

**[Report 1925] / Medical Officer of Health, Hollingbourn R.D.C.**

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HOLLINGBOURN  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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**REPORTS**

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

AND THE

**Sanitary Inspector**

**FOR THE YEAR 1925.**

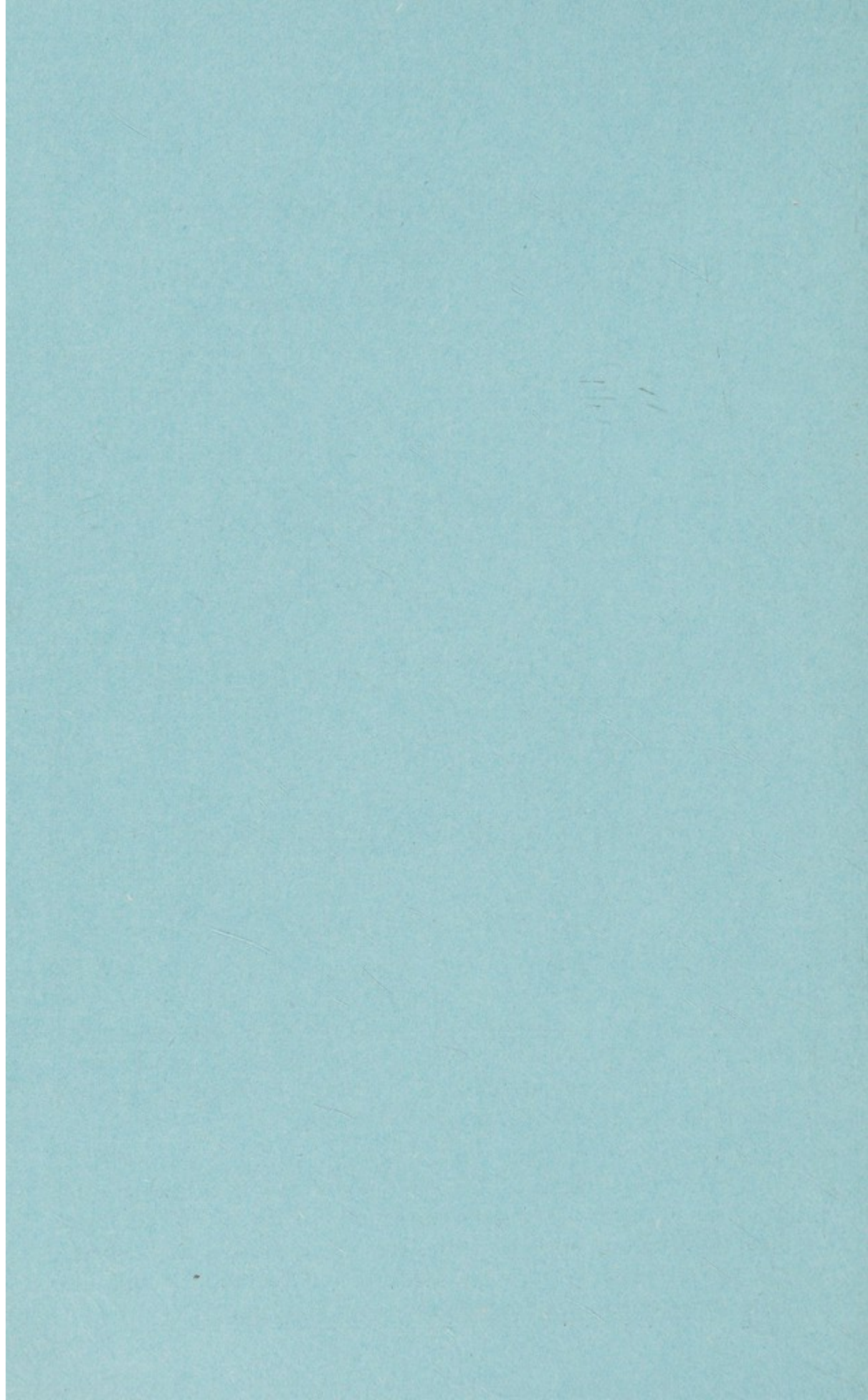
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# Hollingbourn Rural District Council.

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SUTTON VALENCE,

MAIDSTONE,

June, 1926.

*To the Chairman and Members of the above Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Report for the year 1925.

Circular 648, dated 10th December, 1925, provided that this should be a Survey Report, and it has accordingly been drafted on the lines of the appendix to such Circular.

*Area of the District.*—57671 acres.

*Population.*—As per census of 1921, 13166. Estimated for 1925, 13420.

## PHYSICAL FEATURES & GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE AREA.

The District is the second largest rural district in Kent and lies practically in the middle of the County. Geographically the district may be divided into three parts:—(1) The chalk hills or North Downs, varying in height from 600 to 700 feet above sea level. (2) At the foot of the hills is the blue clay or gault, cropping up through which comes the upper greensand (as at Ware Street and Harrietsham). (3) Further south is the lower greensand or Kentish Ragstone hills, averaging about 400 feet above sea level.

The Hills give rise to many springs, which run from N.E. to S.W., while those which have their origin in the lower greensands run in the reverse direction, viz., N.W. to S.E. Two rivers—the Stour and the Len—have their sources at Lenham, the former running through Ashford and Canterbury and the latter through Hollingbourn, Leeds and Maidstone.



The part of the District lying on the Hills is wild and sparsely populated and intersected by deep valleys running northward. There are 23 parishes in the District, 8 of which are on the Hills and have small populations, *e.g.*, Bredhurst (251), Hucking (123), Bicknor (37), Stockbury (481), Frinsted (150), Wormshill (157), Otterden (170) and Wichling (113).

Below the Hills are Boxley (1381), Detling (281), Thurnham (716), Hollingbourn (754), Harrietsham (722), Lenham (1947). Between these last named villages and the upper greensand are Leeds (603) and Broomfield (142). On the lower greensand or Kentish ragstone hills are Chart Sutton (658), Sutton Valence (1174), Langley (390), East Sutton (385), Ulcombe (673), Boughton Malherbe (366), while in the Weald of Kent is situated Headcorn (1492).

The District is entirely agricultural and produces hops, fruit and corn, and a considerable dairy industry is carried on.

Number of Inhabited Houses, 1921—3,210.

Number of Families or Separate Occupiers, 1921—3,244.

Rateable Value—£96,425.

Sum represented by 1d. rate—£312.

**SOCIAL CONDITIONS.**—By far the greater number of the inhabitants of the District are engaged in agriculture, but in the parish of Boxley there are one or two paper mills and a brickworks. Owing to the increase in travelling facilities provided by motor cars and omnibuses, etc., an increasing number of persons employed in the large towns of Chatham and Maidstone are living in the Hollingbourn District.

The agricultural workers, being employed in the open air all day, are naturally healthy, while it has not been noticed that the paper mills or brickworks have any detrimental effect upon the health of the employees.

A pleasing feature is the increased interest taken in the social life of the villages. Practically every one has its Village Hall or Club, and the Women's Institutes and other organisations are doing much to enliven the somewhat monotonous lives of the villagers.



## VITAL STATISTICS.

During the past year 173 deaths occurred in the District, 87 being males and 86 females.

Below is a table showing the causes of death :—

CAUSE OF DEATH.	M.	F.
Whooping cough ... ..		1
Influenza ... ..	1	2
Encephalitis lethargica ... ..	1	
Tuberculosis of respiratory system ... ..	7	5
Other tuberculosis diseases ... ..		2
Cancer, Malignant disease ... ..	11	9
Diabetes ... ..	1	2
Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc. ... ..	9	8
Heart disease ... ..	9	18
Arterio-sclerosis ... ..	4	4
Bronchitis ... ..	12	4
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	3	3
Other respiratory diseases ... ..		2
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ... ..	1	
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years) ... ..		1
Appendicitis and typhlitis ... ..		1
Acute and chronic nephritis ... ..	4	1
Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth ... ..	5	3
Suicide ... ..	3	
Other deaths from violence ... ..	2	1
Other defined diseases ... ..	14	17
Causes ill-defined or unknown ... ..		2

Infantile Mortality in children under 1 year, 17 ; whilst total births during year were 214.

DEATH RATE.—The death rate is 12·89 as compared with 12·2 for the whole of England and Wales.

BIRTH RATE.—The birth rate is 15·94 as compared with 18·3 for England and Wales. 121 boys (8 of whom were illegitimate) and 93 girls (3 of whom were illegitimate) were born.

AMOUNT OF POOR LAW RELIEF.—69 persons were in the Maidstone & Medway Guardians' Institutions chargeable to the Hollingbourn Union, which is co-extensive with the Hollingbourn Rural District, on the 31st December, 1925, while



10 persons were in other Institutions not being mental houses. 48 persons were in Mental Hospitals. 154 men, women and children chargeable to the Union were in receipt of out relief.

The West Kent General Hospital and the Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital, both in Maidstone, are available for the residents of the Hollingbourn District, and their aid is sought and readily given as and when required.

No causes of sickness or invalidity have been specially noteworthy in the area during the period under review, and the conditions of occupation or environment have not had a prejudicial effect on health.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or County Council :—

- (1) Tuberculosis.—County Sanatorium at Lenham.
- (2) Maternity.—Nil.
- (3) Children.—Nil.
- (4) Fever.—The Council have an agreement with Maidstone R.D.C. for fever cases to be received in their Hospital, Coxheath, Linton.
- (5) Smallpox.—There is an agreement between the Maidstone, Hollingbourn, Cranbrook and Tenterden R.D. Councils and the Borough of Tenterden, whereby the Hollingbourn Council's Hospital at Harpswood, Hollingbourn, is maintained solely for smallpox.

The present accommodation is as follows :—

WARDS	MEN	WOMEN	CHILDREN
2	12	—	3
2	—	10	3

- (6) Other.—The West Kent General Hospital, Maidstone, and the Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital are available for the area.

There is no Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children in the area, but such Institutions are available in the adjoining borough of Maidstone, and use of these is made if and when necessary.



### AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—

(a) For infectious cases.—The agreement between the Hollingbourn and Maidstone Rural District Councils makes the motor ambulance belonging to the latter authority available for this district, and by telephoning to the Matron of the Hospital the ambulance is sent to any parish in this District for infectious cases.

In addition, your Council own a horse drawn ambulance which is kept at the Hollingbourn Hospital for use in the case of smallpox.

(b) For non-infectious and accident cases.—The Maidstone Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade has two or three modern motor ambulances always available for these cases and are frequently in use in this District.

### CLINICS & TREATMENT CENTRES.—

Name or Nature of Centre.	Situation.	Nature of Accommodation.	By whom provided.
Maternity and Child Welfare (Consultation and Treatment).			
Day Nurseries ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
School Clinics ... ..			
Tuberculosis Dispensaries ...			
Venereal Diseases ... ..			

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL.—There is a part time Medical Officer and a whole time Sanitary Inspector. One half the Medical Officer's salary and one half the Inspector's salary is repaid by the County Council.

### PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.—

(a) GENERAL.—There is no home nursing provided either by the County Council (apart from Maternity and Child Welfare work) or the District Council in the Rural District, but there are several Voluntary Nursing Associations which employ fully trained nurses and do a very good work. The Hollingbourn Board of Guardians have subscribed towards the funds of two of these Associations. The names of the Associations are as follows :—

The Suttons District Nursing Association

The Lenham & Harrietsham Nursing Association

The Langley, Leeds and Otham Nursing Association.



(b) FOR INFECTIOUS CASES.—Nurses are available when required from the Kent Nursing Institution, West Malling, or Miss E. M. WITHERS, The Nursing Home, Faversham.

MIDWIVES.—Your Council do not employ or subsidise any midwife in your District, of whom three reside and practise therein.

CHEMICAL WORK.—The services of the Kent County Analyst at the Sessions House, Maidstone, are available for the analysis of any sample submitted to him; samples of water from two wells at Ashford Road, Boxley, were analysed and found to be of a doubtful nature with the result that the wells were closed and main water supplied.

The Mid Kent Water Company, who supply water to a large part of the District, are constantly supplying copies of the reports of their Analyst on samples.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.—No Local Act or Special Local Order is in force in the District.

So much of Part III of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, as is applicable to Rural Districts was adopted, and came into force on the 9th November, 1925.

As this Part only came into force less than two months before the end of the year under review, no action was taken thereunder. New Byelaws relating to new buildings and certain matters in connection with buildings, were approved by the Minister of Health on the 18th August, 1924, and have been found very useful.

Byelaws relating to the Lodging and Accommodation of Persons engaged in Hop-picking and the Picking of Fruit and Vegetables were approved by the Local Government Board on the 22nd August, 1904.

Regulations with respect to Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk-shops were made by the Council on the 20th December, 1906, and came into force on the 1st February, 1907.

Byelaws regulating the open space known as The Square, Lenham, were approved by the Ministry of Health on the 20th September, 1923.

The Council are invested with certain powers under sections 23, 33 and 36 of the Public Health Acts Amendment



Act, 1890, by virtue of Orders of the Local Government Board dated 10th October, 1892, 2nd October, 1900, 8th March, 1912 and 2nd April, 1913.

## **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

**WATER SUPPLY.**—Parts of 20 out of the 23 parishes in your District are supplied with Company's water and, in the case of Ulcombe, with water from your own Waterworks.

The quality in every case is good and constant, although your Ulcombe supply is obtained from springs which might possibly become contaminated by surface pollution. 60 per cent. of the population of the area is supplied by the above-mentioned means, in the majority of cases the water being laid on in the houses. The analyses submitted by the various Water Companies show the water to be of a high standard. 2,060 houses are supplied with main water.

Main water is required in the following parishes :—Boxley (part of) Abbey Court Estate, Bredhurst, Stockbury, Ulcombe (part of), Headcorn (part of) and the lower part of Chart Sutton.

**RIVERS AND STREAMS.**—Some pollution of streams is taking place in the following parishes :—

Hollingbourn, Harrietsham, Thurnham and Ulcombe, caused by soil and foul water. No case has occurred during the year where it has been necessary to take action.

**DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.**—Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Schemes are in operation in the parishes of Headcorn, Lenham and Sutton Valence, and are desirable in the parishes of Hollingbourn, Harrietsham, Thurnham and Ulcombe. In these last mentioned parishes and in the remaining parishes in your District the drainage is into cesspools, earth closets, or privy middens and pail closets.

**CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.**—There are 580 w.c.'s into drainage system ; 1,422 w.c.'s into cesspools ; 1,169 privies ; 240 pail or earth closets. The abolition of privies and the conversion into w.c.'s is steadily proceeding year by year.

**SCAVENGING.**—No scavenging system is undertaken by your Council ; owing to the rural character of the District the disposal of house refuse and cleansing of earth closets, privies,



ashpits and cesspools can be efficiently carried out by the individual occupiers of premises concerned in each case.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.—(See the Sanitary Inspector's Report appended, Page 20).

## **PREMISES, ETC., WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS OR REGULATIONS.**

### *LODGING ACCOMMODATION.*

HOPPER ENCAMPMENTS.—Marked improvements have been effected with regard to the lodging and accommodation of Hop-pickers during 1925, but serious attention is still needed in respect of overcrowding, latrines, water supplies and flooring. There are 355 hopper houses in the District.

One of the Medical Officers of the Ministry of Health visited the District during the hopping season, when I accompanied him on a tour around the principal encampments.

SCHOOLS.—The sanitary condition of and water supply to schools in the District are of a very fair standard. As regards infection, no school was closed during the year, and the County Council undertake the inspection of the children.

## **HOUSING.**

### **I. GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS IN THE AREA.—**

(a) *Extent of shortage or excess of houses.*—There is, of course, a certain shortage of housing accommodation, but this is being gradually remedied by private enterprise. The survey in 1919 revealed the fact that 76 houses were required in the area, to which might be added an additional 100, making a total of 176 required in 1919 and since then.

(b) *Measures taken or contemplated to meet the shortage.*—The Council erected 24 houses and private enterprise has, since 1919, erected 144, making a total of 168.

(c) There is no information or indication to show that there has been, or will be, any important changes in population.

II. OVERCROWDING.—The extent of overcrowding in the District is not very marked, although there are some instances caused by large families being accommodated in small houses. In these cases such steps as are possible have been taken to get the families into larger houses when opportunity arises. No special cases have arisen during the past year calling for immediate action.



### III. FITNESS OF HOUSES.

1.— (a) The general standard of housing in the area is good.

(b) The general character of defects existing in unfit houses is lack of repair.

(c) The defects are chiefly due to owners not wishing to repair whilst tenants are in occupation and the difficulty of obtaining possession.

2.—The action taken by the Council as regards unfit houses will be found under section 3, A., B. and C. of "Housing Statistics" (see Page 19).

3.—No special difficulty was found in remedying unfitness.

4.—The total number of houses in the District supplied with main water is 2,060, and the remainder are supplied by wells, springs or rainwater. The closet accommodation is satisfactory with very few exceptions. No scheme of house refuse disposal is undertaken by the Council.

IV. UNHEALTHY AREAS.—No information was forwarded to the Council, or representations made, with regard to unhealthy areas.

V. BYELAWS RELATING TO HOUSES, HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS, AND TO TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, ETC.—The new building byelaws, which came into force in August, 1924, have been very useful. The Council also have byelaws relating to the accommodation of hop-pickers, etc.

No new byelaws or revision of those now existing are required.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.—These are set out on Page 18).

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.—The milk produced in or brought into the District is wholesome and the arrangements for its distribution adequate. As has been previously mentioned, there is a considerable dairy business carried on in the District and this necessitates the constant supervision which is given to dairies and cowsheds. No action was necessary in the cases of tuberculous milk or cattle and no license has been granted for the sale of milk under special designations. No license



has been refused or revoked. No information is available as to the bacteriological examination of samples of milk.

(b) MEAT.—The Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, and the Rural District Councils (Slaughter-houses) Order, 1924, came into force in 1925. Frequent inspections have been made either by myself or the Sanitary Inspector at slaughter houses at the time of slaughtering of animals, and also butchers' shops, etc., as provided by the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924. The meat inspected has invariably been found to be of a good quality. Your Council have not adopted any mark for the purpose of marking inspected meat. Following is a table showing the number of private slaughter houses :—

	In 1920.	In Jan., 1925.	In Dec., 1925
Registered ... ..	17	21	21
Licensed ... ..	—	—	1
	17	21	22

(c) OTHER FOODS.—Frequent inspections have been made in this respect and any defects to which attention has been called have been remedied.

### PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The cases of notifiable infectious diseases since 1920 have not been abnormal, and there are no noteworthy facts to report as to the sources or spread of infection. Supplies of diphtheria anti-toxin are always kept, and no "return" case of scarlet fever has been discovered. I make it a practice to visit every case and to investigate its source and advise as to its removal to Hospital. All kinds of disinfectants are kept and supplied to parents, and the Inspector promptly visits the houses with same and gives instructions as to their use.

The Council have, in several cases of long standing cancer, prevailed on relatives to destroy the bedding and they have, in three cases, provided new bedding.

No use was made of the Schick and Dick tests in diphtheria and scarlet fever, and I have not, as Medical Officer of Health, performed any vaccinations during the year. One man and two women died from influenza during the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)  
DURING 1925.—The particulars as to these are as follows :—

Disease.	Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	17	13	—
Diphtheria ... ..	6	6	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	—	—
Puerperal Fever ... ..	—	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	3	—	6
Erysipelas ... ..	6	—	—
Typhoid ... ..	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	—	—
	36.	19	6

TUBERCULOSIS.—*New Cases and Mortality during 1925 :*

Age Periods.	New Cases.		Deaths.	
	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
0	Total 13—no information available as to ages.			
1				
5				
10				
15			3	
20			2	
25			2	
35			4	
45			2	
55			2	
65 & upwards				
			15	1

No action was taken in 1925 under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

I am,

Yours obediently,

G. M. TUKE,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



# Hollingbourn Rural District Council.

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## Report of the Sanitary Inspector

For the Year ended 31st December, 1925.

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SUTTON VALENCE,

KENT,

*March 4th, 1926.*

*To the Chairman and Members of the above Council.*

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1925.

HOUSING.—During the year plans were approved for 46 Dwellings, e.g., houses (6), bungalows (11), cottage bungalows (22), cottages (7), including 9 cottage bungalows and 2 cottages, under the Housing, etc., Act, 1923.

Seven cottages, 14 cottage bungalows, 8 bungalows and 4 houses were completed and occupied during the year.

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, ETC., ACTS.—The Housing and General Statistics appended will show the number of houses and other places dealt with in the District in respect of Housing and the remedy of defects. It will be seen that 33 new houses were completed and that 537 houses were inspected. In 129 cases defects of a general kind were found, and in 7 cases Closing Orders were made, the drainage of 36 houses reconstructed, and 23 new w.c.'s provided with water supply and flushing apparatus. In 46 cases the roofs were made weatherproof, and in 39 cases the floors and ceilings repaired. In 21 cases new stoneware sinks with waste pipes

were provided, 29 inspection chambers with cast iron covers constructed and 14 cast iron ventilating shafts erected, 123 cesspools and privy pits emptied and cleansed, 16 new cesspools, 17 new privies and pits and 12 new earth closets constructed, 96 cowsheds, 10 bakehouses and 22 slaughterhouses cleansed and limewashed, in 139 cases house refuse removed, 17 nuisances arising from the keeping of animals abated, 42 houses, or part of, cleansed after infection, 15 new rainwater tanks with filters constructed, 25 wells and 29 rainwater tanks examined, 10 rainwater tanks repaired, and 53 houses supplied with water from Company's mains.

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.**—The following table gives particulars of Infectious Diseases notified during the year 1925 :—

Disease.	Total Number of Cases.	Removed to Isolation Hospital.
Typhoid ... ..	1	—
Diphtheria... ..	6	6
Scarlet Fever ... ..	17	13
Erysipelas ... ..	5	—
Pneumonia ... ..	3	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	2	—
Tuberculosis ... ..	13	—
Totals ... ..	47	19

From the above table it will be seen that 1 case of Typhoid, 6 cases of Diphtheria, 17 cases of Scarlet Fever, 5 cases of Erysipelas, 3 cases of Pneumonia, 2 cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum and 13 cases of Tuberculosis were notified, making a total of 47 cases, thus showing a decrease of 3 cases of the number recorded in 1924.

Nineteen persons, compared with 7 of the previous year, were removed to the Isolation Hospital and the rooms, clothing and bedding disinfected. In each case, after disinfecting, the interior of the dwellings, or part of, were cleansed, and in many cases the walls and ceilings stripped and lime-washed.



Disinfectants have been supplied to all Tuberculosis cases notified, and disinfection of rooms, clothing, etc., after death from Phthisis and Cancer has been carried out.

HOUSE REFUSE.—It will be noted in “General Statistics” the fairly large number of complaints (139) received. In most cases, especially in the larger parishes where house or sufficient garden or yard space is unavailable, refuse was found lying in close proximity to the back doors, and it is very difficult to deal with this matter under the existing state of affairs.

WATER SUPPLY.—During the year the water supply to many houses has been enquired into, with the result 53 houses have been provided with main water, making a total of 2,060 houses in the District furnished with a good and wholesome supply of water for domestic purposes.

New mains have been laid by the Mid-Kent Water Company from Broad Street, Hollingbourn, to Cobham Farm, Thurnham, to Black Horse, Thurnham, and to Marley Road, Harrietsham.

The Council directed me to obtain samples of water from 2 wells at Ashford Road, Boxley. The samples of water were submitted to the County Analyst, who reported the water in each case to be of a doubtful nature, the result being the dwellings were supplied with main water and the wells closed.

MILK & DAIRIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1922.—Inspection of Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops has been made as frequently as possible under the above-mentioned Act. It may be said that a good standard of cleanliness is maintained in some cases, but there is, however, still room for much improvement in several particulars, and it is hoped that with continued watchfulness and systematic inspection further improvements will be effected.



Five new cowsheds (to accommodate 50 cows) have been erected during the year.

**FOOD SUPPLY OTHER THAN MILK.**—Close attention has been given to the general standard of food as sold throughout the District, and the premises where such is stored or prepared for sale have exhibited a good standard of cleanliness.

**MEAT.**—The Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, were issued by the Ministry of Health (with Circular 547, 29-12-24). These Regulations were designed to secure more adequate inspection of animals slaughtered, as well as to improve the handling, transport and distribution of Meat.

At the same time, the Rural District Councils (Slaughter Houses) Order, 1924 (with Circular 552, 29-12-24) was issued, dealing with registration and licensing and various other matters connected with slaughter-houses.

The Rural District Councils (Slaughter Houses) Order came into operation on the 1st January, 1925. Your Council, in accordance with Article 7 of the Order, had published a statement of the effects of the Order, and of the place at which a copy of the Order could be seen, with the result 22 slaughter houses were registered.

A general inspection of the slaughter houses was made, and in several cases it was found necessary to call upon the owners to carry out alterations so as to reasonably comply with the above mentioned Order, and I am glad to take this opportunity of stating that there is a desire on the part of those concerned in the trade to loyally observe and carry out just regulations.

**THE PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924,** came into operation on the 1st day of April, 1925.

There are 24 Butchers in the District, each of which has complied with the regulations, that is to say, given notice of intended slaughtering.

It may be interesting to know that no less than 3,327 head of cattle have been slaughtered for human consumption during the nine months ended 31st December, 1925, in addition to



chilled or frozen beef, mutton and lamb, which is sold by most of the butchers, the weight of which I have had no opportunity to obtain.

Frequent visits have been made to the slaughter houses at the time of slaughtering, and in no case did I find meat (either in slaughter houses or butchers' shops) exposed for sale which was not of a good standard.

**LODGING AND ACCOMMODATION** of persons engaged in Hop-picking or in the picking of fruit and vegetables.—Many inspections were made (under the above heading) of (1) huts, (2) tents, (3) farm buildings occupied by hop-pickers, and considerable improvement has taken place since last year, but reform is needed in several cases as regards camp scavenging, latrine accommodation and flooring of huts. The question of overcrowding in some camps needs very serious attention before next year.

During the hop-picking season a Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health made enquiry as to the Lodging and Accommodation of persons engaged in hop-picking in your District. This gentleman visited most of the farms, and saw the conditions under which they were housed, and with few exceptions expressed himself satisfied.

**FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.**—The inspection of all such premises has been carried on throughout the year, and it will be satisfactory to the Council to know that in no case has it been necessary to take legal steps to obtain the necessary limewashing, etc.

I have prepared a Table, appended, relating to the work done under the above Act, giving particulars of the nuisances abated.

**SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.**—A new 6in. branch sewer, with 2 manholes, and flushing chamber, as also a steel ventilating column, was completed at New Road, Head-corn.

Seven new cast-iron manhole covers (heavy-weight) were fixed to the public sewer at Lenham.

The Sewage Disposal Works at Sutton Valence are giving every satisfaction.



The Sewage Disposal Works at Lenham also are working satisfactorily.

NEW BUILDINGS, ETC.—Plans for the following new buildings were approved by the Council in 1925 :—

Houses	...	...	...	...	6
Bungalows	...	...	...	...	11
Cottage Bungalows	...	...	...	...	22
Cottages	...	...	...	...	7
Additions to Houses	...	...	...	...	19
Additions to Bungalows	...	...	...	...	3
Additions to Cottages	...	...	...	...	7
Garages and Stables	...	...	...	...	6
Petrol Filling Stations	...	...	...	...	4
Shops	...	...	...	...	4
Warehouses	...	...	...	...	3
Engine House	...	...	...	...	1
Pavilion	...	...	...	...	1
Tea Room	...	...	...	...	1
Parish Rooms	...	...	...	...	2
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	5
					<hr/>
Total				...	102
					<hr/>

WORK ACCOMPLISHED.—The Council instructed me to prepare reports, plans and specifications for the following works :—

Headcorn—New Sewer Drainage with Manholes, etc., at Oak Road ; New Sewer at Forge Cottages.

Lenham—Sewers and Manholes.

Sutton Valence—Sewers and Filters.

Headcorn—Council Houses, General Repairs.

Lenham—Council Houses, General Repairs.

Detling—Council Houses, General Repairs.

Hollingbourn—Smallpox Hospital, General Repairs.

The “General Statistics” enumerates under the various headings what was accomplished during the year. This work has entailed 2,781 inspections, the writing of 967 letters, serv-



ing of 234 intimation and 45 statutory notices. Although it is practically impossible to tabulate all the work that is done, yet these are the principal items :—

### SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

House Inspections, Housing, Town Planning and P.H. Acts ... ..	537
House inspections, infection and disinfection...	57
New Buildings, inspections ... ..	625
Trade inspections, including cowsheds ... ..	424
Butchers' shops and slaughter houses, inspections	479
Factories and workshops, inspections ... ..	143
Re-inspections of works in progress ... ..	516
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Total ...	2,781
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In conclusion, I beg to tender my respectful thanks to you, Mr. Chairman, and the Members of the Council generally, for their support, and also to the Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Tuke) and the Clerk (Mr. Miskin) and his staff, who have at all times given me their valued advice and assistance.

I beg to remain,

Yours obediently,

H. M. APPS,

*Building Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.*

### HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

*Showing the number of New Houses erected during the year, and other places dealt with by notice or otherwise :—*

#### NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR.

(a) Total, including number given separately under (6) ...	33
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts ... ..	11
(i) By the Local Authority ... ..	—
(ii) By other bodies or persons ... ..	22



## 1. UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

## Inspection—

(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	537
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	136
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	7
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	129
2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.	
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	59
3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.	
A.— <i>Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.</i>	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	45
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—	
(a) By owners ... ..	40
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	—
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners to close ... ..	6
B.— <i>Proceedings under Public Health Acts.</i>	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	129
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after serving of formal notices—	
(a) By owners ... ..	100
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	—
C.— <i>Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Acts, 1925.</i>	
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders ... ..	7
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	6
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit. ... ..	—
(4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	—
(5) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	—



## GENERAL STATISTICS FOR YEAR 1925.

THE NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR.

[illegible]

THE RESULT OF THE SERVICE OF SUCH NOTICES.

(c) Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	245
(d) Notices, work in hand, 31st Dec., 1925	...	...	...	...	...	29
(e) Notices not complied with	...	...	...	...	...	5
						— 279

### NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED IN 1925.

Houses	... ..	4
Bungalows	... ..	8
Cottage Bungalows	... ..	14
Cottages	... ..	7
Additions to Houses	... ..	10
Additions to Bungalows	... ..	4
Additions to Cottages	... ..	8
Hopper-Houses	... ..	30
Garages	... ..	3
Pavilions	... ..	1
Tea Room	... ..	1
Parish Hall	... ..	1
Shops	... ..	4
Hop-kilns and Warehouses	... ..	3
Petrol Stations	... ..	3
Cowsheds	... ..	5
Engine House	... ..	1

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### DRAINAGE AND SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS.

Houses without drains or reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Houses provided with new w.c.'s	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
House water-closets repaired or cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
House soil-pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
New ventilating shafts provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
New stoneware sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
New stoneware gullies provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
New inspection chambers constructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
New cesspools constructed and ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
New privies constructed and ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
New earth closets constructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Privy pits reconstructed and ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Cesspools and privy pits emptied and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	123



## DWELLING HOUSES.

House dampness remedied ... ..	29
House roofs and guttering repaired ... ..	46
House floors and ceilings repaired ... ..	39
House back yards paved or repaired ... ..	18
House refuse removed on complaint ... ..	139

## WATER SUPPLIES.

Houses.—Total number in district supplied with main water	2,060
Total number supplied in 1925 ... ..	53
Wells examined ... ..	25
Wells examined, water submitted for analysis ... ..	2
Wells closed ... ..	2
New rainwater tanks, with filters, constructed ... ..	15
Rainwater tanks examined ... ..	29
Rainwater tanks repaired ... ..	10

## COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

New cowsheds erected ... ..	5
Cowsheds cleansed and limewashed ... ..	96

## BAKE HOUSES.

Bake houses cleansed and limewashed ... ..	10
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## SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Slaughter houses cleansed and limewashed ... ..	20
Slaughter houses rearranged with concrete floor and drainage	3

## BUTCHERS' SHOPS.

Butchers' shops, rearranged with glass fronts ... ..	2
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## KEEPING OF ANIMALS.

Animals so kept as to cause a nuisance ... ..	17
Manure and offensive matter removed ... ..	14
Pig-stye nuisance abated ... ..	9

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

Infectious cases notified ... ..	47
Medical certificates received ... ..	47
Houses in which infectious diseases occurred ... ..	42
Visits made to infected houses ... ..	57
Patients removed to Isolation Hospital ... ..	19
Rooms disinfected and cleansed ... ..	96



## FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

### 1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories ... .. (Including Factory Laundries)	25	5	—
Workshops ... .. (Including Workshop Laundries)	118	16	—
Workplaces ... .. (Other than Outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
Total ... ..	143	21	—

### 2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness ... ..	21	21	—	—
Total ... ..	21	21	—	—















