

[Report 1962] / Medical Officer of Health, Herne Bay U.D.C.

Contributors

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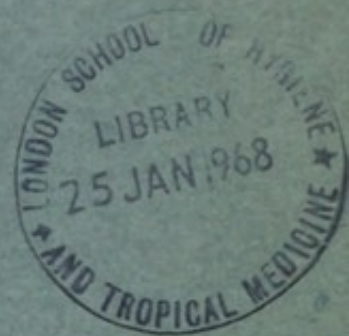
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HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT

1962

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., F.A.P.H.I.

HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT


ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1962



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HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT

Chairman of the Council:

Councillor Mrs. G.E. Fortune, 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 J. Conyon (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs. P.A. Sandercock (Vice-Chairman)
The Chairman of the Council
Councillor H. Allchin
" N.D. Atkin
" I. Fowler
" R.V. Rice
" L.A. Rook
" R.V. Sidnell
" C.E. Taber
" J.F.C. Waller

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF - 1962

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.

and at :

34 Grosvenor Place, Margate.
'phone Thanet 22201

Deputy Medical Officer of
Health - Part-time

Dorothy N. Ironside, M.B., C.H.B., D.

Senior Public Health Inspector C.J. Clark, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary
Inspector's Examination Joint Board.

Meat and Other Foods 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 Act Administration.
Public Lighting and Petroleum.

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 and Other Foods 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 Act Administration.
Housing Management.
Public Lighting and Petroleum.

Additional Public Health Inspector R.A. Maddock, M.A.P.H.I.

Certificate of the Public Health Inspector's Education Board.

Meat and Other Foods Inspector's Certificate of the Royal
Society of Health.

Duties:

Statutory duties of a Public Health Inspector
Shops Act Administration.
Housing Management.

Clerical Staff

Mrs. B.L. Eels (March 1957 - February 1962)
Miss H.F. Wilson
Miss V.C. Harris (January 1962)

General Assistant and Rodent Operators:

R. Watson
J. McDonnell

KENT COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES STAFF - 1962

in the Herne Bay Urban District

| | |
|--|--|
| Health Visitor, School Nurses and Infant Life Protection Officers: | Miss D.A. Tremble, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Miss O. Revill, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. |
| Tuberculosis Health Visitor: | Miss M. Brangan, S.R.N., S.C.M., Cert. R.S.I., H.V. |
| Midwives: | Mrs. Shipton, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss Cursons, S.R.N., S.C.M. |
| Home Nurses: | Mrs. D.M. Thompson, S.R.N., S.C.M. Q.N., R.F.N. Miss O. Sanders, S.R.N., S.F.N., Q.N. Miss C. Dory, S.R.N. Miss Haigh, 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: | Mrs. M.G. Oakley |
| School Enquiry Officer: | K.W. Ford |
| <u>Other Staff: South East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board</u> | |
| Chest Physician and Adviser on After-care of Tuberculosis: | Owen Clarke, M.D., M.R.C.P. |

Council Offices,
Herne Bay.

August, 1963

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of Herne Bay for the year of 1962, with which is included the report of the Senior Public Health Inspector.

VITAL STATISTICS

The vital statistics of the district show an increase in the population (as estimated by the Registrar General) of some 450. A decrease in the birth rate is shown, 12.18 in 1962 as compared with 12.42 in 1961. The total number of live births increased from 231 in 1961 to 238 in 1962. The death rate decreased from 15.05 in 1961 to 14.84 in 1962. The Infant Death Rate was 16.81 compared with 15.1 for England and Wales. 11.34% of the total live births were illegitimate.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

There was little infectious disease, the only serious case being a patient with Typhoid Fever who contracted the disease in the Far East.

MALIGNANT DISEASE

Deaths from Cancer of the Lung were double those of last year. The lungs are now the commonest organs of the body to be affected. Evidence of the association of cigarette smoking and Lung Cancer continues to accumulate.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

The Health Services provided in the town 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.

APPRECIATION

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 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 Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

G.L. Brocklehurst

Medical Officer of Health and Principal
Medical Officer, Area No. 2, Kent County Council.

HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

| | |
|--|----------|
| Area (including water - 8,566 acres) 323 acres) | 8,889 |
| Population, 1962 (Registrar General - Mid Year) | 21,100 |
| * Rateable Value (1st April, 1963) | £831,286 |
| * Estimated sum represented by the ld. rate | £ 3,300 |
| * Note: Figures shown are for 1963. | |

VITAL STATISTICS

(a) Mothers and Infants

| | <u>Herne Bay</u> | <u>England and Wales</u> |
|---|----------------------|------------------------------|
| <u>Live Births</u> | | |
| Number M. 124 F. 114 Total | 238 | - |
| Rate per 1000 population | 11.28 | - |
| * Adjusted Birth Rate | 12.18 | 18.0 |
| Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births) | 11.34% | - |
| <u>Stillbirths:</u> | | |
| Number M. 3 F. 4 Total | 7 | - |
| Rate per 1000 total live and still births | 28.57 | 18.1 |
| Total live and still births | 245 | - |
| <u>Infant Deaths</u> (deaths under one year) | 4 | - |
| <u>Infant Mortality Rates</u> | | |
| Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births | 16.81 | 21.6 |
| Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births | 18.95 | - |
| Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births | 00.0 | - |

| | <u>Herne Bay</u> | <u>England and Wales</u> |
|--|------------------|--------------------------|
| Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births) | 16.81 | 15.1 |
| Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births) | 16.81 | - |
| Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and still births) | 44.89 | 30.8 |
| Maternal Mortality (including abortion) | | |
| Number of deaths | NIL | - |
| Rate per 1000 total live and still births | 00.0 | - |

(b) Deaths - General population

| | | | |
|--|-----|-------|------|
| Male | 197 | | |
| Female | 254 | | |
| Total | | 451 | - |
| Deaths per 1000 of the estimated population mid 1962 | | 21.37 | - |
| * Adjusted death rate | | 14.84 | 11.9 |

* The figures shown as "adjusted Birth Rate" and "adjusted Death Rate" have been corrected by comparability factors supplied by the Registrar General.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT DURING 1962

| CAUSES | Males | Females |
|--|-------|---------|
| | 197 | 254 |
| 1. Tuberculosis, respiratory | - | - |
| 2. Tuberculosis, other | 1 | - |
| 3. Syphilitis disease | - | - |
| 4. Diphtheria | - | - |
| 5. Whooping cough | - | - |
| 6. Meningococcal infections | - | - |
| 7. Acute Poliomyelitis | - | - |
| 8. Measles | - | - |
| 9. Other infective and parasitic diseases | - | 1 |
| 10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach | 9 | 3 |
| 11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus | 21 | 4 |
| 12. Malignant neoplasm, breast | - | 10 |
| 13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus | - | 1 |
| 14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm | 20 | 22 |
| 15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia | 2 | 2 |
| 16. Diabetes | 1 | 3 |
| 17. Vascular lesions of nervous system | 29 | 44 |
| 18. Coronary disease, angina | 39 | 26 |
| 19. Hypertension with heart disease | 2 | 6 |
| 20. Other heart disease | 21 | 64 |
| 21. Other circulatory diseases | 11 | 16 |
| 22. Influenza | - | - |
| 23. Pneumonia | 5 | 23 |
| 24. Bronchitis | 14 | 7 |
| 25. Other diseases of respiratory system | - | 1 |
| 26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | - | 3 |
| 27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea | 2 | - |
| 28. Nephritis, and nephrosis | 1 | 1 |
| 29. Hyperplasia of prostate | - | - |
| 30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion | - | - |
| 31. Congenital malformations | - | 1 |
| 32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 14 | 12 |
| 33. Motor vehicle accidents | - | 1 |
| 34. All other accidents | 1 | 2 |
| 35. Suicide | 4 | 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 villages of the Bridge Blean Rural District. It lies between the Whitstable Urban District on the west and Birchington, in the Borough of Margate, on the east; to the south, and approximately eight miles distant, is the City of Canterbury.

The town is a holiday resort, and there is considerable seasonal employment in catering for the needs of visitors during the summer months. The population figure is then almost double that of the winter residential population.

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. The town has grown appreciably during recent years. This is reflected in the Registrar General's mid-year estimate. The electrification of the railway system has attracted many more residents and visitors to the town, which continues to expand.

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. Agricultural employment is available in the rural area. It is the Council's policy to attract suitable light industries to the town to establish a more balanced community. This has met with some success.

The Kent County Council is the Education Authority for the Urban District. There are four County Primary and Junior Schools, and one County Modern School. In addition, there are independent fee-paying schools for boarders and day scholars. Herne Bay has two large convalescent homes for adults and several smaller ones for children. There are holiday homes and homes for old people and the chronic sick. The Cripplecrafft Home provides occupation and welfare for the disabled. Herne Bay Memorial Hospital and Herne Hospital employ a number of nursing and domestic workers.

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 1962:

| Period | Sunshine Hours: | Rainfall Inches: |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1962 | 1571.0 | 17.89 |
| Monthly Mean: | 130.9 | 1.49 |
| Daily Average: | 4.3 | 0.049 |

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

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. This is one of a chain of laboratories established by the Ministry of Health throughout the country.

Services provided by the Kent County Council under the N.H.S.A.

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 the staff. During 1962 these duties were performed by Miss D.A. Tremble and Miss O. Revill.

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

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. There are 4 such nurses in this district.

Domicilliary Midwifery

A comprehensive service is available, and two midwives are employed.

Domestic Help Service

Domestic help is obtainable for the sick, 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 Organiser, Mrs. A. Kingston.

District Office

The Kent County Council has established a District Office at Whitstable, where enquiries can be made with regard to the County Council Health Services.

National Health Service Act, 1946

Maintenance of the Family as an Effective Unit

The Ministry have approved the modification of the County's existing proposals, by inclusion of the following:

"The Council intends to introduce and, from time to time, develop arrangements designed to ensure the maintenance of the family as an effective unit including, in the interests of the children, the rehabilitation and training at recuperative centres of the parents, particularly the mother, and the use as necessary of the services provided under Section 22 of the Act, relating to the expectant and nursing mother, and children below school age, Section 24 relating to health visiting and Section 29 to the domestic help, family help and child help services."

Treatment Centres and Clinics

Clinics continued to be held regularly throughout the year at the Kent County Council's Health Centre, King's 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 Smallpox by appointment at this Clinic. The Health Centre, King's Road. | Mondays and Thursdays | Afternoons |
| Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation Clinic | Held monthly by the Medical Officer of Health, usually on middle Tuesday in month. | |
| B.C.C. Vaccination Clinic | Held monthly by Chest Physician at times arranged with Tuber- culosis Health Visitor. | |
| Poliomyelitis Vaccination Clinic | Held by arrangements made by Medical Officer of Health, County Hall, Maidstone. | |

School Health Service

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

| | |
|--|--|
| Minor Ailments Clinic | Days and Attendance of Medical Officer. |
| The Health Centre, King's Road, Herne Bay. | Every second and fourth Thursday afternoon at 4.30 p.m. |

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 Ophthalmic | 51 London Road, Canterbury. The Health Centre, King's Road, and Kent & Canterbury Hospital. |
| Orthopaedic Speech Defects | Kent & Canterbury Hospital. County Clinics, 94 Whitstable Road, Canterbury. |

Dental Clinic

Patients receive attention at the Dental Clinic, Health Centre, King's Road, Herne Bay, by appointment on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

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 & Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury | (Women) Tuesdays | 2.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. |
| | (Men) | 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).

Development of Hospital Services

A plan for the development of hospital services, reported by the Clerk of the Council in 1960, was referred to in some detail in my Annual Report of 1960 and 1961.

Smallpox Hospital Accommodation

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

Registration of Nursing Homes

Sections 187 to 194, Public Health Act, 1936

Two nursing homes were operating during 1962, and the following table gives particulars of the number of beds available.

| Year 1962 | No. of Homes | No. of beds provided for | | Totals |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------|--------|
| | | Maternity | Others | |
| Homes on register during the year. | 2 | - | 29 | 29 |

Convalescent Homes and Holiday Homes, etc.

There are several Holiday and Convalescent Homes in the Urban District, with accommodation for some 400 patients.

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

National Assistance Act, 1948

Two burials were arranged under Section 50 of the above Act, during 1962.

Public Mortuary

The Council own an up-to-date 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.

The Whitstable Urban District Council, being without a satisfactory mortuary, approached the Herne Bay Council with a view to sharing the use of the mortuary belonging to the Herne Bay Council. This was agreed and has continued subject to financial arrangements on a population basis. The arrangement operated from 1st April, 1961.

During the year, 62 bodies were admitted from Herne Bay and 35 from Whitstable. Upon all of these, post-mortem examinations were held.

Schools

There are 2 independent Boarding Schools and 2 independent Day Schools in the Urban District, with accommodation for some 527 children.

In addition there are 4 County Primary and Junior Schools and 1 County Modern School. There are 2,372 children attending schools in Herne Bay.

Food Poisoning

No outbreaks of food poisoning occurred throughout the year.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following is a summary of the incidence of infectious diseases during the year.

| DISEASES | Total cases notified. | Cases admitted to hospital. | Total Deaths. |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Typhoid Fever | 1 | 1 | - |
| Scarlet Fever | - | - | - |
| Whooping Cough | - | - | - |
| Measles | 3 | - | - |
| Sonne Dysentery | - | - | - |
| Acute Influenzal Pneumonia | - | - | - |
| Poliomyelitis | - | - | - |
| Tuberculosis | 3 | 2 | - |
| TOTALS | 7 | 3 | - |

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

| DISEASES | Under 1 | 1 - 2 | 2 - 3 | 3 - 4 | 4 - 5 | 5 - 10 | 10 - 15 | 15 - 20 | 20 - 25 | 35 - 45 | 45 and over |
|---------------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|
| Measles | - | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Tuberculosis | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Typhoid Fever | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |

Compared with the total number of infectious diseases notified during 1961, this year's figure has notably decreased. (7 as against 148).

Chickenpox is no longer required to be notified as an infectious disease.

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

| YEAR | Children 1 - 5 years. | Children 5 - 15 years. | Adults | TOTALS |
|------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------|--------|
| 1958 | 3 | 5 | - | 8 |
| 1959 | 135 | 150 | 1 | 286 |
| 1960 | 1 | 1 | - | 2 |
| 1961 | 65 | 70 | 6 | 141 |
| 1962 | 2 | 1 | - | 3 |

Notifiable Infectious Diseases

Certain infectious diseases are required to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health when they occur. Anthrax has been added to the number of notifiable diseases, and Chickenpox has been deleted, because, in 1960, it ceased to be notifiable at Herne Bay.

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and mortality during the year 1962

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

| Inward and Outward Transfers Recoveries etc. | Pulmonary | | Non Pulmonary | |
|--|-----------|---|------------------|---|
| | M | F | M | F |
| Inward transfers from other areas. | 9 | 3 | - | 2 |
| Outward transfers to other areas. | 4 | 3 | - | 1 |
| Restored to register on return to district. | - | - | - | - |
| Reported to be "Recovered" | 6 | 6 | - | 1 |
| Removed from the register upon declining medical treatment | - | - | - | - |

The number of cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1962 was:

| Type of Case: | Male | Female | TOTALS |
|---------------|------|--------|--------|
| Pulmonary | 89 | 53 | 142 |
| Non-Pulmonary | 15 | 21 | 36 |
| TOTALS | 104 | 74 | 178 |

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 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.

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.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination, 1962

The following table shows the number of injections given in the various priority groups during the year ended 31st December, 1962.

| Year | 2 Injections (SALK) | 3rd Dose (SALK & ORAL) | 4th Dose (SALK & ORAL) | 3 ORALS (Complete course) |
|-------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1962 | - | - | - | 14 |
| 1961 | 8 | 54 | - | 93 |
| 1957 - 1960 | 52 | 139 | - | 36 |
| 1943 - 1956 | 17 | 149 | 132 | 34 |
| 1933 - 1942 | 14 | 81 | - | 27 |
| Others | 27 | 195 | - | 42 |

Immunisation and Vaccination

Set out below in the charts are the diphtheria immunisation, whooping cough immunisation and smallpox vaccination figures for 1962.

| Year of Birth | Diphtheria Immunisation (Singly or in combination) | | Whooping Cough Immunisation (Singly or in combination) |
|---------------|---|-------------|---|
| | Primary | Reinforcing | Primary |
| 1962 | 87 | Nil | 87 |
| 1961 | 101 | 1 | 100 |
| 1960 | 19 | 36 | 19 |
| 1959 | 5 | 11 | 4 |
| 1958 | 3 | 7 | 2 |
| 1953 - 1957 | 2 | 84 | 2 |
| 1948 - 1952 | Nil | 3 | Nil |
| Total | 217 | 142 | 214 |

Smallpox Vaccination

| Year of Birth | Number Vaccinated | Number Re-vaccinated |
|---------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1962 | 155 | - |
| 1961 | 40 | - |
| 1960 - 1958 | 59 | 6 |
| 1957 - 1948 | 120 | 69 |
| Before 1947 | 110 | 106 |
| Total | 484 | 181 |

Prescribed Particulars on the administration of
The Factories Act, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

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

| Premises (1) | Number on Register (2) | Number of | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| | | Inspections (3) | Written Notices (4) | Occ. Pros- ecuted. (5) | |
| (i) Factories in which Sec- tions 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Author- ities. | 7 |) | - | - | |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. | 85 | | 27 | - | - |
| (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. | 12 | |) | - | - |
| TOTAL | 104 | 27 | | - | - |

2. - Cases in which DEFECTS were found. (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases".)

| Particulars | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. |
|---|---|----------|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred | | |
| | | | To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector | |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1.) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Overcrowding (S.2.) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3.) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sanitary conveniences (S.7.) | | | | | |
| (a) | | | | | |
| Insufficient (b) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unsuitable or defective | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other offences against the Act. (not including offences relating to out-work. | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTALS | - | - | - | - | - |

Part V111 of the Act
OUTWORK
(Sections 133 and 134)

| Nature of Work | Section 133 | | | | Section 134 | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|----------------|--------------|--|
| | No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c) | No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council | No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists. | No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises | Notices served | Prosecutions | |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | |
| Wearing apparel } Making etc., } } Cleaning } } and } } Washing } | 13 | - | - | - | - | - | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | |
| Artificial Flowers | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 14 | - | - | - | - | - | |

Section 133 and 134
 Section 133
 Section 134

| Section 133 | Section 134 | Section 133 | Section 134 | Section 133 | Section 134 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| No. of provisions in original bill referred to the Committee | No. of provisions in original bill referred to the Committee | No. of provisions in original bill referred to the Committee | No. of provisions in original bill referred to the Committee | No. of provisions in original bill referred to the Committee | No. of provisions in original bill referred to the Committee |
| (a) | (a) | (a) | (a) | (a) | (a) |
| (b) | (b) | (b) | (b) | (b) | (b) |
| (c) | (c) | (c) | (c) | (c) | (c) |
| (d) | (d) | (d) | (d) | (d) | (d) |
| (e) | (e) | (e) | (e) | (e) | (e) |
| (f) | (f) | (f) | (f) | (f) | (f) |
| (g) | (g) | (g) | (g) | (g) | (g) |
| (h) | (h) | (h) | (h) | (h) | (h) |
| (i) | (i) | (i) | (i) | (i) | (i) |
| (j) | (j) | (j) | (j) | (j) | (j) |

Public Health Department,
Council Office,
Birmingham,
England
Annual Report

R E P O R T

of the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

and

HOUSING MANAGER

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

REPORT

of the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

and

HOUSING MANAGER

C. J. Clark, V.A.R.N.I., M.S.E.H.

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Herne Bay,
Kent.

August, 1963.

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 1962. I have continued with the method I introduced last year of indicating whether an item is new, repeated, or revised.

Your staff of Public Health Inspectors was increased by the addition of Mr. Maddock who commenced his duties in May 1962.

One noticeable result of the increased staff is the additional attention given to restaurants, cafes, and food premises generally. This important aspect of the work of the Health Department is now being dealt with in a way which has not been possible in recent years.

Housing continues as a major activity of the Health and Housing Department. The Department is in the fortunate position of having an interest in all the local authority's housing functions, from clearance of unfit houses to the tenanting of houses newly erected.

A further step was taken in the clearance of unfit houses by the representation of the second phase of the King's Road Clearance Area. The island site will be cleared of all existing buildings except for licensed premises and a few shops which front upon William Street. In redeveloping the site it has been decided to follow the present day trend of conserving space by the construction of multi-storey flats - the first of their kind to be constructed at Herne Bay. The proposal is to construct one block of 7 storey flats and two having less than 7 stories. The Minister has asked the Council to deal with all remaining unfit houses by 1966 instead of by 1970 as the Council proposed.

Applications for improvement grants continue at an average rate: most of them are still from owner/occupiers. There is unlikely to be a substantial increase in applications under the present voluntary system. A measure of compulsion was introduced by the Government when it was decided upon standard grants which could be claimed as a right within certain limits of expenditure. There is, therefore, some compulsion upon local authorities to make improvement grants. A hint of compulsion upon owners to improve their houses with standard amenities was introduced in Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular 42/62. In that Circular the Minister encourages local authorities to make a systematic endeavour to secure the improvement of houses by tackling the problem street by street, or area by area, especially those houses requiring standard improvements. The Minister also announced his willingness to consider the use of compulsory powers of acquisition in cases where owners who, for one reason or another, are unwilling to improve their houses. That power is envisaged especially in respect of houses in streets, or areas, where other owners are voluntarily carrying out improvements. To meet the requirements outlined in the Circular a survey of all the older properties was carried out with results which are set out on page 54 of this report.

It will be noted from the report that, of the 931 houses which were visited, 474 have already been provided with standard amenities. They are mainly owner/occupied. The remaining 457 houses found to be in need of standard improvements are nearly all occupied by tenants. Letters to owners offering assistance and grant for improvements resulted in only one application from an interested owner.

Quite clearly, if the very large number of obsolete houses in this country are to be improved some measure of compulsion is inevitable.

In June 1962, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government issued Practice Notes in respect of improvement grants. These notes are intended for guidance of officers in dealing with applications for grants. They have proved very helpful especially when dealing with applications of a rather unusual nature.

The number upon the waiting list remains about the same, although during 1962 the Council succeeded in housing 69 applicants.

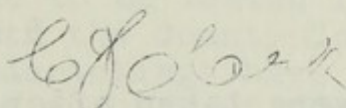
A few interesting conclusions emerge from a study of housing statistics as they effect Herne Bay. About half the number of applications received for housing accommodation are not considered; the applicants have either left the town or have solved their own housing problems before the time arrives for consideration. It is customary to consider applications at an annual review after a lapse of two years from the date each application was made. Approximately one in four, and sometimes one in three, of the applicants considered are selected for rehousing at each annual review. Thereafter, the housing of the selected persons takes place any time within 12 months from the date of selection. Court evictions, and any cases of special urgency, are considered as they arise.

In this way most of those with real housing need are dealt with in a period from 2 to 3 years from the date of application. I stress "real need" because there are many applicants with lesser need who may have to wait very much longer.

The Council was able to complete 48 new dwellings during the year whilst 326 new dwellings were completed by private enterprise, making a total of 374 new dwellings. Taking an average of 3 persons per dwelling this gives a figure of 1,122 persons housed in new dwellings during the year. Dwellings constructed by the Council are occupied almost entirely by local residents. Those which are constructed by private enterprise are occupied mainly by persons who are new residents to the town. It is that factor which accounts for the population increase.

I am pleased again to acknowledge the assistance and support I have received from the Chairman and members of the Public Health and Housing Committee, from my staff in the Health and Housing Department, and from my colleagues in other Departments.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,



Senior Public Health Inspector
and Housing Manager.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE

AREA

Water (Repeated)

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 satisfactory 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 has no abnormal salinity. The mixture of Canterbury water with the local supply has improved its palatability, and for a time it also reduced hardness. This no longer happens because the Canterbury supply is not now softened.

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

Examination of Water Samples (Revised)

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> | : | 3 samples taken | All satisfactory |
| <u>Chemical Analysis</u> | : | 3 samples taken | All satisfactory |

These samples were taken after the supply had been chlorinated.

Private Wells and Springs (Revised)

Two samples of untreated water were taken from private wells etc., and submitted for examination. Both of the samples proved to be satisfactory.

Number of Dwelling Houses supplied from the Public Water Mains (Revised)

There are 8,544 houses and flats in the Urban District and all but 10 are supplied from the public water mains. We are informed that during 1962, 2,363 yards of new water main were laid by the local Company to supply new houses and bungalows.

Kent Water Supply (New)

Members may be interested in the following extracts of the 4th Annual Report of the Kent Joint Advisory Water Committee. The Chairman directs attention to the fact that:-

"Kent is not a County possessing limitless supplies of water. Water has now become a commodity concerning which the greatest care and discrimination must be exercised by all those responsible for its conservation and use."

The Chairman also states that:-

"In planning the future development of Kent, unless the necessary water supply position involved in such development is seriously considered a position could arise in which development might have to be checked or abandoned."

In Kent comprehensive re-grouping of water undertakings has already been achieved by the Kent Water Act, 1955, which reduced the number of statutory water undertakings from 35 to 14, excluding all parts of the County served by the East Surrey Water Company and the Metropolitan Water Board."

Radioactivity

"Samples of water continue to be tested for radioactivity under the arrangements made with the County Council. In addition, some of the water undertakings have made independent arrangements. In all cases the results of the tests are made known to the Committee."

"Water undertakings have been advised of the desirability of submitting samples of raw water for analysis in addition to samples of treated water going into supply.

"The tests hitherto undertaken have been confined to Strontium 90 and Caesium 137. The Government has put in hand special measures to test water supplies for Iodine 131. The Committee is satisfied that, for the present, no general arrangements need to be made in the County for Iodine 131 tests.

"The Committee desires to emphasise once again that there is no evidence whatsoever of the County's water supplies being in any danger at present from radioactive contamination."

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SANITARY CONVENIENCES
(Revised)

The Council's modernised sewage purification works at Ma. Street receives sewage mainly from Beltinge, Herne, and Broomfield. 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.

There are now 122 cesspools which are emptied from time to time by the Council - some of these serve more than one property. There are also 23 properties served by pail closets. Two houses previously served by pail closets were provided with water closets and main drainage.

At 101 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 has been done for many years and it is interesting to note that the practice has been recognised by the inclusion of a section in the new Public Health Act, 1961, authorising local Councils to cleanse or repair drains upon request by an owner and recover the cost of so doing. Cleansing of choked drains is a service which 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 8 properties drains were repaired or relaid by informal action.

It was necessary to proceed under the Public Health Act and carry out repairs to a sewer which is not maintained at public expense. The cost was subsequently apportioned and recovered from the owners of four houses.

Tests are carried out upon 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

(Revised)

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 summer to prevent it becoming a breeding place for insect pests. This treatment is also applied at many ditches throughout the district.

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.

Arrangements are to be made by which it will no longer be necessary to discharge this storm water overflow into Plenty Brook.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

(Repeated)

The Council's 13 public conveniences for men and women are under the control of the Health Department. These conveniences have approximately a million users a year.

Four public conveniences are closed during the winter months including those at the Pier Head.

Since the end of the war, two new public conveniences have been constructed, one at William Street, and the other at Herne. At the Pier Pavilion an unsatisfactory convenience for men has been abolished, and a major reconstruction carried out at another.

The Council has been prevented for several years 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.

In 1961 another site was selected at Reculver Road, Beltinge, and there appears to be no local objection to the use of this land for the erection of public conveniences. Since the plot of land is larger than is needed to construct conveniences a suggestion to construct lock-up garages upon the remaining land is receiving consideration. The income from lock-up garages would make a useful contribution to the cost of the scheme as a whole.

Turnstiles at Public Conveniences (Revised)

Turnstiles are most efficient means of collecting pennies, and they have other advantages. They enable an attendant to regulate the flow of users at busy times, and they help to prevent malicious damage.

They are most unpopular with the ladies, however, although I have yet to receive a complaint from a man who objects to the use of a turnstile. It must be admitted that turnstiles have serious disadvantages to ladies, especially to expectant mothers, aged ladies, and those with physical disability. Occasionally the Fire Brigade has been called upon to saw off bars to release small children who had their heads jammed in turnstiles.

Women's organisations, and women members of Parliament have at last succeeded in gaining the sympathy of Parliament. In August 1961 Circular 40/61 was received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government requesting local authorities to refrain from installing any more turnstiles at public conveniences. The Circular intimated that loan sanction would be refused for any public convenience scheme which includes a turnstile.

In the meantime local authorities have been asked in Circular 53/61 to remove turnstiles from existing conveniences. The pressure to remove turnstiles continues and there seems no doubt that the time is approaching when turnstiles will disappear from public conveniences.

At Herne Bay turnstiles were installed soon after the end of the last war. Four were placed at conveniences for women and two at conveniences for men.

Takings at conveniences increased 100% after the installation of turnstiles and when they are taken out we may expect a corresponding drop in receipts. Coin locks upon individual doors are a much less efficient means of collecting revenue for doors are so frequently left open.

In 1961 the Council made a start upon the new policy of abolishing turnstiles by removing the turnstile from the Kings Hall conveniences for women. It has since been decided to remove all remaining turnstiles from public conveniences commencing with those at William Street. When turnstiles are removed coin locks will be placed upon some doors of W.C. compartments leaving others for free use.

Washing Facilities (Repeated)

At most of the Council's public conveniences washing facilities are now available. Where wash basins have been installed paper towel machines have been 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 kinds 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.

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.

There are slipper baths at two conveniences, one for men and the other for women. These baths are used on an average of 400 times each year.

Staffing (Repeated)

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 been kept at a minimum - an irreducible minimum unless there is to be a serious sacrifice of standards. Reduction in the number of attendants and cleaning staff has offset the increase in wages and reduction in hours to a substantial extent.

Weighing Machines (Revised)

There are 11 weighing machines at the Council's public conveniences. 8 of these were installed in 1958 and the remainder in succeeding years.

The 11 machines cost £552 to install and by the end of the financial year 1962-63, the total receipts amounted to £1,635. This shows a substantial profit after deduction of the cost of the machines which will continue to earn revenue for many years before they will need to be replaced. It has been decided to set aside a percentage of the profits each year to build up a fund for replacement of weighing machines when this becomes necessary. Prior to the purchase of weighing machines by the Council £7 per annum was received for the concession to place privately owned machines at the Council's conveniences.

Scent Spray Machines and "Left Luggage" (Repeated)

In the summer of 1959 concession was granted to the owner of scent spray machines to install four of these at various public conveniences. The Council is not involved in any expense and it shares the takings which yields an average of £22 per annum for the Council.

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

(Repeated)

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
(Revised)

This service is administered by the Council's Surveyor. Domestic refuse is collected weekly from dwelling houses and conveyed by covered moving-floor vehicles to the refuse tip at Broomfield. Since 1952 the tip has been enlarged by 40 acres following a local enquiry.

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 1962, 29 dustbins were supplied by owners and occupiers upon informal intimation that such were required.

A Horsfall Incinerator was installed at the Broomfield Refuse Tip in 1961 at a cost of £210. It is used primarily for burning sanitary towels removed from the Council's Public Conveniences. These are collected and taken to the tip daily by staff of the Public Health Department.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE AREA
(Revised)

| | |
|--|-------|
| Total number of visits of all kinds made during the year | 9,731 |
| Total number of interviews at the office with property owners; housing applicants, tenants, traders and others | 2,117 |
| Number of notices served - Statutory | 13 |
| " " " " - Informal | 799 |

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS
(Revised)

To Dwelling Houses :

| | |
|--|-------|
| For Public Health purposes and housing repairs | 590 |
| To inspect housing applicant's accommodation | 405 |
| " " houses for improvement grants (Survey 931) .. | 1,237 |
| " " " " dirty conditions | 25 |
| " " Council houses for cleanliness etc. | 317 |
| " " " " (gardens, fences & car parks) | 752 |
| For sewerage and drainage | 318 |
| " testing drains | 13 |
| " provision of dustbins | 159 |
| " infectious disease and food poisoning enquiries | 16 |
| " disinfection of bedding and premises | 1 |
| " water supply | 10 |
| To Council houses to ascertain number of occupants | 633 |

To Food Premises :

| | |
|--|-----|
| For enforcement of Food Hygiene Regulations, etc. | 543 |
| " sampling of milk, ice cream, etc. | 66 |

For Other Purposes :

| | |
|--|-------|
| For destruction of rats and mice (and survey) | 3,161 |
| " noise abatement | 13 |
| " supervision of caravan sites | 145 |
| " " " public conveniences | 554 |
| " " " mortuary | 117 |
| To arrange National Assistance Act burials | 4 |
| " Factories and Outworkers premises | 27 |
| " Pet Shops | 5 |
| " secure smoke abatement | 6 |
| For destruction of insect pests | 226 |
| " nuisances at ditches and watercourses | 4 |
| " abatement of nuisances (generally) | 40 |
| " removal of accumulations from vacant land, etc. | 80 |
| " miscellaneous purposes | 67 |
| " Shops Act administration | 57 |
| " Public lighting and petroleum | 140 |
| Interviews at office : Public health etc. | 739 |
| Housing applicants & tenants | 1,202 |
| Improvement grants | 165 |
| Rent Act | 11 |

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED AND IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED :

| | |
|---|-----|
| Unfit houses demolished (some orders made in previous year) | 15 |
| " " represented for closure or demolition | 4 |
| " " closed for human habitation and subsequently made fit | 5 |
| Houses repaired and made fit for habitation | 41 |
| " at which minor defects have been remedied | 21 |
| " improved with the aid of Improvement Grants | 31 |
| " disinfected | 5 |
| Bedding disinfected or destroyed | 15 |
| Dirty conditions improved at dwelling houses | 3 |
| Drains tested | 13 |
| Choked drains cleansed by informal action | 101 |
| Defective drainage systems and sewers, repaired or relaid | 8 |
| Accumulations removed | 25 |
| Dustbins provided on request to owners and occupiers | 29 |
| Smoke nuisances abated | 4 |
| Animal nuisances abated | 3 |
| Dilapidated sheds, etc., removed | 3 |
| Unsatisfactory holiday accommodation improved as a result of complaints | 1 |
| Urinals improved by informal action at licensed premises | 1 |
| Noise nuisance abated | 1 |
| Trees lopped on request to improve natural light | 1 |

Disinfestation

| | |
|---|-----|
| Premises disinfested | 34 |
| Premises treated for destruction of rats and mice | 380 |

Shops Act

| | |
|---|---|
| Trading on day of weekly half-holiday | 1 |
|---|---|

FOOD PREMISES - Improvements and contraventions of Food Hygiene Regulations remedied by informal action.

| | |
|---|----|
| Smoking whilst handling open food | 3 |
| Hot water supplies provided | 10 |
| W.C.'s directly communicating with food rooms abolished . | 3 |
| Unsatisfactory closet accommodation improved | 3 |
| Food displays outside premises raised to 18" from ground | 2 |
| Name and address of vendor provided on stalls and vans .. | 3 |

FOOD PREMISES - Continued

| | |
|--|----|
| Additional protection provided to prevent contamination of food on display | 4 |
| Accumulations of waste food removed | 3 |
| Interior of refrigerators cleansed | 1 |
| Ventilation of food premises improved | 1 |
| Artificial lighting of food premises improved | 1 |
| First Aid materials provided for staff | 1 |
| Nail brushes provided for staff | 3 |
| Accommodation provided for outdoor clothing | 1 |
| Cleanliness of crockery and cutlery improved | 1 |
| Food preparation surfaces improved | 4 |
| W.Cs. and/or wash basins cleansed | 4 |
| Extra dustbins provided | 3 |
| Sinks and wash basins provided | 5 |
| Walls and ceilings of food preparation rooms cleansed and/or improved | 16 |
| New floors provided to food preparation rooms | 1 |
| Floor of food delivery vehicle cleansed | 1 |
| Food premises repaired | 1 |
| Yeast removed from W.C. compartment | 1 |

Food and Drugs Act - Complaints dealt with

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Piece of baking tin in bread | 1 |
| Cardboard in milk | 1 |

SMOKE CONTROL
(Repeated)

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. At one of these an oil burning plant was installed in 1961. This has been much appreciated by the occupiers of nearby cottages who had been troubled for many years by soot and ash deposit.

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 smokeless fuels, and by the use of solid fuel appliances of a design which is approved by the Coal Utilisation Council.

The Council adopted the Model Smoke Prevention byelaw, which came into force in this district early in 1960.

The Byelaw requires at all new buildings:-

- (a) only such appliances for heating and cooking as are suitably designed for burning gas, electricity, coke or anthracite,

or

- (b) appliances which are approved by the Coal Utilisation Council - these will efficiently burn solid fuel with a minimum of smoke emission.

It is well to remember that smoke emission is not only bad in itself, because it pollutes the atmosphere and deposits soot, but it is a measure of the extent to which coal is wastefully consumed.

Smoke is formed of unconsumed particles of carbon, which should have been raised to ignition temperature to release heat instead of being belched into the atmosphere to waste and pollute.

Adoption of the Smoke Prevention Byelaw gives practical support to the movement to secure clean air. It will ensure that from the date the byelaw had effect, all new buildings at Herne Bay are equipped with smokeless, or relatively smokeless, means of cooking and heating.

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.

The Council is a member of the London and Home Counties Clean Air Advisory Council. The purpose of the Advisory Council is to encourage smoke abatement in London and the Home Counties.

SHOPS AND OFFICES (Revised)

57 visits were made to shop premises concerning the Shops Act, 1950, generally; most of these were inspected as to requirements relating to the health and comfort of shop workers. The few defects and deficiencies which were noted were remedied by informal action. 543 visits were made to shop premises for other purposes during which Shops Act matters were noted.

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

The Offices, Shops and Railways Premises Bill was before Parliament in 1962 and is expected to receive the Royal Assent in 1963.

DIRTY CONDITIONS AND ERADICATION OF VERMIN (Revised)

During the year 3 houses were dealt with on account of dirty conditions. It was necessary to serve statutory notices to abate nuisance at one of the houses.

There is great improvement in the general standard of cleanliness but the occasional very dirty house is encountered. Usually it is an old person, who lives alone, and is no longer able to cope with cleaning, and is unwilling to accept help from others.

The County Domestic Help Service is available and a little regular help from this Service makes it possible for many old people to retain their independence much longer than would otherwise be possible.

Verminous houses are rarely encountered. Care is taken to avoid possibility of introducing vermin into Council houses by inspection of furniture and effects of incoming tenants when that is thought necessary.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948 (Repeated)

Tables giving the prescribed particulars required to be furnished by Section 128 (3) of the Factories Act, 1937, are included at the end of the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

These show that there have been 27 inspections of factories, and visits to outworkers homes. This was to ensure that the "outwork" (in this case the making of wearing apparel and artificial flowers) was carried out under satisfactory conditions.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING SITES (Repeated)

The Public Health Act, 1936, provided for the licensing of caravans and sites for moveable dwellings. At Herne Bay there were 11 holiday camping sites licensed under that Act. In addition there were two sites operated by the Council at Reculver which did not require to be licensed.

In August, 1960, control of caravan sites passed from the Public Health Act to a new Act, the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. Tents and moveable dwellings other than caravans are still controlled by the Public Health Act, 1936.

The object of the new Act is to confer upon local authorities more effective powers for controlling caravan sites. It not only strengthens the powers of planning authorities, but introduces a new system of licensing. This is operated in conjunction with planning consideration and not separately as was the confusing arrangement when licenses

were issued under the Public Health Act. It was possible under that Act to grant a licence without any regard to planning considerations. Indeed, if there were no grounds for refusal, a licence would have to be granted under the old procedure even though planning consent had been refused. This was a contradictory state of affairs which produced difficulties for those who had to administer the Act. We welcome the more sensible system of licensing which has been introduced by the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act of 1960.

In the Circular which accompanied the Act the Minister has stated that the aim is to secure that all caravan sites, whether residential or holiday sites, are properly equipped and run; that sites are not allowed in the wrong places but are allowed in acceptable places. The Circular also indicated that where planning permission is given it should be on a permanent or long term basis unless there is some definite reason against it.

Where there is limited planning consent it is, in our experience, most desirable that the period should not be too short for otherwise the site developer is unable to incur the expenditure necessary to establish satisfactory amenities at the site. That has been a difficulty in the past when limited planning consent was sometimes as short as three years. Under the new Act 15 years is the usual period for limited planning consent. This period is sufficient to enable a site owner to obtain a return upon the capital investment necessary for the establishment of a modern holiday caravan site.

The new Act required local authorities to review all existing licences within a period of 6 months. A most important provision of the new Act is the power of the Minister to prescribe "Model Standards" with respect to layout of caravan sites, provision of facilities, services, and equipment. Local authorities, in deciding the conditions to attach to a site licence shall have regard to any standards so specified. This applies with even greater emphasis when local authorities are considering the conditions of any caravan sites they may own and operate.

Model Standards have, in fact, been prescribed under the new Act and very briefly they deal with the following points:-

- (1) Density of 25 caravans per acre at a holiday site with spacing of 20 ft. between caravans.
- (2) Properly constructed roads with no caravan more than 150 ft. from the road.

- (3) Hardstandings for caravans.
- (4) Fire fighting appliances.
- (5) Water supply with standpipes not more than 60 ft. from any caravan.
- (6) Water closets, urinals, wash-hand basins, shower or baths with hot and cold water for each sex.
- (7) Laundry facilities and sinks.
- (8) Adequate surface water drainage
- (9) Refuse bin for each caravan.
- (10) Suitably surfaced car park of an area to accommodate at least one car for every three caravans.
- (11) Recreation space equal to one tenth of the total area of the camp.

The Public Health and Housing Committee gave full and careful consideration to the new Act and the Model Standards and recommended their adoption except for hardstandings, which were considered to be unnecessary at holiday sites. The Committee also recommend a slight departure from the model standards in the matter of fire fighting appliances. The Committee favour the provision at each caravan of a suitable fire extinguisher instead of the static water tanks suggested in the Model Standards.

Existing caravan sites at Herne Bay fell short of the Model Standards in the following respects. Most of them required:-

- (a) Reduction in number of caravans.
- (b) Construction of additional toilet facilities. Provision of baths or showers and of laundry facilities.
- (c) Construction of roads.
- (d) Provision of suitably surfaced car park.
- (e) Provision of a dustbin and chemical fire extinguisher at each caravan.

- (f) Increase in the number of water points and drainage disposal points.
- (g) Some sites are deficient in recreation space and this deficiency will be automatically remedied as the number of caravans is reduced.

The Council adopted the recommendations of the Committee and in doing so decided that there should be no reduction in the number of caravans upon sites for the season 1961.

The Public Health and Housing Committee has phased the implementation of the Model Standards so that they will not have full effect until 1965. This allowed a standstill for one year and four further years for a "run down" in the number of caravans where reduction has to take place upon an existing site.

The intention is to avoid hardship to the site owner and to the caravan owner. There is a natural wastage each year as caravans are taken from a site for various reasons. These would not be replaced until the reduced number is reached. The extent to which the reduction can be achieved in this way avoids hardship.

Dustbins and fire extinguishers were provided at each caravan in the first year, (1961). Car parks and additional water points and drainage disposal points were to be provided in 1962, and the remaining requirements of a structural nature in 1963, namely, roads, additional toilets, baths, and laundry facilities.

Each site operator is required to submit proposals for the planting of trees and shrubs. The satisfactory screening and land-scaping of a site is controlled by licence as also is the prohibition of the use of such unsatisfactory structures as railway vehicles, tram cars, omnibus bodies etc.

The new licence conditions contain not only the Model Standards, but also the local provisions which have been found to be necessary during the many years we have had experience in the control of caravan sites.

The following table shows the caravan sites which are licensed under the new Act. The figures show the number of caravans permitted at each site and those in brackets indicate the reduction (if any) which is to take place at each site to conform to the reduced density prescribed by the Model Standards.

At some sites it will be noted that there is an increase in the number of caravans instead of a reduction. This occurs where a site is not yet fully developed or where planning consent has been given for the site to be enlarged.

REGISTER OF SITE LICENCES (Revised)

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.
(Section 25)

| Site | Area in Acres (Unless otherwise stated) | Permitted number of caravans. | Total reduction or increase applicable when licence granted under the new Act. |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------------|--|
| Municipal (East) | 13.5 | 315 | (- 85) |
| Municipal (West) | 7.7 | 175 | (- 26) |
| Hillborough Caravan Park | 19 | 400 | (+210) |
| Glen Court, Beltinge | 34,770 sq. ft. + 3,477 sq. ft. (re-creation space) | 25 | (- 21) |
| Cliff Pavilion, Beltinge | 3.738 | 94 | (- 27) |
| Coastguard Camping Site | 1 | 50 | (+ 22) |
| Orchard Camping Site | 2.275 | 57 | (- 19) |
| Reculver House | 2.702 | 68 | (- 4) |
| Waterways, Reculver | 3.816 | 95 | (- 28) |
| Hoathwood, Herne | 3.971 | 100 | (+ 24) |
| Seaside Caravan Park | 1.833 | 46 | (- 4) |
| Westbrook Farm | 2.6 | 65 | (- 11) |
| Keat Farm | No licence yet issued. | | |
| Huntsman & Horn | 1 (approx.) | 21 | (+ 13) |

Note The site at the Huntsman and Horn was licensed for the first time in 1962.

Waterways Caravan Site, Reculver, changed hands upon the death of Mr. Sheppard. The new owner agreed to carry out all outstanding works before the 1964 season.

As "Holiday" sites caravans are not permitted to be occupied upon the sites during the months of November, December, January and February.

Municipal Caravan Park, Reculver - East and West Sites (Revised)

The Camp Manager, Mr. Etheridge, is responsible to the Foreshore and Pleasure Grounds Committee for the day to day control of both sites. In 1961 following meetings of a sub-committee to consider the application of Model Standards, it was decided to commence implementing these standards by providing additional water closets within existing buildings at both sites. That was carried out before the 1962 season. It has since been decided to construct additional toilet blocks at the East site.

Camping at sites which are not licensed (Repeated)

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

There are a few caravans which are not at licensed sites and most of these are exempt from licensing requirements.

Abbotswood Estate at the West End of the town was sold as small building plots many years ago but has not been developed. There are a few caravans and a number of sheds which are used for holidays during the summer.

The Council has refused to permit any more caravans upon the site and is to secure the removal of those which are there.

INSECT PESTS (Revised)

226 applications were received and dealt with for the destruction of fleas, flies, cockroaches, earwigs silver fish, crickets, 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, and this service is much appreciated.

RODENT CONTROL
(Revised)

A free service is provided by the Council for the destruction of rats and mice at private dwellings. A charge is made at business premises, including farms.

During the year under review 380 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 3,161 visits were made for survey of premises and treatment where rats were found.

Rat destruction 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. Efforts of neighbouring local authorities are co-ordinated and joint meetings are held from time to time.

Treatment was applied for rat destruction at :

Degree of infestation

| | <u>Major</u> | <u>Minor</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Private dwellinghouses | 10 | 288 |
| Business premises | 6 | 33 |
| Local Authority premises | 15 | 2 |
| At agricultural property | 5 | 3 |
| Beach huts | 1 | 4 |

Treatment was applied for mice destruction at :

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| Private dwellinghouses | 10 |
| Business premises | 3 |

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.

Agricultural land and premises were systematically surveyed throughout the district. 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 (Revised)

Sewers are treated regularly each year for rat destruction. A comprehensive treatment was applied to the nine sections of the sewerage system during the months of October and November. There are a total of 976 manholes, 10% of which were baited. These were the manholes which showed traces of rats, or were adjacent to manholes which showed rat traces when a test was applied in 1961.

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 (Repeated)

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.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT
(Revised)

During the year thirteen complaints were received. These were concerned mainly with noise from a light engineering works, and an ice cream depot at Lower Herne.

Elsewhere in the town there has been no complaint concerning noise.

Reduction in noise has so far been accomplished without the need to serve formal notices under the Act.

Noise from industrial sources is a continuing problem and any reduction which may be achieved is likely to be temporary. It cannot be regarded as a permanent solution of the problem.

HOUSING
(Revised)

Inspection, Repair, Closure and Demolition

| | |
|---|-----|
| (a) Number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts .. | 129 |
| (b) Number of houses found to be in any respect unfit for human habitation | 127 |
| (c) Number of houses found to be unfit for human habitation and incapable of repair at reasonable expense | 20 |
| (d) Number of houses at which defects were remedied by informal action | 62 |
| (e) Number of houses rendered fit after service of formal notices under the Public Health Act and Housing Act | 6 |

- (f) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made None
- (g) Number of houses demolished (Demolition Orders made in previous years) 15
- (h) Number of houses and parts of houses closed in pursuance of Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957 (Includes basement room at one house) 4
- (i) Number of houses reconditioned and undertakings or Closing Orders subsequently cancelled 4

Notes

- (g) Houses demolished were:-

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Richmond Villa, 21 Richmond Street. | 72 Margate Road. |
| Nos. 1 & 2 Standings Farm Cottages. | Maytime, Herne Common. |
| 1, 2, 3 & 4 Sheppards Cottages, Herne Street. | Boarded Cottage, Herne Common. |
| 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 South View Cottages, Herne Street. | |

- (h) Houses, and parts of houses in respect of which Closing Orders and/or Undertakings were made prohibiting their use for human habitation:-

1 & 2 Tower Cottages, Herne Street.
2 Thatched Cottages, Herne Common.
105 Central Parade (Basement room).

- (i) Houses reconditioned, improved, and made fit after which Closing Orders, or Undertakings not to use for human habitation were determined:-

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 5 New Street. | 196 Sea Street. |
| 46 William Street. | Priory Cottage, Eddington. |

"SLUM" CLEARANCE

THE FIRST "FIVE YEAR PROGRAMME" - PROGRESS REPORT
(Repeated)

In 1955, 139 houses were surveyed and 65 of them were scheduled as unfit. They were to be dealt with by demolition or closure during a five year period from August 1955/60. This survey was carried out by all local authorities as a requirement of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

By December, 1960, all but four of the scheduled unfit houses had been closed or demolished. During 1961 three of the four remaining houses had also been dealt with. Over the same 5 year period a further 43 houses, which had not been included in the 5 year programme, were found to be unfit for human habitation and were closed or demolished.

THE KING'S ROAD CLEARANCE AREA
(Revised)

This Clearance Area comprises Nos. 74 - 90 King's Road (9 houses), Nos. 14 - 17 Queen Street (4 houses), and Snows Cottage, Beach Street. It was represented by the Medical Officer of Health in June 1959, and a Compulsory Purchase Order was confirmed after a local Public Enquiry.

During 1961, a start was made upon the rehousing of tenants, and by the end of 1962 all tenants had been rehoused. It is hoped to commence redevelopment of the site for housing purposes in 1963.

HERNE CLEARANCE AREA
(Revised)

There were no objections to the Council's proposals to demolish 9 unfit houses at Herne Street, viz. 1 - 4 Sheppards Cottages and 1 - 5 South View Cottages.

A Compulsory Purchase Order was confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government in August 1961, and all tenants had been rehoused before the end of that year.

The site has since been cleared, and flats were under construction at the end of 1962.

THE SECOND "FIVE YEAR PROGRAMME"
(Revised)

Upon completion of the first five year programme (1955-60), the Council was required to prepare a second five year programme for the clearance of any remaining unfit houses. It was resolved to include the following 16 houses in the new programme (1960 - 65).

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|
| King's Road | 60, 62, 64, 66. |
| Queen Street | 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13. |
| William Street | 60, 62. (Occupied as one house) |

The houses were the subject of an official representation by the Medical Officer of Health in 1962 and it was resolved to make a Compulsory Purchase Order.

This will enable the Council to complete redevelopment of the island site upon the King's Road, Beach Street and Queen Street frontage.

At the request of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government it has been decided to deal with any remaining unfit houses by 1966 instead of by 1970 as proposed.

HERNE BAY (BEACH STREET) COMPULSORY
PURCHASE ORDER, 1962.
(New)

This Order was confirmed following a local enquiry held by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government on 12th September, 1962.

The land was acquired under the Housing Act as a natural sequence to the non-development by the owners of land included in a Clearance Order which resulted in the demolition of Nos. 1 - 9 Beach Street.

IMPROVEMENTS AND CONVERSIONS
(Revised)

HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1958.

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959.

HOUSING ACT, 1961.

These Acts deal with improvement grants which were introduced as long ago as 1949 in the Housing Act of that year. For many years neither local authorities nor the public made much use of the legislation authorising the making of improvement grants despite constant encouragement by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Basically the grants are intended to be used to improve and modernise the older type of houses which are structurally sound but lacking amenities. Grants are also available for the conversion of the larger type of old dwelling which is structurally sound and can be converted to more than one separate habitation.

In June 1959 a new system of "standard" grants was introduced to supplement the existing system of improvement grants.

The new "standard" grants are intended to assist with the cost of installing what might be called "standard amenities", i.e.

Bath.
Water closet.
Wash-hand basin.
Hot water supply.
Foodstore.

Grant for a standard amenity can be claimed as a right subject to the house having a certain life, and to it being in a reasonable state of fitness for habitation. This right to a standard grant introduced a new principle. The earlier type of grant, which remains for larger improvements and conversions, is at the discretion of a local authority. It may or may not make a "discretionary grant", and can decide the amount of the grant not exceeding 50% of the cost of improvement works, with a maximum of £400 per unit.

The total number of applications approved during 1962 for both types of grant was 27 being 4 less applications than for 1961. Seven applications were received for standard improvement grants which show no improvement upon the figures for 1960 or 1961.

The Housing Act, 1961, increased the amount of permitted rent increase for improvements from 8% to 12½% per annum of the amount spent upon the improvements by the owner. It was hoped this may provide an additional inducement to owners of rented properties in need of improvement. So far the response of owners to the new inducement has been disappointing.

Most applications for both types of grant are received from owner-occupiers. Very few landlords will improve houses for their tenants and it seems that the object of improvement grants will not be achieved unless there is some measure of compulsion. At the Annual Conference of the Association of Public Health Inspectors held at Scarborough, the following resolution was adopted.

"That this Conference re-affirms the view expressed in the resolution passed at the 1958 Conference that, the Minister of Housing and Local Government should introduce legislation empowering Local Authorities to enforce the improvement of houses so as to satisfy modern standards of comfort and convenience."

The following are the figures for 1962:-

| | <u>Kind of Grant</u> | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| | <u>Discretionary</u> | <u>Standard</u> |
| Number of schemes submitted | 21 | 7* |
| " " grants approved | 21 | 6 |
| " " dwellings resulting | 25 | 6 |
| Total cost of approved works | £ 13,115 | £ 737 |
| " amount of grants paid | £ 6,142 | £ 460 |

* does not include Cemetery Lodge improved by the Council.

Ministry of Housing & Local Government
Circular 42/62.
 (New)

This Circular, issued in August 1962, is intended to stimulate interest in improvement grants. In an endeavour to secure a "very big increase" in the number of houses being improved local authorities are urged to make "a determined and sustained effort" to bring that about.

The Minister outlined in the Circular a plan of action for local authorities to make a "systematic approach" to the subject by selecting streets or areas most worthy of improvement.

He offered to consider the use of compulsory powers of acquisition in respect of houses which owners had failed to improve, especially in streets, or areas, where other owners were carrying out improvements.

As a result of this Circular there was a survey of the houses known to have lacked standard amenities when they were built.

A total of 931 houses were visited and 474 of them were found to have been provided with the standard amenities they lacked when constructed. These were nearly all owner-occupied. The balance of 457 houses were found to be in need of standard improvements as follows:-

| | |
|--|-----|
| Houses requiring a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom | 282 |
| Houses requiring an internal W.C. | 200 |
| Houses requiring a wash basin | 316 |
| Houses requiring a hot water system | 350 |
| Houses requiring a satisfactory foodstore | 307 |

To follow up the survey a letter was sent to each owner setting out the improvements needed at his dwelling. The letter informed him of the grant which would be available and offered all possible assistance by the Public Health Department. The Council also decided to make loans available for improvement works in satisfactory cases.

Response to this appeal was poor, and by the end of the year no applications for grant had been received from the owners of houses which had been surveyed. (One application was later received.)

Improvement Grant Exhibition

A very useful improvement grant exhibition was held at the Beaney Institute, Canterbury, for 3 days in October. It was organised by the Canterbury City Council. At the invitation of the City Council, letters were sent to all local estate agents, builders and others inviting them to attend.

HOUSING ACT, 1957 - OVERCROWDING (Revised)

| | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Number of new cases of overcrowding recorded during the year | 9 * |
| 2. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | 7 |

* These do not all constitute overcrowding as legally defined.

Sub-letting at Council houses (Revised)

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.

No charge is made in respect of aged parents living with sons and daughters with no income other than a pension from the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance.

By the end of 1962 there were 5 sub-tenants and 1 lodger residing at Council houses with consent, and upon payment of the above charges.

GARAGES AND CAR PARKING AT COUNCIL HOUSES (Revised)

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 warn tenants concerning this breach of the tenancy agreement.

The Council has provided garages at two Council houses on tenant's request. The garages are let at rents which meet the rates and loan repayments. A few tenants have been allowed to erect garages. A policy was decided as to the conditions which will apply when a tenant is given permission to erect a garage at a Council house.

There is need for lock-up garages and "hardstandings" at all Council Housing estates.

Hardstandings are provided for tenants' cars at Sussex Close and it has been decided to erect six lock-up garages there as a pilot scheme.

POULTRY KEEPING AT COUNCIL HOUSES (Repeated)

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
(Revised)

The number of new houses erected during the year and the number under construction on 31st December, 1962, was as follows:-

| Houses and flats erected by : | Number erected. | Number under construction. |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| The Local Authority | 48 | 14 |
| Other bodies and persons | 326 | 182 |
| TOTALS | 374 | 196 |

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION OWNED BY THE COUNCIL
(Revised)

By 31st December, 1962, the Council owned 834 houses and flats. Houses and flats at Sussex Close, and flats at Canterbury Road, were completed during the year. 14 flats were under construction at Herne upon the site of a Clearance Area.

| | | |
|--|---|-----|
| <u>Pre-war Houses</u> | - | 163 |
| 3 bedrooms | - | 159 |
| 4 bedrooms | - | 4 |
| <u>Post-war Houses</u> | - | 429 |
| 2 bedrooms | - | 92 |
| 3 bedrooms | - | 323 |
| 4 bedrooms | - | 14 |
| <u>Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows</u> | - | 49 |
| 2 bedrooms | - | 49 |

| | | |
|--|---|-----|
| <u>Post-war Flats</u> | - | 178 |
| 1 bedroom | - | 80 |
| 2 bedrooms | - | 98 |
| <u>"Other" Houses, Bungalows, and flats</u> | - | 15 |
| <u>(Properties acquired by the Council other than by new construction)</u> | | |
| Houses | - | 3 |
| Bungalows | - | 2 |
| Flats, resulting from conversion of houses | - | 10 |

HOUSING OF THE ELDERLY
(Revised)

More than half the "waiting list" comprises elderly persons of whom there are several different types. They range from the physically capable, newly retired persons of about 65 years, to those in advanced old age often in the 80 to 90 age group.

The object nowadays is to try to enable old people to live independent lives in their own homes as long as that is possible. With a little outside help, such as is provided by the Kent County Council Domestic Help Service, old people are able to retain their independence until they reach a considerable age.

To satisfy the housing needs of old people of varying physical capacity several different types of accommodation are needed. The Council constructs two bedroom flats for elderly couples, and single bedroom flats for single elderly persons. Many of these flats are constructed at, or near, existing housing estates which makes it easier to transfer tenants from under-occupied houses when children have grown up and left home. Tenants do not mind moving from houses to flats if they can stay in their own neighbourhood.

Those in advanced old age require accommodation where they can retain independence but not live in isolation.

An attempt to satisfy such a need was the acquisition of 139 Canterbury Road, a large house which was converted into six 2 room flats. Each flat has a bed-sitting room and a kitchen/dining room. There is a bathroom and W.C. shared by three persons, on each floor.

This property was acquired and converted for the sum of £4,208, which averaged approximately £700 per unit of accommodation provided.

Hall, staircase, landing and bathroom, have been provided with floor covering and are cleansed regularly each week by the Council. Windows are cleansed, and the garden is maintained by the Council. These services are reflected in the rents which range from 16/8d. to £1. 5 3. per week including general district rate and water rate.

The Council has a good record of providing accommodation for the aged and has constructed approximately 2 flats for every 5 houses in the post-war building programme.

The building quota for 7 years has been devoted almost entirely to the construction of flats.

This ratio of flat construction is in proportion to the number of elderly persons in the population of Herne Bay.

I would personally like to see yet another type of accommodation provided for elderly persons. I refer to a block of old people's dwellings with furnished communal sitting room, and a resident warden.

The Council could then meet the needs of more people in advanced old age who should not live in isolation, and need a little attention. It would complete the Council's range of accommodation to meet the varying needs of old people. It is a desirable alternative to the expensive and less acceptable State "Home" for old people.

INSPECTION OF COUNCIL HOUSES (Revised)

Routine inspection of Council houses to ascertain the state of cleanliness, state of interior decorations, and the general conditions of each property is necessary.

Inspections are arranged so that every house and flat is inspected at intervals of 5 years. Those which are found, upon inspection, to need more frequent visits are noted and are inspected as often as may appear to be necessary.

During 1962, 349 houses and flats were visited and inspected for various purposes.

RENTS AND HOUSING SUBSIDIES
(Revised)

The rents of Council houses at Herne Bay are not subsidised by direct subsidy from the local rates. A local rates subsidy was withdrawn early in 1956. The Government subsidy, which has been available for slum clearance and for construction of single bedroom flats for general purpose, is now calculated upon a new basis under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1961.

Subsidies are pooled to arrive at a uniform basis of rent calculation for each house.

This pooling device enables new houses and flats to be let at rents considerably lower than the economic figure having regard to the high cost of building high cost of land, and the prevailing high interest rates.

As from April 1963, rents, including rates and water charges, will be charged as follows:-

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 4 bedroom houses | - From £2.11. 6. to £2.13. 1. |
| 3 bedroom houses | - From £1. 9. 6. to £2. 8. 4. |
| 2 bedroom houses | - From £1.14. 9. to £2. 0. 3. |
| Prefabricated bungalows | - £1. 8. 9. |
| Flats (2 bedrooms) | - From £1.12. 3. to £1.13. 2. |
| Flats (Single bedroom) | - £1. 7. 6. |
| Canterbury Road flats | - From 16/8d. to £1. 5. 3. |

A report upon rent revision was submitted by the Council's Treasurer and Accountant in November, 1961, which included a comprehensive history of Council house rents, and the way in which they have been determined since 1936.

The Treasurer and Accountant completed his review with an explanation of the new system of calculating subsidies introduced by the Housing Act, 1961.

It was decided in 1962 to extend to pre-war houses a method of calculating rents by reference to the gross value of the house. In this way the net rent is fixed at twice the gross value and is a method which has been applied previously to post-war houses only at Herne Bay.

The application of this system of rent calculation to pre-war houses resulted in a substantial increase of rents of those houses. The increased rents are, however, reasonable for the accommodation offered, and are much below the rents of comparable houses privately owned. The system of calculating rents by reference to the gross value is fair because it reflects the amenities and other conditions which measure the gross value of a house.

Improvements at Council houses (New)

I have referred in previous reports to the 132 pre-war houses which require standard improvements. During 1962 these houses were inspected with the object of ascertaining the nature of the improvements required.

These are as follows:-

- (a) Hot water systems with draw off taps over bath, sink and wash basin.
- (b) Wash basins.
- (c) Provision of door and frame in rear entrance passages.
- (d) Internal water closets.

It was found that:-

10 houses at Margate Road require (a), (b) above.

62 houses at Stanley Gardens)
10 " " Claremont Street } Require (a), (b) and (c) above.
1 house " Park Road }

11 houses at Claremont Street)
13 " " Clarendon Street } Require (a), (b) and (d) above.
7 " " Grafton Rise }
4 " " Park Road }

14 houses at Windsor Villas, Sea Street require (b) above.

It was decided to proceed with the improvement of 10 houses at Margate Road, Broomfield, as a "pilot" scheme, using electricity as a means of providing a hot water system. It was

decided at the same time to take the opportunity of improving the kitchens to make them more convenient for tenants to use. Improvement works will rank for grant and rents will be increased to cover loan repayments upon the remaining cost.

COUNCIL HOUSE GARDENS COMPETITION (Revised)

This is a useful method of encouraging tenants to cultivate attractive gardens. At the same time it has given 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.

It was decided to restrict the competition in future to those tenants who enter their gardens for judging in the competition. This would have the effect of reducing the number of inspections by members.

Neglected Gardens (New)

Neglected gardens are dealt with after a routine inspection in early summer. Occasionally it is necessary to cut down weeds, etc., in default of a tenant who has to meet the cost.

Where there are no front boundary walls, the grass forecourts are maintained by the Council.

HOUSING OF APPLICANTS AND TRANSFER OF TENANTS (Revised)

During the year a total of 69 houses, prefabs and flats have been let to new tenants in the following categories:-

| | |
|---|----|
| Applicants selected from the general housing register | 42 |
| Applicants evicted by Court Order | 7 |
| Tenants rehoused from unfit houses | 11 |
| Council staff | 3 |

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Keyworkers | 3 |
| Special selections | 2 |
| Police Officer | 1 |

20 of the applicants were accommodated at houses and flats given up by their previous tenants. The remainder were housed at newly constructed houses and flats.

35 tenants were transferred to accommodation more suitable to the needs of their growing or diminishing families or for other reasons. 13 under-occupied houses were released for larger families.

Two exchanges of tenancy were permitted with tenants of Council houses at Chatham and Tiverton. There was one indirect exchange with a tenant at Canterbury.

2 local exchanges were also permitted.

UNDER-OCCUPATION AT COUNCIL HOUSES
(Revised completely)

In August, 1962, there was a census at Council houses with the object of ascertaining the extent of under-occupation, and of overcrowding. It was found that 54 three bedroom houses were under-occupied with only two persons per house. One four bedroom house was under-occupied with two persons. 9 prefabs having two bedrooms, and one three bedroom house were under-occupied with only one person per dwelling.

The extent of under-occupation is very similar to that which was revealed in 1959 when similar information was collected concerning the occupation of Council properties. Most of the under-occupation revealed in 1959 has been dealt with by transfer of tenants to smaller accommodation.

The new information obtained in 1962 shows that under-occupation is a continuing process as families grow up and leave home. This is a source which may be expected to supply a continuous flow of houses which can be released for families when smaller accommodation can be offered. In one instance only has it been necessary to put pressure upon a tenant to move to smaller accommodation. Some tenants are eager to move to new flats, others can be persuaded with a little patience.

The Council meets the reasonable removal expenses of tenants who give up large Council houses, and move to small accommodation at the Council's request. This is a considerable help in securing the movement which is desired.

When the matter was first considered in 1959 the Council adopted the following policy upon the recommendations of the Public Health and Housing Committee:-

- (a) That it is considered to be the duty of the Council to ensure that none of the houses or flats under its control are seriously under-occupied;
- (b) that tenants of under-occupied premises be encouraged to transfer to smaller accommodation when such accommodation is available;
- (c) that when such transfers take place the Council pay the reasonable cost of removal;
- (d) that the compulsory transfer of tenants to smaller accommodation will be required if necessary; it is hoped that this distasteful course will be avoided by voluntary agreement.

During 1962, 13 tenants voluntarily transferred from under-occupied houses to small flats.

OVERCROWDING AT COUNCIL HOUSES

(New)

The census also revealed some overcrowding at Council houses. To maintain reasonable housing standards a three bedroom house is not suitable for a family of more than 5 persons. If the children are very small a family unit with a maximum of 6 persons might be tolerated until the children reach an age when sex segregation becomes necessary. A two bedroom house is not suitable for more than 4 persons - only 3 persons if children are of different sexes and are above 10 years of age.

To relieve the more serious overcrowding the best use has to be made of 4 bedroom houses. There are only 18 of these houses so opportunities of rehousing large families are limited.

Some more 4 bedroom houses would be useful.

SELECTION OF TENANTS

(Repeated)

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.

RESIDENCE QUALIFICATION
(Repeated)

It was decided in 1961 to refuse admission to the Housing Register unless an applicant has resided in the town for at least 12 months. This requirement, together with the waiting period of 12 months before consideration of a new application, ensures that at least two years will elapse before the application of a new resident will be considered. The new rule helps to prevent "queue jumping" and avoids inflation of the waiting list with names of applicants who are really temporary residents at furnished accommodation during the winter months when holiday flats are vacant.

HOUSING REGISTER
(Revised)

The register at the end of the year 1962 contained the names of 388 applicants; all but 11 of whom were local residents. The 11 non-residents qualify as applicants because they are employed at Herne Bay. 106 of these applicants had registered for less than a year.

The "waiting list" is composed of old persons requiring flats, and young families requiring houses in approximately equal numbers.

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 fluctuated as can be seen from the table which follows. At the end of 1962 there were 388 names on the housing list.

The most genuine and urgent need for housing accommodation undoubtedly exists among young people who are struggling to raise families in a couple of rooms. Often these are in their parents' homes with all the friction which inevitably arises from shared kitchens, etc.

Other reasons for seeking Council accommodation have been referred to in my previous annual reports as under:-

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

Many tenants of privately owned houses have received notice to quit and feel insecure even though some owners are disinclined to enforce eviction by taking Court proceedings. These tenants place their names on the Council's housing register.

- (b) The construction by the Council of attractive flats has stimulated a flow of new applications from many elderly people who had 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 | " |
| " | 1959 | - | 397 | " |
| " | 1960 | - | 413 | " |
| " | 1961 | - | 384 | " |
| " | 1962 | - | 388 | " |

We know from our records that approximately half the number of persons who make application for housing accommodation are never considered. By the time their applications are due for consideration they have left the town or have solved their housing problems without the Council's assistance. This is a factor which enables one to assess the true significance of the number of persons upon the waiting list at any given time.

There was a postal check upon applicants who had been waiting for one year but not more than two, in November which resulted in the removal of 43 names from the register.

HOUSES GIVEN UP BY THEIR TENANTS
(Revised)

It will be noted under a previous paragraph that 20 tenancies were given up during 1962. This is less than the number given up the previous year, and is slightly below the average since 1954.

The total number includes 6 flats which became vacant upon the death of tenants.

As the total "stock" of Council houses and flats increases we might expect the number of vacancies to increase especially from old people's flats.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-----|
| Houses given up in 1951 | - | Nil |
| " " " " 1952 | - | 6 |
| " " " " 1953 | - | 6 |
| " " " " 1954 | - | 19 |
| " " " " 1955 | - | 23 |
| " " " " 1956 | - | 21 |
| " " " " 1957 | - | 29 |
| " " " " 1958 | - | 21 |
| " " " " 1959 | - | 14 |
| " " " " 1960 | - | 17 |
| Houses and flats " " " 1961 | - | 29 |
| " " " " " " " 1962 | - | 20 |

FUTURE HOUSING POLICY
(Revised)

The housing policy of the Council is reviewed annually. It was decided to continue with the building of flats. These are cheaper to construct and can be used to release houses by the transfer of tenants from under-occupied accommodation.

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, continue to operate.

It has already been mentioned that the Housing Act, 1961, introduced a new subsidy structure. Commenting upon that the Minister of Housing and Local Government made some important observations upon the purposes for which local authorities should continue to build houses.

These purposes include building for:-

- (a) slum clearance.
- (b) the elderly.
- (c) overspill.
- (d) relief of overcrowding.
- (e) relief of bad living conditions at shared accommodation.

He also intimated that there is room for a greater variety of accommodation for old people than was provided while the subsidy was confined to one bedroom dwellings.

In considering building proposals the Minister will wish to be satisfied that there is proper regard for these priorities, and that any dwellings an authority may wish to build for other purposes are required to meet a need which is truly urgent, and which it is appropriate to meet.

It has been decided to build 2 storey flats at Grand Drive and Clarendon Street. A plot of land has been acquired for the probable construction of flats at Sunnyhill Road.

At the King's Road Clearance Area it has been decided to construct the town's first multi-storey flats, one block to a height of 7 stories, and two other blocks to a lesser height.

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

RENT ACT, 1957.
(Revised)

This Act, which 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 Certificate of Disrepair, in 1958 there were eleven, in 1959 there was one application, and in 1960 there were two applications. All of these were granted. No applications have since been received.

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.

Very little use is now made of the Act by tenants to secure Certificates of Disrepair. Evictions under the Rent Act are now frequent and tenants feel insecure. They are disinclined to risk offending their landlords by applying for Certificates of Disrepair.

MILK
(Revised)

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 (General)

Regulations, 1959.

| | |
|---|----|
| Retail Dairies | 2 |
| Distributors with milk rounds (main trade) | 2 |
| Distributors trading from retail premises (subsidiary trade) | 53 |

There are 53 retail premises, mainly general food shops, from which small quantities of bottled milk are sold. The number of registered dairies is reduced to two. Other milk distributors now receive milk already bottled at registered premises.

The sale of bottled milk at general shops is still increasing 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 (Revised)

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. |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Pasteurised Milk Methylene Blue test | 14 | 14 | None |
| Phosphatase test | 14 | 14 | None |

Annual Licences to Retail Milk under Special Designations (Pasteurised, Sterilised and Tuberculin Tested) (Revised)

The Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1960, consolidate and re-enact with amendments the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949 to 1954, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949 - 1953.

The new Regulations have operated from 1st January, 1961, and provide for a new form of dealers (pre-packed milk) licence, to be issued by the Food and Drugs Authority. Licences under the new Regulations are valid for five years.

The Herne Bay Urban District Council is not at present a Food and Drugs Authority so it ceased to be responsible for the granting of dealers licences authorising the use of special designations in relation to the sale of milk.

The local Council remains responsible for registration of dairies and distributors of milk.

A person wishing to sell milk has first to be registered with the local Council, and then has to obtain a licence from the Kent County Council to sell milk under a special designation.

Pasteurisation Plant (Repeated)

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 in 1958.

The Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) (No. 2) Order, 1955 (Revised)

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.

Most of the milk now sold in England and Wales is either tuberculin tested or has been made "safe" by pasteurisation or sterilisation.

Tuberculosis (Area Eradication) Order 1950. (Repeated)

It is interesting to note the progress made in the eradication of bovine tuberculosis from our dairy herds.

Kent reached "Attested Area" status on 1st October, 1958, and the whole of England and Wales was declared an "Attested Area" on 1st October, 1960.

This is regarded as the final stage of eradication of bovine tuberculosis in England and Wales.

This information was supplied by the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. He points out that the incidence of tuberculosis in dairy herds is now extremely low and "should certainly be a diminishing factor".

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS (Repeated)

Meat Inspection and Slaughter Arrangements

At the outbreak of war there were four licensed slaughterhouses in use at Herne Bay. By the end of 1956 there remained only one licensed slaughterhouse, and it had not been used since 1939.

That remaining licence was allowed to lapse at the end of 1959, when the ownership of the premises changed. The new owner intimated that he was not prepared to carry out the extensive alterations and improvements which would be necessary.

Licences of the four unsatisfactory slaughterhouses at Herne Bay have thus been allowed to lapse over a period of years, with no hardship or inconvenience to their owners, and no payment of compensation by the Council.

I have explained in previous annual reports the many phases which have led up to the present position. It is sufficient now to record that the Council was much concerned in the early post-war period about the four rather poor licensed slaughterhouses at Herne Bay, and about the whole question of slaughtering needs of the district.

Slaughterhouse Reports (Appointed Day) Order, 1959 (Repeated)

The organisations and butchers concerned were asked whether they had any comment on the Council's proposed report to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food about slaughterhouse facilities for the Herne Bay area. No adverse comments were received. It was resolved by the Council that the Ministry be told that in the Herne Bay area, the existing and probable future requirements for slaughterhouse facilities, are adequately met by the Canterbury Abattoir.

Meat Transport (Repeated)

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. Some well designed vans are now in use.

Unsound Food (Revised)

During the year 333 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 when slaughtered, 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, all of whom are qualified Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods. The above figure of unsound food includes 159 lbs. of home killed and imported meat.

Condemned food is disposed of by burial.

The Meat (Staining and Sterilization) Regulations (Repeated)

These Regulations came into force upon 1st November, 1960. They require all butchers meat, and imported meat which is unfit for human food, to be sterilised, and all knackers meat to be stained or sterilised, before entering the chain of distribution.

This gives greater control over the disposal of unsound butchers meat, and knacker meat, much of which is supplied to retailers of pets meat. At a pet shop the retailer has to ensure that all raw knacker meat is stained at the time of sale.

Butchers, who from time to time, may have meat in their possession which is unfit, must sterilise it, or arrange for it to be sterilised, to the satisfaction of the local authority.

THE FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960. (Revised)

In previous annual reports I have outlined the action taken since Food Hygiene Regulations came into operation on 1st January, 1956. All food premises were then inspected, and they have since been revisited from time to time to secure compliance with legal requirements. The original Regulations have been amended and consolidated in the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

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

Improvements resulting from the Hygiene Regulations are set out upon page 36 in the table headed "Summary of Defects Remedied and Improvements Effected".

545 visits were made to inspect food premises.

This greatly increased number of visits has been made possible by the addition to the staff of another Public Health Inspector who devotes a considerable part of his time to food premises and food hygiene.

Offences for which warnings were given

| | |
|---|---|
| Smoking whilst handling open food | 3 |
| Baking tin in bread | 1 |
| Cardboard in milk | 1 |
| Food displayed outside premises at a height less than 18 inches (liable to fouling by dogs) | 2 |
| Crockery and cutlery insufficiently cleansed | 1 |
| Dirty floor of food transport vehicle cleansed | 1 |
| Yeast stored in water closet | 1 |

Food Hygiene - Codes of Practice (Repeated)

The Minister of Health, jointly with the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, prepared and issued codes of practice relating to hygiene in the retail meat trade, and the hygienic transport and handling of meat. These were followed by similar codes of practice for the fish trade. It is hoped that these extremely useful codes of practice will be generally followed throughout the trades.

Hygiene by common consent is more likely to succeed than hygiene imposed by legislation, although it has to be available in the last resort for those who will not respond to persuasion.

Ice Cream (Revised)

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 (General) Regulations.

At the end of 1962 a total of 120 premises were registered for the sale of ice cream, and two for the manufacture and sale of ice cream. Locally, two traders only manufacture ice cream, and they use the "hot-mix" method. During the year 2 new registrations were approved for the sale of wrapped ice cream.

In addition to the above, ice cream is sold at 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 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.

"Soft" ice cream has now become very popular. At the Annual Conference of the Association of Public Health Inspectors at Southport the following resolution was adopted:

"That in view of recent developments in the manufacture of soft ice cream, the Minister of Health and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, be urged to review the legislation governing the manufacture, storage and sale of this product."

Examination of Samples (Revised)

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

| No. of Samples | Classification in Grades. |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| 8 | Grade I |
| None | " II |
| 1 | " III |
| None | " IV |

These results can be regarded as satisfactory. The samples were taken from local manufacturers and from "soft ice cream" dispensers. These sources are more prone to contamination than a national brand of wrapped ice cream.

13 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) Regulations, 1959, prescribe standards of composition for Icecream, Dairy Icecream, Dairy Cream Ice, or Cream Ice, and Parev (Kosher) ice. The addition of artificial sweetener to icecream of any description is prohibited.

The Regulations replace the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order, 1953. They prescribe amended standards of composition for ice cream and "Parev" (Kosher) ice and introduce separate standards of composition for dairy ice cream and milk ice. Alternative standards are prescribed for certain descriptions of ice cream containing fruit, fruit pulp, or fruit puree.

REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES AND OTHERS
(Revised)

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 | 32 |
| Fried fish shops | 5 |

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 282.

A total of 609 visits was made to food premises of all kinds during 1962.

PET ANIMALS ACT
(Repeated)

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.

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

These are inspected from time to time.

HEALTH EDUCATION (Revised)

The Council decided to become members of the Central Council for Health Education on the basis of the minimum contribution rate of 2/9d. per thousand population. The Council also joined the London and Home Counties Clean Air Advisory Council.

Mr. W. F. Weller attended a week-end school for Public Health Inspectors at Clacton.

The Senior Public Health Inspector attended as a delegate at the Annual Conference of the Association of Public Health Inspectors at Southport.

Local organisations have been addressed upon various aspects of the work of the Public Health Department.

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

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.

There are two local pig and poultry keepers who operate within the scope of the Order.

PETROLEUM
(Revised)

There are 36 Petroleum Spirit stores at Herne Bay, which have to be licensed annually under the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928. Fees amounting to £28. 0. 0. were received in December for the renewal of annual licences. One new petroleum spirit store was licensed in 1962.

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 a serious 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. This recommendation is carried out, for my records indicate the age of most tanks.

Most garages and filling stations now have electric pumps, flame proofed, as required in the Regulations, and equipped with limiting devices.

OIL HEATERS REGULATIONS 1962
(New)

In September, upon the request of the Law and Finance Committee it was decided by the Public Health and Housing Committee to accept responsibility for the administration of these new Regulations.

The Regulations require every oil heater to bear a warning. Shops where oil heaters are exposed for sale have to be visited from time to time to examine heaters to ensure that they bear the following prescribed warnings:-

- (a) Against using petrol as fuel therein.
- (b) Against carrying the heater when alight.
- (c) Against using the heater in unventilated places.
- (d) Against using the heater where it may be exposed to draughts.
- (e) Against placing the heater where it may be knocked over.

The warnings have to be set out in legible and durable characters and displayed either upon the heater itself or upon a durable label stoutly affixed to it.

Other requirements of the Regulations have to do with standard of performance, fuel temperature, stability, prevention of spillage, flame flashback, fire risk, draught resistance, etc.

The following information is being furnished to you for your information. It is requested that you advise the Bureau if you have any questions or comments regarding this information.

- (a) Against using petrol as fuel.
- (b) Against using the motor when it may be expended.

The following information is being furnished to you for your information. It is requested that you advise the Bureau if you have any questions or comments regarding this information.

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I N D E X

| | |
|---|----|
| Area | 6 |
| Assistant District Officer | 3 |
| Bacteriological Examinations | 27 |
| Births, Number of | 6 |
| Camping Sites | 40 |
| Chest Physician | 3 |
| Chickenpox | 17 |
| Clinics - Chest | 13 |
| Minor Ailments | 12 |
| Ophthalmic | 13 |
| Orthopaedic | 13 |
| Speech Defects | 13 |
| Venereal Diseases | 13 |
| Committee, Health and Housing | 1 |
| Committees concerned with matters of Public Health | 1 |
| Convalescent and Holiday Homes | 15 |
| Deaths, Number of | 7 |
| Causes of | 8 |
| Infants under 1 year of age | 6 |
| Dental Clinic | 13 |
| Death Rate | 7 |
| Dirty Conditions and Eradication of Vermin | 40 |
| Diseases of Animals Waste Foods Order, 1957 | 76 |
| District Officer | 3 |
| Domestic Help Area Organiser | 3 |
| Drainage and Sewerage | 29 |
| Factories Acts, 1961 | 21 |
| Five Year Programme - First | 49 |
| Second | 50 |
| Food Hygiene Regulations | 72 |
| Food Premises | 36 |
| Health Education | 76 |
| Health Visitors | 3 |
| Herne Bay (Beach Street) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1962 | 51 |
| Herne Clearance Area | 50 |
| Home Nurses | 3 |
| Hospital : Isolation | 14 |
| Development of | 14 |
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