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# **COUNTY BOROUGH OF HASTINGS.**

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**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

**INCLUDING**

**SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.**

---

## **ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1938.**

---

**G. R. BRUCE, O.B.E., M.A., M.D., D.P.H.,**  
**Medical Officer of Health**  
**and**  
**School Medical Officer.**

ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA :  
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## PREFACE.

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Health Department,

44, Wellington Square,

Hastings,

*April, 1939.*

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, AND TO THE ALDERMEN AND  
COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF HASTINGS.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit herewith the Annual Report of the Health Department for 1938, this being an ordinary, as compared with a five yearly survey report.

The vital statistics for 1938 were generally favourable. The corrected death-rate was 10·31 per 1,000 of the population (estimated mid-year at 64,318), compared with 11·12 in 1937, and with a figure of 11·7 for England and Wales. The birth-rate was 11·1 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 11·2 in 1937, and 15·1 for England and Wales. The total number of births registered is 720, as compared with 714 last year, and 713 in 1933, but owing to the increase of population due to the extended area, the actual birth-rate is the lowest recorded in the Borough. In this connection I would again emphasise the importance of the fact that the number of deaths exceeded births in 1938 by 272. Maintenance of the population level can therefore only be obtained by the attraction of new residents to the Borough.

The various activities of the Health Department in relation to the prevention and treatment of Infectious Diseases, Routine Housing Inspection, General Sanitary Administration, Tuberculosis, the School Medical Service, Venereal Diseases, Mental Deficiency, etc., were fully maintained throughout the year, the records and statistics of the work being set out in detail in the body of the report under each subject.

In addition, as in other districts, the Medical Officer of Health has been responsible during the recent national emergency for the organisation and administration of the medical side of the Air Raids Precautions Service. The extent and ramifications may be seen from the following summary of the medical services now, with the exception of the First Aid Party Posts, organised and controlled by the Ministry of Health.

1. The 7 First Aid Posts and Cleansing Stations.
2. The First Aid Party Posts.
3. The Casualty Clearing Hospitals.
4. Special Hospital Services for evacuated patients and casualties.
5. The Ambulance Services.
6. The recruitment, training and allotment of personnel for all these services, and more recently the Civil Nursing Reserve.
7. Preparation and storage of equipment.
8. Special medical services in a reception area for evacuated population.
9. A scheme of operation for all these services, in co-ordination with other Air Raids Precautions services.
10. Odds and ends, *e.g.*, medical examination of recruits, preparation of emergency mortuary schemes, the distribution of gas masks for infants; blood transfusion service; special arrangements for venereal diseases.

It is generally anticipated that, when the essential organisation of the A.R.P. medical services has been completed by the Ministry of Health, a definite standard of service and a framework capable of development will be maintained as part of the Health Department, with appropriate staff and adequate means of administration.

Reference is made in the report to forthcoming developments in the Health Services, particularly the decision of the



Council to include at an early stage of the five years' programme, the erection of two new Health Centres for the Maternity and Child Welfare and the School Medical Services. The commencement of the building of a new infant and open-air school at Ore is a land-mark in the scheme for dealing with the elementary schools of Hastings, which will bear fruit in the improved health and well-being of our young people.

Reference is also made to alterations now pending at the Municipal Hospital, including the provision of separate pavilions for the aged and infirm inmates on another site and also improved accommodation for the mental cases. In addition the question of the provision of a modern maternity unit is being considered, if practicable, in association with the Municipal Hospital, now closely and increasingly associated with all branches of maternity work, both from the town and surrounding county districts.

Dr. E. C. Downer, Deputy M.O.H., resigned in October, 1938, on being appointed M.O.H. to the Borough of Chorley, and was succeeded by Dr. K. J. Grant, Assistant M.O.H., Bournemouth.

I have to thank the Council, Chairmen and Members of various Committees for their renewed support, and I again acknowledge with gratitude the good work and loyalty of my staff.

I have the honour to remain,  
Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,  
G. R. BRUCE.

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## CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR HEALTH SERVICES.

*Public Health Committee*—COUNCILLOR A. HONNOR.  
*Sub Sanatorium, etc., Committee*—COUNCILLOR A. HONNOR.  
*Education Committee*—ALDERMAN F. W. MORGAN.  
*Children's Care Sub-Committee*—MR. A. T. WHITE.  
*Mental Deficiency Committee*—ALDERMAN F. W. MORGAN.  
*Maternity and Child Welfare Committee*—COUNCILLOR MRS. FOXON, J.P.  
*Housing and Improvements Committee*—COUNCILLOR DR. W. E. JAMESON, J.P.  
*Public Assistance Committee and Sub-Committees*—ALDERMAN BURDEN, J.P.

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### PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION.

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NAME OF OFFICERS.	OFFICES HELD.
*G. R. BRUCE, O.B.E., M.A., M.D., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health ; School Medical Officer ; Tuberculosis Officer ; Superintendent Medical Officer, Borough Sanatorium.
†*E. C. DOWNER, M.A., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.	Deputy Medical Officer of Health ; Deputy School Medical Officer ; etc., etc.
L. H. BOOTH, M.B., CH.B.     ...     ...	Medical Officer, Hastings Municipal Hospital ; Public Vaccinator ; Medical Officer (Out Relief), Public Assistance Committee.
*P. LAZARUS-BARLOW, M.D. (CANTAB.)	Bacteriologist ; Medical Officer, Venereal Diseases Clinic.
F. J. CUTLER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.     ...	Medical Officer, (Out Relief), Public Assistance Committee ; Public Vaccinator.
T. REED, M.R.C.S., (ENG.), L.R.C.P., (LOND.)	Public Vaccinator ; Medical Officer, (Out Relief), Public Assistance Committee.
D. RICHARDSON, L.S.A.     ...     ...	Public Vaccinator ; Medical Officer, (Out Relief), Public Assistance Committee.
*J. S. FARNFIELD, M.R.C.S. (ENG.), L.R.C.P. (LOND.)	Medical Officer, Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic.
*MARJORIE F. M. MARTIN, M.R.C.S., (ENG.), L.R.C.P., (LOND.)	Special "     "     " and Special Clinic for Advice to Mothers.
*G. A. TICEHURST, M.A., M.B., B.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.	Medical Officer, Maternity and Child Welfare and Ante-Natal Clinic ; Consultant under the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, and for Maternity cases.
*J. WALKER, L.R.C.P. (EDIN.), L.R.C.S. (EDIN.)	Medical Officer, Ante-Natal Clinic.

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# Public Health Officers of the Corporation.

(Continued.)

NAME OF OFFICERS.	OFFICES HELD.
*G. H. HOWE, M.B., CH.B. (EDIN.) ...	Consultant under the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations.
*I. M. ROBERTSON, M.D. (EDIN.), M.C.O.G., F.R.C.S. (EDIN.)	Consultant for Maternity cases.
N. GRELLIER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.M.R.E. (CAMB.) ...	Consulting Radiologist, Hastings Municipal Hospital.
*W. D. PENFOLD, L.D.S., R.C.S. (ENG.)	School Dental Officer.
G. M. NORMAN, F.I.C., A.R.C.S., F.C.S.	Borough Analyst; Official Agricultural Analyst.
A. E. HOLLOX, (a) (b) ...	Chief Sanitary Inspector; also Chief Inspector under Shops Acts, Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, Housing Acts, Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, etc.
G. F. SMART, (a) (b) ...	Assistant Sanitary Inspector; Inspector under Shops Acts, etc.
E. H. SHINGLER, (a) (b) ...	do. do.
R. A. WILLIAMS, (a) (b) ...	do. do.
N. J. ARNEY, (a) (b) ...	do. do.
K. N. KIRBY, (a) ...	do. do.
*Miss S. A. MYERS, (c) (d) ...	Health Visitor and School Nurse; Inspector of Midwives.
*Miss T. HARRIS, (a) (c) (d) (e) ...	Health Visitor, and School Nurse.
*Mrs. A. ESHELBY, (c) ...	School Nurse.
*Miss M. H. FLINT (c) (d) (g) ...	Health Visitor and School Nurse.
*Miss D. DIXON, (c) (d) (g) ...	Health Visitor and School Nurse.
*Miss H. A. HOBBS, (c) (d) (g) ...	Health Visitor, Tuberculosis.
Miss N. K. CARRICK, (d) ...	Municipal Midwife.
Miss F. J. SMITH, (c) (f) ...	Matron, Borough Sanatorium.
*C. L. WHEATLEY ...	Chief Clerk and Vaccination Officer.
H. R. H. ASHLEY ...	Clerk, Sanitary Inspector's Office.
R. FREEMAN ...	Clerk, General Office.
T. E. HEATH ...	Junior Clerk, General Office.
*Miss G. M. BARKER ...	Clerk, Maternity and Child Welfare, Tuberculosis, and School Medical Service.
*Miss I. F. CHEWTER ...	Assistant Clerk, do. do.
*Miss E. BRYANT ...	Clerk, School Medical Service.
*Miss E. M. HARVEY ...	Clerk, do. do.
*Miss B. C. LAMB ...	Clerk, School Dental Officer.

\*Salary contribution under Public Health Acts or by Exchequer Grants.

- (a) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board.
- (b) Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute. Inspector of Meat and other Foods.
- (c) Fully trained General Nurse.
- (d) Certificate of Central Midwives Board. (C.M.B.)
- (e) Certificate, Maternity and Child Welfare Worker.
- (f) Certificate, Fever Training.
- (g) Health Visitor's Certificate.

†Resigned November, 1938.

# SUMMARY OF GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS, 1938.

Area of Borough	...	...	...	...	7,770 acres.
Population, Census 1931	...	...	...	...	65,207
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, 1938, for the purpose of Vital Statistics	...	...	...	...	64,318
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	20,149
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£772,426
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£3,057
		Total.	Male.	Female.	
Live Births, 1938	Legitimate	670	330	340	} = 720
	Illegitimate	50	25	25	
Birth Rate, 1938, per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	11.1
Still Births	...	...	...	...	28
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	11.6
Deaths, 1938	...	...	...	...	992
Death Rate, 1938, per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	(a) crude	...	...	...	15.4
	(b) corrected	...	...	...	10.31
Deaths from puerperal causes :—					
		Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.		
No. 29—Puerperal sepsis	...	1	...	...	1.3
„ 30—Other Puerperal causes	...	2	...	...	2.6
Total		3	...	...	4.0
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age					
(a) All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	44.4
(b) Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	44.7
(c) Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	40
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	156
„ „ Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	2

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### (1) POPULATION.

The population at the census of 1931 was returned at 65,207. For statistical purposes the mid-year population of 1938 was estimated by the Registrar-General at 64,318, an increase of 868 as compared with the estimated population for mid-year, 1937. Presumably this figure is meant to include the population of the area added in April, 1938, which is estimated at 1,000 to 1,100. Actually therefore there is an estimated decrease of population of about 250.

### (2) BIRTHS.

The net live births registered in Hastings for 1938 were 720, made up as follows :—

					Registered in Borough.
Males	...	...	...	...	355
Females	...	...	...	...	365
Totals	...	...	...	...	720

Of the births 50, males 35, and females 25, were illegitimate, a percentage of 6·9.

The number of births registered in 1938, 720, was practically identical with the total for 1937, namely 714, allowing for the increased population of the added area.

As in previous years deaths exceeded births, by 272 in fact. This is a phenomenon, common to all watering places and health resorts, and is mainly due to the unequal age and sex constitution of the residents, and secondarily to the fact that a certain number of semi-invalids are attracted and encouraged to take up permanent residence in such places. The important point at issue is the necessity of influencing a constant steady flow of new residents to make good this annual attrition of our population.



### **(3) DEATHS.**

The total net deaths registered in Hastings in 1938 were 992 of whom 436 were males, 556 females.

Not included were 159 deaths transferred to other districts ; included were 47 deaths of Hastings residents, occurring elsewhere.

Deaths in Public Institutions were 588, 132 being transferred elsewhere.

There were 39 Coroner's inquests.

The crude death-rate per 1,000 of the population is 15·4, which, corrected for the peculiar age and sex constitution of the population by the factor, ·67, gives a death-rate of 10·31 per 1,000.

### **(4) AGE AT DEATH.**

Of the 992 deaths, 32 occurred in infants under one year of age, the infantile mortality being 44·4 per 1,000 births.

From 1-5 years of age there were 9 deaths ; from 5-25 years 18 deaths ; from 25-45 years 75 deaths ; from 45-65 years 193 deaths ; and over 65 years 665 deaths, or 67 per cent. of the total.

### **(5) MAIN CAUSES OF DEATH.**

#### **(a) Diseases of the Circulatory System.**

The proportion of the total deaths due to diseases of the heart and arteries amounted to 47·8 per cent. of the total, or 7·4 per 1,000 of the population.

These figures have not altered materially during the past 3 years, though they represent an advance of some 60 per cent. on the figures of 10 to 15 years ago.

The high proportion of deaths due to diseases of the heart and circulatory systems can be explained to some extent by the large number of elderly residents, although the increasing strain and pace of modern life, accentuated by the anxieties of the post war years is also a definite factor, particularly in high blood pressure and arterio sclerotic conditions.

**(1) Analysis of Deaths from Diseases  
of the Circulatory System, 1938.**

Deaths from	Total.	Under 45 years.	45-65 years.	Over 65 years.
Heart Disease ... ..	305	8	43	254
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, Aneurysm, etc. ...	120	5	19	96
Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	50	—	18	32
Totals ... ..	475	13	80	382

**(2) Comparative Analyses, 1927-1938.  
Deaths from Diseases of Circulatory System.**

Year.	Total Deaths, Diseases of Circulatory System.	Percentage of Total Deaths.	Death Rate Diseases of Circulatory System, per 1,000
1927	305	31·9	4·9
1928	336	35·7	5·4
1929	343	34·3	5·4
1930	328	36·7	5·2
1931	381	38·8	6·1
1932	356	35·8	5·6
1933	435	42·4	6·9
1934	439	43·5	6·8
1935	476	46·2	7·4
1936	479	45·5	7·5
1937	482	45·5	7·5
<b>1938</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>47·8</b>	<b>7·4</b>

**(b) Cancer.**

The total deaths from cancer rose from 142 in 1937 to 156, or 2·4 per 1,000 of the population and about one-sixth of the total death rate.

This high rate is approximately 30 to 40 per cent. higher than that obtaining in England and Wales, and can be explained by the following two reasons :—

(a) The large proportion of elderly people in the population at an age more prone to cancer.

(b) The high proportion of older women in the population giving, of course, a higher incidence of cancer of the breast and womb.

The percentage of female deaths due to cancer was 61·5 per cent.

The age incidence at death is as follows :—

Ages	5-15	...	...	...	...	Nil
„	25-35	...	...	...	...	4 deaths
„	35-45	..	...	...	...	3 „
„	45-55	...	...	...	...	5 „
„	55-65	...	..	...	...	26 „
„	65-75	...	...	...	...	64 „
„	75—	...	..	...	...	54 „
—						
Total					...	156
—						

The following table shows the comparative mortality since 1910.

1910—1919—yearly average 109 deaths due to cancer.

1920—1924	do	do	123	„	„	„
1925—1929	do	do	137	„	„	„
1930			114	„	„	„
1931			135	„	„	„
1932			141	„	„	„
1933			148	„	„	„
1934			164	„	„	„
1935			130	„	„	„
1936			171	„	„	„
1937			142	„	„	„
<b>1938</b>			<b>156</b>	„	„	„



**Deaths from Cancer in 1938 according to sex and organ of body affected.**

Part affected.	No. of Deaths.		
	Male.	Female.	TOTAL.
Tongue, Lips, Mouth, Throat, or Larynx ... ..	4	2	6
Gullet ... ..	2	2	4
Stomach ... ..	13	9	22
Abdomen, Bowel, etc. ...	22	33	55
Breast ... ..	—	21	21
Womb ... ..	—	6	6
Genito-Urinary ... ..	5	14	19
Miscellaneous ... ..	14	9	23
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>60</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>156</b>
<b>PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL</b> ...	<b>38·5 per cent.</b>	<b>61·5 per cent.</b>	

**Radium Treatment.**

Under the scheme of the British Empire Cancer Campaign Association a small supply of radium is stored at the Royal East Sussex Hospital, Hastings, which is also available for use at the Buchanan Hospital, St. Leonards and at the Princess Alice Hospital, Eastbourne.

Mr. Robertson, surgeon in charge of this department at the Royal East Sussex Hospital reports that, in 1938, 37 cases were treated in that hospital by means of radium, an increase of 11 cases as compared with 1937. The cases were as follows :—

Rodent Ulcer	...	...	...	10 cases
Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	8 „
„ „ Uterus	...	...	...	4 „
„ „ Genitals	...	...	...	2 „
„ „ Tongue	...	...	...	1 „
„ „ Lip	...	...	...	3 „
„ „ Bowel	...	...	...	1 „
„ „ Abdominal wall	...	...	...	1 „

## NON MALIGNANT CASES.

Uteric hæmorrhage	...	...	6 cases
Nævus	...	...	1 „
Total			37

Mr. Robertson states "Treatment in a proportion of cases can only be palliative as they are not seen until the disease is far advanced. The reason for this delay is usually ignorance or fear on the part of the patient.

Treatment of cancer in Hastings is much handicapped owing to the absence of a deep X-Ray therapy plant, many cases having to be sent to London for this purpose.

A number of cases suitable for radium treatment have also been sent to London, as they were suffering from conditions more amenable to the radium—bomb treatment which is only available at a few centres."

Under the new Cancer Act it will be the duty of the Council to make arrangements to secure adequate facilities for the treatment of persons suffering from cancer, and to include arrangements for facilitating the diagnosis of cancer, and for the treatment of cancer either in Municipal or Voluntary Hospitals, and without doubt, these points will be considered most carefully in the preparation of the scheme during the present year.

Patients from the Municipal Hospital are transferred, if necessary, to the Royal East Sussex Hospital for radium treatment, or in specially indicated cases, sent to appropriate London Hospitals.

With regard to propaganda, simple pamphlets dealing with the commoner forms of cancer, particularly that of the womb and breast, in women, have been issued through the Health Department and are available at the Voluntary Hospitals, the Infant Welfare Ante-Natal Clinics and through the health visitors.

**(c) Respiratory Diseases (Including Influenza, but excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis).**

The total deaths from the respiratory group of diseases were 118, compared with 160 in 1937, a death rate of 1·8 per 1,000 of the population. Influenza, which was responsible for 18 deaths, was not epidemic during the year.

**V.8. Table No. 1.**

**VITAL STATISTICS—WARDS—1938.**

Ward.	Estimated Ward Population.	Births.			Birth Rate per 1,000.	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 crude.	Deaths under 1 year.	Infantile Mortality.
		M.	F.	Total.					
All Saints ... ..	5,685	26	11	37	6·5	80	14·0	1	27
St. Clements ... ..	5,362	70	56	126	23·5	81	15·1	6	47
St. Mary's Lower ...	5,336	19	29	48	9·0	74	13·8	3	62
St. Mary's Upper ...	6,110	24	24	48	7·8	72	11·7	3	62
St. Helen's ... ..	6,302	116	104	220	34·9	117	18·5	4	18
Holy Trinity ... ..	5,763	18	16	34	5·9	61	10·5	...	...
St. Mary Magdalen ...	6,886	9	15	24	3·4	99	14·3	2	83
St. Peter's ... ..	6,156	16	21	37	6·0	104	16·8	2	54
St. Leonards ... ..	9,529	32	39	71	7·4	183	19·2	3	42
Silverhill and Hollington ... ..	7,189	25	50	75	10·4	121	16·8	8	106
Total Net ... ..	64,318	355	365	720	11·1	992	15·4	32	44



V.S. Table No. 2. (Ministry of Health.) CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR, 1938.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Net Deaths at the subjoined ages of Residents, whether occurring within or without the District												Total Deaths whether of 'Residents' or 'Non-Residents in Institutions in the District.	WARD DISTRIBUTION.											
		All ages.	0 to 1 year.	1 to 2 yrs.	2 to 5 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-35 yrs.	35-45 yrs.	45-55 yrs.	55-65 yrs.	65-75 yrs.	75 & upds.		All Saints.	St. Cle- ments.	St. Mary's Lower.	St. Mary's Upper.	St. Hel- en's.	Holy Trinity.	St. Mary Mag- dalen.	St. Peter's.	St. Leo- nard.	Silver- hill & Horsing- ton.		
All Causes	{ Certified ... { Uncertified ...	992	32	6	3	9	9	35	40	59	134	265	400	588	80	81	74	72	117	61	99	104	183	121		
		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Measles		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Scarlet Fever		...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...		
Whooping Cough		...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Diphtheria		...	3	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1		
Influenza		...	18	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	4	8	6	2	2	...	2	2	1	1	1	6	1		
Encephalitis Lethargica		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Cerebro-Spinal Fever		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Tuberculosis of respiratory system		...	54	...	...	...	4	15	13	6	7	6	3	48	6	9	5	5	9	...	...	5	8	7		
Other tuberculous diseases		...	6	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	7	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	1	1	1		
Syphilis		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Cancer, Malignant Disease		...	156	...	...	...	...	4	3	5	26	64	54	93	12	8	12	11	20	9	15	19	28	22		
Diabetes		...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	4	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	1	...		
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.		...	119	...	...	...	1	...	4	3	15	35	61	57	5	4	10	7	13	6	21	15	24	14		
Heart Disease		...	305	...	...	...	1	...	2	5	13	30	82	142	34	35	25	21	34	21	32	27	41	35		
Aneurysm		...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Other circulatory diseases		...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	16	20	12	18	4	3	2	4	6	4	5	4	14	4		
Bronchitis		...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	6	3	2	...	...	2	2	2	...	...	1	1		
Pneumonia (all forms)		...	84	7	2	...	2	...	1	6	10	10	21	54	4	7	6	8	8	4	10	10	13	14		
Other respiratory diseases		...	6	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	3	5	...	...	1	...	1	1	1	2	...	...		
Peptic Ulcer...		...	6	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	4	7	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	2	1		
Diarrhoea, etc.		...	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2		
Appendicitis		...	8	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	1	...	2	15	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	3	2		
Cirrhosis of liver		...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	2	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	1	1		
Other diseases of liver, etc.		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Other digestive diseases		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Acute and Chronic Nephritis		...	22	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	2	5	11	14	1	1	...	...	3	3	2	4	7	1		
Puerperal Sepsis		...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Other puerperal causes		...	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.		...	19	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	4	3	2	2	...	2	2	3	1		
Senility		...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Suicide		...	12	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	3	2	...	1	...	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	...		
Other deaths from violence		...	16	1	1	...	1	3	...	...	2	2	6	17	1	1	1	...	3	...	2	...	5	3		
Other defined diseases		...	79	2	...	...	3	3	5	4	5	14	14	29	68	7	4	6	3	7	5	6	12	19		
Causes ill-defined or unknown		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Totals		...	992	32	6	3	9	9	35	40	59	134	265	400	588	80	81	74	72	117	61	99	104	183	121	



**V.S. Table No. 3.**

**DEATH RATES—1922-1938—HASTINGS.**

	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Number of Deaths	869	821	930	879	924	954	941	993	894	981	993	1026	1008	1030	1053	1059	<b>992</b>
Death Rate per 1,000 crude	14·6	13·6	15·4	14·5	15·06	15·5	15·0	15·9	14·28	15·84	15·73	16·16	15·8	16·07	16·4	16·6	<b>15·4</b>
*Death Rate per 1,000 corrected	12·2	11·3	12·9	10·4	10·8	11·1	10·8	11·4	10·25	11·39	11·29	11·60	10·58	10·76	10·98	11·12	<b>10·31</b>

\* Factor for correction 1922-1924—·84.  
 1925-1933—·718.  
 1934-1935—·67.  
 1936—·67.  
 1937—·67.  
 1938—·67.



V.S. Table No. 4.

## BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1938.

Provisional figures for England and Wales compared with those of Hastings.

	Birth-rate per 1,000 Total Population.		Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Population.							Rate per 1,000 Live Births.		
	Live Births.	Still Births.	All Causes.	Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fevers.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
England and Wales ...	15.1	0.60	11.6	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.11	5.5	53
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	15.0	0.65	11.7	0.00	—	0.05	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.10	7.8	57
148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations, 25,000—50,000 at Census 1931) ...	15.4	0.60	11.0	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.06	0.11	3.6	51
London ...	13.4	0.48	11.4	0.00	—	0.06	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.06	13.1	57
Hastings ...	11.1	0.43	15.4 (a) 10.31(b)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.05	0.28	2.7	44

(a) crude death-rate. (b) corrected death-rate.

The maternal mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows

	(per 1,000 Live Births)	Puerperal Sepsis.	Others.	Total.
England	0.89	2.19	3.08	
Wales	0.86	2.11	2.97	
<b>Hastings</b>	1.3	2.6	4.0	

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

### (1) NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1938.

A complete analysis is found in Table No. 3, p. 23.

#### I.D. Table No. 1.

QUARTERLY INCIDENCE OF SCARLET FEVER, DIPHTHERIA AND  
ENTERIC FEVER.

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever.	Total.
1st Quarter ... ..	15	15	—	30
2nd Quarter ... ..	22	3	—	25
3rd Quarter ... ..	14	7	1	22
4th Quarter ... ..	4	6	2	12
Totals ... ..	55	31	3	89

#### Scarlet Fever.

The total number of cases notified, 55, was considerably under the average for the past five years. The disease was sporadic in nature and mild, with a few exceptions-marked by septic complications.

Fifty-two cases, 96 per cent. of the total, admittedly a high proportion, but explainable owing to the fact that this is a health and pleasure resort, were admitted to the isolation hospital.

There were no return cases.

#### Diphtheria.

Although there was a definite rise in the number of cases notified, from 15 cases in 1937, the total of 31 cases of diphtheria in one year in a town of 65,000 population appears remarkably

low. Moreover, the type of disease was, on the whole, mild, apart from a small group of virulent cases. As in previous years, I would emphasise the fact that diphtheria prevalence runs in cycles, and that other districts in this country are even now experiencing a much higher incidence, amounting in some instances to actual epidemics, of the more severe and even toxic type.

In this connection I would therefore again emphasise the importance of diphtheria immunisation, both to the individual child, who is protected from a potentially dangerous disease, and to the community as a whole; but it should be realised that mass immunisation, up to 50 or 60 per cent. of the child population, is considered necessary to ensure a definite fall in the mortality.

During 1938 the anti-diphtheria inoculation campaign was continued with reasonable success, 1,090 children, mostly of the younger school ages, being immunised, usually at the School Clinics.

As explained above, the low incidence of diphtheria in this town cannot have at present any definite relationship to the amount of inoculation carried out, as so far the numbers inoculated are too small to reduce the risk of epidemics. At the same time, if 500 or 600 children can be inoculated each year over a considerable number of years, the mass effect of inoculation ought eventually to have a definite result in the lessening of diphtheria prevalence and epidemic risk.

### **Erysipelas.**

Thirty-three cases were notified, eight being admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

### **Enteric and Paratyphoid Fevers.**

Three cases were notified. In two cases the patients had been admitted from other districts to Hastings Hospitals prior



to the diagnosis, so that the infection had been contracted elsewhere. The third case was entirely sporadic.

### **Infectious Diseases of the Central Nervous System.**

No cases were notified.

### **Sonne Dysentery.**

During the early months of 1938 there was a certain degree of prevalence of Sonne Dysentery in this district. At that period this mild form of dysentery was in fact prevalent, in some cases in epidemic form, in many districts and towns throughout the country. In all 42 cases were notified, and probably, as in other towns, many cases were so mild that medical assistance was not obtained. As soon as the disease was confirmed bacteriologically, all medical practitioners were circularised with regard to the nature and treatment of the disease, and also notified as to facilities for bacteriological examinations. Beds in the isolation hospital were reserved for severe cases, or cases requiring isolation to prevent infection, in the case of persons engaged in the handling of food stuffs, etc. The disease in Hastings remained on the whole, with a few exceptions, comparatively mild without fatalities, and the cases were sporadic, without common cause of infection, *e.g.*, milk, food stuffs, meat, etc. The outbreak died out in the early spring.

### **Small-Pox.**

No case was notified, and it was not necessary to open the Small-Pox Hospital at Brede.

The vaccination return for 1937, see table, shows a slight decrease in primary vaccination as compared with the previous year. The percentage of vaccinations, 37·2, remains dangerously low.

**(2) NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

In spite of the fact that measles was prevalent during the spring and early summer, no fewer than 78 cases having been admitted for treatment to the Borough Sanatorium, there were no deaths. Whooping cough with 19 admissions to the Borough Sanatorium caused one death. This low mortality, particularly from measles, is abundant proof of the value of hospital treatment and nursing in these diseases, which, with their respiratory complications, are particularly dangerous to children.

Influenza, of a sporadic nature, was responsible for 18 deaths, mainly among elderly people.

**I.D. Table No. 2. VACCINATION RETURNS FROM 1920.**

Year.	Births, Central District.	Successful Primary Vaccination.	Conscien- tious Objectors.	Percentage of births vaccinated.
1920—1924 inclusive.	4,042	1,522	2,026	37·6
1925 ...	688	280	348	40·7
1926 ...	661	305	393	44·6
1927 ...	828	315	376	38·0
1928 ...	801	289	466	36·1
1929 ...	791	305	423	38·5
1930 ...	825	302	457	36·6
1931 ...	790	296	447	37·5
1932 ...	792	291	444	36·7
1933 ...	752	303	390	40·3
1934 ...	844	296	498	35·1
1935 ..	849	314	497	36·8
1936 ...	853	277	508	32·5
<b>1937 ...</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>31·5</b>
Totals	10,265	3,822	5,727	37·2

I.D. TABLE No. 3.

TABLE II. (MINISTRY OF HEALTH).  
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR, 1938.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.		NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.															Deaths.*	Total cases removed to Hospital.	WARD DISTRIBUTION.									Silverhill and Hollington.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
		At ages—Years.																	St. Clements.	St. Mary's Lower.	St. Mary's Upper.	St. Helen's.	Holy Trinity.	St. Mary Magdalen.	St. Peter's.	St. Leonard.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		
		All ages.	0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 & upds.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...</

\*For Analysis of Deaths See Table No. 2 (Ministry of Health), page 16a.



**I.D. Table No. 4.**

DEATHS FROM THE SEVEN CHIEF EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	2	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	2	4	4	5	6	6	1	1	1	...	3
Enteric Fever	1	...	1	1	...	2	1	...	1	...	...	...
Measles	...	3	1	12	1	1	...	1	2	5	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	4	2	1	1	1	4	2	...	1	...	1
Diarrhoea	4	2	3	2	1	1	...	3	...	2	6	3
Totals	5	11	11	20	9	11	12	8	6	9	6	8

**(3) BOROUGH SANATORIUM FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

The Borough Sanatorium, accommodation 70 beds with 14 wards in 4 blocks, serves, in addition to Hastings, as the isolation hospital for the Rural District of Battle and for the Borough of Rye. The question of the reservation of 15 additional beds for the Borough of Bexhill is under consideration. This will entail the erection of a small cubicle block for eight beds and an extension of the accommodation for the nursing and domestic staffs.

The hospital, as a result of a policy spread over a period of years, has been modernised and brought up to date as far as possible.

The number of fully equipped beds at the Small-Pox Hospital at Brede is 20, and this hospital also serves, under agreements, a considerable portion of the adjoining area of East Sussex. No case of small-pox occurred in 1938.

The policy of admitting as many infectious diseases as possible and also cases under observation pending diagnosis, has been maintained, no fewer than 19 varieties or combinations of different infectious diseases having been accepted for treatment in 1938 with great advantage, particularly in connection with hotels, boarding-houses and private schools.

With regard to modern treatment and methods :—

(a) The Intra-dermal tests, Dick and Schultz-Charlton

in scarlet fever and the Schick in diphtheria, were utilised with advantage wherever indicated for diagnostic reasons.

(b) Anti-scarlet serum was continued, by means of intramuscular injections, in febrile cases of scarlet fever; also in erysipelas along with anti-erysipelas serum and anti-streptococcal serum.

(c) A good deal of work has been carried out with the new sulphanilamide group of drugs, *e.g.*, prontosil, proseptasine and solupseptasine. The most dramatic success has definitely been in three severe cases of cerebro-spinal fever, but good results have been noted in certain severe septic cases of tonsillitis, also in cases of erysipelas, and septic scarlet fever. Towards the end of 1938 the new drug, 693 Bayer, a variant of the original sulphanilamide, has been tried with success in severe broncho pneumonia complicating whooping cough and influenza.

**(B) Cases under Treatment in 1938.**

**I.D. Table No. 5.**

Disease.	In Hospital Jan. 1st, 1938.	Ad- mitted. 1938.	Died 1938.	Dis- charged 1938.	In Hospital Dec. 31st, 1938.
Scarlet Fever ... ..	16	77	1	87	5
Scarlet Fever & Chicken- Pox ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Diphtheria ... ..	6	45	3	47	1
Observation Diphtheria ...	...	9	...	9	...
Typhoid Fever ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
" Observation ... ..	1	1	...	2	...
Paratyphoid 'B' Fever ...	...	1	...	1	...
Sonne Dysentery ... ..	...	2	...	2	...
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ...	...	2	1	1	...
Do. Do. Observation ... ..	...	1	1	...	...
Enccephalitis Lethargica ...	...	1	...	1	...
Poliomyelitis Anterior ...	...	...	...	...	...
Acuta ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Influenzal Pneumonia ...	...	1	...	1	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	11	...	11	...
Measles ... ..	...	74	...	74	...
German Measles ... ..	...	4	...	4	...
Whooping Cough ... ..	1	16	1	14	2
Chicken Pox ... ..	...	5	...	4	1
Mumps ... ..	...	2	...	2	...
Impetigo ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Scabies ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Totals ... ..	24	257	7	265	9

### Notes with regard to cases.

#### (a) Measles.

The value of hospital treatment is emphasised by the fact that 74 cases were admitted during the year without a single death. Most of these cases were young children in their first or second year of life, mostly from homes in the poorer class districts where satisfactory nursing was impracticable. A considerable proportion of these cases was complicated by severe capillary bronchitis or broncho pneumonia.

#### (b) Scarlet Fever.

The only death was a woman aged 81, suffering from surgical scarlet fever, complicated by severe myocarditis. There was a tendency for the proportion of severe cases to increase, as compared with previous years, particularly in relation to septic throat conditions. During the year it was necessary to operate on 5 mastoid abscesses, in each case with satisfactory result.

#### (c) Diphtheria.

The proportion of moderately severe and very severe cases as in recent years is comparatively low.

### Complications.

SCARLET FEVER.		DIPHTHERIA.	
Mastoidectomy	4	Paralysis ...	3
Mastoiditis and Nephritis	1		
Nephritis ...	1	ERYSIPELAS.	
Broncho-Pneumonia ...	1	Phlebitis ...	1
MEASLES.		WHOOPING COUGH.	
Croup and Laryngeal	2	Iritis ...	1
Nephritis ...	1	Broncho-pneumonia ...	4
Pneumonia ..	3	Bronchitis and Nephritis	1
Broncho-pneumonia ...	2		

### Average Stay in Hospital, 1938.

Scarlet Fever ...	28 days.	Rural Cases	35 days.
Diphtheria ...	40 ..		
Measles ...	21 ..		
Whooping Cough...	28 ..		
Erysipelas ...	14-21 ..		
Rural Cases for 1938		Total 48.	



## TUBERCULOSIS.

### (1) VITAL STATISTICS.

#### (a) Notifloations, 1938.

The notifications in 1938, 133, pulmonary 106, non-pulmonary 27, were slightly higher than in 1937, when the figure was 125.

**T. Table No. 1.**

TUBERCULOSIS, 1938—NOTIFICATIONS.

Age Period.	New Cases.		Deaths of cases notified.	
	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
0—1 years ...	...	...	...	...
1—5 " ...	...	6	...	2
5—10 " ...	...	7	...	...
10—15 " ...	1	7	...	...
15—20 " ...	4	2	...	...
20—25 " ...	7	1	1	...
25—35 " ...	27	2	2	1
35—45 " ...	25	1	4	...
45—55 " ...	23	...	5	...
55—65 " ...	9	1	3	1
65 upwards ...	10	...	6	...
Totals ...	106	27	21	4
Grand Totals	133		25	

**T. Table No. 2.**

TUBERCULOSIS, 1938—NOTIFICATIONS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

Category.	Primary Notifications.	Duplicate Notifications.	Supplemental Notifications.	Totals.
Pulmonary Males ...	57	...	15	72
" Females ...	23	...	11	34
Non-Pulmonary Males ...	6	...	4	10
" Females ...	16	1	1	18
Totals ...	102	1	31	134



**T. Table No. 2a.**

CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON THE NOTIFICATION REGISTER  
ON THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1938.

TOTAL CASES.	PULMONARY.			NON-PULMONARY.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
525	230	190	420	42	63	105

**T. Table No. 3.**

TUBERCULOSIS PRIMARY NOTIFICATIONS, SINCE 1926.

	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Pulmonary	76	65	60	82	84	141	102	91	69	114	105	81	<b>80</b>
Other Forms	29	19	18	14	24	23	20	26	18	28	30	17	<b>22</b>
Totals	105	84	78	96	108	164	122	117	87	142	135	98	<b>102</b>

#### Relation of Deaths to Notifications.

There has been in recent years a considerable improvement in this matter, the number of cases not notified before death having fallen from 8 in 1937 to 4 in 1938. In each such case the medical practitioner is requested to state in full the circumstances, in view of his statutory duties with regard to notification. Generally the reason is doubt as to previous notification and in certain cases, for example, tuberculous meningitis, it is difficult to make a positive diagnosis without a post-mortem examination.

**T. Table No. 4.**

RELATION OF DEATHS TO NOTIFICATIONS, 1938.

					Pulmonary	Other Forms.	Total.
Not notified				before death	2	2	4
Notified less than 3 months				" "	15	2	17
" 3 to 6 "				" "	4	1	5
" 6 to 12 "				" "	7	1	8
" 1 to 2 years				" "	9	...	9
" over 2 "				" "	18	1	19
Totals ... ..					55	7	62

**Death Rate from Tuberculosis.****T. Table No. 5.**

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS SINCE 1910.

Year.	No. of deaths Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	No. of deaths Other Forms of Tuberculosis.	Total Deaths.	Death Rate All Forms per 1,000.
1910-14 average	62	23	85	1.4
1915 ... ..	56	14	70	1.3
1916 ... ..	69	28	97	1.9
1917 ... ..	60	18	78	1.5
1918 ... ..	88	17	105	2.0
1919 ... ..	92	16	108	1.8
1920 ... ..	66	23	89	1.5
1921 ... ..	70	15	85	1.4
1922 ... ..	58	19	77	1.3
1923 ... ..	42	6	48	.79
1924 ... ..	65	13	78	1.3
1925 ... ..	71	13	84	1.4
1926 ... ..	58	14	72	1.18
1927 ... ..	64	7	71	1.15
1928 ... ..	52	7	59	.94
1929 ... ..	41	11	52	.83
1930 ... ..	44	11	55	.88
1931 ... ..	45	5	50	.80
1932 ... ..	50	3	53	.84
1933 ... ..	36	7	43	.67
1934 ... ..	43	5	48	.75
1935 ... ..	52	5	57	.89
1936 ... ..	46	5	51	.79
1937 ... ..	46	3	49	.77
<b>1938 ... ..</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>.93</b>

**(2) TUBERCULOSIS HEALTH VISITOR, ETC.****(a) Home Visiting.**

Home visits to new cases	...	...	64
"    "    old    "	...	...	1,723
<hr/>			
Total visits	...	...	1,787
<hr/>			

**(b) Articles supplied from the Health Department.**

Bottles of Disinfectant	...	...	134
Sputum Mugs and Flasks	..	...	9
Thermometers	...	...	11

### (3) TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

The Tuberculosis Dispensary at the Royal East Sussex Hospital deals with notified or suspected cases of tuberculosis, or contacts of established cases sent there by medical practitioners, hospital out-patient departments, school clinics or from any other source for investigation by the Tuberculosis Medical Officer. All the special departments of the Hospital, *e.g.*, X-Ray, the Pathological Laboratory, Dental, Orthopædic and Light Therapy, Ear, Nose and Throat and Skin are available in connection with the Tuberculosis Dispensary. I would particularly stress the considerable increase in X-Ray work during recent years and the cordial co-operation which exists between all the Hospital Departments and myself. Full reports, with X-Rays, are sent to the medical practitioners of each case, and all necessary arrangements are made for sanatorium or other treatment.

With regard to specific treatment Tuberculin Emulsion (B.E.) was continued in a small proportion of suitable cases, mainly for surgical tuberculosis in children, after operation; old Tuberculin (O.T.) was also used in very small doses for adults suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, specially selected after sanatorium treatment, and carefully supervised.

The intra-dermal (Mantoux) Tuberculin test was used with advantage in diagnosis.

During the year, 155 new cases, including 37 contacts, excluding 24 cases transferred from other areas or returned after discharge, were examined at the Dispensary. The total number of attendances at the dispensary was 829.

I would emphasise the value of the examination of contacts and of following them up at the dispensary by periodical examination, if necessary, over prolonged periods.

At the Dispensary also the social and financial circumstances of the patients can be examined, advice and practical help can often be given, sometimes directly as regards housing difficulties through the Housing Committee, sometimes indirectly by financial or other assistance through the Tuberculosis Care Committee.



**T. Table No. 6.**

RETURN SHOWING THE WORK OF THE TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY,  
DURING THE YEAR 1938.

DIAGNOSIS.	PULMONARY.				NON-PULMONARY.				TOTAL.				GRAND TOTAL
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
A.—NEW CASES examined during the year (excluding contacts):—													
(a) Definitely tuberculous	25	8	...	..	3	1	3	6	28	9	3	6	46
(b) Diagnosis not completed ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	3
(c) Non-tuberculous ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	27	7	10	69
B.—CONTACTS examined during the year:—													
(a) Definitely tuberculous	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
(b) Diagnosis not completed ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(c) Non-tuberculous ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	12	8	12	36
C.—CASES written off the Dispensary Register as													
(a) Recovered .. ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	1	...	3	3	7
(b) Non-tuberculous (including any such cases previously diagnosed and entered on the Dispensary Register as tuberculous) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	43	15	23	109
D.—NUMBER OF CASES ON Dispensary Register on December 31st:—													
(a) Definitely tuberculous	109	82	1	1	4	7	12	15	113	89	13	16	231
(b) Diagnosis not completed ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	..	3

1. Number of cases on Dispensary Register on January 1st ...	232
2. Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharge under Head 3 in previous years ...	24
3. Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the scheme, and cases "lost sight of" ...	26
4. Cases written off during the year as Dead (all causes)... ..	35
5. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts)	829
6. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on the 31st December ... ..	17
7. Number of consultations with medical practitioners:—	
(a) Personal ... ..	51
(b) Other ... ..	153
8. Number of visits by Tuberculosis Officers to homes (including personal consultations) ... ..	89
9. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to Homes for Dispensary purposes ... ..	845
10. Number of	
(a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined... ..	72
(b) X-ray examinations made in connection with Dispensary work ... ..	141
11. Number of "Recovered" cases restored to Dispensary Register, and included in A(a) and A(b) above ... ..	5
12. Number of "T.B. plus" cases on Dispensary Register on December 31st ... ..	129



**T. Table No 7.****DISPENSARY ATTENDANCES FOR 1938.**

(1) Insured men	...	...	...	300
women	...	...	...	153
(2) Non-insured men	...	...	...	15
women	...	...	...	146
children—				
{ boys	...	...	...	108
{ girls	...	...	...	59
(3) Ex-military cases	...	...	...	48
Total attendances	...	...	...	829

**(4) INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT, 1938.**

No alteration has taken place in the arrangements for institutional treatment.

(a) 30 beds at Darvell Hall Sanatorium for pulmonary tuberculosis.

(b) 4 beds at the Royal East Sussex Hospital for surgical tuberculosis.

(c) 19 beds at the Municipal Hospital for emergency or advanced cases.

(d) Occasional beds as required at Heritage Craft Schools, Chailey or its seaside home, Bishopstone, for cases of crippling due to tuberculosis, at the Royal Sea Bathing Hospital, Margate, for surgical tuberculosis, etc., Papworth or Preston Hall Village Colonies, etc.

**T. Table No. 8.****CASES SENT TO INSTITUTIONS DURING 1938.**

To Darvell Hall Sanatorium	...	...	...	39
„ Royal East Sussex Hospital	...	...	...	18
„ Heritage Craft Schools, Chailey	...	...	...	2
„ Preston Hall	...	...	...	1
„ Royal Sea Bathing Hospital, Margate	...	...	...	1
„ City of London Hospital	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	62

**T. Table No. 9.**RESULTS OF INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT IN CASES  
DISCHARGED IN 1938.

	Quiescent.	Not Quiescent	Died in Institution.	Total.
Pulmonary :—				
T.B. — ... ..	4	1	...	5
T.B. +				
Group 1 ... ..	1	4	...	5
Group 2 ... ..	...	16	2	18
Group 3 ... ..	1	11	1	13
Non-Pulmonary :—				
Bones—Joints ...	2	4	2	8
Glands, etc. ...	...	2	...	2
Abdominal ... ..	1	1	...	2
Totals ... ..	9	39	5	53

**T. Table No. 10.**

TREATMENT OF CASES IN MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL, 1938.

		In Institutions on January 1st.	Admitted during the year.	Discharged during the year.	Died in the Institutions.	In Institutions on Dec. 31st.
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Number of patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis	Adult Males ...	7	22	11	12	6
	Adult Females	5	22	16	6	5
	Children ... ..	...	1	...	...	1
	Total ... ..	12	45	27	18	12
Number of patients suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis	Adult Males ...	...	1	1	...	...
	Adult Females	2	3	4	1	...
	Children ... ..	...	2	...	2	...
	Total ... ..	2	6	5	3	...
GRAND TOTAL ... ..		14	51	32	21	12

With regard to institutional treatment, I would again emphasise the value of the close and cordial co-operation which exists between the medical superintendent at Darvell Hall Sanatorium and the Health Department, whereby all cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, when notified or diagnosed, are admitted as soon as practicable, within one to two weeks as a rule, or in urgent cases more quickly. In addition, there is no restriction on the length of treatment at Darvell Hall Sanatorium, this being regulated entirely by the medical needs of the patient, up to one or two years if required.

It is hardly necessary in this connection to stress the importance of early recognition of the usual symptoms followed by an equally early diagnosis by the appropriate medical means and by modern sanatorium treatment. With this sequence a satisfactory arrest of the disease with a good chance of a return to the original employment is the usual result.

On the other hand the onset of the disease is at times very insidious or again, in spite of educational propaganda, medical examination and diagnosis are still sometimes delayed, with the result that sanatorium treatment is prolonged, and after discharge the patient is often physically unfit or unable to find any remunerative employment.

Good results continued to be reported as a result of artificial pneumo-thorax treatment, phrenic evulsion and also sanocrysm or gold treatment in a few cases.

Although the disease is reported as non-quiescent in a considerable proportion of the cases after discharge, the outlook, under reasonable domestic and economic conditions, as regards prolongation of life, is often good under the observation and care of the dispensary and the care committee. Unfortunately few of these patients can, under modern conditions of competition, obtain or retain remunerative employment.

In certain advanced cases where extensive thoracic operations, *e.g.*, thoracoplasty, are indicated, arrangements were made for transfer to one of the London Chest Hospitals and in individual cases the results are at times impressive and satisfactory.



The tuberculosis wards at the Municipal Hospital were used with much advantage, more especially for advanced and infectious cases from unsuitable and insanitary homes and occasionally for diagnostic purposes in early cases. During 1938 there were 51 admissions.

#### **(5) THE TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE.**

The work of this Committee supplements the anti-tuberculosis services of the Corporation in certain important directions, viz., supplies of food, clothing, money grants to dependents during sanatorium treatment, etc.

A typical week's working of the scheme shows :—

	£	s.	d.
(a) Monetary allowances ... ..	1	12	0
(b) Pasteurised milk... ..	1	18	9
(c) Eggs ... ..		12	6
(d) Butter ... ..		10	0
Total weekly liability ...	£4	13	3

About 30-40 applications are dealt with each month, there being 24 new cases during the year.

The policy of making special grants to patients to enable them to purchase materials for basket making, leather work, etc., was continued and found to be very helpful.

#### **(6) PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925, & PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 172.**

It was not necessary to take action under the above during 1938.

### **MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE.**

#### **(1) VITAL STATISTICS.**

##### **(a) Notification of Births.**

The number of births reported to the Health Department in 1938 was as under :—



<i>Total Births</i> —Notified by midwives	...	...	546
„ „ doctors	...	...	46
„ „ relatives and others			291
Total	...	...	883
<hr/>			
<i>Still Births</i> —Notified by midwives	...	...	16
„ „ doctors	...	...	5
„ „ relatives and others	...		10
Total	...	...	31
<hr/>			

Percentage of still births to notified births, 3·5.  
The number of un-notified births was 6.

**(b) Infantile Mortality in 1938.**

The rate of 44·4 per 1,000 births shows a slight reduction as compared with the rate for 1937, *viz.*, 47·6 and is below that for the average of the country, *viz.*, 53.

Of the 32 deaths, no fewer than 16, 50 per cent., occurred in the first four weeks of life, and 18 from causes operating before birth, or during early life, *e.g.*, premature birth, congenital malformations, birth injury, etc., conditions in which no one factor is involved, and where improvement can only be effected by concentration on every factor concerning pregnancy and child-birth, both as regards the mother and the child.

Net live births registered	...	...	720
Number of deaths of infants under one year	...		32
Infantile mortality	...	...	44·4
Net illegitimate live births registered	...	...	50
Number of deaths of illegitimate infants under one year	...	...	2
Infantile mortality in illegitimate infants	...		40

**(c) Maternal Mortality, 1938.**

Three deaths, of which the particulars are given below, occurred, yielding a maternal mortality rate of 4 per 1,000 births.

- 1 (a) Septic pneumonia.  
(b) Puerperal septic intoxication.
- 2 (a) Hyperemesis gravidarum.  
(b) Pregnancy 3½ months.  
(c) Abdominal hysterotomy.
- 3 Syncope from post partum hæmorrhage.

The following services, each in its different sphere with a bearing on the reduction of maternal mortality, are in operation in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health.

- (1) Adequate ante-natal and post-natal clinics.
- (2) Advice *re* contraceptive measures where pregnancy is contra-indicated on medical grounds.
- (3) Consultants for cases of difficult labour both for advice and treatment.
- (4) Hospital beds in Municipal Hospital for these cases.
- (5) Home Helps during ante-natal period on medical grounds.
- (6) Adequate service of domiciliary midwives.
- (7) Extra nourishment for expectant and nursing mothers.

## (2) INSPECTION OF MIDWIVES AND ADMINISTRATION OF MIDWIVES' ACTS.

(a) No. of Midwives on Register	...	...	...	15
No. of visits to Midwives, Routine Inspections...				50
Special Visits and Interviews	...	...	...	8
			Total	58

### Midwives' Notifications (Medical Help) : —

(a) Ante-Natal	...	...	...	...	11
(b) Labour	...	...	...	...	62
(c) Puerperium	...	...	...	...	19
(d) Infant	...	...	...	...	10
			Total	..	102

### Other Official Notifications :—

(a) Still-births	...	...	...	...	5
(b) Liability to Infection	...	...	...	...	2
(c) Artificial Feeding	...	...	...	...	1
(d) Having laid out a Dead Body	...	...	...	...	2
(e) Notification of Death	...	...	...	...	4
			Total	...	14

The total number of births notified by midwives was 546.

At the quarterly routine inspection of the midwives' registers, the charts have been found to be well kept, the bags and

appliances used being scrupulously clean. The midwives are keeping well in touch with the ante-natal clinics. Ante-natal records are well kept. No irregularity necessitating report to committee was found.

**(b) Scheme under Midwives' Act of 1936 for Domiciliary Midwifery.**

The Scheme for Domiciliary Midwifery under the Midwives Act of 1936 was described fully in the report of 1937. Four midwives are employed under the District Nursing Association, and in addition, one Municipal Midwife for the West St. Leonards end of the town.

The scheme has functioned smoothly throughout the year. The staff appointed is sufficient and satisfactory for the purpose, and in addition there is full co-operation between the midwives of the District Nursing Association and the Municipal Midwife.

In July, 1938, Section 6, which deals with the prohibition of unqualified persons, was put into force in Hastings, the additional work, estimated at between 30 and 40 confinements, being absorbed by the existing staff. The following table shows the amount of domiciliary midwifery carried out in 1938.

**DISTRICT NURSING ASSOCIATION MIDWIVES.**

1. Cases conducted ... ..	351		
(a) As Midwives ... ..	225		
(b) As Maternity Nurses	117	9 pupils	
2. Post Natal Visits—			
(a) As Midwives ... ..	2,213	1,327 supervision.	
(b) As Maternity Nurses	1,638	174	„
3. Ante Natal Visits ..	1,625		

**MUNICIPAL MIDWIFE.**

1. Cases conducted ... ..	49
(a) As Midwife ... ..	20
(b) As Maternity Nurse ...	29
2. Nursing Visits ... ..	1,002
3. Post Natal Visits ... ..	22
4. Ante Natal Visits ... ..	356



M. and C.W. Table No. 1.

ANALYSIS OF INFANTILE AND MATERNAL MORTALITY FROM 1900—1938.

Year.	Births.		Maternal Mortality.		Infantile Mortality.		Infant Deaths 0-4 weeks.		Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis.		Deaths from Pneumonia & Bronchitis.		Deaths from Congenital Debility, Prematurity and Atrophy, etc.	
	Births.	Birth Rate.	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 Births.	Deaths under 1 year.	Rate per 1000 Births.	Deaths 0-4 weeks.	Rate per 1000 Births.	Deaths 0-2 years.	Rate per 1000 Births.	Deaths 0-1 year.	Rate per 1000 Births.	Deaths 0-1 year.	Rate per 1000 Births.
1900-04	1231	18.67	7	5.7	137	111	not available	24	19.5	24	19.5	23	18.7	
1905-09	1100	17.4	5	4.5	105	95	38	15	13.6	16	14.5	19	17.3	
1910-14	902	14.9	3	3.3	75	83	26	13	14.4	11	12.2	28	31.0	
1915	809	15.5	3	3.7	79	97	35	1	1.2	17	21.0	36	44.5	
1916	785	15.7	2	2.5	47	60	22	1	1.4	6	7.6	23	29.3	
1917	759	15.1	not available	not available	59	78	not available	6	7.9	not available	not available	25	32.9	
1918	838	16.1	1	1.2	60	71	29	2	2.4	8	9.5	30	35.8	
1919	784	13.0	4	5.1	56	71	33	3	3.8	6	7.7	32	40.8	
1920	1146	19.1	3	2.6	59	51	28	9	7.9	6	5.2	31	27.1	
1921	850	14.3	6	7.1	44	52	16	6	7.1	7	8.2	19	22.4	
1922	930	15.6	8	8.6	46	49	32	3	3.2	4	4.3	29	31.2	
1923	834	13.9	6	7.2	36	43	20	2	2.4	3	3.6	19	23.1	
1924	778	12.9	4	5.1	54	69	29	1	1.3	11	14.1	30	38.6	
1925	783	13.0	2	2.6	31	40	10	1	1.3	9	10.2	10	12.8	
1926	770	12.6	1	1.6	49	64	18	6	7.8	12	15.6	10	13.0	
1927	776	12.6	1	1.3	51	66	29	4	5.2	7	9.0	13	20.6	
1928	752	12.0	3	4.0	38	51	17	2	2.7	8	10.6	13	17.3	
1929	762	12.2	1	1.3	27	35	14	3	3.9	4	5.2	12	15.7	
1930	767	12.2	2	2.6	44	57	21	2	2.6	9	11.7	17	22.2	
1931	764	12.3	3	4.1	39	51	25	1	1.3	5	3.9	26	34.1	
1932	752	11.9	4	5.3	33	44	11	1	1.3	11	14.6	14	18.6	
1933	713	11.2	5	6.7	33	46	19	...	...	4	5.6	20	28.1	
1934	805	12.6	3	3.6	29	36	14	...	...	8	9.9	14	17.3	
1935	777	12.1	3	3.6	43	55.3	27	...	...	10	12.8	26	33.4	
1936	783	12.1	4	5.1	33	42.1	18	...	...	5	6.5	16	20.4	
1937	714	11.2	2	2.7	34	47.6	17	...	...	5	6.4	17	23.8	
1938	720	11.1	3	4.0	32	44.4	16	4	5.6	8	11.1	12	16.6	



1938. Net Deaths from Stated Causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

CAUSES OF DEATHS.	WARD DISTRIBUTION.												Total deaths under 1 year.							
	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks & under 5 months.	5 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	All Saints.	St. Clement.	St. Mary's Lower.		St. Mary's Upper.	St. Helen's.	Holy Trinity.	St. Mary Magdalen.	St. Peter's.	St. Leo- nard.	Silverhill and Hol- ington.
All Causes { Certified Uncertified	14	1	1	...	16	1	9	5	1	32	1	6	5	5	4	...	2	2	3	8
Small Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Enteritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformation ...	2	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	1	1	2	...
Premature Birth ...	6	1	...	...	7	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	1	...	...	...
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis ...	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at birth ...	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Syphilis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Laryngitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Suffocation (overlying) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other causes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	14	1	1	...	16	1	9	5	1	32	1	6	3	3	4	...	2	2	3	8

Net Births in the year { legitimate 670  
illegitimate 50Net deaths in the year { legitimate infants 30  
illegitimate infants 2

(c) **Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia Regulations, 1926.**

Under the above regulations the following arrangements were continued.

- (1) Hospital beds at the Royal East Sussex and the Municipal Hospitals, 4 cases being admitted during 1938.
- (2) The provision of consultants.
- (3) The provision of nursing, where necessary, by the District Nursing Association in cases treated at home.
- (4) Investigation into the general circumstances and source of infection by Medical Officer of Health and his staff.
- (5) Bacteriological examinations of blood and lochia at the laboratory of the Royal East Sussex Hospital.

Number of Notifications :—

Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	18
-------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

In each case of puerperal pyrexia, thorough enquiries are made through the private doctor in charge, or if in hospital, through the medical staff. All necessary decisions are made as to appropriate treatment, precautionary measures, etc. In the list which follows it will be noted that a number of the cases became notifiable under the puerperal pyrexia regulations from accidental complications such as infectious colds or influenza.

Ascertained cause or complication underlying diagnosis :—

Infectious "cold"	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	2
Toxaemia and Albuminuria	...	...	...	...	1
Albuminuria and Pyelitis	...	...	...	...	1
Phlebitis	...	...	...	...	2
Phlebitis and Thrombosis	...	...	...	...	1
Thrombosis	...	...	...	...	1
White Leg	...	...	...	...	1
Mastitis	...	...	...	...	1
Prolonged Labour	...	...	...	...	2
Retained Products	...	...	...	...	2
Abortion	...	...	...	...	2
No definite ascertained cause	...	...	...	...	1
Total					18



### (3) THE WORK OF THE HEALTH VISITORS.

Tables (a), (b), (c) and (d) deal fully with the work of the four health visitors, who are also employed as district school nurses, female visitors under the Mental Deficiency Acts, and as official infant protection visitors for boarded-out children under the Public Health Act, 1936, Part VII. The number of children so registered has been increasing from year to year. Each new case requires a detailed initial report, with plan. All children are visited at least once each quarter—the total visits having increased from 357 to 469. Similarly, the work in connection with the supervision of mental defectives has increased from 193 visits in 1937, to 342 during 1938.

#### M. and C.W. Table No. 3.

(a) HOME VISITS (all visits included).

	First Visits.	Secondary Visits.	Total.
I. Babies under 1 year of age ...	700	2637	3337
II. Infants 1-5 years of age ...	...	4450	4450
III. Special Visits ...	263	15	278
IV. Expectant Mothers ...	196	288	484
Totals ...	1159	7390	8549

V. Unsuccessful visits included above ... 667

(b) INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Visits included under (a)).

DISEASE.	Notified.	No. Visited	No. Nursed D.N.A.	No. Admitted Hospital.
I. Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	4	1	...	1
II. Pemphigus Neonatorum...	...	...	...	...
III. Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	...	...
IV. Puerperal Pyrexia ...	18	2	1	3
V. Measles or German Measles ...	80	80	4	33
VI. Whooping Cough ...	35	27	...	17
VII. Epidemic Diarrhoea ...	...	...	...	...
VIII. Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	137	110	5	54



**(c) SPECIAL INFORMATION RELATING TO OPTHALMIA  
NEONATORUM.**

Cases.			Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.	Removed from District.	Still under treatment at end of year.	Any other category.
Notified.	Treated.								
	At Home.	In Hospital							
4	...	4	3	...	1	...	...	...	...

**(d) MISCELLANEOUS.**

(1) Visits under Infant Protection	...	469
(2) Visits to Mental Defectives	..	342
		<hr/>
		811
		<hr/>

**(4) THE MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.**

These include :—

(a) Five Infant Welfare Clinics.

(b) Three Ante Natal Clinics, with which are now combined Post Natal Clinics.

The work of all the centres was more than fully maintained, there being a general increase of attendances, the total for all the Clinics being 18,171, as compared with 16,395 during the previous year.

At the Infant Welfare Centres 720 new cases attended, generally in the first two or three months of life, about 90 per cent. of all children born.

At the Ante Natal Clinics there were 233 new cases, with 593 attendances. Post Natal Clinics are now well established in connection with the ante natal clinics, 100 mothers having

made 122 attendances about 4 or 5 weeks after the confinement for special examination. As a result considerable help has been afforded, not only with regard to minor conditions and disturbances after child birth, but also in a small proportion of more serious complications, *e.g.*, varicose veins, uterine displacements, etc., the patient has been referred for treatment to her own doctor, or the out-patient department of the voluntary hospitals, or the Municipal Hospital by special arrangement. In addition, there are well attended ante natal clinics at the Municipal Hospital in connection with the Maternity Ward, and under the District Nursing Association in the Old Town.

In the report for 1937 I dealt fully with the present position as regards the provision of new and adequate Health Centres. During 1938 arrangements were made with the authorities of St. Ethelburga's Church, West St. Leonards, to utilise the new hall near the western boundary of the town. A pram shelter and a special cupboard are being provided, and the new centre, which will be opened in May, 1939, will undoubtedly prove a boon to the mothers in that district, who have at present a very long journey to the Norman Road Centre.

The movement for the building of two new Health Centres to replace the existing entirely inadequate and out-of-date Centres at Halton and Park View has gained strength both in the Council and with the general public. As a result, approval has been obtained with regard to the general principle of the erection of two new centres in the Five Years' Plan, and they have been put down for completion in the financial year 1939-40. I would emphasise again that new *ad hoc* centres for the combined work of the Infant Welfare and School Medical Services are now being provided in many districts throughout the country, and the most useful type of plan has been practically standardised with the approval of the Ministry of Health and the Board of Education.

**M. and C.W. Table No. 4.**

Centre.	Medical Officer.	Day and Time.	New Cases.	Old Cases.	Total Atten- dances.	Medical Con- sultations.
Norman Rd.	Dr. G. Ticehurst...	Tuesday, 2.30 p.m. ...	146	3777	3923	1244
Halton ...	Dr. E. C. Downer	Wednesday, 2.30 p.m.	184	2896	3080	1078
Park View...	Dr. Marjorie Martin ...	Thursday, 2.30 p.m.	138	3502	3640	1450
Central	Dr. J. S. Farnfield	Friday, 2.30 p.m. ...	146	4444	4590	1187
Hollington	Dr. E. C. Downer	Friday, 2.30 p.m. ...	110	2111	2221	1007
Halton,	Dr. J. Walker... {	1st & 3rd Mondays, { 2.30 p.m. ... }	86	79	165	165
Ante-Natal			32	18	50	50
Post-Natal	Dr. G. Ticehurst {	1st, 2nd & 4th Wed- { nesdays, 2.30 p.m. }	90	179	269	268
Park View			39	6	45	45
Ante-Natal	Dr. G. Ticehurst {	1st & 3rd Fridays, { 2.30 p.m. ... }	57	102	159	158
Norman Rd.			26	3	29	29
Ante-Natal	Dr. G. Ticehurst {	1st & 3rd Fridays, { 2.30 p.m. ... }	57	102	159	158
Post-Natal			26	3	29	29
Totals ... ..			1054	17117	18171	6681

**(5) CONTRACEPTIVE CLINIC FOR MARRIED WOMEN.**

This Clinic was opened early in 1938, 2 sessions per month, with Dr. Marjorie Martin as medical officer-in-charge, in order to give appropriate advice and assistance to married women in whose case additional pregnancies were definitely contra-indicated on medical grounds. Several established clinics in London were visited, and the arrangements and equipment for the Centre at Park View based on these have functioned admirably in spite of the admitted restrictions both in space and convenience. During the year 38 patients have made 99 attendances, the reasons for treatment being :—

Post puerperal debility after multiple pregnancies	12
Tuberculosis ... ..	9
Nervous debility ... ..	5
Difficult labours ... ..	6
Series of mental defective children ... ..	2
Albuminuria ... ..	1
Dangerous varicose veins ... ..	3
Total .. ..	38



### (6) HOME HELPS.

Number of cases attended in 1938—33.

Many reports as to the value of this work have been received during the year.

### (7) MATERNITY HOMES, ETC.

(a) Fern Bank Maternity Home, under the District Nursing Association, 13 beds, total maternity cases, 1938—124.

(b) Maternity ward, Municipal Hospital, a portion of the Hastings Poor Law Institution under the Public Assistance Committee, 14 beds, total maternity cases, 1938—197.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee can send, by arrangement, normal maternity cases to Fern Bank Maternity Home, also cases for medical reasons during the ante-natal period, cases of difficulty during labour and also cases of puerperal pyrexia, to the Municipal Hospital. Normal midwifery cases are admitted either as private cases or through the Public Assistance Committee. The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee of the East Sussex County Council has an arrangement to send both normal and abnormal midwifery cases to the Municipal Hospital.

The number of midwifery cases at the Municipal Hospital has increased steadily during the past 7 years from 40 to approximately 200 cases, about 2 in every 9 births in the Borough.

In view of the great increase, both in normal and abnormal maternity cases, the question of the provision of a modern comprehensive maternity unit at the Municipal Hospital is one of pressing importance. Full reports on the subject have been submitted by me to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee and also the House and Management Committee of the Municipal Hospital. It will be necessary to decide whether a new *ad hoc* maternity unit should be built, or whether certain buildings might be adapted for the purpose. The final decision is bound up with certain other developments now pending at the Municipal Hospital, particularly the removal from the House Side of the aged and infirm inmates.

### (8) DISTRIBUTION OF MILK, ETC.

This work is controlled by a special sub-committee, all cases being investigated by the Health Visitors and the Medical Officer of Health in the first instance.

The number of applications passed by the Sub-Committee during the year were :—

For Fresh milk ... ..	538
„ Dried milk ... ..	154
„ Nutritive foods ... ..	69

The amount represented being :—

Fresh milk ... ..	21,010 pints.
Dried milk ... ..	857 lbs.
Nutritive foods ... ..	1,552 ozs.

### (9) DENTAL TREATMENT.

30 Children under school age received dental treatment at school clinics ; 11 expectant or nursing mothers received treatment at the Royal East Sussex Hospital.

### 10 { ORTHOPÆDIC SCHEME. LIGHT TREATMENT.

See Special Section.

### (11) TREATMENT OF TODDLERS.

Children under the age of 5 years, not attending school, may receive treatment at the school clinics, 72 children having made 263 attendances in 1938.

### (12) ANTI-DIPHTHERIA INOCULATION.

By arrangement with the School Medical Service, a certain number of children attending the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres were immunised during the year, and as a matter of convenience the statistics are included in the School Medical Service Report.

I would again take this opportunity of emphasising the importance of diphtheria inoculation at the earliest possible opportunity, the younger the age of protection the greater the possibility of escaping the disease in the most dangerous form.



## VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC.

The venereal diseases clinic at the Royal East Sussex Hospital serves, in addition to Hastings, the Borough of Bexhill and the neighbouring district of East Sussex.

Cards advertising the days and times of the various clinics available for men and women are exhibited in public lavatories, both municipal and railway, throughout the town. Copies have also been distributed to all hospitals, convalescent homes and similar institutions.

The Clinic Sister, in addition to her nursing duties, carries out a considerable amount of social work, especially among the younger female patients. Every effort is made to keep in touch with patients who default in attendance before completing treatment.

Dr. Lazarus Barlow, Medical Officer, reports as follows :—

“The total number of new cases from Hastings attending the clinic for the first time during 1938 was 65, as compared with 50 in the previous year. Of these, 8 were cases of syphilis, 15 were cases of gonorrhœa and 42 after examination proved to be non-venereal. The increase of 15 in the new cases during the year is wholly accounted for by the increase in non-venereal cases. The total attendances dropped from 3,762 to 3,478, which is accounted for by the smaller number of cases of acute gonorrhœa which need intermediate treatment.

A preparation of arsenic for oral administration has been tried in a few cases with promising results. The advantage of this method, particularly for children, over the injection method is obvious.

The number of “in-patient” days rose from 24 to 79.

Taking the clinic as a whole, the total attendances showed a drop of 103, the intermediate treatments falling by 179 and the attendances by medical officers rising by 76. Of the 122 new cases from all parts, 61 attended on the advice of their medical practitioners. This shows that the clinic is well supported by the practitioners of the town and district.



The utmost secrecy in working the clinic has been maintained as heretofore."

### VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF WORK FOR YEARS 1932-1938.  
HASTINGS CASES ONLY.

	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Number of new cases suffering from :—							
(a) Syphilis ... ..	20	17	15	14	5	6	8
(b) Soft Chancre ... ..	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	Nil.
(c) Gonorrhœa ... ..	37	29	39	31	31	17	15
(d) Non-venereal conditions	27	29	47	25	32	27	42
Total ... ..	84	75	101	70	68	50	65
Total attendances out-patient clinic ... ..	4133	3700	3681	4407	4135	3762	3478
In-patient days ... ..	247	17	48	57	16	24	79
*Doses of Salvarsan, etc. : —							
Out-Patient Clinic... ..	} 488	464	365	278	531	512	937
In-Patient Department ... ..							
*Pathological Examinations :—							
(a) Examined by Medical Officer, V.D. Clinic ... ..	852	515	565	535	450	361	285
(b) Sent to approved laboratory ... ..	463	494	485	536	569	497	461

\*These include all patients.

A remarkable reduction in the incidence of venereal disease is revealed in the above table—in syphilis from 25 new cases in 1930, to 5-6 and 8 cases respectively in the past three years, in gonorrhœa from 75 new cases in 1928 to 15 cases in 1938. There is no reason to believe that concealment or self treatment or recourse to quack remedies has increased ; in fact there is evidence that both medical practitioners, and the general public, have every confidence in availing themselves of the modern facilities for treatment at the V.D. Clinic.

## MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

PARTICULARS OF MENTAL DEFECTIVES AS ON 1ST JANUARY, 1939.

(a) "SUBJECT TO BE DEALT WITH" BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

(b) WHO MAY BECOME "SUBJECT TO BE DEALT WITH" BY THE  
LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Category.	Males.	Females.	Total.
A. NUMBER OF CASES "SUBJECT TO BE DEALT WITH":—			
1. UNDER "ORDER"—			
(a) (1) In Institutions (excluding cases on licence) { Under 16 years of age.	3	2	5
{ Aged 16 years and over.	10	38	48
(2) On licence from Institutions { Under 16 years of age.	...	...	...
{ Aged 16 years and over.	...	...	...
(b) (1) Under Guardianship (excluding cases on licence) { Under 16 years of age.	...	...	...
{ Aged 16 years and over.	16	26	42
(2) On licence from Guardianship { Under 16 years of age.	...	...	...
{ Aged 16 years and over.	1	2	3
2. In "places of safety" { Under 16 years of age.	1	...	1
{ Aged 16 years and over.	...	...	...
3. Under Statutory Supervision ... ..	17	20	37
Of whom—			
Awaiting removal to an Institution...	3	...	3
4. Action not yet taken under any one of the above headings—			
(a) Notified by Local Education Authorities (Sec. 2 (2) ) ... ..	1	1	2
Carried forward ...	49	89	138

Category.	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Brought forward ...	49	89	138
(b) Mental Defectives in receipt of Poor Relief:—			
(1) Institutional { (a) In Public Assistance Institutions not approved under Sec. 37	1	1	2
(b) In Institutions certified under the M. D. Acts including those approved under Sec. 37	...	...	...
(1) Cases 'placed' under Sec. 3 ...	...	...	...
(2) Other cases ...	...	...	...
(2) Domiciliary ...	...	...	...
(c) Otherwise "ascertained" ...	...	1	1
B. NUMBER OF CASES WHO MAY BECOME "SUBJECT TO BE DEALT WITH."—			
1. IN INSTITUTIONS OR UNDER GUARDIANSHIP—dealt with under Sec. 3:—			
(a) In regard to whom the Local Authority contributes under its permissive powers ...	4	...	4
(b) Maintained wholly by parents, relatives or others ...	...	...	...
(c) In approved Home—Local Authority contributes ...	1	...	1
2. Reported to the Local Authority from any reliable source but as to whom no action has been taken of these ...	3	7	10
3. Under Voluntary Supervision ...	...	6	6
Totals ...	58	98	156

Number of above Cases on the Registers of Occupation Centre 28.

### During the year 1938.

1. (a) Number of instances in which licence was granted:—

	M.	F.	Total.
(1) From Institutions ...	...	..	...
(2) „ Guardianship ...	1	2	3

(b) Number of instances in which cases on licence have been returned to Institutions or transferred to Guardianship during the year:—



	M.	F.	Total.
(1) To Institutions ... ..	1	...	1
(2) „ Guardianship ... ..	...	1	1
2. Cases notified by Local Education Authorities (Section 2 (2) ) during the year 1938 :—			

	M.	F.	Total
Method of disposal—			
Sent to Institutions (by order)	...	...	...
Sent to Approved Home ...	...	...	...
Placed under Guardianship (by order) ... ..	...	...	...
Placed under statutory Supervision ... ..	2	...	2
Placed in “ Places of Safety ”	1	...	1
Died or Removed from Area	...	...	...
Action not yet taken—			
{ (a) In receipt of Poor Relief ... ..	...	...	...
{ (b) Others ... ..	...	...	...
Total	3	...	3

3. Of the total number of mental defectives known to the Local Authority :—

(a) Number who have given birth to children during 1938.

(1) After marriage Nil.

(2) While unmarried Nil.

M. F.

(b) Number who have married during 1938 Nil

The following figures show the steady increase in the working of the mental deficiency scheme during the past 16 years :—

On January 1st, 1923—On books	...	29 cases.
„ „ 1928— „	...	99 „
„ „ 1931— „	...	108 „
„ „ 1934— „	...	129 „
„ „ 1935— „	...	138 „
„ „ 1936— „	...	143 „
„ „ 1937— „	...	148 „
„ „ 1938— „	...	148 „
„ „ 1939— „	...	156 „

**(a) Ascertainment.**

New cases are reported mainly through the school medical service, particularly as the result of the careful examination of 'leavers' at the Special School. A number of new cases were taken over from the population of the extended area.

Occasionally defectives are reported from the Police, the Public Assistance Relieving Officers, the N.S.P.C.C. and the Probation Officers, and other social service workers. The present figure, 2.6 per 1,000, exclusive of children at the Special School, does not yet represent the peak of ascertainment.

**(b) Home Supervision.**

Systematic monthly visitation of defectives, either under guardianship or at home under voluntary or statutory supervision, is carried out by the male and female officers of the Authority under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health.

**(c) Guardianship.**

Home Guardianship by the parents within the Borough or through the agency of the Brighton Guardianship Society is still extensively used with advantage. In certain cases, particularly those with no asocial tendencies, it is the method of choice. In other cases, guardianship is utilised owing to the absence of a suitable local institution.

The added control as a rule operates both for the safety and well-being of the defectives and also ensures their control in the interests of the public.

**(d) Institutional Care.**

The number of defectives in institutions increased from 45 to 48.

No development occurred with regard to the provision of a combined local institution. The Brighton Corporation is proceeding with an abridged scheme for the development of Laughton Lodge for their own purposes, with possibilities of further developments.

In the meantime, defectives requiring institutional treatment are sent to various institutions, *e.g.*, Stoke Park Colony, Bristol,

and The Bath House of Help, according to vacancies occurring. The Municipal Hospital continues to be used for 12 male and 12 female defectives. The question of transferring the aged and infirm inmates to special pavilions on another site is under consideration, also the future use of the House Side in relation to mental defectives and cases of mental disorder. This is a most important matter and can only be decided as a result of the joint consideration of the problems by the Mental Deficiency and Public Assistance Committees in consultation with the Board of Control and the Ministry of Health.

**(e) Occupation Centre—Halton School Clinio.**

The Voluntary Association for Mental Welfare, in co-ordination with the Mental Deficiency Committee, continues to do excellent work at the Occupation Centre, attended by nearly 30 pupils of both sexes and varying ages, mainly low grade cases, living at home, or from the Municipal Hospital.

The work at the Centre has outgrown the restricted premises, particularly in connection with drill, physical or rhythmical exercises. The acquisition of larger and more suitably equipped premises is an acknowledged necessity for an all day centre. The work includes rug making, raffia, sewing, knitting, some elementary reading and writing, dancing, rhythmic exercises and the percussion band.

During the past year, the supervisor has visited the homes of a number of the pupils once a week for the purpose of home teaching.

**(f) School for Delicate Children—Mental Side.**

The Education Committee is responsible for the above school, with accommodation for 65-68 children between the ages of 7-16 years. A voluntary care committee supervises all children after leaving school for a period of years, except those who are transferred after careful examination by the School Medical Officer to the care of the Mental Deficiency Committee.



**(g) Clinic for Nervous Disorders.**

Established under the Mental Treatment Act, 1930, this clinic, in charge of the Deputy Medical Superintendent, East Sussex Mental Hospital, deals with the diagnosis of early or doubtful cases of mental or nervous breakdown, and also with the supervision of cases discharged from the Mental Hospital.

During 1938, 106 new cases were examined, the total attendances being 574, an increase of about 60 per cent. as compared with 1937.

The Medical Officer visits on his clinic afternoon the Municipal Hospital, in order to consult with the Medical Officer with regard to cases under observation, and any other mental cases in which a second opinion might be of value.

Home visiting of all new cases and of cases discharged from the Mental Hospital is carried out by the Social Worker attached to the Clinic, 134 visits being paid.

**(h) The Local Government Act, 1929.**

Under this Act, the relief of mental defectives, previously carried out by the Poor Law, is now administered by the Mental Deficiency Committee.

**(i) Appointment of Mental Health Worker.**

A number of local authorities have now appointed *ad hoc* Officers to deal with the ascertainment and visiting of mental defectives, preparation and escorting of certified cases from institutions, also certain duties in connection with Occupation Centres, Clinics for Nervous Disorder cases under the Mental Treatment Act, and any other duties connected with Mental Deficiency and Disorder. A report dealing with the whole matter in respect of Hastings was submitted during the year by the Medical Officer of Health, and as a result the Council has approved the appointment of a Mental Health Officer on these lines.

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## SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

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### Summary of Year's Work, 1938.

(a) Routine medical examination of 1,779 children in the elementary schools, 113 girls in the High School, 73 children in the St. Leonards School for Delicate Children, 21 children in the Hastings School for Delicate Children, and 172 boys in the Grammar School. Total, 2,158.

(b) Medical examination and treatment, where necessary, at the two school clinics of 2,892 children, who made 14,205 attendances.

(c) 6,715 re-inspections by the Medical Officer at the schools and clinics.

(d) Examination by refraction of 432 cases of defective vision, spectacles being prescribed for 357 children, 328 of whom were supplied under the Authority's scheme.

(e) Operative treatment of 139 cases of enlarged tonsils or adenoids or of both conditions at the local hospitals.

(f) 3,487 cases of minor ailments treated at the two clinics.

(g) Provision of simple treatments, *e.g.*, lotions, ointments, dressings and nutritive drugs, total issues being 6,191.

(h) Dental inspection by the school dentist of 2,855 children, 2,066 being actually treated during the year.

(i) Cleanliness inspections at the schools by the school nurses, of 15,422 children inspected, 588 being found defective in varying degrees and 20 cleansed at the public cleansing station.

(j) Control of infectious disease, with numerous visits by the staff to the schools and homes, the total exclusions being 425, total home visits 2,408.

(k) A complete orthopædic scheme for the treatment of crippling. (See special chapter).

(l) Medical supervision of the children at the Hastings and St. Leonards Schools for Delicate Children, the latter with two wings, one for the mentally retarded, the other open-air. (See special note).



### **Provision of New Health Centres.**

The Council has approved the policy of the inclusion of two combined Health Centres for the School Medical and Maternity and Child Welfare Services to be completed in the first stage of their five years' programme of works. As stated in my reports to the committees concerned, the two existing centres, in adapted dwelling houses, while they have done good work, are definitely below the accepted standard of modern health centres. The provision of the two new centres will permit both branches of the work to be carried out in comfort and developed on the most approved lines.

#### **1. STAFF.**

See "Staff of the Health Department," pp. 7-8.

#### **2. CO-ORDINATION WITH WORK OF OTHER HEALTH SERVICES.**

- (a) **Infant and Child Welfare.**
- (b) **Nursery Schools.**
- (c) **Debilitated Children under School Age.**

See previous reports for full details.

(1) No *ad hoc* Nursery Schools have been established, but Nursery Classes have been a feature for many years of the Infant Schools, special arrangements being made for :--

- (a) Tables, rest stretchers, blankets, intervals for sleep, etc.
- (b) Supply of lunch milk at  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., or free in necessitous cases recommended by the school medical officer.

In the new infant departments, such provision has been properly planned and will be an integral part of the school building.

(2) The two school clinics are available for treatment, both medical and dental, also diphtheria immunisation in the case of any children under five years of age not at school, recommended by the Medical Officer of one of the Infant Welfare Clinics or by a Health Visitor.



### 3. SCHOOL HYGIENE.

Attendances for the quarter ended December 31st, 1938 :—

Average number on registers	...	6,230
Average attendance ...	...	5,733
Percentage of attendance	...	92
Average attendance for 1938	...	5,588
Average attendance for 1937	...	5,681

The numbers on the registers of the elementary schools show a slight rise, from 6,177 to 6,230, for the first time for a considerable period. This may be due to the enlargement of the boundaries, whereby the population was increased, as from April, 1938, by about 1,000 persons. It should be noted in this connection that the birth rate reached its lowest level several years ago, and has now been practically stationary at an annual rate of approximately 12 per 1,000 of the population.

Recommendations by the School Medical Officer with regard to school hygiene have been dealt with by the appropriate Committees. The estimates provided for an expenditure of approximately £1,620 3s. 0d. on repairs and improvements.

The older schools, particularly the Church schools, have the faults of their type and period, as regards general arrangement, playground space, natural lighting and ventilation, methods of heating, hot water supply, arrangements for drying clothes, etc.

A special committee has been dealing with the whole question of the elementary schools of the Borough for several years. As a result a new infants' school with a nursery class, and an open air school at Ore, also a new infants' school at Hollington, will be built, probably during 1939. Both are districts on the outskirts of the town, in the centre of large new housing estates, both municipal and private.

The special committee has in hand also a scheme for the establishment of senior schools in accordance with the recommendations of the Board.

In addition to the programme of new schools, a certain number of existing schools will be re-conditioned and modernised as far as circumstances will permit. In this connection the

excellent work carried out in the re-conditioning of St. Mary-in-the-Castle Infant and Senior School by the Church Authority should be mentioned.

The treatment of accidents or sudden illness occurring in schools or playgrounds has been the subject of a circular which was issued to secure effective and prompt treatment by means of co-operation between the teachers, ambulance service, doctors, hospitals and the School Medical Department.

**(b) Mid-day Meals informally served in the Schools.**

The head-teachers in a considerable proportion of the schools have continued the previous arrangements, fully set out in recent reports, to the great advantage of the children who cannot return home for dinner.

**4. MEDICAL INSPECTION. ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.**

**(a) Age Groups of Children Inspected.**

The total number of children examined at routine medical inspection in the elementary schools was 1,779, viz.: 628 entrants, 666 intermediates, and 485 leavers. In addition, 559 children with defects requiring observation or treatment were re-inspected.

**(b) Schedule of Medical Inspection.**

The schedule comprises all the headings required by the Board of Education.

Every effort is made by the staff of the School Medical Service to avoid disturbance of the school time table.

**5. { FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.  
MEDICAL TREATMENT.**

**(a) Uncleanliness.**

**Table IV., Group 5. Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.**

- |  |     |   |
|--|-----|---|
| 1. Average number of visits per school made during the year by the school nurses | ... | 7 |
|--|-----|---|



2.	Total number of examinations of children in the schools by school nurses	... ..	15,422
3.	Number of individual children found unclean		588
4.	Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority	... ..	20
5.	Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—		
	(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	... ..	Nil.
	(b) Under School Attendance Bye-laws...		Nil.

The improvement in the cleanliness of the children has been commented upon in recent reports, and has been fully maintained. A head badly infested with vermin is now almost unknown.

Bathing arrangements for cleansing heads and bodies, for disinfection and treatment of scabies, at Rock-a-Nore Disinfecting Station have worked satisfactorily.

**(b) Minor Ailments, including Skin Diseases.**

**(1) Ringworm.**

**(a) Scalp.**

Two cases occurred. Arrangements exist for treatment by X-Rays at Charing Cross Hospital.

**(b) Body.**

Two cases were diagnosed and treated at the school clinics.

**(2) Scabies.**

Nine cases were diagnosed and treated at the school clinic, and at the cleansing station.

**(3) Impetigo.**

256 cases were reported as requiring treatment. The elastoplast treatment introduced a few years ago has continued to give good results.

**(4) Other Skin Diseases and Miscellaneous Defects, etc.**

Minor injuries, burns, scalds, boils, septic sores, abscesses, etc.; 2,503 received treatment during the year.



**(5) Tonsils and Adenoids.**

139 children were diagnosed as suffering from chronic tonsillitis, adenoids or a combination of these defects of such degree as to warrant operative interference. Every case referred to the Clinic receives careful consideration, and operation is generally only recommended after a period of observation, and then in the presence of definite symptoms relating to diseased or septic tonsils. The figures for operation show a reduction from 172 in the previous year to 139.

**(6) External Eye Disease.**

Of these 174 cases received treatment at the clinic, mainly cases of blepharitis, conjunctivitis, corneal ulcer, etc.

**(c) Tuberculosis.**

There is full co-operation between the School Medical and the Tuberculosis Services, both under the Medical Officer of Health, all actual or suspected cases among school children being referred at once to the Tuberculosis Dispensary for necessary investigation, including X-Rays, tuberculin skin test, etc.

No cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were diagnosed. Two cases of surgical tuberculosis of the neck were notified.

**(d) Defective Vision.**

During the year 432 children were refracted at the school clinics; 197 at Halton Clinic and 235 at Park View Clinic.

Spectacles were provided for 328 children under the authority's scheme.

**(e) Dental Treatment.**

Mr. W. D. Penfold, School Dental Surgeon, reports:—

“There was an increase in the work carried out at the Clinics during the twelve months ending 31st December, 1938, but a decrease in the number of children inspected at the schools.

2,066 children were actually treated during the year and attendances amounted to 3,939 or approximately 2 per child. 1,970 fillings were inserted, of which 1,205 were in permanent teeth and, of the 2,948 extractions, 527 only were of permanent

teeth. Comparison of the total number of children found to require treatment (2,302) and the total number actually treated (2,066) suggests that very nearly 100 per cent. acceptances were obtained. It should be remembered, however, that casuals are included in the total number treated, but not in the numbers inspected at the schools and found to require treatment.

It is becoming increasingly difficult to re-visit schools for inspection within a period of two years. This is, of course, very much too long between inspections, but it is difficult to find a satisfactory remedy. It is estimated that of the children attending the clinics for treatment, approximately 60 per cent. are routine cases, that is, cases attending as a result of the advice given at inspections. The remaining 40 per cent. are casuals, and it is obvious that the longer the interval between inspections, the greater will be the number of casuals applying for treatment. As a result less time can be spent on routine cases, and the interval between inspection becomes still longer."

#### **(7) Ear Diseases and Hearing.**

The lines of treatment in connection with chronic discharging ears (*otitis media*) as described in previous reports have been carried out with satisfactory results, 58 cases having been treated during the year. In addition, 160 cases of other ear conditions have been referred for treatment.

### **6. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

#### **(a) Notifiable Infectious Diseases.**

During the year a campaign for diphtheria immunisation was carried out, with the result that 1,349 children at all ages were dealt with under the scheme, the majority being in the early school years. Grateful acknowledgement is made to the energetic co-operation between teachers and the School Medical Department. Parents also have shown considerable interest in the scheme.

It is important that there should be continuity of anti diphtheritic immunisation. While individual children are, of course, protected, mass protection does not occur until between 40 or 50 per cent. of the susceptible younger population is immunised or found naturally immune.



**Statistics of Anti-Diphtheria Immunisation, 1938.**

Schick Tested	...	...	...	...	694
Schick Positive	...	...	...	...	487
Schick Negative	...	...	...	...	207
Percentage Positive	...	...	...	...	70
Percentage Negative	...	...	...	...	30
Certificates of Natural Immunity issued	...	...	...	...	207
Completely Immunised (3 T.A.F.)	...	...	...	...	1090
Partially Immunised (1 or 2 T.A.F.)	...	...	...	...	31
No. in process of immunisation	...	...	...	...	21
Second Schick Test	...	...	...	...	978
Second Schick Positive	...	...	...	...	43
Second Schick Negative	...	...	...	...	935
Percentage Positive	...	...	...	...	4.4
Percentage Negative	...	...	...	...	95.6
Re-Immunised	...	...	...	...	2
Third Schick Positive	...	...	...	...	Nil
Third Schick Negative	...	...	...	...	2
Certificates of acquired immunity	...	...	...	...	937
Total Certificates	...	...	...	...	1144
Total Children dealt with	...	...	...	...	1349

**(b) Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases.**

It was not considered necessary to close any school, department or class during 1938.

REPORTED BY HEAD TEACHERS, SCHOOL NURSES AND  
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS.

Measles	...	...	...	...	380 cases.
German Measles	...	...	...	...	9 „
Whooping-cough	...	...	...	...	177 „
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	70 „
Mumps	...	...	...	...	54 „
Influenza	...	...	...	...	6 „
Total					696 „



### Exclusions from School.

425 children were excluded from school by the School Medical Officer for the following diseases :—

1. Infectious Diseases (including Rheumatism and Influenza) ... ..	24
2. Diseases of the Skin (including Ringworm) ... ..	110
3. Inflammatory conditions of the Throat, Tonsillitis, Adenitis, etc. ... ..	62
4. Nervous Conditions, including Chorea, Epilepsy, etc. ... ..	6
5. Diseases of the Digestive System ... ..	8
6. Bronchial Catarrh and Colds, etc. ... ..	80
7. Heart Disease ... ..	10
8. Injuries ... ..	28
9. Diseases of the Ear ... ..	8
10. Diseases of the Eye ... ..	9
*11. Tuberculosis (definite or suspected) ... ..	—
12. Other Diseases ... ..	80
Total ... ..	425

\*This does not include children excluded by the Tuberculosis Officer.

The following certificates were given for schools in which the attendance fell below 60% under Grant Regulations 8 and 9.

Whooping Cough ... ..	3 certificates.
Measles ... ..	7 „

### 7. FOLLOWING UP. WORK OF SCHOOL NURSES.

Number of Schools (including Special School and Open Air Schools) ... ..	24
Visits of Nurses to Schools ... ..	164
„ „ „ Departments ... ..	204
Visits to Homes :—	
By direct instruction of School Medical Officer ... ..	569
At request of School Attendance Officer ... ..	222
Following up cases of uncleanness ... ..	139
General cases, following up ... ..	947
School Visits—miscellaneous ... ..	670
Total visits ... ..	2,915

Examinations for cleanliness :—

Primary	...	...	...	...	15,016
Secondary	...	...	...	...	406
Total	...	...	...	...	<u>15,422</u>

## 8. PHYSICAL TRAINING AND GAMES.

### Reports of Organisers of Physical Training.

I am obliged to Captain Stainfield and to Miss Dyke, Organisers of Physical Training, for their reports, from which the following information and suggestions are extracted :—

“During the period, Captain Stainfield spent 74 full days under the Hastings Education Authority and paid 204 visits to the public elementary schools (22 departments). Seven sessions were spent at the swimming bath.

While commending the general attitude of the staff, Captain Stainfield draws attention to the difficulty of providing satisfactory physical training under present conditions. Playing grounds in many schools are very inadequate, one school having none at all, and the difficulty is further increased in winter in schools where there are no halls or where the halls have to be used as class rooms. He expresses the hope that it will soon be possible for all head teachers to arrange for a daily lesson, and that this will be given at a suitable period of the day.

Acknowledgement is made of the adequate facilities at the Railway Mission Hall, and of the provision to schools of P.T. and games material, and suitable clothing and foot gear. Arrangements for organised games, both in the playgrounds and in the playing fields and recreation grounds are not yet satisfactory, and the attention of teachers is again drawn to the suggestions contained in the report of 1937.

Captain Stainfield lays particular stress on the urgent need for the provision of more and better playing field accommodation, more especially in view of the National Fitness Campaign. He also appeals to the Education Authority to give their earnest and serious consideration to the question of taking over the control of the small swimming bath for the exclusive use of schools in



order that a larger number of children might receive instruction under better conditions. At present there are no handrails, slings or pulleys to aid teaching, and the presence of the general public adds very greatly to the difficulty. Handsome tribute is, however, paid to the excellent work done by the teachers through voluntary out-of-school organisations.

Co-operation with the School Medical Service continues to be satisfactory. Supervision of minor orthopædic cases, discharged from the special clinic, has been carried out, and in some cases instruction in remedial exercises has been given.

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Miss Dyke paid 186 visits during the 50 days allotted. Visits to swimming baths and recreation grounds numbered 8.

She pays high tribute to the interest and co-operation of the teaching staff, but suggests that there is no need to be discouraged by the inadequate playgrounds and halls at present available. A course of instruction for women teachers was held in the spring term.

Acknowledgement is made to the Education Committee for the provision of P.T. equipment for all schools, and suggestions are made as to future requirements. Miss Dyke stresses the importance of suitable clothing and footwear for P.T., and suggests that the scheme for providing shoes to senior and junior schools might be extended to infant schools, and that arrangements might be made for the provision of clothing to all departments.

She draws attention to the handicap imposed by the lack of adequate playing fields. Under present conditions it is impossible for all senior girls to take part in the major field games, and some schools are at such a distance from the field that the time spent in actual play is very limited.

A highly creditable standard of swimming has been reached, mostly as a result of voluntary out-of-school activity, and Miss Dyke hopes that the interest and keenness of the teachers and children will be rewarded by the acquisition of the small bath for the full-time use of schools.



She makes certain suggestions to teachers for the better interpretation of the 1933 syllabus, and draws particular attention to the importance of promoting good posture, which is the ultimate test by which every system of P.T. should be judged. In this connection close co-operation with the School Medical Service is being maintained."

In connection with these reports I pay particular stress on the co-operation existing between the Organisers of physical training and the school medical service in the matter of children who are receiving treatment at the Orthopædic Clinic, or have been discharged. Full lists of all such children are supplied quarterly to the Organisers, who make a point of keeping in touch with the children at the schools, particularly those discharged or not attending regularly, with a view to preventing symptoms of relapse, and also recommending suitable exercises either for the school or the home. In addition early cases may be detected, *e.g.*, round shoulders, flat foot, scoliosis, and passed on to the School Medical Officer for examination and, if necessary, treatment at the Orthopædic Clinic.

## **9. PROVISION OF MEALS AND NUTRITION OF CHILDREN.**

(a) Dinners for necessitous children were provided throughout the year in suitable restaurants approved by the School Medical Officer.

	Average Number Fed each Day.	
10th January to 13th April, 1938	...	364
26th April to 12th August, 1938 ...	...	302
13th September to 22nd December, 1938...		350

The average numbers in receipt of dinners show a slight decrease on those of the previous year.

All the restaurants are visited regularly by the School Medical Officer, School Nurses, School Attendance Officers and others. Dinners were generally satisfactory and in accordance with the standards specified.

(b) The preliminary selection of the children is made by the teachers on social and economic grounds, also on their general physical condition as "unable, by reason of lack of food, to take full advantage of the education provided."

NOS. OF CHILDREN PARTAKING IN MILK AT SCHOOLS,  
31ST MARCH, 1938.

		Free.	On payment of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per third pint.	Total.
Public Elementary Schools	...	63	2,343	2,406
Athelstan Road Open Air School		17	10	27
Hollington Open Air School	...	19	6	25
" Special "	...	6	7	13
High School for Girls	...	2	154	156
		<hr/> 107	<hr/> 2,520	<hr/> 2,627

1ST OCTOBER, 1938.

		Free.	On payment of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per third pint.	Total.
Public Elementary Schools	...	52	2,387	2,439
Athelstan Road Open Air School		16	9	25
Hollington Open Air School	...	16	6	22
" Special "	...	6	12	18
High School for Girls	...	2	145	147
		<hr/> 92	<hr/> 2,559	<hr/> 2,651

Lunch milk, under the scheme of the Milk Marketing Board, is provided in nearly all the elementary schools, about 40 per cent. of the children participating on payment of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per one-third of a pint. In addition, an average of 100 necessitous children receive the milk free on a medical certificate.

The greater proportion of the milk used under the scheme, including all milk provided free by the Education Committee, is pasteurised under licence. Any other milk supplied must conform to the standard of accredited milk according to the Regulations.

The condition of the children as regards nutrition is set out in Table II. B., Page 74, viz., '7 per cent. excellent, 93·6 per cent. normal, 5·4 per cent. slightly sub-normal and '05 per cent. bad. These figures are generally satisfactory in view of the difficult economic conditions which affect labouring classes and seasonal



workers during the winter months, and it is reasonable to suggest that the provision of free dinners and milk, also the lunch milk scheme, must have been an important factor in this result.

### **10. SCHOOL BATHS.**

Baths are not available at any of the existing elementary schools, but are provided at the School for Delicate Children, St. Leonards, and for cases of uncleanness, scabies, etc., specially referred, at the Disinfecting Station at Rock-a-Nore.

School children are sent to the White Rock Sea Water Baths for instruction in swimming. (See report by Organisers of Physical Training).

### **11. CO-OPERATION OF TEACHERS, PARENTS, SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS and VOLUNTARY BODIES.**

At routine medical inspection the attendance of parents was 76·8 per cent., refusals to permit examination 2·4 per cent.

The interest of parents in the whole of the work of the School Medical Service was fully maintained.

I acknowledge with gratitude the constant help and sympathy accorded by the teachers, school attendance officers and the representatives of various official and voluntary societies.

### **12. BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE & EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.**

See Table III.—pp. 88-91.

#### **(a) Ascertainment and General Treatment.**

The special register is kept up-to-date. Appropriate treatment is secured for each case ascertained through the School Medical Service, private medical practitioners, the local hospitals, or by sending the child to Chailey or other suitable institution.

#### **(b) Mentally Defective Children—not in the Special School.**

##### **(1) THE DULL AND BACKWARD GROUP.**

Children belonging to this group, not capable on preliminary examination of being certified for the Special School, are referred to the Director of Education and the headmaster after examination by the School Medical Officer.



It is important that these children should be kept under careful supervision. As a matter of fact the School Medical Officer confers from time to time with the Head Teacher with regard to the future of these children, and in some cases it is necessary that they should be certified eventually for the Special School.

(2) **THE LOW GRADE GROUP—NOT SUITABLE FOR THE SPECIAL SCHOOL.**

These children are under the Mental Deficiency Committee and in suitable cases attend the Occupation Centre at Halton School Clinic. See page 54.

(c) **The Schools for Delicate Children.**

(1) **St. Leonards.**

A. **MENTAL OR SPECIAL SCHOOL SIDE.**

During the year, the numbers fell considerably, so that at the end there were 47 on the books compared to an average of 54 in 1938. The fall in numbers may be related to the gradual reduction in the school population.

The general health of the pupils was satisfactory, the average gain in weight about 8 to 9 lbs. Routine medical defects, particularly of vision, hearing, cleanliness, tonsils and adenoids, etc., were followed up as regards treatment by home visits from School Nurses, aided by the influence of the teachers, with the result that a high percentage of treatment was obtained.

Over a considerable period of years I am able to state that the results, both physical and mental, have been eminently satisfactory. Most of the pupils are able both to obtain and retain suitable posts, and to become self respecting members of society, as Miss Pain, Head Mistress, writes "The main purpose of the education is to develop, if possible, a social sense and confidence, as well as to teach ordinary school subjects."

Admissions—

Boys	...	...	6
Girls	...	...	3
Total			<hr/> 9 <hr/>

## Discharges—

Placed under "After Care" Committee ... ..	6
Placed under M.D. Committee ...	1
Re-admitted later in year ...	2
Died after accident ... ..	1
Total ... ..	<u>10</u>

**The After Care Committee.**

Miss Pain reports :—

"The After Care Committee meets four times yearly.

At the end of 1938 there were 41 cases on the books.

Regular visits are paid, and advice and help given where possible.

The annual re-union party is a much appreciated event."

This Committee really supplements the work of the Mental Deficiency Committee, and it is satisfactory to know that the great majority of the ex-pupils do not require supervision from the Statutory Committee.

**B. THE OPEN-AIR SIDE.**

During the year 14 children were admitted, for the following reasons :—

Tuberculous glands and asthma ... ..	1
Congenital heart disease and bronchitis ...	1
Hodgkins disease, debility and anæmia ...	1
Debility and glands in neck ... ..	1
Debility, anæmia and malnutrition ...	10
Total ... ..	<u>14</u>

Ten children were discharged during the year; 8 as fit to re-enter ordinary schools; two left the town.

The average gain in weight for a period of 12 months was  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lbs.

**(2) Hastings.**

At Athelstan Road School for Delicate Children 20 children were discharged, all fit to re-enter ordinary schools.

16 children were admitted for the following reasons:—

Anæmia and debility	...	...	...	5
Debility	...	...	...	4
Tuberculous glands	...	...	...	2
Anæmia and bronchitis	...	...	...	1
Sub-acute rheumatism	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis and asthma	...	...	...	2
Post diphtheritic heart and anæmia	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	16

The average gain in weight for a period of 12 months has been 4 lbs. 7 ozs.

The two Open Air Schools, in spite of the restriction of dealing with delicate children between the ages of 5 and 10 years, have done excellent work. In the Hastings side of the town, the new Open Air School at Ore, with 60 places, will render it possible to deal with children during the whole period of their school years under modern open air conditions.

An extension to the Open Air School at Hollington, similar to that now provided, would be a valuable addition to the work for the St. Leonards end of the town for older children.

#### TABLE II.

##### St. Leonards School for Delicate Children.

##### MENTAL BRANCH.

##### (A) RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1938.

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.	
	No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under Observation but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment.
SKIN:—		
Ringworm—		
(1) Scalp	...	...
(2) Body	...	...
(3) Scabies	...	...
(4) Impetigo	...	...
(5) Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous)	...	...
TOTAL (Heads 1 to 5)	...	...



DEFECT OR DISEASE.	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.	
	No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under Observation but not requiring Treatment.
EYE :		
(6) Blepharitis ... ..	...	...
(7) Conjunctivitis ... ..	...	...
(8) Keratitis ... ..	...	...
(9) Corneal Opacities ... ..	...	...
(10) Other Conditions excluding Defective Vision and Squint ... ..	...	...
TOTAL (Heads 6 to 10) ... ..	...	...
(11) Defective Vision (excluding Squint) ... ..	2	...
(12) Squint ... ..	...	1
Ear : -		
(13) Defective Hearing ... ..	1	...
(14) Otitis Media ... ..	...	...
(15) Other Ear Diseases ... ..	...	...
NOSE AND THROAT : -		
(16) Chronic Tonsillitis only ... ..	...	4
(17) Adenoids only ... ..	1	...
(18) Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids ... ..	1	3
(19) Other Conditions ... ..	...	...
(20) Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous) ... ..	...	...
(21) Defective Speech ... ..	...	...
HEART & CIRCULATION : -		
(22) Heart Disease—Organic ... ..	...	...
(23) ... .. Functional ... ..	...	1
(24) Anæmia ... ..	3	3
LUNGS : -		
(25) Bronchitis ... ..	...	...
(26) Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	...	1
TUBERCULOSIS : -		
Pulmonary—		
(27) Definite ... ..	...	...
(28) Suspected ... ..	...	...
Non-Pulmonary—		
(29) Glands ... ..	...	...
(30) Bones and Joints ... ..	...	...
(31) Skin ... ..	...	...
(32) Other Forms ... ..	...	...
TOTAL (Heads 29 to 32) ... ..	...	...

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	Routine Inspections.	
	No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under Observation but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment.
NERVOUS SYSTEM :—		
(33) Epilepsy ... ..	...	...
(34) Chorea ... ..	...	...
(35) Other Conditions ... ..	...	...
DEFORMITIES :—		
(36) Rickets ... ..	...	3
(37) Spinal Curvature ... ..	3	2
(38) Other Forms ... ..	5	1
(39) Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases) ...	2	3
Total ... ..	18	22

(B) CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.

Age Groups.	Number of Children Inspected.	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Special School	47	8	17.0	34	72.3	5	10.6	...	...

**St. Leonards School for Delicate Children  
(Open-Air Branch).**

**(A) RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN  
THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1938.**

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	Routine Inspections.	
	No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment.
<b>SKIN :—</b>		
(1) Ringworm, Scalp ... ..	...	...
(2) Ringworm, Body ... ..	...	...
(3) Scabies ... ..	...	...
(4) Impetigo ... ..	...	...
(5) Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous) ... ..	...	...
<b>TOTAL (Heads 1 to 5) ... ..</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>
<b>EYE :—</b>		
(6) Blepharitis ... ..	...	...
(7) Conjunctivitis ... ..	...	...
(8) Keratitis ... ..	...	...
(9) Corneal Opacities ... ..	...	...
(10) Other Conditions (excluding Defective Vision and Squint) ... ..	...	...
<b>TOTAL (Heads 6 to 10) ... ..</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>
(11) Defective Vision (excluding Squint) ... ..	<b>1</b>	...
(12) Squint ... ..	...	...
<b>EAR :—</b>		
(13) Defective Hearing ... ..	...	...
(14) Otitis Media ... ..	...	...
(15) Other Ear Diseases ... ..	...	...
<b>NOSE AND THROAT :—</b>		
(16) Chronic Tonsillitis only ... ..	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>
(17) Adenoids only ... ..	...	...
(18) Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids ... ..	...	<b>2</b>
(19) Other Conditions ... ..	...	...
(20) Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous) ... ..	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
(21) Defective Speech ... ..	...	<b>1</b>



DEFECT OR DISEASE.	Routine Inspections.	
	No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring Treatment.
HEART AND CIRCULATION:—		
(22) Heart Disease—Organic ...	...	1
(23)                      Functional ...	1	1
(24) Anæmia ...	...	5
LUNGS:—		
(25) Bronchitis ...	...	...
(26) Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases	...	1
TUBERCULOSIS:—		
Pulmonary—		
(27)   Definite ...	...	...
(28)   Suspected ...	...	...
Non-Pulmonary—		
(29)   Glands ...	...	...
(30)   Bones and Joints ...	...	...
(31)   Skin ...	...	...
(32)   Other forms ...	...	1
TOTAL (Heads 29 to 32) ...	...	1
NERVOUS SYSTEM:—		
(33) Epilepsy ...	...	...
(34) Chorea ...	...	...
(35) Other Conditions ...	...	...
DEFORMITIES:—		
(36) Rickets ...	...	7
(37) Spinal Curvature ...	...	...
(38) Other Forms ...	2	1
(39) Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases) ...	2	5
Total ...	10	27

(B) CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED  
DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.

Age Groups.	Number of Children Inspected.	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
St. Leonards School for Delicate Children (Open- Air Branch) ...	26	—	—	14	53·8	12	46·1	—	—

**Hastings School for Delicate Children (Open-Air Branch).**

(A) RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN  
THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1938.

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.	
	No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under Observation but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment.
SKIN :—		
(1) Ringworm, Scalp ... ..	...	...
(2) Ringworm, Body ... ..	...	...
(3) Scabies ... ..	...	...
(4) Impetigo ... ..	...	...
(5) Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous) ...	...	...
TOTAL (Heads 1 to 5) ...	...	...
EYE :—		
(6) Blepharitis ... ..	...	...
(7) Conjunctivitis ... ..	...	...
(8) Keratitis ... ..	...	...
(9) Corneal Opacities ... ..	...	...
(10) Other Conditions (excluding Defective Vision and Squint) ...	...	...
TOTAL (Heads 6 to 10) ...	...	...
(11) Defective Vision (excluding Squint) ... ..	...	...
(12) Squint ... ..	...	...

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.	
	No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under Observation but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment.
EAR :—		
(13) Defective Hearing ... ..	..	...
(14) Otitis Media ... ..	...	...
(15) Other Ear Diseases... ..	...	...
NOSE AND THROAT :—		
(16) Chronic Tonsillitis only ... ..	...	6
(17) Adenoids only ... ..	...	...
(18) Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids	2	1
(19) Other Conditions ... ..	...	...
(20) Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous) ... ..	...	2
(21) Defective Speech ... ..	...	...
HEART & CIRCULATION :—		
(22) Heart Disease—Organic ... ..	...	...
(23)                      Functional ... ..	...	4
(24) Anæmia ... ..	...	4
LUNGS :—		
(25) Bronchitis ... ..	...	...
(26) Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases	...	...
TUBERCULOSIS :—		
Pulmonary—		
(27) Definite ... ..	...	...
(28) Suspected ... ..	...	...
Non-Pulmonary—		
(29) Glands ... ..	...	1
(30) Bones and Joints ... ..	...	...
(31) Skin ... ..	...	...
(32) Other Forms ... ..	...	...
TOTAL (Heads 29 to 32)	...	1
NERVOUS SYSTEM :—		
(33) Epilepsy ... ..	...	...
(34) Chorea ... ..	...	...
(35) Other Conditions ... ..	...	...
DEFORMITIES :—		
(36) Rickets ... ..	...	...
(37) Spinal Curvature ... ..	...	6
(38) Other Forms ... ..	...	...
(39) Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases) ...	1	1
Total ... ..	3	25



**(B) CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED  
DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.**

Age Groups.	Number of Children Inspected.	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Hastings Open-Air School ... ..	21	1	4.7	10	47.6	9	42.7	1	4.7

**High School for Girls.**

**(A) RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN  
THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1938.**

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.	
	No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under Observation but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment.
SKIN :—		
(1) Ringworm, Scalp ... ..	...	...
(2) Ringworm, Body ... ..	...	...
(3) Scabies ... ..	...	...
(4) Impetigo ... ..	...	...
(5) Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous) ... ..	...	...
TOTAL (Heads 1 to 5) ... ..	...	...
EYE :—		
(6) Blepharitis ... ..	...	...
(7) Conjunctivitis ... ..	...	...
(8) Keratitis ... ..	...	...
(9) Corneal Opacities ... ..	...	...
(10) Other Conditions (excluding Defective Vision and Squint) ..	...	...
TOTAL (Heads 6 to 10) ... ..	...	...
(11) Defective Vision (excluding Squint) ... ..	9	...
(12) Squint ... ..	...	...

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.	
	No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under Observation but not requiring Treatment.
EAR :—		
(13) Defective Hearing ... ..	...	...
(14) Otitis Media ... ..	...	...
(15) Other Ear Diseases ... ..	...	...
NOSE AND THROAT :—		
(16) Chronic Tonsillitis only ... ..	...	24
(17) Adenoids only ... ..	...	1
(18) Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids ... ..	...	1
(19) Other Conditions ... ..	...	...
(20) Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous) ... ..	...	2
(21) Defective Speech ... ..	...	...
HEART & CIRCULATION :		
(22) Heart Disease—Organic ... ..	...	...
(23) ... .. Functional ... ..	...	12
(24) Anæmia ... ..	2	...
LUNGS :		
(25) Bronchitis ... ..	...	...
(26) Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	...	...
TUBERCULOSIS :		
Pulmonary—		
(27) Definite ... ..	...	...
(28) Suspected ... ..	...	...
Non-Pulmonary—		
(29) Glands ... ..	1	...
(30) Bones and Joints ... ..	...	...
(31) Skin ... ..	...	...
(32) Other Forms ... ..	...	...
TOTAL (Heads 29 to 32) ... ..	1	...
NERVOUS SYSTEM :		
(33) Epilepsy ... ..	...	...
(34) Chorea ... ..	...	...
(35) Other Conditions ... ..	...	...
DEFORMITIES :		
(36) Rickets ... ..	...	...
(37) Spinal Curvature ... ..	...	...
(38) Other Forms ... ..	5	14
(39) Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases) ... ..	...	1
Total ... ..	17	55

**(B) CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED  
DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.**

Age Groups.	Number of Children Inspected.	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
High School for Girls ... ..	113	2	1.7	108	95.5	3	2.6	...	...

**Hastings Grammar School for Boys.**

**(A) RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN  
THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1938.**

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	Routine Inspections.	
	No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but <i>not</i> requiring treatment.
SKIN :—		
(1) Ringworm, Scalp ... ..	...	...
(2) Ringworm, Body ... ..	...	...
(3) Scabies .. ...	...	...
(4) Impetigo ... ..	...	...
(5) Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous)	...	...
TOTAL (Heads 1 to 5) .. ..	...	...
EYE :—		
(6) Blepharitis ... ..	...	1
(7) Conjunctivitis .. ...	...	...
(8) Keratitis ... ..	...	...
(9) Corneal Opacities ... ..	...	...
(10) Other conditions (excluding De- fective Vision and Squint) ...	7	...
TOTAL (Heads 6 to 10) ... ..	7	1



DEFECT OR DISEASE.	Routine Inspections.	
	No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but <i>not</i> requiring treatment.
(11) Defective Vision (excluding squint)	14	1
(12) Squint ... ..	...	...
EAR :—		
(13) Defective Hearing ... ..	...	...
(14) Otitis Media ... ..	...	...
(15) Other Ear Diseases ... ..	...	...
NOSE AND THROAT :—		
(16) Chronic Tonsillitis only ... ..	...	11
(17) Adenoids only ... ..	...	...
(18) Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids ... ..	...	2
(19) Other Conditions ... ..	...	...
(20) Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous ... ..	...	3
(21) Defective Speech ... ..	...	...
HEART AND CIRCULATION :—		
Heart Disease—		9
(22) Organic ... ..	...	...
(23) Functional ... ..	1	9
(24) Anæmia ... ..	...	1
LUNGS :—		
(25) Bronchitis ... ..	...	...
(26) Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	...	...
TUBERCULOSIS :—		
Pulmonary—		
(27) Definite ... ..	...	...
(28) Suspected ... ..	...	...
Non-Pulmonary—		
(29) Glands ... ..	...	...
(30) Bones and Joints ... ..	...	...
(31) Skin ... ..	...	...
(32) Other Forms ... ..	...	...
TOTAL. (Heads 29 to 32) ... ..	...	...
NERVOUS SYSTEM :—		
(33) Epilepsy ... ..	...	...
(34) Chorea ... ..	...	...
(35) Other Conditions ... ..	...	...
DEFORMITIES :—		
(36) Rickets ... ..	...	4
(37) Spinal Curvature ... ..	...	...
(38) Other Forms ... ..	13	8
(39) Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases) ... ..	...	...
Total ... ..	35	40

**(B) CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED  
DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.**

Age Groups.	Number of Children Inspected.	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D. (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Hastings Grammar School Boys	172	3	1.7	162	93.6	7	4.0	...	...

**19. EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN & YOUNG PERSONS.**

Number of licences issued to children in 1938 ... 212

Number of such children medically examined ... 113

Number of such children rejected ... .. 4

Description of the work at which the children were employed  
and number of children so employed:—

Delivery of papers ...	...	...	...	136
„ „ goods ...	...	...	...	69
Gardeners' assistants	...	...	...	3
Bakers' „	...	...	...	1
Shop „	...	...	...	1
Caretakers' „	...	...	...	1
Restaurant „	...	...	...	1
Total ...				212

A number of children are also employed under licences granted previous to 1938.

In addition to the above, 7 children were licensed to take part in entertainments, each child being medically examined before the issue of the licence.

**20. TEACHING OF MOTHERCRAFT TO SENIOR GIRLS.**

I would again call attention to the valuable work carried on in the teaching of mothercraft in the Senior Schools by the teachers, with whom the School Nurses keep in touch on this particular subject. No definite systematic teaching of matters relating to sex is undertaken, but the school nurses are always available for advice in special cases.

Excellent work in connection with housecraft and mothercraft continues to be carried out at the different Housewifery Centres.

## 21. MISCELLANEOUS.

Eighty entrants for scholarships to the High School for Girls and Grammar School for Boys received a special medical examination. The School Medical Officer advised the Education Committee with regard to medical matters in connection with the engagement of teachers, staff on the sick list, etc.

65 applications were received for the supply of medical information under the National Insurance (Juvenile Contributors and Young Persons) Act, 1937.

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## MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS.

Year ended 31st December, 1938.

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**TABLE I.—MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF CHILDREN  
ATTENDING PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.**

### (A) Routine Medical Inspections.

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS IN THE PRESCRIBED GROUPS.

Entrants ... ..	628
Second Age Group .. ..	666
Third Age Group ... ..	485
Total ... ..	1,779

### (B) Other Inspections.

NUMBER OF SPECIAL INSPECTIONS ... ..	2,455
NUMBER OF RE-INSPECTIONS ... ..	6,715
Total ... ..	9,170

### (C) Children found to Require Treatment.

Number of individual children found at Routine Medical Inspection to require treatment (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).



## PRESCRIBED GROUPS.

Group.	For defective vision (excluding squint).	For all other conditions recorded in Table II A.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants ... ..	11	104	110
Second Age Group ... ..	53	123	165
Third Age Group ... ..	40	74	99
Total (Prescribed Groups) ...	104	301	374
Other Routine Inspections ...	...	...	...
Grand Total ... ..	104	301	374

**TABLE II.**  
**Medical Inspection Returns.**

(A) RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1938.

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
	No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under Observation but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment.	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under Observation, but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment.
SKIN :—				
(1) Ringworm, Scalp...	...	...	2	...
(2) Ringworm, Body ...	...	...	2	...
(3) Scabies ... ..	2	...	7	...
(4) Impetigo ... ..	2	...	254	...
(5) { Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous)	13	...	169	...
{ Minor Injuries, Bruises, Sores, Chilblains, etc.	3	...	689	...
TOTAL (Heads 1 to 5)	20	...	1123	...

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
	No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under Observation but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment.	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under Observation but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment.
Eye:—				
(6) Blepharitis ...	1	..	20	...
(7) Conjunctivitis ...	...	...	14	..
(8) Keratitis ...	...	...	...	...
(9) Corneal Opacities ..	..	...	...	...
(10) Other Conditions (excluding Defective Vision and Squint)...	10	...	129	...
Total (Heads 6 to 10)	11	...	163	...
(11) Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	104	...	307	...
(12) Squint ... ..	8	...	34	...
EAR:—				
(13) Defective Hearing ...	...	...	20	...
(14) Otitis Media ...	1	...	57	...
(15) Other Ear Diseases	11	...	129	...
Nose and Throat:—				
(16) Chronic Tonsillitis only ... ..	11	522	94	87
(17) Adenoids only ...	1	13	10	6
(18) Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids ...	14	15	131	26
(19) Other Conditions ...	3	1	64	3
(20) Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous) ... ..	2	158	26	16
(21) Defective Speech ...	...	...	...	...
Heart & Circulation:—				
(22) Heart Disease—Organic	...	67	2	5
(23) Functional	1	92	9	12
(24) Anæmia ... ..	69	14	57	2
Lungs:—				
(25) Bronchitis ... ..	2	2	68	...
(26) Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases	23	...	228	...

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
	No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under Observation but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment.	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under Observation but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment.
TUBERCULOSIS :—				
Pulmonary—				
(27) Definite ... ..	...	...	...	...
(28) Suspected ... ..	...	...	...	...
Non-Pulmonary—				
(29) Glands ... ..	...	...	2	...
(30) Bones and Joints ...	...	...	...	...
(31) Skin ... ..	...	...	...	...
(32) Other Forms ... ..	...	...	...	...
TOTAL (Heads 29 to 32)	...	...	2	...
NERVOUS SYSTEM :—				
(33) Epilepsy ... ..	...	...	...	...
(34) Chorea ... ..	...	...	3	2
(35) Other Conditions ...	...	...	2	...
DEFORMITIES :—				
(36) Rickets ... ..	3	11	...	4
(37) Spinal Curvature ...	16	150	4	13
(38) Other Forms ... ..	25	63	12	9
(39) Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Defects of Nutrition uncleanness and Dental Diseases) ...	80	41	941	5
Total number of defects ..	405	1149	3486	190



**(B) CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN  
INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE  
AGE GROUPS.**

Age Groups.	Number of Children Inspected.	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants ...	628	4	·6	608	96·8	16	2·5	...	...
Second Age Group	666	4	·6	606	90·9	55	8·2	1	·1
Third Age Group	485	6	1·2	453	93·4	26	5·3	...	...
Other Routine Inspections ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>1779</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>·7</b>	<b>1667</b>	<b>93·6</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>5·4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>·05</b>

**Table III. Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.**  
BLIND CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
1	...	...	3	4

PARTIALLY SIGHTED CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Certified Schools for the Partially Sighted.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
1	...	1	...	...	2

## DEAF CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
5	...	...	...	5

## PARTIALLY DEAF CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf.	At Certified Schools for the Partially Deaf.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
...	...	...	...	...	...

## MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

## FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
54	...	...	...	54

## EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

## CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM SEVERE EPILEPSY.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
...	...	...	...	...

## PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

## A. TUBERCULOUS CHILDREN.

I.—CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.  
(Including pleura and intra-thoracic glands.)

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
...	...	1	...	1

## II.—CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
11	14	3	5	33

## B. DELICATE CHILDREN.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
44	86	...	2	132

## C. CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
2	18	...	3	23



## D. CHILDREN WITH HEART DISEASE.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
3	5	1	...	9

## CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM MULTIPLE DEFECTS.

Combination of Defect.	At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
Total Blindness and Mental Defect ...	...	...	...	1	1

**Table IV. Return of Defects Treated during the Year ended 31st December 1938.**

GROUP I. MINOR AILMENTS (EXCLUDING UNCLEANLINESS, FOR WHICH SEE TABLE VI.)

DISEASE OR DEFECT.	NUMBER OF DEFECTS TREATED, OR UNDER TREATMENT DURING THE YEAR.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
SKIN:—			
Ringworm, Scalp—			
(i) X-Ray Treatment ...	...	...	...
(ii) Other ...	2	...	2
Ringworm, Body ...	2	..	2
Scabies ...	9	...	9
Impetigo ...	256	...	256
Other Skin Diseases ...	181	1	182
MINOR EYE DEFECTS ...	174	...	174
(External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.)			
MINOR EAR DEFECTS ...	214	4	218
MISCELLANEOUS ...	2,322	10	2,332
(e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc).			
TOTAL ...	3,160	15	3,175

GROUP II. DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT (EXCLUDING MINOR EYE DEFECTS TREATED AS MINOR AILMENTS.—GROUP I.).

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	NUMBER OF DEFECTS DEALT WITH.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
ERRORS OF REFRACTION ... (Including Squint).	432	15	447
OTHER DEFECT OR DISEASE OF THE EYES ... (Excluding those recorded in Group I.)	...	...	...
TOTAL ...	432	15	447
NUMBER OF CHILDREN FOR WHOM SPECTACLES WERE :			
(a) Prescribed ...	357	15	372
(b) Obtained ...	328	15	343

GROUP III. TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.													
RECEIVED OPERATIVE TREATMENT.												Received other forms of Treatment.  (iv)	Total No. Treated.  (v)
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital. (i)				By Private Practitioner or Hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme. (ii)				Total.  (iii)					
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)		
5	10	124	...	...	...	...	...	5	10	124	...	64	203

(i) Tonsils only. (ii) Adenoids only. (iii) Tonsils and Adenoids.  
(iv) Other defects of the nose and throat.

## GROUP IV. ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

	Under the Authority's Scheme. (1)		
	Residential treatment with education. (i)	Residential treatment without education. (ii)	Non-residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic. (iii)
Number of children treated ...	1	10	100
Otherwise. (2)			Total number treated.
Residential treatment with education. (i)	Residential treatment without education. (ii)	Non-residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic. (iii)	
...	...	...	103

## GROUP V.—DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1) Number of Children who were :—

(a) Inspected by the Dentist :—

Routine Age Groups	Aged.			Total	...	2,510
	5	...	247			
	6	...	233			
	7	...	268			
	8	...	244			
	9	...	299			
	10	...	314			
	11	...	315			
	12	...	248			
	13	...	247			
	14	...	95			

(b) Specials ... .. 345

(c) Total (Routine and Specials) ... .. 2,855



(2) Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	2,302
(3) Number Actually treated	...	...	...	...	2,066
(4) Attendances made by the Children for treatment	...	...	...	...	3,939
(5) Half-days devoted to	{ Inspection 22 }			Total	509
	{ Treatment 487 }				
(6) Fillings	{ Permanent teeth 1,205 }		Total		1,970
	{ Temporary teeth 765 }				
(7) Extractions	{ Permanent teeth 527 }		Total		2,948
	{ Temporary teeth 2,421 }				
(8) Administration of general anæsthetics for extractions	...				520
(9) Other Operations	{ Permanent teeth 359 }		Total		359
	{ Temporary teeth ... }				

#### GROUP VI.—UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(i.) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	...	...	...	...	...	7
(ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	...	...	...	...	...	15,422
(iii.) Number of individual children found unclean	...	...	...	...	...	588
(iv.) Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921	...	...	...	...	...	20
(v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—						
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	...	...	...	...	...	nil.
(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	...	...	...	...	...	nil.

## ORTHOPÆDIC SCHEME.

### PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF CRIPPLING, POSTURAL DEFECTS, &c.

The Orthopædic Scheme deals with the following groups of cases :—

- (a) Children under school age.
- (b) Children of school age.
- (c) Cases of tuberculosis at all ages.

The diagnosis and selection of cases for treatment, a most important factor in this work, is the duty of the medical officers of the various municipal medical services dealing with the three groups mentioned.

All suitable cases are referred to the Orthopædic Clinic at the Royal East Sussex Hospital for treatment and supervision.

This scheme includes :—

- (a) Consultation and systematic supervision of treatment by the Orthopædic Surgeon.
- (b) Remedial Treatment at the Clinic by the Orthopædic Surgeon and Nurse. Provision of necessary appliances.
- (c) Specialised treatment, *e.g.*, Ultra-violet Rays and X-Rays.
- (d) In-patient treatment for short periods.

Prolonged institutional treatment, with education, is available at the Heritage Craft Schools for Cripples, Chailey, with its sea-side branch at Bishopstone.

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Cases attending Orthopædic Clinic, Royal East Sussex Hospital, December 31st, 1938 :—

(a) SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

Infantile Paralysis	...	...	7 cases.
Congenital Conditions	...	...	7 „
Scoliosis and Kyphosis	...	...	19 „
Miscellaneous	...	...	22 „
Total			55 ,

(b) MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Infantile Paralysis	...	...	Nil.
Congenital Conditions	...	...	1 case.
Rickets	...	...	3 cases.
Miscellaneous	...	...	7 „
Total			11 „

(c) TUBERCULOSIS ... .. 6 cases.

The total attendances during the year were 3,321, plus 989 attendances for ultra-violet-ray treatment.

The number of new cases referred for treatment were :—

	Orthopædic.		Light Treatment.	
Maternity and Child Welfare Service	19	...	13	
School Medical Service	...	...	65	1
Tuberculosis	...	...	1	2
Totals		85	16	

As regards light treatment, the main indications are surgical tuberculosis, rickets, marasmus and debility in babies. In many instances the results were very satisfactory.



There was a general increase, in various directions, in the work of the Orthopædic Clinic, during 1938, total cases 85, as against 54, attendances for supervision and treatment—3321 against 2835, while there was also a substantial increase in the attendances for light treatment.

The number of cases under treatment at the Heritage Craft Schools, Chailey, etc., for prolonged hospital treatment plus education, were at the end of 1938 :—

Tuberculosis	...	...	5
Other conditions	...	...	3

During 1938 one case was admitted.

With regard to cases in attendance at the Royal East Sussex Clinic, a quarterly report dealing with the condition and treatment of each case is sent by the Surgeon-in-charge. Children discharged as cured, or defaulting in attendance, are kept under special observation at the school and infant welfare clinics and by means of home visits. In this connection, also, there is definite co-ordination with the recently appointed physical training organisers who have arranged to give special attention to these children.

It has been said that, to some extent, any orthopædic scheme of treatment, however adequate and up to date, is a confession of failure. The ideal is prevention of the causes of crippling. No one doubts the truth of this dictum and for that reason every emphasis is laid on factors dealing with the prevention of rickets—adequate diet, milk, vitamins, bone forming factors for the expectant and nursing mother and child. Tuberculosis in children, fortunately much reduced in recent years, is largely a matter of milk infection, eliminated entirely by adequate pasteurisation or by milk from tubercle free herds.

Specialist help at ante-natal clinics and at difficult confinements may prevent birth paralysis.

Again I emphasise the importance of the diagnosis of crippling conditions at the earliest possible opportunity at infant welfare clinics, school medical inspection, by the general practitioner and by the reference of suspected cases by the teacher or the physical training organiser. Early diagnosis means early and effective treatment with much less tendency to relapse. I stress the importance of continued and sympathetic supervision of crippled patients. In this matter I would pay tribute to the excellent work of the local voluntary association for the care of cripples, now well established over a period of two years. With regard to the future the proposed new health clinics might well be utilised for the treatment of the milder cases of crippling, also to



prevent relapse in discharged cases under supervision. In addition should the Council so desire, the new clinics might be used, as is done by a number of authorities now, particularly in London, for the purpose of foot clinics to deal with the very prevalent miseries of foot disabilities among persons of the working classes who cannot afford to pay the usual fees of private chiropodists.

## REPORT ON PUBLIC HEALTH BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK, 1938.

The work is carried out in the laboratory of the Royal East Sussex Hospital under Dr. P. Lazarus-Barlow, Pathologist to the Hospital, the following being a summary for 1938.

SOURCE OF SPECIMENS.	NATURE OF SPECIMENS.	No.
A. General Practitioners, Borough Sanatorium, Medical Officer of Health.	Sputum for Tubercle Bacilli ... ..	174
	Throat Swabs for Diphtheria	686
	Widal Examination for Typhoid Group ...	23
	Miscellaneous ... ..	278
B. School Medical Service.	Throat Swabs for Diphtheria, etc.	61
C. Tuberculosis Dispensary.	Sputum for Tubercle Bacilli ... ..	71
	Miscellaneous ... ..	2
D. Municipal Hospital	Miscellaneous ... ..	149
	Total Specimens examined	1,444

**DIPHtheria ANTI-TOXIN.**—Supplies are kept at the Health Department and at Police Stations, and issued on request to the medical practitioners of the town.

## GENERAL SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

### (1) LOCAL ACTS AND ORDERS, BYELAWS, ADOPTIVE ACTS.

During the year no additions or amendments were reported.

In connection with the Hastings Corporation (General Powers) Act, 1937, Sect. 91, (removal of infirm and diseased persons in certain cases), one case was heard by the magistrates and an order for removal to the Municipal Hospital was obtained. Consideration has been given to the machinery necessary to put sections 95—97 inclusive into action—these sections dealing with the registration, etc., of certain premises connected with the hawking of foodstuffs, ice cream, etc.

### (2) PUBLIC HEALTH PROPAGANDA.

(a) 2,000 copies of Better Health, the Hastings Edition of the Official Journal of the Central Council for Health Education, were distributed each month by the schools, the school clinics, infant welfare and ante-natal centres and hospitals. This journal deals with matters of public health in a simple, well informed, accurate and interesting manner.

(b) Health propaganda forms a definite and important part of the daily work of the Medical Officer of Health, the School Dental Officer, Sanitary Inspectors and Health Visitors and School Nurses.

(c) The voluntary health societies at their annual meetings generally arrange for a well-known speaker on some health subject.

(d) In connection with the national scheme to encourage the wider use of the health services inaugurated by the Prime Minister in October, 1937, posters, hand-bills and literature were exhibited or distributed through the schools, the school clinics and the infant welfare centres as follows:—

January, 1938—	The School Medical Service.
February, 1938—	Services for adults and adolescents, Tuberculosis V.D.
March, 1938—	The Physical Fitness Campaign.

**(3) REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES**  
**(Public Health Act, 1936. Part VI.)**

	Year ending December 31st, 1937.		
	Maternity Homes.	General Nursing Homes.	Maternity & General Nursing Homes.
1. Number of applications for registration ... ..	...	7	...
2. Number of Houses registered ...	...	7	...
3. Number of orders made refusing or cancelling registration ...	..	...	...
4. Number of appeals against such orders ... ..	..	...	...
5. Number of cases in which such orders have been			
(a) confirmed on appeal ...	...	...	...
(b) disallowed ... ..	...	...	...
6. Number of applications for exemption from registration ...	..	...	..
7. Number of cases in which exemption has been			
(a) granted ... ..	...	...	...
(b) withdrawn ... ..	...	...	...
(c) refused ... ..	...	...	...

Three maternity, 20 general and 7 combined maternity and general nursing homes altogether are registered.

A thorough inspection and investigation is made by the Medical Officer of Health on application for registration.

The Model Byelaws of the Ministry of Health are in force and all homes are inspected periodically by the Medical Officer of Health.

The general standard of several of the older nursing homes has improved materially during recent years. The co-operation of the medical profession has been invited with regard to the matter of any unregistered homes which might still exist, and any necessary investigation is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health.



#### (4) WATER SUPPLY.

The existing supply, from the large reservoir and gathering grounds at Great Sanders about eight miles from Hastings, and from eight deep wells in the Ashdown Sand, was generally sufficient for the needs of the Borough in 1938. In view of the greatly increased and increasing demands for water, under the Hastings Corporation (General Powers) Act, of 1937, sufficient land in the Parish of Mountfield, within the rural district of Battle, has been purchased to form a large reservoir with an aqueduct leading to the present distributing centre at Brede. This reservoir will store water from the gathering grounds, springs and the streams impounded up to 500,000,000 gallons and will provide a supply and reserve sufficient for increasing needs, including that of the extended boundaries, for many years to come.

The water is of medium hardness according to source, varying from about 8 to 10 or 11 degrees. All the water, from whatever source, is chlorinated by the most modern methods. At Brede, where the bulk of the water is distributed, in addition to chlorination, the water is treated by aeration, followed by the sedimentation of suspended matter by the use of alum as a coagulant. After sedimentation, the water is filtered through rapid sand filters, then in addition to the chlorination process, a small quantity of Baxter lime and potassium permanganate are added. The result is a clear water, practically free from iron and manganese, bacteriologically, as the analyses given below show, entirely satisfactory.

The Counties Public Health Laboratories,

91, Queen Victoria Street,

London, E.C. 4.

23rd September, 1938.

Report on the Bacteriological Examination of a sample of water, received 19th September, 1938, from County Borough of Hastings, labelled Clear Water Tank, Filsham.

19th September, 1938, 9.15 a.m.

Taken by W. P. Walker.      Witness, M. Williams.

Signed, W. P. Walker.

Number of colonies per cubic centimetre or millilitre of water growing upon Agar at 37°C in one day      ...      ...      ...	2
Number of colonies per cubic centimetre or millilitre of water growing upon Agar at 37°C in two days      ...      ...      ...	2
Number of colonies per cubic centimetre or millilitre of water growing upon Agar at 20°C in three days      ...      ...      ...	3
Smallest quantity of water producing acid and gas in bile-salt Lactose Broth after two days incubation at 37°C      ...      ...	Absent in 100 c.c. (Presumptive Bacillus Coli Test).
Smallest quantity of water containing the Bacillus Coli      ...      ...      ...	"      "      "
Smallest quantity of water giving the re- action of the B. Welchii (Bacillus Enteritidis Sporogenes)      ...      ...      ...	"      "      "

This sample is clear and bright and of a high degree of bacterial purity, in which respects it is considered pure and wholesome water, suitable for purposes of public supply.

11th November, 1938.

Report on the Bacteriological Examination of a sample of water received 7th November, 1938, from County Borough of Hastings, labelled Tap on Fairlight Main, at Halton Tanks.

7th November, 1938, 10 a.m.

Taken by W. P. Walker.      Witness, J. Wright.

Signed, W. P. Walker.

Number of Colonies per cubic centimetre or millilitre of water growing upon Agar at 37°C. in one day	...	...	...	0
Number of Colonies per cubic centimetre or millilitre of water growing upon Agar at 37°C. in two days	...	...	...	0
Number of Colonies per cubic centimetre or millilitre of water growing upon Agar at 20°C. in three days	...	...	...	1
Smallest quantity of water producing acid and gas in Bile-Salt Lactose Broth after two days incubation at 37°C.	...	...	Absent in 100 c.c.	
(Presumptive Bacillus Coli Test).				
Smallest quantity of water containing the Bacillus Coli	...	...	...	" " "
Smallest quantity of water giving the reaction of the B. Welchii (Bacillus Enteritidis Sporogenes)	...	...	...	" " "

This sample is clear and bright and of a high degree of bacterial purity in which respects it is considered pure and wholesome water, suitable for the purposes of public supply.

Analysis of a sample of water received 5th October, 1937, from Borough of Hastings, per Dr. Bruce, M.O.H., Labelled Draw off tap in kitchen, from house cistern at Collier Road, Hastings.

Chemical results in parts per 100,000.

Appearance :—Slight whitish opalescence with faint film deposit of mineral matter.

Colour :—Normal. Odour :—Nil.

Reaction :—PH. Neutral 7.5. Free Carbonic Acid 0.55.

Electric Conductivity at 20°C ... 390.

Total Solids, 180°C ... 26.0

Chlorine in Chlorides ... 3.0

Nitrogen in Nitrates ... Nil. Nitrites—Absent

Hardness :—Permanent ... 2.0

Temporary ... 9.0

Total ... 11.0

Metals :—Iron, 0.020. In solution, 0.010. Zinc, Manganese, Lead and Copper, Absent.

Free Ammonia :—0.0000 Ammoniacal Nitrogen —

Albumenoid Ammonia :—0.0018 Albuminoid Nitrogen --

Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F ... 0.025



Report:—This is a very faintly opalescent water, due to a minute trace of Iron Oxide in suspension. It is of normal colour, neutral reaction and contains a trace of Free Carbonic Acid. The water contains no excess of saline matter, is of moderate hardness, contains only a small trace of Iron, and is of good organic quality.

It is a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

JOHN F. BEALE.

For Drs. Beale and Suckling.

### (5) BATHS ESTABLISHMENTS.

There are three swimming pools.

(a) The Open Air Swimming Pool, West

Marina, length 330 ft., width 90 ft. Capacity 1,000,000 gals.

Opened in 1931.

(b) The large covered in bath, White

Rock, length 165 ft., width  $36\frac{1}{2}$  ft. „ 200,000 „

Opened in 1933.

(c) The small covered in bath, White

Rock, length 75 ft., width 30 ft. ... „ 65,000 „

Opened in 1934.

Sea water is used throughout, and during the winter months the water at the White Rock Baths is heated to a comfortable temperature, about  $74-76^{\circ}$  F.

The methods adopted to purify the water are similar in each bath.

- (1) The addition of a coagulant.
- (2) Filtration.
- (3) Chlorination.
- (4) Aeration.

Both alkalinity and chlorination are checked by the usual colorimetric tests twice or thrice daily.

The optimum strength of chlorine, short of causing smarting of the eye, appears to be from .2 to .3 parts per million at the White Rock Baths and .5 parts per million at the Open Air Swimming Pool.

Bacteriological tests have been satisfactory, both as regards total bacterial count and also the presence of *b. coli*.

The following is a report of a bacteriological analysis of the water for the Large Swimming Bath, White Rock.

Average number of organisms per cc 5	{	0.1cc	1,0,1.
		1.0cc	1,5,18.
		5.0cc	25,21,15.
		10.0cc	84,14,9.
		20.0cc	27,37,33.

The presumptive test for the presence of *B. coli* was completely negative in each of the three tubes of the following quantities:—

0.1cc. 1.0cc. 5.0cc. 10.0cc. 50.0cc. 100.0cc.

The above test, together with those from the middle and shallow end shew that the water is in a high degree of purity.

P. LAZARUS BARLOW,  
*Pathologist.*

The White Rock Baths Establishment contains in addition a well equipped medical baths section, also Turkish Baths and a Spray Section, with Needle Sprays, Scotch, Vichy and Aix Douches.

Although the medical baths section is in no way competitive with the Spas proper of this country, the treatments available form a valuable therapeutic instrument, especially in connection with the rheumatic group of diseases, for stiffness and adhesions following sprains, strains, etc., or as a tonic in cases of general and nervous debility.

#### (6) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

A considerable amount of inspection and repair work is carried out in individual houses (see Sect. (8)) under the Sanitary Inspectors.

An important scheme to replace and modernise the entire system of sewage disposal within the Borough has been commenced. The scheme will be carried out in sections over a period probably not much short of 10 years from its inception and includes

- (1) A SYSTEM OF STORM SEWERS AND FLOOD RELIEF.
- (2) NEW SOIL SEWERS.
- (3) SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

(a) All soil sewage and a certain amount of storm sewage will be taken to the outflow at the east end of the town.

(b) Special methods of sewerage and disintegration.

(c) To avoid accumulation during high tides the sewage will be pumped.

In addition, it will be possible to take the sewage from dwellings in certain sparsely populated districts on the outskirts, at present not provided with, or inaccessible to, existing sewers.

### **(7) SCAVENGING.**

The collection and disposal of house and business refuse is carried out by the Borough Engineer's department.

The greater bulk of the town's refuse is collected in large covered-in vehicles, "the inside-loading 'Prodigy,'" from a public health point of view a great improvement on previous methods.

Residents can assist materially during the summer seasonal period by burning as much organic refuse as possible and by wrapping up and compressing as tightly as possible in newspapers the remainder before placing such in the dustbin. Requests for additional clearing of dustbins are met as far as possible also during this period.

The disposal of refuse is carried out by methods based on controlled tipping at Pebsham Farm, the site to be used eventually for municipal purposes, *e.g.*, as a recreation ground.

The Health Department co-operates in the replacement of existing insanitary bins, and also in connection with the provision of regulation dustbins to replace insanitary ash-pits. During 1938, 145 ash-pits were replaced under the Public Health Act, 1936, Sect. 75.



**(8) SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.****(a) Chief Sanitary Inspector's Summary for 1938.****A.—Inspections.**

1. Premises on complaint	455
2. Re-drainage work	256
3. Works in connection with notices	1,027
4. Bakehouses	62
5. Infectious Disease enquiries	183
6. Camps, Caravans, etc.	19
7. Fried fish premises	49
8. Restaurant kitchens, cafés and premises where food is exposed, etc., for sale	526
9. Fish at Fishmarket	219
10. Outworker's premises	22
11. Houses under Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restriction Acts)	2
12. Common Lodging Houses	9
13. Smoke nuisances	6
14. Slaughterhouses and Knackers Yard	2,061
15. Offensive Trade premises	4
16. Water supplies	44
17. Disinfestation work	70
18. Rats and Mice destruction work	927
19. Offices	9

**B.—Work carried out.**

1. Drain tests applied	261
2. Houses and premises provided with new drains, properly intercepted and ventilated	42
3. Drains cleared and/or repaired	81
4. New soil and ventilating pipes fixed	58
5. Rain-water pipes disconnected from drains	1
6. Inspection Chambers provided or repaired	3
7. Cesspools emptied and cleansed	1
8. Cesspools abolished and drains connected to sewer	—
9. New w.c. pedestal pans fixed	48
10. W.C. pans repaired	29
11. New w.c. flushing cisterns provided	32
12. W.C. Flushing cisterns repaired	26
13. New W.C.'s erected	3
14. New urinals erected	1
15. Glazed stoneware sinks provided, with properly trapped waste-pipes	63
16. Yards and passages paved or repaved	82
17. Samples of drinking water from private wells	23
18. Polluted wells closed and domestic water supplied from main	4
19. Roofs stripped or repaired	26
20. Ventilated food stores provided	23
21. Rooms, etc., cleansed and distempered, etc.	112
22. Miscellaneous repairs to houses (walls, ceilings, stoves, washing accommodation, handrails, lighting, ventilation, sash cords, etc.)	1,077
23. Sanitary ashbins provided and/or ash-pits abolished	1,025
24. Accumulations of manure and other refuse removed	43
25. Nuisances abated from animals improperly kept	4
26. Nuisances abated from chimneys emitting smoke	6

**(c) General Summary.**

Inspection and re-inspection of premises—visits	...	9,665
Houses and premises inspected	... ..	6,988
Complaints investigated	... ..	455

**PRELIMINARY NOTICES.**

Number of written Notices served	... ..	929
“ “ “ “ complied with	... ..	808
“ “ “ “ served during the year still receiving attention	... ..	121
“ “ “ “ reported to the Public Health or Housing and Improve- ments Committee	... ..	27

**OTHER NOTICES.**

Legal Notices served by Town Clerk	... ..	29
Certificates granted under Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Acts, 1920 to 1938	... ..	1
MILK AND DAIRIES (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1915.		
MILK AND DAIRIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1922.		
MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.		
Number of Preliminary Notices served during 1938	... ..	9

**(9) INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.****(a) Milk Supply of District.**

Retail Purveyors of Milk on Register, 1938	... ..	115
Wholesale Traders or Producers, 1938	... ..	19
Producers of “ Accredited ” Milk, 1938	... ..	3
Purveyors of “ Tuberculin Tested,” “ Accredited ” or Pasteurised Milk, 1938	... ..	19
Pasteurisers’ Licence to sell Milk as “ Pasteurised ” 1938	... ..	5
Supplementary Licences, 1938	... ..	5
Samples for bacterial content and tubercle bacilli, 1938		29
Samples under Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1938		82

Mr. Hollox, Chief Sanitary Inspector, reports :—

“ During the year, 87 visits were paid to dairy farms before and during milking operations, particular attention being given to the cleansing of the cows, vessels used, methods of milking,



etc. In cases where such would appear to militate against the production of milk of a low bacterial content, advice has been given, followed where necessary by the taking of samples to ascertain any improvement. In practice two of the most common faults are the neglect of the milking stools and the non-rejection of the foremilk, these faults, however, being committed rather in ignorance than otherwise. The course of lectures in dairy work now being held by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries should do much to further the course of clean milk production generally.

As regards the various farm premises, much work has been done to secure improvement, as while milk of a low bacterial content can be produced in the older type of building, it is of course easier to do so in a modern one. Two cowsheds and one dairy at one farm have been demolished and an entirely new block of buildings on modern lines has been erected in their place. The occupier was subsequently granted a licence to produce accredited milk and all samples since taken have been of the necessary standard.

In another instance the existing cowsheds have been remodelled and an entirely new dairy erected, a licence as a producer of accredited milk afterwards being granted.

Work to other premises has included the paving of approaches to cowsheds, improvements to standings, channelling, etc.

#### DESIGNATED MILKS.

The demand for designated milks continues to increase as is reflected in the number of licences issued during the year as compared with previous years. This has of course necessarily increased the number of samples to be taken and systematic sampling has therefore been instituted.

In this connection 12 samples of tuberculin tested milk were taken, all of which proved satisfactory.

As regards accredited milk, 23 samples were taken, 19 proving satisfactory, 4 not satisfactory and 1 sample was cancelled. Of the 4 unsatisfactory samples, three came from



County producers who were written to on the matter. Subsequent samples proved satisfactory. The other related to a producer in the Borough and in this case the premises were visited and advice given, with satisfactory results.

Pasteurised milk samples numbered 47, 42 of which proved satisfactory. The five unsatisfactory samples were obtained from one firm in the town and the whole matter was carefully investigated. As a result a new pasteurising plant was installed, since when all samples have been up to standard.

During the year a contravention of the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, came under the notice of the department, in that milk was being treated and sold as pasteurised without a licence being held. Two samples which proved unsatisfactory were taken and the sale of the milk as pasteurised was discontinued.

In all, 82 samples of designated milk were taken, and of these 9 only proved unsatisfactory. While this is regrettable, the work done and the results obtained do in fact compare very favourably with the previous year when 39 samples were taken, 9 proving unsatisfactory.

With regard to the health of cattle, reports are now forwarded to the Local Authority by Veterinary Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries at prescribed periods. A notification was received that in a certain herd licensed for the production of a designated milk a cow was suffering from mastitis of the left hind quarter of the udder. The premises were visited and the cow isolated, all milk from it being stopped until samples of milk obtained were satisfactory. Similar action was taken in the case of a cow with a retained placenta.

Thirteen samples of raw milk were taken for the presence of tuberculosis, one sample proving positive. The source of this milk was in the County, and following action by the County Council the cow concerned was slaughtered.

Sixteen samples of raw milk were also taken for bacteriological examination, and of these 9 were up to the accredited standard.

Legal proceedings were instituted in connection with a contravention of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926 (bottling of milk on unregistered premises) and a fine of £5 was imposed."

**(b) Meat.**

A Sub-Committee has under consideration the whole question of the private slaughter-houses, as a result of a special report

from the Medical Officer of Health. Recent building operations, both Council and private, have brought new dwelling-houses within close proximity to several of the oldest slaughter-houses, with all the hygienic faults of their type. One registered slaughter-house which practically touched upon the boundary of a Council Housing Estate was in fact demolished on a compensation basis, the number now remaining being 10 and 1 knackers yard.

As regards a remedy, a common abattoir, either municipal or provided on a co-operative system by private enterprise, is being considered by the Committee.

Practically all animals killed are examined soon after slaughtering under the P.H. (Meat) Regulations of 1924 by a Sanitary Inspector.

The gradual improvement in the butchers' shops has been maintained.

### MEAT SUPPLY.

#### CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED, 1938.

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows.</i>	<i>Cows.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>
Number killed (if known) ...	492	181	1,041	4,220	3,916
Number inspected ...	478	181	997	3,966	3,705
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	...	1	...	1	...
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	35	18	...	30	29
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis ...	7·32%	10·49%	...	·78%	·78%
<i>Tuberculosis Only—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	4	2	...	...	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	39	33	...	...	35
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	9%	19·34%	...	...	·97%



**SUNDRY FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR 1938.**

Bacon	Ham	Jellied Veal	Corned Beef
13 qtrs.	10 tins	3 tins	1 tin
1 tin (gammon)	9½ lbs.		
Chicken	Duck	Calves' Livers	Lambs' Livers
17	1	2 pails	15 pails
			3 tins
Chinese Frozen Eggs	Pilchards	Prawns	Pears
11 lbs.	36 tins	4 tins	4 boxes
	Egyptian Onions		
	43-½ bags		

**(c) Other Foods.**

Particular attention was paid, especially during the summer months, to premises engaged in the manufacture, preparation, storage and exposure of food for sale, under the Local Acts, and improvements were effected in several of these establishments.

The appointment of an additional Assistant Sanitary Inspector for the administration of the Shops Acts has been of considerable value in this connection.

**Fish Condemned, 1938.**

	Cases.	Boxes.	Stones.	lbs.	Kits.	Galls.	Barrels.	Bushels.	Bags.
Coalfish	...	...	80	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mackerel	...	...	1½	...	...	...	...	...	...
Herrings	...	...	67	...	...	...	...	...	...
Haddocks	...	...	100½	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dabs	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whiting	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cod	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plaice	...	...	19½	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kippers	...	...	32½	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dog Fish	...	...	78½	...	...	...	...	...	...
Crayfish	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Skate Wings	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bream	...	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	...
Roes	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Witches	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fillets	...	...	25½	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shrimps	...	4	3	...	...	10	...	...	2
Lemon Soles	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whelks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Escallops, 31 doz.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Halibut	...	...	27	...	...	...	...	...	...
Frozen Plaice	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Total Weight of Fish Condemned, 516½ stones.



**(d) Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.**

During the year 192 samples were taken and submitted to the Borough Analyst, at the School of Science, Hastings. The following are particulars of the samples, results of analysis and the action taken in certain cases.

Milk :—42 samples taken, 31 genuine, in accordance with the legal standard ; 11 adulterated, or below the legal standard, as follows :—

<i>Result of Analysis.</i>	<i>Action Taken.</i>
(a) Fat 3.10% ; Solids not fat 7.55% ; Water 89.35%. The sample was deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 11% corresponding to the addition of 11% of water.	Followed up by further sample in course of delivery (b) and an explanation asked for.
(b) Fat 3.01% ; Solids not fat 7.73% ; Water 89.26%. The sample was deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 9%, corresponding to the addition of 9% of water.	Explanation asked for and reported to the Public Health Committee. Followed up by informal samples which were up to standard.
(c) Fat 3.25% ; Solids not fat 8.42% ; below presumptive standard.	Vendor advised to seek advice of County Director of Agriculture. Followed up by further samples which were satisfactory.
(d) Fat 4.43% ; Solids not fat 8.35% ; below presumptive standard.	Do.
(e) Fat 2.72% ; Solids not fat 8.56% ; below presumptive standard.	Do.
(f) Fat 2.28% ; Solids not fat 8.79% ; Water 88.93%. Deficient in fat to the extent of 24%.	Explanation asked for. Taken up with wholesaler, further samples proving satisfactory.
(g) Fat 1.93% ; Solids not fat 8.84% ; Deficient in fat to the extent of 35.7%.	Explanation asked for, and afterwards taken up with the wholesaler. Further samples proved satisfactory.
(h) Fat 2.09% ; Solids not fat 8.94% ; Water 88.97%. Deficient in fat to the extent of 30%.	Explanation asked for, and taken up with wholesaler. Further samples proved satisfactory.
(i) Fat 2.69% ; Solids not fat 8.64% ; Water 88.67%. Deficient in fat to the extent of 10%.	Taken up with vendor. Further samples proved satisfactory.
(j) Fat 2.93% ; Solids not fat 8.62% ; below standard.	Taken up with vendor. Further samples proved satisfactory.
(k) Fat 2.79% ; Solids not fat 8.56% ; below standard.	Do.

LEMONADE POWDER :—2 samples taken, 1 genuine and 1 adulterated as follows :—

<i>Result of Analysis.</i>	<i>Action Taken.</i>
It contained 2·25% of tartaric acid, the rest being cane sugar with a trace of colouring matter.	Withdrawn from sale.

The following 148 samples were all genuine :—Butter, 13 ; Margarine, 10 ; Meat and Fish Pastes, 7 ; Vinegar, 4 ; Mustard, 6 ; Pepper, 5 ; Lard, 8 ; Sweets, 13 ; Tea, 6 ; Sauce, 5 ; Sausages, 1 ; Tinned Peas, 5 ; Custard Powder, 3 ; Blanc Mange Powder, 1 ; Coffee, 2 ; Jam, 5 ; Sultanas, 4 ; Tinned Peaches, 1 ; Currants, 5 ; Baking Powder, 2 ; Egg Powder, 1 ; Mixed Herbs, 2 ; Cream of Tartar, 2 ; Pork Sausages, 3 ; Seidlitz Powder, 1 ; Tincture of Quinine, 2 ; Camphorated Oil, 2 ; Health Salts, 1 ; Zinc Ointment, 1 ; Tinned Pears, 1 ; Demerara Sugar, 1 ; Tapioca, 2 ; Cheese, 3 ; Tinned Cream, 3 ; Flour, 1 ; Cornflour, 2 ; Coffee and Chicory, 1 ; Sago, 1 ; Dried Fruit Salad, 1 ; Pickles, 1 ; Beef Sausages, 1 ; Lemon Curd, 1 ; Sugar, 1 ; Glacé Cherries, 2 ; Gelatine, 1 ; Bisurated Magnesia, 1 ; Candied Peel, 1 ; Icing Sugar, 1 ; Ground Almonds, 1.

## (10) FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

### 1—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories (Including Factory Laundries) ... ..	13	3	...
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries) ... ..	62	4	...
Workplaces (Other than Out Workers' Premises included in Part 3 of this Report) ...	60	1	...
Total ... ..	135	8	...

## 2—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :</i>				
Want of Cleanliness ... ..	12	16	...	...
Want of Ventilation ... ..	2	2	1	...
Overcrowding ... ..	...	...	...	...
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	1	1	...	...
Other Nuisances ... ..	6	7	...	...
Sanitary accommodation {	insufficient ... ..	4	3	...
	unsuitable or defective ... ..	5	5	...
	not separate for sexes ... ..	...	...	...
Other offences (excluding offences relating to out-work, which are included in Part 3 of this Report) ... ..				
	2	..	2	...
Total ... ..	32	34	3	...

## 3—Home Work.

21 lists were sent in, with 10 contractors and 30 workmen.

Class.	Number.
<b>(4)—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.</b>	
Workshops on the register (S. 131) at the end of year.	385
<b>(5)—OTHER MATTERS.</b>	
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories:	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133, 1901) ... ..	Nil.
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Acts (S. 5, 1901) ... ..	Notified by H.M. Inspector ... 4
	Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector ... 4
Other ... ..	2
Underground Bakehouses (S. 101):	
Certificates granted during the year ... ..	Nil.
In use at the end of the year ... ..	20



**Section 11.—Shops Acts, 1912-1936.**  
**Merchandise Marks Act, 1926. Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933.**

The number of shops inspected under the above Acts during the year was 343, the number re-visited being 1,164, a total of 1,507 visits being thus made. The following table shews the contraventions found, action taken, etc. :—

Act.	CONTRAVENTION.	Found.	Informal Notices Served.	Remedied.	Out-standing.	Reported to Committee
Shops Act 1912	Assistants' Half Holiday insufficient	1	1	1	...	1
	Assistants' Half Holiday Notice not exhibited	72	72	70	2	1
	Meal intervals insufficient	3	3	3	...	...
	Seating accommodation for females not provided or insufficient	7	7	10	...	...
	Shop not closing on early closing day	2	2	3	...	...
	Early Closing Notice not exhibited	22	22	40	...	...
	Notice in "Mixed" shops not exhibited	72	72	82	...	...
	Notice of suspension of Assistants' Half Holiday not exhibited	2	2	2	...	1
	Business carried on in place other than shop on weekly half-holiday	1	1	1	...	...
Shops Act 1913	Assistants' hours of employment more than permitted	...	...	...	...	...
	Holidays for assistants insufficient	...	...	...	...	...
	Meal hours insufficient	...	...	...	...	...
	Notice as to above not exhibited	...	...	...	...	...
Shop (Hours of Closing) Act 1928	Shops open after "general closing hours"	4	4	4	...	2
Shops Act 1934	Young Persons employed for more than normal maximum hours	5	5	5	...	1
	Young Persons rest hours insufficient	...	...	...	...	...
	Notice as to Young Persons in catering trade not exhibited (Forms A.B1, B2.)	...	...	...	...	...
	Notice as to Young Persons in Motor Trade, etc., not exhibited (Forms D1, D2, C1, C2.)	...	...	...	...	...
	Records as to employment of Young Persons not kept (Form E or Forms F and G.)	38	38	39	...	2
	Abstract of Act not exhibited (Form H or J.)	35	35	45	...	...
	Ventilation not suitable and sufficient	1	1	...	1	...
	Notice as to seating accommodation not exhibited (Form K.)	53	53	44	9	...
	Reasonable temperature not maintained	...	...	...	...	...
	Sanitary conveniences:—Insufficient	3	3	5	...	...
	Not screened or ventilated	6	6	7	...	...
	Dirty	6	6	6	...	...
	Defective	8	8	8	...	...
	Washing facilities not suitable and sufficient	17	17	17	...	...
Retail Meat Dealers (Sunday Closing) Act 1936.	Lighting insufficient	...	...	...	...	...
	Meal and rest hours insufficient	2	2	2	...	2
	No proper facilities for meals	...	...	...	...	...
	Butcher's shop open on Sunday	...	...	...	...	...
	Delivery of meat, etc., on Sunday	...	...	...	...	...
		...	...	...	...	...
Shops (Sunday Trading) Restriction Act 1936.	Notice re mixed shops not exhibited (Form 1)	80	80	74	6	...
	Record of Sunday employment and Compensation holidays not kept (Form VII.)	26	26	23	3	1
	Assistants' employment on Sundays more than permitted	5	5	5	...	1
	Assistants not receiving adequate or any compensatory holiday	3	3	3	...	1
	Unexempted shops not closing on Sunday	1	1	1	...	1
	Delivery of goods on Sunday after closing time	...	...	...	...	...

Fifteen applications for Certificates of Exemption under Section 10 of the Shops Act, 1934, were made, 7 in respect of sanitary conveniences, and 8 in respect of washing facilities. Of the former, all were granted; of the latter, 6 were granted, in the remaining cases washing facilities were afterwards provided.

Certificates of exemption are not granted unless there is restricted accommodation or other special circumstances obtaining respecting the premises.

One contravention of the Shops (Sunday Trading Restriction) Act, 1936, was reported to the Watch Committee. It was decided to issue a warning, the offence being the sale of grocery on a Sunday, no Order being then in force.

Two contraventions of the Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928, were reported, legal proceedings being subsequently instituted, when a penalty of £1 was imposed in each case.

Six contraventions by one occupier were also reported as follows:—Four contraventions of the Shops Act, 1912, as amended by the Shops Act, 1934, relating to meal intervals and assistants weekly half holidays, and two contraventions of the Shops (Sunday Trading Restriction) Act, 1936, relating to assistants employment on more than three Sundays per calendar month, and failure to keep a record of hours worked on Sunday in the prescribed manner. Proceedings were instituted which resulted in fines totalling £6 5s. 0d. being inflicted.

Two contraventions by one occupier were also reported, one being a contravention of the Shops Act, 1912, relating to inadequate meal intervals, and the other being a contravention of the Shops Act, 1934, as to the keeping of records of overtime worked by young persons. In these cases the Committee decided to issue a warning.

#### MERCHANDISE MARKS ACTS, 1887 AND 1926, AND ORDERS IN COUNCIL thereunder.

These Acts and Orders require that certain imported goods shall bear by prescribed methods indications as to their source or origin. Orders in Council have been issued relating to



imported apples, currants, eggs, honey, meat and meat products, oat products, raisins, salmon, sultanas, tomatoes and turkeys.

The following table shows the work carried out during the year.

No. of Inspections.	No. of contraventions found.	Informal Notices.		
		Served.	Complied with.	Outstanding and receiving attention.
315	115	115	96	29

#### PHARMACY AND POISONS ACTS 1852-1933 AND POISONS RULES.

The following table shows the work carried out during the year.

No. of Inspections.	Contraventions noted.	Informal Notices.		
		Served.	Complied with.	Outstanding.
51	Occupier of shop found selling poisons without name and address on container ... ..	3	3	...

The poisons mentioned in Part 11 of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933, usually sold by shopkeepers, are included in household ammonia, carbolic disinfectants, sanitary fluids, insecticides, rat and mouse poisons, sheep dips, horticultural sprays, etc.

#### (12) Camping Sites.

- (1) The number of sites in the area which were used for camping purposes during 1938 ...



- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (2) The number of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by the local authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. ... .. | Nil |
| (3) The estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during the summer season, 1938 ... ..  | 400 |

### (13) Disinfestation of Houses, etc.

#### ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry the following information is furnished.

#### 1. Statistical.

- |                         |    |  |
|-------------------------|----|--|
| (a) Council Houses.     |    |  |
| (i) Infested ... ..     | 16 |  |
| (ii) Disinfested ... .. | 16 |  |
| (b) Other houses.       |    |  |
| (i) Infested ... ..     | 32 |  |
| (ii) Disinfested ... .. | 32 |  |

In addition 8 houses were disinfested for fleas.

#### 2. Methods employed for disinfestation of houses.

In ordinary single dwelling-houses a variety of methods is in use, including Cimex, Pyagra, ordinary sulphur candles, the painter's blow lamp and removal of skirting boards, etc. Steam disinfection of bedding, etc., is carried out in addition.

#### 3. Methods for disinfesting the belongings of tenants.

(1) Fumigation by cyanide gas or cimex in sealed furniture vans of tenants' effects in slum clearance transfers by the London Fumigation Company under contract.

(2) Disinfection by steam of bedding, mattresses, etc., articles liable to retain cyanide gas, at the Disinfecting Station.

#### 4. Disinfestation by Local Authority or by Contractor.

In the case of the removal of a tenant from one or two properties, disinfestation is carried out on the lines mentioned above by the Local Authority. If there are a number of removals, *e.g.*, in the case of a slum clearance area, the disinfestation of the furniture is generally done under contract by the London Fumigation Company in furniture vans duly sealed.

### 5. Measures taken with regard to supervision or education of tenants.

The Housing Manager works in close conjunction with the Public Health Department in connection with the disinfection of furniture and tenants' effects. A booklet dealing with the whole subject of cleanliness in houses is issued to each new tenant from the Health and Cleanliness Council. Advice and help are also given to tenants who are known to be bug infested by members of the Public Health Department.

#### (14) DISINFECTING & CLEANSING STATION, AMBULANCE WORK. HOUSE, ETC., DISINFECTION.

##### (a) Disinfecting Station—Summary of Articles Disinfected.

	Private Houses.	Public Institutions, Hospitals, Homes	Upholsterers, Private Firms.	From other Sources.
Mattresses... ..	633	491	111	9
Blankets .. ..	1,032	1,052	66	1,295
Pillows ... ..	1,166	1,504	187	617
Other Articles and Clothing ...	3,582	921	137	128
Total .. ..	6,413	3,968	501	2,049

##### (b) Cleansing Station.

	Numbers bathed for			Sets of Clothing Disinfected.
	Scabies.	Vermin.	Other Causes.	
Adults ... ..	6	23	1	41
School Children ...	25	6	...	108
Children under School Age ...	4	...	...	21
Total... ..	35	29	1	170

**(c) Premises Disinfected.**

Dwelling Rooms.	Hospital Wards.	School Rooms.	Offices, Shops.	Cells.	Miscellaneous. Name if necessary.
453	20	3	...	1	1 Motor Van. 1 R.C. Ambulance.

No complaints received as to injury to or loss of articles disinfected.

**(d) Lethal Chamber.**

FOR AGED, INFIRM AND DISEASED CATS AND DOGS.

Dogs destroyed	...	...	..	...	15
Cats destroyed	...	...	...	...	131

**(e) Any other Work.**

Dealing with condemned fish at the Fishmarket and assisting Inspector R.S.P.C.A.

**(f) Ambulance and Disinfecting Van.**

1. Number of journeys removal of patients...	344
2. Number of journeys removal of bedding...	3,470
3. Number of journeys disinfection of houses	478
Mileage—	
(a) Ambulance ... ..	3,506
(b) Disinfecting Van ... ..	14,397

**(15) REPORT ON COMMON LODGING HOUSES, 1938.**

The two registered Common Lodging Houses in the Borough are kept under the close supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

Both houses were free from notifiable infectious disease during the year and were kept in accordance with the regulations.

**(16) HOUSING.**

The amount of housing inspection under the Housing Acts, both on complaint and district inspection, house to house, including basements, was well maintained throughout the year. The majority of the houses found defective were repaired as the result of an informal notice. In this connection the high standard of repairs and re-conditioning, which has been obtained, should



be noted, particularly in the houses dealt with in the Western Road area, and also in the case of individual houses, in the Old Town.

During the year the process of the demolition of the Areas condemned under the slum clearance has gone ahead steadily and this work should be practically completed in 1939.

The Winding Street Area (No. 15) has been utilised for 24 flats on 3 floors, now complete and occupied by displaced tenants. The remainder of the tenants from the Clearance Areas will be re-housed at Rock Lane or in the Bourne Valley re-housing scheme, which has been made possible partly by slum clearance and partly by compulsory purchase.

Attention has been given to the Improvement Scheme on the Western Side of All Saints' Street, several houses having been thoroughly re-conditioned, in some cases on a standard well above that required by the model byelaws.

With regard to overcrowding, the original survey figure of 222 overcrowded houses is now reduced to 121, with 736 persons, partly as a result of re-housing in Council Houses, and partly by private initiative on the part of the tenants. The ultimate problem of the re-housing at Rock Lane is therefore now reduced considerably.

### **HOUSING STATISTICS, 1938.**

#### **I. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—**

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts	889
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1,151
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	461
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	612
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	10

(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 ... ..	341
II. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers... ..	235
III. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—	
A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	9
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners ... ..	*10
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil.
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	6
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners ... ..	6
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil.
C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	†2
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 ... ..	3



(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ..	‡4
IV. HOUSING ACT, 1936—PART IV.—OVERCROWDING :—		
(a)	(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	121
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...	121
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	736
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	5
(c)	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	53
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	304
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil.
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions, upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report.	

\*includes two houses made fit, following service of notices in 1937.

†includes 1 house demolished following notice served in 1937.

‡1 brought forward from 1937.

During the year, all houses scheduled as overcrowded under the survey of 1936 were re-inspected and at the end of the year, the position was as follows :—

Families overcrowded, Survey 1936, 222.

„ „ rehoused by Housing Committee 1938, 8; persons, 53.

Families overcrowded—rehoused under Slum Clearance Schemes 1938, 3; persons, 22.

Families overcrowded—rehoused by their own initiative, 36; persons, 190.

In the case of the overcrowded families, rehoused through their own agency, efforts are made to trace them, in order to see whether the new homes are satisfactory from the point of view of overcrowding.



## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1929.**

### **HOSPITAL POLICY—MEDICAL ASPECTS.**

**(a) The Municipal Hospital, Frederick Road.**

The following improvements and additions have been provided since 1930 :—

- (1) An additional block of 41 beds for female cases.
- (2) Separate children's annexe with 35 beds.
- (3) Central heating.
- (4) Additional open-air ward for 4 male tuberculosis cases.
- (5) New mortuary.
- (6) New casual ward.
- (7) X-Ray, Massage, Ultra Violet Ray and Heat Department.
- (8) New Nurses' Home.

The new Nurses' Home, an entirely modern building, with sufficient accommodation for an enlarged staff, was formally opened in midsummer, 1938.

The Committee has had under consideration the question of the future of the House side. The Borough Engineer has reported that the large central block—now used for aged infirm men, is quite incapable of repair or reconstruction and should be demolished, but that the female block and the old Nurses' Home are capable of modernisation and adaptation for other purposes.

The Committee has approved in effect the principle of the removal of the aged and infirm inmates to modern pavilion homes on a separate site, and plans are in course of preparation. Consideration has also been given to the following two matters of great importance :—

(a) Improved accommodation and classification for mental defectives and cases of mental disorder.

(b) Improved accommodation for the maternity unit which has now increased very much in importance, the number of maternity cases in 1938 being 200.

Full reports on these two matters have been presented to the appropriate Committees.

No definite action has been taken as regards declaration and appropriation under the Public Health Acts, but the further alterations and additions mentioned make this a much more important and pressing matter.

**(b) Hospital Accommodation.**

The accommodation available for Hastings and District, in the voluntary hospitals, the Royal East Sussex, the Buchanan, and Bexhill, together with the Municipal Hospital, is about 550 beds, which appears adequate for normal purposes.

**(c) Transfer of Medical Work.**

With regard to the transfer of medical work under the 1929 Act :—

(a) The Medical Officer of Health is medical adviser to the Public Assistance Committee and in medical charge of the Cottage Homes for children.

(b) Medical relief is administered by a special Sub-Committee of the Public Assistance Committee, there being 4 medical relief districts, and 4 district medical officers. The "open choice" system of medical relief has not been introduced in either of these 4 districts, and none of the 4 district medical officers' time is devoted wholly to public health service.

(c) Vaccination and Infant Protection are administered in the department of the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Committees respectively, the Health Visitors acting as Infant Protection Visitors.

**STATISTICS, MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL, 1937.**

**1. Classification of Beds :—**

		Male.	Female.	Total.
Medical and Surgical ...		74	106	180
Tuberculosis ...		6	13	19
Maternity ...		—	14	14
Mental ...		14	24	38
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...		82	158	240
Children ..				47
				<hr/>
	Grand Total		...	298
				<hr/>
2. Total Admissions ...		...	...	1,527
3. Confinements ...		...	...	197
4. Average beds occupied ...		...	...	240
Highest ...		...	...	255
Lowest ...		...	...	222

5.	No. of operations ... ..	194
	" abdominal operations ... ..	38
6.	No. of cases Out-Patients ... ..	237
	" visits " ... ..	1,026
7.	Ante-natal Clinic—(a) cases ... ..	168
	(b) attendances ... ..	713

## METEOROLOGY.

I am greatly indebted to Mr. Simmons, the Meteorologist for the Borough, for the following information relating to weather conditions in Hastings in 1938.

**Table showing (1) hours of Bright Sunshine,  
(2) Rainfall in inches.  
(3) Ultra Violet Radiation (Monthly Average Reading).**

Month.	Sunshine.	Rainfall in inches.	Ultra Violet Radiation (Monthly average reading).
January ...	55·4	4·27	·3
February ...	101·4	1·14	3
March ... ..	204·4	·69	·7
April ... ..	174·5	·83	1·3
May ... ..	192·3	2·66	2·0
June ... ..	250·8	·55	2·0
July ... ..	202·3	1·48	1·9
August ... ..	208·2	1·90	1·1
September ..	152·5	2·33	1·4
October ...	145·3	3·60	1·0
November ...	41·9	3·94	·7
December ...	54·7	3·43	·3
Total ..	1783·7hrs.	26·52	13·0
Average ...	5·16 hrs.	monthly 2·23 ins.	1·08



**2. Comparative Sunshine figures.**

<b>Hastings</b>	...	...	...	1783·7 hrs.
Eastbourne	...	...	...	1788·8 „
Margate	...	...	...	1831·4 „
Dover	...	...	...	1732·5 „
Brighton	...	...	...	1719·5 „
Bournemouth	...	...	...	1677·6 „
Tunbridge Wells	..	...	...	1636·7 „

**Temperature.**

Maximum 57° ;            Normal 55·4°.

Minimum 45·5° ;        Normal 44·5°.

Absolute maximum 82°.

Absolute minimum 20°.

Earth temperature 1 ft. 51·7°.

Earth temperature 4 ft. 52·6°.

**3. Miscellaneous.**

Rainfall was 1·55 in. below normal.

Snow fell on 4 occasions.

Thunderstorms on 4 occasions.

Ground Frost on 43 occasions.

Wind at Gale force on 4 occasions.

Warmest day, August 1st, Temperature 82° F.

Warmest nights, August 1st and 7th, and September 24th, Temperature 62° F.

Coldest day, December 21st, Temperature 26° F.

Coldest night, December 21st, Temperature 20° F.

Relative Humidity, Morning 81%.

Relative Humidity, Night 85%.

Prevailing wind, S.W.

## Summary of Provision of Health Services for the Area.

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(a) **Laboratory facilities.**

(See Special Section).

(b) **Ambulance facilities.**

The service both for infectious and non-infectious cases is adequate for the district.

(See Report for 1930.)

(c) **Nursing in the Home.**

See Special Section—Maternity and Child Welfare.

(See also Report for 1930.)

(d) **Clinic and Treatment Centres.**

(See Special Sections).

(See Report for 1930).

(e) **Hospitals—Public and Voluntary.**

(See Special Section).

(f) **Medical Services transferred from late Board of Guardians.**

(See Special Section).

(g) **Mental Deficiency.**

(See Special Section).

(h) **Maternity and Child Welfare Services.**

(See Special Section).

(i) **Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Infants and Homeless Children.**

(See Report for 1930).

(j) **Prevention of Blindness.**

The Corporation gives a substantial grant to the Voluntary Society for the Blind, which is carrying out an ever increasing most admirable and beneficent work, *e.g.*, maintenance of subsistence allowance up to 22/6 per week for each blind person, obtaining and keeping suitable work, general and special treatment in local hospitals and national institutions.

By a declaration under the Local Government Act of 1929, the Voluntary Committee now deals with blind persons and sighted "dependents" requiring out-relief from the Public Assistance Committee.

The Public Health Committee has also authorised the Honorary Medical Officer, Dr. Lowe, to complete the Special Medical Certificate of the Board of Education and the Ministry of Health in respect of all new cases.

**(k) Rag, Flock Aots, 1911, 1922.**

The amount of flock is comparatively small in amount, clean and used in re-making mattresses and general upholstery. The premises are all in a satisfactory condition and under the regular supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors.

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