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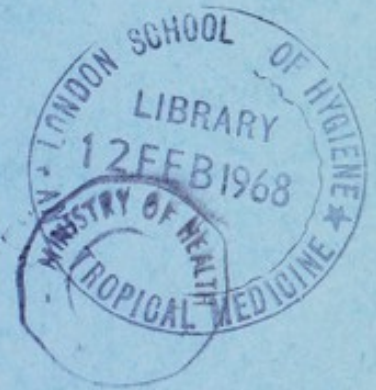
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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE

## REPORT

OF THE

### Senior Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

# 1961





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BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE - JUNE, 1961.

CHAIRMAN:

Alderman W.H.Greenstreet

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

Alderman L.F.Davey

His Worship the Mayor  
(Alderman J. Barnett, J.P.)

Councillor C.H.Barton

"	Miss L.C.Chamberlain
"	C.T.Curzon
"	S.T.Groombridge
"	Mrs L.M.Maile
"	Mrs J. Neeves
"	F.R.Smith
"	G.R.Smith
"	E.H.Swendell
"	R.J.Whiteman





STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

• H.M.Cargin, M.D., D.P.H.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

C.H.Weller, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS:

F. Brown, M.A.P.H.I.

F.A.Sadler, M.A.P.H.I.

CLERICAL STAFF:

J.S.Robertson

D. Liles

DISINFECTOR:

G.C.Riordan


RODENT OPERATOR:

V.C.Barker.

PUBLIC ANALYST:

J.H.E.Marshall, M.A., F.R.I.C.  
Canterbury.





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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 of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1961.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population has increased this year by 120, to a figure of 36,570.

There were no epidemics of a serious nature during the year except in the number of cases of Measles notified, chiefly during the early part of the year, and only one case of Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis occurred, which was removed to hospital and made an uneventful recovery.

The usual form of commentaries and tables has been adhered to in this report.

I have to thank the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their encouragement and support. To the staff of this and other departments of the Corporation my thanks are also due for their ready help in compiling this report.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

H. M. CARGIN,

Medical Officer of Health.



## SECTION I - SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Area of Borough in acres	4,778
Registrar General's estimate of population	36,570
Number of inhabited houses	13,312
Rateable Value	£538,422
General Rate	24/9d.
Sum represented by a penny rate	£2,135

BIRTHS.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>1960.</u>
Number of live births:				
Legitimate	260	233	493	521
Illegitimate	19	20	39	46
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	279	253	532	567

BIRTH RATE.

Uncorrected Birth Rate per 1,000 of population 14.5

Corrected Birth Rate per 1,000 of population 15.3

(England and Wales - 17.4)

The illegitimate births formed 7.3% of the total and were equal to 1.06 per 1,000 of the population.

In order to meet the unequal distribution of the population according to age and sex, the Registrar General has supplied a correction factor of 1.06, and this multiplied by the uncorrected Birth Rate results in a Birth Rate of 15.3.

STILLBIRTHS.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>	<u>Total 1960.</u>
Legitimate	11	3	14	5
Illegitimate	1	1	2	4

The Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total births was 15.0 as compared with 18.7 for England and Wales.

INFANTILE DEATHS.

	<u>Legitimate:</u>		<u>Illegitimate:</u>		<u>TOTAL.</u>
	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	
PERINATAL (Under one week)	7	7	-	-	14
NEO-NATAL (Under one month)	8	7	-	-	15
INFANTILE (Total under one year)	12	9	1	-	22

(Total 1960 = 13)

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births:-

TOTAL	41.3
Legitimate	42.5
Illegitimate	25.6

(England and Wales - 21.4)

Causes of Infantile Deaths :-

Prematurity	7
Congenital Malformations	6
Other causes	9

TOTAL DEATHS.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>	<u>1960.</u>
Total number of deaths from all causes and at all ages	300	273	573	533

TOTAL DEATH RATE.

Uncorrected rate per 1,000 of population	15.6
Corrected rate per 1,000 of population	13.2
England and Wales	12.0

The Death Rate shows an increase of 0.7 per 1,000 of population compared with 1960. A correction factor has been supplied by the Registrar General which is 0.85 for this Authority. This factor when multiplied by the uncorrected death rate gives a corrected rate of 13.2 as compared with 12.5 for the previous year.

The number of deaths exceeded the total live births by 45.

During 1961 the number of deaths increased by 40 as compared with the previous year and as usual the preponderance of deaths occurred in persons over 65 years of age.

The following table shows the causes of the total deaths as given in the Registrar General's statistics :-



CAUSE OF DEATH.	Male.	Female.
1. Tuberculosis - respiratory	4	1
2. " - other	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	1	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	1	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	13	5
11. " " lung, bronchus	23	6
12. " " breast	-	10
13. " " uterus	-	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic conditions	23	19
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	2
16. Diabetes	2	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	24	54
18. Coronary disease, angina	64	32
19. Hypertension with heart disease	3	5
20. Other heart disease	32	49
21. Other circulatory diseases	15	17
22. Influenza	4	1
23. Pneumonia	7	6
24. Bronchitis	26	8
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	8	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	1	2
28. Nephritis, nephrosis	3	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, etc.	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	4	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	23	34
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	1
34. All other accidents	7	6
35. Suicide	3	3
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-
<hr/>		
TOTAL	300	273



NUMBER OF DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGE AND SEX.

<u>Age group.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>
Under 1 year	13	9	22
1 - 2 years	-	1	1
2 - 3 years	-	-	-
3 - 4 years	1	2	3
4 - 5 years	1	-	1
5 - 10 years	-	-	-
10 - 15 years	3	-	3
15 - 20 years	3	1	4
20 - 25 years	2	-	2
25 - 35 years	3	1	4
35 - 45 years	2	3	5
45 - 55 years	16	16	32
55 - 65 years	50	24	74
65 - 75 years	89	73	162
Over 75 years	117	143	260
<hr/>			
TOTAL	300	273	573

TREND OF MORTALITY FROM PRINCIPAL  
CAUSES OF DEATH.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Cancer: All forms.</u>	<u>Lung.</u>	<u>Vascular lesions.</u>	<u>Heart diseases.</u>	<u>Tuber- culosis.</u>	<u>Bronchitis and Pneumonia.</u>
1950	71	11	52	143	16	44
1951	88	16	92	157	17	54
1952	93	16	77	152	10	39
1953	76	13	60	123	11	30
1954	60	11	65	135	5	35
1955	78	13	50	121	5	29
1956	80	12	59	136	2	41
1957	87	17	54	131	6	41
1958	98	15	59	173	4	57
1959	89	17	59	150	2	53
1960	83	18	72	186	5	47
1961	101	29	78	185	5	47

Percentage of total deaths in 1961	17.6	5.0	13.6	32.2	0.9	8.2
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SECTION II.  
-----NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The greater part of Ramsgate is situated on high ground with a chalky sub-soil, 17 miles from Canterbury and 72 miles from London.

There is a favourable sunshine rate with a low rainfall. While other parts of the country are experiencing rainy weather, this area frequently enjoys sunshine and dryness.

The prevailing winds are westerly, but when northerly or easterly winds prevail, the situation of the Borough affords considerable protection from them. The wide expanse of sands which extend on either side of the Harbour, provide walks and enjoyment for visitors. The Harbour, with its three quarter mile of piers, is open to the public and encloses an area in the outer basin of 35 acres and 12 acres in the inner basin, provides a health giving walk with ever changing interests.

Employment in the Borough is provided by hotels, boarding houses and catering establishments, brewing, flour milling, manufacture of drugs and plastics, doll and stocking making, engineering, tool making and ship and yacht repairs.

Most of the manufactories are situated on the outskirts of the town, and as a consequence fog and atmospheric pollution are almost unknown.



## SECTION III.

METEOROLOGY.

The principal part of the Meteorological Station is situated on the East Cliff and consists of a standard fenced enclosure containing the following instruments :-

Dry Bulb Thermometer	}	Mounted in a Stevenson Screen.
Wet Bulb Thermometer		
Maximum Thermometer		
Minimum Thermometer		
Rain Gauge - 5 inch diameter.		

A Campbell-Stokes Sunshine Recorder is set up on a platform on the roof of Albion House, and Kew Pattern Barometer, graduated in millibars, is kept in the Municipal Buildings.

Readings are taken daily at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. throughout the year and coded telegrams sent to the Air Ministry at these times.

During the summer season details of sunshine, rainfall and temperatures are publicised at the Meteorological Station and at various points along the sea front.

The sunshine and rainfall figures for 1961 are as follows :-

SUNSHINE.

January	62.1 hours	Daily average	2.0 hours
February	84.7 "	"	3.0 "
March	187.0 "	"	6.0 "
April	135.0 "	"	4.5 "
May	284.8 "	"	9.2 "
June	271.3 "	"	9.0 "
July	209.5 "	"	6.8 "
August	210.5 "	"	6.8 "
September	134.1 "	"	4.5 "
October	131.8 "	"	4.2 "
November	70.9 "	"	2.4 "
December	77.9 "	"	2.5 "

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TOTAL 1,859.6 "

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(Total for 1960 = 1,553 hours).

	Most sunshine recorded in <u>any one day.</u>	<u>Date.</u>	Sunless <u>days.</u>
January	6.9 hours	8th	11
February	9.1 "	14th	7
March	10.7 "	17th	2
April	10.9 "	24th	4
May	13.9 "	30th	1
June	15.1 "	14th, 25th	1
July	15.1 "	1st	1
August	13.2 "	12th	0
September	10.6 "	16th	6
October	9.9 "	3rd	2
November	8.0 "	4th	12
December	6.7 "	24th	13

RAINFALL.

Most recorded  
in any one day.

January	2.69 inches	0.66 inches
February	2.43 "	0.73 "
March	0.09 "	0.03 "
April	1.40 "	0.28 "
May	1.08 "	0.76 "
June	1.41 "	0.80 "
July	1.88 "	0.53 "
August	0.69 "	0.20 "
September	2.75 "	0.73 "
October	3.15 "	0.57 "
November	2.98 "	0.88 "
December	3.36 "	0.73 "

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TOTAL                      23.91 "      (Total for 1960 = 32.36 inches).

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SECTION IV.  
-----GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES  
IN THE AREA.LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Samples of water, ice cream and other pathological specimens may be sent to the nearest Public Health Laboratory, situated at Preston Hall, Maidstone, which is under the direction of Dr. A.L.Furniss.

Examinations of pathological specimens are also carried out at the laboratories at the Ramsgate and Margate General Hospitals by Dr. H. Sterndale.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The provision of an ambulance service is the responsibility of the Kent County Council. Two ambulances are stationed at the Health Centre and are controlled from the Divisional Headquarters at Broadstairs.

MEDICAL COMFORTS.

Medical comforts such as bath chairs, bed rests etc. can be hired from the St. John Ambulance Corps, St. Pauls Hall, Sussex Street, for a small weekly hire charge. The depot is open daily between 3.30 - 4.30 p.m.

MORTUARY.

The Municipal Mortuary, in the grounds of the Police Station, has continued to function. The number of bodies admitted was 81, all of which had post mortems carried out.

The services of the mortuary attendants of the Ramsgate General Hospital are used on a part-time basis, and this arrangement continues to work satisfactorily.

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.

	<u>At Health Centre.</u>	<u>At Broad Street.</u>
Infant Clinics:	Monday } Wednesday } 2-4 p.m.	Tuesday } Thursday } 2 - 4 p.m.

School Health Service.

Minor Ailments:	Monday } Wednesday } 9.30 a.m.
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Dental Clinics By appointment.

Orthopaedic " do.

Ophthalmic " Tuesday 9 - 11 a.m.

FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC.

This Clinic is now in its seventh year and is held at Hut C, Margate General Hospital.

The Medical Officer in charge, Dr. M. Cagney, informs me that attendances show a slight increase compared with the previous year. The reasons given for attendance at this clinic are (1) the planning of a family, (2) health, i.e. some definite medical or surgical reason, (3) pre-marital advice, and (4) sub-fertility.

HOSPITALS.

Mr. R.A.G.White, Secretary of the Ramsgate General Hospital informs me that the following patients were dealt with during 1961 :-

		<u>1961.</u>	<u>1960.</u>
In-patients:	Maternity	895	773
	Others	2,073	2,058
Out-patients:	Casualty department	8,445	7,283
Special Departments:			
	Medical	373	392
	Surgical	1,319	1,366
	Gynaecological	232	140
	Ophthalmic	600	573



	1961.	1960.
Paediatric	97	115
Aural	662	699
Rheumatism	100	96
Ante-natal	487	384
Post-natal	367	325
Dermatological	343	354
Mental illness	217	205
Orthopaedic	1,711	1,660
Dental	98	93
Physical medicine	274	290
Diseases of chest	286	180
Radiotherapy	186	127

The number of units of work (examinations and/or treatment) performed in the Radiological and Physiotherapy Departments was :-

Radiological	17,740	17,261
Physiotherapy	31,462	26,990

Individual patients' requests involving work in the Pathological Department :-

11,889	8,879
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The following patients were dealt with at Haine Hospital during 1961 :-

Infectious Diseases	220
Chronic sick	48
Dermatological	153
Medical	187

#### NURSING HOMES. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, PART IV.

The registration and supervision of Nursing Homes is the responsibility of the Local Authority, and at the end of the year there were two homes on the register, providing beds for medical patients only :-

21 Vale Square and annexe	60 beds.
16 South Eastern Road	8 beds.

The Bon Secours Nursing Home, a charitable institution with 30 beds, is exempt from registration.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47.  
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.

These two Acts give 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 to the Court for the removal of one elderly person coming within one of the above categories was made and the patient was admitted to hospital. One other elderly person volunteered to be admitted to a suitable institution, and enquiries were made by the Department into the circumstances of six other elderly persons.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 50.

Six persons were buried during 1961 at a cost to the Local Authority of £83.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

This service, provided by the Kent County Council. dealt with the following cases during 1961 :-

Confinements	53
Tubercular patients	7
Aged persons	508
Others	67
Evening cases	26
Family help	20
Resident helps provided	1
Child care	2

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684

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HOME NURSING.

MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

These two services are provided by the Kent County Council. Four District Nurses and four Midwives are employed in the Borough.



SECTION V.  
-----SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.WATER SUPPLY.

Water is supplied by the Thanet Water Board and there has been no change in the source of supply. Normally the supply is sufficient for all purposes, but should the need arise, this can be augmented from other sources within the area served by the Board. This water, being drawn from the deep chalk strata is very hard, the greater proportion is temporary hardness, as will be seen on perusal of the report of analysis set out below. On the other hand there is a high standard of organic purity, and it is rare indeed to find any bacteria even in the untreated water. We are anxious to maintain the purity of our water supply at its present high level, thus there is some concern over building developments in the catchment area where there is no main drainage. Schemes for main drainage in both Cliffsend and Manston are under consideration, these are referred to later, and when they are implemented, the source of anxiety will be removed.

The bacteriological examination of water samples is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Preston Hall, Maidstone, and chemical analysis by the South Eastern Laboratory, Canterbury. Samples for bacteriological examination are taken from the pumping station at Whitehall before chlorination, and further samples are taken from the supply, either from one of the sampling points set up by the Water Board, or an ordinary domestic supply, which gives as complete a coverage as possible.

This sampling programme is carried out independently of sampling carried out by the Water Board. A total of 48 samples were so taken during the year, all were reported as being satisfactory. In addition, four samples were taken for chemical analysis, a copy of one of the reports of the latter, regarded as typical, is reproduced below.

	<u>Parts per million.</u>
Appearance	Clear and bright.
Odour	None
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	Nil
Nitrogen as nitrites	Nil
Nitrogen as nitrates	11.5
Chlorine as chlorides	69.
equal to sodium chloride	114.
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 80°F	0.08
Temporary hardness	240.
Total hardness	304.
Permanent hardness	64
Total solid matter	486.
pH Value	7.2
Microscopic examination	Very little mineral and organic debris.

I am indebted to the Borough Engineer for the information concerning drainage and sewerage, refuse collection and disposal, and public cleansing :-

#### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The newly constructed by-pass sewer between Whitehall Road and Ellington Road came into operation in July, but since that date no storms with high intensity rainfall have been experienced to test its effectiveness in relieving the surcharge flooding that occurs from time to time in the Hollicondane area of the town.

The plant for the control and treatment of sewerage prior to its discharge into the sea outfall was completed in the late summer of 1960, and it was successfully operated during the whole of 1961.

Tenders have been invited for the construction of a main drainage system for the Manston and Cliffsend districts, and it is likely that work will commence on this large scheme during 1962.

#### REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The disposal of all refuse continues to be dealt with at the controlled tip at Sandwich Road, and it is estimated that the amount of house and trade refuse disposed of during the year increased to 68,000 cubic yards.



The introduction of a five day working week during the year necessitated the re-organisation of certain collecting rounds and the employment of additional refuse vehicles.

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Minor alterations were made to the system of street sweeping and cleansing as the result of the five day week in order that the main streets and the sea front could continue to be cleansed on Saturdays throughout the year.

#### RIVERS AND STREAMS.

There are no rivers or streams within the Borough.

#### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

With the exception of the Manston and Cliffsend areas, all the houses are connected to the sewerage system. When the new sewerage schemes are implemented, every house in the Borough will be connected to the water carriage system.

#### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The Public Health Inspectors paid a total of 6,129 visits during the year. Information about their work including lists of notices, together with results of these notices, is to be found in the report of the Senior Public Health Inspector which follows.

#### SHOPS ACT, 1950.

The Public Health Inspectors are responsible for the administration of the Shops Act in its entirety. Further information concerning this is to be found in the report of the Senior Public Health Inspector.

#### MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

#### Caravans and Control of Development Act, 1960.

Seven sites are licensed to accommodate caravans as follows :-

Nethercourt Farm Road	51
Pegwell Lodge	70
Cliffsend, Foads Lane	50
Cliffsend, Sportsman	10
Manston, Preston Farm Road	80
College Road	18
Courtstairs	6

Planning consent has been granted to extend one of these sites to accommodate a further 25 caravans. It is probable that this will come into use during 1962.

All sites are subject to the conditions laid down in the Model Standards as modified for holiday sites. There are no residential sites in the Borough.

Tents are not encouraged on any of these sites, these are reserved for bona fide mobile trailer caravans only. Accommodation is available for 42 caravans or tents on a Corporation site at Nethercourt Park, and there is provision for overflow at the height of the holiday season at King George VI Memorial Park.

#### CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

There is very little smoke producing industry in the town. Steam raising plants are largely oil fired, and those that do use solid fuel give very little trouble. Atmospheric pollution, such as there is, is mainly confined to domestic smoke. With our fortunate situation, dilution and dispersal is so rapid that pollution is infinitesimal.

#### FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959.

The following table shows the number on the register at 31st December 1961 :-

<u>(i) Inspections.</u>	<u>Number of premises.</u>	<u>Number of:</u> <u>Inspections. Written notices.</u>	
Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4,6 are enforced by Local Authority	34	5	1
Factories not included above in which Sec.7 is enforced by Local Authority	169	27	-
Other premises	42	4	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>1</b>



(ii) Defects.

	No. of cases in which defects were:-				
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred		Pros- ecutions.
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector.	
Sanitary accommodation	1	1	-	1	-
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-

Fifty three outworkers were registered, all of them being engaged in the making of wearing apparel.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

The Marina Swimming Pool, the only one open to the public, came under the control of the Corporation at the commencement of the 1961 season, and there was a marked improvement in the management from the start.

The pool is operated on a continuous circulation principle, and is filled with sea water once only at the beginning of the season, topping up water is added when necessary to make up any loss. During operation, pool water is drawn off from the bottom of the diving well, passed through filters, chlorinated and then re-admitted to the pool through a number of inlets placed around the sides. This method ensures that all water in the pool is maintained at the recommended level of cleanliness and purity, and that there is a thorough distribution of freshly treated water. The plant has not been working to its full efficiency during the year, but is being thoroughly overhauled during the 'shut down' period and will be ready for operation at the commencement of the 1962 season.

Colorimetric tests for residual chlorine and pH value are taken daily. These are carried out by the pool's staff and independently by a Public Health Inspector. It is important that the level of residual chlorine should be maintained at 0.2 parts per million at all times whilst the pool is in use, then one can be assured that the water is safe, particularly so where

the water is slightly alkaline, hence the need to ascertain the pH value, which should not be allowed to fall below 8. It should also be noted that the maintenance of the proper chlorine residuals will inhibit the growth of algae, thus maintaining clarity. Colorimetric tests are useful as a guide to day to day running, but are not sufficient in themselves, therefore samples of the water are taken directly from the pool and despatched to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination at weekly intervals. These samples are taken in batches of four, collected from different points in the pool in order to get as complete a picture as possible, and, while it is not claimed that the water is sterile, the results have not given any cause for anxiety.

Two other pools in the area are not open to the general public, being available for school use only. Both of these pools were examined and found to be satisfactory.

There are three slipper baths for public use, one, reserved for males is in the Charlotte Court conveniences, and two, reserved for females, are in the Paragon conveniences. There are also four shower baths in the Pier Yard conveniences.

#### OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Six Marine Stores are registered under the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act 1907, and two of these, being dealers in rags and bones, are also registered as offensive trades under the Public Health Act 1936.

#### PET ANIMALS ACT.

Four premises are licensed as Pet shops under the provisions of this Act. These are visited regularly to ensure that the animals are being kept properly and that there is no nuisance.

#### AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) Act, 1956.

The Local Authority's responsibility in this field is limited to the provision and maintenance of sanitary accommodation for workers on the land, and particular stress is laid on the employment of casual labour at certain seasons of the year. In this area, agricultural units are comparatively small, land is in close proximity to farm buildings and associated cottages and it is considered that sanitary accommodation is adequate. It has not been found necessary to insist on the provision of additional sanitary accommodation on any premises.



## SECTION VI.

H O U S I N G.CLEARANCE AREAS.

Houses in the Plains of Waterloo area were demolished during the year and the sites cleared and levelled to be used as temporary car parks until re-development takes place.

The small block of houses in Turner Street, a Compulsory Purchase Order, had not been acquired by the end of the year, and were still standing and occupied. Elizabeth Road Compulsory Purchase Order was confirmed without modification, but had not been acquired at the end of the year. Negotiations for the purchase of both these areas are proceeding.

Two new Clearance Areas have been declared during the year :-

1. Newcastle Hill. Comprising the balance of houses left in Newcastle Hill and Erdley Square, the sites being required to secure the proper re-development of the area, and
2. Alfred Cottages. A block of sub-standard dwellings in Alfred Cottages and Hardres Street, the site of which, when cleared, will be suitable for re-development.

In both areas action is proceeding by way of compulsory purchase orders and a Public Inquiry was held on 2nd January 1962.

Six houses have been dealt with as individual unfit houses. Demolition Orders have been made on two of these, and, as demolition was impracticable, Closing Orders have been made on the remaining four.

Three basement dwellings (Underground Rooms) have been closed. Two Closing Orders have been rescinded, one in respect of a dwellinghouse and the other in respect of a basement dwelling, both premises having been made fit.

The following table repeats the information given in quarterly returns to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government :-



A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED.

<u>In Clearance Areas.</u>		<u>Houses demolished.</u>	<u>Displaced:</u> <u>Persons. Families.</u>	
(i)	Houses unfit for human habitation	16	-	-
(ii)	Houses included by reason of bad arrangement	-	-	-
(iii)	Houses on land acquired under Sec. 43(2) Housing Act, 1957.	-	-	-
<u>Not in Clearance Areas.</u>				
(iv)	As a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec. 17(1), Housing Act.	-	-	-

B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED.

		<u>Number.</u>
(v)	Under Sects. 16(4), 17(1), and 35(1), Housing Act 1957	4
(vi)	Under Sects. 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	-
(vii)	Parts of buildings closed under Sect. 18, Housing Act 1957.	4

C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT.

		<u>By owner.</u>	<u>By Local Authority.</u>
(viii)	After informal action by Local Authority	129	-
(ix)	After formal notice under		
	(a) Public Health Acts	8	-
	(b) Sects. 9 and 16 Housing Act.	3	-
(x)	Under Sec. 24 Housing Act	2	-

HOUSING APPLICATIONS.

A total of 246 applications were received during 1961. At the end of the year there were 836 on the housing register.

ALLOCATION OF ACCOMMODATION.

The number of families and persons accommodated by the Housing Committee during the year, including transfers of tenancies, was as follows :-

	<u>Properties.</u>	<u>Families.</u>	<u>Persons.</u>
Council houses	25	25	103
Prefab bungalows	18	18	59
Flats	38	38	86
Aged Persons dwellings	8	8	11
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	89	89	259

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

Pre-war schemes 583

Post-war schemes :-

Traditional houses	864
Prefab bungalows	199
Traditional flats	262
Aged persons dwellings	41
Houses purchased by Council	109
Corporation properties	22

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2,080

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## SECTION VII.

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

STATISTICS.

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious disease notified during 1961 :-

Age group.

	Poliomyelitis (P)	Poliomyelitis (NP)	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia.
0-1	-	-	-	5	18	-	-	-	-	-
1-2	-	-	1	2	75	-	-	-	-	-
2-3	-	-	-	7	113	-	-	-	-	-
3-4	-	-	2	10	111	-	-	-	-	-
4-5	-	-	-	6	107	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	14	22	416	-	-	1	-	-
10-15	-	1	1	1	18	-	-	-	-	-
15-25	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	32
25-45	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	-
45-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
TOTAL	-	1	18	54	867	-	2	3	1	32

Number of  
cases admitted  
to hospital

-	1	16	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
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DIPHTHERIA.

No case of this disease has been notified in Ramsgate for the past 14 years. During the year, 583 primary and 460 re-inforcing injections were given to children under the age of 15 years as a result of the immunisation campaign.

WHOOPING COUGH.

Fifty four cases of Whooping Cough were notified during the year, and a total of 489 children were given a primary inoculation against the disease.

MEASLES.

A total of 867 cases were notified. These occurred during the early part of the year.

SMALLPOX AND VACCINATION.

No case of smallpox has been notified for many years.

A total of 386 persons were vaccinated for the first time during the year, together with 9 persons who were re-vaccinated. It is interesting to note that slightly over 50% of children under the age of 1 year are vaccinated.

POLIOMYELITIS AND POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION.

There was only one case of non-paralytic poliomyelitis notified during the year. This case was admitted to Hospital and made a complete recovery.

The County Medical Officer informs me that the following injections were given to the various priority groups under the poliomyelitis vaccination campaign during 1961 :-

Second injections	1,661
Third "	1,402
Fourth "	2,212

FOOD POISONING.

Two cases were notified. These occurred in a private household and were treated by their own private medical practitioner.

SCARLET FEVER.

Eighteen cases were notified, 16 of which were removed to Haire Hospital.

TUBERCULOSIS.

It was not found necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936.

New cases notified and deaths which occurred during 1961 are tabulated below :-

Age group.	<u>NEW CASES.</u>				<u>DEATHS.</u>			
	Respiratory.		Non-resp.		Respiratory.		Non-resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	3	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
55 - 65	3	1	1	-	1	1	-	-
Over 65	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

The number of cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register at 31st December 1961 was :-

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Respiratory	113	100	213
Non-respiratory	14	7	21
	<b>127</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>234</b>

This shows a reduction of 60 compared with the previous year. Of the removals, 94 in all, which occurred, 42 were classified as having recovered from the disease, 41 had removed to other areas and 11 as having died.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

The Mass Radiography Unit visited Ramsgate from 24th April - 5th May 1961 and were stationed at four points.

The total number of miniature films taken amounted to 5,031, of which 1,280 (25.4%) attended for the first time.

The results of these films revealed 7 persons (5 male, 2 female) to be suffering from active Tuberculosis, and 47 (23 male, 24 female) to be suffering from inactive Tuberculosis, while cancer of the lung was shown to exist in the case of 3 males.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

A special clinic for the treatment of these diseases is held at Margate General Hospital. The days and times of the clinics are :-

Friday:	Males	11 a.m. - 12 noon.
	Females	10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

A total of 47 patients from Ramsgate attended as compared with 38 the previous year.



SECTION VIII.  
-----INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

I am indebted to the Public Health Inspectors for the following information :-

MILK.

All milk sold by retail in the area is sold under one or other of the Special Designations. Milk is being pasteurised by the H.T.S.T. method and one plant only has been in operation during the year.

Carton packaging of milk was introduced during the year, so far this is confined to distribution from the many shops that sell milk as part of the normal trade, and is an extension of the carton service used in the milk vending machines. This method of distribution has been introduced to offset the losses of milk bottles, mainly from shop trade, occasioned by failure to return, breakages, and the rejection of bottles which cannot be cleansed. Glass bottles however are still being retained for door to door deliveries and for school milk.

LICENCES.

There has been no general issue of licences this year, a limited number of new licences has been granted however and these relate mainly to changes in occupation, and the total number of licences to retail milk amounted to 134.

EXAMINATION AND TESTING.

Samples of milk are taken indiscriminately from roundsmen, distributors and dairies in order to keep a check on the milk at all stages in the chain of distribution, samples are also taken directly from the schools and the Education Authority notified of the results. These samples are submitted to the methylene blue and phosphatase tests, and in the case of sterilised milk, the turbidity test. A total of 60 samples was taken during the year and all satisfied the prescribed tests.

ADULTERATION.

Twenty eight formal samples of milk were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act. Twenty two of these were pasteurised milk and six Channel Islands milk, all were genuine.

The presumptive standard for milk as laid down in the Sale of Milk Regulations is 3 per cent fats and 8.5 per cent solids not fat. This standard has been exceeded in Ramsgate over a long period of years, as is indicated in the comparative figures given below for the past four year :-

	<u>1961.</u>	<u>1960.</u>	<u>1959.</u>	<u>1958.</u>
Fats	3.93	3.78	3.71	3.79
Solids not fat	8.79	8.76	8.78	8.69
Total	12.71	12.54	12.49	12.48

A break-down of these figures for 1961 only gives :-

- (i) For pasteurised milk (ordinary grade) and T.T. an average of - Fats 3.75, solids not fat 8.72, total solids 12.47, which is slightly below the average for all samples.
- (ii) For Channel Islands milk, which must have a higher fat content, an average of - Fats 4.94, solids not fat 9.08, total solids 14.02, well above the average for all samples.

During the early part of the year, complaint of a peculiar flavour in school milk was received. Samples of the milk complained of were analysed, an excess of copper was found and this, it was thought, could account for the alteration in taste. An inspection was made at the dairy concerned and it was found that none of the utensils in use contained copper in any form, and the plant and pipe lines were all of stainless steel. Thus it appeared likely that copper in massive doses was finding its way into the milk at the source, possibly through the use of some copper utensils or a failure in the tinning on a cooler. A series of samples was taken directly from the churns as delivered from the farms and before bulking, but no excess of copper was found. Indeed the highest amount found was 0.6 parts per million, which could not account for the quantity found in the complaint sample. Ultimately the investigation had to be abandoned, although no satisfactory conclusion was reached. This must have been a fortuitous influx that occurred once only.

#### ICE CREAM.

##### (a) Testing and Grading.

Forty samples of ice cream were taken for bio-chemical examination, i.e. testing and grading according to the methylene blue test, and the grades were as follows :-

Grade I	-	32
" II	-	5
" III	-	2
" IV	-	1



The three samples falling into the lower grades were local products. This was regrettable but has its advantages as the Public Health Inspectors were able to follow the processing through personally and pin-point the fault. In each case subsequent samples were found to be satisfactory.

#### (b) Standard.

Five samples of ice cream, i.e. two of ice cream and three of dairy ice cream were taken and submitted for analysis by the Public Analyst, and all were found to comply with the standards prescribed in the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Regulations 1959. The prescribed standard for ice cream in each case is 5% fats and 7½% milk solids other than fat, but in the case of dairy ice cream, the fat must be milk, no other fat is permitted.

The fat content in each of these samples was as follows :-

484.	Ice cream.	11.9	
485.	do.	6.0	
486.	Dairy ice cream	14.0	} No fat other than butter fat.
493.	do.	11.5	
498.	do.	12.0	

The greater part of ice cream sold is pre-packed, indeed the sale of loose ice cream from bulk in shops where a mixed trade is carried on is not encouraged. Ice cream from bulk is sold in the Ice Cream Parlours, and in restaurants where it frequently forms the 'sweet' course. There is also a flourishing trade in 'soft' ice cream which is dispensed directly from the freezer.

### FOOD PREMISES.

#### (a) Restaurants.

Restaurants and cafes in the town number 95, there are also 53 snack bars and 21 hotels providing meals for non-residents as well as residents. All are subject to frequent visits and it has not been found necessary to take any formal action during the year.

#### (b) Bakehouses.

The small private bakehouse is gradually disappearing in the face of intensive competition from the larger combines and the number of bakehouses remaining on the register at the end of the year is reduced to 11. On the other hand we have an increasing number of bread and cake shops newly fitted out on more modern and hygienic lines.



(c) Preserved Foods.

Fifty five premises are registered under Section 16(1)(b) of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, to prepare various types of preserved and manufactured foods, as under :-

Preparation of sausages, cooked and pickled meats	34
Preparation of cook meats only	7
Bacon smoking and ham curing	1
Fish curing and smoking	2
Cooking and preparation of shellfish	2
Manufacture of pickles	2
Manufacture of sugar confectionery	7

All premises are subject to periodic inspection.

(d) Fish Fryers.

Twenty one premises are registered for the trade of fish frying.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS.

There is now no slaughtering carried on in the Borough.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

A total of 10 tons 11 cwts. 2 qrs. 22 lbs. of unsound meat and various tinned goods etc. was surrendered.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955. ADULTERATION.

One hundred and fifteen samples (34 formal and 81 informal) were taken by the Public Health Inspectors and submitted for analysis to the Public Analyst :-

	<u>Description.</u>	<u>Formal.</u>	<u>Informal.</u>
*	Milk	28	15
*	Mayonnaise	-	1
*	Dates	-	2
*	Dried fruit	-	2
*	Dessicated coconut	-	1
*	Self raising flour	-	2
*	Tinned milk	-	3
*	Sausages	1	1
*	Cooking oil	-	1
*	Cream	-	2
*	Beverage	-	1
*	Tinned meat	-	5

	Chocolate	-	4
*	Mixed grill	-	1
*	Medicine	-	1
	Cake	-	2
*	Sauce	-	1
*	Tinned vegetables	-	1
*	Sweet confectionery	-	5
*	Vinegar	-	1
*	Milk shake	-	1
*	Herring roes	-	1
*	Pork roll	-	1
	Bread	-	1
*	Baby foods	-	1
	Sago pudding	-	1
*	Peanut butter	-	1
	Bread and butter	2	-
	Dripping	-	1
*	Rennet	-	1
	Ice cream	-	5
*	Swiss rolls	1	1
	Coffee	-	2
*	Honey	-	1
*	Lemonade crystals	-	1
	Marzipan	-	2
	Biscuits	-	1
	Tomatoes	-	1
*	Mincemeat	-	1
*	Dried ginger	-	2
*	Angelica	-	1
*	Glace cherries	-	3
*	Lancashire rarebit	-	1

The samples marked \* were examined for the presence of preservatives.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD) REGULATIONS.

One informal sample of glace cherries was found to contain sulphur dioxide in excess of the permitted amount. The permitted amount is 100 parts per million and the sample contained 140 parts per million, that is 40% excess. Formal samples were taken, and analysis confirmed the result of the first analysis. These cherries were an imported product, originating from Northern France, and in the circumstances a warning letter was sent to the vendors, and the information forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

SHELLFISH.

Frequent visits are made to premises used for the preparation of shellfish and to the stalls where they are sold. Stalls in the Pier Yard consist of covered barrows which are taken away at the end of each day, and stall holders have the use of washing facilities consisting of sink and wash basin with hot and cold water in a wash room nearby.

The Pegwell Bay Shellfish Regulations prohibit the sale for human consumption of cockles gathered in Pegwell Bay unless and until they have been sterilised by steam under pressure for six minutes. There is no steam sterilisation plant in the Borough and cockles are not being collected from there. All cockles sold in the district are brought in from other areas under guarantee of sterilisation. Some mussels and whelks are collected locally and are cooked on the vendor's own premises, but during the holiday season it is often necessary to augment local supplies by importation from other areas.



PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION, 1961.

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Amount of shipping entering the port.

Ships from:	Number.	Tonnage.	No. inspected		No. reported as infectious disease on board.
			by M.O.H.	by P.H.I.	
Foreign ports	837	58,929	-	13	-
Coastwise	1,276	12,710	-	-	-
Total	2,113	71,638	-	13	-

Character of shipping and trade.

Passenger traffic:

No. of passengers inwards	12,166
No. of passengers outwards	11,159

Cargo traffic:

Principal imports - Motor vehicles, timber.

A separate yearly report has been submitted to the Ministry of Health in which was set out details of all health services available for the port. There have been no changes in any of these arrangements during the year 1961.

PUBLIC HEALTH (AIRCRAFT) REGULATIONS, 1952.

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.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR  
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.  
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Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again I have pleasure in submitting my report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors during the past year. The report consists essentially of figures relating to the number of visits and inspections with a tabular statement of work done. I have taken the opportunity of making comment on some aspects of the work and must stress that where opinions are expressed they are my own and do not necessarily express the opinion of the Council.

There has been no change in staff during the year. This is very pleasing as changes of this nature inevitably disrupt the work of the department. Apart from interruptions and delays caused by shortage of staff, a newly appointed officer always needs a little time in which to become accustomed to a change in work and environment. However, for this year, work has been able to proceed without this form of interruption.

Two important Acts of Parliament came into force towards the end of the year, these are the Public Health Act 1961, and the Housing Act 1961. Both provide for amendment and extension of existing law and contain many useful provisions. The Housing Act 1961 has given power to register 'houses in multiple' occupation when proposed regulations have been made. Although the problem of houses let in lodgings is not serious in Ramsgate, it is time that traffic in the human need for a home was brought under control.

I have to express my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their co-operation and support, and to my fellow officers and members of the staff, in particular to the Medical Officer of Health, who in spite of periods of illness, has kept in touch with the work of the Department.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. H. WELLER,

Senior Public Health Inspector.



HOUSING.

Work on slum clearance continues, progress is necessarily slow as this has to be geared to the administrative machine and the availability of alternative accommodation for families displaced by the clearance of unfit houses. A report on this subject, prepared in order to assist in the assessment of housing needs in the Borough, was submitted to the Council in November. A summary of this report is as follows :-

"The Orders in hand, i.e. Orders already confirmed and two awaiting confirmation, will mean the clearance of 68 houses. The programme envisaged for the coming five years will mean the clearance of a further 237 houses, thus making a complete total of 305 houses. Of this it is to be anticipated that approximately 300 families will be required to be re-housed. The demand for accommodation of this nature will not be evenly spaced over the years and is likely to take place irregularly. The programme has been comprehensive but there will remain a number of sub-standard properties to be dealt with, some will naturally fall into areas but many more will fall to be dealt with as individual unfit houses. In these cases, circumstances may force urgent action as has happened so often in the past."

Houses in the Turner Street area, a Compulsory Purchase Order, had not been demolished by the end of the year, and were still occupied, which was due to some difficulties over acquisition. The compulsory purchase order made on Elizabeth Road area was confirmed without modification and negotiations for purchase are proceeding, thus the houses have not been demolished and are still occupied. Two new areas have been declared during the year :-

1. Newcastle Hill Area, comprising the balance of houses in Newcastle Hill and Erdley Square, 17 in all, together with certain other buildings. The area is required to secure the proper re-development of the area, work on which is now in progress, and a compulsory purchase order is to be made.
2. Alfred Cottages Area, which is a compact area containing 31 dwellings with no other buildings. This is an area suitable for re-development and again a compulsory purchase order is to be made.

A Public Inquiry regarding these two areas was held on 2nd January 1962, the result is awaited.



Six houses have been dealt with as individual unfit houses, demolition orders have been made on two of these, but the houses had not been vacated at the end of the year, the remaining four were dealt with as closing orders as their situation rendered demolition impracticable. Three basement dwellings (Underground Rooms) have been closed as these did not comply with the Regulations for Underground Rooms.

A closing order (made in 1960) on one basement dwelling has been revoked, the basement having been made fit and to comply with the Regulations, and a closing order made in 1954 on a dwellinghouse has also been revoked, the house in this instance having been practically re-built.

#### RENT ACT, 1957.

Four applications for certificates of disrepair were received and all granted. Since the Rent Act came into force, a total of 67 certificates have been granted, 12 have been cancelled, leaving 55 still in force.

#### IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Applications for Improvement Grants are dealt with by the Borough Engineer, but in order to avoid the possibility of grants being given in unsuitable cases, such as where the property is likely to be included in a Clearance Area, all applications are referred to this Department for a report.

Applications for Standard Grants continue to increase, Discretionary Grants which require much more work and carry the more stringent conditions are not so popular. The ultimate aim is that every dwelling shall have a bath with hot and cold water, and internal sanitation. A commendable aim, but far from fruition. There is a growing realisation among owner-occupiers of the advantages of the grant scheme, but the owners of tenanted property appear reluctant to apply it to the benefit of their tenants, even though they can recover costs by way of grant and increases in rents.

#### FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS.

Regular and frequent inspections of food premises are carried out in an endeavour to maintain the high standard of hygiene expected where catering for the visitor is so important. Food traders and caterers are human, faults do come to light from time to time, and these are more likely to be due to ignorance or carelessness than a deliberate flouting of the Regulations. Normally it is sufficient to direct the traders' attention to the fault and it is then corrected.



This year however, it has been found necessary to take a prosecution under the Food Hygiene Regulations. This concerned a wooden tray used in the delivery of bread by a wholesale baker. This tray was found to be in a very dirty condition, indeed it is doubtful if it had ever been washed, and the bottom was spattered with bird droppings. This tray was used for carrying unwrapped bread, obviously an example of gross carelessness on someone's part. The defendant in this case pleaded guilty and was fined £20 plus costs.

#### PROSECUTIONS ETC.

A total of seven prosecutions have been taken during the year. These are as follows :-

1. A formal sample of bread and butter, in which the 'butter' was found on analysis to be margarine. In this case the defendant pleaded guilty and was fined £10 plus costs.

2. A complaint of mould on a chocolate swiss roll. This roll was purchased and taken home for immediate consumption, and was found to be mouldy on opening. The defendant pleaded guilty and was fined £10 plus costs.

#### Milk and Dairies Regulations. Regulation 27.

These cases, concerning milk, were all taken under the Regulations, though some had features that indicated that a prosecution under the Food and Drugs Act may have been equally successful.

3. Foreign body in school milk: This concerned a cluster of five reddish brown chrysallis adhering to the side of a bottle of school milk, which was only discovered while the child was drinking. The defendant pleaded guilty and was fined £25 plus costs.

4. Dirty milk bottle: A one pint bottle of milk which was found to have a dark coloured material on the inside of the bottle. The Analyst reported this to consist of charred organic matter that may have been caused by a lighted taper held inside the bottle. In other words this was probably a form of soot. The defendant pleaded guilty and was fined £25 plus costs.

5. Sand and cement in milk: This concerned a one pint bottle of milk with a quantity of solid material in the bottom, which on examination was found to be sand and cement. Some of the finer particles of the mixture had gone into suspension in the milk giving it a grey colour, this being particularly marked in the cream. The defendant pleaded guilty and was fined £25 plus costs.



6. Foreign object in school milk: This bottle of school milk was found to contain an unidentified foreign body adhering firmly to the side of the bottle, which on examination was found to be a metal foil milk bottle top screwed up with a paper case from a small cake, some farinaceous material was with the paper case and this showed mould spores. The defendant, who was a distributor only, pleaded not guilty, and conjoined the supplier, who actually bottled the milk. The case was proved, both parties were found guilty and were fined, the original defendant £10 plus costs and the conjoined party £20 plus costs.

#### Food Hygiene Regulations.

7. Dirty bread tray: This case is referred to in the preceding paragraph.

As a result of the prosecutions involving milk bottle offences, the dairies are campaigning against the misuse of milk bottles by the general public. There is no doubt that there is considerable abuse of the humble milk bottle, many are returned to the dairies in an unbelievable condition, and often in such a state that it is impossible to get them clean again. Nevertheless, the dairyman has a duty to perform, he must ensure that milk bottles are in a state of thorough cleanliness before being used for containing milk, and if he cannot cleanse the bottles he must reject them, otherwise he must be prepared to take the consequences.

#### Other complaints during the year concerned:-

1. A peculiar taste in milk. The milk complained of was supplied to a school and was said to taste 'off'. Samples submitted to the Analyst were found to contain a small quantity of copper, the amounts varying from 0.4 to 0.8 parts per million, not sufficient to cause any harm, but capable of imparting a taste to the milk. The dairy supplying the milk was exonerated, no copper was found in the dairy, indeed all the equipment and utensils were of stainless steel. Although it was considered likely that the copper originated from a farm, where the tinning to a cooler may have been badly worn, a programme of individual sampling failed to yield any worthwhile results, and ultimately the investigation had to be closed although the results were inconclusive.
2. Mould in tea: This complaint referred to two packets of tea which were seriously affected by mould. Investigation showed that a larger package had become damp during transport and storage, these packets had escaped scrutiny. In this case a warning letter was sent to the vendor.
3. Wire in Swiss Roll: This complaint concerned a fragment of steel wire in a swiss roll, on considering the facts a warning letter was sent to the vendor.
4. Mould in meat pies: Two pies in this case were alleged to be mouldy, the facts were reported to the Committee and it was



decided that as this was a first offence a warning letter would suffice.

5. Maggots in Swiss Roll: Examination showed these to be infested with the cacao moth, and again the Committee decided to send a warning letter to the vendor.

#### Public Health Act, 1936, Section 45.

This was not a prosecution. A notice had been served on the owner of a property to replace a broken W.C. pan. He appealed against the notice on the grounds that the notice should have been served on the tenant. The appeal was lost and the owner has now carried out the work.

#### SHELLFISH.

Year by year remarks on the shellfish stalls established in the Pier Yard have been incorporated in this report, they have been described in detail, the odd thing is that some members of the public seem to like them. The abolition of the sale of shellfish is not being sought, they do make a nutritious article of diet, but the conditions under which they are sold should be more compatible with modern living.

There are alternatives to the present type of stall which have been described in previous reports, and it is up to the traders themselves to set their own house in order.

#### CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

Although this can be considered as a clean area, with very little smoke producing industry to pollute the atmosphere, there are occasions when pollution does occur. One chimney has been causing some trouble during the year, dark smoke was being emitted for rather longer than the permitted periods, this was a chimney serving two boilers using solid fuel. After a period of observations, interviews with the management, instruction to the stoker, (who seemed to change on every visit), and interviews with irate complainants, the management decided to convert to oil firing, and the work was in hand at the end of the year.

There have been a number of interviews concerning the height of chimneys for new installations, these interviews can be particularly difficult as there is so little data as a reliable guide, heating engineers do not always see eye to eye with Public Health requirements, particularly when it concerns the height of a chimney, which of course must be sufficient to ensure the proper dispersal and dilution of smoke and other products of combustion, including waste gases such as sulphur dioxide. With proper combustion, oil does not produce visible smoke, but it does produce other gases, and, as these cannot be seen, there is a tendency to overlook the dangers.



Although there is no appreciable reduction in the volume of domestic smoke, never a serious factor in this locality, I think that there will be a more general adoption of central heating, which, with the more efficient use of fuel, will lead to the complete elimination of this form of pollution.

#### CAMPING SITES.

Seven sites are licensed under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, one of these, a small site for 6 caravans, is intended for use only as overflow accommodation from an hotel. The total number of caravans accommodated on all sites amounts to 285. These sites cater only for the holiday trade, the licences are restricted to the period between 1st March and 31st October in each year. There are no residential sites within the Borough. An application to extend a site to accommodate a further 25 caravans was granted towards the end of the year, and it is anticipated that this will be ready for occupation during the 1962 season.

Although there is some provision in the privately owned sites for the itinerant caravanner, this is insufficient to meet the demand, neither is there any provision on these sites for tents. In order to meet this demand and to provide facilities for tenters, the Corporation has set aside a portion of Nethercourt Park for this purpose, and made provision in King George VI Memorial Park for overflow during the peak period.

There is a small demand for temporary accommodation for persons working on sites of industrial development and so on in the area. These people, whose stay in the area is limited by the duration of the contract, often own their own caravans so that they can live with their families where they are working, and need a suitable site for their caravans during this period. This demand is transient and under the present terms of licensing, cannot be met, as the existing sites must remain unoccupied during the winter months.

#### SHOPS ACT.

The whole of the administration of the Shops Act comes within the purview of the Health Department, and 486 visits have been paid to shops within the year. These visits are concerned with the health and comfort of shopworkers, hours of closing and Sunday trading. A large proportion of these visits are made outside normal office hours, it has been found that at the beginning of the 'off' season period, there is a tendency for some shopkeepers to keep open beyond normal closing hours and to continue trading on Sundays. This may be due to some confusion over the timing of the seasonal concessions, as during the four holiday months, shops are



allowed to keep open up to 10 p.m. and for some purposes all day on Sundays. Usually it is sufficient to direct the shopkeeper's attention to the regulations when offences occur, and most are willing to keep within the law.

#### NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960.

There have been complaints of excessive noise, few in number but troublesome to deal with. One related to nocturnal noises from heavy transport concerned with the delivery of bread to a wholesale distributor. This would go on until 2 and 3 a.m. and start up again before 6 a.m. for local deliveries. Ultimately it was agreed that late night deliveries would not take place after 11 p.m., but it was not practicable to change the early morning start. Other complaints concerned, among other things, the noise from heavy machine tools in a factory in a built up area. Here, although the lathes were seated on rubber cushions set in a concrete bed, vibratory noises were transmitted to adjoining houses. The factory operator was persuaded to confine his working hours so that no disturbance occurred during the night. Eventually the business was removed to other more suitable premises. Another source of noise was a large fan in an outside cooling tower used for cooling the refrigerant in a large refrigerating plant, the trouble being an intermittent penetrating hum which would occur at all hours. A first attempt was to put the fan on to a time switch, so that it did not operate at night. This was not satisfactory, the switch cut out the refrigerator at the same time, and low temperatures could not be maintained. Later other methods of cooling were tried, and it was found possible to do away with the fan altogether.

In all our enquiries we have found that the nuisances have been caused unwittingly, there has been full co-operation and everyone has been most anxious to find a solution to the problem.

#### CINEMAS, THEATRES, DANCE HALLS.

The places of amusement for public music and/or dancing in the Borough number 89, and may be classified as follows :-

Cinemas	2
Theatres	3
Halls	11
Hotels, Public houses	60
Restaurants	7
Miscellaneous	6

Fifteen visits of inspection were made and conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

COMPLAINTS.

The number of complaints from all sources was 659. These are attended to as quickly as possible, and the bona-fide complainant can be sure of receiving prompt and sympathetic consideration.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT.

During the general observations kept on shops for other purposes, i.e. Shops Act, Food Hygiene Regulations, Food and Drugs Act, note is also taken of the marking of produce in conformity with the requirements of the Merchandise Marks Act. It is rarely found to be necessary to correct the shopkeeper on this point, and there has been no occasion to institute proceedings.

NOTICES SERVED.

Preliminary notices served or letters written	158
Nuisances abated on verbal instructions	138
Work carried out voluntarily	128
Statutory notices served	16

INSPECTIONS AND VISITS.

A tabulated list of inspections and visits is given hereunder :-

## Public Health Act:

Inspections	178
Re-inspections	690
Repairs	115

## Housing Act:

Inspections	122
Re-inspections	328
Improvement Grants	90
Rent Act	10
Work in progress	22
Overcrowding	5
Council houses	17



## Food and Drugs Act:

Bakehouses	33
Ice cream premises	215
Fish Fryers	26
Restaurants	110
Shellfish	4
Other food premises	852
Shops re unsound food	377

## Milk and Dairies Regulations:

Dairies	16
Distributors	171

## Sampling:

Food and Drugs	114
Designated milk	76
Ice cream	48
Water	58
Swimming Pool	102

## Factories Act:

Factories - mechanical	27
" - non-mechanical	5
Workplaces	4

## Rodent Control:

Business premises	7
Dwellinghouses	16
Local Authority property	1

## Other inspections:

Drainage	252
Drains tested	26
Accumulations	85
Keeping of animals	23
Refuse receptacles	92
Public conveniences	20
Smoke abatement	30
Caravans and camping sites	48
Infectious diseases	40
Music and dancing	7
Licensed premises	5
Places of public entertainment	8
Marine stores	-
Schools	27

School kitchens	3
Shipping	13
Shops Act	486
Pet Animals Act	7
Merchandise Marks Act	7
Verminous premises	68
Interviews	590
Miscellaneous visits	434
Noise abatement	19

### IMPROVEMENTS AS RESULT OF INSPECTIONS.

#### Drainage system:

Drains cleared	58
Drains amended	12
Sink gully traps provided	6
Inspection chambers built	12
Intercepting traps fixed	1
Soil and vent pipe fitted	2
" " repaired	2
Houses re-drained	3
Inspection covers provided	1

#### Internal repairs:

Floors relaid	2
W.C. cisterns provided	8
W.C. cisterns repaired	15
Sash cords renewed	19
Windows repaired	16
Sinks trapped	7
Sinks provided	13
Lavatory basins provided	4
Fireplaces renewed	6
Fireplaces repaired	4
W.C. pans fixed	23
W.C. seats renewed	13
Plaster repaired	51
Water service provided	2
Water service improved	5
Walls repaired	1
Floors repaired	13
Doors repaired	16
Baths provided	1

#### External repairs:

Chimney stacks repaired	4
Eaves gutters renewed	9
" repaired	9
Walls repointed	11



Roofs repaired	36
Yards paved	8
Walls treated	5
Walls rebuilt	3

## Shops:

Walls cleansed	2
W.C. renovated	1
Hot water provided	3
Wash-hand basins provided	2
Shops redecorated	1
Refrigeration improved	1

## Factories:

Sanitary accommodation improved	1
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## Cafes:

Wash-hand basins fitted	2
Provision for clothing	1
Water heaters provided	4
W.C. provided	1

## Miscellaneous:

Accumulations removed	21
Verminous houses cleansed	27
Refuse receptacles provided	54
Cesspools abolished	1
Houses renovated throughout	2

## Bakehouses:

Rooms cleansed	2
Accumulations removed	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Investigations are made into all cases of notifiable disease and contacts followed up. This matter is dealt with more fully by the Medical Officer of Health in Section VII.

DISINFECTION.

Forty three rooms were disinfected after infectious disease and cancer, and 29 sets of bedding were treated in the steam disinfecter.

PEST CONTROL.

It is almost traditional for the Health Department to be called in to help whenever insect infestations occur, and the measures we employ are usually successful. Fleas and bugs are still with us, but are so much less common than formerly, that there is a feeling of shock when one encounters a serious infestation. Cockroaches are troublesome from time to time, these are often associated with structural defects, and now we have accepted responsibility for dealing with wasps nests. Each case is treated on its merits, and we use liquid or powder insecticides as circumstances demand. Although there have been reports of insect immunity to synthetic insecticides, i.e. DDT and BHC, indeed this has become quite a problem in some localities, so far we have no reason to suspect that any such immunity exists in this area.

The following table shows the number of premises treated together with the type of infestation :-

	Council property:		Other property:	
	Premises.	Rooms.	Premises.	Rooms.
Bugs	3	12	5	13
Fleas	-	-	22	106
Flies, beetles, insects etc.	5	8	28	107

In addition, 49 premises were treated for wasps' nests.

One set of bedding believed to be infested or soiled after death was removed for treatment. In addition 45 lots were destroyed at the request of owners.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT.

One full-time operator is employed to deal with complaints of rodent infestation, and treatments are carried out in all types of property. A charge is made for the treatment of business premises, but private dwellinghouses are treated free of charge.

When complaints are investigated, the survey includes adjoining property, this policy of thorough examination has proved well worth while, as the rat population is being kept under control. A few agricultural holdings in the area are surveyed from time to time, mainly to ensure that treatment is being carried out. Occupiers know about Warfarin and use it, they know the importance of keeping their premises clear of rats, and would not hesitate to ask for the services of the rodent operator if they thought it necessary.