registered for the sale of ice cream, and two for the manufacture and sale of ice cream. Locally, one trader only manufactures ice cream, and he uses the "hot-mix" method. During the year seven new registrations were approved for the sale of wrapped ice cream.

In addition to the above, ice cream is sold at 48 cafes, Inns, and restaurants, which do not require to be registered under the Food and Drugs Act.

"Lollipops" are manufactured at two premises, but these do not require to be registered for that purpose. It is now the policy to encourage traders selling wrapped ice cream to provide litter receptacles upon their premises. This helps considerably in keeping wrappers off the pavements outside ice cream premises.

### Examination of Samples.

Eight samples were submitted for pathological examination during the year, with the following results :

No. of Samples	Classification in Grades.
5	Grade 1
1	" 11
-	" 111
2	" IV

The two samples classified in Grade IV were of unwrapped ice cream which is exposed to more risk of contamination, especially from the use of servers.

Eight samples were also submitted for chemical analysis and were shown to have very good compositional quality - superior in all cases to the minimum compositional standard now required by law. Results of samples taken over the years give confidence that good quality ice cream is produced and sold to the public under satisfactory conditions of cleanliness.

The Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order, 1953, prescribes a legal minimum standard of fat 5%, milk solids other than fat 7½% and sugar 10%.

#### REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES AND OTHERS.

In addition to the registered dairies and ice cream premises already referred to, the following food premises are registered under the Food and Drugs Act.

Premises for preparation and manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale .....	30
Fried fish shops .....	6

Food premises which are not at present required to be registered under the Food and Drugs Act, include cafes, restaurants, bakehouses, confectionery, groceries and provisions, fruit, vegetables, wet fish, etc., of which there are 256.

A total of 221 visits were made to food premises of all kinds during 1958.

## PET ANIMALS ACT.

This Act came into operation upon the 1st April, 1952. It prohibits the keeping of a pet shop, except under the authority of a licence granted by the Council.

In deciding whether to grant a licence, the Council must have regard to the need for securing that there will be provided :

- (a) accommodation suitable as regards size, temperature, lighting and ventilation;
- (b) adequate supply of suitable food and drink;
- (c) that all reasonable precautions will be taken in case of fire and other emergency, and that animals will not be sold at too early an age.

One contravention was dealt with in 1958 in relation to fire precautions at a licensed shop.

Licences designed to secure compliance with the above and other conditions, have been granted by the Council permitting the keeping of pet animal shops at three premises in the Urban District, viz :

157 High Street,  
144 Mortimer Street,  
174 Mortimer Street.

## DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957.

In August of 1957 the administration of the above Order was delegated by the Kent County Council to the Herne Bay Urban District Council.

The Order requires the licensing of plant to ensure the efficient boiling of waste foods intended to be used for feeding pigs and poultry.

A survey of the district was made and pig and poultry keepers were visited. Only one of these, Mr. Hill of Briary Farm, Greenhill, operates within the scope of the Order and he was granted a licence to operate plant at his premises.

## PETROLEUM.

There are 35 Petroleum-Spirit stores at Herne Bay, which have to be licensed annually under the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928. Fees amounting to £26. 5. 0d were received in December for the renewal of annual licences.

The Public Health Inspector is responsible, as Petroleum Officer, for supervising new petroleum storage installations including the testing of tanks. He is also responsible for ensuring compliance with annual licensing conditions.

Important new Regulations came into operation on 1st July, 1957. These are intended to ensure that all possible safety precautions are taken at petroleum-spirit stores when delivery is made from a tank wagon to a storage tank upon the premises.

A model code has been prepared, for the guidance of local authorities, in the licensing of petroleum-spirit stores. Its preparation followed a recommendation made in a report upon the explosion at Bristol.

It is suggested in the Model Code that Licensing Authorities should require underground tanks to be tested after they have been installed 20 years, and at regular intervals thereafter. In the autumn of 1958, three tanks were tested in accordance with this recommendation.

Additional petrol storage capacity was provided at one garage by the installation of 2 - 1,000 gallon tanks, and by a 500 gallon tank at another.

## PUBLIC STREET LIGHTING.

The Public Health Inspector is responsible for street lighting. For several years he has been engaged upon conversion of street lighting from gas to electricity. The capital cost of this work is met by loans repayable over periods of 25 years. The loan repayments are covered by the saving upon the reduced cost of lighting by electricity. This conversion to electricity is effecting considerable improvement upon the street lighting

of the town at no extra cost to the rate payers. When the loans are repayed there will be a substantial reduction in street lighting costs. A scheme for conversion of a further 121 lamps to the east of Station Road, is due to commence early in 1959. Schemes have been prepared for new lighting systems at High Street, Avenue Road, Mortimer Street, William Street, Station Road, and the Sea Front - Lane End to Hampton, and Central Parade to Sea View Road.



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