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HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND


School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR

1941

J. V. WALKER, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.





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BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer:

J. V. WALKER, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Dental Officer:

R. O. BARBER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.D.S. (since November 3rd, 1941).

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

E. YOUNG, Assoc. R.S.I., F.S.I.A.,
Cert. Meat Inspector, R.S.I.

Sanitary Inspectors:

T. L. 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 and School Nurses:

Miss G. D. CLARK, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss W. E. CARPENTER, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss B. WILSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.'s Certificate, R.S.I.
(Appointed January 1st, 1940).

Clerks:

J. S. ROBERTSON (called up for military service, March 28th, 1941).

A. W. BAILEY.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

1941-1942.

Chairman: Councillor T. H. PRESTEDGE, C.C.

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

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR	Councillor S. E. AUSTIN
(Alderman A. B. C. KEMPE, J.P.)	„ Dr. D. P. CRAWFORD
Alderman W. HAWKINS	„ Dr. A. DUFFY
„ A. E. PETLEY	„ JAS. MARTIN
Councillor the Rev. HARCOURT	„ Mrs. H. L. NICHOLSON
SAMUEL	

MEMBERS OF THE MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE STANDING SUB-COMMITTEE.

1941-1942.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR	Councillor JAS. MARTIN
(Alderman A. B. C. KEMPE, J.P.)	„ Mrs. H. L. NICHOLSON
Alderman W. HAWKINS	„ T. H. PRESTEDGE, C.C.
„ A. E. PETLEY.	„ Mrs. ALLEN
Councillor Mrs. F. L. DUNN	„ Mrs. WILCOX

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

THE YEAR REVIEWED.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my second annual report as Medical Officer of Health to the Borough of Ramsgate. In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health the scale and scope of the report are similar to those adopted last year. The records of the war period are being preserved so that if necessary some wider review may be possible in the future. At the same time it is often difficult to reconstruct at a distance the particular atmosphere and events of a disturbed time, and I have indicated, as far as possible, in these remarks and in the body of the report the outline of the history of Ramsgate as seen from the angle of Public Health during the year 1941.

The health of the Borough was good, without any significant incidence of infectious illness and with no maternal mortality or morbidity. The death rate, calculated on the reduced figure for population supplied by the Registrar-General, is higher than last year. No comparability factor has been supplied for this year and a higher death rate was to be expected, owing to the partial evacuation of the town, whereby younger people have found employment elsewhere, leaving the elderly behind. A note on this matter is to be found on page 7. Where infectious diseases are concerned, the relative freedom of Ramsgate was probably due to its isolation from the country generally during the first half of the year. Its immunity was the more remarkable because during that time the tunnel shelter problem presented a theoretically ideal situation for epidemic spread.

From a Public Health point of view the year 1941 seems to fall into two parts, the first of which was a direct continuation of the circumstances of the latter half of 1940, and the second a period showing a trend towards more normal conditions.

The dominating problem of the early months was the Deep Tunnel Shelters. As was noted in the introductory remarks to the report for 1940, before the end of the year a large population had grown up who, if they did not use the Tunnel Shelters continuously both by day and by night, carried on a considerable part of their life within them. Uncontrolled development went on, each person or family arranging their underground quarters according to their own fancy. Shacks and hovels were improvised throughout the Tunnel system and were heated for the most part by oil lamps and stoves, whereon a certain amount of cooking took place. Fortunately the ventilation throughout the system was satisfactory, but two risks additional to infectious disease were presented at this stage by the danger of fire and of a vitiated atmosphere from the lamps and stoves. The notoriety of the Tunnel Shelters spread far and in the early part of the year several distinguished visitors came to the town to see them. Among them were the Ministers of Home Security and of Health, Miss Ellen Wilkinson and Lord Horder.

It must not be thought that there was anything unique about the difficulties encountered in Ramsgate. Wherever, throughout the country, there were shelters of a similar sort, a similar situation tended to arise. From the beginning the Council was most anxious to establish order and a proper use of the shelters. The fact that for some weeks the problem appeared uncontrolled may have been due to its national aspect, for before local regulations could be approved it was necessary to frame a policy applicable to the country generally.

There is no doubt that the Tunnels provided at this time a new form of social life in the town. Dances were held there and concerts arranged, and it may not be untrue to say that some lonely people, brought together by circumstance of war, were happier there than they had been for years. At the same time the Tunnels used in this manner undoubtedly exercised a bad effect on morale even though no observable deterioration of health took place. People who had once surrendered to living underground found it increasingly difficult to come up again and a peculiar attitude spread among some of them that they were extremely brave to remain in Ramsgate at all. This was at a time when London and many industrial cities were receiving heavier air attacks than any Ramsgate had received.

Control of the Tunnel situation was reached by the provision of bunks and, in one Section, of cubicles in place of home provided beds and shacks, by the adequate spacing of tunnel bunks and cubicles, and by the prohibition of oil lamps and stoves and of the use of most of the Tunnels during the day. (An adequate portion to accommodate shelterers during an "alert" was set aside around each entrance.) Further improvements were the establishment of a Medical Aid Post, of a system of Shelter Wardens, of a Canteen and of better Sanitary Amenities. When the approved regulations were received from Region and work began to establish control, there was a certain amount of opposition. It was very short lived. A proportion of people continued to pass most of the day as well as the night underground, sitting about in the "Alert Section" when the rest of the Tunnel was closed. During the year their number became less.

A permit system was established for bunk and cubicle holders and under the supervision of the shelter Wardens no unauthorised person was allowed to use them. In April, when the permits were issued, over 2,000 people were found to be using the Tunnels for sleeping purposes. By the end of the year the number of actual users was somewhat reduced. Yet the appearance of the tunnels in the late evening was entirely different in December from what it had been in January. The community atmosphere had largely disappeared and people coming down to sleep made straight for their bunks and cubicles and for the most part remained quietly there until morning. An outstanding peculiarity of the Ramsgate Tunnel shelterers, as compared for instance with those using the Tube Stations in London, has been their desire for privacy, so that individual bunks have been converted as far as possible into cubicles by draping them with curtains like old-fashioned four-poster beds. The preservation of good order has been mainly due to the work of the shelter Wardens, who, having to patrol a shelter $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles long, have a somewhat different task from that of their colleagues in many areas. Their appointment in the first instance was made under the auspices of the Public Health Department. They were, however, classified as Wardens and transferred for administrative purposes to the Wardens' office. Close contact has, nevertheless, been kept with them, and I should like to pay tribute to the A.R.P. Sub-Controller and to his personnel for their helpful co-operation. In the latter part of the year, first two and then three women Wardens were appointed and their appointment has been fully justified by its results. From another angle, the Medical Aid Post, staffed by three Civil Defence Casualty personnel from the First Aid Post, two of whom have had previous nursing experience, has done its part in supervising the health and well-being of the shelterers. Though the actual use made of it by them was small and insufficient, it was felt, to justify the appointment of a second post in regular commission, the presence of nurses became appreciated and in co-operation with the Wardens they were able to give valuable service. For the rest of the year after the post had been opened a Health Visitor attended every morning so that the social and remedial aspects of her work could be brought to those who stayed underground.

The question of personal cleanliness among shelter habitués continuously received the attention of this department. In spite of unpromising prospects, only three verminous persons were discovered. They were treated at the Corporation Disinfecting Station.

During the second part of the year the principal concern was the restoration of the School Medical Service, a note on which will be found in the School Medical Report on page 22. The two new departures in the Public Health policy of the Borough inaugurated in 1940 continued through 1941: immunisation against diphtheria and a domiciliary nursing service. Notes upon them and on other interesting matters will be found in the body of the report.

Lastly, I should like to comment upon the one outstanding difficulty presented during the year, which was lack of staff. The Senior Clerk, Mr. J. S. Robertson, was called up to the Royal Air Force on March 28th. His duties were taken over by the junior clerk, Mr. A. W. Bailey, aged 17. He has been able to fulfil this position, made more onerous by the expanding work of the department, and by his own ignorance of it under normal conditions, with great success. Further assistance was found among the ranks of Civil Defence personnel and two lady drivers who had previous office experience were seconded for clerical duties. These in the first place were concerned with Civil Defence matters but included work in connection with the Tunnels. Later, a larger proportion of the work of this department was shared by them. Thus a situation which seemed most unpromising was met successfully.

My thanks are due to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee and also to the Chairman and members of the Civil Defence Committee for the interest they have always shown in and the support they have given to the work of the Department.

My thanks are also due to all members of my staff for their loyalty and zealous co-operation.

I have the honour to be

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. V. WALKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Borough in acres	..	..	..	..	..	4,778
Population, Census 1931	..	..	..	..	..	33,603
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	£252,894
Estimated product of 1d. rate, 41/42	..	..	..	..	..	£495
Total Sunshine in hours, 1941	..	..	..	..	..	1480.2
Total Rainfall in inches, 1941	..	..	..	..	..	22.37
Highest mean temperature	..	..	..	..	82° on 9th July	
Lowest mean temperature	..	..	23° on 17th, 18th, 19th January			

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births—		Total	Male	Female	Birth Rate .. 17.3
Legitimate ..	54.2 per cent.		45.8 per cent.		
Illegitimate ..	47.1 per cent.		52.9 per cent.		
Still Births—					Rate per thousand total (live and still) births .. 7.7
Legitimate ..	50.0 per cent.		50.0 per cent.		
Illegitimate ..	—		—		
Deaths					Death Rate (uncorrected) 20.4
Deaths from Puerperal causes—					
Puerperal Sepsis					There were no deaths from any cause.
Other puerperal causes ..					

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age—

All infants per 1,000 live births	28.3
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	30.8
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	38
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

The following table has been drawn up to render possible a comparison of Vital Statistics for 1941 between England and Wales as a whole and certain administrative areas and Ramsgate.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS.

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.	148 smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County.	RAMSGATE.
Rates per 1,000 Population.					
Births:—					
Live	14.2	14.7	16.4	8.9	17.3
Still	0.51	0.58	0.60	0.33	0.0
Deaths:—					
All Causes	12.9	14.9	13.0	16.3	20.4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	—
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Whooping Cough	0.06	0.07	0.06	0.04	—
Diphtheria	0.07	0.08	0.06	0.03	0.07
Influenza	0.19	0.17	0.20	0.15	0.47
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.07
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.					
Deaths under 1 year of age	59	71	56	68	28
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.1	7.5	4.6	6.8	—

In the above table a (—) signifies that there were no deaths.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

The satisfactory state of 1940, with no Maternal Mortality or Morbidity, was repeated in 1941.

INFANT MORTALITY.

The following table shows the cause of the six deaths under one year:—

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total
Prematurity	1	1	...	...	...	...	1
Accident	1	...	...	1
Infantile Eczema	1	...	...	1
Pneumonia	1	1	...	1	3
Total	1	1	1	3	...	1	6

OLD AGE.

In view of their being no comparability factor issued this year by the Registrar-General, a higher death rate than has been usual in recent years is recorded. This is due to the presence in the town of a large proportion of elderly persons, and the following analysis of the deaths during the year shows that the majority of them occurred over 65 years of age and more than one-third over 75 years of age. Thus the reputation of the Borough for longevity remains unimpaired.

Percentage of men dying over 65 years of age	55.9
Percentage of women dying over 65 years of age	68.0
Percentage of total population dying over 65 years of age	62.5
Percentage of total population dying over 75 years of age	34.9

STAFF.

A complete list of the staff is given at the beginning of this report. It will be noted that Mr. R. O. Barber, Dental Officer to the Maternity and Child Welfare and School Medical Departments, returned to duty from Military Service during the course of the year.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Corporation Laboratory which was destroyed by enemy action in 1940, was not reconstructed and all specimens submitted for examination were sent during 1941 to the Kent County Laboratory, Maidstone.

During the year 19 samples of graded and ordinary milk were submitted for bacteriological examination to the County Laboratory and 4 were reported upon as being unsatisfactory. Five samples of milk were examined for the presence of tubercle bacilli and all reported to be negative.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

One of the two Ambulances belonging to the St. John Ambulance Brigade was destroyed by enemy action early in the year. Consequent upon this another ambulance was supplied from the British Red Cross and St. John Society for the use of Service and Civil Defence casualties.

These two ambulances have fully met the civilian requirements of the town and have co-operated as and when required in Civil Defence.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

The scheme outlined in the Annual Report for 1940, where Domiciliary Nursing Services were supplied to the sick of the town on medical request by Civil Defence personnel allocated to the two Mobile Units, was continued throughout 1941 with increasing success. At its meeting in January the Public Health Committee decided to make a small charge of 6d. or 1s. per visit in ordinary cases. Necessitous patients were to be visited for a smaller fee or free of charge, according to circumstances. No rigid income scale was adopted to assist assessment and the charge to be made was left to the discretion of the two senior nurses. These senior nurses were Health Visitor Miss B. Wilson, who acted as liaison officer with the Health Department, and the trained nurse in charge of the Mobile Unit personnel, Miss F. E. Yeadon.

During the year £49 16s. 3d. was collected and the total expense incurred was £3 19s. 11d. Though this appears a satisfactory balance, it does not represent a self-supporting organisation, since all salaries and transport charges have been met out of other funds. This must be borne in mind should the Council consider the continuation after the war of a Municipal Domiciliary Nursing Service.

The following is an analysis of the work carried out:—

Home Nursing, 1941.

Number of visits	3,255
Number of patients	120
Average number of visits per patient	27.1
Average number of visits per day, including Sundays	8.97

Acute Infectious Diseases.

	Visits.	Patients attended.
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	1
Measles	7	1
Whooping Cough	4	1
	<hr/> 13	<hr/> 3

Diseases of the Alimentary Tract.

Paralysed bowel	157	1
Diverticulitis	7	1
Constipation	22	12
Threadworms	8	4
Diarrhoea	15	1
Diabetes	17	1
Post-operative appendisectomy	2	1
	<hr/> 228	<hr/> 21

Diseases of the Respiratory System.

Pneumonia	54	3
Bronchitis	16	2
Influenza	3	1
Congestion of the lungs	34	1
Asthma	8	1
Pleurisy	24	4
	<hr/> 139	<hr/> 12

Diseases of the Hearth and Blood Vessels.

	Visits.	Patients attended.
Varicose ulcers	219	2
Heart Failure	84	5
Ascites	61	2
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	249	8
Cerebral Tumour	31	2
Myocarditis	63	1
Hemiplegia	23	1
Gangrene of the foot	53	1
	<hr/> 783	<hr/> 22

Diseases of the Uro-genital System.

Prolapse of the Cervix	1	1
Nephritis	43	2
Supra-pubic prostatectomy	122	1
Miscarriage	47	4
Uræmia	3	1
Abscess of kidney	22	1
Vesico—Vaginal fistula	9	1
	<hr/> 247	<hr/> 11

Diseases of the Bones, Joints and Muscles.

Arthritis	184	3
T.B. Sinus of the hip and knee joints	238	2
Fractured femur	35	1
	<hr/> 457	<hr/> 6

Diseases of the Skin.

Dermatitis	76	2
Eczema	447	2
Impetigo	9	1
	<hr/> 532	<hr/> 5

Senility	619	29
Cancer	193	7
General Debility	28	1
Various dressings	2	1
Breast abscess	3	1
Rodent ulcer	11	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
GRAND TOTAL	3,255	120

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

Where these have affected school children they are described in the report on the School Medical Service, page 23.

Ante-Natal and Child Welfare Clinics continued to meet throughout the year at Curtis House, Princes Street.

The Clinic for immunisation against diphtheria met at the Health Centre, Newington Road, at fortnightly intervals on Thursday afternoons. During the early weeks of the year a Clinic was held for immunisation against organisms of the Typhoid group on Tuesday afternoons at the Health Centre. The number of persons making application for this latter immunity did not justify its continuation.

The bathrooms attached to the Corporation Disinfecting Station in Broad Street were available throughout the year for the cleansing of verminous persons and for the treatment of scabies.

Cases of Scabies treated	..	..	16 men	14 women
Verminous persons treated	..	..	3 men	— women

The clothes and bedding of these patients were treated in the steam disinfectant at the same time.

HOSPITALS.

The few infectious cases during the year found hospital accommodation at the Infectious Diseases Hospitals at Herne Bay, Canterbury and Easry.

Voluntary.—The Ramsgate General Hospital has continued to meet the civilian needs of the town. Of the 110 beds available, 75 were fully staffed. At the beginning of the year the Ministry of Health permitted 25 per cent. of these 75 beds to be occupied. Later this was increased to 50 per cent. and later still to 60 per cent. The beds thereby made available have been adequate.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Notification of Births.—During the year 110 births were notified. Of these, 108 were live births and two were still-births. No births were not notified. Of the live births, doctors notified 14 and midwives 96.

Institutional Provision for Expectant Mothers.—Although the Maternity Ward of the Ramsgate General Hospital was not officially open, continued provision was made there for complicated maternity cases and others unsuitable for confinement at home. Two cases were admitted under the existing arrangement with the Hospital.

The scheme sponsored by the Ministry of Health for the evacuation of pregnant women for confinement in a safer area continued throughout the year. It was administered in the same manner as described in last year's report. Seventy-nine expectant mothers availed themselves of this amenity and in general were well satisfied with the treatment they received.

There is one difficulty in the way of a wider use of the scheme, and that is the problem presented to so many women of the disposal of young children during their absence. Since Ramsgate has no war industries, schemes for nurseries, which have been so widely developed in other areas, have not been made here and no local accommodation for such children is available. The County Medical Officer is fully aware of the situation and has endeavoured to meet it, but also without success. This would seem to be the only flaw in an otherwise admirable and comprehensive scheme, and there is no doubt that if means could be found to eliminate it more expectant mothers would be evacuated.

Maternity and Infant Welfare Centres.—During the year the Maternity and Infant Welfare Centres continued to operate at Curtis House, Princes Street. The attendance at all clinics was maintained at a steady level. The number of children and attendances during 1941 were as follows:

Total number of children who first attended during the year
and who on the date of their first attendance were

Under one year of age	..	..	..	..	150
1-5 years of age	..	..	..	..	26

Total number of children who attended and who at the end of the year were

Under one year of age	133
1-5 years of age	203

Total number of attendances by children

Under one year of age	1,819
1-5 years of age	789

Mothers' Clinic.

Number of individual expectant mothers who attended ..	141
Number of individual mothers who attended for post-natal advice	3

It will be noted from the above statistics that a high proportion of the total expectant mothers and children born in the town attended at the clinic. Owing to the abnormal conditions of the time an accurate percentage cannot be calculated, but the general impression is satisfactory.

Supply of Milk.

As described in the Annual Report for 1940, the supply of liquid milk to expectant and nursing mothers and to pre-school children continued to be made by the Ministry of Food through the local Food Office.

In the early part of the year the scheme was extended to include dried milk. The Welfare Authority, however, exercised its power to supply proprietary dried milk at the discretion of the Medical Officer of Health, and 3,543 lbs. of dried milk were so supplied.

The National Dried Milk has proved to be a satisfactory food product, but at the same time it was felt that it was better in many cases where breast feeding was impossible to put the child in the first instance upon a proprietary dried milk of known and tested merit.

Supply of Vitamins.

By Circular 2520 of the Ministry of Health, dated 5th November, 1941, a scheme was outlined for the distribution free of charge of Cod Liver Oil and certain vitamin-rich food preparations to all children under two years of age. The distribution was to be made by the Ministry of Food through the Local Food Office and the co-operation of Welfare Authorities was required to ensure their reaching their recipients.

The scheme was in operation before the end of the year and distribution was made from Curtis House and from the Health Centre each on two days a week.

Work of Health Visitors.

The following summary shows briefly the visits paid by the Health Visitors during the year:—

Number of infants under one year visited for the first time	190
Number of infants under one year visited	333
Total visits to infants under one year	1,407
Number of children 1-5 years visited	778
Total visits to children 1-5 years	3,419
Number of expectant mothers visited	94
Total visits to expectant mothers	194
Total visits to homes in connection with cases of infectious diseases	32

Infant Life Protection.

The numbers on the registers were:

			Foster-Mothers.	Children.
On 1st January, 1941	..	..	2	2
On 31st December, 1941	..	..	4	4

The increase during the year took place without the approval of the Health Department. The condition of the foster-child is in all cases satisfactory and the Health Visitors have kept them under continuous observation.

Nursing Homes.

The names of two Nursing Homes have continued on the register but no patients were admitted to them during the year.

BRITISH RESTAURANTS.

The establishment of British Restaurants in Ramsgate was part of a nation-wide scheme to maintain the adequate nutrition of the population, especially of that section of it which was unable to obtain an adequate mid-day meal at home. The aim of the Restaurants was and is to supply such a meal at a moderate price.

Owing to the evacuated state of Ramsgate and to the many families and households broken up as a result of it, the need for such facilities was most evident. A Community Kitchen was first opened at St. George's School in January, 1941. It was widely appreciated and in June its name was changed to "British Restaurant." At this time about 350 persons per week were obtaining their mid-day meal there.

A second Restaurant was opened at Ellington School on September 5th and a third at Hereson School was projected for the new year.

At the end of 1941 some 1,400 persons per week were attending.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

There is nothing to note under this heading for the year 1941.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

As the following table indicates, there was no serious epidemic of any infectious disease during 1941. Although there was in many parts of the country a considerable outbreak of measles, and to a less extent of whooping-cough, these conditions were but faintly reflected in the Borough. During the spring the notifications received of cases of measles raised a certain apprehension of the outbreak of an epidemic, which, however, reached no more than moderate proportions. The relative immunity of the town to epidemics was probably due to its isolation from the rest of the country. During the first half of the year very little intercourse took place between this and other localities. During the latter part of the year a growing stream of returning evacuees broke down this relative isolation, but up to the end of the year without untoward result.

The total number of notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) was 68 for 1941, as compared with 107 for 1940.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1941.

Disease	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.	AGE INCIDENCE.												
				Over												
				0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65	
Cerebro-spinal Fever	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	
Scarlet Fever ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Whooping Cough	10	—	—	1	—	2	1	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	
Measles	36	—	1	3	5	4	6	5	11	—	—	2	—	—	—	
Pneumonia	16	2	7	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	6	
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Total	68	5	9	5	5	8	7	8	15	—	—	3	2	9	6	

In order to illustrate the comparison between conditions in Ramsgate as relating to certain common infectious diseases and those elsewhere, the following table has been compiled from data provided by the Registrar-General.

COMPARABILITY OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1941.

		England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.	148 smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000), at 1931 Census.	London Administrative County.	RAMSGATE.
		Notifications : Rates per 1,000 Population				
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	0.25	0.31	0.20	0.30	0.13
Scarlet Fever	...	1.47	1.49	1.51	1.01	0.07
Whooping Cough	...	4.39	4.37	4.50	3.50	0.67
Erysipelas	...	0.30	0.36	0.27	0.50	0.13
Measles	...	10.33	8.27	10.47	4.77	2.42
Pneumonia	...	1.25	1.53	1.04	1.07	1.08

Diphtheria.

No case of this disease was notified during the year.

The campaign for active immunisation against diphtheria, the initiation of which was described in last year's report, was vigorously pressed. In view of the traditional attitude of Ramsgate people against active immunisation, as illustrated by the poor returns of vaccination, the campaign has not been unsuccessful. But though its beginning has been promising, there still remains much to be done. The work during the year was as follows:

Individual children for whom parents requested immunisation	467
Individual children for whom immunisation was completed:	
Pre-school children	180
School children	187

The Antigen A.P.T. continued to be used in two doses of 0.3cc and 0.5cc respectively, separated by an interval of four weeks.

Diseases of the Enteric Group.

Free inoculation against the organisms of typhoid and para-typhoid fevers continued to be offered, but without strong emphasis.

During the year 51 persons availed themselves of the amenity; of these 33 were Civil Defence personnel.

Vaccination.

The vaccination officers for the district have kindly supplied me with the following particulars:

Successfully vaccinated	40
Insusceptible to vaccination	Nil
Number of certificates from conscientious objectors ..	59
Died unvaccinated	4
Postponed for medical certificate	Nil
Removed from district	17

One cannot but deplore the high proportion, 49 per cent., of parents opposed to the vaccination of their children. Although during 1941 no cases of smallpox was anywhere notified, at any time a case may arrive in the country and spread far and wide a virulent form of a deadly and disfiguring disease. Time was when one out of every four children under 10 years of age died of smallpox, and of those that remained many were blinded or disfigured for life.

Tuberculosis.

Thirty-two cases of Tuberculosis were notified for the first time during the year, as compared with 33 in 1940. Of these, 26 were of Pulmonary Disease. Twenty-one deaths were certified as due to Tuberculosis, 18 of them Pulmonary Disease.

TABLE.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1 ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
1-5 ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
5-10 ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10-15 ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
15-20 ...	1	5	1	—	—	2	1	—
20-25 ...	4	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
25-35 ...	3	—	1	—	2	3	—	—
35-45 ...	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
45-55 ...	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
55-65 ...	4	1	—	—	4	1	—	—
Over 65 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	16	10	2	4	10	8	2	1

Number of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths	4
Percentage of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths	19.1

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR
for the Year 1941.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the following report, showing briefly the work supervised and carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors and myself.

The normal duties were somewhat curtailed by the extra work under the Civil Defence organisation, principally in connection with the decontamination of clothing and food schemes, but every endeavour was made to maintain the standard of the food supply by inspection of meat in the slaughter-houses and visits to local premises, as well as the procuring of samples for submission to the Public Analyst.

I again desire to thank the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their help and advice and to acknowledge the loyal co-operation and efficient work of Messrs. T. L. Martin and F. Brown.

Mr. F. S. Burrow, Sanitary Inspector, Broadstairs Urban District Council, has done excellent work in training the Decontamination of Food Squads and Squads in connection with the Joint Scheme for Decontamination of Porous and Protective Clothing, and sincere appreciation is expressed for his co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

E. YOUNG,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Complaints.

Number of complaints received and dealt with	254
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Inspections.

Under Public Health Acts and other Acts, Regulations and Orders	2,861
Of houses, number inspected under Housing Act	4
Inspections of drainage systems and subsequent revisits ..	185
Drains tested	14
In connection with Infectious Diseases	5
Animals, keeping of	5
Cowsheds	38
Common Lodging-houses	1
Fish-fryers	5
Food shops	694
Marine stores, etc.	11
Milkshops and dairies	53
Overcrowding	17
Premises licensed for music and dancing	3
Premises as to provision of refuse receptacles	2
Premises with reference to rat infestation	56
Repairs and subsequent revisits	69

Restaurants	64
A.R.P. Tunnels	156
Slaughter-houses	437
Stables	8
Tuberculosis cases	50
Verminous rooms	21
Shops Act	141
Decontamination of Food scheme	42
Decontamination of Clothing scheme	78
Emergency Mortuary	15
Miscellaneous	381

Notices served, etc.

Preliminary notice served or letters written	41
Nuisances abated on verbal instructions	53

Work done in connection with Drainage and Housing.

The following defects were remedied and improvements carried out during the year:

Houses re-drained	1
Houses at which drains were repaired	16
Choked drains cleared	16
Intercepting traps fixed	3
Gully traps fixed	2
Inspection chambers built, new covers provided and rendered	5
Fresh air inlet valves fixed	2
Soil and vent pipes fixed or repaired	1
W.C. pans fixed	35
Additional W.C.'s built	1
New flushing cisterns provided	3
Flushing cisterns repaired	1
Sink wastepipes renewed or trapped	3
Eavesgutters repaired or renewed	2
Roofs repaired	5
Stoves repaired or renewed	4
Water supply pipes renewed	1
Rooms fumigated and cleansed for vermin	7
Houses renovated	1
Sanitary dustbins provided	14
Overcrowding abated	17
Miscellaneous	14

Inspection of Controlled Premises.

The following table shows the number of premises, etc., and inspections made to such premises during the year:

	Number.	Inspections made
Common Lodging-houses	1	1
Slaughter-houses	6	437
Fish Fryers	17	5
Marine Store Dealers	4	11
Fat Melters and Bone Boilers	1	1

Shops Acts, 1934.

The Sanitary Inspectors made 141 visits regarding the requirements of Section 10 as to the arrangements for ventilation, temperature and sanitary and washing facilities, etc.

The following is a summary of work carried out to shop premises:

Shops re-drained	1
Drains repaired	4
Miscellaneous	1

Disinfestation of Premises.

Number found to be infested:

Council houses	9
Others	8

Number of premises disinfested:

Council houses	9
Others	8

Disinfestation of premises other than Council houses is carried out by local builders under supervision of this department.

Disinfestation of Persons and Clothing.

Baths are installed at the Cleansing Station, Broad Street, Ramsgate, for the cleansing of vermin-infested persons.

Clothes are fumigated in steam disinfectant at the same premises.

Disinfection.

Eighty-two rooms were disinfected after cases of infectious disease or on the request of tenants.

Three hundred and twenty-two sets of bedding, clothing, etc., were also removed for disinfection and returned.

Housing.

There is as yet no shortage of housing accommodation.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**Milk and Dairies Order, and Food and Drugs Act, 1938.**

The number of premises on the register at the end of the year and the number of inspections during the year is shown in the following table:

	Number.	No. of Inspections.
Cowsheds	6	38
Dairies	23	46
Other shops	144	7

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

Licences issued by the Kent County Council:

To produce Accredited Milk	5
------------------------------------	---

Licences issued by the Borough Council:

To distribute Tuberculin Tested Milk bottled outside the Borough	2
To Pasteurise Milk	4
To distribute Pasteurised Milk not bottled on the premises ..	1

Results of Milk Samples taken during 1941 for Cleanliness.

	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Total.
Samples of Graded and Ordinary Milk	19	4	23

Results of Biological Tests for Tuberculosis.

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Samples from Milk Producers' Stock ..	—	5	5

Other Licences granted under Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Number of premises registered for the

(a) Sale of ice-cream .. .. .	..	..	..	67
(b) Manufacture and sale of ice-cream .. .. .	..	..	..	10
(c) Preparation or manufacture of sausages, pressed pickled or preserved food .. .. .	..	..	..	13
(d) Fish curing and smoking .. .. .	..	..	..	2
(e) Ham cooking .. .. .	..	..	..	7
(f) Manufacture of sausages .. .. .	..	..	..	15
(g) Fish frying .. .. .	..	..	..	17

Ice-Cream.

The Ministry of Food prohibited the use of milk in the manufacture of ice-cream for sale and as a consequence no ice-cream was made in the Borough in 1941.

Meat and Other Foods.

The slaughtering of animals for food is now under Government control and meat from two authorised slaughter-houses in the Borough is now sent to butchers' shops throughout the Isle of Thanet.

This arrangement has meant considerable extra work for the staff, inspections having to be carried out early mornings or late at night.

All condemned meat and offal is sent to a recognised salvage firm after being treated with an approved green colouring liquid.

During the year the total weight of food surrendered and destroyed was 15 tons 11 cwts. 2 qrs.,

including 32 carcasses condemned as suffering from tuberculosis. As in the past, the source of each animal was communicated to the County Medical Officer so that the condition of the herd and the milk supply could be investigated.

In the total of unsound food a quantity of foodstuff rendered unfit for human consumption in air raids is included, as also are two lots of unfit food which were discovered in vacated premises in the Borough and which have been the subject of prosecutions by the Food Control Committee. Vendor was fined £10 and £1 11s. 6d. costs.

Food and Drug Act, 1938.

During the year 81 samples (49 formal and 32 informal) were taken by the Sanitary Inspectors and submitted for analysis to the Public Analyst.

Description of Sample.	Formal	Informal	Genuine	Not Genuine
Milk	38	—	33	5
Jam	2	—	1	1
Cocoa	—	3	3	—
Sugar	—	2	2	—
Flour (self-raising)	—	7	7	—
Custard Powder	4	—	4	—
Paste, Meat and Fish	—	5	5	—
Sausages	1	—	1	—
Meat Products	2	3	5	—
Sardines	—	1	—	—
Oatmeal	1	—	—	1
Oranjeast Tonic	1	—	—	—
Cheese Powder	—	1	—	—
Onion Extract	—	2	1	1
Orange Substitute	—	1	—	1
Lemon Substitute	—	1	—	1
Aspirin Tablets	—	1	1	—
Cod Liver Oil	—	1	1	—
Castor Oil	—	1	1	—
Camphorated Oil	—	1	1	—
Tincture of Iodine	—	1	—	1
Tincture of Quinine	—	1	1	—

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

The average figure being: Fat, 3.35; non-fatty solids, 8.89; total solids, 12.24.

Particulars of the samples reported to be not genuine and action taken in regard to each sample:

Sample No.	Article	Result of Analysis.	Action Taken.
378	Jam	Contained 74 parts per million of sulphur di-oxide ..	Vendor cautioned
394	Milk	Deficient in fat to the extent of 16.6% ..	After receiving letter of explanation from Vendor and interviewing representative from Milk Marketing Board, vendor cautioned.
396	Milk	Deficient in fat to the extent of 16.6% ..	Vendor and Farmer cautioned
235	Milk	Deficient in fat to the extent of 15% ..	Appeal to cow samples
236	Milk	Deficient in fat to the extent of 17% ..	
243	Milk	Deficient in fat to the extent of 8% ..	Farmer cautioned
427	Lemonstead substitute	Contained no Vitamin C; was labelled rich in Vitamin C ..	This sample was informal; unable to obtain formal sample as sale had been withdrawn. Ministry of Food informed
435	Tincture of Iodine	Contained 2.16% of Potassium Iodide, as against the permissible maximum of 1.55%	Vendor cautioned
439	Oatmeal	Consisted of "Semolina"	Proceedings. Fined 5s. and costs

Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations.

The following 56 samples were taken under the provision of the Food and Drugs Act and were examined by the Public Analyst for the presence of preservatives or added colouring matter:

Milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Jam	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Paste	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Custard Powder	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Sausage	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Meat Products	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Cheese Powder	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

Numerous additional duties were carried out during the year; many, fortunately, did not take up much time, but those which made considerable demands on the time of the Sanitary Inspectors were:

Inspection of Properties damaged in Air Raids.

In every case where damage is sustained by shops and other premises containing foodstuffs the Inspectors make a thorough inspection of the stock to determine its fitness for human food.

A.R.P. Duties.

Deep Shelter Tunnels.—It is with a feeling of relief to be able to report that the bad conditions existing in the deep tunnel shelters at the close of 1940 were effectively dealt with during 1941.

The census of the persons resorting to the tunnels for sleeping purposes was completed during the first few weeks of the year under review, and every person was issued with a permit bearing his or her name, address, national registration number and the number of the bunk or cubicle to which the person had been allocated. At the end of the year there were the following persons sleeping in the tunnels:

Children under 14 years	409
Females above 14 years of age	1,041
Males above 14 years of age	665
Total	2,115

The rules made by the Regional Commissioner under the Defence Regulations, 1939, and by the Town Council, gave power to enforce the removal of the worst conditions existing in the tunnels in 1940, one of which was the tendency of many persons to stay in their bunks or cubicles throughout the day and night.

The parts of the tunnels used for sleeping purposes are now barricaded off between the hours of 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. and the habitués confined to portions near to the entrances during the day time.

The Town Council appointed 12 Wardens (ten male and two female) to patrol the tunnels and to carry out the rules made for good conduct, etc. There is no doubt that the efforts of the tunnel wardens have contributed in no small measure to the great improvement in conditions existing at the end of 1941.

As the mode of living of certain persons in the tunnels was conducive to the breeding of lice, etc., every encouragement was given to these persons to avail themselves of the apparatus at the Cleansing Station. All agreed to do this except one person, who had to be threatened with legal proceedings before he would submit to be bathed and have his clothes fumigated. This latter person and the worst of the others now attend the Cleansing Station at regular intervals.

Before the accommodation in the tunnels was properly organised the tunnels were frequently sprayed with disinfectant. This practice was relaxed a little when the bunks and cubicles were arranged to permit as much space per person as possible. The partitions and curtains, etc., put up by the tunnel dwellers in 1940 have been removed and now there is a steady flow of air throughout the tunnels.

When the use of oil stoves was prohibited in the tunnels a local Caterer, in collaboration with the Town Council, erected and ran a canteen in the part of the tunnel which is open for shelter day and night. The supply of hot beverages thus provided is appreciated, especially in the late evening and early morning, and plans for extending the facilities to two other portions of the tunnels are under consideration.

Decontamination of Gas Contaminated Clothing.

Forty-three volunteers for the decontamination of protective clothing were trained during 1941.

The managements of three local laundries have kindly offered to co-operate in the decontamination of porous clothing and a start was made with the training of the laundry employees for the work.

I should like to place on record my appreciation of the response made by the volunteers for this strenuous and essential part of the Civil Defence organisation, and also to the management of the laundries for permitting the training during working hours.

My thanks are due to Mr. F. S. Burrow, Sanitary Inspector, Broadstairs, for his assistance in the training of the volunteers.

Decontamination of Food.

As intimated in the last report, proposals for the use of sites for this purpose had been submitted to the Ministry of Food and approval was obtained for the use of a building, and this has been adapted.

A course of instruction on the Decontamination of Foodstuffs inaugurated by the Ministry of Food was attended by Mr. E. Young, Senior Sanitary Inspector, and Mr. F. Brown, additional Sanitary Inspector, and afterwards efforts were made to recruit a Food Decontamination Squad from local traders. Six persons volunteered to undertake these duties, and a squad composed of two butchers, two grocers, a baker and a greengrocer was formed.

As the work of Food Decontamination will be conducted in close co-operation with that undertaken by the Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.C., Mr. F. S. Burrow, Sanitary Inspector, Broadstairs, kindly undertook to conduct a course of lectures for the Food Decontamination Squad in conjunction with those he had prepared for his own squads. The lectures were followed by two practice "Gas Exercises," which gave the squads the opportunity of putting their theory into practice, and valuable lessons were learned from these practices. They will be continued at intervals in the future.

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer

For the Year 1941

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my second School Medical Report, for the year 1941.

The clearest index of the work of the Department during 1941 is provided by the greatly increased proportion of time spent by your staff on school medical work in the last three months of the year. Whether this is an unmixed cause for congratulation may be doubtful. Ramsgate has remained an evacuation area and the presence of children among its residual population is a source of potential danger to themselves and of embarrassment to the war effort in the event of a serious emergency. However, since the children are undoubtedly here and, short of compulsory general evacuation, are likely to stay, the provision of educational and medical facilities for them is a necessity.

For the first six months the school medical services were almost in abeyance. There was an intermittent trickle of evacuees to Staffordshire under the official scheme and unofficially, no doubt, to other areas, though of these latter the department has had no definite knowledge. The former were all inspected by myself before departure and were sometimes accompanied by a School Nurse if she could be spared. Latterly in the year this aspect of the work has been overshadowed by other matters, but it has continued, and in all 174 children have in this manner been evacuated.

A landmark in the year was the night of June 23-24, when an order was put into operation for the compulsory registration of all children of school age resident in the Borough on that night. This was ostensibly intended as a preliminary to compulsory evacuation and very quickly after its completion a mass inspection of the children registered was arranged to assess their fitness for billets or need of special care by the reception authority. In the course of the week beginning July 6th, 581 children (73.5 per cent. of the total registered) were inspected in ten sessions. Two doctors belonging to the Emergency Medical Service, Dr. W. B. Loveless and Dr. D. P. Crawford, co-operated, for whose help I am most grateful. Members of Civil Defence personnel stationed at Newington First Aid Post were seconded to assist the School Nurse in attendance, an experiment which proved, then and subsequently, successful. The standard of inspection was not as high as that of an ordinary routine medical inspection, but some useful observations were made. It was at once clear that no gross deterioration had taken place in the condition of the children of school age who had remained in Ramsgate during the arduous year since evacuation was first urged in 1940.

On August 25th voluntary part-time attendance for an hour per day began at four schools, called for this purpose "instruction centres," in the Borough. At once arrangements were made to institute a routine medical inspection of the children attending them, and during the autumn, 428 (83.3 of the total enrolled) were inspected in the course of 11 sessions. It will be noted that a higher average number were dealt with per session than that recommended by the Board of Education, 38.9 as compared with 25. This was possible because of the ample adequacy of the room and help available, thanks in the second respect to the willing assistance of Civil Defence personnel. Apart from this, there is something to be said for a higher average per session, it being understood, of course, that further time is always spent upon every case showing a pathological deviation from the normal. The findings at the routine medical inspection confirmed those of the earlier mass inspection.

The findings with regard to nutrition are summarised in Table II below. For purposes of comparison the equivalent findings in 1938, the last year of peace, are reproduced also. In my opinion the nutritional state of the children remaining in Ramsgate has suffered no significant deterioration. In making this statement I am not forgetting the apparent evidence of such deterioration illustrated by the statistics given. It must not be forgotten that the assessment of nutrition is a matter not at present permitting of a quantitative estimation, so that it depends to some extent upon the views of the inspector as to what constitutes the normal standard. This fact has been shown to account for wide differences of assessment between individual inspectors examining the same children. I am personally disposed to treat very literally the third nutritional category, "Slightly Subnormal," and place within it all border-line cases somewhat below the average. It is itself, in fact, explicitly a border-line group. Another possible cause is that the children left in the town belong for the most part to the less economically favoured groups of the community. However this may be, I can say definitely that the children of war-time Ramsgate compare favourably with the peace-time standards of other authorities.

Such an estimate, of course, leaves no room for complacency. Plenty of scope remains for improvement of the average, as well as of the individual sub-nourished child. Prior to the re-opening of the schools as instruction centres, no provision of milk or meals had been made. Subsequently milk was obtained by from 90 to 95 per cent. of all children attending. Up to the end of the year no plan had been adopted for the provision of meals, either to necessitous or under-nourished children, or to others generally. The use of the British Restaurants has been under discussion in this respect both with the Board of Education and locally, and some decision may be hoped for in the new year. Meanwhile, all cases estimated as under-nourished have been followed up by the School Nurses.

With regard to cleanliness, our knowledge depends solely upon the findings at medical inspection, as no routine "surprise visits" to the schools had been made up to the end of the year by the Nurses. Thus no statistics comparable with those of previous years have been obtained. The impression formed was that there had been some deterioration in head cleanliness. In view of the use made by sections of the public, including children, of the deep tunnel shelters, it is hardly surprising. At the first mass inspection, 52 children were found to have nits in their hair, equivalent to 8.95 per cent. At the routine inspection 18 individuals were so found, equivalent to 4.2 per cent. It is to be feared that the difference does not necessarily indicate a real improvement.

No case of scabies was found at or referred from school in 1941. By other channels it was known to the department that there were cases of scabies in the Borough, but they were not numerous and did not appear to affect children in school. At all inspections a certain number were found who were uncleanly in a less technical sense of the word, with unwashed and flea-bitten skins. They were not more numerous than usual.

A Minor Ailment and Inspection Clinic was established at the Health Centre, Newington Road, in December, but was poorly patronised during the short remainder of the term. As all other schemes of treatment had lapsed as a result of the closure of schools and suspension of services, it became necessary to recreate them one by one. A scheme for ophthalmic treatment has been established with the co-operation of Dr. W. J. Dunlop which worked satisfactorily from the first session held by him on November 19. The work of this clinic is summarised in Table III below. The School Dentist, Mr. R. O. Barber, was invalided out of the Army during the year and returned to duty in the autumn. He has carried out dental inspections on 491 children, 95.7 of total enrolled, but no treatment was given in 1941, as facilities were not available (Table IV). This was partly due to the spoiling of much of the dental apparatus owned by the Corporation as a result of enemy action. Partly it was due to the use of the Health Centre as a First Aid Post in Civil Defence, with consequent alienation of rooms and installations from their original purpose. Until Mr. Barber's return an interim dental service for school children had been planned in co-operation with a private dental surgeon in the town, Mr. H. E. Pargeter. A few patients were referred to him in October.

No steps had, to the end of the year, been taken to reconstitute a scheme for ear, nose and throat or for orthopaedic treatment, though both had received consideration.

It has not been possible to effect any pooling of staff with neighbouring authorities or release of staff for other services, in accordance with the suggestions of Board of Education circulars 1523 and 1559. Actually it has proved helpful to supplement the available staff from Civil Defence personnel,

particularly in the office, where the clerical work was carried out during the latter part of the year by one junior clerk, aged 17, with, I am glad to say, great success. The use of Civil Defence personnel at school inspections has been noted above and was appreciated by them.

I would like in conclusion to thank all those whose interest, enthusiasm and co-operation have made the year's work a success: the Chairman, Deputy-Chairman and members of the Education Committee, the Secretary for Education, the two Head Teachers who returned from Staffordshire to superintend the re-opened instruction centres, and, not least, my own staff.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. V. WALKER,

Clarendon House,
Ramsgate.
February, 1942.

School Medical Officer.

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT RETURNS

Year ended 31st December, 1941.

TABLE I.

Medical Inspections of Children attending Public Elementary Schools.

A. Routine Medical Inspections.

(1) No. of Inspections in prescribed groups							
Entrants	..	..	..	..	..	3	
Second Age Group	..	..	..	..	..	124	
Third Age Group	..	..	..	..	..	33	Total 160
(2) No. of other Routine Inspections						268	
							Grand Total 428

B. Other Inspections.

No. of Special Inspections and re-Inspections	755
---	----	----	----	----	----	-----

TABLE II.

Classification of the nutrition of children inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Group.

Number of Children Inspected.	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly abnormal)		D (Bad)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
428	35	8.2	347	81.1	44	10.3	2	0.5

The comparative figures for the year 1938, the last year of peace, are as follows:

Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly Subnormal)		D (Bad)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1638	218	13.30	1382	84.36	38	2.32	—	—

TABLE III.

Group I.—Treatment of Minor Ailments (excluding uncleanness):

Total number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year under the Authority's Scheme 4

Group II.—Treatment of Defective Vision and Squint under the Authority's Scheme:

Errors of Refraction (including Squint) 31
 Other defect or disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I) 1
 Total 32

No. of Children for whom spectacles were

(a) Prescribed 22
 (b) Obtained 13

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat None

TABLE IV.

Dental Inspection and Treatment.

(1) Number of Children inspected by the Dentist:

(a) Routine Age-groups—

Age.	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Total
Number	15	76	66	66	65	43	52	44	50	14	491

(2) Specials None

(c) Total (Routine and Specials) None

(2) Number found to require treatment 400

(3) Number actually treated —

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment —

(5) Half-days devoted to—

Inspection 8

Treatment —

Total 8

(6) Fillings—

Permanent teeth —

Temporary teeth —

(7) Extractions—

Permanent teeth —

Temporary teeth —

(8) Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions —

(9) Other operations—

Permanent teeth —

Temporary teeth —

TABLE V.

Verminous Conditions.

i. Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurse or other authorised persons	Nil
ii. Total number of examinations of children in the schools by School Nurses or other authorised persons	Nil
iii. Number of individual children found unclean	Nil
iv. Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921	Nil
v. Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken:	
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	Nil
(b) Under school attendance byelaws	Nil

TABLE VI.

Blind and Deaf Children.

Number of totally or almost totally blind and deaf children who are not at the present time receiving education suitable for their special needs. The return relates to all such children, including evacuees resident in the Authority's area None

Mentally Defective Children.

Total number of children notified during the year ended 31st December, 1941, by the Local Education Authority to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority, under the Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928 None



