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#### **Contributors**

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# BOROUGH OF LYDD

KENT

APPNUAL REPORTS OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

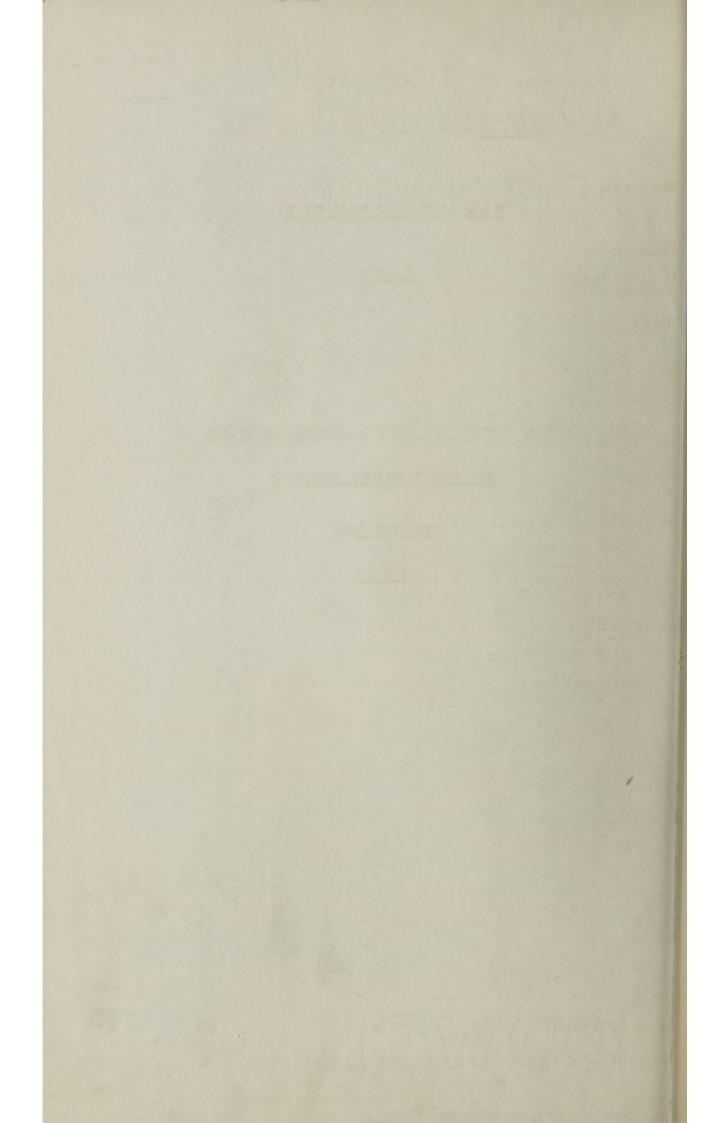
AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1957



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# BOROUGH OF LYDD (KENT)

#### ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1957

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1957.

#### Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year Home Population was 3,070 which was 50 less than in 1956.

#### Births and Birth Rate

The number of live births was 67 (33 male, 34 female), which was 26 more than the previous year, and more than a 50% (actually 63%) increase; as only 8 of those births were in Lydd Camp Married Quarters, the increase was predominantly amongst the mothers resident in the Borough.

The crude birth rate of 21.50 was accordingly high compared with that of 16.1 for England and Wales. When the crude rate is adjusted by the Registrar General's Comparability Factor, which provides comparison with other Districts on the basis of a standardised population, the adjusted rate of 26.2 live births per 1,000 resident population becomes still higher.

#### Stillbirths and Stillbirth Rate

Three male stillbirths were registered, giving a rate of 42.8 compared with that of 22.4 for England and Wales. In general terms, there are unavoidable and avoidable stillbirths. To reduce the latter to nil, adequate ante-natal and obstetric care are essential.

#### Infant Deaths and Infantile Mortality Rate

Two infant deaths were registered; these were due to:-

- (i) Asphyxia, due to the inhalation of a feed.
- (ii) Pulmonary syndrome of the new-born.

The infantile mortality rate was accordingly 29.8 per 1,000 live births, compared with that of 23 for England and Wales.

(It should be noted that all the afore-going figures are too small for equable statistical comparisons).

#### Maternal Mortality

There were no maternal deaths and the maternal mortality was accordingly nil.

At the beginning of the Century the maternal mortality rate was 5 per 1,000 total (live and still) births throughout the Country; now the rate is under 1, and there are approximately 500 maternal deaths during each year, many of which are avoidable.

Toxaemia of pregnancy is the principal cause of these deaths, and is also a major cause of stillbirths and of infant deaths within the first week from birth. Many of these deaths could be avoided by early diagnosis and treatment. It is essential, therefore, that each expectant mother should have an adequate number of ante-natal examinations.

#### Deaths and Death Rate

The total number of deaths from all causes was 31 (20 male, 11 female) and the crude death rate was 10.10 per 1,000 resident population. When the Registrar General's comparability factor is applied the adjusted rate becomes 12,

- 2 -

which was slightly higher than that of 11.5 for England and Wales.

The chief cause of deaths was Heart Disease. These were mostly amongst the aged.

Disease of the coronary artery of the Heart caused 5 of those deaths, and is the principal heart disease which causes deaths in middle-age. Two of those who died were aged 53 and 56 years; the other ages were 73, 73 and 82 years. The causation of coronary disease is still obscure, but it is thought that continuous stress and excessive smoking are contributory factors.

Cancer, as expected, caused the second highest number of deaths, a total of 6 or 1%.

Cancer of the Lung caused one death, in a male aged 68 years. The Borough is free from gross atmospheric pollution, which together with excessive smoking, is thought to be a contributory cause.

There was no death from the Infectious Diseases per se. Modern medical science, both in the fields of prevention and treatment, has virtually conquered the more serious infections.

#### Infectious Diseases

#### Whooping Cough

An outbreak of this disease occurred during the year, 56 cases having been notified. Although it is a very distressing illness to the child, it is not dangerous to life, unless broncho-pneumonia, its chief complication, supervenes; this is particularly dangerous in infants and can advance rapidly within 24 hours. Also in infants, the excessive secretion of catarrh may obstruct the bronchi and cause collapse of part of the lung. It is therefore advisable to shield infants from infection as far as is practicable.

It is hoped that the modern vaccines, which are now available at the Child Welfare Centres, in additional to those available through the family Doctor, will effectively protect those inoculated.

#### Measles

An outbreak of this disease also occurred, 149 rases having been notified. Fortunately, it is not a lethal disease by itself, as it is so highly infectious, and spreads rapidly through class-rooms. It is only dangerous when broncho-pneumonia occurs, particularly in infants, as with Whooping Cough. Treatment, however, with the modern anti-biotics is usually successful, unless the disease is too far advanced.

No vaccine for protection has yet been produced, but passive protection may be given with Gamma globulin; this however is only of practical value when a child is suffering from another serious illness and has been exposed to measles infection; if given within 5 days from infection, it will usually prevent the onset of measles and if given within several days later, it may moderate the attack.

#### Poliomyelitis

One isolated case of non-paralytic Poliomyelitis was notified. The patient was a boy aged 2 years and he was discharged from Hospital in normal health. There were no related or secondary cases.

There is firm ground for hope that vaccination will prevent the onset of the disease or of paralyses. Vaccination of children between the ages of 6 months and 15 years and also of expectant mothers, with British, Canadian and American vaccines has been proceeding as supplies of the vaccines have become available.

#### Scarlet Fever

disease and most cases are treated at home. The most common complication today is Otitis Media; formerly Acute Nephritis and Endocarditis were common, but these are now rare. Modern treatment with Sulphonamides or Antibiotics is specific; antitoxin treatment is rarely indicated.

#### Food Poisoning

An outbreak of food poisoning, effecting 189 holiday-makers, occurred in a Holiday Camp.

Clinically, the outbreak was typical of food poisoning caused by the toxin of the staphylococcus bacterium.

Dinner was served at 6-30 p.m. and between 11 p.m. and 12 a.m., a number of those affected complained of the sudden onset of vomiting, diarrhoea and abdominal pains. All the 189 persons involved became ill before 1 a.m. with these signs and symptoms, some slightly, others moderately severely. All the patients gradually recovered during the following 24 - 48 hours.

Specimens of food left over from the meal were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, but no pathogenic bacteria were isolated.

The noses and throats of all those engaged in the handling and preparation of food were swabbed and also folliculitis present on the face of the Chief Cook - none of the others had skin lesions.

Staphylococci were isolated from the nose swab and from the swab of the facial folliculitis of the Chief Cook and from the nose swabs of five others of the Canteen staff. Arrangements were made for treatment by their Practitioners, and all subsequently had negative swabs.

It is probable that these Staphylococci were the source of the outbreak, or it is possible that the toxin which is not destroyed by cooking, may have been pre-formed in one of the articles of the food which included, soup, roast pork, and custard, before delivery to the Camp.

#### Asian Influenza

The virus of this illness spread from China/Japan throughout the world and reached this Country early in the Autumn, which is an unusual season for an outbreak of Influenza.

The virus was identified locally by the Public Health Laboratory as Asian A/England/527/57.

As the disease was not notifiable it is unknown how many people suffered from the illness, but it is known that the infection was wide-spread throughout the area.

The illness, by itself, was not serious. Usually it began with a high temperature, which gradually declined to normal about the 5th day. The site of the infection was the upper respiratory tract, and acute tracheitis, with a severe cough was common. Incapacity for 7 to 14 days was the average time.

The chief danger from the disease was Pneumonia, from which there was one death in the Borough. The patient was overcome by an overwhelming infection of Staphylococcus aurens which caused sloughing of the trachea and bronchi and multiple abscess formation in the lung tissue. The Asian A virus was isolated from a throat swab and the staphylococci from post-mortem specimens.

The outbreak gradually declined before the onset of the winter months and although there were subsequent sporadic cases, no second wave of the epidemic occurred, as was anticipated.

#### Tuberculosis

One new case of Respiratory Tuberculosis was notified during the year, and the source of infection was unknown. There is no reservoir of infection in the Borough, as has been shown from the reports of the Mass Radiography Service.

There were no deaths. There were no non-respiratory cases, which is an index of the safety of the milk and meat supplies.

A new era in the history of this disease has now been reached, after a prolonged uphill struggle by medical and public health science against the bacillus for which there is modern specific treatment, if the pathology is not too far advanced. There are now no waiting lists for Sanatoria and many patients are being treated at home.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for your interest and assistance in the work of the department and also the staff for their efficient co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. MARSHALL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

#### SECTION A.

#### STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

#### FOR 1957

Area:- 11,932 acres.

Registrar-General's Estimate of the Resident Population	į	 	3,070
Number of Inhabited Houses According to the Rate Books	·	 	1,045
Rateable Value		 	£42,515
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate		 	£165

#### Social Conditions

Lydd is a very ancient and historical Borough being mentioned in Saxon Charters from 740 onwards and is a limb of the Cinque Ports. It is predominately agricultural being chiefly concerned in sheep and cattle raising and arable farming. There are also extensive beach quarrying and crushing plants within the District. Of the Sub-Districts, Dungeness is devoted to the fishing industry and Greatstone, where there is a large holiday camp, and Lydd-on-Sea cater chiefly for holiday-makers. Lydd Camp is a permanent Depot for the Brigade of Guards, and there are extensive Antitank and Mortar Ranges to the South of the Camp providing permanent employment for a number of civilians. Lydd Airport, owned and used by a private enterprise company, and situated to the N.E. of the town, continues to expand. This establishment provides employment for many local residents, as well as for residents of surrounding areas, and the local authority has provided housing accommodation for some of the permanent staff. Community life in the town is very much in evidence. There is almost no unemployment, and social conditions are generally satisfactory.

# EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

			200	P		Lydd Borough	England and Wales
		Total	М.	F.			
1.	Live Births	67	33	34	Birth Rate per 1,000	21.50 (Adjusted	16.1
	(a) Legitimate	66	32	34	estimated resident	Rate 26.2)	
	(b) Illegitimate	1	1	- Unit	population		Registr
2.	Stillbirths	3	3	-	Rate per 1,000 total	42.86	22.4
	(a) Legitinate	3	3	0.73	(live and still)		
	(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-	births		
3.	Deaths	31	20	11	Death rate per 1,000 resident population	10.10 (Adjusted Rate 12)	11.5
4.	Deaths from Pregnanc Childbirth or Abortion.	у,		-	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births.	- motations	Not available
5.	Deaths of Infants un One Year of Age (a) Legitimate	der 2	2	tohis			
	(b) Illegitimate Infant mortality rat Rate re legitimate i Rate re illegitimate	nfants	- 000 live	births		29.85 30.30	23.0
6.	Deaths from Cancer ( Deaths from Measles Deaths from Whooping Deaths from Gastrit:	(all age Cough (	s) all ages)	Diarrh	oea	6	
	The following cases	of Infec	tious Di	seases	were notified	during the	year.

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year.

Whooping Cough	 	 56
Acute Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia	 	 21
Measles	 	 149
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	 	 1
Food Poisoning	 	 189
Scarlet Fever ··· ··	 	 3

# CAUSES OF DEATH IN LYDD BOROUGH

# DURING 1957

		*****						
	ALL CAUSES						Males	Females
	ALL VAUDES						20	11
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory						-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other							-
3.	Syphilitic disease						- 15	-
4.	Diphtheria						1	-
5.	Whooping Cough						- 6	-
6.	Meningococcal infections						-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis						2 1	-
8.	Measles						-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic di	seases	В				20	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach						1	-
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronch	us				100	1	1 - 2 1
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast						-	-
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus						1 -	12-
14.	Othe malignant and lymphatic neo	plasm					1	3
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia						-	-
16.	Diabetes						-	-
17.	Vascualr lesions of nervous syst	em					-	1
18.	Coronary disease, angina					De l	3	2
19.	Hypertension with heart diease						1	1
20.	Other heart disease						4	2
21.	Other circulatory disease						-	-
22.	Influenza			• • • •			1 -	1
23.	Pneumonia						1	-
24.	Bronchitis						J	-
25.	Other disease of respiratory sys	tem	• • • •				1.2	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum						-	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrho	ea				1	-	-
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	•••	•••		•••		1	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate						1	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	• • • •		•••	•••		-	-
31.	Congenital malformations			•••	•••		-	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined di	seases	3			1	2	-
33.	Motor vehicle accidents						-	-
34.	All other accidents					-	2	-
35.	Suicide		•••		•••	-	2	-
36.	Homicide and operations of war		•••	•••			- 1	-
1								

# TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality 1957

		1						
	17	1						200
ster	rato	Pri	4					
Total Cases on Register	Non Respiratory							Wangs.
n R	Non	H.	2					
0 88	P							
Case	ator	14	4					
187	Respiratory							nmo!
Tot	Res	M.	9					
	- 1							
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	5							on no de
	Non- Respiratory	E.	11	11	11	1 11 1	1	emi
	-t spir	-						an accord
601	Non- Resp	M.	1001	1 1	4001	1 - 1	1	Post
Deaths			414		-111			1
Al	ry							
	rate	P4	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1	LOVE
	Respiratory					7.11		mak
	Re	×.	1 1	1 1		1 1	-	EE 024
					1-1			1
								00,000
	cory	r Est				1.1	1	
	ire				1, 1			
New Cases	Non- Respirator	·	1.1	1 1	1.1	1 1	1 -	1
Ca	24							-
Ne	P							to boa
	ttor	124	11	111	111.1	12.1	1	
	Respiratory				1	***		54
	Res	×	11	11	1 - 1	41.1	1	todo d
		7					63	LINE OF
(0)							and upwards	Total
iod							I up	To
Per			: :	: :	1	:::	and	
Age Feriods			. 0 -	10 10	35	10 10	65	
				10 10	35 55	55 55	0	

not been notified There were no deaths from Tuberculosis of patients who had

as suffering from that disease.

# Immunisation against Diphtheria and Vaccination against Smallpox, 1957

The following is a return of (A) the number of children who were immunised against Diphtheria and (B) the number of persons who were vaccinated against Smallpox, during the year ended 31st December, 1957.

# (A) DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Year of Birth	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957		Total
Primary Inoculations	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	2	5	24	3		37
Re-inforcing Inoculations	-	-	-	1	-	22	-	-	4	18	-	-	-	-	-		45
(B) VACCINATION	N															Before M1943	
Primary Vaccination	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	1	4	14	28	3	54
Re- Vaccination	e <del>t</del> ari	03-3	1-	1	-	-	-	-	09-1	on-	-	-	P-1	DI-0	-	2	3

## Immunisation against Diphtheria, 1957

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

Year of Birth	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	Total
Last complete cou of injections (whether primary or booster)	rse															
1953 - 1957	24	11	6	19	8	49	43	36	38	36	47	42	41	26	3	429
1952 or earlier	22	20	23	25	33	9	7	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-0	165

# Poliomyelitis Vaccination, 1957

The following table gives the numbers of children who received a course of two injections against poliomyelitis during the year ended 31st December, 1957.

Born	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	Total
	15	18	15	12	8	2	8	6	-	-	1	85

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### 1. Water Supply

The Folkestone and District Water Company supplies the Borough from shallow wells sunk in the shingle and sand of the Denge Marsh and the supply has been adequate. Quarterly samples of water have been satisfactory quality and adequate in quantity.

No new mains have been laid within the Borough during the year and the proportion of dwellings in the Borough with mains water supply continues to be in the region of 98%

#### 2. Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The sewerage system for the post war housing estate which also serves a small number of adjacent properties continues to operate satisfactorily. The disposal works including the two sludge beds constructed during the previous year continues to operate satisfactorily. No enlargement of the works or of the sewerage system were effected during the year.

#### 3. Refuse Collection and Disposal

A weekly "back-door" collection of refuse operated throughout the year for both domestic and trade refuse and in addition extra weekly collections were undertaken during the Holiday Season from a large Holiday Camp, Lydd (Ferryfield) Airport, and the large Military Camp within the Borough.

Refuse is disposed of at the Council's tip by Denge Marsh Road within the Borough. The work of levelling and covering the tipping area was carried out by the Council's labour together with the periodic use of hired earth moving equipment. During the year the salvage of light ferrous scrap was undertaken where practicable and this was collected at appropriate times by a private firm. Besides providing a small additional revenue to the Council the removal of tins etc., from the tip conserved tipping space, covering material, and time.

#### HOUSING.

Four new houses were completed during the year. Since the war a total of 122 houses have been built by the Council.

During the year it was decided that the Council's prefabricated aluminium bungalows should be demolished and permanent buildings erected on the sites. It was further decided that semi-detached two storey flats would be the most expeditious and economic dwellings to be erected on the sites of the demolished prefabs. Work was commenced during the year on the project, six prefabs were demolished, the sites cleared and work commenced on two blocks of four flats each. The Ministry agreed to pay the full subsidy on flats built for rehousing of prefab tenants.

(a) Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health and Housing Acts	10
Number of houses found to be in any respect unfit for human habitation	10
Number of houses found to be unfit for human habitation and incapable of repair at reasonable expense	1
Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied by informal action	9
Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice	-

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	25 20
Number of houses demolished:-  by the Owner of his own accord  by the Council - aluminium prefabs	1 6
Number of houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936	1
Number of dwelling houses reconditioned and undertakings cancelled	-
(b) Improvements and Conversions	
Six applications for improvement grants were made and all were app The gross cost of the whole of the works undertaken was £2,278/14/2 cos works eligible for improvement grants was £1,940/9/3 and the total amou grants was £620. The improvements in the main consisted of the provis bathrooms, hot water systems, drainage, and the prevention of inherent	ts of nt of ion of
(c) Proposals submitted for dealing with unfit houses in slum clearance	e plans
The Council intend to continue their present policy of dealing wit individual unfit houses as they arise.	
investigations were carried out by a private firm at Dungeness on behalthe Central Electricity Generating Board to ascertain whether the site be suitable for one of the Boards Nuclear Generating Stations. It is appreciated that if such a project were to be proceeded with a consider extension of the Council's refuse collection, housing, and other service may have to be made both during construction and after the power station into operation.  INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD	would able
Milk Supplies	
(a) Milk and Daries Regulations, 1949 (Part 111)  No. of registered distributors 6  No. of registered daries 1	
(b) Licences granted under Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949 excluding licences granted by Food and Drugs Authorities in relation of milk pasteurised and sterilised on the premises of the applicant	
<u>Dealers</u> <u>Suppler</u>	mentary
Fasteurised 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Loca e
(c) Milk Sampling Samples taken No. of unset	
Pasteurised 14 Ni Tuberculin Tested (Raw) None on sale no samples tak Sterilised None on sale no samples tak Accredited None on sale no samples tak	il cen

1.

Biological examination of Raw Milk - No raw milk sold - no samples taken for biological examination.

## 2. Food Premises

Regular inspection of these premises was made during the year and conditions were found to be generally satisfactory. Several improvements were effected by informal action.

#### 3. Ice Cream

All ice cream sold in the Borough is prewrapped and arrangements for storage and sale are satisfactory.

## MEAT INSPECTION

#### Carcases Inspected and Condemned

					-
to entervent out to retained the	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed		tioned of h	maln Tab	1.11	5
Number inspected	- 00 / 73	yaciz na a	marca del	1	5
All diseases except Tuberculosis	discount of the		In the	THE IN	wat
Whole carcases condemned	E Board to	the loud	to sho to	Leginson	ada ad
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	e Leo Lice de la constante de	the project	parce odl	To notabeu	opto or
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	a -	u kortok	- 100	(Part ) ( head)	on the
Tuberculosis only				Supplied	MIE .
Whole carcases condemned	each most	alogal so	pied Tone a	EES (0)	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Partid Detroit	D tomorals	Ho. of re	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	Taxas Super Paradous in	a modern	10S 700	-

#### General.

The export of beef in quarters to the Continent by air, carried out on a considerable scale from Ferryfield Airport during the off seasons for passengers, operated satisfactorily with only one exception when one plane load consisting of 74 quarters of beef was returned from Le Touquet because the meat had not, by an oversight at the time of slaughter, been stamped as inspected at the place of origin although the certificates were otherwise in order. This meat was not unloaded at Le Touquet and the plane immediately returned. The meat was returned to its place of origin.

## FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

Inspections for purposes of provision as to health (including inspection by Public Health Inspector).

		Nu	mber of	
Premises (1)	Number on Reg- ister (2)	Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	6	-	-
Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	11	11	-	-
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	_	_	_	-
Total	17	17	-	1 -

# Cases in which defects were found.

	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which
Particulars	Found	Remedied	To H.M.	By H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions were Instituted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
nt of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
ercrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
reasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
adequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
effective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
nitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient (b) Unsuitable or	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective (c) Not separate for sexes	-	-		-	
her offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	_	-
Total	-	-	-	-	_