Hollingbourn Rural District Council

Annual Report for the Year 1957

ON

THE HEALTH OF THE HOLLINGBOURN RURAL DISTRICT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

DR. F. H. M. DUMMER,
M.B., Ch.B., C.P.H., D.P.H.

HOLLINGBOURN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1957

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- by the -

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

F.H.M. DUMMER, M.B., Ch.B., C.P.H., L.P.H.

HOLLINGBOURN RURAL DISTRICT

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year ended December 31st, 1957

To: The Chairman and Members of the Hollingbourn Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present to you my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the Hollingbourn Rural District of the year 1957.

Since this Report covers work which was supervised by my predecessor, Dr. P.J. Gaffikin, I have retained, from last year's Report, his general comments where they are still relevant.

I am glad to be able to report that the health of the Rural District has been good during the year. There is a decrease in the death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, over that recorded in 1956, the crude death rate being 9.58 and the rate when corrected for comparative purposes 9.00. The infantile death rate shows an increase from 20.00 in the preceding year, to 38.17 for all infants, but I can again record with satisfaction that the maternal death rate is "Nil".

I have dealt in some detail with infectious disease later in this Report. The most serious incidence was in poliomyelitis of which 11 cases were reported.

Since coming to your District, I have received full co-operation from your Officers in all Departments and I should like to record my thanks to them. The existence of an energetic Committee, and an appreciative Council, lightens our tasks and is a source of encouragement to the Members of the Public Health Department.

I have the Honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

F.H.M. DUMMER.

Medical Officer of Health.

Health Dept.,
13, Tonbridge Road,
Maidstone.

July 4th 1957.

HOLLINGBOURN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

MEMBERS

Mr. L.M. Apps
Mr. E.J. Belton
Mr. H.A. Boxall (Chairman)
Mr. F.E. Foreman
Cmdr. J. Bostock
Mr. A.W. Hooker
Mr. L. Langley
Mr. B.J. Mercer
Mrs. K.S. Mitchell (Vice-Chairman)
Mr. T.P.W. Oxendale
Mr. W.H. Still
Mr. D. Taylor
Mr. R. Tolhurst
Mr. M. Paine

Mr. L.A.K. Lidstone (ex-officio)

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

of the

HOLLINGBOURN RURAL DISTRICT

Medical Officer of Health	F.H.M. Dummer, M.B., Ch.B, C.P.H., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector	Chas. W. Page, C.R. San.I., M.A.P.H.I.
Additional Public Health Inspectors	Geoffrey H. Chambers, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
	Stanley Brook, M.A.P.H.I.
Cleansing Superintendent	Lionel P. Datson, M.M.
Clerk	F.A. Wright.

SECTION "A"

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area	56,810 acres
Estimated Resident Population 1957	16,700
Number of inhabited houses, end of 1957. (according to rate books)	5,000
Rateable Value December 1957	£ 172,312
Sum represented by a penny rate	£ 650

Extract from Vital Statistics

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Live Births - Legitimate	251	135	116
- Illegitimate	11	4	7

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	Crude	- 15.87
	Corrected	- 16.66

Still Births

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Rate per 1,000 Births (Live and Still)	9	7	2

Deaths

Total.	Male.	Female.
160	86	74

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	Crude	- 9.58
	Corrected	- 9.00

Deaths from puerperal causes (Heading 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List)	Rate per 1,000 total Births
No. 30 Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	Nil

Death Rate of infants under 1 year of age

All infants per 1,000 live births	36.90
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live births	36.90
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live births	Nil
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	31
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis	Nil

SECTION "B"

General Provision of Health Services in the Area

The general health services are provided by a number of agencies but it would appear to be at least possible that some of the responsibility which has been entrusted to other agencies will return in some degree to the elected members of such bodies as Borough, Urban District and Rural District Councils. Clinical care and hospital treatment are the responsibility of the National Health Service; laboratory investigation and research are entrusted to the laboratory organisation of the N.H.S. and the Medical Research Council. The school medical service, the maternity and child welfare services and other public health activities have of recent years become entirely the responsibility of the County Councils, while the environmental aspects of public health have remained in the care of the local Authorities, such as the Rural District and Urban District Councils, and between all the other agencies, the local Authorities and their Officers form the connecting link and provide the essential liaison.

These Authorities have the inestimable advantages of local knowledge, local pride and enthusiasm and of being visible and approachable, which no centralised or remote Authority can possess. There would seem to be some possibility that a return of responsibility for some of the essential services, or at least a degree of delegation of functions to the smaller Local Authorities is possible and I am convinced that a return to Local Government which is essentially local is most desirable.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my account of the work of environmental hygiene carried out in 1957.

Whilst much of the new development in the Housing field has been of Council Houses, some private development has taken place, mostly bungalows. In areas where the porosity of the soil has prevented the construction of Septic Tanks and in the villages where there is a Sewer, no additional burden has been placed on the Council's cesspool emptying service. The problem of the emptying of the loaded tankers, without nuisance by smell or sight continues, above all else, to present an almost insurmountable task even in a rural area. Water Company's catchment areas, nuisance by operators of the dumping on private land, and the psychological effects of an emptier discharging during the poliomyelitis epidemic all add up to longer vehicle hauls, and a vexed question "where do we go from here". An attempt to overcome partially the problem by the construction of sludge lagoons was, after Local Enquiry, rejected by the Minister.

On the other side of the Housing programme the inspection of sub-standard properties, the eventual reports to Committee, also the confirmation of closing or demolition orders, has formed much of the Department's work.

Whether the varied duties of the Public Health Department includes dealing with Improvement Grants seems to be a matter of some doubt in other Kent local authorities. Sufficient to say that the present composition of my staff compels the full use of my two Public Health Inspectors. The details of schemes dealt with will be found on another page.

Turning away from Housing to the environmental hygiene side, much progress has been made in the Clean Food Campaign. Public Houses have received considerable attention and where the Brewers have submitted plans of extension etc. endeavours have been made to secure improvements in the Public Houses. Unfortunately, the latest legislation did not go far enough and failed to require registration of food handling premises. The Council stayed their hand on the prosecution of a roadside cafe owner, and an informal notice was served.

Court Proceedings

Three Caravans, Cuckoo Wood, Sandling.

The case was heard before the Bearsted Magistrates on June 12th and fines of £1 were imposed in each case with a continuing penalty of 10/- per day each for the stationing of a caravan without a licence. Costs of 2 guineas were awarded.

The caravans had gone by the morning of June 13th.

Cleansing

A. Cesspool Emptying.

The following table shows the monthly and yearly working for 1956 and 1957:-

Month	Requests 1956	Loads 1956	Requests 1957	Loads 1957
January	372	570	260	840
February	303	1053	295	802
March	167	780	654	900
April	391	564	226	612

Cleansing (cont'd)

A. Cesspool Emptying. (cont'd)

Month	Requests 1956	Loads 1956	Requests 1957	Loads 1957
May	306	737	238	635
June	170	804	221	629
July	205	599	277	736
August	274	764	251	656
September	270	805	249	816
October	230	674	232	802
November	151	894	381	903
December	231	889	432	898
	3070	9133	3716	9229

B. Refuse Collection

Fortnightly collections of refuse throughout your district continued during the year and no serious complaint regarding the service was received.

I give below monthly totals of the Refuse collected and delivered to Maidstone Corporation Destructor at Tovil for the years 1956 and 1957. The Council began negotiations for the lease of a Sandpit in the Parish of Lenham during 1957 and commenced to tip household refuse late in December of this year. A tractor with the necessary implements has been purchased to assist with the levelling and compacting of refuse.

Month	1956 Tons	1957 Tons
January	174	200
February	190	192
March	162	196
April	195	201
May	203	161
June	183	119
July	143	155
August	130	157
September	158	158
October	143	223
November	147	181
December	203	148
	2031	2091

Summary of Inspections

General.

Visits for purpose of water sampling	25
Other visits connected with water supply	37
Civil Defence	-
Drainage	30
Sewage Disposal and Sewers	1428
Refuse Disposal	683
Stables and Piggeries	-
Moveable Dwellings	94
Hopper Camps	20

Summary of Inspections (cont'd)

General.

Factories with Power	1
Factories (non-Power)	1
Rodent Control	14
Building Byelaws	788
Petroleum Stores	136
Shop Acts	-
Knackers Yards	21
Miscellaneous	26

Housing.

Initial inspections under the Public Health Act	148
Revisits under the Public Health Act	304
Initial inspections under the Housing Act	476
Revisits under the Housing Act	86
Initial inspections of filthy and verminous premises	-
Revisits of filthy and verminous premises	-
Initial visits to overcrowded premises	-
Revisits to overcrowded premises	-
Visits to Council cottages	187
Miscellaneous Housing visits	16

Infectious Disease.

Visits for disinfection with or without enquiry	-
Other visits concerned with infectious disease	25

Food Premises.

Slaughterhouses	933
Butchers	43
Fishmongers	1
Bakehouses	14
Dairies	16
Visits to collect Milk Samples	1
Restaurants and Cafes	60
Ice Cream premises	1
Other Food premises	51
Miscellaneous	-
Total Visits for year 1957	5666

General Statistics

General Sanitation and Housing Defects.

New Drains provided or Drains reconstructed	1
House Drains cleansed or repaired	6
Houses provided with new Water Closets	4
Water Closets repaired	1
New Sinks with trapped waste provided	1
New trapped wastes fitted to sinks	-
New Gullies provided for sinks	2
Cesspools or Privy Pits cleansed or repaired	3
Offensive Accumulations removed	-
Ponds and Watercourses cleansed	1
Filthy Premises cleansed	1
Verminous Premises disinfected	-
Dampness remedied	7

General Statistics (cont'd)

General Sanitation and Housing Defects. (cont'd)

Roofs repaired	12
Gutters and R.W. pipes repaired	7
Floors and Staircases repaired	4
Walls and ceilings repaired	10
Windows and Doors repaired	4
Yards paved	-
Grates or Ranges repaired or renewed	-
Coppers repaired or renewed	-
Sash Lines repaired	4

Water Supplies.

Houses connected to mains in 1957	100
Wells examined	-

Slaughterhouses.

Premises cleansed and lime washed	5
Premises repaired	5

Factories.

Defects remedied	1

Infectious Disease.

Visits made by Public Health Inspector	25
Number of rooms disinfected	2
Number of vehicles disinfected	-

Notices.

Number of informal notices served	50
Number of informal notices complied with	33
Number of Statutory Notices served	21
Number of Statutory Notices complied with	11
Number of Court Proceedings to require compliance with Notice	-

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Part 1 of the Act

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

Premises	Number on Register	Number of:-		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	51	14	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	26	56	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	34	11	-	-
TOTAL	111	81	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

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	
Want of Cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:-					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	2	-	1	-

3. Outwork.

Nature of work	Number of outworkers in August List required by Section 110 (1) (c)
Wearing Apparel making etc.	3

SECTION "D"

Housing.

The following information regarding housing in the Rural District is set out in the form in which it is asked for by the Minister of Health:-

1. Inspections of dwellinghouses during the year:-

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts) 624

(b) Numbers of inspections made for the purpose 1014

(2) (a) Numbers of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1932 ... ... -

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .... -

(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 38

(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 46

2. Remedy of defects during the year, without service of formal notices:-

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 31

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9,10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 ... ... -

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ... -

(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-

(a) By Owners ... ... -

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... ... -

(c) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:-

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 46

(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-

(a) By Owners 18

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... ... -

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

Housing. (cont'd)

(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	36
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders...	4
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	2
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit	-

4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.
Overcrowding.

(a)	(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year...	-
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	-
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	-
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	-
(c)	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	-
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	-
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	-

Housing Acts, 1949 and 1954	Improvement Grants
Number of dwellings in respect of which initial applications were received and inspected by sub-committee	77
Number of such dwellings approved as suitable for grant purposes	73
Number of such applications refused	3
Number of applications deferred	1
Number of completed applications approved and grants provided	36
Total cost of improvement work involved	£ 23,543
Total amount of grants promised...	£ 8,306
Cost of repairs to the dwellings involved	£ 1,668
Number of cases in which work of improvement was completed and grant paid	26
Total amount of such payments	£ 6,217

Housing. (cont'd)

Rent Act, 1957.

Work in connection with applications for Certificates of Disrepair under the Rent Act began in October of the year. It was envisaged that there would be a considerable number of applications to be dealt with but this was not so. Seven were received and granted, but in some cases some of the defects listed by the tenants were excluded. The procedure laid down by the Act necessitates considerable time being spent on each case and in addition many queries were received by your Inspectors during their work in the district.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS.

The situation with regard to Licences to station and use movable dwellings is as follows:-

No. of applications received	....	30
No. of licences issued	....	24
No. of applications refused	....	6
No. of applications withdrawn	....	-
No. of proceedings	....	3
No. of appeals to Justices	....	-

The camp at Holm Mill, Harrietsham, was conducted very satisfactorily throughout the year.

CARAVAN SITES

STANDARD CONDITIONS.

1. In these conditions "Caravan" shall mean a Caravan which is specially designed for drawing by a private car.

2. No movable dwelling or other vehicle shall be placed on the site except a Caravan or vehicle by which such Caravan is towed.

3. No more than a stipulated number of Caravans shall be situated on the site and each Caravan shall be sited at least 20 feet from any other Caravan on the site.

4. No erection other than the Caravan shall be made or placed on the site except with the approval of the Council.

5. The Licensee shall obtain prior approval of the Council to the layout of the Caravan Site.

6. A wholesome supply of water shall be provided on the site taken from the mains of the appropriate Water Company which shall be available to the occupants of the Caravans by means of standpipes so situated that each Caravan is within 150 feet thereof.

7. The standpipes shall be properly protected against frost and shall be surrounded by an area of concrete 4 feet square and dished to a gully connected to the drainage system.

8. The licensee shall provide W.C's at the rate of one to each five Caravans with a minimum of two for the use of the occupants of the Caravans stationed and occupied upon the site. In addition, the Licensees shall provide sufficient urinal accommodation for the use of the occupants.

9. The Licensee shall provide a drainage system constructed in accordance with the Council's Building Byelaws and connected to the public sewer. (Alternatively, shall provide a drainage system and sewage disposal plant of sufficient capacity and to the satisfaction of the Council's Senior Public Health Inspector).

10. The Licensee shall provide in suitable positions trapped gullies connected to the drainage system to receive the waste water from the sink units in the Caravans and each gully shall be dished and curbed.

11. The Licensee shall supply British Standard Dustbins at the rate of one dustbin to every two Caravans and dustbins shall be brought to a convenient point for collection upon days to be agreed upon with the Council's Senior Public Health Inspector.

12. The Licensee shall be responsible for keeping the site clean and tidy and free from litter.

13. The Licensee shall provide and maintain an access road from the highway to the site constructed of concrete or of hardcore or gravel or other suitable material, and also a clean access shall be provided to each caravan.

14. All drains, connections, septic tanks and cesspools shall be constructed in accordance with the Council's Building Byelaws for the time being in force and the work connected therewith shall be carried out to the satisfaction of the Council and be maintained by the Licensee in a proper sanitary condition.

15. The contents of chemical closets shall not be placed in the drainage system and the use of chemical closets in the Caravans shall not be permitted except in exceptional and extenuating circumstances.

16. No Caravan shall beused for sleeping more than a reasonable number of persons.

17. Adequate provision shall be made for fire fighting purposes.

18. The Licensee shall provide a copy of these conditions to each occupant of a Caravan on his first entry on to the site.

The annual census taken at the close of the year showed that the caravan is still very much a problem, as far as control is concerned. The planning laws are too cumbersome to give a quick solution and Public Health legislation requires the grant of licence if certain conditions are fulfilled.

Apart from the residential occupants, many people invade the district in caravans of all shapes and sizes during the harvest.

Parish	No. of Caravans.
Boughton Malherbe	-
Bicknor	-
Boxley	5
Bredhurst	-
Broomfield	2
Chart Sutton	2
Detling	4
East Sutton	-
Frinsted	-
Harrietsham	2
Headcorn	2
Hollingbourne	1
Hucking	1
Langley	-
Leeds	5
Lenham	5
Otterden	2
Stockbury	1
Sutton Valence	2
Thurnham	3
Ulcombe	4
Wichling	-
Wormshill	-
TOTAL	41

Hopper Camps.

Main water is now available to all the camps in your area and minor improvements were made to the accommodation in several instances.

Eight hop picking machines were in operation in the area.

SECTION "E"

Inspection of Food.

Meat Inspection.

Every animal slaughtered in your district for human consumption is examined by your inspectors.

	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Cattle	Calves
Number killed	10107	16635	659	37
Number inspected	10107	16635	659	37
All diseases except Tuberculosis.				
(a) Whole carcases condemned	-	8	-	-
(b) Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned	15	786	16	-
(c) Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	14%	4.77%	2.42%	-
Tuberculosis only.				
(a) Whole carcases condemned	-	3	-	-
(b) Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned	-	301	12	2
(c) Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	1.72%	1.82%	5.4%

Weight of Food condemned during the year.

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Meat	4	6	2	8	0

Other Food - The following tinned goods were condemned at various premises during the year:-

3 tins peaches
1 tin baked beans
1 tin luncheon meat
1 tin beans
2 tins pineapple slices
3 tins evaporated milk
8 tins pork shoulder
1 tin apricots
1 tin steak
1 tin red salmon
1 tin ox tongue
1 tin beef loaf

Following a request from a canteen one top piece of beef was inspected and pronounced as unfit for human consumption. The weight condemned was 96 lbs.

Water Supply

Samples.

A total of 10 samples of water were submitted for examination with the following results:-

Bacteriological Examination

Type of Water	No. of Samples	Results	
		Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory
Main	8	-	8
Raw	2	-	2

Milk and Dairies.

The number of dairymen registered on the 31st December, 1957 is as follows:-

Dairies registered	2
Distributors registered	26
Dealers' Licences	
Pasteurised	7
Sterilized	9
Tuberculin Tested	8
Supplementary Licences	
Pasteurised	9
Sterilized	7
Tuberculin Tested	9

Food Hygiene.

Clean Food Campaign.

The premises in the Rural District are as follows:-

Grocers (including Post Offices, Cafes and other premises selling groceries)	58
Fish Shops	2
Bakers	6
Butchers Shops	11
Public Houses	56
Hotel	1
Cafes	15

The number of premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, Section 14, are as follows:-

(1)	For the sale and storage of ice cream	31
(2)	Preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pickled, pressed or preserved food intended for sale	3
(3)	Number of Dairies registered under Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949	2

Food Hygiene. (cont'd)

Clean Food Campaign. (cont'd)

Satisfactory progress has been made in the improvement of food premises but much remains to be done. As will be seen from the list of visits made by your Inspectors, 187 visits were made to food premises other than slaughterhouses. Approximately threequarters of this number represents revisits after initial inspections had revealed premises contravening the Food Hygiene Regulations. Notwithstanding, it is pleasing to record that there was good co-operation from the persons concerned. In only a few cases was it necessary to consider legal proceedings, but all were dealt with before this final step became necessary.

Disposal of Condemned Food.

The condemned food from licensed slaughterhouses is in most cases collected by the Sheppey Glue Works, Queensborough. Small quantities of condemned food are disposed of by incineration, either at the Maidstone Borough Destructor or in the furnace at the Lenham Bacon Factory.

Food Sampling.

In addition to the inspection and sampling carried out by your officers the sampling officers of the County Council also take regular samples of all types of food and, as these are of interest, I am including a list supplied by the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures.

Article.	No.
Antiseptic Iodised Throat Tablets	1
Artificial Colour	1
Beef Steak with Gravy	1
Bisurated Magnesia	1
Bread and Butter	1
Buttermints	2
Compound Lemon, Glycerine and Honey Mixture	1
Cream Filled Milk Chocolate	1
Fondant Icing	1
Friars Balsam	1
Gin	1
Honey Cough Syrup	1
Ice Cream	1
Irish Stewed Steak	1
Macaroni	1
Margarine	1
Milk	50
Phensic	1
Phosferine Tablets	1
Pilchards in Tomato Sauce	1
Pure Lard	1
Sausage Rolls	2
Self-raising Flour	1
Souvenir Rock	1
Whisky	2
TOTAL	77

Summary

Milk	50
Drugs	7
Spirits... ...	3
Other samples...	17
	77

Food Sampling. (cont'd)

All the above samples were genuine with the exception of the following:-

Sample of	Analysis	Action taken
Souvenir Rock	Outside coloured with Rhodamine B. (Rhodamine B non-permitted colour)	This sample of "rock" was taken so that the maker could be advised prior to the commencement of the Colouring Matter in Food Regulations, 1957.

Pest Control.

The work of destruction of rats and mice has continued satisfactorily and public co-operation continues satisfactorily. The summary of the work done is given below, and compared with 1956.

	1956	1957
No. of visits made for all purposes, including survey and treatment	4236	3989
No. of premises surveyed	2593	1857
No. of infestations found	556	589
No. of infestations treated	550	600
No. of bodies found	1049	1388

To conclude, I should like to express my appreciation of the help and co-operation afforded me during the year by the whole of my staff, and in particular their willingness to give extra time to the work when needed.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

C.W. PAGE.

Surveyor and Senior Public Health Inspector.

SECTION "F"

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Disease

The main features in the incidence of Infectious Disease in 1957 were the outbreaks of anterior poliomyelitis and measles, the former being incomparably the most serious. There were 11 cases of poliomyelitis with 9 admissions to hospital and 1 death. There were 4 paralytic cases and 7 non-paralytic. The majority of the cases occurred in the age group 0-15. The first notification of the disease came in the last week in July and continued sporadically until the middle of September.

At the time of the outbreak last year there was a relatively small bulk community against poliomyelitis. Since that time a considerable number of vaccinations have been carried out as will be seen from the table given in this Report, and we have therefore a greater reason for expecting the number of focal points of the disease to be reduced. I reiterate however the warning which I have given to my other Authorities that is, not to expect full protection against the disease by the present means of vaccine in our possession. All we can say at the moment is that by using poliomyelitis vaccine there is a considerably enhanced chance of escaping the disease or at least minimising its more serious consequences.

1957 was a cycle year for measles and 313 cases were notified, only one being admitted to hospital. The disease was generally of a very mild character.

There were 48 cases of whooping cough, one of which was admitted to hospital. I would stress that the facilities available for immunisation against whooping cough should be fully used. This disease can be a most serious one in infancy and we are well satisfied that its more grave ravages can be thwarted by immunisation.

Again, and for the eleventh year, no case of diphtheria occurred in your district. This gratifying state of affairs is only possible by the maintenance of an adequate level of immunity in the community. It is no chance affair and diphtheria could easily return with the tragic story of not so long ago, if parents become apathetic about using the life-saving weapon of diphtheria immunisation.

Disease	Total of cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	8	nil	Nil
Diphtheria	Nil	nil	Nil
Measles	313	1	Nil
Erysipelas	1	1	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	Nil
Pneumonia	2	1	6
Dysentery	Nil	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	48	1	Nil
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	11	9	1
Food Poisoning	Nil	Nil	Nil
Anthrax	Nil	Nil	Nil
Malaria	Nil	Nil	Nil
Paratyphoid Fevers	1	Nil	Nil
TOTALS	386	14	7

The County Medical Officer has kindly supplied me with the following Tables.

Immunisation against Diphtheria and Vaccination against Smallpox, 1957

The following is a return of (a) the number of children resident in the Hollingbourn Rural District who were immunised against diphtheria and (b) the number of persons who were vaccinated against smallpox, during the year ended 31st December, 1957:-

(a) DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Year of Birth	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	Total
Primary Inoculations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	1	-	23	96	14	139
Re-inforcing Inoculations	-	1	3	9	7	6	5	-	25	35	-	-	-	-	-	91

(b) VACCINATION

Year of Birth	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	Before 1943	Total
Primary Vaccination	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	2	1	5	46	88	4	150
Re-Vaccination	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	15

Hollingbourn Rural District
Immunisation against Diphtheria, 1957

The following is a return of the number of children under the age of 15 years on 31st December, 1957 who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (i.e., at any time since 1st January, 1943).

Year of Birth	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster) 1953-1957	44	55	41	75	64	126	117	94	91	175	158	157	141	119	14	1,471
1952 or earlier	92	93	112	129	92	68	126	84	90	9	-	-	-	-	-	895

Poliomyelitis Vaccination, 1957

The following table gives the numbers of children resident in the Hollingbourn Rural District who received a course of two injections against poliomyelitis during the year ended 31st December, 1957:-

Year of Birth	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	Total
	110	89	93	79	23	24	19	15	-	-	1	453

Below is an analysis of the deaths from malignant diseases according to age groups. No information is available as to the incidence of cancer in any particular occupation.

Deaths from Cancer during 1957.

Age Groups	Male	Female
0 - 1	-	-
2 - 5	-	-
6 - 15	-	-
16 - 25	1	-
26 - 35	-	-
36 - 45	1	1
46 - 55	1	-
56 - 65	5	4
66 and over	7	11
TOTALS	15	16

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

(1) Total number of cases notified during the year Nil

(2) Number of cases in which:-
(a) Vision Lost ... ... Nil
(b) Vision Impaired ... ... Nil
(c) Treatment continuing at end of year ... ... Nil

Tuberculosis

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
6 - 15	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 - 25	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
26 - 35	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36 - 45	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
46 - 55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
56 - 65	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTALS	4	1	3	1	1	-	-	-

The number of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis was 1, this had been notified.

The Chest Clinic which serves the area for which I am Medical Officer of Health is at Foster Street, Maidstone. This Clinic is equipped for the investigation of chest conditions, with facilities for radiographic examinations and full laboratory aid is also available. The Chest Physician in charge is Dr. D.L. Pugh and close co-operation between the Chest Clinic and the Health Departments of the four Authorities has continued during the year.

Dr. Pugh has kindly furnished me with details of the number of contacts of known cases of tuberculosis which were examined during the year and the number found to be suffering from tuberculosis. This investigation of contacts of known cases is one of the most valuable procedures in the detection of cases which might otherwise be missed and provided vital information on the origin and spread of infection. The figures quoted below relate to the investigations made in the area served by the Chest Clinic, which coincides with the area of the four Authorities, Maidstone Borough, Maidstone Rural District, Hollingbourn Rural District and Malling Rural District.

(a)	Number of contacts seen during 1957, of newly notified cases of tuberculosis	364
(b)	Number of contacts examined during 1957, of cases notified prior to 1957	568
(c)	Number of contacts in (a) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis	1
(d)	Number of contacts in (b) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis	3

Total Deaths 1957

Causes of Death	Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute Polio-myelitis	1	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and Parasitic diseases	1	-
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	-
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	5	1
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	5
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	2
14. Other Malignant and lymphatic Neoplasm	8	9
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-
16. Diabetes	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	10	10
18. Coronary Disease, angina	20	9
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	3
20. Other Heart disease	7	15
21. Other circulatory disease	1	9
22. Influenza	-	-
23. Pneumonia	5	1
24. Bronchitis	2	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	2	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital Malformations	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	13	7
33. Motor Vehicle accidents	-	-
34. All other accidents	2	-
35. Suicide	1	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-
	86	74

TABLE V

Birth-Rates, Death-Rates and Analysis of Mortality in the year 1957

	Rate per 1,000 Population		Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population				Rate per 1,000 Live Births
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Tuberculosis	Cancer of Lung	Other Cancer	Total Deaths under one year
England and Wales	16.1	22.4	11.5	0.107	0.426	1.668	23.0
Hollingbourn R.D.C.	16.66	33.21	9.0	0.06	.24	1.5	36.90
Maidstone R.D.C.	16.29	23.33	9.45	Nil	.4	2.6	13.65
Malling R.D.C.	15.65	29.31	10.88	0.24	.5	1.2	17.76
Maidstone Borough	15.39	24.7	10.34	0.11	.39	1.6	13.27

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales

Cause	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births
Maternal Causes	349	0.47

Hollingbourn R.D.C.

	Puerperal Infections	Others	Total
Per 1,000 Total Births	Nil	Nil	Nil

Infantile Mortality 1957

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 - 6 months	7 - 9 months	10 - 12 mths	Total Deaths under 1 year
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Meningitis (Non-tubercular)	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Enteritis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Bronchitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Diarrhoeal Diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Syphilis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Rickets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Suffocating (over-laying)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Injury at Birth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Atelectasis	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Congenital Malformation	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Premature Birth	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Atrophy or Debility	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Marasmus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Other Causes	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
TOTALS	9	-	-	-	9	1	-	-	-	10

The above deaths occurred in the following Parishes:-

Boxley	Chart Sutton	Lenham	Bredhurst	Wychling	Headcorn	Sutton Valence
1	3	1	1	2	1	1

Deaths per Month in Each Parish

1957 MONTH	Boxley	Headcorn and Hawkenbury	Wormshill	Lenham	Bredhurst	Frinsted	Leeds and Broomfield	Thurnham	Otterden	Boughton Mal-herbe	Detling	Bicknor	Hollingbourn	East Sutton	Chart Sutton	Wychling	Hucking	Stockbury	Langley	Harrietsham	Ulcombe	Sutton Valence	Walderslade	TOTALS
January	3	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	16
February	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	8
March	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	7
April	1	3	-	4	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	16
May	1	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	13
June	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	14
July	2	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	9
August	2	1	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	10
September	1	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	11
October	4	4	-	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	16
November	2	3	1	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	15
December	3	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	5	-	5	-	25
TOTALS	23	23	1	25	1	-	6	7	7	1	6	-	11	4	7	2	-	1	7	14	3	11	-	160

Analysis of Cases of Notifiable Diseases - 1957

Disease	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-45	46-65	66 & over	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	-	2	-	5	1	-	-	-	-	8
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Measles	7	39	53	191	23	-	-	-	-	313
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Pneumonia	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Whooping Cough	6	8	6	21	5	2	-	-	-	48
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	-	2	1	2	3	1	2	-	-	11
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
TOTALS	13	52	60	220	32	5	2	2	-	386

GENERAL SUMMARY

Estimated Resident Population		16,700
Area (acres)		56,810
Persons per acre		.294
Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	Crude	15.87
	Corrected	16.66
Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Population	Crude	9.58
	Corrected	9.00
Births - Male 139 Female 123		262
Deaths - Male 86 Female 74		160
Excess of Births over Deaths		102
Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate per 1,000 Population		.06
Other Tuberculosis Death Rate per 1,000 Population		Nil
Cancer Death rate per 1,000 Population		1.85
Pneumonia (all forms) Death rate per 1,000 Population		.359