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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Kent

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE

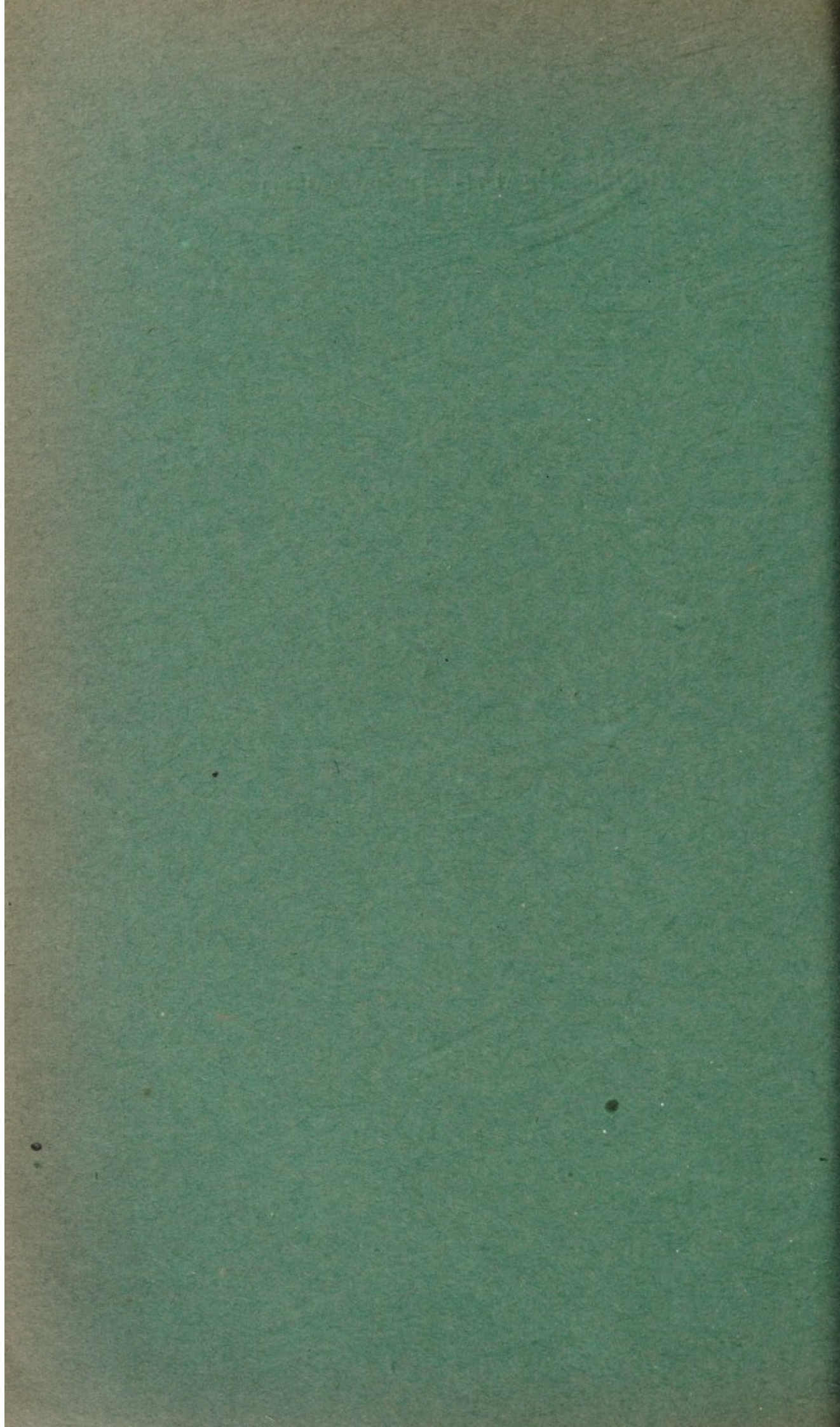
REPORT

OF THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1950



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE



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OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

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1950

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BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE**PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, JUNE, 1950**

Chairman:

Councillor W. E. Martin

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor W. T. Smith

His Worship The Mayor

(ALDERMAN P. TURNER, J.P.)

Alderman Mrs. E. M. Billingham

„ A. E. Petley

Councillor W. L. Austin

„ L. F. Davey

„ W. F. Howard

„ D. H. Hughes

„ G. Jefford

„ J. H. Lewis

„ H. Newby

„ Mrs. Robson

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:..

H. M. Cargin, M.D., D.P.H. (Appointed 2.3.50)

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

E. Young, A.R.S.I., F.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector

Sanitary Inspectors:

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

C. H. Weller, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector

Clerical Staff:

J. S. Robertson

Miss S. P. Smith (Resigned 19.8.50)

J. Newing (On National War Service)

Miss V. Toleman (Temporary, appointed 11.9.50)

Disinfectors and Drain Testers:

H. J. Farley

G. C. Riordan

Rodent Destruction Operators:

E. Pearse (Resigned 13.5.50)

J. Moyse

J. G. Piner (Appointed 14.8.50)

Public Analysts:

Messrs. Hawkins and Hawkins, Canterbury

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the work of the Health Department for the past year.

Apart from a small outbreak of measles and whooping cough in the latter part of the year, and which was fairly general in England and Wales, the number of infectious disorders was again low.

My thanks are due to the members of the staff of the Health Department for their loyal co-operation, and to the other departments of the Corporation, for the information so freely supplied by them for this report.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

H. M. CARGIN,

Medical Officer of Health.

I.—SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

Area of Borough in acres	...	...	...	...	4,778
Registrar General's estimate of the population mid-1950	...	...	...	...	35,960
Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Books	...	...	...	...	11,513
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£294,258
General Rate	...	...	...	...	21/6
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£1,150

1.—Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

Live Births:		Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	...	508	257	251
Illegitimate	...	35	18	17
Total	...	543	275	268

The illegitimate births formed 9.5% of the total.

Birth Rate: (Uncorrected) 15.1 per 1,000 of the population.

(Corrected) 15.8 per 1,000 of the population.

Stillbirths:		Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	...	8	3	5
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
Total	...	8	3	5

Stillbirth Death Rate (per 1,000 total births) ... 14.7

The number shows a reduction of 50% when compared with the previous year.

Total Deaths:		Total	Male	Female
All causes	...	457	195	262
Death Rate (uncorrected)	...	12.7	} See Page 10	
Death Rate (corrected)	...	11.0		

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:

		Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	...	14	8	6
Illegitimate	...	1	1	—
Total	...	15	9	6

Infantile Mortality Rates:

Death Rate of Infants (i.e. under one year of age)
per 1,000 Live Births:

Total	...	...	27.6
Legitimate	...	...	27.5
Illegitimate	...	...	28.5

The Infant Mortality Rate in England and Wales was 29.8.

2.—Causes of Death.

The following tables show the causes of death as given in the Registrar General's statistics.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis—respiratory	10	5
2. Tuberculosis—other	—	1
3. Syphilitic disease	2	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
8. Measles	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	7	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	9	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ..	—	10
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ..	—	5
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	15	21
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia	1	2
16. Diabetes	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	23	29
18. Coronary disease, angina	25	17
19. Hypertension with heart disease ..	3	6
20. Other heart disease	38	52
21. Other circulatory disease	3	7
22. Influenza	—	4
23. Pneumonia	5	8
24. Bronchitis	13	18
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	4	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	3	2
27. Gastritis enteritis and diarrhœa ..	2	4
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	4	14
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ..	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	3	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	16	42
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	—
34. All other accidents	2	5
35. Suicide	3	1
36. Homicide and operations of war ..	—	—
	195	262
	457	

NUMBER OF DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGE AND SEX

	Under 1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	Over 75	Total
MALES ...	9	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	2	13	15	30	57	65	195
FEMALES ...	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	4	12	41	59	131	262

3.—Population.

The population, as given by the Registrar General, was 35,960, which shows an increase of only 30 over the figure for 1949.

4.—Births.

The number of births registered was 543, a decrease of 71 as compared with the previous year.

5.—Death Rate.

This shows a decrease of 0.5. A correction factor has been supplied by the Registrar General. This factor is based upon the disparity in age groups found in certain health resorts where there may be a high percentage of elderly people as pertains in Ramsgate. It is used to secure uniformity between death rates, say in Ramsgate and in other areas where the age groups are more evenly distributed.

The factor for this Authority is 0.87, which multiplied by the uncorrected death rate gives a corrected death rate of 11.0 as compared with 12.7.

6.—Maternal Mortality.

There were no deaths of mothers in childbirth or ascribed to the bearing of children.

7.—Infant Mortality.

The following table shows the infant deaths (15) from various causes, stated in accordance with the age at death. Of this total, nine were male and six female infants. The headings of the table are those of the latest annual report of the Ministry of Health.

INFANTILE DEATHS TABLE SHOWING CAUSES AND AGE AT DEATH.

Cause	Days										Months										Total
	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-14	14-28	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	9-10	10-11	11-12	
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Premature Birth ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Injury at Birth ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asphyxia, Atelectasis ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Congenital Debility	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hæmolytic disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other causes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Totals	6	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	15

8.—Birth Rate.

The uncorrected birth rate is 15.1 i.e. the total births per 1,000 of the population. Again, as in the case of deaths, the Registrar General has supplied a correction figure (to meet the unequal distribution of the population according to age) for this area. The correction figure is 1.05 and this multiplied by the above results in a birth rate of 15.8. The comparable figure for England and Wales was 15.8. Both show a decrease of 1.5 and 0.9 respectively.

9.—Table Showing Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality and Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases.

	Ramsgate	England and Wales	148 Smaller Towns. Population 25,000-50,000
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population			
<i>Births:—</i>			
Live Births	15.1	15.8	16.7
Still Births	0.22	0.37	0.38
<i>Deaths:—</i>			
All causes	11.0 (corrected)	11.6	11.6
<i>Deaths due to:—</i>			
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.01	0.01
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.44	0.36	0.33
Influenza	0.11	0.10	0.10
Smallpox	0.00	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	0.00	0.02	0.02
Pneumonia	0.36	0.46	0.45
<i>Notification of Infectious Diseases:—</i>			
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.00	0.01	0.01
Meningococcal infection	0.02	0.03	0.02
Scarlet Fever	1.58	1.50	1.61
Whooping Cough	8.53	3.60	3.15
Diphtheria	0.00	0.02	0.02
Erysipelas	0.16	0.17	0.16
Small-pox	0.00	0.00	—
Measles	15.76	8.39	8.36
Pneumonia	0.24	0.70	0.61
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)			
Paralytic	0.02	0.13	0.11
Non-Paralytic	0.00	0.05	0.06
Food Poisoning	0.00	0.17	0.14
Rates per 1,000 live births			
<i>Deaths:—</i>			
All causes under 1 year of age	27.6	29.3	29.4
Enteritis and Diarrhœa under 2 years of age	0.00	1.9	1.6
Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.			
<i>Notifications:—</i>			
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	5.44	5.81	4.33

II.—NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The Borough is situated in the south eastern part of the Isle of Thanet, has a southerly aspect and is approximately 72 miles from London. In general, Ramsgate stands on high ground, has a chalk sub-soil and enjoys some protection from north and east winds. There is a high sunshine and low rainfall rate, which makes the town an attractive one as a health resort for holiday-makers, and for permanent residence.

Many of the inhabitants are engaged directly or indirectly in meeting the requirements of the large number of visitors during the summer months. In addition, certain industries, such as flour milling, brewing and railway work, and other more recently established manufacturing, give employment to a considerable number of inhabitants.

III.—METEOROLOGY

Meteorological observations were carried on throughout the year. Twice daily telegraphic reports and monthly returns were transmitted to the Meteorological Office and Air Ministry. Daily information was also supplied to the Press.

The following table shows the monthly sunshine and rainfall figures for 1950:

		Sunshine in hours	Rainfall in inches
January	...	43.1	1.28
February	...	85.9	3.05
March	...	141.1	.48
April	...	180.8	1.39
May	...	180.7	1.4
June	...	288.8	1.3
July	...	221.7	2.26
August	...	222.6	1.77
September	...	134.7	1.6
October	...	126.1	.67
November	...	66.5	5.08
December	...	22.6	2.1
Total	...	1,714.6 hours	22.38 inches

IV.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1.—Laboratory Facilities.

Besides the facilities that have existed for some years at the County Council Laboratory, Maidstone, a laboratory has now been instituted at the Ramsgate General Hospital under the supervision of the Pathologist, Dr. I. B. Morris.

2.—Ambulance Facilities.

As from 5th July, 1948, the provision of an ambulance service has been the responsibility of the Kent County Council. Three ambulances are stationed at the Ambulance Depot in Cavendish Street.

3.—Treatment Centres and Clinics.

The following table gives particulars of the days and times of clinics which are provided by the Kent County Council:

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

	<i>Health Centre</i>	<i>Sussex Street</i>
Infant Clinics	Mon. and Wed. 2-4 p.m.	Tues. and Thurs. 2-4 p.m.
Ante-Natal Clinics	Thursday 2-4 p.m.	Tuesday 10 a.m.-12 noon

SCHOOL HEALTH

Minor Ailment Clinics	Mon. and Wed. 9-11 a.m.
Dental Clinics	Mon., Tues., Thurs. and Fri. 9.15 a.m.-4 p.m.

4.—Hospitals.

(a) General.

Mr. R. A. G. White, Administrator of the Ramsgate General Hospital, has kindly supplied the following information concerning the number of new patients dealt with during 1950:

IN-PATIENTS

Maternity	...	...	...	256
Others	...	...	...	1,938

OUT-PATIENTS

Casualty Department	4,574
---------------------	-----	-----	-------

SPECIAL DEPARTMENTS

Medical	...	...	...	338
Surgical	...	...	...	570
Gynaecological	...	...	...	290
Ophthalmic	...	...	...	566
Paediatric	...	...	...	14
Aural	...	...	...	950
Rheumatism	...	...	...	13
Ante-Natal	...	...	...	251
Dermatological	...	...	...	380
Urological	...	...	...	213
Neuropsychiatry	...	...	...	124
Orthopaedic	...	...	...	965
Dental	...	...	...	86
Physical Medicine	...	...	...	435
Physiotherapy	...	...	...	1,428

EXAMINATIONS

X-Ray	...	...	...	5,636
Pathological	...	...	...	5,649

(b) Infectious Disease Hospitals**(i) SMALLPOX**

Under an arrangement by the Regional Hospital Board, cases of smallpox may be admitted to the River Hospitals (Long Reach), Dartford. There were no cases during the year.

(ii) OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Cases of infectious disease other than smallpox are admitted to the Haine Isolation Hospital, Ramsgate, now under the administration of the Isle of Thanet Hospital Management Committee.

(c) Maternity

There are no maternity hospitals in the Borough. Cases requiring hospitalisation are admitted to the Maternity Ward of the Ramsgate General Hospital. The number of cases admitted on account of medical or social conditions was 256.

5.—Public Health Act, 1936—Part VI. Nursing Homes.

The registration and supervision of nursing homes still remains the responsibility of the Local Authority.

The number registered in the Borough was 5, which provides 85 beds, allocated as to 3 maternity and 82 others. The homes were kept under supervision during the year. The Maternity Home accommodation was reduced from 7 to 3 beds. Two new nursing homes were registered—3, Nethercourt Gardens, for one patient, and "Arundel," West Cliff Road, for 8 patients.

The particulars of all the Nursing Homes registered are as follows:

				Number of Beds		
				Maternity	Others	Total
6, Crescent Road	...	...	...	3	—	3
Feriby Lodge, Hollicondane Road	...	...	...	—	17	17
21, Vale Square and annex 11, Crescent Road	...	...	...	—	56	56
"Arundel," West Cliff Road	...	...	...	—	8	8
3, Nethercourt Gardens	...	...	...	—	1	1

6.—National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 47.

It was not found necessary to take action under this Act, for the removal to suitable premises, of persons in need of care and attention.

7.—National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 50.

Under the provisions of this section, six persons were buried at the expense of the Local Authority, at a total cost of £66 10s. 0d.

V.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1.—Water Supply.

The source of supply is rain, which falls mainly on an agricultural and a sparsely populated area. The rain water as such, is soft, but in its fall it becomes slightly acidified and picks up some chlorides. The water becomes further acidified in its filtration through the soil and sand, and thus is enabled to dissolve chalk on its way through the fissures in the chalk to the adits, thence to the deep wells and to the pumps.

The main supply is obtained through the Whitehall Pumping Station, where there are three pumps, though there is a supplementary pump at the Lord of the Manor.

The high degree of purity of this constant water supply is shown from the results of the frequent samples submitted. The figures for Chlorine as Chlorides and the Hardness in this seaside supply varies from time to time.

The following report from the Public Analyst for December, 1950, is as follows:

	Grains per Gallon
Appearance	Clear
Smell	None
Chlorine in Chlorides	3.22
Chlorine calculated as Sodium Chloride ...	5.28
Phosphoric Acid in Phosphates...	None
Nitrogen in Nitrates	0.77
Ammonia	0.0010
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0035
Oxygen absorbed in 15 minutes	None
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours	0.020
Hardness before boiling (Total)	22.6
Hardness after boiling (Permanent) ...	6.4
Total solid matter	29.54
Microscopical examination of deposit ...	Slight and not important

Besides samples of water taken for examination by the Water Engineer, 36 samples were taken by the Sanitary Inspectors of treated and untreated water for bacteriological examination. Four samples were also taken by the Inspectors for chemical analysis.

Although the results throughout were excellent, free chlorine to the extent of 0.15 to 0.2 parts per million is added by the Water Department as an additional precaution against bacteriological contamination.

The following report from the Water Engineer gives figures of the consumption of water during 1950:

Total gallons pumped	615,963,000
Average daily	1,687,569
Maximum day consumption (Aug. 4th, 1950) ...	2,388,000

Approximately 188,587,000 gallons of the total amount consumed was used for industrial purposes, and the remainder for domestic use.

A scheme is now in preparation whereby it will be possible to regenerate the softeners by using salt contained in sea water.

2.—Drainage and Sewerage.

The Borough Engineer reports that the 450 yard extension to the main trunk sewer serving the Nethercourt Housing Estate is still under construction.

Cesspools in the Manston-Cliffsend area were the subject of a special report submitted to the Council in May, 1950. The suggestion was made that the work of emptying these should be carried out by the Corporation workmen. This work would enable a rigid supervision of the structure of each cesspool to be carried out. To recompense the Local Authority in part for this work, application was made to the Ministry for a reduction in the differential rating which the outside areas enjoyed.

3.—Rivers and Streams.

There are no rivers or streams within the Borough.

4.—Public Cleansing.

Refuse disposal is receiving serious consideration from the officials concerned. The present destructor plant is being overloaded despite the addition of two cells. Negotiations are in progress with the owners of land at Cliffsend for permission to use this for controlled tipping. Such a scheme would be a means of considerable financial saving to the Local Authority, and would further provide an area which might be used for further development at a later date.

5.—Closet Accommodation.

With the exception of Manston, Cliffsend and Nethercourt areas, all houses in the Borough are connected with the water carriage system.

6.—Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The Sanitary Inspectors paid 5,449 visits. Information on their work, together with lists of notices served, and the result of such notices, are included in the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

7.—Shops Act, 1950—Section 38.

This Act which became operative on the 1st October, 1950, replaces the provisions of Section 10 of the Shops Act, 1934.

Sixty-six visits were made to shops to ensure that the provisions relating to the health and comfort of assistants were being carried out. These visits resulted in the following improvements being effected:

Drains relaid	...	...	...	2
Drains cleared	...	...	...	1
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	3
Rat-proofing of cellar	...	...	...	1
Separate w.c. accommodation provided	...	...	...	4
Lavatory basins provided	...	...	...	6
W.C's repaired	...	...	...	1
Premises renovated	...	...	...	1
New floors	...	...	...	1

This Department continues to receive helpful co-operation from the Food Executive Officer, thereby ensuring that every applicant for a licence becomes aware of the requirements of the Department before the premises are licensed by the Food Control Committee.

8.—Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

The following tables give the work carried out in connection with the Factories Act, 1937:

INSPECTIONS.

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities (See Below)	45	11	1	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (See Below)	156	88	1	—
3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (See Below)	18	—	—	—
Total ..	219	99	2	—

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND IN THE ABOVE

Particulars.	No of Cases in which defects were:—				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (Sect. 1)	7	7	—	—	—
Overcrowding (Sect. 2) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature.. (Sect. 3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (Sect. 4)	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage to floors (Sect. 6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (Sect. 7):					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	6	5	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes..	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	4	4	—	—	—
Total ..	20	19	—	—	—

OUTWORKERS

There were only 12 outworkers registered, all of whom are engaged in the making of wearing apparel.

9.—Moveable Dwellings.

There are two licensed camping sites in the Borough. These are organised on the lines suggested by the Caravan Clubs. Lavatories, water supply and washing facilities are provided.

Fifty-five inspections of these sites were carried out and no serious defect was found. Makeshift caravans, converted buses, etc., are not encouraged, and attempts are made to confine the users of these sites to genuine trailer caravans.

The acquisition and development of a further caravan site, in ideal surroundings, is envisaged for 1951.

10.—Smoke Abatement.

It has not been necessary to take any action with regard to nuisance arising from smoke.

11.—Swimming Baths and Pools.

During the summer season, supervision of the general sanitary conditions and the sampling of bath water was carried out at the privately owned Marina Bathing Pool in the Borough, which is open to the public on payment of an admission fee. Nine samples were taken and submitted, all of which proved to be satisfactory. The water is pumped, filtered and chlorinated, 0.5 parts of chlorine per million being maintained in the water.

There are no publicly owned swimming baths or pools open to the public in the Borough.

12.—Offensive Trades.

Six marine stores are registered under the Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907, and of these only two are registered as offensive trades under the Public Health Act, 1936, by virtue of dealing in both rags and bones.

13.—Fish Fryers.

Twenty-one fish fryers are registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Periodic inspection is carried out, and a high standard has been maintained.

VI.—HOUSING

Building of houses to meet the needs of the population still continues, though the numbers are considerably reduced owing to the shortage of the necessary materials.

The demand for houses is still acute and the allocation of such houses as are available is an unenviable task.

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

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	475
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	947
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	460

2.—Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	346
--	-----

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

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	Nil
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice ...	2
(a) By owners ...	2
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(c) Proceeding under section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	Nil
(d) Proceeding under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	Nil
(e) Proceeding under Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses included in Clearance Areas ...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished as a result of Clearance Area procedure ...	Nil

4.—Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.

In spite of the provision of Council houses, a considerable number of properties are being sub-let, and although the permitted number of the whole premises has not in itself been exceeded, there is a considerable amount of overcrowding in the sub-let portion of these premises.

Under these conditions, the application of this part of the Housing Act is considered impracticable.

5.—Council Houses.

I am indebted to the Housing Manager for the following detailed information:—

Number of newly constructed properties passed to Housing Department for letting during 1950:			
Traditional three-bedroomed non-parlour type	...	...	90
Traditional two-bedroomed non-parlour type flats (two storeys)	...	...	80
Total			170

6.—Future Building Programme.

Further schemes are being prepared for the approval of the Ministry of Health.

7.—Housing Applications.

The number of housing applications registered with the Council at 31st December, 1950, was 1,373.

8.—Tuberculosis.

Applications from families wherein open cases of this disease exists, are brought to the notice of the Housing Manager, and are then subject to the consideration of the Housing Committee.

9.—Allocation of Accommodation.

Number of families and persons accommodated by the Housing Committee for the year, including transfer of tenancies, are as follows:

	Houses	Families	Persons
Council Houses ...	148	149	549
Pre-fab bungalows ...	27	27	87
Flats ...	77	77	232
Requisitioned properties	9	10	33
Total ...	261	263	901

The number of properties controlled by the Council at the end of 1950 was:

Pre-war schemes ...	583
Post-war schemes:—	
Traditional houses ...	482
Traditional flats ...	120
Pre-fabricated bungalows ...	199
Requisitioned properties ...	76
Houses purchased by the Council ...	13
Total ...	1,473

VII.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

1.—Statistics.

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious disease notified, in age groups, together with the number admitted to hospital and the deaths from these diseases:

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths Registered	AGE INCIDENCE.											
				0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65
Scarlet Fever ...	57	37	—	—	3	3	8	17	22	3	1	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	567	1	—	11	91	58	62	137	163	23	18	4	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	307	1	—	24	86	41	43	49	56	5	3	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	12	—	*13	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	3	2	5
Erysipelas ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* All forms of pneumonia

2.—Diphtheria and Diphtheria Immunisation.

No cases of Diphtheria occurred. This remarkable decline in the number of cases of this disease can, with confidence be attributed to the widespread immunisation now being carried out by Public Health Authorities.

During this year, 432 children were given a primary inoculation, while 167 received a re-inforcing injection.

It is hoped that these satisfactory results will not give rise to a complacency resulting in the failure of parents to secure immunisation of the children on the supposition that the disease has completely disappeared.

According to statistics supplied by the County Medical Officer, it is estimated that approximately 62.2% of the child population under the age of 15 years is immunised in Ramsgate. This estimate errs on the low side as a large number of children may have been immunised by their own private practitioner without notification to the Local Authority.

3.—Smallpox and Vaccination.

No cases or suspicious cases occurred.

The County Medical Officer informs me that 309 persons were vaccinated and 88 re-vaccinated during the year.

4.—Individual Diseases.

(a) TYPHOID FEVER:

No cases of this disease occurred in Ramsgate.

(b) CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER:

One case was notified during the year. This case was removed from the Ramsgate General Hospital to the Isolation Hospital.

(c) POLIOMYELITIS:

One case was notified and was removed to hospital.

(d) MEASLES:

There was an increase in the number of notifications received, 567 as compared with 260 in 1949. No deaths were reported.

(e) WHOOPING COUGH:

Three hundred and seven cases were notified as compared with 106 during the previous year, and there were no deaths ascribed to this disease.

(f) SCARLET FEVER:

Fifty-seven cases were notified and of these, 37 were removed to hospital. The disease continued to be of a mild type, and there were no deaths.

5.—Tuberculosis.

Formal notification in respect of 31 respiratory and 3 non-respiratory cases were received. In addition, 16 cases were brought to the notice of the Department from the following sources:

	Respiratory	Non-respiratory
Transferred from other areas	12	1
Restored to register	3	—

The following table shows the number of new cases and the number of deaths according to age groups:

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-5 ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15 ...	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
15-25 ...	2	3	—	1	—	2	—	1
25-35 ...	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45 ...	4	4	—	—	3	—	—	—
45-55 ...	4	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
55-65 ...	2	—	—	—	4	2	—	—
Over 65 ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Total ...	19	12	—	3	10	5	—	1

The number of cases remaining on the register on 31st December, 1950, was:

	Male	Female	Total
Respiratory ...	141	100	241
Non-respiratory ...	19	27	46
Total ...	160	127	287

6.—Venereal Diseases.

Sixty-one new patients from Ramsgate (40 male, 21 female) were treated at the clinic provided by the Regional Hospital Board. A total of 1,208 attendances were made by these patients.

7—Scabies.

The arrangements for the treatment of this disease at the Health Centre were discontinued on the 27th June, 1950, owing to the absence of patients with this complaint. The doctors in the Borough were notified accordingly.

VIII.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

I am indebted to the Sanitary Inspectors for the details of their many and varied duties in connection with this work.

1.—Milk.

The visits paid by the Sanitary Inspectors to dairies and milkshops were 194. No action was found necessary with regard to the condition of these premises, as in all cases they were satisfactory.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is now responsible for the production of milk and the supervision of cowsheds has been transferred to that Ministry. The Local Authority are still responsible for the distribution of milk in their area, and the following gives particulars concerning licences etc.

(a) LICENCES

Registered under Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949:

Dairies	...	...	...	6
Dairymen	...	...	...	6
Distributors	...	...	...	37

All 6 Dairymen are licensed under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, as Dealers in Tuberculin Tested milk.

Four of the Dairies are licensed Pasteurising Establishments under the provision of the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the occupiers of the remaining 2 Dairies are licensed to use the Special Designation "Pasteurised" in relation to pasteurised milk bottled on the premises.

Two of the Pasteurising Establishments are subjecting all their milk, including T.T. milk, to the pasteurising process, and retailing the latter as "Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)." It is thought that this practice may be followed by other vendors in due course. There is no doubt that this gives a high grade of milk.

Of the 37 Distributors, all hold Dealers' Licences to use the designation "Pasteurised" and 4 hold Dealers' Licences to use the designation "Tuberculin Tested."

(b) BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS:

The following table denotes the number of samples of milk taken for bacteriological examination.

The methylene blue test is designed to determine the keeping quality and cleanliness of the milk, and the phosphatase test is to ascertain whether the milk has been correctly pasteurised.

Class of Milk	No. of samples tested	Bacteriological Result			
		Satisfied		Failed	
		Methylene Blue Test	Phosphatase Test	Methylene Blue Test	Phosphatase Test
Pasteurised	36	21	32	2	4
Pasteurised T.T.	6	3	6	—	—
Tuberculin Tested	10	7	—	3	—

(c) Four samples were taken for biological examination. One showed the presence of Tubercle Bacilli and 3 were negative. In the case of the positive sample the County Medical Officer was informed and the herd was inspected by the Divisional Veterinary Officer. One cow was subsequently destroyed under the Tuberculosis Order.

Two dairies installed new aluminium foil capping plants, and one dairy was completely rebuilt and re-equipped.

Monthly reports are submitted to the Area Milk Officer showing the results of the bacteriological examinations. Returns were also submitted to the Milk Division, Ministry of Food, Thames Ditton.

2.—Ice Cream.

Samples of ice cream, pre-packed and loose, are frequently taken for examination. The method of assessing the standard of cleanliness, namely the Methylene Blue Test, was employed, and the results of 20 samples taken, 5 pre-packed and 15 loose ice creams, were as follows:

No. of samples taken				
8	...	Grade 1	...	Methylene blue reduced in $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours or more. Satisfactory
6	...	Grade 2	...	Methylene blue reduced in $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 hours. Fair
6	...	Grade 3	...	Methylene blue reduced in 0 hours. Very unsatisfactory.

The samples failing to conform to the Methylene Blue Test were manufactured outside the Borough. The Medical Officer of Health of the district was notified.

A great deal of attention is given to the conditions of the premises where ice cream is manufactured or sold.

Seven samples were taken to ascertain the fat content and a monthly report was sent to the Ministry of Food. The average percentage of fat content of these samples was:

Lowest ...	3.2% (the minimum should be 2.5%)
Highest ...	12.3%
Average ...	8.2%

The Food Standards Committee are recommending that the term "ice cream" should be restricted to a dairy product containing a high proportion of milk solids as follows:

Fat	5%
Sugar	10%
Milk solids other than fat	7½%

The following table gives particulars of registrations of persons dealing in ice cream:

Manufacture and sale	...	...	7
Storage and distribution	...	...	1
Sale only	...	...	135
Sale of pre-packed ice cream only	...	...	61
Total	...	...	204

A total of 115 visits were made to these premises. It is gratifying to note the increase in the number of vendors selling pre-packed ice cream. The numbers rose from 33 to 61.

Other improvements carried out were:

Water heaters provided	...	...	1
Washing facilities	...	...	1
New water closets	...	...	1

3.—Food Preparing Premises.

The following are on the register:

Restaurants	...	...	96
Snack bars, tea rooms	...	...	62
Hotel—restaurants	...	...	18

Two hundred and sixteen visits were made, and the campaign to improve the structural and hygienic standard of these premises was continued.

The following improvements have been carried out by occupiers of food premises in the town:

Hot water supply introduced	...	...	8
New sinks installed	...	...	10
New pedestal pans fitted	...	...	4
New drainage carried out	...	...	1
Premises renovated	...	...	13
New flooring obtained	...	...	1

The new building erected in the Pier Yard and containing hand basins with a hot water supply, continues to be greatly appreciated by the vendors of shellfish in that area. It is also an encouragement to further cleanliness of the equipment in use.

4.—Bakehouses.

At the end of the year there were 33 bakehouses on the register, none of which came under the category of "Underground Bakehouses."

Bakehouses rebuilt and re-equipped with modern plant ...	1
Premises renovated	6

5.—Preserved Foods.

Fifty-four premises are registered under the provisions of Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, to prepare various types of preserved food, these are as follows:

Preparation of sausages, cooked and pickled meats	35
Preparation of cooked meats only	4
Bacon smoking and ham curing	1
Fish curing and smoking	2
Cooking and preparing of shellfish	2
Manufacture of pickles	3
Manufacture of sugar confectionery	7

These were all periodically inspected and found satisfactory.

6.—Fish Frying.

Twenty-one premises are registered. The 2 mobile vans mentioned in last year's report, ceased to operate.

7.—Slaughterhouses.

There are two slaughterhouses in use in the Borough, both occupied by the Ministry of Food. These slaughterhouses not only supply Ramsgate with meat, but also Margate and Broadstairs. Certain structural improvements were made during the year. Other requirements are to be put in hand. Both are badly sited in residential areas, and attempts are being made to obtain approval for the erection of a new and modern building.

8.—Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

The number of slaughtermen holding licences at the end of the year was eight.

9.—Meat.

The following table shows the number of carcasses inspected and condemned during the year.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2189	698	2097	5513	602
Number inspected	2189	698	2097	5513	602
All Diseases except Tuberculosis:					
Whole carcasses condemned	3	11	8	20	12
Part carcasses condemned	731	374	4	439	79
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	33.5	55.20	0.58	8.33	15.12
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned	15	31	6	—	9
Part carcasses condemned	206	141	1	—	29
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	10.10	24.64	0.34	—	6.33

Total animals killed and inspected — 11,099.

The total weight of meat condemned during the year was:
37 tons 3 cwts. 3 qrs. 16½ lbs.

10.—Cysticercus Bovis.

The above statistics include 17 Bovine carcasses (0.6% of cattle slaughtered) which were found to be affected with the parasite *Cysticercus Bovis*. In no case was the condition generalised, and only the offal was condemned. All the carcasses were held in cold storage for a minimum period of 21 days at a temperature not exceeding 20° F as recommended by the Ministry of Food and, thereafter they were taken over by the S.E. Wholesale Meat Supply Association for distribution to manufacturers.

11.—Pharmaceutic Offals.

It is now the practice of the Ministry of Food to reserve for pharmaceutical purposes, certain organs considered to be medicinally valuable. These organs, glands, etc., are removed from the carcass immediately upon slaughter, and are deposited in a quick freeze refrigerating unit installed for the purpose.

12.—Other Foods Condemned.

A total of 5 tons 14 cwts. 0½ lbs. of various tinned goods, eggs, butter, cheese, fish, etc., was surrendered during the year by shopkeepers. This was certified as unsound and destroyed.

13.—Food and Drugs Act, 1938—Adulteration.

One hundred and thirty-six samples (101 formal and 35 informal) were taken by the Sanitary Inspectors and submitted for analysis by the Public Analyst.

Description of Sample	Formal	Informal
*Milk	89	—
*Pork Pie	—	1
Ice Cream	—	11
*Sausage	12	—
Pepper Compound, White ...	—	2
Sultanas	—	12
Ground Almonds	—	1
Lemonade Powder	—	1
Sweets	—	1
Glaze Cherries	—	1
*Condensed Milk	—	1
*Jelly	—	1
*Sandwich Spread	—	1
*Cut Peel	—	1
Tinned Meat	—	1

The Public Analyst's reports on the 89 samples of milk show the average to be above the minimum standard, and in every case they were free from preservatives. The average figures are:

Fat	3.62%
Non-fatty solids	8.73%
Total solids	12.35%

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

The 106 samples of food marked * in the preceding table were also examined under the above Regulations and were found to conform to the requirements.

PORT HEALTH REPORT, 1950

In accordance with the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, Article 17(5), the following report on the sanitary circumstances, sanitary administration and vital statistics are submitted for the year ending 31st December, 1950.

1.—Amount of Shipping Entering the Port.

TABLE A.

	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected	Number reported defective	No. of vessels on which defects were remedied	Number reported to Min. of Transport Surveyors	No. with I.D. on board
FOREIGN:							
Steamers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Motor*	228	4694	1	—	—	—	—
Sailing ..	6	16	—	—	—	—	—
Fishing ..	423	6283	—	—	—	—	—
Total Foreign	657	10993	1	—	—	—	—
COASTWISE:							
Steamers	24	147	—	—	—	—	—
Motor*	809	36247	1	—	—	—	—
Sailing ..	20	652	—	—	—	—	—
Fishing ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Coastwise	853	37046	1	—	—	—	—
Total Foreign & Coastwise	1510	48039	2	—	—	—	—

* Includes mechanically propelled vessels other than steamers

2.—Character of the Trade of the Port.

(a) PASSENGER TRAFFIC:

The passenger traffic was limited to short coastal trips, mainly during the summer months by privately owned yachts. Occasional visits were paid by yachts from foreign ports.

(b) CARGO TRAFFIC:

The chief import from foreign ports was timber. Coal, wheat and salt arrive from the home ports.

3.—Water Supply.

All ships requiring water receive this from the town supply.

4.—Port Health Regulations, 1933 and 1945.

Declarations of health are received by the Preventive Officers who board all vessels on arrival. These Declarations are forwarded to the Port Medical Officer of Health.

Mooring stations, both within and outside the docks, have been arranged to be used when necessary, though exceptions may be made in respect of ships with infectious diseases other than Cholera, Plague, Yellow Fever, Typhus Fever and Smallpox on board. In the event of a vessel arriving with infectious disease on board, no person would be allowed to board or leave the vessel without permission of the Medical Officer of Health.

Facilities for cleansing and disinfecting of verminous persons and their belongings exist at the Disinfecting Station. Fumigation is carried out by the Health Department, and the Infectious Diseases hospitals are available if required.

5.—Measures Against Rodents.

It was not found necessary to take measures against rodents on board ship. Wharves and warehouses received the attention of the Rodent Operators as required.

6.—Hygiene of Crews' Spaces.

CLASSIFICATIONS OF NUISANCES.

Nationality of Vessel	Number inspected during the year.	Defects of original construction	Structural defects through wear and tear	Dirt, vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health
British ..	—	—	—	—
Other Nations ..	1	—	—	—

7.—Food Inspection.

No food is imported into the port. The Pegwell Bay Shellfish Regulations are still in operation. These regulations, which came into force in December, 1925, prohibited the sale of cockles taken from the prescribed area until they have been subjected to sterilisation by steam under pressure for at least six minutes. The sterilisation must be carried out either by the Sanitary Authority or in a manner approved by the Medical Officer of the district in which the cockles are landed.

PUBLIC HEALTH (AIRCRAFT) REGULATIONS, 1950

Owing to the fact that the Ramsgate Aerodrome is not in use, no action was found necessary under these regulations, which deal with all matters of health in the case of passengers or crew arriving from abroad or from infected areas.

**REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1950**

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my report for the year 1950, detailing the work carried out by the Sanitary Staff.

Considerable attention has been paid to food preparing premises, particularly during the summer season, but complete supervision can only be attained with an adequate staff. From the majority of trades, ready co-operation was received. The adoption of the Model Food Byelaws during 1951 should prove useful by further improving hygienic conditions.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

Consideration was given by the Public Health Committee to this campaign, and all food traders in the Borough were invited to attend a special meeting convened in the Granville Theatre.

The Chamber of Commerce, Hotel and Boarding House Association and Allied Associations co-operated with the Public Health Committee, and invitations were sent to all local traders and their employees.

Four films, kindly lent by the Central Film Library, were shown, including "Another Case of Poisoning," and Mr. Morley Parry of the Food Hygiene Division of the Ministry of Food attended and explained the various precautions necessary in handling and preparing food as embodied in the Model Byelaws.

Meat inspection is carried out at the two Ministry of Food Slaughterhouses, where slaughtering takes place for the Thanet towns.

The amount of time necessary for this work is far greater than is generally realised, and the burden placed upon the Sanitary Inspectors is extremely heavy, often necessitating their presence at the slaughterhouse at a late hour.

LICENSED PREMISES.

A detailed survey was carried out, and the result and recommendations to the Council are on Page 38.

CAMPING SITE.

Proposals are under consideration for the establishment of a trailer caravan camping site on Corporation ground on the West Cliff at Pegwell.

The Ministry of Food Hygiene Division arranged with the Department of Health of the Irish Republic, for four of their Health Inspectors to visit local authorities to study the system of enforcement of food hygiene and supervision of food premises in this country.

Mr. Thomas F. Murray, Chief Health Inspector for the County Borough of Cork, visited Ramsgate, and after their departure a letter of appreciation of the facilities extended to their Officers was received from the Eire Authorities.

I desire to record my appreciation of the help received from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, and to express my sincere thanks to the Medical Officer of Health, the Sanitary Inspectors and Office Staff for their assistance and valuable support.

E. YOUNG,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

1.—Camping Sites.

There are two licensed sites in the Borough, which are subject to periodic inspection. A total of 55 inspections was made during the year.

Both camps are provided with sanitary blocks containing water closets and facilities for washing. Covered dustbins are provided and emptied each day.

Caravans are sited in accordance with the requirements of the Medical Officer of Health and the Senior Sanitary Inspector. The terms of the licences are for trailer caravans and/or tents, and no trouble was experienced during the year.

Negotiations are proceeding for the use of Corporation land at Pegwell for a camping site.

An application was submitted to establish a camping site on the Canterbury Road. This application was not granted by the Local Authority, and the applicant subsequently appealed to the Ministry of Town and Country Planning, as a result of which the ruling of the Local Authority was upheld.

2.—Housing.

The present position with regard to housing requires serious consideration. Many houses are in occupation which have served their purpose and are only fit to be included in a clearance area.

Owing to the lack of modern houses, these almost worn-out houses are being purchased for occupation at a very high cost. The Housing and Town Planning Committee have appointed a Sub-Committee to consider the whole question of slum clearance and development, and have recommended that the question of comprehensive development of two areas be approved and submitted to the Kent County Council for adoption.

3.—Cinemas, Theatres, Dance Halls.

The places of amusement licensed for public music and/or dancing in the Borough number 76, and may be classified as follows:

Cinemas	...	...	...	...	4
Theatres	...	...	...	...	3
Halls (Religious Denominations and others)					13
Hotels, Public-Houses	...	...	...	...	42
Restaurants	...	...	...	...	8
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	4

Periodic inspections were made and conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

4.—Licensed Premises.

A report of a survey made during the year was submitted to the Council and Licensing Justices. This report gave the following particulars, to which attention was drawn:

- (1) Sanitary Accommodation.
- (2) Staff washing facilities.
- (3) Facilities for washing and sterilising drinking vessels.
- (4) Condition of cellars.
- (5) Nature and condition of beer pipes.
- (6) General condition of premises as regards structure and decorations.

To ensure that, as far as practicable, there should be uniformity in reporting upon the conditions in the many premises to be inspected, I deemed it advisable to allocate the duty to one only of the Sanitary Inspectors, and, therefore, Mr. Weller was made responsible for carrying out the survey and recording the results.

A total of 97 premises have been inspected. Of this total, 87 premises are in the ownership of various Brewery Companies, and the remaining 10 are privately owned.

Although, in general, premises are maintained in a reasonably good condition, and little exception can be taken to general cleanliness, there are some cases where premises are found to be structurally unsatisfactory, inconvenient and badly arranged, this being mainly due to age and difficulties of site.

(1) Sanitary Accommodation.

Sanitary accommodation cannot be considered adequate in all premises, but one only was found to be entirely without sanitary accommodation for the use of customers. Six premises were found to be without urinal accommodation for men, and 21 without w.c.'s for men, and 12 premises without separate w.c.'s for women customers.

(2) Staff Washing Facilities.

In three premises there are no washing facilities for staff, whilst in 22 cases the only washing facilities available for licensees and staff consist of the kitchen sink. In all other premises separate facilities are available.

(3) Facilities for Washing and Sterilising Drinking Vessels.

Except in one instance, all premises are provided with a washing-up sink under the bar counter. Five of these sinks are unsuitable or defective, 11 are without waste pipes, discharging to a bucket, which is emptied from time to time, and 20 have waste pipes that are not trapped.

Four premises are without a supply of water to the bar, one has no cold water supply, and 58 are without a supply of constant hot water, which means that in all probability washing up is carried on in cold water only.

There is a divided opinion on the use of detergent or sterilising agents, some licensees being afraid that they may impart a taste to the beer, and it is found that in 45 cases only, detergents are regularly used.

(4) Condition of Cellars.

The general condition of cellars was found to be poor in 11 cases, whilst in 28 cases cellar floors were found to be unsatisfactory or defective. Floors are considered unsatisfactory where they consist wholly or in part chalk or earth, and where there is inadequate drainage. In view of the depth of cellars in relation to the sewer, drainage sumps have to be accepted in lieu of gullies in some few cases.

(5) Beer Pipes.

A miscellaneous assortment of material is in use as beer pipes, but the more modern materials, stainless steel, telescopic or in continuous lengths, and clear plastic tubing, are becoming increasingly popular with licensees, and are rapidly superseding such materials as lead and rubber

hose. Many licensees are still using porcelain glass or stainless steel tubes in short lengths with rubber connectors to make flexible leads from beer engines to barrels. No exception can be taken to these, provided they are properly cleansed.

After consideration, the Council decided that the following principles be adopted as being most desirable in the interests of public health, and that the interested parties be so informed:

- (i) That all sanitary accommodation provided for the use of customers should, wherever possible, be situated within the actual building, or be adjacent thereto with access by covered way.
It is considered that this provision should be made in order to avoid risk of nuisance being committed in the yards of Public Houses, and that the sanitary accommodation may be under adequate supervision.
- (ii) That separate lavatory accommodation be provided for each sex. (It is considered essential that occupiers should have separate private accommodation, apart from that provided for customers use.)
- (iii) That hot water supply should be made available over the sinks provided in the bars, to enable glasses, etc., to be properly cleansed. (In addition, it is considered that a suitable detergent should be used in the cleansing of glasses, etc.)
- (iv) That an adequate number of wash basins be provided, together with a constant supply of hot and cold water with soap and clean towels.

It must be realised that some considerable time will elapse before any structural improvements can be carried out to the sanitary conveniences, etc.

5.—Supervision of Food.

Detailed particulars concerning the supervision of food, milk supply, meat inspection, sampling under the Food and Drugs Act, etc., are shown under Part VIII, on Page 7. In addition, 15 samples of shellfish (cockles, mussels and whelks) were taken for bacteriological examination and all were found to be free from harmful organisms.

SHELLFISH:

The question of shellfish as a danger to public health was raised by the Association of Municipal Corporations. One meeting of a sub-committee, appointed for this purpose by the Association, was attended. It was decided that until legislation was passed to deal with this question, no satisfactory method could be attained.

6.—Complaints.

The number of complaints received was 986. These complaints must receive attention, thereby curtailing the full systematic inspection of other premises necessary under the Shops, Factories and Housing Acts, etc.

7.—Notices Served.

Preliminary notices served or letters written ...	270
Nuisances abated on verbal instructions ...	247
Statutory notices served	2
Statutory notices complied with	2

One owner who had not complied with a statutory notice served in 1949 was prosecuted, the Justices deciding in favour of the Corporation. The necessary work was executed in default of the owner and recovery of the cost was made by payment of rent direct to the Corporation.

8.—Inspections and Visits.

The following list details the number of inspections and visits paid by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year to various types of properties, etc., this by no means conveys the idea of the amount of time spent and the work involved in investigation.

GENERAL NUISANCES:

Inspection of verminous premises ...	124
Accumulations	68
Animals, keeping of	47
Absence of refuse receptacles	263
Smoke nuisances investigated	7

FOOD PREMISES:

Bakehouses	52
Fish Fryers	59
Ice Cream Premises	115
Milkshops	194
Restaurants	216
Shellfish Vendors	46
General Food Shops, Grocers, etc ...	511

FACTORIES:

Mechanical	36
Non-mechanical	11
Outworkers' premises	5

HOUSING:

Inspections under Housing Acts ...	15
Inspections of Council property ...	83
Inspections re overcrowding ...	3
Whole house measured for permitted number	1
Separate rooms measured for permitted number	2

LICENSED PREMISES:

Inspections for Music and Dancing Licences	12
Special survey	77

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:

Visits of investigation or follow-up of contacts	182
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MOVEABLE DWELLINGS:

Camping sites or caravans inspected ...	55
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RODENT CONTROL:

Visits to premises to ascertain degree of infestation	342
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REPAIRS:

Inspection after service of notice or on request	947
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SHOPS ACT, 1950:

Inspections	66
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SLAUGHTERHOUSES:

Visits re inspection of meat	616
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MISCELLANEOUS INSPECTIONS AND VISITS:

Marine Stores	5
Schools	11
Shipping	2
Stables	6
Swimming Pool—samples	3
Water sampling	39
Miscellaneous visits not classified ...	493
Total ...	5,449

9.—Result of Inspections and Visits.

Remarks similar to those made under Section 8, apply to the following list of improvements effected.

IMPROVEMENTS

DRAINAGE SYSTEM:

Drains cleared or amended	80
Fresh air inlet valves provided ...	5
Gully traps provided	31
Inspection chambers built	21
Intercepting traps fixed	2
Soil and vent pipes fitted	27
Houses re-drained	9

INTERNAL REPAIRS:

Floors relaid or repaired	...	...	55
Flushing cisterns provided or repaired	...	...	48
Ventilated larders provided	...	...	1
Sash cords renewed	...	...	27
Sills repaired	...	...	14
Sinks trapped	...	...	45
Sinks or lavatory basins provided	...	...	57
Stoves, fireplaces, etc. repaired or renewed	...	...	30
New w.c. pans provided	...	...	84
Defective plaster repaired	...	...	216
Water supply improved	...	...	29
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	35

EXTERNAL REPAIRS:

Chimney stacks, flues, etc.	...	...	14
Eaves gutters	...	...	26
Walls, cement rendered	...	...	2
Walls repointed	...	...	8
Roofs repaired	...	...	58
Yards paved	...	...	16
Walls treated with damp proofing materials	...	...	23

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS:

Cleansed or limewashed	...	...	7
Chimney increased in height	...	...	1
Lavatory basins provided	...	...	1
Sanitary accommodation improved	...	...	7
Ventilation improved	...	...	1
Other minor improvements	...	...	2

MISCELLANEOUS:

Accumulations removed	...	...	20
Cesspools abolished	...	...	2
Houses cleansed	...	...	1
Houses renovated throughout	...	...	7
Refuse receptacles provided	...	...	83
Urinals repaired	...	...	12
Minor items of repairs	...	...	194

Total ... 1,301

INFECTIOUS DISEASE, DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

10.—Infectious Disease.

Investigations were made as a routine measure in certain cases of infectious disease, and contacts were followed up. In all, a total of 182 visits were made by the Sanitary Inspectors.

11.—Disinfection.

Two hundred and fifteen rooms were disinfected after infectious diseases and cancer, 182 sets of bedding were fumigated in the steam disinfector. One hundred and ninety-four sets of bedding were disinfected on behalf of the General Hospital after infectious disease or for other causes.

12.—Pest Control.

(i) DISINFESTATION

The work of destroying insect pests of all types is carried out by the department, no charge being made for the service.

The methods employed are chiefly spraying by liquid insecticides or using insecticide powder containing D.D.T. or Gammexane, with satisfactory results.

The following table shows the number of premises treated, together with the type of infestation.

	Council Property		Other Property	
	Premises	Rooms	Premises	Rooms
Bugs ...	2	3	18	42
Fleas and Flies ...	3	11	20	50
Beetles, insects, etc.	13	30	38	136

In addition, 9 premises were treated for wasps' nests.

Sixty-three sets of filthy bedding were removed for fumigation, and 26 were destroyed.

(ii) RODENT CONTROL

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949, came into force on 31st March, 1950. This Act takes the place of the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. The new Act places the duty on every Local Authority to take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that their district is kept free from rats and mice. Particular regard is to be paid to inspections of property to ascertain any degree of infestation and to destroy these pests should infestation be found. In addition, Local Authorities are to keep such records as may be required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The methods of extermination employed are those recommended by the Infestation Division of the Ministry, and the Council receives 50% of any expenditure incurred. No charge is made for rodent destruction in dwelling houses or in the property of the Local Authority, but a charge is made for work carried out in business premises.

The quarterly meetings of the Workable Area Committee for Rodent Control were attended during the year. This Committee is composed of representatives from Local Authorities in East Kent, and problems concerning rodent control in all its aspects, are considered.

Two full-time operators were engaged on this work in Ramsgate for the major portion of the year.

In order to make uniform the statistics on rodent control throughout the country, the Ministry issued a Return to be completed by all Local Authorities for the nine months ending 31st December, 1950. The particulars submitted in this Return are summarised below:

		Number of:—			
		Local Authority Property	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises	Agricultural Property
Infestations:—					
Notified by occupier	...	19	147	32	2
Otherwise discovered	...	—	33	6	—
Infested by:—					
Rats: Major	...	4	—	12	2
Minor	...	14	131	26	—
Mice only	...	1	49	—	—

MEASURES OF CONTROL

No. of properties inspected	19	173	38	2
No of inspections made	28	198	112	4
Treatments carried out (excluding block treatments)				
Rats	...	20	131	38
Mice only	...	1	49	—

BLOCK TREATMENTS

No of blocks	...	1	3	19	—
No of separate occupancies	4	10	43	—	—

Sewer maintenance treatments were carried out on two occasions with satisfactory results. Various other properties under the control of the Local Authority, including the Royal Harbour, Refuse Destructor, Refuse Tips, etc., were also treated with satisfactory results.

