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HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

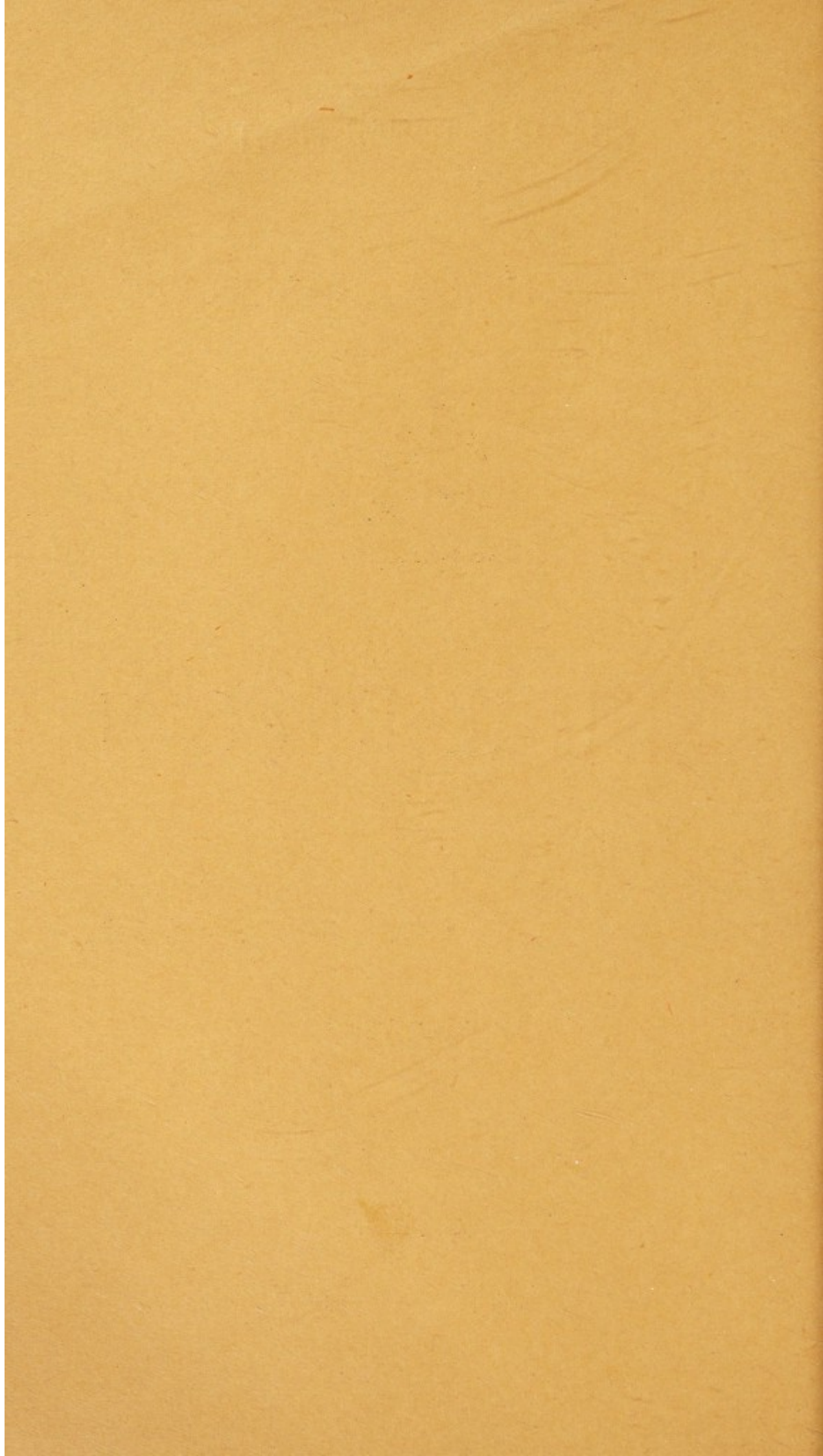
FOR THE YEAR

**1946**

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





HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

FOR THE YEAR

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Printers:  
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# BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health and Assistant County School Medical Officer:

J. V. WALKER, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H. (on active service)

H. M. CARGIN, M.D., D.P.H. (Deputy)

Dental Officer (Part-Time)

J. B. REED, L.D.S.

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. (Resigned 31.5.46)

F. BROWN, Assoc. R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,  
Cert. Meat Inspector, R.S.A. of Scotland.

C. H. WELLER, Assoc. R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,  
Cert. Meat Inspector, R.S.I. (Appointed 1.6.46)

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 F. N. EVERITT, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.'s Cert. R.S.I.

Miss R. HOWELLS, S.R.N. (Temp. Resigned 16.3.46)

Mrs. E. S. G. BELL, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.'s Cert. R.S.I. (Appointed 18.3.46)

Clerical Staff:

J. S. ROBERTSON

R. M. IMPETT

Miss S. P. SMITH

Mrs. M. P. COOPER (Resigned 8.6.46)

Miss B. O. BUSH

Miss J. E. A. BUSHELL (Resigned 17.8.46)

R. W. WHITMORE (Temp. from 26.8.46)

## MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

1946-1947

Chairman: Councillor J. MARTIN

Vice-Chairman: Councillor W. T. SMITH.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR

(Alderman S. E. AUSTIN, J.P.)

Alderman A. E. PETLEY

Alderman the Rev. HARCOURT  
SAMUEL

Councillor Mrs. BILLINGHAM

Councillor F. BOWLER

Councillor T. J. FOOT

Councillor W. HAWKINS

Councillor D. M. HUGHES

Councillor W. E. MARTIN

Councillor F. J. ROGERS

Councillor Mrs. WILKINSON, J.P.

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

1946-1947

Chairman: Alderman the Rev. HARCOURT SAMUEL

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR

(Alderman S. E. AUSTIN, J.P.)

Councillor Mrs. BILLINGHAM

Councillor T. J. FOOT

Councilor W. HAWKINS

Councillor J. MARTIN.

Councillor Mrs. WILKINSON, J.P.

Mrs. ALLEN

Miss M. A. ANDREWES, J.P.

Mrs. SANDEY



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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of the Borough of Ramsgate for the year 1946. During this period, while I was absent on active service with the Military Government of Germany, the Health Department worked under the direction of Dr. H. M. Cargin, to whose care and supervision I should like to pay tribute with the warmest thanks and appreciation.

The year 1946 was the first whole year of peace since 1938. Though great strides were taken to restore in Ramsgate the pre-war standards of amenity proper to a holiday resort of her repute, living conditions, except that they were freed from the threat of enemy war operations, remained of a war-time economy. And indeed, from many points of view the time could be better described as one of war than of peace. Thus it may not be inopportune to direct attention in those introductory remarks to vital statistics and to note how circumstances have affected them.

The birthrate generally in England and Wales was the highest in 1946 since 1921. For the first time for many years the population of the nation more than replaced itself. In Ramsgate the birth rate of 22.4 per 1,000 population (19.1 per 1,000 population in England and Wales) shared in this upward tendency. It may be compared with the rates of 19.9 per 1,000 population in 1945, and of 19.5 per 1,000 population in 1944, and more remotely, with the rates of 12.85 and 14.21 per 1,000 population for 1938 and 1937. Though this rising trend, both generally and locally, is no doubt partly associated with the return of men and women from the services, other and more subtle factors may be involved. The birth rate has risen continuously throughout the war, indeed the rising trend was apparent in the immediately pre-war years, while the prospects and actual conditions of life have as steadily declined. Not all the reasons contributing to the war-time increase were wholly disinterested, but the fact by itself contradicts the facile rationalisation of so many of the voluntarily sterile, that parents will not bring children into a world as harsh and dangerous as our own. The real significance of the trend will not be apparent until the behaviour of the birth rate during the present and next few years is known. Meanwhile, food is provided for the speculation, suggested by more than one historical philosopher,\* that the highest response of human vitality is provoked by the challenge of adverse circumstances, and the greater number of births may be interpreted as such a vital reaction to the conditions of the time. This much at least is certain, optimal conditions for human survival and for the spiritual and material welfare of mankind cannot be predicted by any simple formula.

\* e.g. Toynbee, A. J., "A Study of History."



Another source of considerable satisfaction is the low Infant Mortality Rate. This for the year, 31.6 per 1,000 live births in Ramsgate (41 per 1,000 live births for England and Wales) also reflects a nation-wide trend already well established. It is generally agreed among hygienists that the Infant Mortality Rate is one of the more sensitive indices of public health and its high positive correlation with certain adverse conditions, such as over-crowded and insanitary houses, is universally recognised as significant. Yet in spite of the war and its aftermath, with their associated overcrowding and continued habitation of house property normally scheduled for demolition, the improvement of pre-war years has been maintained. The standard of mothercraft in the population generally is seen therefore to have reached a level sufficiently high to offset these adverse factors, and for it, the Maternity and Child Welfare Services may take their full share of credit. Equally, recognition is due to the value of the supplementary nourishment, provided by the Ministry of Food, for expectant and nursing mothers and for young children, which has guaranteed adequate nutrition at least to this section of the community.

The death rate for 1946 was 13.9 per 1,000 population as compared with 13.4 in 1945, and 16.1 in 1944. In all, 433 persons died as against 695 who were born alive, giving a net gain in population of 262. Of the 433 persons who died, 274 were over 65 years of age (63.2 per cent.), and 152 over 75 years of age (35.1 per cent.).

No infectious disease showed epidemic incidence during the year. The largest number of notifications was of measles (170), followed by whooping cough (64). There were 34 notified cases of scarlet fever and 9 of diphtheria, of whom one had been previously immunised. There were no notified cases of food poisoning or of intestinal infections ("the enteric group and dysentery") nor did information reach the Health Department of any unusual incidence of diarrhoea, which is so often found when bacteriologically investigated to be due to mild dysentery.

This is always a matter for satisfaction, especially in a holiday resort, and attention is drawn to the constant, unadvertised oversight by the sanitary staff of kitchens and restaurants, dairies, ice cream manufactories, bakehouses and food shops, through misadventure at any of which disease might spread to the prejudice not only of the health of the inhabitants of Ramsgate and of their visitors, but of the good repute of the town. Much of the work of the Health Department is unspectacular and, where publicity usually means the loss of health, gladly unpublicised. Never more than in this context is it true that a happy people has no history.

On behalf of Dr. Cargin, your Acting Medical Officer of Health throughout 1946, and on my own, I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee for their continued interest and support and my own staff for their keen and loyal services.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

J. V. WALKER,

Medical Officer of Health.



# BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE

## I. Statistical Review.

### GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of Borough in acres	..	..	..	..	..	4,778
Population, Census 1931	..	..	..	..	..	33,603
Registrar General's estimate, 1946	..	..	..	..	..	30,930
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	£249,357
Estimated Product of 1d. rate	..	..	..	..	..	£900
Number of inhabited houses	..	..	..	..	..	8,350
Total sunshine in hours, 1946	..	..	..	..	..	1405.4 hrs.
Total rainfall in inches, 1946	..	..	..	..	..	23.15 ins.

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

#### Live Births—

						Male	Female
Total	..	..	..	..	695	352	343
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	625	317	308
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	70	35	35

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population 22.4

#### Still Births—

						Male	Female
Total	..	..	..	..	20	11	9
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	15	8	7
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	5	3	2

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total births 27.9

Percentage of total births illegitimate 10.4

#### Deaths—

						Male	Female
Total	..	..	..	..	433	210	223

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population 13.9

#### Deaths from Puerperal Causes—

						Death rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.	
Puerperal sepsis	..	..	..	Nil	..	..	Nil
Other puerperal causes	..	..	..	Nil	..	..	Nil

#### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

						Male	Female
Total	..	..	..	..	22	14	8
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	20	12	8
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	2	2	—

The Death Rates of Infants under one year of age were as follows:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	31.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	32.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	28.5



TABLE 1.—MORTALITY TABLE

Classified under the Headings given in the New Abridged List of Causes of Death.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Male.	Female.	Total
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers ..	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever .. ..	1	—	1
3. Scarlet fever .. .. .	—	—	—
4. Whooping cough .. .. .	—	1	1
5. Diphtheria .. .. .	—	1	1
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system ..	10	8	18
7. Other forms of tuberculosis .. ..	3	—	3
8. Syphilitic diseases .. .. .	—	—	—
9. Influenza .. .. .	4	2	6
10. Measles .. .. .	—	—	—
11. Acute Polio-myelitis and polio- encephalitis .. .. .	—	—	—
12. Acute infective encephalitis .. ..	—	—	—
13. Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M), uterus (F) .. ..	2	1	3
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum ..	4	4	8
15. Cancer of breast .. .. .	—	6	6
16. Cancer of all other sites .. .. .	24	17	41
17. Diabetes .. .. .	2	5	7
18. Intracranial vascular lesions .. ..	26	40	66
19. Heart disease .. .. .	54	68	122
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	5	2	7
21. Bronchitis .. .. .	16	15	31
22. Pneumonia .. .. .	5	6	11
23. Other respiratory diseases .. ..	2	—	2
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum .. ..	5	1	6
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years .. .. .	2	—	2
26. Appendicitis .. .. .	—	1	1
27. Other digestive diseases .. .. .	2	3	5
28. Nephritis .. .. .	9	3	12
29. Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis ..	—	—	—
30. Other maternal causes .. .. .	—	—	—
31. Premature birth .. .. .	7	1	8
32. Congenital malformation, birth in- juries, infantile diseases .. ..	3	3	6
33. Suicide .. .. .	2	5	7
34. Road traffic accidents .. .. .	1	—	1
35. Other violent causes .. .. .	7	10	17
36. All other causes .. .. .	14	20	34
All causes .. .. .	210	223	433

### MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no maternal deaths in 1946 which is a very satisfactory state of affairs. One case of Puerperal Pyrexia, however, was notified during the year.

### INFANT MORTALITY.

The following table shows the causes of the 22 deaths in infants under one year of age.

TABLE 2.

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
Asphyxia Pallida ... ..	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Atelectasis Pulmonis ... ..	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Abnormality and Malformation ... ..	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2
Congenital Cystic Disease of Kidneys ... ..	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Prematurity ... ..	7	...	1	...	8	...	...	...	...	8
Status Lymphaticus ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Thrombocytopenic Purpura ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Broncho-pneumonia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Lobar Pneumonia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Acute Bronchitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Laryngeal Diphtheria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Gastro Enteritis ... ..	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	2
Accident ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Total ... ..	10	1	2	...	13	4	3	2	...	22



## AGES AT DEATH.

TABLE 3.—TOTAL DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES SHOWING THE AGE GROUPS, 1946

Age at Death.	All Ages	Infancy and Childhood.					Early Maturity.		Later Maturity.		Old Age.				
		Under 1 year	1-5 years	5-15 years	All under 15 years	Percentage of total deaths under 15 years	15-45 years	Percentage of total deaths between 15-45 yrs.	45-65 years	Percentage of total deaths between 45-65 yrs.	65-75 years	Percentage of total deaths between 65-75 yrs.	Over 75 years	Percentage of total deaths over 75 years	Percentage of total deaths over 65 years
Men ... ..	210	14	1	4	19	9.0	19	9.0	50	23.8	63	30.0	59	28.0	58.0
Women ... ..	223	8	1	1	10	4.4	17	7.6	44	19.7	59	26.4	93	41.7	68.1
Total ... ..	433	22	2	5	29	6.6	36	8.3	94	21.7	122	28.1	152	35.1	63.2

The following table shows the birth-rates, death-rates and rates of causes of certain classified deaths for England and Wales, etc, as compared with Ramsgate

TABLE 4.

	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 Civilian Population.					
<i>Births:—</i>					
Live ... ..	19.1	22.2	21.3	21.5	22.4
Still ... ..	0.53	0.67	0.59	0.54	0.6
<i>Deaths:—</i>					
All Causes ... ..	11.5	12.7	11.7	12.7	13.9
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria ... ..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03
Influenza ... ..	0.15	0.13	0.14	0.12	0.18
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	—
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.					
Deaths under 1 year of age ... ..	43	46	37	41	31.6
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ... ..	4.4	6.1	2.8	4.2	2.8

#### ELDERLY PERSONS.

During 1946 the Elderly Persons Clinic held at 11 a.m. at the Health Centre on Fridays continued to exist, but received no special publicity and was extremely poorly patronised. The total number of attendances was 2 for new patients, and 2 for second or subsequent attendances.

This shows that the clinic does not in fact meet any spontaneously felt need, and it seems probable that the best interests of elderly persons might be approached from another direction. The Elderly Persons Clinic was after all the application to a different category of the population of a technique devised and found suitable for mothers and children and the discovery that it was not equally applicable should not be surprising. Further research into this subject was promised for the future.



## II. Public General Medical Amenities.

### LABORATORY FACILITIES.

All bacteriological and serological specimen for examination were sent, as hitherto since 1940, to the County Laboratory, Maidstone. Forty-seven samples of ordinary graded milk were sent, of which thirty-three were reported upon as being satisfactory.

### AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The circumstances described in the Annual Report for 1945 remain the same. Two ambulances belonging to the St. John Ambulance Brigade are available for ordinary civilian needs, supplemented by another ambulance, supplied by the British Red Cross and St. John Society. For the removal of infectious cases to Hospital, the Ambulance belonging to the Joint Isolation Hospital was garaged and serviced at a local garage and subsequently, on the return from active service of the regular driver, at the Joint Isolation Hospital, Haine. The Attendant continued to be supplied until the end of the year as under previous arrangements. The arrangements met all requirements.

### NURSING IN THE HOME.

This service has been supplied, as hitherto, by the Ramsgate District Nursing Association. The work has increased during the year as indicated by the following figures kindly supplied by the Hon. Secretary of the Association.

	1946	1945
Individual patients nursed .. ..	960	894
Total number of visits made .. ..	7,537	6,629
Average number of visits per patient ..	7.4	7.85

### TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

The following table summarises the services given at the Health Centre by the Local Authority and by the Kent Education Committee making use of the same premises.

Expectant Mothers	— 1st attendance Friday 10 a.m. Subsequent Thursday 2 p.m.
Babies	— Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 2-4 p.m.
Diphtheria Immunisation	— Friday 2.15 p.m.
Dental:	
Mothers and Babies only	— Tuesday by appointment
Elderly Persons	— Friday 11 a.m.
Uncleanliness:	
Scabies	— By appointment only
Pediculosis	— " " "
Minor Ailments (K.E.C.)	— Daily 9—11 a.m.
Dental (K.E.C.)	— By appointment
Orthopaedic (K.E.C.)	— " " "
Ophthalmic (K.E.C.)	— " " "
Sunlight	— Monday and Thursday 10 a.m.

Other services not included in the above and supplied by the Kent County Council are the Tuberculosis Dispensary, South Eastern Road, and Treatment Centre for Venereal Diseases at Eton House, St. Peter's Road, Margate.

### VACCINATION.

The Vaccination Officers for the East and West districts of Ramsgate have kindly supplied me with the following particulars:—

Total births registered locally (i.e. children due for vaccination)	704
Children successfully vaccinated .. ..	268
Children insusceptible to vaccination .. ..	2
Number of certificates from conscientious objectors .. ..	235
Died unvaccinated .. ..	29
Postponed for medical certificates .. ..	2
Removed from district .. ..	31
Number not yet dealt with on 31.12.46 .. ..	137

During 1946 cases of smallpox continued to be notified from various districts in England and Wales, and the threat of its introduction in a virulent form remained as great as ever. It is to be remembered that oriental smallpox remains endemic in Egypt and India with which air communications are now extensive, and that the risk of introduction of the disease is no longer confined to the seaports, but has spread to all civilian and military airports. The badly vaccinated state of the community provides a field through which a severe epidemic could rapidly spread and the attention of parents is directed to their responsibility in the matter in respect of vaccination of their children.

**SCABIES.**

During the year a bath with hot water was installed at the Health Centre thereby greatly improving the efficiency of the treatment available.

The number of cases treated at the Health Centre was:

Adult females	..	..	..	..	47
Children	..	..	..	..	88

and the number of men treated at the Disinfecting Station was 36

**VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.**

Lethane oil still continued to be distributed to persons suffering from verminous conditions and D.D.T. emulsion was introduced during the year as an additional means of treatment. Clothing and other articles found to be infested were dealt with at the Cleansing Station. Verminous dwellings were dealt with by the Sanitary Inspectors.



### III. Sanitary Circumstances and Control of Food Supply

#### PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY

There were no changes in 1946 in the water supply which maintained its excellent reputation for purity and freedom from contamination. 638,935,100 gallons were pumped as compared with 638,637,000 gallons in 1945. Bacteriological examinations were made monthly, both at the adits before chlorination and from the household taps after chlorination.

Arrangements for pumping and distribution of water remained as in previous years, the purity, freedom from contamination and hardness of the supply being maintained. Plans to combat this last feature by a softening process as in the years before the war were ineffective through lack of salt. The Engineer and Manager of the Water Department, who has kindly supplied me with the following information, has remarked that the quantity used is far too high and could easily be reduced if customers were to exercise care in the use of water and in the prevention of waste. Such carelessness in the proper use of amenities provided for their advantage is unfortunately all too frequent on the part of the public. The amount used in the year is as follows:—

Total quantity pumped .. .. .	638,935,100 gallons
Average daily consumption .. .. .	1,750,507 gallons

Of this quantity, 18,395,400 gallons were taken from the Margate Corporation mains.

The total hardness of the water is 23 degrees, of which 7 degrees are permanent, that is to say, not removed by boiling. The ill-effects of hardness were summarised in the report for 1945.

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1946

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting the following report detailing the varied duties undertaken during the year, but to control thoroughly all the requirements of the numerous Acts, Regulations, etc., adequate Staff is necessary.

Applications for Ice Cream registration have been given careful consideration, but without a definite standard for purity and for quality, adequate control is difficult.

In my opinion registration of Ice Cream premises should be renewed yearly, also that Ice Cream sold for consumption off the premises should be sold pre-packed and not made up in "wafers or cornets" from bulk ice cream.

Whilst this commodity has received considerable publicity from a Public Health viewpoint, I would call attention to the equally urgent need for the proper control of the distribution of Bread, the present methods of handling being conducive to contamination.

I desire to thank the Chairman, and Members of the Public Health Committee for their help and to acknowledge the loyal co-operation and efficient work of all the Staff.

Yours faithfully,

E. YOUNG  
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

#### Complaints

Number of complaints received and dealt with .. .. .	1,152
--	-------

#### Inspections

Accumulations .. .. .	45
Animals, keeping of .. .. .	28
Bakehouses .. .. .	33
Camping sites and Caravans .. .. .	53
Complaints .. .. .	1,152
Cowsheds .. .. .	54
Drainage .. .. .	857
Drains Tested .. .. .	127
Drainage Land Charges .. .. .	77
Factories .. .. .	40
Fish Fryers .. .. .	20
Food Shops .. .. .	460
Housing including Tenancy Application .. .. .	2,380
Ice Cream Vendors .. .. .	99



Milk Shops and Dairies .. .. .	187
Miscellaneous .. .. .	202
Music and Dancing .. .. .	10
Overcrowding .. .. .	1
Public Health Acts and other Acts, Regulations and Orders ..	2
Rats and Mice .. .. .	84
Infectious Diseases .. .. .	123
Refuse Receptacles .. .. .	24
Repairs and subsequent revisits .. .. .	1,150
Restaurants .. .. .	203
Rooms measured .. .. .	261
Schools .. .. .	11
Shellfish .. .. .	9
Shipping .. .. .	5
Shops Act .. .. .	47
Slaughter-houses .. .. .	776
Tuberculosis .. .. .	71
Verminous premises .. .. .	83
Water Samples .. .. .	46

#### Notices Served, etc.

Preliminary notices served or letters written .. ..	329
Nuisances abated on verbal instructions .. ..	178

#### Work done in connection with Drainage and Housing

Accumulations removed .. .. .	8
Additional urinals fixed .. .. .	1
Cesspools emptied .. .. .	283
Cesspools abolished .. .. .	1
Chimney stacks and flues repaired .. .. .	3
Choked drains cleared .. .. .	46
Coppers repaired or renewed .. .. .	6
Eavesgutters repaired or renewed .. .. .	10
Floors relaid or repaired .. .. .	35
Flushing cisterns repaired .. .. .	22
Gully traps fixed .. .. .	40
Handrails to staircases provided .. .. .	1
Houses at which drains were repaired .. .. .	66
Houses re-drained .. .. .	19
Houses renovated .. .. .	12
Inspection chamber built, new covers provided and rendered	32
Miscellaneous .. .. .	106
Miscellaneous repairs .. .. .	81
New flushing cisterns provided .. .. .	34
New sinks and baths provided .. .. .	46
Rain water pipes disconnected from drain .. .. .	1
Rain water pipes renewed .. .. .	4
Roofs repaired .. .. .	50
Rooms fumigated and cleansed for vermin .. .. .	7
Houses fumigated and cleansed for vermin .. .. .	1
Sanitary bins provided .. .. .	29
Sash cords renewed .. .. .	51
Sink waste pipes renewed and trapped .. .. .	33
Soil and vent pipes fixed or repaired .. .. .	27
Stoves repaired or renewed .. .. .	16
Urinals provided .. .. .	1
Ventilated food cupboards fixed .. .. .	1
W.C. pans fixed .. .. .	150
Wallplaster and ceilings repaired .. .. .	69
Walls treated with damp-proofing material .. .. .	4
Water supply pipes renewed .. .. .	25
Windows made to open .. .. .	9
Yards paved or existing paving repaired .. .. .	16

#### Rodent Control.

The methods of extermination employed are those recommended by the Ministry of Food (Infestation Branch) and the following is a summary of work carried out during 1946.

Complaints received of Rat and Mice infestation .. ..	293
---	-----



**Rats.**

Visits to dwelling houses .. .. .	1,752
Visits to other premises .. .. .	704
Number of rats estimated killed as per Ministry of Food formula .. .. .	8,991

**Mice**

Premises cleared:—

Dwelling houses .. .. .	38
Other premises .. .. .	21

Special attention has been given to the Sewers and after tests had been carried out, the Ministry agreed to a Scheme of treatment which consisted of:—

1. Baiting with damped Sausage Rusks and poisoning with Zinc Phosphide, and
  2. Baiting with Bread Mash and poisoning with Barium Carbonate.
- It is estimated that 2,242 Rats were destroyed.

During October the Council agreed to participate in the Private Dwellings Scheme of the Ministry, by which the Council would receive 60 per cent of the cost of the Scheme from the Ministry.

TABLE 5.—COMPLAINTS

	RATS			MICE		
	Dwel'ng	Other Prop'ty	Total	Dwel'ng	Other Prop'ty	Total
Complaints Received .. ..	211	82	293	38	21	59
Premises Inspected .. ..	219	88	307	38	21	59
Revisited .. ..	1533	616	2149	190	105	295
Estimated Kill ..	5651	3213	8864	106½	122	238½

Rats caught in traps .. .. . 127

Mice caught in DAK .. .. . 33

Five and a quarter pounds Cymag used in holes in open ground.

Seven Horo Tubes used in holes in open ground where Cymag was too dangerous.

The following Local Authority properties were treated:—

Royal Harbour, Slipway, Motor House and Store, Forge and Fish Market.  
Jockey Baker's Permanent Allotments.

Cliff face in front of Paragon.

West Cliff Concert Hall.

Chalet.

Charlotte Court.

Palace Theatre.

Mackensons Yard, Hereson Road.

Spratling Street, top Sewers.

Sewers: estimated killed:—

By Zinc Phosphide (First Treatment) .. .. . 1,382

By Barium Carbonate (Second Treatment) .. .. . 860

**Vermineous Houses.**

Number found to be infested:—

Council houses .. .. .	5
Others .. .. .	—

Number of premises disinfested:—

Council houses .. .. .	5
Others .. .. .	—

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



### Disinfestation of Persons and Clothing.

There are two baths at the Disinfecting and Cleansing Station, Broad Street, used for the cleansing of verminous persons. As each person passes through the bathroom the clothing and bedding, etc., is fumigated in the disinfecting plant adjoining.

### Disinfection.

One hundred and fifteen rooms were disinfected after infectious diseases or on the request of the tenants for other illnesses.

Four hundred and sixty two sets of bedding were fumigated in the steam disinfectant after infectious diseases, or because of vermin.

Eighty-five lots of surgical appliances were collected from the General Hospital and sterilised at the Disinfecting Station by arrangement with the Hospital Authorities.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936-1943

Licences issued by the Kent County Council:—

To produce Tuberculin Tested Milk	..	..	..	1
To Produce Accredited Milk	..	..	..	2

Licences issued by the Borough Council:—

To Pasteurise Milk	..	..	..	..	4
To distribute Tuberculin Tested Milk, bottled outside the Borough	..	..	..	..	1
Dealers (bottling) Licence to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	..	..	..	..	1
To distribute Pasteurised Milk not bottled on the premises	..	..	..	..	1

### Milk Samples Taken during 1946 for Cleanliness.

Samples of Milk were taken at the request of the County Council from Tuberculin Tested and Accredited producers.

Eighteen samples were obtained and results show:

					Tuberculin Tested	Accredited
Satisfactory	..	..	..	..	6	3
Unsatisfactory	..	..	..	..	1	8

Seven bulk samples of Milk were taken for biological tests, one being positive and six showed no evidence of tuberculosis.

Ten samples of School Milk were taken for the County Council, seven being satisfactory.

Twelve test samples were taken of Milk in course of delivery to the Consumer, and nine were satisfactory.

In addition samples of Pasteurised and Heat Treated Milk were taken for the Ministry of Food Milk Division (Defence Regulation 55G.) and the appropriate tests were carried out by the Public Analyst, with the following results:—

TABLE 6.

Class of Milk	No. Tested	Failed Phosphatase Test	Failed Methylene Blue Test
Pasteurised	44	4	4
Heat Treated	44	4	5

### Ice Cream.

Premises used for the sale or manufacture for the purpose of the sale or storage of Ice Cream intended for sale must be registered under Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Considerable extra work has been carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors and many samples were taken with varying results. Of the twenty-six samples taken for Bacteriological test, nineteen were reported as being unsatisfactory, and of the nineteen samples taken for Chemical test, the fat contents varied from 0.3 per cent. of Fat to 9.65 per cent. of Fat, and from 12.8 per cent. non-Fatty solids to 26.36 per cent. non-Fatty solids.



It is interesting to note that the best results, Bacteriological and Chemical were from Ice Cream sold wrapped.

The Public Analyst, in his report, comments as follows:

"There is at present no legal standard for "Ice Cream." In my opinion articles sold as such should contain at least 8 per cent. of Fat, articles sold with less Fat should be described as "Ices" without any qualifications."

To help the present unsatisfactory position the Ministry of Health has recently formulated Draft Regulations for further control in the manufacture of Ice Cream and we are hoping that when the final Regulations are in force they will contain sufficient powers to enable the Public to be supplied with a reasonably safe article.

#### Meat and Other Foods.

There was no change in the arrangements for the slaughtering of animals and two slaughterhouses in the Borough were used for the preparation of animals for consumption in the Isle of Thanet.

The slaughterers still continue to crowd the killing of animals into three or four days per week instead of spreading the work over the week. Consequently the hanging rooms became congested and killing extends into the late evenings. These two factors mean that the work of inspecting the meat by the Sanitary Inspectors is made more difficult and it is necessary to work a considerable number of extra hours each killing day.

TABLE 7.—CARCASSES

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
January	36	57	191	708	35
February	38	23	111	308	22
March	95	16	125	282	31
April	271	28	103	322	31
May	249	26	97	301	28
June	87	6	92	219	27
July and August	491	79	256	1319	34
September	311	57	155	572	—
October	353	120	209	903	15
November	141	77	171	1133	24
December	96	87	173	1187	23
Total:	2168	576	1683	7254	270

TABLE 8.—UN SOUND FOOD

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
January	1	14	1	5	—
February	1	11	3	8	—
March	1	17	1	25	—
April	1	16	2	4	—
May	2	11	0	24	—
June	1	7	3	25	—
July and August	7	1	0	27	—
September	3	15	0	16	8
October	3	8	0	20	—
November	1	8	1	3	4
December	1	11	0	12	8
Total:	28	3	1	2	4

TABLE 9.—TINNED GOODS, etc.

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
January	—	5	—	—	8
February	—	1	3	2	6
March	—	—	2	19	8
April	—	2	2	15	2
May	—	8	1	17	—
June	1	3	—	18	2
July and August	2	16	1	7	4
September	—	7	2	18	—
October	—	5	3	26	—
November	—	5	3	4	8
December	—	4	2	17	8
Total:	6	2	0	5	14



The number of animals found to be affected with generalised tuberculosis after slaughter were:

Cows	..	..	..	..	..	28
Heifers	..	..	..	..	..	7
Steers	..	..	..	..	..	5
Bulls	..	..	..	..	..	4
Calves	..	..	..	..	..	4
Sheep	..	..	..	..	..	2
Pigs	..	..	..	..	..	4

Information together with a description of the beasts were sent to the County Medical Officer of Health so that special attention could be given to the farms concerned.

In addition three Cows, eight Pigs, eight Sheep and one Calf were condemned for causes other than tuberculosis.

#### Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

During the year ninety six samples (fifty seven formal and thirty nine informal) were taken by the Sanitary Inspectors and submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis. The samples were:—

Formal samples of:

Milk	..	..	..	..	..	45
Malt Vinegar	..	..	..	..	..	3
Cordial	..	..	..	..	..	2

and one each of Cinnamon, Almond Substitute, Gelatine Powder, Gravy Salt, Soup Powder, Chocolate Spread and Barley Coarse Cut.

Informal samples of:

Flavouring	..	..	..	..	..	3
Malted Food Full Cream	..	..	..	..	..	2
Ice Cream	..	..	..	..	..	19

and one each of Milk, Malted Milk Tablets, Cinnamon, Jelly Compound, Malted Choc. Bar, Coffee Extract, Fruit Cup, Candy Floss, Chemical Food, Vitamin Tablets, Cod Liver Oil, Orange Juice, Dessert Mould, Bicarbonate of Soda, Cochineal.

The Public Analyst reported on the above samples as being "genuine."

The Public Analyst's report shows that the Milk samples were above the recognised standard.

The average figures being:

Fat 3.48%      Non Fatty Solids 8.69%      Total solids 12.11%

#### Public Health (Preservatives etc. in food) Regulations.

The following seventy three samples were examined by the Public Analyst for the presence of preservatives or added colouring matter.

Milk	..	..	..	..	..	45
Ice Cream	..	..	..	..	..	19
Vinegar	..	..	..	..	..	3
Coffee and Chicory Extract	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cordials	..	..	..	..	..	2
Candy Floss	..	..	..	..	..	1
Coarse Cut Barley	..	..	..	..	..	1
Soup Powder	..	..	..	..	..	1

#### Housing.

The second report of the Central Housing Advisory Committee (Housing Management Sub-Committee) was considered by the Council resulting in this Department undertaking a considerable amount of extra duties as shown by the following recommendations,

"That normally a visit by a trained Officer to the housing applicants in their present accommodation should be an essential part of the process of selection.

In connection with this, use should be made of the specialised knowledge of the Senior Sanitary Inspector and his Staff and that the Senior Sanitary Inspector should be present to advise the Committee when individual applications for houses are under consideration.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector in addition to the Borough Surveyor should report upon the suitability of premises proposed to be requisitioned by the Council."

Visits have been paid to two thousand three hundred and eighty Housing Applicants.



TABLE 10.

Statement showing number of families and persons accommodated  
by the Housing Committee to December 31st, 1946.

		Houses	Families	Persons
Council Houses	..	51	53	210
Prefabricated Houses	..	139	139	461
Requisitioned Properties	..	87	106	430
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	..	277	298	1101
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

## IV.—Port Health Administration, 1946.

TABLE A. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING 1946.

	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number reported to be defective
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector	
Foreign { Yachts ...	40	552	—	—	—
Foreign { Steamer	11	37	—	—	—
Foreign { *Motor ...	5	615	—	5	—
Foreign { Sailing ...	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign { Fishing...	88	1003	—	—	—
Total Foreign ...	144	2207	—	5	—
Coast-wise { Yachts ...	288	3548	—	—	—
Coast-wise { Steamers ...	42	919	—	—	—
Coast-wise { *Motor ...	98	7016	—	—	—
Coast-wise { Sailing ...	17	1818	—	—	—
Coast-wise { Fishing ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total Coastwise ...	445	13301	—	—	—
Total Foreign and Coastwise ...	589	15508	—	5	—

\* Includes mechanically propelled vessels other than steamers.

No cases of infectious disease were reported as occurring during the voyage on any vessels.

### II.—Character of Trade of Port.

No passengers passed in or out of the port during the year, although one passenger and 34 shipwrecked seamen were landed from the Downs during the year.

The principal imports are timber and coal. No export trade was carried on.

### III.—Water Supply.

This is obtained from the town's supply and there are no water boats in use.

### IV.—Port Sanitary Regulations, 1933.

The arrangements outlined in the previous reports are still in operation. One cabin was fumigated after report of venereal disease.

### Tables C. and D.

No case of infectious sickness coming within the jurisdiction of the Local Health Authority was landed during the year.

### V.—Measures Against Rodents.

The Corporation Rat Catcher employs the technique recommended by the Ministry of Food (Infestation Branch) for the extermination of rats and mice. Periodical treatment is carried out within the precincts of the Harbour and it is estimated from the accepted formula for determining the number of rats poisoned, that 309 rats were destroyed on the Harbour premises. The rats destroyed were mostly of the species *Rattus Rattus* (Black Rats).

### VI.—Hygiene of Crews' Spaces.

Of the vessels inspected, the crews' quarters and accommodation were found to be clean and satisfactory.

### VII.—Food Inspection.

No inspections of food were made by the Port Health Authority.

Shell Fish—The Pegwell Bay (Shellfish) Regulations continue to operate.



## V.—Maternity and Child Welfare

### Notification of Births.

During the year 705 births were notified. Amongst these were 16 still-births giving a percentage rate of 2.2. Midwives in Ramsgate notified 373 births, doctors notified 7, doctors and midwives 25, while 245 were notified from the Ramsgate General Hospital. In addition 55 births were notified from outside the Borough. The total number of births occurring in the Ramsgate General Hospital during the year however, was 296, of which 245 were residents of Ramsgate, the remaining 51 being from outside the Borough.

### Institutional Provision for Expectant Mothers.

The only institution available during the year was the Ramsgate General Hospital. The Kent County Public Assistance Institution at Minster, which was used before the war to accept a proportion of expectant mothers for confinement, remained closed because of staffing difficulties. There is undoubtedly scope in Ramsgate for additional institutional accommodation, particularly for mothers who have no obstetrical complication but whose living conditions because of prevailing overcrowding and other adverse circumstances are unsuitable for confinement at home.

### Puerperal Morbidity and Mortality.

There was no case of puerperal mortality during the year. One case of Puerperal Pyrexia was notified from the hospital and none from the district.

### Infant Welfare Centres.

The particulars of children attending the Welfare Centre during 1946 was 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 .. .. .	483
1-5 years of age .. .. .	37
Total number of children who attended and who at the end of the year were:	
Under one year of age .. .. .	417
1-5 years of age .. .. .	576
Total number of attendances by children:	
Under one year of age .. .. .	5,703
1-5 years of age .. .. .	942

### Mothers' Clinics.

Ante-Natal consultations:	
Number of women who attended for the first time ..	298
Number of women who attended .. .. .	347
Total attendances .. .. .	818
Post-Natal consultations:	
Number of women who attended for the first time ..	8
Number of women who attended .. .. .	8
Total attendances .. .. .	16

### Dental Clinic.

Number of expectant and nursing mothers treated ..	261
Number of cases in which general anaesthetic for extraction was administered .. .. .	76
Total teeth extracted .. .. .	247
Teeth filled .. .. .	61
Number of pre-school children treated .. .. .	37
Number of cases in which general anesthetic for extraction was administered .. .. .	21
Temporary teeth extracted .. .. .	44
Temporary teeth filled .. .. .	15

The high birth rate of the Borough was reflected in the attendances at both Infants' and Mothers' Clinics. The number of full sessions was not increased during the year, but a session for weighing and food distribution only was made available on Monday afternoons with effect from 7th January, 1946.

Reference is made to the table on page 9 where are shown the comparative birth rate of Ramsgate and of certain other areas. It will be observed that it compares favourably with that of 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London, which have a rate of 22.2. This is probably due to the high proportion of young people in the town which, in addition to its residential amenities, has a large industrial population.



### Supply of Milk and Vitamins, etc.

The Welfare Authority continued to supply, at the discretion of the Medical Officer of Health, proprietary brands of dried milk to expectant and nursing mothers and to pre-school children. In a few instances, where the Committee was satisfied as to the necessity, the milk was provided free of charge.

Cod Liver Oil, Cod Liver Oil Capsules and Orange Juice were distributed on behalf of the Food Office. Virol and Parish's Food were available on the recommendation of the Medical Officer.

### Work of Health Visitors.

Among visits paid by the Health Visitors were the following:

Number of infants under one year of age visited for first time	699
Total visits to infants under one year of age .. .. .	2,836
Total visits to children 1-5 years .. .. .	4,467
Number of expectant mother visited .. .. .	163
Total visits to expectant mothers .. .. .	230

When these figures are compared with those of previous years it is found that while the visits to infants under one year visited for the first time and the total of such visits has increased, the number of visits to children between one and five years of age has fallen, and while the number of expectant mothers visited has increased relative to 1945, they are not so many as in 1944 in spite of the fact that the number attending the clinic, like the total births in the year, has increased. This is due to added commitments at the Health Centre. Health Visitors cannot be at once engaged at a Clinic and on the district, and it is the opinion of your Medical Officer of Health that of these two duties the second is the more important.

### Care of Premature Infants.

It is a matter of regret that eight deaths, all of them occurring under one month, were attributed to prematurity, which is increasingly regarded as preventable. Of these deaths, four occurred in the Ramsgate General Hospital, one in an institution outside the town and three at home.

### Infant Life Protection.

The routine work carried out by the Department was the same as in previous years. It has not been found possible to set up a satisfactory foster mother service under the auspices of the Corporation, but a careful note is kept of women who have satisfactorily discharged their services as foster mothers as suitable persons to accept, if necessary, children at the recommendation of the Department.

A part-payment was made to a foster mother who had carried out her duties at the request of the Council. The number of women wishing to do this sort of work in Ramsgate is very small.

	Foster Mothers	Foster Children
No. on register 1st January ..	6	9
No. on register 31st December ..	8	13
No. of individuals during year ..	8	27

### Adopted Children.

The resources of the Health Department remained ready to fulfil all requirements under the Adoption of Children (Regulations) Act, 1939, but there was no call to exercise them during the year.

### Illegitimacy.

The percentage of total births illegitimate in 1946, was 10.4 compared with 8.7 for 1945, and 10.1 in 1944. It is worth comparing rates of this sort with the average of 5.9 for the years 1935-1939.

Assistance was given in co-operation with the Thanet Moral Welfare Association to seven unmarried mothers by accepting financial liability for their admission to a residential home and in various other ways such as the supply of dried milk at reduced rates or free of charge. The problem of assisting these socially handicapped children is one that can only be dealt with in a very small part by Welfare Authorities and requires a more responsible attitude towards sex on the part of the population in general.



**Home and Domestic Helps.**

No permanently satisfactory arrangement was reached to supply an adequate Home and Domestic Help service. During the course of the year, two helps were appointed on a whole-time basis, but they resigned after a few weeks. It would seem, however, that nothing short of such whole-time employment can adequately supply the need.

Number of Home and Domestic Helps employed:—

Full time	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Part-time	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Number of cases assisted:—							
Home Help cases	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Domestic Help cases	..	..	..	..	..	..	11

**Nursing Homes.**

Number of Nursing Homes on register at end of year .. 3

Number of beds:—

Maternity	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Other	..	..	..	..	..	..	48

Among these Nursing Homes is one previously mentioned in Annual Reports, which caters for elderly and chronic sick cases of advanced age, and it performs a valuable service in the absence of other institutional facilities.

## V. Infectious Diseases.

The following table shows the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases (civilians only), apart from Tuberculosis, during 1946. There were 308 notifications as compared with 464 in 1945, and 514 in 1944.

TABLE 11.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths	AGE INCIDENCE.													TOTALS			
				Over													1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
				0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65					
Scarlet Fever ..	34	15	—	1	2	1	3	1	20	5	1	—	—	—	—	8	11	9	6	
Diphtheria ..	9	9	1	—	2	1	—	1	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	4	
Measles ..	170	—	—	8	28	15	32	17	64	5	1	—	—	—	—	1	31	133	5	
Whooping Cough ..	64	—	1	6	12	6	8	9	22	—	1	—	—	—	—	14	40	7	3	
Pneumonia ..	20	—	11*	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	7	—	—	—	—	6	3	5	6	
Erysipelas ..	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	
Puerperal Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ..	3	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	
Ophthalmia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Neonatorum ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Ac. Poliomyelitis ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Total ..	308	27	14	20	44	23	43	28	112	11	12	4	1	4	6	32	92	158	26	

\* Includes all forms of Pneumonia



TABLE 12.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES—COMPARABILITY TABLE, 1947.

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.	148 smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000).	London Administrative County.	RAMSGATE.
Rates per 1,000 Population (Civilians)					
Notifications:					
Typhoid Fever ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	—
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.06	0.09
Scarlet Fever ...	1.38	1.51	1.33	1.42	1.09
Whooping Cough ...	2.28	2.48	2.05	2.22	2.06
Diphtheria ...	0.28	0.32	0.31	0.24	0.29
Erysipelas ...	0.22	0.25	0.22	0.27	0.16
Small-pox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Measles ...	3.92	4.73	3.70	7.35	5.49
Pneumonia ...	0.89	1.02	0.74	0.75	0.64
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (live and still).					
Notifications:—					
Puerperal Fever ...	8.50	10.35	7.63	1.62	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...				9.68	0.03

**Diphtheria.**

Nine cases were notified during the year, of which one had previously been immunised.

**Diphtheria Immunisation.**

An immunisation campaign was launched through the schools along lines indicated in previous years. This was mainly intended to secure as widely as possible "booster" doses to children already immunised, it being the latest teaching that such a dose is advised five years after the initial inoculation in order to maintain immunity at a satisfactory level. This advice is based upon field studies of immunised children which have shown that after a variable period the Schick test of susceptibility, made negative by the initial inoculation, tends to relapse. During this campaign 797 booster doses were given and in addition 136 first course of two doses.

The following figures summarise the work of the Department since the beginning of the scheme in 1940:—

				Under 5	5-15 Yrs.	Booster Doses
No. immunised in 1940 and						
	1941	..	..	180	187	—
"	1942	..	..	242	414	—
"	1943	..	..	220	144	—
"	1944	..	..	175	72	—
"	1945	..	..	333	247	—
"	1946	..	..	312	84	968
Total				1468	1148	968

While immunisation has now an established place as one of the services offered by the Health Department, it is doubtful whether without propaganda and reminders a large proportion of children would be brought to receive it.

It might be interesting to note that a mean average shows that 46.6 per cent. of the child population under 15 years are immunised, whereas a mean average, as far as war-time figures will allow, show only 36.8 per cent. of the child population as vaccinated. Will the National Health Service Act, 1946, with its voluntary vaccination, make any psychological difference?

### Scarlet Fever.

Thirty-four cases were notified, of which 15 were admitted to various Isolation Hospitals. The cases were for the most part mild.

### Measles and Other Infectious Diseases.

No special note is called for under this heading. It will be noted that three cases of Cerebro-spinal fever and one of Acute Poliomyelitis were notified, diseases that are endemic in this country, but which have fortunately given rise of recent years only to sporadic cases. While progress in chemotherapy has revolutionised the treatment of Cerebro-spinal fever, Poliomyelitis still remains without satisfactory treatment.

### Tuberculosis.

Forty-eight cases of Tuberculosis were notified for the first time during the year as compared with 50 in 1945, and 54 in 1944. Of these, 48 were of pulmonary disease (43 in 1945). Twenty-one deaths were certified as due to Tuberculosis, 18 of pulmonary disease as against 15 in 1945.

TABLE 13.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10 ...	2	—	1	1	—	—	1	—
10-15 ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20 ...	2	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
20-25 ...	2	2	—	—	1	1	—	—
25-35 ...	7	8	1	—	2	2	1	—
35-45 ...	1	2	—	1	2	2	1	—
45-55 ...	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55-65 ...	6	1	—	—	3	1	—	—
Over 65 ...	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
Total ...	24	20	2	2	10	8	3	—

### Veneral Diseases.

This Authority is not responsible for the treatment of these complaints. The County Medical Officer has been unable to supply the information concerning persons giving Ramsgate addresses who were treated during the year at Eton House, Margate.



