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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

1952



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BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE**PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, JUNE, 1952**

Chairman:

Councillor W. H. Greenstreet

Vice-Chairman:

Alderman L. F. Davey

His Worship The Mayor

(ALDERMAN OWEN HUGHES, J.P.)

Alderman Mrs. E. M. Billingham

„ D. M. Hughes

Councillor W. L. Austin

„ W. F. Howard

„ G. Jefford

„ Mrs. L. M. Maile

„ Mrs. Robson

„ F. R. Smith

„ A. R. Young

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT*Medical Officer of Health:*

H. M. Cargin, M.D., D.P.H.

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

J. Newing

Disinfectors and Drain Testers:

H. J. Farley

G. C. Riordan

Rodent Destruction Operator:

V. C. Barker

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 pleasure in presenting the report on the health of the Borough for the year 1952.

Once again the statistics show a satisfactory trend, an increasing population and a diminishing death rate.

I have to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their interest and support, and my colleagues in other branches of the Council, for their help. To the staff of this Department my thanks are due for their loyalty and co-operation at all times.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

H. M. CARGIN,

Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1953.

I.—SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Area of Borough in acres | ... | ... | ... | 4,778 |
| Registrar General's estimate of the population mid-1952 | ... | ... | ... | 36,060 |
| Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books | ... | ... | ... | 11,710 |
| Rateable Value | ... | ... | ... | £298,749 |
| General Rate | ... | ... | ... | 24/10d. |
| Sum represented by a penny rate | ... | ... | ... | £1,160 |

1.—Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

| | | | |
|--------------|-------|------|--------|
| Live Births: | Total | Male | Female |
| Legitimate | 537 | 285 | 252 |
| Illegitimate | 49 | 21 | 28 |
| Total | 586 | 306 | 280 |

The illegitimate births formed 8.3% of the total, 1.9% more than for the previous year.

TOTAL BIRTH RATE

| | |
|--|-------------|
| (Uncorrected) 16.2 per 1,000 of population | See Page 13 |
| (Corrected) 16.9 per 1,000 of population | |
| (England and Wales: 15.3) | |

| | | | |
|--------------|-------|------|--------|
| Stillbirths: | Total | Male | Female |
| Legitimate | 9 | 6 | 3 |
| Illegitimate | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| Total | 13 | 8 | 5 |

Stillbirth Rate (per 1,000 births) 21.7 as compared with 27.8 for the previous year.

DEATHS

| | Total | Male | Female |
|--------------------------|-------|-------------|--------|
| All causes ... | 496 | 271 | 225 |
| Death Rate (uncorrected) | 13.7 | See Page 11 | |
| Death Rate (corrected) | 11.8 | | |
| (England and Wales; | 11.3) | | |

The deaths were 57 fewer in number than for the year 1951.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:

| | | | |
|--------------|-------|------|--------|
| | Total | Male | Female |
| Legitimate | 11 | 5 | 6 |
| Illegitimate | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Total | 14 | 7 | 7 |

Infantile Mortality Rates:

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

| | | |
|--------------|------|-------------------------------|
| Total | 23.9 | (Compares with 32.4 for 1951) |
| Legitimate | 20.4 | |
| Illegitimate | 61.2 | |

The Infantile Mortality Rate in England and Wales was 27.6.

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 | 8 | 2 |
| 2. Tuberculosis—other | — | — |
| 3. Syphilitic disease | 3 | — |
| 4. Diphtheria | — | — |
| 5. Whooping Cough | — | — |
| 6. Meningococcal infections | — | — |
| 7. Acute Poliomyelitis | — | — |
| 8. Measles | — | — |
| 9. Other infective and parasitic diseases | — | — |
| 10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach | 9 | 5 |
| 11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus | 14 | 2 |
| 12. Malignant neoplasm, breast | — | 10 |
| 13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus | — | 7 |
| 14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms | 25 | 21 |
| 15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia | 1 | 1 |
| 16. Diabetes | 2 | 1 |
| 17. Vascular lesions of nervous system | 39 | 38 |
| 18. Coronary disease, angina | 31 | 18 |
| 19. Hypertension with heart disease | 3 | 2 |
| 20. Other heart disease | 50 | 48 |
| 21. Other circulatory disease | 6 | 12 |
| 22. Influenza | 2 | 1 |
| 23. Pneumonia | 1 | 8 |
| 24. Bronchitis | 20 | 10 |
| 25. Other diseases of respiratory system | 4 | 2 |
| 26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | 5 | 1 |
| 27. Gastritis enteritis and diarrhoea | — | 1 |
| 28. Nephritis and nephrosis | 3 | 3 |
| 29. Hyperplasia of prostate | 7 | — |
| 30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion | — | — |
| 31. Congenital malformations | 1 | 1 |
| 32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 22 | 24 |
| 33. Motor vehicle accidents | 4 | 1 |
| 34. All other accidents | 7 | 5 |
| 35. Suicide | 4 | 1 |
| 36. Homicide and operations of war | — | — |
| | 271 | 225 |
| | 496 | |

Trend of mortality from the principal causes of death:—

| Year | Cancer (all forms) | Vascular lesions | Heart Diseases | Tuberculosis | Bronchitis and Pneumonia |
|---------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| 1942 .. | 33 | 28 | 74 | 17 | 20 |
| 1943 .. | 43 | 29 | 54 | 13 | 22 |
| 1944 .. | 50 | 44 | 75 | 16 | 25 |
| 1945 .. | 61 | 38 | 78 | 17 | 30 |
| 1946 .. | 59 | 66 | 122 | 21 | 42 |
| 1947 .. | 65 | 56 | 142 | 21 | 46 |
| 1948 .. | 78 | 54 | 145 | 16 | 41 |
| 1949 .. | 84 | 51 | 148 | 23 | 47 |
| 1950 .. | 71 | 52 | 143 | 16 | 44 |
| 1951 .. | 88 | 92 | 157 | 17 | 54 |
| 1952 .. | 93 | 77 | 152 | 10 | 39 |

The figures of the Registrar General show that cancer of the Trachea and Bronchus caused 4,815 deaths in 1940 in England and Wales, and in 1950 caused 12,241 deaths, an increase of 154%. Cancer of the large intestine produced only a small increase in the figures for 1950 as compared with those for 1940.

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 ... | 7 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 4 | 2 | 7 | 25 | 43 | 77 | 105 | 271 |
| FEMALES ... | 7 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | 11 | 8 | 23 | 57 | 114 | 225 |

3.—Population.

The population as given by the Registrar General, was 36,060, which shows an increase of 220 compared with the year 1951.

4.—Births.

The number of live births registered was 586, an increase of 62.

5.—Death Rate.

This shows a decrease of 1.4. A correction factor has been supplied by the Registrar General. This factor is based upon the disparity in age and sex 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 and sex groups are more evenly distributed.

The factor for this Authority is 0.86, this multiplied by the uncorrected death rate gives a corrected death rate of 11.8 as compared with 13.7.

6.—Maternal Mortality.

There were no deaths due to pregnancy, childbirth or abortion.

7.—Infant Mortality.

The next table shows the infant deaths (14) from various causes, stated in accordance with the age at death. Of this total, 7 were males and 7 females. The headings of the table are those from the latest annual report of the Ministry of Health.

The comparable figure for 1951 was 17 infant deaths.

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 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Enteritis and Diarrhoea ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Congenital malformations | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Premature Birth ... | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 |
| Injury at Birth ... | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Asphyxia, Atelectasis ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 6 |
| Congenital Debility | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Hæmolytic disease ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| Other causes ... | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Totals | 5 | 1 | 2 | — | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 14 |

8.—Birth Rate.

The uncorrected birth rate is 16.2, 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 and sex) for this area. The correction figure is 1.04 and this multiplied by the above, results in a birth rate of 16.9. The comparable figure for England and Wales was 15.3.

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 Home Population | | | |
| <i>Births:—</i> | | | |
| Live Births | 16.9 | 15.3 | 15.5 |
| Still Births | 0.36 | 0.35 | 0.36 |
| <i>Deaths:—</i> | | | |
| All causes | 11.8 (corrected) | 11.3 | 11.2 |
| <i>Deaths due to:—</i> | | | |
| Typhoid and Paratyphoid | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Whooping Cough | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Diphtheria | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Tuberculosis | 0.27 | 0.24 | 0.22 |
| Influenza | 0.08 | 0.04 | 0.04 |
| Smallpox | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.00 |
| Pneumonia | 0.24 | 0.47 | 0.43 |
| <i>Notification of Infectious Diseases:—</i> | | | |
| Typhoid Fever... .. | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Paratyphoid Fever | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.03 |
| Meningococcal infection | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.03 |
| Scarlet Fever | 1.60 | 1.53 | 1.58 |
| Whooping Cough | 2.66 | 2.61 | 2.57 |
| Diphtheria | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.03 |
| Erysipelas | 0.05 | 0.14 | 0.12 |
| Small-pox | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Measles | 7.26 | 8.86 | 8.49 |
| Pneumonia | 0.19 | 0.72 | 0.62 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis — | | | |
| Paralytic | 0.11 | 0.06 | 0.06 |
| Non-Paralytic | 0.00 | 0.03 | 0.02 |
| Food Poisoning | 0.00 | 0.13 | 0.11 |
| Rates per 1,000 live births | | | |
| <i>Deaths:—</i> | | | |
| All causes under 1 year of age | 23.9 | 27.6 | 25.8 |
| Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age | 1.70 | 1.1 | 0.5 |
| Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births. | | | |
| <i>Notifications:—</i> | | | |
| Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia | 8.34 | 17.87 | 10.22 |

II.—NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The Borough is situated in the 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 in meeting the requirement of the large number of visitors during the summer months. Industries, such as tool making, brewing, flour milling, clothing and plastics making, are established in the town, while the manufacture of fireworks, toys, stockings, etc. is being carried on just outside the boundaries of the Borough.

III.—METEOROLOGY

Meteorological observations were carried on throughout the year by the staff of the Borough Engineer's Department to whom I am indebted for this information. Twice daily telegraphic reports were transmitted to the Meteorological Office and the Air Ministry. Monthly returns were also sent to these authorities. Daily information was also supplied to the Press.

Sunshine.

Record of sunshine for each month:—

| | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|--------------|
| January | ... | ... | 80.2 hours |
| February | ... | ... | 66.0 .. |
| March | ... | ... | 92.5 .. |
| April | ... | ... | 205.6 .. |
| May | ... | ... | 265.6 .. |
| June | ... | ... | 250.6 .. |
| July | ... | ... | 237.3 .. |
| August | ... | ... | 189.4 .. |
| September | ... | ... | 130.8 .. |
| October | ... | ... | 126.8 .. |
| November | ... | ... | 70.0 .. |
| December | ... | ... | 36.4 .. |
| Total | ... | ... | 1751.2 hours |

In May, June and July, there were several days of more than 14 hours sunshine, and only on 67 days in the whole of the year was an absence of sunshine recorded.

Rainfall.

The monthly rainfall was as follows:—

| | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|---------------------|
| January | ... | ... | 1.9 inches |
| February | ... | ... | 1.5 .. |
| March | ... | ... | 2.2 .. |
| April | ... | ... | 0.38 .. |
| May | ... | ... | 1.1 .. |
| June | ... | ... | 1.46 .. |
| July | ... | ... | 0.7 .. |
| August | ... | ... | 2.4 .. |
| September | ... | ... | 5.0 .. |
| October | ... | ... | 1.9 .. |
| November | ... | ... | 3.34 .. |
| December | ... | ... | 2.2 .. |
| Total | | | <u>24.08 inches</u> |

The prevailing winds were northerly and north westerly.

It is interesting to note that snow fell on 9 days only in 1952 and on 5 days thunder was heard.

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 Health Centre and are controlled from the Divisional Headquarters at Broadstairs (Telephone: Thanet 61461).

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

SCHOOL HEALTH

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Minor Ailment Clinics | Mon., Wed., Sat. 9.30 a.m. |
| Dental Clinics | By appointment |
| Orthopaedic Clinics | By appointment |
| Ophthalmic Clinics | Monday 9-11 a.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 1952:—

IN-PATIENTS

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Maternity | ... | ... | ... | 373 |
| Others | ... | ... | ... | 1,837 |

OUT-PATIENTS

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-------|
| Casualty Department | ... | ... | 4,953 |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-------|

SPECIAL DEPARTMENTS

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Medical | ... | ... | ... | 321 |
| Surgical | ... | ... | ... | 927 |
| Gynaecological | ... | ... | ... | 180 |
| Ophthalmic | ... | ... | ... | 490 |
| Paediatric | ... | ... | ... | 78 |
| Aural | ... | ... | ... | 843 |
| Rheumatism | ... | ... | ... | 104 |
| Ante-Natal | ... | ... | ... | 347 |
| Dermatological | ... | ... | ... | 399 |
| Urological | ... | ... | ... | 248 |
| Neuropsychiatry | ... | ... | ... | 158 |
| Orthopaedic | ... | ... | ... | 1,063 |
| Dental | ... | ... | ... | 96 |
| Physical Medicine | ... | ... | ... | 508 |
| Physiotherapy | ... | ... | ... | 1,914 |

EXAMINATIONS

| | | | | |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| X-Ray | ... | ... | ... | 6,551 |
| Pathological | ... | ... | ... | 7,580 |

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

Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board, cases of Smallpox may be admitted to the River Hospitals (Long Reach), Dartford. There have been no cases of this disease in Ramsgate for many years.

(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.

The only beds in Ramsgate provided for patients requiring institutional treatment are the 13 beds in the Maternity Department of the Ramsgate General Hospital. The beds previously available in nursing homes are now used for other purposes, though it is anticipated that one nursing home will again begin to admit private maternity patients. Three hundred and seventy-three maternity patients were admitted to the hospital, an increase of 48 over the previous year. Some expectant mothers were also admitted to the Quetta annex of the Margate General Hospital.

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, and these provide 86 beds. The homes were kept under supervision during the year. One new nursing home in Albert Road, East Cliff, was registered with accommodation for only one patient. Faulklands, Albion Place, registered the previous year, was discontinued as a nursing home.

The particulars of all the nursing homes registered are as follows:—

| | No. of Beds |
|---|-------------|
| Ferriby Lodge, Hollicondane Road | 17 |
| 21, Vale Square, and annex 11, Crescent Road | 56 |
| Arundel, West Cliff Road | 10 |
| 3, Nethercourt Gardens | 2 |
| 36, Albert Road | 1 |

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

This gives authority to secure necessary care and attention for persons who:—

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged and infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

Application was made to the Court for the removal of one person and an order was made by the Justices. In this case the necessary care and attention were obtained without enforcing the order.

Another person brought to the notice of the Department was found to be certifiable under the Lunacy Acts and was removed to an institution.

7.—National Assistance Act 1948—Section 50.

Under the provisions of this section, two persons were buried at the expense of the Local Authority, at a total cost of £25.

8.—Superannuation Examinations.

Six medical examinations of Corporation employees were carried out.

V.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1.—Water Supply.

The following particulars were obtained from analyses of the samples submitted to the Public Analyst by this Department:—

| | Parts per 100,000 |
|---|-------------------|
| Appearance | Clear |
| Smell | None |
| Chlorine in Chlorides | 15.22 |
| Chlorine calculated as Sodium Chloride | 25.01 |
| Nitrogen in nitrates | 1.13 |
| Ammonia | 0.0004 |
| Albuminoid Ammonia | 0.0005 |
| Oxygen absorbed in 15 minutes | Trace only |
| Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours | 0.013 |
| Hardness before boiling (Total) | 31.12 |
| Hardness after boiling (Permanent) | 8.7 |
| Total solid matter | 66.75 |
| Microscopical examination of deposit | Unimportant |

Besides samples of water taken for examination by the Water Department, 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.

I am indebted to the Deputy Manager of the Water Department for the following information:—

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Total gallons pumped | 646,133,000 |
| Average daily gallons pumped | 1,765,391 |
| Maximum day consumption (July 22nd) | 2,632,000 |

Approximately 221,351,000 gallons of the total amount consumed was used for industrial purposes, and the remainder for domestic use, viz. about 32 gallons per head of the population per day.

2.—Drainage and Sewerage.

To enable more frequent attention being paid to the cesspools in the outside areas of the Borough, a new 750-gallon emptier was purchased, and a system of block emptying was begun with two tankers.

This work was done by the Corporation workmen and the cost was offset to a small extent by a reduction in the differential rating which had been granted to the outside areas under an Order made in 1935.

3.—Rivers and Streams.

There are no rivers or streams within the Borough.

4.—Public Cleansing.

Controlled tipping as a method of refuse disposal is proving very successful. The refuse is being tipped on an area of some 14 acres in the Pegwell Bay district, and so far there have been no complaints arising from it. Frequent inspections of the site have been made by the staff of this Department. At the present time about 1/3 of the total refuse of the town is being tipped in the above area, but a proposal is being considered that the whole of the refuse be tipped and that the use of the destructor be discontinued. This proposal would result in considerable economies and in the prevention of atmospheric pollution by smoke from the destructor, besides effecting a further reclamation of a considerable area of marshland.

5.—Closet Accommodation.

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

6.—Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The Sanitary Inspectors paid 5,817 visits. Information about their work, together with lists of the notices served, and the results 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 1st October, 1950, replaced the provisions of Section 10 of the Shops Act, 1934. Section 38 provides for the welfare and comfort of the staff. It deals with ventilation, temperature, lighting, sanitary conveniences, washing facilities and arrangements for taking meals on the premises.

Forty-one visits were made to shops to ensure that the requirements were being carried out.

8.—Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

| Number of Premises | | Number of Written Inspections Notices | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|--|---|
| Factories with mechanical power ... | 40 | 22 | — |
| Factories without mechanical power | 165 | 65 | 2 |
| Other premises | 18 | — | — |

DEFECTS FOUND AND REMEDIED

| Particulars | Found | Remedied | Referred: | |
|--|-------|----------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | | To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector |
| Want of cleanliness ... | 8 | 7 | — | 1 |
| Inadequate ventilation ... | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| Ineffective drainage of floors | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| Sanitary conveniences: | | | | |
| Insufficient | 2 | 1 | — | 1 |
| Unsuitable | — | 2 | — | — |

In no case was it found necessary to institute proceedings.

OUTWORKERS

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

9.—Moveable Dwellings.

In addition to the two caravan camping sites which have been in use in the Borough for some years, a third site was added in 1951 in the grounds of Pegwell Lodge. This latter site, besides being ideal for caravans, provides in the mansion in the grounds, the amenities of an hotel, with space for the parking of cars.

A fourth site on the outskirts of the Borough is contemplated.

This form of holidaymaking is growing rapidly and in the interest of all concerned, this Authority should see that satisfactory arrangements are made to accommodate these visitors. As the present camps are reported to be insufficient to meet the demands, consideration should be given to the establishment of a camp under the direct control of the Borough.

Improvements in these camps are gradually taking place by restriction of numbers in accordance with the recommendations of the Caravan Clubs. Tents and makeshift caravans have been discouraged.

Eighty-four inspections of these sites were made.

10.—Smoke Abatement.

Representation of a nuisance caused by black smoke was made to one firm. The matter was attended to and was remedied within a very short time.

11.—Swimming Baths and Pools.

The Marina Bathing Pool is the only swimming bath open to the public. Close supervision was maintained on the general sanitary conditions and 18 samples of water were taken during the summer months and were submitted for analysis. This water is pumped from the sea. It is then filtered and chlorinated to the amount of one part per million—this acts as a disinfectant and is protection for bathers. It is known that chlorination of the water is capable of inactivating the virus of Poliomyelitis and other infections. There is no proof that chlorine has any harmful effects on the human body when properly diluted.

12.—Offensive Trades.

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

13.—Fish Fryers.

Twenty-one fish fryers are registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Periodic inspection was 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 unavoidably 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) | 208 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... | 1,188 |
| (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 | 206 |

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 | 195 |
|--|-----|

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 | 11 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice ... | 9 |
| (a) By owners ... | 9 |
| (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 ... | 3 |
| (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.

Overcrowding, as a problem, is accentuated by the continuing housing shortage. The overall number of occupants in a particular dwelling is kept within the permitted number, but many houses are being sub-let, and overcrowding does exist in the sub-let rooms. Invariably we find that the sub-tenant has made application for a Council house and in these circumstances the application of this part of the Housing Act becomes 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 1952 was divided as follows:—

| | | |
|--|-----|----|
| Traditional four-bedroomed non-parlour type | ... | 18 |
| Traditional three-bedroomed non-parlour type | ... | 72 |
| Traditional two-bedroomed non-parlour type flats (two storeys) | ... | — |
| Total | ... | 90 |

6.—Future Building Programme.

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

7.—Housing Applications.

The number of housing applications registered with the Council at 31st December, 1952, was 1,278, and of these 413 were received during the year.

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. Ten cases were referred for consideration—5 were re-housed and 5 were refused priority.

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 ... | 139 | 143 | 548 |
| Pre-fab bungalows ... | 48 | 48 | 145 |
| Flats ... | 13 | 13 | 30 |
| Requisitioned properties | 5 | 5 | 26 |
| Total ... | 205 | 209 | 749 |

The number of properties controlled by the Council at the end of 1952 was:—

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-------|
| Pre-war schemes ... | ... | 583 |
| Post-war schemes: | | |
| Traditional houses ... | ... | 648 |
| Traditional flats ... | ... | 144 |
| Pre-fabricated bungalows ... | ... | 199 |
| Requisitioned properties ... | ... | 67 |
| Houses purchased by the Council ... | ... | 13 |
| Total ... | | 1,654 |

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 ... | 58 | 41 | — | — | 3 | — | 11 | 9 | 20 | 14 | — | 1 | — | — | — | |
| Diphtheria ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Measles ... | 262 | 12 | — | 14 | 75 | 45 | 40 | 49 | 30 | 4 | 5 | — | — | — | — | |
| Whooping Cough ... | 96 | 6 | — | 6 | 21 | 12 | 18 | 20 | 15 | 1 | 3 | — | — | — | — | |
| Pneumonia ... | 7 | — | *9 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 4 | 2 | |
| Erysipelas ... | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | |
| Cerebro-Spinal Fever | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 5 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 | — | — | — | |
| Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) | 4 | 4 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | |
| Para-Typhoid Fever | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Dysentery ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |

* All forms of pneumonia

2.—Diphtheria and Diphtheria Immunisation.

No case of this disease has occurred in the Borough since 1947. This freedom from a deadly complaint is due largely to the protection afforded the children by immunisation against it. Every child should have this protection carried out before its first birthday.

It is estimated that the number of babies immunised in Ramsgate is too low to guard against an outbreak of the disease. Of the children born in 1951 it is estimated that some 50 per cent were immunised, instead of the 75 per cent aimed at by the Ministry. The continuance of protection by re-inforcing injections at 5 yearly intervals during school

age, seems to have dropped when compared with the year 1951, when over 1,000 of the children were re-injected.

Information supplied by the Kent County Council shows that 470 children received their first inoculation and 460 children received re-inforcing injections during 1952.

3.—Smallpox and Vaccination.

No cases or suspicious cases occurred. The County Medical Officer informs me that 365 Ramsgate residents were vaccinated and 102 re-vaccinated during the year.

ASSISTANCE IN THE DIAGNOSIS OF SMALLPOX

A panel of doctors has now been formed to assist in the diagnosis of this disease. The instruction from the Ministry states: "When a general practitioner or a member of the Hospital staff raises the possibility of the diagnosis of smallpox, he should in every case first call in the Medical Officer of Health to decide whether he requires a further opinion. The fees of the consultants will be paid by the Ministry only when a further opinion is called for by the Medical Officer of Health."

An additional help in the diagnosis of this disease is now available by bacteriological methods. Crusts, blood serum or pus taken from the patient, and sent to Colindale Laboratory will be diagnosed within 2 to 72 hours from their receipt, the time depending on the quantity of the specimens sent.

4.—Individual Diseases.

(a) PARA-TYPHOID FEVER:

No case of this disease occurred in Ramsgate.

(b) CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER:

One case was notified.

(c) POLIOMYELITIS:

Four cases were notified and were removed to Hospital.

(d) MEASLES:

There was a decrease in the number of notifications received, 262 as compared with 486 in 1951. No deaths were reported.

(e) WHOOPING COUGH:

Ninety-six cases were notified as compared with 109 during the previous year. There were no deaths ascribed to this disease.

(f) SCARLET FEVER:

Fifty-eight cases were notified and of these 41 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 2 non-respiratory cases were received. In addition, 18 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 ... | 4 | 1 |

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 ... | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 5-15 ... | 3 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 15-25 ... | — | 6 | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | — | — |
| 25-35 ... | — | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 35-45 ... | 4 | 2 | — | — | 2 | 1 | — | — |
| 45-55 ... | 2 | 3 | — | — | 3 | — | — | — |
| 55-65 ... | 2 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| Over 65 ... | 1 | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — |
| Total ... | 13 | 18 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 2 | — | — |

The number of cases remaining on the register on 31st December, 1952, was:—

| | Male | Female | Total |
|---------------------|------|--------|-------|
| Respiratory ... | 139 | 134 | 273 |
| Non-respiratory ... | 19 | 28 | 47 |
| Total ... | 158 | 162 | 320 |

6.—Venereal Diseases.

Thirteen new patients from Ramsgate (6 male, 7 female) were treated at the special clinic, Margate General Hospital, provided by the Regional Hospital Board. A total of 796 attendances was made by Ramsgate patients.

VIII.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

I am indebted to the Sanitary Inspectors for the following particulars:—

1.—Milk.

There has been a further increase in the number of persons registered as distributors under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, and a consequent increase in the number of licences granted under the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

It is pleasing to note that the whole of the milk retailed in this area is now sold under one or other of the special designations and in bottles which have been filled and sealed mechanically in the dairies.

The dairymen are fully aware of the importance of safeguarding this valuable part of our food against chance contamination. Retailers of milk are mainly small shopkeepers and it is difficult to understand why they should need such a multiplicity of licences in addition to registration. One composite licence issued annually should be sufficient, and would ease the clerical work involved in this department.

(a) LICENCES.

Registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949:—

| | | | |
|--------------|-----|-----|----|
| Dairies | ... | ... | 5 |
| Dairymen | ... | ... | 5 |
| Distributors | ... | ... | 80 |

Three of the dairies are licensed pasteurising establishments under the provision of the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, and the remaining two dairies are licensed to use the special designation "Pasteurised in relation to milk pasteurised by another firm but bottled on their premises.

The three pasteurising establishments are subjecting all their milk, including Tuberculin Tested, to the pasteurising process and retailing the latter as "Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk." This makes assurance doubly sure and bacteriologically gives a very high grade of milk.

Of the 80 distributors, 55 hold dealers' licenses to use the designation "Pasteurised," 26 hold dealers' licences to use the designation "Tuberculin Tested" and 49 hold dealers' licences to use the designation "Sterilised."

Raw milk is not sold in this area.

(b) EXAMINATION AND TESTING.

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

| | Class of Milk | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------|------------|
| | Pasteurised | Pasteurised T.T. | Tuberculin tested | Sterilised |
| No. of samples tested | 68 | 9 | 2 | 11 |
| Satisfactory by: | | | | |
| Methylene Blue test | 68 | 9 | 2 | — |
| Phosphatase test ... | 60 | 9 | — | — |
| Turbidity test ... | — | — | — | 11 |
| Failed by: | | | | |
| Methylene Blue test | — | — | — | — |
| Phosphatase test ... | 8 | — | — | — |
| Turbidity test ... | — | — | — | — |

All samples of milk satisfied the Methylene Blue test. This is used to determine the cleanliness and keeping quality of the milk. The phosphatase test is used to indicate the efficiency of the pasteurising process, and in this there were some failures during the early part of the year. These were due to some faults in one plant and the use of the plant was discontinued.

Two hundred visits were made to dairies and milkshops, and every effort was made to secure the co-operation of dairymen in achieving a high standard of handling and processing, and in no case was legal action found necessary.

(c) ADULTERATION.

Fifty-four samples of milk were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst for examination under the Food and Drugs Act. No cases of adulteration were found and the standard being maintained was higher than that laid down by the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1939.

All samples were free from preservatives.

2.—Ice Cream.

(a) CLEANLINESS.

Considerable attention has been given to premises where ice cream is made or sold, and 39 samples, pre-packed and loose, were taken for examination. All samples were subjected to the Methylene Blue test and the results are given hereunder: —

| No. taken | Results | | |
|--------------------|---|--|--|
| 20 ... Grade 1 ... | Methylene Blue reduced in 4½ hours or more. Satisfactory. | | |
| 9 ... Grade 2 ... | Methylene Blue reduced in 2½ to 4 hours. Fair. | | |
| 4 ... Grade 3 ... | Methylene Blue tested in 0 hours. Unsatisfactory. | | |
| 6 ... Grade 4 ... | Very unsatisfactory. | | |

Of the unsatisfactory samples, four were manufactured outside the Borough and the Medical Officer of Health of the district concerned was informed. The remaining six were manufactured in the Borough. In these cases the premises were visited and the plant examined, and as a result of advice given, subsequent samples proved to be satisfactory.

(b) STANDARD.

Eleven samples were taken for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act, and all were found to comply with the standard laid down by the Food Standards (Ice Cream) (Amendment) Order, 1952. The standard prescribed is as follows:—

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Fat | ... | ... | ... | 4% |
| Total solids other than fat | ... | ... | ... | 5% |
| Sugar | ... | ... | ... | 10% |

Dealers in ice cream were registered as follows:—

| | |
|--|-----|
| Manufacture and sale, all forms of ice cream | 4 |
| Storage and distribution for retail only | 1 |
| Sale only, all forms | 131 |
| Sale of pre-packed only | 104 |
| Total | 240 |

Under the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1951, an indicating and recording thermometer was installed by one firm using this form of manufacture.

One hundred and forty-one visits were made to these premises. The majority of vendors continue to sell pre-packed ice cream, but some loose ice cream is still being sold in cornets and wafers. A new feature during the year has been the development of a trade in "soft" ice cream, which is being sold directly from the freezing machine. This trade is being watched with interest, but the chances of contamination appear to be remote.

3.—Food Preparing Premises.

The number of restaurants decreased from 112 to 111, snack bars and tea rooms from 66 to 57 and hotel restaurants remained at 11, as in the previous year.

Two hundred and twenty-one visits were made, and the campaign to improve the structural and hygienic standard of these premises was continued, with the following results:—

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|---|
| Hot water supply introduced | ... | 1 |
| Premises completely renovated | ... | 3 |
| New flooring installed | ... | 1 |
| Minor alterations | ... | 1 |

4.—Bakehouses.

At the end of the year there were 32 bakehouses on the register, none of which came under the category of "Underground Bakehouses."

5.—Preserved Foods.

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

| | |
|---|----|
| Preparation of sausages, cooked and pickled meats | 32 |
| Preparation of cooked meats only | 3 |
| Bacon smoking ham curing | 6 |
| Fish curing and smoking | 2 |
| Cooking and preparation of shellfish | 2 |
| Manufacture of pickles | 2 |
| Manufacture of sugar confectionery | 7 |
| Fruit canning | 1 |

These were all periodically inspected and found satisfactory.

6.—Fish Frying.

Twenty-one premises are registered.

7.—Slaughterhouses.

Improvements to the Alexandra Road slaughterhouse were completed during the early part of the year. The slaughterhall is now equipped with overhead tracking for transporting carcasses, and a series of rails in tiers for red offal. A separate room is provided for cleansing of paunches and intestines so that the operation can now be carried on apart from the dressing of carcasses. Whilst these improvements have not proved so beneficial as was hoped, they have increased the capacity of the slaughterhouse, and during the year it was found possible to concentrate the killing under one roof without reducing the number of animals dealt with. Lairage space, however, is limited, and the Broad Street slaughterhouse has been retained to accommodate the overflow.

The high incidence of Foot and Mouth Disease during the year has meant an increase in the work of Meat inspection, as the Ministry has now adopted a policy of salvage for animals that have been in contact with the disease, but are not actually suffering from it. These animals are primarily examined by the Veterinary Officers at the time and place of slaughter, and those not showing any abnormality in temperature or other evidence of foot and mouth disease, are sent in for distribution as ration meat. On arrival at the Meat Depot, carcasses are subjected to a rigorous examination to ensure their fitness for human consumption. Certain parts, i.e. heads, feet and lungs, are rejected in all cases, and as these carcasses come into the category of "emergency slaughter," the utmost care is exercised to make sure that the public is given adequate protection.

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 |
|---|----------------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|------|
| Total number killed | 1726 | 568 | 1939 | 7308 | 1582 |
| Total number inspected .. | 1726 | 568 | 1939 | 7308 | 1582 |
| For all Diseases except Tuberculosis:— | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | 8 | 12 | 4 | 35 | 29 |
| Part carcasses condemned | 480 | 233 | 25 | 1304 | 162 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis | 28.2 | 43.1 | 1.4 | 18.3 | 12.0 |
| For Tuberculosis only:— | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | 13 | 11 | 2 | — | 2 |
| Part carcasses condemned | 87 | 88 | — | — | 24 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis | 5.7 | 17.4 | 0.1 | — | 1.6 |

Total animals killed and inspected — 13,123.

The total weight of meat condemned during the year was:

26 tons 2 cwts. 0 qrs. 1 lb.

10.—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.

11.—Other Foods Condemned.

A total of 10 tons 5 cwts. 2 qrs. 5½ lbs. of various tinned goods, eggs, butter, cheese, fish, etc. was surrendered during the year by shopkeepers. These articles were certified as unsound and were destroyed.

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

One hundred and eight samples (64 formal, 44 informal) were taken by the Sanitary Inspectors and submitted for analysis by the Public Analyst.

| Description of Sample | Formal | Informal |
|---------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Aspirin Tablets | — | 3 |
| Amplex Tablets | — | 1 |
| Almonds (Ground) | 3 | — |
| Barley Wine | — | 3 |
| *Bovril | — | 1 |
| Cheese Crackers | — | 1 |
| *Currants | — | 1 |
| Coffee | — | 1 |
| Cherries, tinned | — | 1 |
| Fish Paste | — | 1 |
| Ice Cream | 1 | 10 |
| *Jam, Damson | — | 1 |
| Lollies (Cream) | — | 1 |
| *Meat Pies | — | 4 |
| *Meat, Luncheon | — | 1 |
| Meat, Beefsteak | — | 1 |
| *Mincemeat | — | 1 |
| *Milk | 52 | 2 |
| Milk (Dried) | — | 1 |
| Minerals | — | 1 |
| *Medicinal Cough Mixture | — | 1 |
| Prunes | — | 1 |
| *Sausage meat (Beef) | 3 | — |
| *Sausage Meat (Pork) | 5 | — |
| *Sausage Roll | — | 1 |
| *Tomato Soup | — | 2 |
| *Soreen Powder | — | 1 |
| Saccharin Tablets | — | 2 |

One sample of Pork Sausage Meat was deficient in meat to the extent of 27%. The vendor was summonsed and fined £2.

The following informal samples were found not genuine, and in two cases were unfit for human consumption:—

| Sample | Analyst's Remarks | Action Taken |
|-----------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Tomato Soup | The sample contained 250 parts per million of tin which is very close to the recommended limit of 2 grains per pound (280 parts per million). This would appear to be old stock and in my opinion is only fit for immediate use. | Vendor informed. |
| Prunes in Syrup | This can is badly blown. The gas is hydrogen. The tin content of fruit and syrup is 140 parts per million, about one grain per lb. The product is not fit for sale because the attack on the can would have increased rapidly. | Stock surrendered and destroyed |

| | | |
|---------|--|---------------------------------|
| Tometti | This can of food is old and the contents contain 305 parts per million of tin which is over the recommended limit of 2 grains per lb. This material should be destroyed. | Stock surrendered and destroyed |
|---------|--|---------------------------------|

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

The 76 samples marked * in the above table were also examined under these Regulations and were found to conform to the requirements.

14.—Shellfish.

Frequent visits have been made both to the premises used for the preparation of shellfish and to the stalls where they are sold. Seven of these stalls are sited in the Pier Yard. These consist of covered barrows which are taken away at the close of each day. The stallholders continue to use the washing facilities provided in the brick kiosk mentioned in previous reports.

The Pegwell Bay (Shellfish) Regulations are still in operation. They prohibit the sale of cockles from the Pegwell Bay area unless the cockles have been sterilised by steam under pressure for 6 minutes. No contraventions have been observed. All cockles sold in the district are brought in from other areas, and are delivered under a guarantee of sterilisation. Mussels and whelks are usually collected locally and are boiled on the vendors' own premises. Some of these shellfish, however, are being imported from time to time to augment local supplies.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1952—PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

1.—Staff.

| Name of Officer | Nature of appointment | Qualifications |
|-----------------|--|----------------|
| CARGIN, H. M. | Medical Officer of Health Appointed March, 1950 | M.D., D.P.H. |

Address: Public Health Department, Health Centre, Newington Road,
Ramsgate. Telephone: Thanet 51441.

Home address: 11, Brockenhurst Road, Ramsgate.
Telephone: Thanet 52981.

2.—Amount of Shipping Entering District During the Year.

| Ships from | Number | Tonnage | No. inspected by M.O.H. | No. inspected by S.I. | No. reported as having, or having had during voyage, infectious disease on board |
|-------------------|--------|---------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Foreign Ports ... | *738 | 12407 | — | 3 | — |
| Coastwise ... | †1120 | 15825 | — | 3 | — |
| Total ... | 1858 | 28232 | — | 6 | — |

Note: * Includes 221 yachts † Includes 621 yachts

3.—Character of Shipping and Trade.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Number of passengers inwards ... | 931 (in yachts) |
| Number of passengers outwards ... | 960 (in yachts) |

CARGO TRAFFIC:

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Principal Imports ... | Foreign Timber, Coastwise Wheat |
| Principal Exports ... | Coke to Denmark |

PRINCIPAL PORTS FROM WHICH SHIPS ARRIVE:

Timber from Finnish Ports.
Yachts from Boulogne, Calais, Ostend, Dunkirk and Dieppe.

4.—Inland Barge Traffic.

None.

5.—Water Supply.

(1) Source of Supply.

(a) FOR DISTRICT:

Rain falling on an agricultural and sparsely populated area. Filtration through soil, sand and fissures in chalk to adits, thence to deep wells.

(b) FOR SHIPPING:

Water for shipping is obtained from the town mains.

(2) Reports of Tests for Contamination.

Three samples are obtained by the Public Health Department each month, two from the adits of untreated water, and one from the mains of treated water, and these are submitted to the County Laboratories for bacteriological examination. In addition, one sample is submitted each quarter to the Public Analyst.

All results during 1952 showed that there was no evidence of sewage contamination.

(3) Precautions taken against Contamination of Hydrants and Hosepipes.

Hoses used for supplying shipping are stored in a closed barrow and flushed before use.

(4) Water Boats.

None in use.

6.—Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

(1) List of Infected Areas.

Close liaison is maintained between H.M. Customs and the Public Health Department, and information would be given should the Customs Officer have reason to believe that a ship was arriving from a foreign port named in the weekly list.

(2) Radio Messages.

The port has not been declared a Radio Transmitting Port under Regulation 12.

(3) Notifications Otherwise than by Radio.

Notification is first received by H.M. Customs Officer, who in turn immediately forwards information to the Medical Officer of Health. All Declarations of Health are dealt with in this manner.

(4) Mooring Stations.

Proposals submitted to H.M. Customs and Harbour Authorities in 1935 are still in force, and are as follows:—

- (a) Mooring Station within docks—the place of mooring, discharge or loading, the ship being shored off from the quay and so moored as to prevent contact with any other ship.
- (b) Mooring Station outside docks—the outer middle ground buoy in the outer basin of the harbour in bad weather. In good weather, the Ramsgate Roads.

(5) Arrangements for—**(a) HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION**

Cases of infectious disease, other than smallpox, accommodated at Isolation Hospital, Haine, Ramsgate, under control of Isle of Thanet Hospital Management Committee, S.E. Regional Hospital Board.

(b) SURVEILLANCE AND FOLLOW UP OF CONTACTS

Contacts proceeding out of the area: Would be advised to report to the Medical Officer of Health of the district of their destination, and confirmation sent by this Department.

Local contacts would be dealt with by this Department.

(c) CLEANSING AND DISINFECTION, ETC.

The services of the Disinfection Staff of this Department would be available, and all clothing, etc., would be dealt with at the Disinfecting Station.

7.—Smallpox.**(1) NAME OF ISOLATION HOSPITAL:**

The Rivers Hospital (Long Reach), Dartford.

(2) TRANSPORT:

By Kent County Council Ambulance Service.

(3) CONSULTANT:

Dr. F. L. Cassidi, Langport House, Canterbury.

(4) LABORATORY DIAGNOSIS:

Central Public Health Laboratories, Colindale, N.W.9.

8.—Venereal Disease.

No international arrangements are in operation.

The days and times of clinics at Margate General Hospital are:—

| | | | |
|-------|---|--------------------------|--------------|
| Men | — | Wednesdays and Saturdays | 10 - 11 a.m. |
| Women | — | Wednesdays and Saturdays | 9 - 10 a.m. |

9.—Cases of Notifiable and Other Infectious Diseases on Ships.

Nil.

10.—Observations on Occurrence of Malaria.

None.

11.—Measures Against Plague.

None.

12.—Measures Against Rodents in Ships from Foreign Ports.**(1) PROCEDURE FOR INSPECTION**

All ships from foreign ports are normally inspected by the Sanitary Inspector. The services of the Rodent Operator are available if required.

(2) ARRANGEMENTS FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

It has not been found necessary to make special arrangements.

13.—Inspection of Ships for Nuisances.

TABLE G.

| Nature and number of inspections | Notices served: | | Result |
|---|-----------------|-------|--------|
| | Statutory | Other | |
| Routine inspection by Sanitary Inspector | | | |
| 6 | — | — | — |

14.—Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations, 1934 and 1948.

The Pegwell Bay (Shellfish) Regulations have been in operation since December, 1925. These Regulations prohibit the sale of cockles taken from a prescribed area in Pegwell Bay until they have been subjected to sterilisation by steam under pressure for at least six minutes. The sterilisation must be carried out by the Local Authority or in a manner approved by the Medical Officer of Health.

15.—Medical Inspection of Aliens.

Not applicable.

16.—Miscellaneous.

There are no arrangements in operation for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease. Should such an eventuality arise, all arrangements would be carried out by the Local Authority under the personal supervision of the Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH (AIRCRAFT) REGULATIONS, 1950

Owing to the fact that the Ramsgate Aerodrome is not officially 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.

It is proposed that the aerodrome be opened in 1953 for the convenience of passengers arriving from France via Lympne, but no direct foreign service is contemplated at present.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1952.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

By the time this report is published I shall have retired after 38 years' service, 22 years of this as your Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Looking back over the past years, it is interesting to remind ourselves of the many contrasts in Public Health matters. On reference to the 1915 Annual Report, mention is made under Medical Charities of the considerable help given by voluntary organisations, such as the Ramsgate and St. Laurence Dispensary, St. George's Parochial Soup Kitchen, Central Help Committee, Thanet Rescue Society, District Nursing Association, and in addition, Poor Law Relief.

The Soup Kitchen made 50 gallons four days each week, each making of soup having an ox head, several pounds of soup meat as well as lentils, rice, potatoes, onions, etc.

The Central Help Committee distributed 1,082 free dinners for children in need of help, and milk was also supplied to mothers with young children or babies.

What a contrast to the present day, with free school dinners for those in need, and the other services under the National Insurance Schemes available to all.

Infectious Disease, particularly Diphtheria, is an interesting contrast. The highest number of cases occurred in 1921 when 128 were notified, and up to 1940 notifications varied from 14 to 80 each year. Since immunisation was introduced, startling reductions have occurred, the highest return for one year being 9 with a nil return for several years.

MILK SUPPLY.

Open jugs on doorsteps have now been replaced by sealed bottles containing milk pasteurised by special plants which have to pass the Local Authority's approval before annual licences are granted. Monthly test samples are taken to see that the milk complies with the conditions laid down in the licence.

ICE CREAM.

This is no longer prepared in any odd corner in a bucket, with a metal container with ice and salt, but must now be manufactured and sold in accordance with the requirements of the Sanitary Authority. Premises are inspected before registration is granted.

Food shops, restaurants, etc. are now controlled by various Acts and Regulations, and considerable improvements in hygienic methods have been achieved. I am aware that improvements could still be made, but the comparison over 38 years is most marked and encouraging. The general public are now becoming "clean food" conscious, and if this attitude gains force, a still higher standard will be attained.

In my long experience it is gratifying to know that the Sanitary Inspector is now more often looked upon as a friend and guide rather than one who is looking for something wrong.

In conclusion, I must 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, Dr. Cargin, and to gratefully acknowledge the loyalty and splendid service given by Messrs. Brown and Weller, and Mr. Robertson, the chief clerk. To all the remaining members of the Department I add my sincere thanks for their assistance and valuable support. Finally, I record with pleasure the co-operation received from other Departments and individual officers of the Corporation.

E. YOUNG,
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

1.—Camping Sites.

There are three licensed camps in the Borough, which are subject to periodic inspection. A total of 84 inspections were made during the year.

There is no doubt of the increasing popularity of coming. In sea-side resorts the use of caravans by holidaymakers is extensive during July and August, and many sites would be required to satisfy this need. This particular form of holiday could be a source of revenue to the Local Authority if it were developed and supervised by them and not entrusted to private enterprise.

2.—Housing.

In spite of the number of Council houses erected and in course of erection, the housing position still requires consideration, and particularly with regard to sub-standard property. The question now arises whether the time has arrived when every Local Authority should seriously consider slum clearance action.

The efficient repair of houses is becoming difficult and the Rent Restriction Acts should be amended so as to make it possible for owners of property to keep it in a reasonable state of repair.

3.—Cinemas, Theatres, Dance Halls.

The places of amusement licensed for public music and/or dancing in the Borough number 88 and may be classified as follows: —

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|----|
| Cinemas | ... | ... | 4 |
| Theatres | ... | ... | 3 |
| Halls | ... | ... | 11 |
| Hotels, Public Houses | ... | ... | 57 |
| Restaurants | ... | ... | 7 |
| Miscellaneous | ... | ... | 6 |

Twenty-five visits of inspection were made and conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

4.—Licensed Premises.

Further improvements to licensed premises have been noted during the year, but difficulties are still being encountered, and progress remains slow. One house, a very unsatisfactory one, was demolished under a road widening scheme, and new premises were constructed on a more convenient site. In one case there has been a general reconditioning of the existing premises, with alterations to the lay-out of the bars, the provision of new sinks and hot and cold water supply, together with improvements to sanitary accommodation for customers' use. I am happy to note that lead beer pipes, relics of a bygone age, are being abolished, and clear plastic pipes in continuous lengths are being used instead. These are easier to keep clean, and can be seen to be clean, which is an advantage.

Negotiations are still proceeding with the Brewers regarding improvements to certain other premises in the town, and it is anticipated that these will be carried out in the near future.

Improvements already carried out were:—

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----|---|
| Hot water provided over bar | ... | 5 |
| New sinks and trapped wastes | ... | 4 |
| Staff washing facilities | ... | 2 |
| Lead beer pipes abolished | ... | 3 |
| Sanitary accommodation: | | |
| Newly provided for females | ... | 3 |
| Newly provided for males | ... | 1 |
| Improvements for males | ... | 2 |

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 in Part VIII on Page 29.

6.—Prosecutions.

One case was taken under Section 3 of the Food and Drugs Acts on a sample of Pork Sausages found to be 27% deficient in meat. The Court found against the defendant, who was fined £2.

7.—Shellfish.

Most of the shellfish vendors carry on the cooking and preparation of whelks and mussels on their own premises. Cockles are not collected locally, but are supplied ready cooked by wholesalers from outside the district. The greatest part of the trade in shellfish is carried on from stalls and barrows on the front. These are not ideal and the provision of permanent booths with better facilities for hygiene is worthy of consideration.

8.—Total Complaints.

The number of complaints from all sources was 815, these must receive attention thereby curtailing the full systematic inspection of other premises under the Shops, Factories, Housing Acts, etc.

9.—Notices Served.

| | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| Preliminary notices served or letters written | ... | 240 |
| Nuisances abated on verbal instructions | ... | 44 |
| Work carried out voluntarily | ... | 134 |
| Statutory notices served | ... | 11 |
| Statutory notices complied with | ... | 9 |

There were no prosecutions during the year for non-compliance of statutory notices, and it is gratifying to note that most owners are willing to carry out repairs immediately in order to safeguard further deterioration of their property.

10.—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, but it by no means conveys the idea of the time spent and the work involved in investigation.

GENERAL NUISANCES:

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Inspection of verminous premises | ... | 210 |
| Accumulations | ... | 56 |
| Animals, keeping of | ... | 66 |
| Absence of refuse receptacles | ... | 190 |
| Smoke nuisances investigated | ... | 9 |

FOOD PREMISES:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Bakehouses | ... | 57 |
| Fish Fryers | ... | 29 |
| Ice cream premises | ... | 141 |
| Milkshops | ... | 200 |
| Restaurants | ... | 221 |
| Shellfish vendors | ... | 27 |
| General food shops, grocers, etc. | ... | 684 |

FACTORIES:

| | | |
|---------------------|-----|----|
| Mechanical | ... | 64 |
| Non-mechanical | ... | 22 |
| Outworkers premises | ... | 1 |
| Work places | ... | 2 |

HOUSING:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|----|
| Inspection under Housing Acts | ... | 15 |
| Inspections of Council property | ... | 65 |
| Inspection re overcrowding | ... | 4 |

LICENSED PREMISES:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|----|
| Inspections for Music and Dancing | ... | 25 |
|-----------------------------------|-----|----|

DRAINAGE:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Inspections of work in progress | ... | 624 |
| Drains tested | ... | 68 |

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:

| | | |
|--|-----|-----|
| Visits of investigation or follow-up of contacts | ... | 174 |
|--|-----|-----|

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|----|
| Camping sites or caravans inspected | ... | 84 |
|-------------------------------------|-----|----|

RODENT CONTROL:

| | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| Visits to premises to ascertain degree of infestation | ... | 163 |
|---|-----|-----|

REPAIRS:

| | |
|---|-------|
| Inspection after service of notice or on request | 1,188 |
|---|-------|

SHOPS ACT, 1950:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Inspections under Section 38 | 41 |
|-------------------------------------|----|

SLAUGHTERHOUSES:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Visits re inspection of meat | 634 |
|-------------------------------------|-----|

MISCELLANEOUS INSPECTIONS:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Marine stores | 2 |
| Schools | 4 |
| Shipping | 6 |
| Stables | 1 |
| Swimming Pool | 21 |
| Water sampling | 47 |
| Miscellaneous visits not classified | 672 |

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| Total | <u>5,817</u> |
|--------------|--------------|

11.—Results of Inspections and Visits.**IMPROVEMENTS****DRAINAGE SYSTEM:**

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Drains cleared | 45 |
| Drains amended | 42 |
| Sink gully traps provided | 12 |
| Inspection chambers built | 19 |
| Intercepting traps fixed | 5 |
| Soil and vent pipes fitted | 15 |
| Soil and vent pipes repaired | 2 |
| Houses re-drained | 7 |

INTERNAL REPAIRS:

| | |
|--|----|
| Floors relaid or repaired | 34 |
| Flushing cisterns provided | 23 |
| Flushing cisterns repaired | 29 |
| Sash cords renewed | 61 |
| Sills repaired | 1 |
| Sinks trapped | 13 |
| Sinks provided | 16 |
| Lavatory basins provided | 13 |
| Stoves, fireplaces, etc. renewed | 28 |
| Stoves, fireplaces, etc. repaired | 7 |
| New W.C. pans fixed | 74 |
| Defective plaster repaired | 54 |

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|----|
| New water service provided | ... | ... | 14 |
| Water service improved | ... | ... | 13 |
| Windows repaired or renewed | ... | ... | 62 |
| Walls and ceilings redecorated | ... | ... | 12 |
| Doors repaired | ... | ... | 11 |
| Locks repaired | ... | ... | 1 |
| Baths provided | ... | ... | 2 |
| Stairs repaired | ... | ... | 4 |
| Ceilings renewed | ... | ... | 1 |

EXTERNAL REPAIRS:

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|----|
| Chimney stacks, flues repaired | ... | ... | 6 |
| Eaves gutters renewed | ... | ... | 29 |
| Walls cement rendered | ... | ... | 6 |
| Walls re-pointed | ... | ... | 10 |
| Roofs repaired | ... | ... | 43 |
| Yards paved | ... | ... | 8 |
| Walls treated with damp proofing material | ... | ... | 5 |
| Walls rebuilt | ... | ... | 2 |

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS:

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|---|
| Cleansed or limewashed | ... | ... | 3 |
| Sanitary accommodation improved | ... | ... | 1 |
| Surface drainage provided | ... | ... | 1 |

SHOPS:

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|---|
| New frying range installed | ... | ... | 1 |
| Counters repaired | ... | ... | 1 |
| Rooms decorated | ... | ... | 1 |
| Additional hot and cold water provided | ... | ... | 1 |

BAKEHOUSES:

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|---|
| Ventilation improved | ... | ... | 1 |
| Limewashed | ... | ... | 4 |
| New W.C. provided | ... | ... | 1 |
| New sink provided | ... | ... | 1 |
| Gas ovens enlarged | ... | ... | 2 |

LICENSED PREMISES:

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|---|
| Hot water provided to bar | ... | ... | 3 |
| Cellar floor relaid | ... | ... | 1 |
| New bar counter provided | ... | ... | 1 |
| Sink provided | ... | ... | 1 |
| New urinal constructed | ... | ... | 1 |
| Additional W.C. accommodation provided | ... | ... | 1 |

MISCELLANEOUS:

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|----|
| Accumulations removed | ... | ... | 5 |
| Verminous houses cleansed and disinfected | ... | ... | 6 |
| Houses renovated throughout | ... | ... | 9 |
| Refuse receptacles provided | ... | ... | 83 |
| Minor items of repair | ... | ... | 5 |

Total ... 863

INFECTIOUS DISEASE, DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

12.—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 174 visits were made by the Sanitary Inspectors.

13.—Disinfection.

Two hundred and five rooms were disinfected after infectious diseases and cancer, and 146 sets of bedding were treated in the steam disinfector. In addition, 196 sets of bedding were disinfected on behalf of the General Hospital after infectious disease or for other causes.

14.—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 by spraying with liquid insecticides or by using insecticide powder containing D.D.T., or Gammexane. Both methods have given 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 | 21 | 39 |
| Fleas and Flies ... | 10 | 30 | 25 | 90 |
| Beetles, insects, etc. | 42 | 104 | 32 | 100 |

In addition, 22 premises were treated for wasps' nests.

Fifty-six sets of filthy bedding were removed for treatment, and 24 were destroyed at the request of the owners.

(ii) PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

One Rodent Operator is fully employed on this work, carrying on the treatment at business premises and private houses, together with sewer treatments at six monthly intervals.

Considerable use is being made of Warfarin with gratifying results. This material has proved effective in dealing with both black and brown rats and with mice, baits are taken freely and there is no signs of bait prejudice. It can be used with confidence in dwelling houses and in business premises as there is no danger of it having any serious effect on children or domestic animals. The older poisons, however, have not been entirely superseded, and there are still situations where these are preferable. The regular treatment of the sewers is having a marked effect on the brown rat population, but there is no doubt that if this treatment were to cease, there would be an immediate increase in the number of infestations.

The 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. They provided opportunity for discussion on problems of rodent control with other officers of Local Authorities and the officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

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. The particulars for the year are summarised below:

| | Number of:— | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| | Local Authority Property | Dwelling Houses | Business Premises | Agricultural Property |
| Infestations: | | | | |
| Notified by occupier ... | 4 | 129 | 27 | — |
| Otherwise discovered ... | 12 | 12 | 15 | — |
| Infested by: | | | | |
| Rats—Major ... | 6 | 4 | 2 | — |
| Minor ... | 8 | 79 | 15 | — |
| Mice only ... | — | 44 | 10 | — |

In addition to the above treatment, a further 10 blocks of property were treated by the Operator. Sewer maintenance treatments were carried out on two occasions (April and November) with satisfactory results.