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BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR

1936.

W. J. BANNISTER, M.D., D.P.H.








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HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.



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Printers :

"The East Kent Times," Ltd.,
85, High Street, Ramsgate.

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

HEALTH COMMITTEE. (1936-37).

Chairman: Councillor T. H. PRESTEDGE.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor W. F. SAULL.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR	Councillor W. HAWKINS.
(Alderman H. Stead, J.P.).	„ Mrs. H. L. NICHOLSON.
Alderman Mrs. F. L. DUNN, J.P.	„ A. E. PETLEY.
„ C. NIXON.	„ P. SOLLY.
Councillor S. E. AUSTIN.	„ Miss M. A. WILSON.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE STANDING SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman: Alderman Mrs. F. L. DUNN, J.P.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR	Councillor W. F. SAULL.
(Alderman H. Stead J.P.).	„ P. SOLLY.
Councillor W. HAWKINS.	Mrs. CRESSWELL.
„ Mrs. H. L. NICHOLSON.	Mrs. DEVESON.
„ T. H. PRESTEDGE.	Mrs. HORSLEY.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Chairman: HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (Alderman H. Stead, J.P.).

Vice-Chairman: Alderman Mrs. F. L. DUNN, J.P.

Alderman E. E. DYE.	Councillor Miss M. A. WILSON.
„ W. T. SMITH.	Mrs. M. L. EVANS.
Councillor R. J. MALLAM.	Rev. A. E. GOULD.
„ T. W. MOCKRIDGE.	Rev. Fr. N. LAPWORTH.
„ W. T. PETERS.	Rev. RODRIGUES-PEREIRA.
„ W. F. SAULL.	Mr. W. A. DAVIES.
„ P. SOLLY.	

To His Worship the Mayor, the Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Ramsgate.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit my Annual Report for 1936, prepared in accordance with Circular 1561 of the Ministry of Health, on the vital statistics and sanitary conditions of the Borough and on the work of the Health Department.

The statistics for the year on the whole compare favourably with those for the rest of the country and the low incidence of infectious disease which has obtained in the Borough in recent years continued.

The basis for the calculation of the statistics is the estimate of the population of the Borough by the Registrar-General, and for mid-year this is given as 34,600—an increase of 230 since mid-year 1935.

The birth rate for the year was 14.30 per 1,000, comparing with a rate of 14.8 for England and Wales and with 13.85 for the Borough in 1935.

The death rate for the year was 11.37, comparing with a rate of 12.1 for England and Wales and with 11.48 for the Borough in 1935.

The infant mortality rate, which shows the relation between the number of deaths of infants under one year of age and the actual number of live births, was 60.60, comparing with a rate of 59 for England and Wales.

The Report records the various activities during the year in reference to the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases, maternity and child welfare work, general sanitary administration, etc., and the summary of the housing and overcrowding statistics gives some indication of the large amount of work carried out in this connection in 1936.

I would thank the Chairmen and Members of the Council for support during the year and would acknowledge the assistance of members of the medical profession and the loyal co-operation of the Staff of the Department.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. J. BANNISTER,

Medical Officer of Health and
School Medical Officer.

Health Office,
26, Albion Place,
Ramsgate.

May, 1937.

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Staff of Health Department

1936-37.

*Medical Officer of Health,
School Medical Officer and Bacteriologist :*

W. J. BANNISTER, M.D., B.S., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

E. YOUNG, Assoc. R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Cert. Meat Inspector, R.S.I.

Sanitary Inspectors :

T. MARTIN, Assoc. R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Cert. Meat Inspector, R.S.I.

F. BROWN, Assoc. R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Cert. Meat Inspector, R.S.A., of Scotland.

Health Visitors :

*Miss CLARK.

*Miss W. CARPENTER.

Miss A. ASHWELL.

Miss R. HOWELLS.

*Certificated Midwife, Central Midwives Board.

Clerks :

J. S. ROBERTSON.

R. IMPETT.



BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

1.—General Statistics.

Area of the Borough in acres ...	...	...	...	4,778
Population—Census, 1931 ...	...	...	...	33,603
Estimated (Registrar-General) mid-year, 1936				34,600
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1936) according to				
Rate Books ...	...	...	...	9,450
Rateable Value ...	...	...	...	£247,080
Sum represented by a penny rate ...	...	...	...	£947
Rainfall, 1936 .....	...	...	...	26.30 ins.
Sunshine, 1936 ...	...	...	...	1580.9 hrs.

2.—Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year 1936

		Total.	Males.	Females.	
Live	{ Legitimate	464	233	231	Birth Rate 14.30
Births	{ Illegitimate	31	18	13	
Still-	{ Legitimate	12	4	8	Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) Births - 14.68
Births	{ Illegitimate	1	—	1	
Deaths		463	221	242	Death Rate (corrected) 11.37

Deaths from puerperal causes :—

Puerperal Sepsis ...	...	...	...	Nil
Other puerperal causes ...	...	...	...	1

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :

All infants per 1,000 live births ...	60.60
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	62.5
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	32.25

Deaths from Measles, all ages ... Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough, all ages ... 4

Deaths from Diarrhoea, under 2 years of age ... 4

The following table has been drawn up to render possible a comparison as regards Vital Statistics for 1936, between England and Wales as a whole, etc., and Ramsgate.

	England and Wales	122 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.	143 smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Administrative County.	RAMSGATE.
	Rates per 1,000 Population.				
<i>Births:—</i>					
Live	14.8	14.9	15.0	13.6	14.30
Still	0.61	0.67	0.64	0.53	0.37
<i>Deaths:—</i>					
All Causes	12.1	12.3	11.5	12.5	11.37
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.02
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.07	0.09	0.04	0.14	—
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	—
Whooping Cough	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.06	0.11
Diphtheria	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.05	0.11
Influenza	0.14	0.14	0.15	0.14	0.25
Violence	0.52	0.45	0.39	0.52	0.57
<i>Notifications:—</i>					
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	2.53	2.18	2.48	2.57	1.30
Diphtheria	1.39	1.31	1.26	1.69	1.09
Enteric Fever	0.06	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.02
Erysipelas	0.40	0.38	0.35	0.44	0.23
Pneumonia	1.11	1.10	0.96	0.99	1.30
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births,				
Deaths under 1 year of age	59	63	55	66	60.60
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.9	8.2	3.4	14.4	8.08
<i>Maternal Mortality:—</i>					
Puerperal Sepsis	1.40	Not available			—
Others	2.41				2.02
Total	3.81				2.02
	Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)				
<i>Maternal Mortality:—</i>					
Puerperal Sepsis	1.34	Not available			—
Others	2.31				1.96
Total	3.65				1.96
<i>Notifications:—</i>					
Puerperal Fever... ..	3.27	3.46	2.80	3.03	3.93
Puerperal Pyrexia	9.64	9.52	7.57	11.15	1.96



BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

Physical Features and General Character of the District.

The Borough of Ramsgate, situated in the most favoured position in the Isle of Thanet, has a south aspect. It covers an area of 4,778 acres, and is roughly triangular in shape, having the sea along the whole of its base, which extends from the adjoining district of Broadstairs on the north-east to the Borough boundary west of Pegwell. With the exception of a small area near the Royal Harbour, the Borough may be said to stand on high ground with a fine outlook on the sea, and views of the Kent coastline and hills towards the South Foreland. The many natural advantages include a subsoil of chalk, comparative freedom from rain and fog, abundant sunshine, an equable temperature, and some protection from north and east winds. A large expanse of particularly fine sand covers most of the foreshore. Ramsgate, consequently, has long been famous as a health resort and residential town. With the exception of the various activities in connection with the fishing industry and some minor industries, the inhabitants are chiefly occupied in catering for the wants and pleasures of residents and a large number of visitors during the season. The low rainfall, much bright sunshine, and breezes from the open sea render Ramsgate an ideal place for recuperation for those run down in health. The natural advantages and amenities of the town render it a favourable place of residence for persons retiring from active life, and induce a certain number of parents to take up their permanent residence here with the object of restoring their delicate children to robust health.

For administrative purposes the Borough is divided into eight wards: East Central, East Cliff, West Central, West Cliff, Southwood, St. Lawrence, Northwood, and Sir Moses Montefiore.

Meteorology.

The following tables give information in reference to some of the meteorological observations made in the Borough:—

The Borough Surveyor has kindly furnished records of sunshine, rainfall and temperature.

SUNSHINE, 1936.

Month.	Total Sunshine in hours.	Daily Average in hours.
January ...	35.7	1.15
February ...	96.4	3.32
March ...	123.2	3.97
April ...	140.9	4.70
May ...	194.0	6.26
June ...	232.9	7.76
July ...	206.3	6.65
August ...	183.6	5.92
September ...	116.7	3.89
October ...	127.4	4.11
November ...	41.7	1.39
December ...	82.1	2.65
Total ...	1580.9	

RAINFALL, 1936.

Month.	Total in inches.	Greatest Fall in 24 hours.	No. of Days with 0.01 inches or more.
January ...	2.99	0.40 on 16th	22
February ...	2.16	0.57 on 17th	18
March ...	0.88	0.16 on 3rd	15
April ...	1.13	0.31 on 20th	12
May ...	0.20	0.15 on 31st	4
June ...	3.26	0.96 on 28th	16
July ...	3.68	0.83 on 14th	22
August ...	1.31	0.98 on 10th	7
September ...	3.50	0.79 on 20th	19
October ...	2.02	0.39 on 6th	18
November ...	3.44	0.60 on 8th	16
December ...	1.73	0.39 on 8th	15
Total ..	26.30		

MEAN TEMPERATURE, 1936.

	Deg.		Deg.
January ...	42.6	July ...	61.5
February ...	39.1	August ...	63.5
March ...	45.2	September ...	60.6
April ...	45.1	October ...	51.5
May ...	52.2	November ...	45.7
June ...	60.1	December ...	42.8

Lowest Mean Temperature, 26 degrees on 11th February
 Highest Mean Temperature, 80 degrees on 30th August.

Population.

The Registrar-General estimates that the population of the Borough at mid-year 1936 was 34,600, on which figure the statistics for the year have been based, which shows an increase of 230 in the population as compared with 1935.

In 1936 the number of births exceeded the number of deaths by 32.

Births.

The number of births registered for the Borough during the year was 495, girls 251, boys 244; the birth rate for the year was therefore 14.30 per 1,000 as compared with the rate of 13.85 in 1935 and 12.60 in 1934. Of the total number of births, 31 were illegitimate children, a percentage of 6.2 as compared with 5.2 in 1935. Thirteen stillbirths were registered during the year, four males and eight females legitimate, and one female illegitimate.

Deaths.

The number of deaths registered in the Borough during the year was 383; of these 24 were non-residents and must be deducted; 104 deaths of residents occurred outside the Borough, and these must be added. The net number of deaths of residents was consequently 463, 221 males and 242 females, giving a net death rate of 13.38 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with a rate of 13.50 in 1935 and 12.24 in 1934.

Census returns have shown that as regards age and sex distribution the population of Ramsgate differs greatly from that of the country as a whole, and in order to allow and equalise for this the crude death rate must be multiplied by the Areal Comparability Factor supplied by the Registrar-General. The corrected death rate for 1936 for the Borough is, therefore, 11.37 per 1,000 as compared with a rate of 11.48 in 1935 and with a rate of 12.1 per 1,000 for England and Wales.

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 30, giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 60.60 per 1,000 live births as compared with a rate of 40.16 in 1935 and 56.87 in 1934.

Of the infants under one year of age who died, one was illegitimate, and as the births of 31 illegitimate children were registered during the year, the mortality rate amongst illegitimate infants was 32.25 per 1,000 illegitimate live births.

The causes of and ages at death are given in the Mortality and Infant Mortality Tables which follow.

Inquests.

Inquests were held by the Coroner for the district as to the causes of death of 18 persons who died in the Borough during the year; of these three were non-residents.

SUICIDES	...	...	...	7	ACCIDENTS	...	...	...	11
Poisoning by Coal Gas	..	..	..	2	Injury	..	..	..	9
Hanging	..	..	..	2	Tetanus	..	..	..	1
Poisoning	..	..	..	1	Misadventure	..	..	..	1
Drowning	..	..	..	1					
Self-inflicted	..	..	..	1					

Uncertified Deaths.

The percentage of uncertified deaths in the Borough during the year still remained high. Twenty-three deaths (21 residents and 2 non-residents) were uncertified in 1936 (6.05 per cent. of total deaths within the Borough) compared with 18 in 1935 (4.4 per cent.) and 10 in 1934 (2.84 per cent.). The number of Inquests held in the Borough during the year was 18, as compared with 31 in 1935 and 20 in 1934.

In the returns of deaths supplied by the local Registrar the following words appear in the column for causes of death in respect of the uncertified deaths, of which the age and sex is given :—

Cause of Death.	Sex.	Age.
"Cerebral Embolism, Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	Male	39 years
"Hæmorrhage from Bronchial Artery, Carcinoma of left Bronchus	Male	57 years
"Heart failure due to old age, Diabetes and Bronchitis "	Female	86 years
"Myocardial degeneration and Arterio-sclerosis ..	Male	71 years
"Acute heart failure due to old age"	Male	69 years
"Probably sudden heart failure due to old age" ..	Female	79 years
"Sudden heart failure due to high blood pressure and cardiac disease	Female	75 years
"Sudden heart failure"	Male	71 years
"Sudden heart failure, Angina Pectoris"	Female	74 years
"Sudden heart failure, Valvular Disease of Heart" ..	Male	66 years
"Acute cardiac failure following Auricular fibrillation "	Female	70 years
"Sudden heart failure due to Coronary arterio-sclerosis"	Male	60 years
"Syncope caused by cardiac denegeration"	Male	64 years
"Senile decay, heart failure"	Female	78 years
"Aortic Aneurism rupture into pericardium, heart failure"	Male	61 years
"Syncope due to myocardial degeneration, Asthma, Chronic Bronchitis	Male	80 years
"Heart failure caused by acute Bronchitis following Chronic Bronchitis"	Male	78 years
"Senile decay—deceased had a paralytic stroke some years ago from which she had never recovered ..	Female	89 years
"Chronic Rheumatic Arthritis, valvular disease of heart"	Female	78 years
"Heart failure due to senile decay and following a slight stroke some 11 months ago"	Male	76 years
"Sudden heart failure following a severe Coronary Thrombosis two years ago"	Male	71 years
"Acute Bronchitis"	Male	51 years
"Heart failure due to myocardial degeneration and old age"	Male	79 years

MORTALITY TABLE.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1936.

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

Cause 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 Institu- tions in the District.
				All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and under 75 years.	75 years and upwards.	
All Causes	Certified	...	...	442	30	5	4	6	8	29	116	84	160	84
	Uncertified	...	...	21	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	5	12	...
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	4	2	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	...	...	...	4	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	3
Influenza	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	2	3	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	1	3	7	4	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	5	...	...	1	...	1	1	1	1	...	1
Syphilis	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	...	64	...	...	...	...	...	3	27	13	21	5
Diabetes	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	6	3
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	38	...	...	...	...	...	1	14	13	10	1
Heart Disease	...	...	...	102	...	...	...	...	...	5	27	23	47	14
Aneurysm	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	15	1	...	...	...	...	...	5	2	7	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	8	17	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	19	3	4	2	...	...	2	2	2	4	9
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	2
Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Appendicitis	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Other diseases of liver, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	1	1	6	5	2	7
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	18	...	...	...	1	1	...	3	6	7	3
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	...	...	...	15	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Senility	...	...	...	33	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	31	...
Suicide	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	...	...	...
Other violence	...	...	...	14	...	...	...	1	...	4	2	3	4	6
Other defined diseases	...	...	...	29	3	...	...	...	...	1	7	6	12	6
Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
				463	30	5	4	6	8	30	119	89	172	84

INFANT MORTALITY, 1936.

Net Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under 1 year of age.

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

Cause of Death.				Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All Causes	Certified	...	...	4	1	2	1	8	10	7	4	1	30
	Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough				...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2
Cervical Adenitis				...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Broncho-Pneumonia				...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Primary Pneumonia				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Gastro Enteritis				...	...	...	...	...	3	...	2	...	5
Congenital Pyloric Stenosis				...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Congenital Syphilis				...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Atelectasis				1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Premature Birth				1	...	1	1	3	1	...	...	...	4
Marasmus				...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	5
Difficult Delivery				1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Defects				...	1	1	...	2	...	1	...	...	3
Intestinal Obstruction				...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Jaundice				1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Convulsions				...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1

Net Births in the year { Legitimate, 464
Illegitimate, 31

Net Deaths in the year { Legitimate Infants 29
Illegitimate Infants, 1

Infectious Diseases.

The following diseases are notifiable in the Borough :—

By the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1899—

Smallpox.	Typhus Fever.	Puerperal Fever.
Scarlet Fever.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.
Diphtheria.	Plague.	Continued Fever.
Enteric Fever.	Relapsing Fever.	

By special Orders of the Ministry of Health—

Tuberculosis (all forms)	Acute Poliomyelitis.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Acute Primary
Encephalitis Lethargica	Malaria.	Pneumonia.
Acute Polioencephalitis	Dysentery.	Acute Influenzal
		Pneumonia.

Information of other infectious diseases which are not compulsorily notifiable, such as Measles, Chickenpox, Whooping Cough, etc., are received from medical practitioners, head teachers and parents. Especially in the case of children when nursing or other assistance can be arranged through the Health Department, the sending of such intimations is encouraged.

Towards the end of the year catarrhal conditions and influenza became more prevalent but there was no undue prevalence of any of the notifiable infectious diseases. The cases notified, ages of patients, etc., are shown in the tables which follow.

Scarlet Fever.

Forty-five cases were notified during the year, of which 43 were removed to the Isolation Hospital; two of the cases were "imported" and there was one "return" case. There was no death from this disease during the year.

htheria.

Of the 38 cases notified during the year, 37 were removed to the Isolation Hospital. Three of these cases died shortly after admission to Hospital, in two instances the obtaining of medical advice was delayed. Another child, whose parents resided within the Borough, contracted and died from the disease outside the Borough during the year.

Diphtheria Antitoxin.

Supplies of Diphtheria Antitoxin are kept at the Health Office and issued to medical practitioners, who can also in emergency or at night time obtain it at the Police Station, where a small stock is kept and replaced as required.

In 1936, a total of 136,000 units of Diphtheria Antitoxin were supplied to local medical practitioners, the total cost to the Council in respect of 48,000 units issued free of cost for use in necessitous cases, in accordance with the Diphtheria Antitoxin Order, was £2 4s. 4d.

The great importance of the administration of antitoxin as early as possible in the disease is continually being stressed in the Borough, and its immediate use by medical practitioners, before swabs are taken or case is admitted to the Isolation Hospital, is advocated.

Enteric Fever.

One case of Typhoid Fever was notified during the year. This case was admitted to the Isolation Hospital and died two weeks after admission. No definite source of the infection could be obtained.

Pneumonia.

Forty-five cases of acute primary or influenzal pneumonia were notified during the year; of the 19 deaths caused by this disease, three were under one year of age, four were between one and two years, two were between two and three years, two between 25 and 35 years, two between 45 and 65 years, and six of persons over 65 years of age.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Three cases were notified during the year. All received medical treatment in their homes, the parents being assisted in carrying out the doctors' instructions by the Health Visitors. In each case vision was unimpaired.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

Two cases of Puerperal Fever and one case of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified during the year. One case of Puerperal Fever was removed to the Isolation Hospital and cases made good recoveries.

Influenza and other Non-notifiable Diseases.

Towards the end of the year Influenza and catarrhal conditions became prevalent and this prevalence greatly increased in the early months of 1937.

Nine deaths were ascribed to Influenza during the year.

Information as to the existence of Measles, Chickenpox, Whooping Cough and Mumps is obtained chiefly through intimations sent by the head teachers, and during the year 208 cases of Measles, 7 cases of Whooping Cough, 44 cases of Chickenpox and 34 cases of Mumps, were intimated by head teachers on the special form provided for the purpose.

Notification of Tuberculosis.

Notification of cases of this disease is carried out in an increasingly satisfactory manner in this Borough, and during the year no deaths occurred from Tuberculosis of persons who had not been notified during life.

Investigations were made as to the possible need for taking action under Article 3 of the P.H. (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, relating to tuberculous employees in the milk trade, but no ground for taking action was found.

No action was taken under Section 62 of the P.H. Act, 1925.

The vaccination Officer for the district has kindly supplied me with the following particulars, which, as regards the number of children unvaccinated, must be considered most unsatisfactory.

Of 544 children due for vaccination in the district, twenty-five were removed and seventeen died unvaccinated. Particulars as to the remaining 502 children are as follows:—

Successfully vaccinated	200
Vaccination postponed	3
Certificates procured by Conscientious Objectors	292
Insusceptible to Vaccination.. .. .	7

The records as to the vaccinal conditions of children examined during the year at routine medical inspections at the public elementary schools in the Borough show that of

616 "Entrants"	274 (44.47 per cent.) were vaccinated
442 "Second age group"	219 (49.54 per cent.) were vaccinated
521 "Third age group"	306 (58.73 per cent.) were vaccinated

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age-Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	5	4	—	—	—	1
5	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
10	1	—	3	1	2	—	—	—
15	1	4	—	—	—	1	—	—
20	3	2	2	1	2	—	1	—
25	6	10	—	—	1	2	—	1
35	4	2	—	—	3	1	—	—
45	4	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
55	1	3	1	—	2	1	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Total	20	23	12	7	10	5	3	2

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases.			Vision un- impaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
Notified.	Treated					
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
3	3	—	3	—	—	—

General Provision of Health Services for the Borough.*Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.*

There are no part-time officers of the Health Department and contributions under Public Health or Exchequer grants are made towards the salaries of the Medical Officer of Health, the Sanitary Inspectors and the Health Visitors.

The staff consists of—

One Medical Officer of Health, who is also School Medical Officer and Borough Bacteriologist .

One Senior Sanitary Inspector, who holds the Meat Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and is Inspector under the Food and Drugs Acts and Officer under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act.

One Sanitary Inspector, who holds the Meat Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

One Sanitary Inspector, who holds the Meat and Other Foods' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Association of Scotland and the Food Hygiene Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Four Health Visitors, two of whom, in addition to being trained Nurses, hold the Certificate of the Central Midwives Board.

Two Clerks.

Two Disinfectors.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

(a) Bacteriological Work.

All the ordinary bacteriological work required in the Borough is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health in the Borough Bacteriological Laboratory at the Health Office.

During the year 1936 the following specimens were examined and reported upon :—

	Total Number examined.	Number positive.
Swabs from noses and throats		
as to the presence of Diphtheria Bacilli	622	47
Sputum—		
as to the presence of Tubercle Bacilli	67	9
Hairs—		
as to the presence of Ringworm Fungus	14	6
Blood—		
as to Widal Reaction	1	—
Pus—		
as to presence of Gonococci	1	1
Other pathological specimens	3	—
Total	708	63

Samples of Water from the public supply are submitted each month for bacteriological examination to the County Laboratory, Maidstone. The results obtained during the year were satisfactory. The reports on two samples taken in June and December, 1936, were as follows :—

Result of Examination.	Sample taken in June.	Sample taken in December.
Number of organisms per c.c. capable of growth on Agar at:—		
37° C.	0	2
22° C.	3	10
B. Coli in 100 c.c.	Absent	Absent

During the year 34 samples of milk were taken for the purpose of bacteriological examination and submitted for analysis at the County Laboratory, Maidstone. Seven of these samples were reported as unsatisfactory.

(b) Chemical Work.

A chemical analysis of water from the public supply is carried out each quarter by the Public Analyst.

The source and consistent good quality of the constant water supply of the Borough has been referred to in detail in previous annual reports.

A sample of water taken in June, 1936, and submitted to chemical analysis at the South Eastern Analytical Laboratory, Canterbury, was reported on as follows:—

Description of Sample.	Parts per 100,000		Grains per gallon.	
	"From Public Supply"			
Appearance	Clear			
Colour	Green-Blue			
Smell	Normal			
Chlorine in Chlorides	28.40		19.880	
Phosphoric Acid in Phosphates	None			
Nitrogen in Nitrates	1.17		0.819	
Ammonia	None			
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0020		0.0014	
Oxygen absorbed in 15 minutes	Trace only			
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours	0.032		0.0224	
Hardness before boiling (total)	20.7		14.49	
Hardness after boiling (permanent)	2.0		1.40	
Total solid matter	86.50		60.55	
Microscopical examination of Deposit	Slight & unimportant			
Chlorine as "Salt"	46.78		32.746	
Metallic Impregnation (Copper, lead, zinc)	None			

REMARKS.—The above results indicate water organically pure and free from sewage percolation.

The microscopical examination is also satisfactory.

The Chlorine in Chlorides, Hardness and total solid matter are all very much higher than in March last.

(Signed) ERNEST M. HAWKINS,

Public Analyst, Borough of Ramsgate.

Ambulance Facilities.

For cases of infectious disease the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital Board provide an up-to-date motor ambulance stationed at the Isolation Hospital.

For non-infectious and accident cases, the motor ambulances and services of the Ramsgate Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade are available. These services proved quite adequate during the year.

Nursing Arrangements.

The Nurses employed by the Ramsgate and St. Lawrence District Nursing Association and the St. George's Parish Nurse carry out the general nursing of patients at their homes in the Borough.

In times of emergency these nurses are assisted in this work by members of the Ramsgate Nursing Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

Home nursing of children suffering from minor infectious diseases, ophthalmia neonatorum, etc., is carried out by the Council's Health Visitors, and in the event of further assistance being required as, for instance, during epidemics of measles, influenza, etc., an arrangement exists by which the Ramsgate and St. Lawrence Nursing Association has agreed to co-operate and provide nursing assistance in the homes for 50 cases in any year, a payment of 2s. 6d. to be made to the Association by the Town Council in respect of each case nursed at the request of the Medical Officer of Health.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.

Provided at Curtis House, Princes Street by the Ramsgate and St. Lawrence Maternity Association and Mothercraft Club, a voluntary body working in co-operation with the Town Council.

These premises have come to be less conveniently situated owing to the direction of development of the Borough and in view of steadily increasing attendance at the Centre and the need for development of the work, including proper provision for dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5 years of age, improved and more centrally situated accommodation is urgently required. Towards the end of the year this matter received consideration, a Special Committee consisting of members of the Maternity and Education Committee was appointed to consider sites, plans and details regarding the provision of a Health Centre.

During the year the Medical Officer of the Centre, a local medical practitioner, conducted clinics at Curtis House as follows:—

Ante-natal clinics, on second and fourth Wednesdays in each month.

Infant Consultation Clinics on Friday afternoons

Consultation Clinics for children, aged 1 to 5 years, on first and third Wednesday in each month.

The Ramsgate Creche, supported by voluntary contributions, is in Hereson Road.

School Clinics.

The School Inspection and Treatment Clinic is provided by the Local Education Authority at the Health Office, and is held on five mornings each week.

The Special Treatment Clinics in connection with the School Medical Service are also conducted at the Health Office, and consist of an Ophthalmic Clinic, a Dental Clinic, and a Clinic at which Scalp Ringworm is treated by means of the Education Authority's X-ray installation.

The accommodation available for the conduction of these Clinics is utilised to the maximum and the provision of improved and more adequate premises is indicated.

By arrangement with the Authorities of the Ramsgate General Hospital, school children are admitted for operative treatment for nose and throat conditions, for the extraction of teeth while under the influence of a general anæsthetic, and for orthopædic treatment.

Tuberculosis Dispensary.

At Charlotte Cottage, Market Place, provided by the Kent County Council, and is open on Wednesdays in each week throughout the year.

Venereal Diseases Treatment Centre.

This is provided by the Kent County Council for the Isle of Thanet at Eton House, St. Peter's Road, Margate, and Clinics for men and women are conducted on Saturdays.

Hospitals.

The Ramsgate General Hospital, West Cliff Road, is a modern institution; additional accommodation was provided in 1925, when a new ward for children was opened and a new annexe for the Nursing Staff was completed in 1927. The new Maternity Ward, containing 20 beds, was opened during 1931.

The accommodation at the Hospital in 1935 was as follows:—

General Medical—8 beds for men; 8 beds for women.

General Surgical—17 beds for men; 17 beds for women.

Private Wards—7 beds for men and women.

Children's Ward (including Observation Ward)—24 beds.

Maternity Ward—20 beds and cots.

In addition to the medical and surgical wards there exist special departments for X-ray and dental work, and a masseuse is employed in connection with the orthopædic department.

The Hospital, which is supported by Voluntary contributions, is for the treatment of the sick poor resident in the Borough and neighbouring districts, and for disabled seamen of all nations brought to the Port of Ramsgate. The Honorary Staff consists of two Physicians, four Surgeons, two Anaesthetists, and a Dental Surgeon. A resident House Surgeon is also employed.

The Hospital recently erected near the centre of the town in connection with the Convent of the Daughters of the Cross is used for delicate boys and for boys suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis. Most of the cases admitted to this Hospital are boys whose parents or guardians reside in districts in or near London.

The Infectious Diseases Hospitals for the Borough are those used in connection with other Local Authorities of the Isle of Thanet and are situate at Haine. There is accommodation for 54 cases of Scarlet Fever in two blocks, each containing 27 beds, one block for cases of Diphtheria, containing 14 beds. In addition there is considered to be accommodation in three huts for eight patients, four beds in a receiving block and the new cubicle block has eight beds.

The Smallpox Hospital is in the same neighbourhood on a separate site, and has two wards each containing eight beds.

The Thanet Institution, under the control of the Public Assistance Committee, is at Minster, some five miles from the centre of the Borough.

Midwives.

Towards the end of the year conferences with representatives of the Kent County Council were held in reference to the administration of this Act in the Borough. The County Council decided to administer the Act within the Borough and consequently an important part of work affecting the welfare of mothers and children will continue to be supervised by an Authority outside the Borough.

At the end of the year twelve certificated midwives were practising in the Borough.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Notification of Births Act.

During the year 545 births were notified; of these 531 were live births and 14 were stillbirths; all births were notified in 1936. Failure to notify births as required by the Act has now become infrequent in this Borough. In the event of failure the attention of the party responsible is drawn to the omission and an explanation is requested.

Of the live births, doctors notified 177, midwives 335, doctors and midwives 19; six of the stillbirths were notified by doctors, and eight by midwives. The number of live births registered for the Borough during the year was 495, giving a birth rate of 14.30 per 1,000 as compared with a rate of 13.85 in 1935.

Scheme for the Provision of Maternity Beds.

On the completion of the Maternity Ward at the Ramsgate General Hospital, which was opened in 1931, the Council entered into an arrangement securing maternity beds for women in necessitous circumstances. The scheme provides for the admission of complicated maternity cases, of cases in which home conditions are unsuitable for confinement, and of pre-natal cases with abnormalities.

Patients eligible for consideration under the scheme must be resident within the Borough, must produce a certificate from a registered medical practitioner as to the suitability of the case, and must sign a form signifying agreement to make payment to the Council in accordance with the scale of fees in force on the date of admission.

During the year arrangements were made under the scheme for the admission of five maternity cases.

Maternal Mortality.

Maternal deaths are investigated by the Medical Officer of Health and confidential reports of each sent to the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health.

Maternity and Infant Welfare Centre.

Previous annual reports described the arrangements made by the Ramsgate and St. Lawrence Maternity Association, working in co-ordination with the Town Council, at their premises, Curtis House, Princes Street.

During the year 50 sessions were held at the Centre on Fridays; on each occasion an infant consultation clinic was conducted by the Medical Officer of the Centre, a local medical practitioner; the number of consultations was 1,235 in connection with 374 individual infants. A consultation clinic for children aged 1 to 5 years was also held, at which 171 individual children were seen by the Medical Officer. The total number of attendances of mothers at the centre was 2,125.

The arrangements in connection with the Ante-Natal Clinic continued and 28 such clinics were held during the year. The number of women who attended and were examined during the year was 63, consisting of 24 primiparæ and 39 multiparæ.

Issue of Milk in Necessitous Cases.

Throughout the year arrangements were in force by which, after investigation as to financial circumstances, necessitous mothers are supplied with milk for themselves or for their infants. Mothers who are granted milk are, as a rule, certified at the Centre to be in need of it for themselves or for their infants, owing to health reasons, by the Medical Officer of the Centre; in other cases certificates are given by the Medical Officer of Health. The total amount of milk supplied during 1936 to expectant and nursing mothers and young children was 131½ gallons of fresh milk and 6,883 pounds of dried milk.

Infant Mortality.

This matter is referred to under Vital Statistics, and from the Table it will be seen that 30 deaths of infants under the age of one year occurred during 1936.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers.

The Thanet Hostel for Unmarried Mothers was closed in 1932, no alternative accommodation has since been provided.

Work of Health Visitors.

Each of the four Health Visitors employed by the Council carries out in the area assigned to her all the health visiting and school work required in that area. This arrangement has proved satisfactory and economical, rendering visits to a home by more than one Health Visitor unnecessary, and also enabling each Nurse to become more familiar with the conditions of the families in her area.

The Health Visitors made 523 first visits to children under one year of age; 898 children under one year of age received a total of 2,256 visits. Children aged one to five years numbered 1,449, to whom 4,472 visits were made, and 223 visits were made to 130 expectant mothers. Except in cases in which visits are not indicated, efforts are made to visit all births which occur in the Borough. Mothers are always invited to attend with their infants at the Maternity and Infant Welfare Centres, at which two of the Council's Health Visitors attend on the days it is open.

Children and Young Persons Act, 1932.

As provided for in Section 2 (a) of the Local Government Act, 1929, the functions formerly discharged as regards the Borough by the Poor Law Authority under Part I of the Children Act, 1908, have been, as from the 1st April, 1930, discharged by the Town Council.

On 1st January, 1933, the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932, came into force, amending the provisions of the Children Act, 1908, and requiring notices to be sent by registered letter or by personal delivery in reference to infants under the age of nine years received for reward.

The four Health Visitors employed by the Council act as Infant Protection Visitors and during the year made 177 visits of inspection to children and as to the conditions of, and arrangements in, the premises in which they are maintained.

At the end of the year 23 persons were maintaining for reward 29 children. Examinations of failure to send notices within the time specified in the Act were requested in five instances.

No legal proceedings for infringement of the Act were instituted during the year.

Orthopædic Treatment.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee of the Town Council participate in the Education Committee's scheme to secure orthopædic treatment for children. Details of the scheme, which was approved by the Ministry of Health and the Board of Education at the end of 1928, were fully stated in the annual report for that year.

Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927.

Since the repeal of the Midwives and Maternity Homes Act, 1926, under which the nursing and maternity homes in the Borough had been supervised by the Kent County Council, all powers and duties under the Act so far as the Borough is concerned have been administered by the Town Council.

One application for re-registration was granted during the year 1936; the number of nursing homes on the register at the end of the year was nine, of which eight were maternity homes.

Legislation in Force.

List of Adoptive Act, Byelaws, etc., in force in the Borough :—

ADOPTED ACTS.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE.

Common Lodging Houses (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 80).
Houses let in Lodgings (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 90).
Cleansing, etc., and Removal of Refuse (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 44).
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. (H.W.C. Act, 1885, Sect. 9 (2)).
Slaughter Houses (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 44).
Prevention of Nuisances (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 44).
Keeping of Animals (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 44).
Offensive Trades (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 113).
New Streets and Buildings (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 157; P.H. Act, 1890, Sect. 23).
Regulations for Underground Rooms—Housing Act, 1935 (Sect. 18 (1)).

PRIVATE ACT.

The Ramsgate Corporation Act, 1922.
Bye-Laws re Covering of Food, etc., under Sect. 77, Ramsgate Corporation Act.

THE PEGWELL BAY (SHELLFISH) REGULATIONS.

These regulations were made by the Minister of Health and came into force on the 1st December, 1925, with a view to the control of the sale and distribution of cockles gathered from the beds at the mouth of the River Stour.

Section three of the Regulations states that

"A person shall not sell, distribute or offer for sale for human consumption any cockles taken from the prescribed area unless and until they have been subjected to a process of sterilisation by steaming under pressure for at least six minutes. The sterilisation shall be carried out either by a sanitary authority or in a manner approved by the medical officer of the district in which the cockles are landed.

The Town Council's Shellfish Station having been discontinued, notice by advertisement in the local press was given that vendors must themselves carry out the sterilisation of cockles by means of steam under pressure and in a manner approved by the Medical Officer of Health.

The Regulations provide that for the purpose and execution and enforcement the Ramsgate Corporation shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the Sanitary Authority in the district of the Sandwich Port Sanitary Authority, in the Urban District of Broadstairs and St. Peter's, and in such parts of the Borough of Sandwich and of the Rural Districts of Eastry and of the Isle of Thanet as are not included within the District of the Sandwich Port Sanitary Authority.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

Public Water Supply.

The consistent good quality of the constant water supply for the Borough and neighbouring villages was maintained throughout the year. The source of the supply is rain, which falls on a large open and sparsely populated agricultural district, the soil of which is a light loam superimposed on the upper chalk strata. After filtration through this it penetrates to the deep chalk, in which it travels through fissures to adits and thence to the Pumping Station at Whitehall, which is situated in the northern outskirts of the Borough.

The supply was quite satisfactory as regards quantity, ample reserves being available although the average daily consumption per head increased to 36.59 gallons as compared with 32.68 gallons in 1935. The work of extending the adits by one mile was completed in 1935 and the length of the adits is now four miles. These are over a mile distant from the sea, and each adit being 8 feet in height and 6 feet in width, extensive reservoirs at a depth from the surface varying from 98 to over 160 feet are thus constituted.

From the Pumping Station the water is pumped to the high level water tower at Southwood, which is an enclosed reservoir 220 feet above sea level and approximately three-quarters of a mile distant. From this reservoir it is distributed by gravitation to all parts of the Borough and neighbouring villages in the Isle of Thanet, the highest point of elevation of which is 182 feet above sea level.

The quantity of water pumped during the year was 508,879,310 gallons, the average amount being 1,390,380 gallons per day. This is approximately 36.59 gallons daily per person.

The quarterly chemical analysis and monthly bacteriological examinations have been referred to previously in this report under "Laboratory Facilities" and examples of results given, these showing that the water is organically pure and free from contamination.

The water softening plant installed in 1935 functioned throughout the year. It is a base-exchange plant by means of which efforts are made to maintain the total hardness of the public supply between 7 and 10 grains per gallons.

During the year water from the public supply was substituted for supply from four of the five deep wells referred to in last year's report as affording evidence of contamination.

A supply of water suitable for human consumption had not been arranged for up to the end of the year by the owner of the remaining well.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Borough has an efficient water carriage system which has the great advantage of simplicity, owing to the fact that the formation of the land rendered it possible to lay sewers so that the sewage flows freely by gravitation from all parts of the town to the sea. Pumping plants, tank sewers, etc., are consequently absent from the system. The sewers, which are ventilated and regularly flushed with water, unite near the Harbour and form the outfall sewer in which the sewage is conveyed to a point over 1,250 feet from the shore. This site was chosen for the outfall many years ago after extensive float experiments had proved that at whatever state of the tide the sewage may be there discharged; it is carried by currents straight out to sea.

Closet Accommodation.

With the exception of 309 houses on the outskirts of the Borough, all houses are connected with the water carriage system, the soil pipes being ventilated and intercepting traps provided.

Water closets with flushing cisterns and connected with the water carriage system are provided for all houses with the exception of the 309 houses mentioned.

Of these, 247 are connected to Cesspools, 55 have pail closets, 2 have chemical closets, 2 have earth closets and 3 have privies.

Manston Cottage Homes and St. Lawrence Extra Schools have a combined septic tank system.

Removal and Disposal of Refuse.

The Corporation collects refuse from all premises in the town; this is conveyed to the four-celled Horsfall Destructor in an outlying portion of the town. This work is carried out by the Works Department and the Borough Engineer has supplied information that 11,553 tons 15 cwts. were collected and dealt with during the year, the average amount each month being 962 tons 16 cwts. In addition, 942 loads of road sweepings and 652 loads of gully mud were collected.

During the year efforts to ensure that all premises shall have impermeable receptacles with movable covers for the deposition of refuse, in accordance with the Byelaws, were continued; inspections of 90 houses showed that none had proper receptacles, and at the end of the year 49 had been provided on preliminary notices being served and one on a statutory notice being served.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The following tabular statement summarises the work carried out during the year by the Inspectors and has been prepared by Mr. E. Young, Senior Sanitary Inspector. The necessary supervision of all work carried out under the various notices served, including some left over from the previous year, made considerable demands on the time of the Inspectors, and the following particulars show the large amount of labour involved in supervising the sanitary conditions of dwelling-houses and other premises in the Borough.

INSPECTIONS.

Under Public Health Acts and other Acts, Regulations and Orders ..	15,720
Of houses, number inspected under H.T.P. Acts, etc.	3,128
Complaints received and investigated	423
Inspections of drainage systems and subsequent revisits	775
Drains tested	277
In connection with infectious diseases	113
Of Bakehouses	66
—Cowsheds	51
—Common Lodging Houses	6
—Caravans	11
—Fish Fryers	44
—Food Shops	179
—Factories, Workshops and Workplaces	127
—Houses let in Lodgings	14
—Ice Cream Vendors	22
—Marine Stores, etc.	14
—Milkshops and Dairies	161
—Merchandise Marks Act	112
—Outworkers	11
—Premises licensed for music and dancing	56
—Premises as to the provision of refuse receptacles	90
—Premises with reference to rat infestation	86
—Repairs and subsequent revisits	324
—Restaurants	57
—Schools	15
—Shipping	9
—Slaughter-houses	1,409
—Stables	22
—Tuberculosis cases	84
—Verminous premises	74
—Shops Act	143
—Miscellaneous	298

NOTICES SERVED, ETC.

Statutory Notices served	1
Preliminary Notices served or Letters written	152
Nuisances abated on Notice or Letter	133
Nuisances abated on Verbal Instructions	234
Complaints received and investigated	423

COMPLAINTS OF NUISANCES RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR.

A record of all complaints is kept at the Health Office, and during the year 423 complaints were received. Of these :

8 were referred to the Borough Surveyor's Department :—

Defective street gully	2
Defective curbing and channels	1
Unpaved passage	1
Choked Sewer	4

1 was referred to the Gas and Water Engineer :—

Waste water	1
-------------------	---

The remaining 414 may be roughly classified as follows :—

Choked drains	30
Smells from drains	8
Refuse dumped	12
Unsound articles of food	37
Dirty houses	4
Damp houses	21
Defective drains and water closets	145
Overcrowding	3
Defective and insufficient water supply	2
Accumulation of manure	5
Defective guttering	2
Rats on premises	33
Leaky roofs	19
Defective stoves, cooking ranges and coppers	9
Improper keeping of animals	3
Offensive refuse receptacles	13
Smoke from chimneys	7
Broken floors and yard surfaces	2
Verminous premises	31
Broken plaster	2
Defective flushing cisterns	8
Miscellaneous	18

All nuisances discovered during the year were abated upon service of informal or statutory notices, no legal proceedings being necessary.

WORK DONE IN CONNECTION WITH DRAINAGE AND HOUSING.

The following defects were remedied and improvements carried out :—

Accumulation of refuse, etc., removed	4
Cesspools or underground rainwater tanks abolished	7
Cesspool drainage abolished and drains connected to sewer	1
Chimney stacks or flues repaired	1
Choked drains cleared	20
Coppers, stoves, and ranges renewed or repaired	15
Drainage (entire new systems)	18
Drains repaired or partly relaid	103
Floors relaid or repaired	10
Flushing cisterns repaired	5
Flushing cisterns provided	33
Fresh air inlet valves renewed or repaired	28
Gully traps fixed	65
Inspection chambers built, chambers rendered, and new covers provided	59
Pedestal closets, closet basins and traps fixed	190
Roofs repaired	34
Rooms cleansed	35
Rainwater pipes or gutters repaired or renewed	15
Rainwater pipes disconnected from the drain	1
Sinks and baths provided	111
Sink waste pipes renewed and trapped	112
Sash cords and window frames renewed	64
Soil and ventilating pipes renewed or repaired	61
Water closets and urinals erected	19
Walls and ceilings repaired	33
Yards paved or existing paving repaired	35
Miscellaneous defects remedied	16

With Respect to Refuse Receptacles.

Houses inspected	90
Number found with suitable receptacles	39
Number found without suitable receptacles	51
Number provided on preliminary notice	50
Number provided on statutory notice	1
Number supplied by Local Authority	—

With Respect to Dirty Houses.

Houses cleansed	11
Rooms cleansed	35
Dirty W.C. basins cleansed	13
Filthy beds or mattresses destroyed	12

With Respect to Water Supply.

Water service pipes repaired or renewed	10
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With Respect to Keeping of Animals.

Removal of animals improperly kept	2
Stable yard and paving repaired	—
Stables cleansed and limewashed	4
Notices, letters or verbal instructions re removal of manure	7

With Respect to Schools.

Sanitary conveniences inspected	15
Nuisances remedied	2

DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES.

(1) Number found to be infested.

(a) Council Houses	30
(b) Other Houses	31

Number of premises disinfested.

(a) Council Houses	30
(b) Other Houses	31

- (2) Methods employed : Fumigation and spraying of rooms by proprietary substance and stoving of bedding.
- (3) Methods employed for ensuring that belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council House : No action during 1936.
- (4) Whether the work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority or by a contractor : Work undertaken by local builders under supervision of the Sanitary Authority.

DISINFECTION.

In connection with cases of Infectious Disease which were removed to the Isle of Thanet Isolation Hospital, Haine, or isolated at home, and other diseases and conditions, the following work was carried out :

Disease or Cause.	Number of Rooms.
Scarlet Fever	67
Diphtheria	58
Tuberculosis	35
Cancer	12
Vermin	15
Other causes	16

Also 497 sets of bedding, clothing, etc., were removed from houses, disinfected at the station and returned. A suitable motor van is used for this purpose. The Corporation's Disinfecting Station, in which is installed a Manlove Alliott Steam Disinfector, is situated in Broad Street.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

Common Lodging Houses.

The number of Common Lodging Houses on the register is three, all situate and adjoining each other in Central Road. The premises have been kept under supervision during the year and six visits of inspection were made. The houses were kept in a clean and satisfactory condition and well conducted; two defects discovered were remedied.

Houses Let in Lodgings.

There were 19 of these houses on the register during 1936, to which 14 visits of inspection were made. No proceedings under the Bye-laws were found necessary and seven defects discovered were remedied.

Slaughter-houses.

There are seven private slaughter-houses in the Borough; of these six are registered and one is licensed.

The Sanitary Inspectors made 1,409 inspections of these premises during the year. These inspections coincided with meat inspections made under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations. The premises were kept in a satisfactory condition and no occasion arose for any action under the Regulations or Bye-Laws.

The position of some of these registered slaughter-houses is most undesirable, being situated in congested areas and directly abutting on to private dwelling-houses; the total abolition of these slaughter-houses would appear to be the only remedy for the unsatisfactory conditions now existing.

During the year four persons were licensed under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, to slaughter or stun animals in a slaughter-house, making a total of 33 persons who hold licences. All animals are stunned by mechanical means, and in two cases electrical stunning apparatus is being used.

Number of Animals Killed.

The number of animals slaughtered in the Borough during the year were :

Beasts	...	...	292
Calves	...	...	377
Pigs	...	...	5025
Sheep	...	...	2177
Total ...			7871

All the beasts, calves, pigs and the majority of the sheep were inspected after slaughter.

Offensive Trades.

The number of offensive trades carried on during the year in the Borough was 29, as follows :—

	Premises.	Inspections.
Fish Fryers	20	44
Marine Store Dealers	7	10
Fat Melters and Bone Boilers ...	2	4

The premises were kept in a satisfactory condition. Minor defects discovered at visits of inspections were remedied promptly. All the fried fish shops in the Borough are fitted with modern fish-frying ranges. During the year, one application to establish the trade of a fish fryer was refused.

One application for Rag Dealer Licence was granted.

*Other Sanitary Conditions.**Sanitary Conditions of Theatres, Music Halls, etc.*

The places of public amusement licensed for public music and dancing in the Borough number 51, and may be classified as follows :

Cinemas and Music Halls	...	...	...	5
Theatres	...	...	...	2
Halls (religious denomination and others)	...	...	...	12
Hotels and Restaurants	...	...	...	16
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	16
				—
				51
				—

These were periodically visited by the Sanitary Inspector during the year and the conditions generally found to be satisfactory. The Sanitary Inspector furnishes a report to the Licensing Justices at the Annual Licensing Meeting as to the sanitary condition, etc., prevailing on the premises, and the report is taken into consideration by them before renewing the licences.

All sanitary defects discovered were remedied upon attention being called to them.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

A considerable amount of work in connection with the destruction of rats and mice was carried out during the year, and 86 inspections of premises were made. During " Rat Week " the usual campaign was undertaken; advertisements were inserted and articles published in two local newspapers calling the attention of the public to their responsibilities under the Act. The proprietors of three cinemas displayed notices at each performance during the week calling the attention of the public to " Rat Week." A large number of poison baits were laid in the sewer headings and special attention was given to premises likely to be harbouring rats and mice, in particular the Corporation's refuse dump. There is no doubt that a large number of rats were destroyed during the campaign.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1936 for the Borough of Ramsgate, on the administration of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, in connection with Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework.

TABLE I.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Premises.	No of Inspections	No. of Written Notices.	Prosecutions
Factories : (including Factory Laundries) ...	46	14	—
Workshops : (including Workshop Laundries)	23	6	—
Workplaces : (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	58	10	—
Total	127	30	—

TABLE II.

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.	
	Found.	Remedied.
Nuisances under the Public Health Act :—		
Want of Cleanliness	20	20
Want of Ventilation	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—
Want of Drainage to Floors	1	1
Other Nuisances	5	5
Sanitary Accommodation } Insufficient	4	4
} Unsuitable or Defective	—	—
} Not Separate for Sexes	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :		
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bake-houses	—	—
Breach of Special Sanitary Requirements for Bakehouses	—	—
Other Offences	—	—
Total	30	30

TABLE III.

HOMEWORK.

Outworkers' Lists. Section 107.						
NATURE OF WORK.	Lists received from Employers.					
	Sending twice in a year			Sending once in a year.		
	Lists.	Outworkers.		Lists.	Outworkers.	
		Con- tractors.	Work- men.		Contractors	Workmen
Making Wearing Apparel	22	—	22	11	—	11
Furniture and Upholstery	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Trades	6	—	6	3	—	3
Total	28	—	28	14	—	14
Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists :—						
Making Wearing Apparel	—					
Furniture and Upholstery	—					
Total	—					

TABLE IV.

REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.	Number.
Bakehouses	42
Dressmakers and Milliners	5
Tailors and Bootmakers	20
Laundries	—
Building Trade	36
Upholsterers	7
Engineers and Whitesmiths	6
Restaurant Kitchens	54
Miscellaneous	27
Total	197

TABLE V.
OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act	—
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector of Factories as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts :—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	1
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	—
Other	—
Underground Bakehouses :—	
Certificates granted during the year	—
In use at the end of the year	4

Bakehouses.

The number of Bakehouses in the Borough and on the Register at the end of the year was 42, and of these only four are underground bakehouses. The number of notices served and verbal notices given in connection with bakehouses during the year was 19, and 66 inspections were made. The notices served were 12 as to limewashing, 2 defective floor, 2 defective drainage, 1 dirty floor, and 2 w.c. dirty pans.

These defects were in each case remedied.

Rag Flocks Acts, 1911 and 1928.

No action was found to be necessary under these Acts during 1936.

Shops Act, 1934.

The Sanitary Inspectors made 143 visits regarding the requirements of Section 10 as to the arrangements for shop ventilation, temperature, and sanitary and washing facilities, etc.

Informal action by the Sanitary Inspectors has resulted in 12 shops being provided with heating appliances.

13 shops have been provided with new drainage and additional sanitary and washing facilities.

48 alterations to drainage or cleansing of fittings have been carried out.

Swimming Pool.

The Marina Swimming Pool on the East Cliff which is owned by a private company was opened to the public on 27th July, 1935.

This open-air swimming pool is of up-to-date construction throughout, is provided with a plant for the continuous filtration and chlorination of the sea water used, and this plant is under the control of an engineer.

Several visits were made during the season for the purpose of inspecting the arrangements, working of plant, etc., and the taking of samples of water from different parts of the pool for bacteriological examination. Of four samples taken in June, three were reported by the County Bacteriologist to be satisfactory—*B. coli* having been found to be absent in 100 c.c.; in the case of the other sample, *B. coli* were found to be absent in 30 c.c., and present in 40 c.c., but this sample was taken from a part of the pool near which workmen were engaged on work with pumps.

At the beginning of the season the concrete bottom of this swimming pool was treated by a solution of copper sulphate, and in July the County Analyst reported the copper content of samples specially taken was only 0.2 parts per million.

Samples of the water in the Corporation's Swimming Tank at Southwood, which is filled with fresh water, and used for the instruction of children from the Public Elementary Schools, were also taken, and the Local Education Authority were informed of the adverse reports received from the County Bacteriologist.

Port Sanitary Administration.

I am indebted to the Preventive Officer of H.M. Customs and Excise for the information in reference to shipping which entered the Port during the year 1936.

PORT SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

TABLE A.

Amount of Shipping Entering the Port during the year 1936

	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected.		Number reported to be defective	Number of vessels on which defects were remedied	Number of vessels reported as having, or having had, during the voyage, infectious disease on board.
			By the Medical Officer of Health.	By the Sanitary Inspector			
Foreign { Steamers	19	6219	—	9	1	1	—
* Motor ...	65	873	—	—	—	—	—
Sailing ...	9	45	—	—	—	—	—
Fishing...	202	1231	—	—	—	—	—
Total Foreign ...	295	8368	—	9	1	1	—
Coastwise { Steamers ...	312	107838	—	—	—	—	—
* Motor ...	399	5788	—	—	—	—	—
Sailing ...	149	3713	—	—	—	—	—
Fishing ...	3	40	—	—	—	—	—
Total Coastwise ...	863	117379	—	—	—	—	—
Total Foreign and Coastwise ...	1158	125747	—	9	1	1	—

* Includes mechanically propelled vessels other than steamers.

II.—CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT.

TABLE B.

(a) *Passenger traffic during the year.*

This is limited to short coastal trips during the summer months.

(b) *Cargo traffic.*

The imports from foreign ports consist chiefly of timber; coals is imported from the Tyne, wheat re-shipped from the London Docks, and salt. A large number of the entries is in connection with the important fishing industry based at the Port of Ramsgate.

(c) *Foreign Ports from which vessels arrive.*

Mainly from ports in Sweden, Norway and Finland. During 1936 vessels arrived from Skoghall, Trangsund, Kasko and Pernau.

III.—SOURCE OF WATER SUPPLY.

The constant water supply of the Borough is available for the port and for shipping. No water boats are in use.

IV.—PORT SANITARY REGULATIONS, 1933.

- 1.—Declarations of Health are obtained by the Preventive Officer of H.M. Customs and Excise, and forwarded immediately to the Port Medical Officer of Health.
- 2.—All vessels on arrival are boarded by the Customs Officers.
- 3.—Vessels which enter Ramsgate Harbour have hitherto not been equipped with wireless transmitting apparatus.
- 4.—Proposals as to Mooring Stations, submitted by the Port Medical Officer of Health, and under consideration since 1933, were agreed to by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise in January, 1935, and are established as follows:—
 - (a) Under Article 10 (1).—Mooring Station within Docks—the place of mooring, discharge or loading, the ship being shored off from the quay and so moored so as to prevent contact with any other ship.
 - (b) Under Article 10 (2).—Additional Mooring Station outside Docks—the Outer Middle Ground Buoy in the Outer Basin of Ramsgate Harbour.
- 5.—Standing exemption from the provisions of Article 14 has been granted by the Medical Officer in respect of ships with infectious diseases other than cholera, plague, yellow fever, typhus fever, and smallpox on board, and ships otherwise clean arriving from ports in areas listed under Article 11.
- 6.—In the event of any vessel arriving with infectious disease or suspected infectious disease on board, no person would be allowed to board or leave the vessel without the permission of the Medical Officer.

- 7.—(a) No premises or waiting rooms are available for medical examination.
- (b) Facilities for the cleansing and disinfecting of verminous persons and their belongings exist at the Council's Disinfecting and Cleansing Stations. Any fumigation found to be necessary in a ship after infectious disease would be carried out by the Health Department.
- (c) No premises are available for the temporary accommodation of persons for whom such accommodation is required for the purpose of the Regulations.
- (d) The Infectious Diseases Hospitals for the Borough are available if required.
- (e) The existing ambulance facilities for the Borough are available.
- (f) Any contacts would remain under the supervision of the Medical Officer.
- 8.—No special arrangements have been made; if necessary, examinations would be made at the County Laboratory, Maidstone.
- 9.—The arrangements made and facilities available in the Borough would apply.
- 10.—Information as to the facilities available for the diagnosis and treatment of Venereal Diseases is given by means of posters displayed at various places in the Harbour and by means of leaflets handed to the crews. Posters giving such information and printed in the German, Scandinavian and English languages are displayed in the various conveniences in the harbour.
- 11.—No special arrangements made.

TABLE C.

No case of infectious sickness was landed from any vessel during the year.

TABLE D.

No case of infectious sickness occurred during the voyage on any vessel which arrived at the Port during the year.

V.—MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS.

Owing to the work of extermination carried out in previous years, the presence of rats was not evident. Traps are laid at various places in the Harbour, but only occasionally rats are caught.

TABLE E and TABLE F.

Rats destroyed in 1936	Nil
------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

TABLE G.

Vessels "infected" or "suspected" from infected ports	...	Nil
Vessels subjected to measures of rat destruction	...	Nil

VI.—HYGIENE OF CREWS SPACES.

During the year one defect was discovered on a Finnish vessel. The defect was a dirty w.c. pan, and the condition was remedied upon attention being called to it.

VII.—FOOD INSPECTION.

- 1.—No food is imported into the Borough by means of vessels entering the Harbour.
- 2.—The cockle beds at Pegwell Bay are known to be polluted and the Pegwell Bay (Shellfish) Regulations were made by the Minister of Health and came into force on 1st December, 1925, with a view to the control of the sale and distribution of cockles gathered from these beds.

Section 3 of the Regulations states that

"A person shall not sell, distribute or offer for sale for human consumption any cockles taken from the prescribed area unless and until they have been subjected to a process of sterilisation by steaming under pressure for at least six minutes. The sterilisation shall be carried out either by a sanitary authority or in a manner approved by the medical officer of the district in which the cockles are landed."

- 3.—In connection with Port Sanitary Administration, no samples of food were taken during the year.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	514
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1189
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	236
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	633
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous to health as to be unfit for human habitation	159
(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 ...	278

2.—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	253
--	-----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners ...	Nil
(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 ...	73
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners ...	1
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(c) Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	2
(d) Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	21
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	Nil

OVERCROWDING.

4.—Housing Act, 1935.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ...		97
(2) Number of families dwelling there ...		97
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ...		647
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ...		123
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ...		26
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...		140
(d) Particulars of any cases which in dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding		None

Housing—General.

During the year 14 representations were made by the Medical Officer of Health with reference to Clearance Areas. At the end of the year one of these areas had been cleared, negotiations were begun by the Corporation to purchase one area (of four houses), and the remaining 12 areas are to be dealt with during 1937.

The houses in the remaining area referred to in the 1935 report were demolished during 1936.

There is still demand for the smaller type of house at a low rental. Difficulties arise in connection with existing large type houses in which inadequate alterations have been made by the owners to make same suitable for two or more tenants. High rents are often charged and there is a reluctance on the part of the owners to let houses to tenants with large families.

HOUSING ACT, 1935, SECTION 6 (2).

Number of houses in which owners have requested "permitted numbers" for insertion in rent book ...	...	1,856
Number of houses inspected ...	...	1,182
Number of rooms measured ...	...	7,618

REPORT ON OVERCROWDING SURVEY.

CARRIED OUT JAN. AND FEB., 1936.

A Survey was carried out as laid down in the Housing Act, 1935, to ascertain the extent of overcrowding in the Borough, and for this purpose four temporary enumerators and one temporary clerk were employed in addition to the ordinary staff.

Each enumerator was allotted two Wards and the Survey was carried out over a period of six weeks.

The Survey showed that there were 9,629 families occupying dwellings with a "Permitted Number" up to 14, and of these 97 were found to be overcrowded (Form C).

Detailed particulars are as follows :—

FORM C. PART I.

Showing Number of Overcrowded Families in relation to size of Family.

No. of "Persons" in family.	No of families Overcrowded.	No of families Uncrowded.	Total.
1	—	923	923
1½	1	26	27
2	3	2715	2718
2½	7	782	789
3	3	2022	2025
3½	15	481	496
4	15	1177	1192
4½	—	310	310
5	8	450	458
5½	6	163	169
6	6	226	232
6½	5	72	77
7	2	95	97
7½	2	32	34
8	8	38	46
8½	6	7	13
9	2	6	8
9½	4	2	6
10	—	1	1
10½	3	2	5
11	1	1	2
11½	—	1	1
Totals	97	9532	9629

FORM C. PART II.

Showing Number of Overcrowded Families in relation to size of Houses.

" Permitted No." of houses.	Uncrowded.	Overcrowded.	Total.
1	3	1	4
1½	168	4	172
2	64	7	71
2½	286	5	291
3	156	30	186
3½	2	2	4
4	621	1	622
4½	21	9	30
5	69	12	81
5½	1	—	1
6	1838	4	1842
6½	8	2	10
7	17	—	17
7½	45	12	57
8	3591	3	3594
8½	12	3	15
9	5	1	6
9½	1635	—	1635
10	6	1	7
10½	1	—	1
11	522	—	522
11½	1	—	1
12	2	—	2
12½	2	—	2
13	452	—	452
13½	1	—	1
14	3	—	3
Totals	9532	97	9629

Of the 97 cases of overcrowding found, four cases can be abated by the removal of lodgers, while in two instances Notice to Quit will meet the case.

This leaves 91 cases for which alternative accommodation is required.

According to the standard laid down by Section 37 of the Housing Act, 1930, which is

Two bedrooms, 4 persons;
three bedrooms, 5 persons;
four bedrooms, 7 persons;

and an additional bedroom for every 2 extra persons above 7, the following houses will be required :—

Bedrooms.				Houses required.	
2	...	...	...	...	40
3	...	...	...	...	11
4	...	...	...	...	17
5	...	...	...	...	16
6	...	...	...	...	6
7	...	...	...	...	1
				<hr/> Total 91 Houses <hr/>	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OBTAINED.

1,838 basement rooms were found to be occupied.

467 houses and flats were found to be unoccupied. These were made up as follows :—

Houses	...	...	...	...	...	277
Flats	...	...	...	...	...	88
Houses in seasonal occupation only	...	...	...	...	...	26
Houses for which no information was obtainable	...	...	...	...	...	76
<hr/> Total unoccupied houses and flats						<hr/> 467 <hr/>

Assuming all the above, except those in "seasonal occupation," are available for occupation, there is a surplus of 441 houses in the Borough.

An analysis of these houses, less those for which "no information is available," that is 365 houses, etc., is shown below.

The analysis is based on the number of rooms per house, etc.

6 Houses with 1 room

19	..	..	2 rooms
38	..	..	3 ..
73	..	..	4 ..
70	..	..	5 ..
53	..	..	6 ..
24	..	..	7 ..
37	..	..	8 ..
45	..	..	9 or more rooms

Total 365 houses

Below is set out the number of houses in relation to the number of families contained or capable of being accommodated (76 houses for which no information was available are *not* included in the table).

There were 8,744 houses containing 1 family					
„	„	453	„	„	2 families
„	„	132	„	„	3 „
„	„	66	„	„	4 „
„	„	20	„	„	5 „

Total 9,415 houses

The total number of houses visited was therefore $9,415 + 76 = 9,491$ houses.

Below is set out the number of families in relation to the number of rooms occupied.

244 families were living in 1 room					
498	„	„	„	„	2 rooms
789	„	„	„	„	3 „
2,008	„	„	„	„	4 „
3,713	„	„	„	„	5 „
1,677	„	„	„	„	6 „
551	„	„	„	„	7 „
493	„	„	„	„	8 „
191	„	„	„	„	9 „
97	„	„	„	„	10 „
50	„	„	„	„	11 „
38	„	„	„	„	12 „
18	„	„	„	„	13 „
43	„	„	„	„	14 „

Total 10,410 families

The above table shows 391 families in excess of the Actual Number. This is due to the fact that in the course of the survey 391 Houses or Flats found to be empty or in seasonal occupation only were each credited with one family.

The Actual Number of families is therefore $10,410 - 391$, which equals 10,019.

This total is 390 houses in excess of that shown on Form C, due to the fact that 390 families live in houses larger than Form C provides for.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

Ward.	Over ten years old.	Under ten years old.	Total.
West Central ...	4,197	461	4,658
East Central ...	3,992	669	4,661
West Cliff ...	2,457	314	2,771
East Cliff ...	3,340	467	3,807
Montefiore ...	3,165	415	3,580
St. Lawrence ...	3,614	669	4,283
Northwood ...	3,012	467	3,479
Southwood ...	3,027	349	3,076
Clearance Areas ...	188	44	232
Council Houses ...	1,293	520	1,813
Totals ...	28,285	4,375	32,660
Population ...	...	...	32,660
Number of families ...	...	...	10,019
Number of houses with one family only ...	...	...	8,744
Number of houses with more than one family ...	...	...	747
Total number of houses, 9,491.			
Average number of persons per family ...	...	...	3.26
Average number of persons per house ...	...	...	3.44
Average number of families per house ...	...	...	1.06

Percentage of Overcrowding.

Based on Form C, 1.0073%.

Based on total number of families, 0.968%.

Food.*Milk Supply.*

The number of cowsheds, dairies and milkshops on the register at the end of the year was as follows:—

COWKEEPERS.

Number on Register ...	...	...	8
Number of cows ...	...	...	197
Notices served on occupiers ...	...	...	7
Inspections ...	...	...	51

DAIRIES.

Number on Register ...	...	...	39
Notices served on occupiers ...	...	...	9
Inspections ...	...	...	69

MILKSHOPS AND PURVEYORS.

Number on Register ...	...	...	124
Notices served on occupiers ...	...	...	2
Inspections ...	...	...	92

Thirteen applications for permission to sell milk in cartons or bottles only were received. All the applications were granted.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, the number of licences granted to retailers are as follows :—

Dealers' Licence to sell " Tuberculin Tested " Milk ...	4
Supplementary Licence to sell " Tuberculin Tested "	
Milk	1
Licence to Pasteurise Milk	1
Dealers' Licence to sell Pasterised Milk	2
Supplementary Licence to sell Pasteurised Milk ...	3
Producers' Licences under Accredited Milk Scheme ...	2

During the year 22 samples of milk in connection with supplies to schools and 12 samples from vendors in the Borough were submitted for bacteriological examinations to the Kent County Laboratory, Maidstone.

Meat and Other Foods.

Considerable time is devoted each week by the Sanitary Inspectors to inspecting as far as possible all carcasses killed in the seven private slaughter-houses in the Borough, but supervision is rendered difficult owing to butchers being free to kill at any hour or on any day they desire provided due notice is given. Through an insurance scheme the butchers are covered against loss when carcasses or organs are condemned.

There are three depots for the wholesale distribution of imported meat in the Borough, and from these large quantities are supplied to towns in the Isle of Thanet and the surrounding country.

The improved conditions of transport, conveyance, storage and handling of meat brought about by the requirements of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations have been well maintained, and much improvement, particularly in the conveyance of foodstuffs through streets, etc., has been effected under the Bye-Laws which came into force in November, 1935.

Ice Cream.

A considerable trade is carried on during the summer months by vendors of ice cream from stalls and barrows on the sands and other places in the Borough. The fact that there is no legal obligation for these persons or their premises on which the ice cream is manufactured to be licensed or registered renders it most difficult to control this trade. Under the Ramsgate Corporation Act, 1922, every dealer in ice cream selling from any cart, barrow or other vehicle or stand is required to have his name and address inscribed thereon, and is liable to a penalty of 40s. for non-compliance. Owing to there being no legal standard for ice cream, a quantity of the article sold as such is possibly inferior in quality. Considerable time is occupied by the Sanitary Inspectors in supervising vendors on the streets and sands, the cleanliness of their barrows and utensils not always being all that is desirable.

Number of Ice Cream Vendors selling from barrows,	
stalls, etc.	15
Number of Vendors at shops, restaurants, etc. ...	23
Number of inspections made	22

Merchandise Marks Act, 1926.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector is the officer appointed under the Merchandise Marks Acts, 1887-1926, and is authorised to execute the provisions of Section 9 of the Act of 1926, relating to any imported foodstuffs to which an Order in Council under the Act applies.

The chief imported foodstuffs to which these Orders apply are "Fresh Apples," "Honey," "Eggs," "Currants," "Sultanas and Raisins," "Raw Tomatoes," "Frozen Salmon or Sea Trout," "Meat," "Butter," "Poultry, Bacon and Ham," and "Oat Products." All these articles when exposed for sale by retail must bear a label clearly indicating the origin, i.e., "Empire," "Foreign," or the name of the "Colony" or "Country."

During the year 112 inspections were made to retail fruiterers, greengrocers, grocers and other shops dealing in these goods. Though there was an improvement in the carrying out of the Orders, it was necessary to give several warnings as to the need for strictly complying with same.

UNSOUND FOOD.

VOLUNTARILY CONDEMNED DURING 1936.

CARCASSES CONDEMNED FOR TUBERCULOSIS.

Animals Affected.	Number of Carcasses with all internal organs condemned.	Number of animals of which parts of Carcasses and all organs were condemned.	Number of animals of which heads and tongues only were condemned.	Weight. Total weight in lbs.
Cows...	*2	—	18	2079
Pigs ...	17	—	232	3931
				6010

* Includes one cow dealt with under Tuberculosis Order, 1925.

FOOD CONDEMNED FOR OTHER REASONS.

Beef.

14 Livers	Flukes and abscesses ..	183 lbs.
3 Lungs and hearts ..	Tuberculosis	52 lbs.
12 Lungs	Tuberculosis	60 lbs.
7 Skirts	Abscesses and tuberculosis ..	42 lbs.
1 Tongue	Actinomycosis	6 lbs.
14 Mesenteric Fats ..	Tuberculosis and pentastoma	86 lbs.
Tripe	Unsound	30 lbs.
Miscellaneous	Bruised	22 lbs.

Beef, Imported.

Miscellaneous	Unsound, due to leaking refrigerator	2,500 lbs.
Miscellaneous	Bone taint and moulds, etc... ..	732 lbs.
Kidneys	Unsound	35 lbs.
Liver	Unsound	20 lbs.

Pork.

9 Carcases and offal ..	Erysipelas ..	885 lbs.
14 Carcases and offal ..	Septicæmia ..	1,279 lbs.
15 Carcases and offal ..	Fever ..	671 lbs.
2 Carcases and offal ..	Jaundice ..	136 lbs.
1 Carcase and offal ..	Bruised ..	99 lbs.
1 Carcase and offal ..	Dropsy ..	55 lbs.
121 Livers ..	Cirrhosis and cysts ..	425 lbs.
74 Flucks ..	Pneumonia and tuberculosis	438 lbs.
49 Haslets ..	Pneumonia ..	109 lbs.
Miscellaneous ..	Pleurisy, tuberculosis and bruised ..	288 lbs.

Pork, Imported.

8 Loins of Pork ..	Moulds ..	59 lbs.
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Mutton.

2 Carcases and offal ..	Fever ..	100 lbs.
4 Plucks ..	Flukes, etc. ..	10 lbs.
Livers, etc. ..	Flukes and unsound ..	23 lbs.

Mutton, Imported.

Miscellaneous ..	Unsound, due to leaking refrigerator ..	1,033 lbs.
2 Legs of Mutton ..	Unsound ..	20 lbs.
Liver ..	Unsound ..	10 lbs.

Fish.

Wet ..	Unsound ..	3,907 lbs.
Dry ..	Unsound ..	1,197 lbs.

Miscellaneous.

Shrimps (English) ..	Unsound ..	140 lbs.
Prawns (Imported) ..	Unsound ..	890 lbs.
99 Eggs (Imported) ..	Unsound ..	14 lbs.

Total weight of all food condemned .. 9 tons 11 cwts. 3 qrs. 10 lbs.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

During the year 101 Samples (78 Formal and 23 Informal) were taken by the Senior Sanitary Inspector, who is the officer appointed under the Act, and the following were submitted for analysis to the Public Analyst.

Description of Sample.	Formal	Informal	Genuine	Not Genuine
Milk	67	1	60	8
Milk (separated) ..	1	—	1	—
Margarine	—	3	2	1
Butter	—	3	3	—
Sausages	6	—	6	—
Cream	—	4	4	—
Self-raising flour ..	—	3	3	—
Sugar	—	4	3	1
Pineapple (tinned) ..	—	3	3	—
Salmon (tinned) ..	—	1	1	—
Pepper (white) ..	—	1	1	—
Almonds (ground) ..	4	—	4	—

The Public Analyst's reports on the samples of milk taken during the year show the average to be above the recognised minimum standard.

The average figures are : Fat, 3.36; Non-fatty Solids, 8.98; Total Solids, 12.34.

Particulars of the 10 Samples reported by the Public Analyst to be not genuine and action taken in regard to each of these samples :—

Sample No.	Article.	Result of Analysis.	Action Taken.	Result.
380	Milk	1.3% deficient in fat	Ventilator cautioned	
389	Sugar	contained 0.43 of desiccated cocoanut	"	
401	Milk	5% deficient in fat	"	
403	Milk	2% " " "	"	
406	Milk	7.7% " " "	"	
407	Milk	6.3% " " "	"	
412	Milk	1.7% " " "	"	
416	Milk	5% " " "	"	
439	Margarine	0.12% Excess of Water	"	
No. 1 Broadstairs being follow up of sample No. 403.	Milk	11.6% deficient in fat	"	

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, ETC., IN FOOD) REGULATIONS.

The following 93 samples were taken under the provision of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act and were examined by the Public Analyst for the presence of preservatives and added colouring matter :

Milk	...	...	...	...	69
Butter	...	...	...	...	3
Margarine	...	...	...	...	3
Sausages	...	...	...	...	6
Cream	...	...	...	...	4
Sugar	...	...	...	...	4
Pineapple (tinned)	...	...	...	...	3
Salmon (tinned)	...	...	...	...	1

TABLE I		TABLE II	
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44
45	46	47	48
49	50	51	52
53	54	55	56
57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64
65	66	67	68
69	70	71	72
73	74	75	76
77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84
85	86	87	88
89	90	91	92
93	94	95	96
97	98	99	100

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR

1936.

W. J. BANNISTER, M.D., B.S., B.A.O., D.P.H.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit my Annual Report for the year 1936 on the School Medical Service of the Borough.

This Report has been prepared in accordance with the Special Memorandum of the Board of Education which suggests the manner in which it could most conveniently be arranged, consequently some repetition from year to year in the order and nature of the contents is unavoidable.

The health of the children continued to be good throughout the year, no epidemic of infectious disease occurred.

The services are those approved by the Board of Education and the organisation of the work in connection with these services has received the approval of the Board.

The need for increased facilities for dental treatment is referred to in the report and provision for the open-air education of certain children should be made as soon as possible.

I acknowledge with gratitude the support which the Education Committee have given me, the invaluable co-operation of the Head Teachers and the devotion of my staff to the work.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. J. BANNISTER,

School Medical Officer.

March, 1937.

School Medical Staff.

Ophthalmic Surgeon:

W. W. GRIFFIN, M.B., B.Ch., F.R.C.S. (Eng.).

Routine Medical Inspection and X-Ray Treatment of Ringworm:

B. H. PALMER, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Camb.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.),
L.R.C.P. (Lond.).

Operative Treatment of Tonsils and Adenoids:

The Hon. Surgeons of the Ear, Nose and Throat Department of the
Ramsgate General Hospital.

Dental Surgeon:

J. B. REED, L.D.S., R.S.C. (Eng.).

Health Visitors:

*Miss G. CLARK.

Miss A. ASHWELL.

*Miss W. CARPENTER.

Miss R. HOWELLS.

* Certificated Midwife, Central Midwives Board.

Clerks:

*S. GORHAM.

R. IMPETT.

* Resigned December, 1936.

School Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health:

W. J. BANNISTER, M.D., B.S., B.A.O. (Q.U. Belf.), D.P.H. (Lond.).

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

School Medical Service

For the Year ended 31st December, 1936.

1. Staff.

The whole-time officers on the staff of the School Medical Service are the School Medical Officer, who is also the Medical Officer of Health, and four Health Visitors; two Clerks devote one-half of their time to clerical work in connection with the service. Each Health Visitor carries out the work required in an assigned area, devoting approximately one-half of her time to the School Medical Service.

2. Co-ordination.

(a) Infant and Child Welfare.

The Clinics at the Maternity Centre are attended by the Health Visitors, who thus know many of the children from birth till the time they reach school age, and the medical records kept at the Infant Welfare Centre in due course are filed with and supplement records of routine medical inspections at the schools.

(b) Care of Debilitated Children, under School Age.

As Medical Officer of Health, the School Medical Officer administers the infant welfare scheme on behalf of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee of the Council, each Health Visitor follows up each child born in the area in which she works and reports on debilitated children under school age in the homes visited, steps being taken to have such children dealt with at the Infant Clinic or other arrangements made as indicated.

THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE IN RELATION TO PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

3. School Hygiene.

In previous years the hygienic conditions of each public elementary school in the Borough has been detailed.

St. Lawrence Extra School, which is provided partly by the Church of England and partly by the Public Assistance Committee, was transferred to the area of the Authority on 1st April, 1935. The accommodation recognised is for 189 mixed and 67 infants, but two of the rooms without division or proper heating arrangements each have to be used for the conduction of two classes at the same time and are far from satisfactory. An improvement in the drainage, sanitary arrangements and heating arrangements at this school should be effected as soon as possible.

The accommodation in the public elementary schools of the Authority is for 5,327 children, the average number on the registers for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1936, was 4,690, and the average attendance was 4,221.

4. Medical Inspection.

The medical inspections of children in the three age groups indicated below are called Routine Medical Inspections; it is for the carrying out of these inspections, and these alone, that Dr. Palmer is employed by the Education Committee. All arrangements for the preparation of cards, the attendance of the children, etc., are made in advance by the School Medical Officer, who also carries out the much greater work involved in the medical examinations and re-examinations of children found at the routine inspections to have defects, in making arrangements for the treatment of these defects, in the medical examination of all "Specials," both at the schools and at the School Inspection Clinic, and arranging for treatment as necessary.

With none of these matters or with any other medical work referred to hereafter and carried out by the School Medical Officer is Dr. Palmer concerned, with the exception that by a special and independent arrangement he treats by means of X-rays children who are referred by the School Medical Officer for such treatment.

Age Groups Inspected.

"Entrants"	Children admitted during the year— Number inspected	616
"Second Age Group" ..	Children between 8 and 9 years of age— Number inspected	442
"Third Age Group" ..	Children between 12 and 13 years of age and children over 13 years of age who have not already been ex- amined after reaching the age of 12 years—Number inspected	521

Routine Medical Inspections are always carried out in the school premises; in the most recently constructed schools a special room for these inspections is provided, but at the other schools children are examined either in the Head Teacher's room, or, more usually, in a classroom which, when possible, is temporarily vacated, the children being sent to another classroom or to the school playground. The Head Teachers heartily co-operate in securing the best arrangement at their schools for the conducting of the inspections, but at some of the schools it is quite impossible to secure reasonably satisfactory conditions, unavoidable noise rendering accurate examinations difficult and testing of acuity of hearing by means of the whisper test impracticable; while poor lighting of some of the rooms used renders difficult the testing of the acuity of vision.

If not already known of, defects in children in the code age groups are detected at the routine medical inspections, but, in addition, numerous children are referred to the School Medical Officer for medical examination as "Specials" on account of defect or suspected defect, by Head Teachers, Health Visitors, parents, etc.

The number of such "Specials" examined and dealt with during 1936 was 1,531.

5. Findings of Medical Inspections.

(a) Nutrition.

The classification of children in the three age groups as to nutrition was described in the report for 1935 and the findings for 1936 are given in Table II (B). It will be noted that of the 1,651 children examined, 1.15% were of excellent nutrition and 5.46% were of slightly sub-normal nutrition.

Children who were referred as "Specials" during the year, as well as those found to be of sub-normal nutrition in previous years, were examined periodically by the School Medical Officer during the year, and of 283 such children it was found that two remained at the end of the year whose nutrition was bad as compared with four in 1935.

(b) Uncleanliness.

In addition to the Routine Medical examinations of children at the school, systematic surveys of all children in the schools were carried out by the Health Visitors. At the routine inspections during the year, out of a total of 1,651 children, 10, or .60 per cent., were found to have unclean hair, and at the surveys as to cleanliness of skin, hair, scalp and clothing, 15,145 examinations of children were made by the Health Visitors, who found 262 children with unclean hair.

(c) Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.

The minor ailments found during the year at Routine Inspections and at the Inspection Clinic are detailed in Official Table II, and the number of children treated for these defects are summarised in Official Table IV. Both these tables will be found at the end of the report.

It may here be stated that during the year 10 new cases of scalp ringworm came under observation, as compared with nine in 1935; 12 cases of scabies as compared with 19 in 1935; 132 cases of impetigo as compared with 109 in 1935.

(d) Visual Defects and External Eye Diseases.

During the year the number of children found to have defective vision, squint, or symptoms of eye strain, and who were referred for further examination by the Education Committee's Ophthalmic Surgeon, was: At the Routine Inspections, 129; among "Specials," 49.

A total of 39 cases of external eye disease came under observation during the year as compared with 34 in 1935.

(e) Nose and Throat.

During the year a total of 76 children were found to have abnormality of their tonsils or adenoid tissue which required treatment of some kind. The abnormal conditions of noses and throats of many of these children were found to yield to indirect treatment such as the removal of carious teeth, etc., and 22 only received operative treatment for the removal of excessive lymphoid tissue.

(f) *Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.*

Sixteen cases of otitis media and 22 cases of other ear conditions were referred for treatment during the year.

(g) *Dental Defects.*

In Table V which follows will be found a summary of the work at the inspections at the schools and of treatment at the Dental Clinic at the Health Office. At the Routine Medical Inspections at the schools it was found that 303 of the 1,651 children inspected had teeth in a perfectly sound condition.

(h) *Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.*

Fifteen children who had deformities came under observation at the routine inspections and among "Specials." The defects of children referred to in Table III causing crippling included paralysis of different degrees following infantile paralysis, and the result of old rickets.

(i) *Heart Disease and Rheumatism.*

Two cases of organic heart disease and 24 cases of functional heart disease were discovered during the year. These cases were referred for treatment as necessary and kept under observation.

(j) *Tuberculosis.*

Four children in a pre-tuberculous condition came under observation during the year. No child suspected to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis came under observation at the routine inspections or among specials. These four children and five others who were found to be suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis were referred by the School Medical Officer for treatment and observation to the Tuberculosis Officer at the County Council's Dispensary in the town. In the absence of an open-air school in the Borough many of these children have to be excluded from school for long periods.

(k) *Other Defects and Diseases.*

Sixteen cases of other defects were referred for treatment at the routine inspections and 483 cases among "Specials"; among these were cases of hernia, injuries, sprains, general debility, vermes, incontinence, etc., etc.

6. Following-up.

Work of Health Visitors.

The Health Visitors attend the Routine Medical and Dental Inspections, the School Clinic and Special Treatment Clinics, and follow up at the homes children found to be suffering from defects, with a view to securing adequate treatment.

As will be seen from the tables, most of the children suffering from minor ailments were dealt with at the School Treatment Clinic, which they continued to attend until cured. A large number of children were dealt with at the special treatment clinics; of 426 children found to have defective vision who were referred for refraction, no fewer than 396 were dealt with at the Eye Clinic; 1,275 children were referred for dental treatment as the result of dental inspection

by the Dental Surgeon, and a total of 863 children received treatment at the Dental Clinic. It is chiefly in connection with children who need treatment and whose parents promise at the inspections, or the Health Visitors at the homes, that they will secure treatment privately, that difficulty arises. Too often it is found on re-visitation of these homes that the parents have failed to carry out their promises, and are still unwilling to avail themselves of the facilities for treatment afforded by the Education Committee; in connection with many such cases the co-operation of the Head Teachers is sought. The Health Visitors during the year made 5,683 visits to 2,834 individual children at their homes.

7. Medical Treatment.

(a) Nutrition.

All cases of sub-normal nutrition noted at the routine examinations, discovered on visits of the Medical Officers to the schools or among children specially referred by the Head Teachers, Health Visitors, etc., are kept under observation. On detection, taking of height and weight monthly at the schools or school clinic is begun, and the effect of any treatment which may have been advised is observed by periodical medical examination. In many cases the primary cause of subnormality is apparent and arrangements are made for appropriate treatment, but in other cases presenting variation from the average it is often a difficult matter to decide that actual malnutrition exists. Children may be undersized naturally, others may have recovered from infantile diseases which have left a permanent effect on development, yet such children may be without any real evidence of debility and continue to have good health. A practice is made of discussing such cases with the head teachers, investigation is made as to home conditions, nature and regularity of meals, hours of sleep, etc., and the influence of any adverse factors assessed before concluding that subnormality is due to lack of food. Cases of sub-normal or bad nutrition without a definite physical cause and in which inadequate or improper food is the chief cause do occur, but such cases are comparatively rare among the children attending the public elementary schools of this Borough. When found on medical examination to be indicated, children of subnormal nutrition whose parents are ascertained to be necessitous, are supplied with milk at school, or in certain circumstances at the homes, free of cost, by the Children's Aid Association, at the request of the School Medical Officer. This supply of milk free of cost is supplemented in certain cases by free meals at the Parochial Soup Kitchen through arrangement made by the Education Committee. In other cases extra nourishment is granted by the Public Assistance Committee for children convalescing after illness, etc., on medical certification as to need, and through the Tuberculosis Dispensary for children under observation thereat.

Children requiring medical or surgical treatment for the remedying of their subnormality are referred, also through arrangements made by the Education Committee, to the Ramsgate and St. Lawrence Dispensary or the Ramsgate General Hospital.

(b) Uncleanliness.

Children found at the routine inspections or at the special surveys at the schools to have unclean hair are excluded from school and their

homes visited by the Health Visitors, who explain to the parents or guardians measures indicated for the proper cleansing of the children. Printed directions are also given at these visits stating the necessity for prompt action in the matter, and that the child will not be readmitted to school until certified by the School Medical Officer at the School Clinic to have been cleansed and all nits to have been removed.

The surveys at the schools, which are always made on "surprise" visits, and the subsequent procedure outlined, have effected considerable improvement as regards the cleanliness of the person and clothing of the children.

Parents who do not cleanse their children within a period of seven days from the date of exclusion from school and service of notice are proceeded against under the School Attendance Bye-laws. This procedure has proved to be quite efficient and the loss of attendance due to exclusion from school owing to uncleanliness has very considerably decreased during recent years.

Legal proceedings were instituted in one case during 1936.

(c) *Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.*

The School Treatment Clinic is held on five mornings each week when the schools are in session, and during the school holidays as required. The great majority of children suffering from minor ailments are treated at this clinic until cured. The Health Visitors carry out treatment under the general supervision of the School Medical Officer. In cases in which proper supplementary treatment is found not to have been carried out at the home, parents are visited and a demonstration of the correct methods of applying remedies, etc., there given by the Health Visitors. Many of the parents attend at this clinic with their children, thus learning the correct methods of dealing with minor ailments.

X-ray treatment for scalp ringworm is administered by means of the Education Committee's apparatus at the Health Office by Dr. B. H. Palmer. Eight cases were thus treated during the year.

(d) *Visual Defects and External Eye Disease.*

During the year 426 children were referred for further examination owing to errors of refraction; of these, 396 were examined and prescribed for at the School Eye Clinic, refraction under the influence of homatropin being carried out in 107 cases. The Ophthalmic Surgeon conducted the Eye Clinic on 41 occasions in 1936. Six other children obtained treatment privately. Glasses were prescribed for 329 children, and up to the end of the year had been procured in 322 cases. The children made 979 attendances at the Clinic.

The cases examined were as follows :

113	...	Hypermetropia.
125	...	Hypermetropia with Astigmatism.
49	...	Myopia.
63	...	Myopia with Astigmatism.
15	...	Mixed Astigmatism.
31	...	Strabismus.

During the year the following cases were also referred to the Eye Clinic :

- 4 Conjunctivitis.
- 2 Phlyctenular Keratitis.
- 8 Blepharitis.
- 1 Meibomian Cyst.
- 5 Corneal Ulcer.
- 8 Styes.
- 1 Injury to eye.
- 1 Eczema of lids.
- 2 Abscess.

(e) Nose and Throat Defects.

During the year 76 children who required some form of treatment on account of abnormal conditions of their tonsils and adenoid tissue came under observation. These children had various degrees of excessive and unhealthy naso-pharyngeal tissue, which was not due to temporary inflammation, for which different forms of treatment, from the removal of a septic tooth to the removal of the tissue by operation, were indicated. As a rule children are not referred for operative treatment for these conditions until measures directed to obtaining a healthier state of the mouth and naso-pharynx fail, after a reasonable trial, to produce improvement. Many of the cases yielded to the practice of regular breathing exercises following dental treatment.

During the year 22 children were operated on for the removal of enlarged tonsils or adenoids; four of these received treatment privately and 18 at the Ramsgate General Hospital through the Education Committee's scheme, under which the Hospital Authorities were paid £1 11s. 6d. in respect of three children of a group of seven or eight, and £1 for the others. Parents of children about to be operated on receive instructions from the School Medical Officer in reference to the preparation of their children, and after operation every effort is made to follow up each child to ensure the continuation of regular breathing exercises and teeth cleansing.

(f) Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.

A total of 23 children received treatment for minor ear defects during the year. Of these, 19 were treated at the School Clinic and four received private treatment.

(g) Dental Defects.

The facilities for dental treatment at the School Dental Clinic were increased through the holding of four weekly sessions during school terms. This extension means that the premises available at present for this clinic are utilised to the maximum, and further development will necessitate the provision of more accommodation for the School Clinics and more time devoted to the work by a Dental Surgeon. The present service is quite insufficient to provide for the ideal to be aimed at and further development should secure an initial

dental inspection of every child on entry into school life, followed by an annual re-examination, and facilities for the treatment of each child found to need it.

Inspections by the Dental Surgeon at the schools took place at four sessions, the average number of children inspected at each session being 210. The Dental Clinic was held on 140 occasions and the work carried out is summarised in Table V, which will be found at the end of this report. From April, 1936, four dental treatment clinics were conducted each week.

A large but gradually decreasing number of parents unfortunately refuse to take advantage of the facilities available for the preservation of their children's teeth, and many parents still postpone treatment until further deterioration leading to pain takes place.

(h) Orthopædic and Postural Defects.

Following the appointment on the Honorary Staff of the Ramsgate General Hospital of an Orthopædic Surgeon, the Education Committee adopted a scheme for the Borough for the orthopædic treatment of non-tuberculous school children. The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee of the Town Council decided to participate in the scheme in order to secure orthopædic treatment for children under five years of age, and the scheme was approved by the Board of Education and the Ministry of Health at the end of 1928. Details of the scheme were fully stated in the Annual Report for 1928.

Six children were dealt with at the Orthopædic Clinic at the Ramsgate General Hospital during 1936.

(i) Heart Disease and Rheumatism.

Children suffering from heart disease are periodically re-examined by the School Medical Officer and advice given as to the need for care in physical exercises, games, etc. In addition, such children are referred as necessary for treatment and advice to their family doctor and in some cases are referred to the Ramsgate Dispensary.

(j) Tuberculosis.

It has been stated previously that children found at the inspections to be suffering from tuberculosis, and certain others suspected to be suffering from the disease, are referred to the County Council's Dispensary in the town for treatment by the Tuberculosis Officer, who periodically informs the School Medical Officer as to the fitness or otherwise of the children to attend school.

(k) Other Defects and Diseases.

Some of the children suffering from other defects receive treatment at the School Clinic, and all the cases are kept under observation. Many of these defects are such that treatment either at the Dispensary or by private practitioner or hospital, is indicated, as the class of case dealt with at the School Treatment Clinic is strictly limited.

Summary showing cases dealt with and attendances at the School Clinic during 1936 :

Disease or Condition.	Number of Children.		Attendances.	
Impetigo	115	...	741	
Eczema, Seborrhœa, etc.	112	...	600	
Abscesses, Whitlows, Cuts, Burns, Abrasions, etc.	315	...	2,196	
Ringworm of Scalp	10	...	89	
Ringworm of Body	5	...	45	
Scabies	18	...	92	
External Eye Disease	108	...	807	
Otorrhœa	21	...	84	
Nose, Mouth and Throat conditions	73	...	185	
Tuberculosis, all forms	1	...	2	
Other Diseases and conditions	483	...	1,045	
Total	1,261	...	5,886	

In addition, 90 children who were convalescent from or contacts of infectious disease made 119 attendances at the Clinic for examination as to their fitness to attend school.

8. Infectious Diseases.

Measles and Whooping Cough were somewhat prevalent among school children at the beginning of the year, but no action was taken under Article 22 or 23 (b) of the Code Regulations.

The control of infectious diseases in schools is best effected by immediate exclusion and isolation of individuals suffering from illness of an infectious or contagious nature, and by excluding and keeping under observation children living in infected houses. Closure for purely medical reasons is very rarely desirable; it does not prevent intimate association at play, at cinemas, etc., of the excluded children, while it impedes supervision with the possibility that some of the contacts may develop disease subsequent to school closure and for a time act as additional foci.

The Board of Education's amended regulations secure that diminished attendance during a period of epidemic shall not be considered in itself an adequate reason for closing a school, and that when a Local Education Authority closes a school on the advice or with the approval of the School Medical Officer, such advice or approval shall only be given on the ground that such closure is necessary for medical reasons.

Authorities are secured against financial loss when schools are kept open with a greatly lowered attendance.

Throughout the year the School Medical Officer authorised the exclusion of children when their exclusion was desirable to prevent the spread of infectious diseases, on the ground that their uncleanly or verminous condition was detrimental to the other scholars, or on the ground that owing to the state of their health or their physical or mental defects they were incapable of receiving proper benefit from the instruction in school.

Certificates of exclusion are brought to the notice of the School Attendance Officer, who informs the Head Teachers. Children so excluded are not re-admitted to school until the School Medical Officer

is satisfied that they can attend school without risk to themselves or others. The School Attendance Medical Officer and the Head Teachers give information to the School Medical Officer in reference to children who are absent from school owing to illnesses, which possibly may be infectious, and all such cases are investigated.

During the year the number of intimations received from Head Teachers was 357. These included intimations in reference to 208 children who were suffering from or suspected to be suffering from Measles, 7 from Whooping Cough, 44 from Chickenpox, and 34 from Mumps.

Children suffering from infectious diseases and contacts living in infected houses are excluded from school in accordance with the definite periods set out in the Board's Memorandum of Closure of and Exclusion from School.

Vaccinal Condition.

At the routine medical inspections it was found that of the 616 entrants examined, only 274 (44.47 per cent.) were vaccinated; of 442 children in the Second Age Group, only 219 (49.54 per cent.); and of 521 children of the Third Age Group, 306 (58.73 per cent.).

It is regrettable that over 49 per cent. of these children were not protected against smallpox.

9. Open-Air Education.

There is no open-air school in the borough. Open-air classes are held in the playgrounds of the public elementary schools, and it is highly desirable that every facility should be given to Head Teachers to increase the number of such classes. A definite need exists for a school in which certain children could be educated throughout the year under open-air conditions. A reference to Table III at the end of this report shows the numbers in different groups of physically defective children who would benefit from open-air education.

While there can be no doubt as to the need for an open-air school in the borough, the very considerable expenditure involved will probably for some time cause the erection and equipment of such a special school to be postponed. Some such provision cannot, however, be indefinitely postponed, and it is to be regretted that it was not considered feasible to arrange in connection with the new school at Northwood for one or two classes in which children could receive open-air education throughout the year.

10. Physical Training.

Physical exercises in accordance with the syllabus of the Board of Education are carried out in all the schools, and whenever possible take place in the school playgrounds. The co-operation of the Head Teachers is requested in connection with children found at the inspections specially to need breathing exercises, etc.; there is no organiser of physical training for the area, but there is no doubt that general supervision by an expert of the physical education given in the schools of the Borough would be a distinct advantage; were some such arrangements made an easy development which would be extremely useful would be the formation of classes for short periods of corrective exercises daily for children discovered at medical inspections to have slight lateral curvature of the spine, round shoulders, flat foot, etc.

11. Provision of Meals.

The Children's Aid Association continued to supply milk at school and in certain circumstances at the homes, free of cost to all children for whom on medical examination it was found to be indicated and whose parents were on investigation found to be necessitous. Additional supplies free of cost were placed by the Association for distribution by Head Teachers, to children convalescing after infectious illnesses, etc.

The arrangements by which meals were supplied to children in certain cases through the Ramsgate Parochial Soup Kitchen was also continued.

The increased consumption of milk by children at the schools under the scheme of the Milk Marketing Board continued. Many children do not avail of this provision for obtaining milk at the cost of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for one-third of a pint, and enquiry shows that this is not always due to the fact that their parents are unable to pay, but to milk being disliked or to parents considering that interference with the mid-day meal is caused.

12. Co-operation.

(a) *Co-operation of Parents.*

Parents are always invited to attend at the schools during the routine medical inspection of their children. If present and a defect is discovered in a child, advice is given to the parent as to the need for obtaining treatment; if not present, the child is followed up by one of the Health Visitors at the home.

During the year 471 parents attended at the routine inspections of 616 Entrants; 327 parents attended the routine inspections of 442 children in the Second Age Group; 271 parents attended at the routine inspections of 521 children in the Third Age Group.

(b) *Co-operation of Teachers.*

Several references have been made previously in this report to the assistance given by the teachers in connection with medical inspections; it may be added that they compile from the school registers lists of children of the code groups due for routine medical inspection. Head Teachers refer for examination as "specials" all children who are not due for inspection, but are suffering from or suspected to be suffering from any defect or ailment. They also throughout the year refer such children to the Inspection Clinic at the Health Office. Head Teachers take great interest in the work and often attend at the routine inspections. In view of the great influence which teachers have with parents, an asset of the greatest importance to the success of the school medical work is the co-operation of all teachers in doing everything possible to secure appropriate treatment for children suffering from remedial defects.

(c) *Co-operation of School Attendance Officer.*

This officer brings to the notice of the School Medical Officer children absent from school who are said to be ill but not under treatment by a doctor, and such children are referred to the School Clinic, or, when necessary, enquiries are made at the homes. As has been stated, certificates of exclusion from school and of fitness to attend given by the School Medical Officer are each day brought to the notice of the Attendance Officer, who, accordingly, informs the Head Teachers and sees that certificates are acted upon.

Certificates as to illness of school children given by local medical practitioners are, on receipt, submitted to the School Medical Officer. The School Attendance Officer is informed by the School Medical Officer of all children who have not been cleansed within seven days after having been excluded, enquiries are made by him as to the existence of any special circumstances, such as temporary incapacity of the mother, which might influence the School Attendance Committee in deciding as to the institution of legal proceedings under the Attendance Bye-Laws.

(d) Co-operation of Voluntary Bodies.

Supplies of cod liver oil, milk, etc., are obtained for the children of necessitous parents when recommended by the School Medical Officer through the Children's Aid Association; out of voluntary funds. Reference has been made to the provision of milk supplies by this Association.

13. Blind, Deaf, Defective and Epileptic Children.

(a) The model arrangements of the Board of Education under Elementary School (Defective and Epileptic Children) Act, 1899, and the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, have been adopted by the local Education Authority.

Such children are detected at the routine medical inspections and at the examinations of "Specials" at the schools and Inspection Clinic. Cases of defective vision are referred for treatment and are usually dealt with at the Eye Clinic; cases of deafness are referred for appropriate treatment, some receiving operative treatment for abnormal throat and nose conditions through the Education Committee's scheme. These cases are followed up, and in instances of severe defects which after treatment do not show improvement sufficient to enable benefit to be derived from instruction at a public elementary school, arrangements are made by the Education Committee for education at suitable institutions.

(b) There is no special school in or near the Borough.

14. Full-time Courses of Higher Education for Blind, Deaf, Defective and Epileptic Students.

No provision for such courses is made in the Borough.

15. Nursery Schools.

There are no Nursery Schools in the Borough.

16. Secondary Schools.

All work in connection with the Secondary Schools in the Borough is carried out by the Kent County Council.

17. Parents' Payments.

The arrangements in connection with the payment by parents for medical treatment of their children, through Clinics provided by the Education Committee, which were approved by the Board of Education and were fully stated in a previous Annual Report, continued during the year.

The total amount paid in respect of such treatment in accordance with the scales, from 1st January to 31st December, 1936 was £81 12s. 2d.

From time to time children of necessitous parents whose circumstances do not fall within the scope of the school treatment clinic come under observation. Such children are referred for medicinal or local treatment to the Ramsgate and St. Lawrence Dispensary, and during the year the Education Committee, with the approval of the Board of Education, made a grant of ten guineas to that institution in respect of the medical treatment of children of school age.

18. Health Education.

No special activity in this direction was undertaken during the year.

Miscellaneous.

Employment of Children and Young Persons.

The School Medical Officer is the certifying officer of the Local Education Authority, under the Employment of Children Act, 1903. Ramsgate is not an industrial town and employment of children is practically limited to delivering newspapers and milk, running errands for tradesmen, or, in the case of girls, assisting at homes.

BOARD OF EDUCATION TABLES.

TABLE I.

Medical Inspections of Children attending Public Elementary Schools.

(a) ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups:

Entrants	616
Second Age Group	442
Third Age Group	521
Total ..	1579
Number of other Routine Inspections	72
Grand Total ..	1651

(b) OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	1531
Number of Re-inspections	656
Total ..	2187

(c) CHILDREN FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Number of Individual Children found at Routine Medical Inspection to require treatment (excluding defects of nutrition, uncleanness and dental diseases).

Group.	For Defective Vision excluding Squint.	For all other conditions recorded in Table IIa.	Total.
Entrants	4	82	86
Second Age Group	44	59	96
Third Age Group	55	23	75
Total (Prescribed Groups)	103	164	257
Other Routine Inspections	5	8	13
Grand Total	108	172	270

TABLE II.

(A) Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended 31st December, 1936.

Defect or Disease.						Routine Inspections		Special Inspections	
						No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
						Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.
Skin	Ringworm:								
	Scalp	...	...	...	—	—	10	—
	Body	...	...	...	—	—	5	—
	Scabies	...	...	...	1	—	11	—
	Impetigo	...	...	...	5	—	127	—
Other Diseases (non-tuberculous)					12	—	91	—	
Total					18	—	244	—	
Eye	Blepharitis	...	...	...	10	—	13	—
	Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	2	—	14	—
	Keratitis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	Corneal Opacities	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
	Other Conditions	...	...	...	4	1	53	—
Total					17	1	80	—	
Ear	Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	...	...	...	108	59	44	3
	Squint	...	...	...	21	8	5	—
	Defective Hearing	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	Otitis Media	...	...	...	8	—	8	—
	Other Ear Diseases	...	...	...	4	—	18	4
Nose and Throat	Chronic Tonsillitis only	...	...	...	17	40	28	—
	Adenoids only	...	...	...	9	—	—	—
	Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids	...	...	...	9	—	12	—
	Other Conditions	...	...	...	46	3	10	—
	Enlarged Cervical Glands (non-tuberculous)	...	...	...	2	1	5	—
Heart and Circulation	Defective Speech	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
	Heart Disease:								
	Organic	...	...	...	—	2	—	—
	Functional	...	...	...	—	24	—	—
	Anæmia	...	...	...	4	—	3	—
Lungs	Bronchitis	...	...	...	8	—	2	—
	Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	—	10	6	—
	Pulmonary:								
	Definite	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	Suspected	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary:								
	Glands	...	...	...	—	—	—	2
	Bones and Joints	...	...	...	—	—	—	1
	Skin	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	Other Forms	...	...	...	—	2	—	—
Total					—	2	—	3	
Nervous System	Epilepsy	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	Chorea	...	...	...	—	1	3	2
	Other Conditions	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Deformities	Rickets	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	Spinal Curvature	...	...	...	—	1	—	—
	Other Forms	...	...	...	4	9	1	—
Other Defects and Diseases (excluding defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases)					16	11	483	—	
Total					292	172	952	12	

(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 ...	616	9	1.46	572	92.86	35	5.68	—	—
Second age-group	442	1	0.23	404	91.40	37	8.37	—	—
Third age-group	521	8	1.54	496	95.20	17	3.26	—	—
Other routine inspections ...	72	1	1.39	70	97.22	1	1.39	—	—
TOTAL	1651	19	1.15	1542	93.39	90	5.46	—	—

TABLE III.
BLIND CHILDREN.

Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

A blind child is defined by Section 69 of the Education Act, 1921, as one who is "too blind to be able to read the ordinary school books used by children." This definition covers some children who are totally, or almost totally, blind and can only be appropriately taught in a school for blind children, and others who have partial sight and can be appropriately taught in a school for partially sighted children. Only the first class should be included in this section.

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no school or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	—	nil

PARTIALLY SIGHTED CHILDREN.

Enter in this Section only children who, though they cannot read ordinary school books or cannot read them without injury to their eyesight, have such power of vision that they can appropriately be taught in a school for the partially sighted.

Children who are able by means of suitable glasses to read the ordinary school books used by children without fatigue or injury to their vision should not be included in this Table.

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

DEAF CHILDREN.

A deaf child is defined by Section 69 of the Education Act, 1921, as one who is "too deaf to be taught in a class of hearing children in an elementary school." This definition covers some children who are totally, or almost totally, deaf and can only be appropriately taught in a school for deaf children, and others who have partial hearing and can be appropriately taught in a school for partially deaf children. Only the first class should be included in this section.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no school or Institution.	Total.
2	—	—	—	2

PARTIALLY DEAF CHILDREN.

Enter in this Section children who can appropriately be taught only in a school for the partially deaf.

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.
—	—	—	—	—	Nil.

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN.

Mentally Defective children are children who, not being imbecile and not being merely dull or backward, are incapable by reason of mental defect of receiving proper benefit from the instruction in the ordinary public elementary schools, but are not incapable by reason of that defect of receiving benefit from instruction in special schools for mentally defective children.

At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no school or Institution.	Total.
1	5	—	2	8

EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM SEVERE EPILEPSY.

In this part of the Table only those children should be included who are epileptic within the meaning of the Act, i.e., children who, not being idiots or imbeciles, are unfit by reason of severe epilepsy to attend the ordinary Public Elementary Schools.

For practical purposes the Board are of opinion that children who are subject to attacks of major epilepsy in school should be recorded as "severe" cases and excluded from ordinary public elementary schools.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no school or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	1	1

PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

A.—TUBERCULOUS CHILDREN.

Tuberculous children in areas other than counties or county boroughs who have been ascertained by the County Tuberculosis Officer should not appear in the Table for the county, but in the Table for the appropriate area.

Only children diagnosed as tuberculous and requiring treatment for tuberculosis at a sanatorium, a dispensary, or elsewhere should be recorded in this category. Children suffering from crippling due to tuberculosis which is regarded as being no longer in need of treatment should be recorded as crippled children, provided that the degree of crippling conforms to the description of a crippled child given at the head of Section C below. All other tuberculous children who are regarded as being no longer in need of treatment should be recorded as delicate children provided the Medical Officer is prepared to certify under Section 55 of the Education Act, 1921, that they are incapable by reason of physical defect of receiving proper benefit from the instruction in the ordinary public elementary schools.

1.—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.
—	4	1	1	6

2.—CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

(This category should include tuberculosis of all sites other than those shown in (1) above.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no school or Institution.	Total.
2	20	3	1	26

B.—DELICATE CHILDREN.

This Section should be confined to children (except those included in other groups) whose general health renders it desirable that they should be specially selected for admission to an open-air school. Such children should be included irrespective of the actual provision of open-air Schools in the area, or of the practicability in present circumstances of sending the children to residential schools. At the same time it should be remembered that children should not be regarded as suitable for admission to an open-air school unless the Medical Officer would be prepared to certify under Section 55 of the Education Act, 1921, that they are incapable by reason of physical defect of receiving proper benefit from the instruction in the ordinary public elementary schools.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no school or Institution.	Total.
—	6	3	—	9

C.—CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

This Section should be confined to children (other than those diagnosed as tuberculous and in need of treatment for that disease) who are suffering from a degree of crippling sufficiently severe to interfere materially with a child's normal mode of life, i.e., children who generally speaking are unable to take part, in any complete sense, in physical exercises or games or such activities of the school curriculum as gardening or forms of handwork usually engaged in by other children, and in whose case the Medical Officer would be prepared to certify under Section 55 of the Education Act, 1921, that they are incapable by reason of such physical defect of receiving proper benefit from the instruction in the ordinary public elementary schools.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no school or Institution.	Total.
2	15	—	1	18

D.—CHILDREN WITH HEART DISEASE.

This Section should be confined to children in whose case the Medical Officer would be prepared to certify, under Section 55 of the Education Act, 1921, that they are incapable by reason of such physical defect of receiving proper benefit from the instruction in the ordinary public elementary schools.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no school or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	—	nil

CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM MULTIPLE DEFECTS.

Information is only required in respect of children suffering from any combination of the following types of defect:

Blindness (excluding partially sighted children).
 Deafness (excluding partially deaf children).
 Mental Defect (Feeble-minded).
 Severe Epilepsy.
 Active Tuberculosis.
 Crippling (as defined in Section C above).
 Heart Disease.

Combination of Defect.	At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total
Mental Defect: Crippling.	—	1	—	—	1

TABLE IV.

6c-

Return of Defects treated during the year ended 31st December, 1936.

TREATMENT TABLE.

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 ..	8	—	8
(ii) Other treatment ..	2	—	2
Ringworm-Body	5	—	5
Scabies	6	6	12
Impetigo	122	10	132
Other skin disease ..	70	17	87
Minor Eye Defects	70	10	80
Minor Ear Defects	19	4	23
Miscellaneous	342	20	362
Total	644	67	711

GROUP II.—*Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—GROUP I.)*

	Number of Defects dealt with.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	396	6	402
Other defect or disease of the eyes	26	—	26
Total	422	6	428
Number of children for whom spectacles were:	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
(a) Prescribed	329	6	335
(b) Obtained	322	6	328

TABLE VI.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions. 636

(i.)	Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	9.50
(ii.)	Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	15,145
(iii.)	Number of individual children found unclean	262
(iv.)	Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority	—
(v.)	Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken:	
	(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	—
	(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	1





