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Contributors

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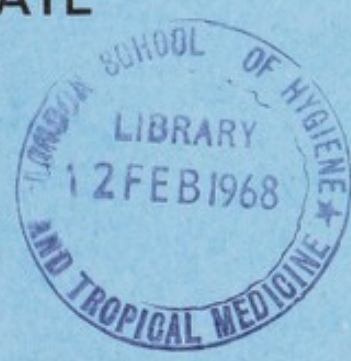
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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE

REPORT

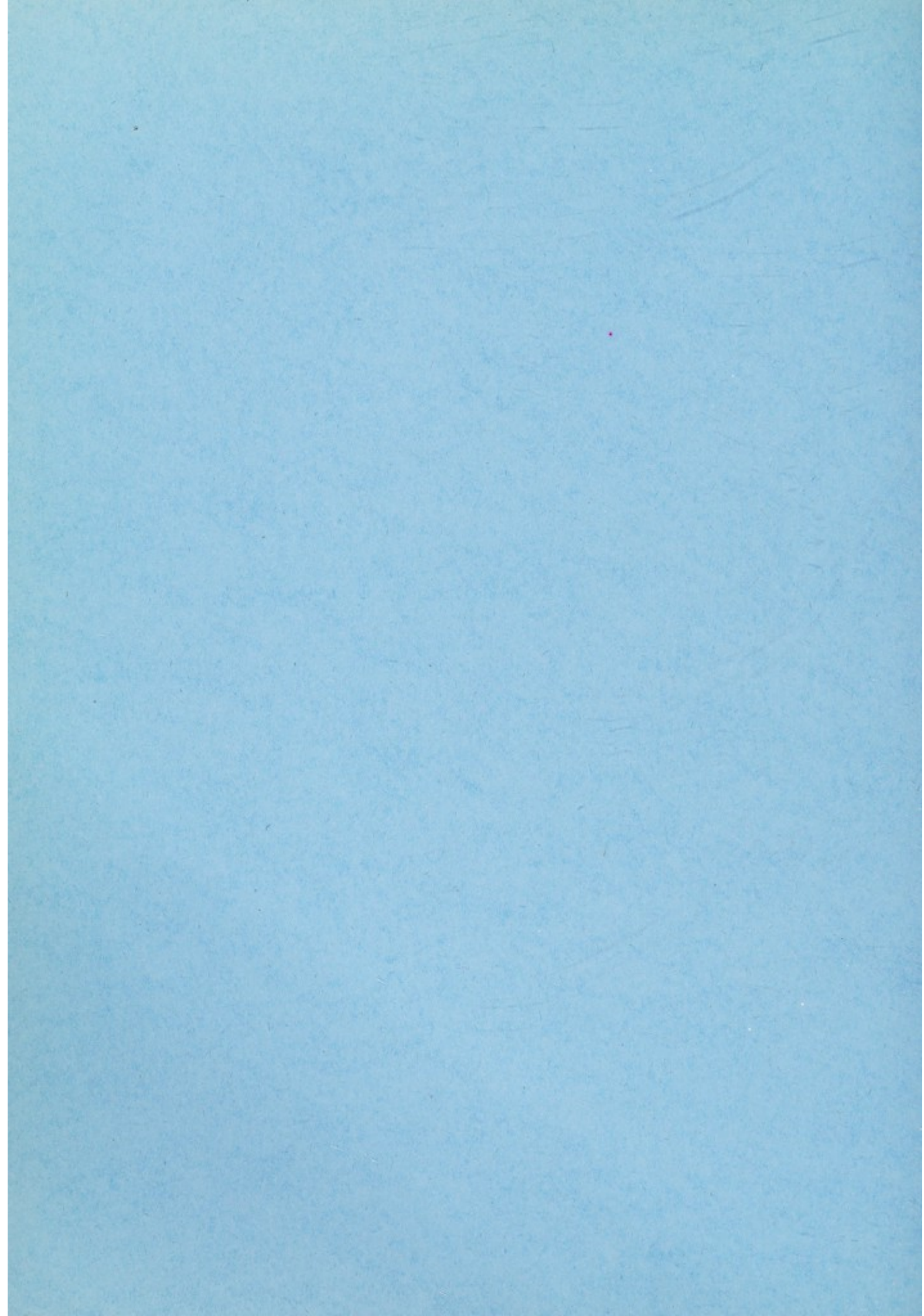
OF THE

Senior Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1963






BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE

With the Compliments
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Public Health Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Ramsgate

Telephone :
Thanet 53311



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BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE - JUNE, 1963

CHAIRMAN:

Alderman W. H. Greenstreet

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

Alderman L. F. Davey

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

Councillor W. C. Banning

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

THE ...

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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

G. L. Brocklehurst, M.D.(Lond), D.P.H.

CHIEF 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. (Resigned 3.12.63)

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, ALDERMAN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my second Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1963.

The Registrar General gives an estimated mid-year population of 37,670, an increase of 290 over the figure estimated for 1962, the increase no doubt being due to persons taking up residence in new housing accommodation.

Reference to the statistical information provided in the body of this report shows that there was also an increase in the number of live births giving a Birth Rate of 18.9 per 1,000 of population. This increase has been maintained over a period of years. It is to be deprecated however that there has also been an increase in the number of illegitimate live births from 54 in 1962, to 57 in 1963, which shows a percentage of 9.4 of the total live births.

The total number of deaths was 604, a decrease of 3 as compared with those occurring in 1962, and an analysis of the causes does not show any appreciable change in any one specific cause.

Infantile deaths fortunately show a decrease, from 17 in 1962, to 12 in 1963, which gives an Infantile Mortality rate of 19.9 per 1,000 live births.

The number of cases of infectious diseases notified showed a decided increase, particularly in the number of measles notified and the number of cases of dysentery. The measles occurred in the first two quarters of the year and were confined, in the main, to children. Dysentery, however, was not confined to any particular age group, nor to any specific locality in the town and, throughout the second and third quarters of the year, sporadic cases were notified. Three isolated cases of food poisoning were notified, but no case of poliomyelitis occurred.

I wish to thank the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their encouragement and support since I took up office, and my thanks are also to the staff of this Department for their assistance at all times.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

G. L. BROCKLEHURST,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I - SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

Area of Borough in acres	4,778
Registrar General's estimate of population	37,670
Units of accommodation	12,429
Rateable Value at 31.12.63.	£1,302,602
General Rate	11/6d.
Sum represented by a penny rate	£5,165

BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Total 1962</u>
Number of live births:				
Legitimate	293	252	545	528
Illegitimate	28	29	57	54
	321	281	602	582

BIRTH RATE

Uncorrected Birth Rate per 1,000 of population	15.9
Corrected Birth Rate per 1,000 of population	18.9
(England and Wales - 18.2)	

The illegitimate births formed 9.4 of the total and were equal to 1.5 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 1.19, and when the uncorrected Birth Rate is multiplied by this factor, it results in a Corrected Rate of 18.9.

STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Total 1962</u>
Legitimate	3	5	8	6
Illegitimate	-	2	2	4

The Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total births was 16.3 as compared with 17.3 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)	6	-	1	-	7
NEO-NATAL (Under one month)	7	1	1	-	9
INFANTILE (Total under one year)	8	3	1	-	12

(Total 1962 = 17)

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE

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

TOTAL	19.9	(England and Wales = 20.9)
Legitimate	20.1	
Illegitimate	17.5	

Causes of Infantile Deaths:-

Prematurity	5
Congenital Malformations	1
Other causes	6

TOTAL DEATHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>1962</u>
Total number of deaths from all causes and at all ages	288	316	604	607

TOTAL DEATH RATE

Uncorrected rate per 1,000 of population	16.0
Corrected rate per 1,000 of population	12.3
England and Wales	12.2

The Death Rate shows a decrease of 1.4 per 1,000 of population compared with 1962. The Registrar General has supplied a correction factor of 0.77, and when the uncorrected Death Rate is multiplied by this factor it results in a Corrected Rate of 12.3

The number of deaths exceeded the total live births by 2.

During 1963, the number of deaths decreased by 3 as compared with the previous year, and as usual the preponderance 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	2	-
2.	" - other	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	7	5
11.	" " lung, bronchus	26	4
12.	" " breast	-	10
13.	" " uterus	-	3
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic conditions	27	30
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	2
16.	Diabetes	-	5
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	18	41
18.	Coronary disease, angina	74	51
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	2	5
20.	Other heart disease	39	52
21.	Other circulatory diseases	19	21
22.	Influenza	5	3
23.	Pneumonia	16	22
24.	Bronchitis	20	13
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	2	2
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	-	2
28.	Nephritis, nephrosis	-	2
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth etc.	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	1	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	15	23
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	4	1
34.	All other accidents	3	12
35.	Suicide	4	5
36.	Homicide and operations of war	-	-
TOTAL		288	316

NUMBER OF DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGE AND SEX

Age group	Males	Females	TOTAL
Under 1 year	9	3	12
1 - 5 years	1	1	2
5 - 15 years	-	-	-
15 - 25 years	3	-	3
25 - 35 years	1	1	2
35 - 45 years	4	5	9
45 - 55 years	24	11	35
55 - 65 years	46	38	84
65 - 75 years	88	87	175
Over 75 years	112	170	282
<hr/>			
TOTAL	288	316	604

TREND OF MORTALITY FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES
OF DEATH

Year	CANCER:		*	Vascular lesions	Heart diseases	Tuber- culosis	Bronchitis and Pneumonia
	Total	Lung					
1950	71	11	(15.5)*	52	143	16	44
1951	88	16	(18.2)	92	157	17	54
1952	93	16	(17.2)	77	152	10	39
1953	76	13	(17.1)	60	123	11	30
1954	60	11	(18.3)	65	135	5	35
1955	78	13	(16.6)	50	121	5	29
1956	80	12	(15.0)	59	136	2	41
1957	87	17	(19.5)	54	131	6	41
1958	98	15	(15.3)	59	173	4	57
1959	89	17	(19.1)	59	150	2	53
1960	83	18	(21.7)	72	186	5	47
1961	101	29	(28.7)	78	185	5	47
1962	111	30	(27.0)	64	203	1	69
1963	112	30	(26.7)	59	223	2	71

Percentage
of total
deaths in

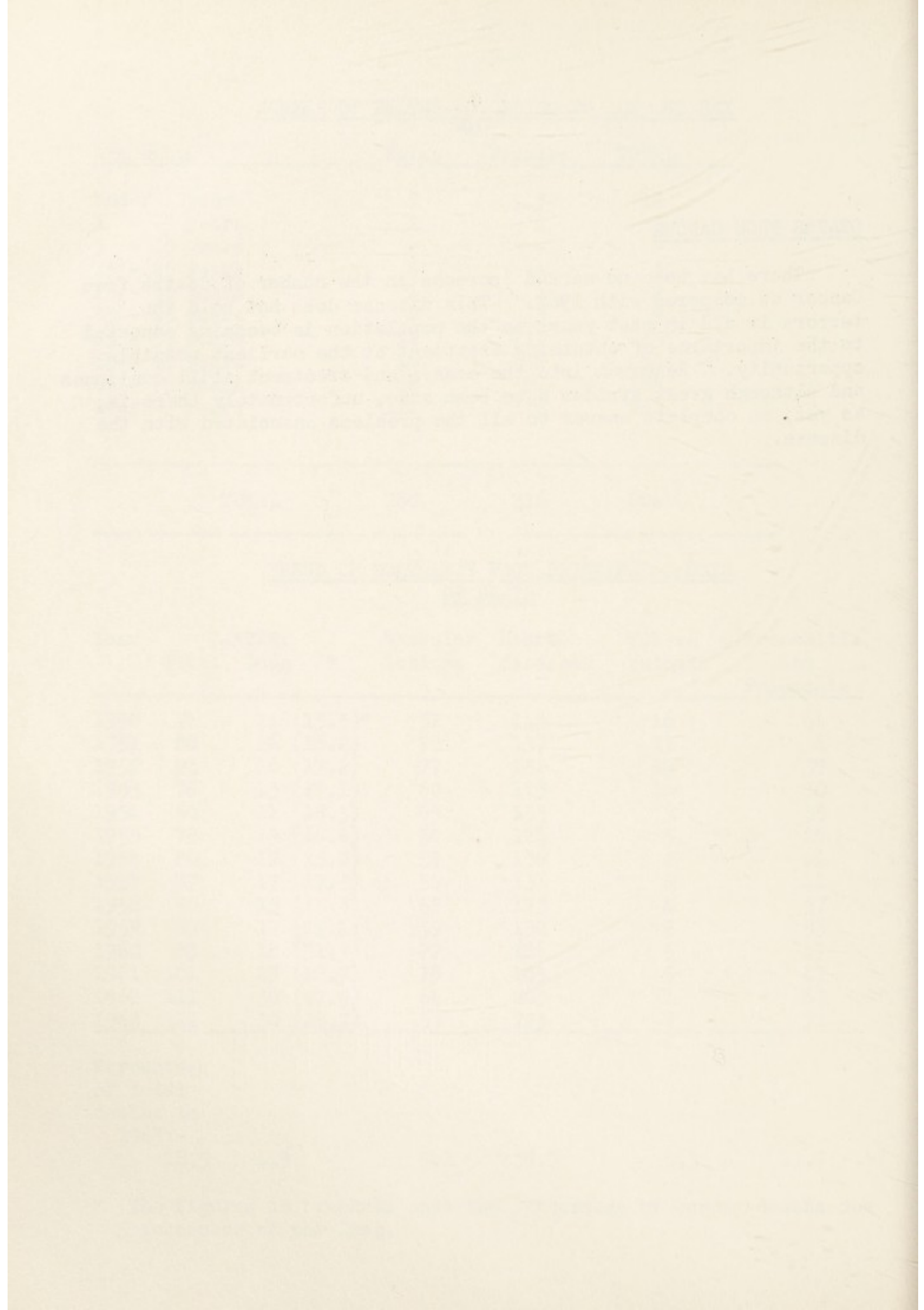
1963:-

18.5 4.9 9.1 36.7 0.3 11.7

* The figures in brackets show the percentage of cancer deaths due to cancer of the lung.

DEATHS FROM CANCER

There has been no marked increase in the number of deaths from Cancer as compared with 1962. This disease does not hold the terrors it did in past years as the population is becoming educated to the importance of obtaining treatment at the earliest possible opportunity. Research into the causes and treatment still continues and although great strides have been made, unfortunately there is, as yet, no complete answer to all the problems associated with the disease.



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, provides 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 station is situated on the East Cliff Promenade adjoining the Bandstand, and consists of a standard fenced enclosure 30 feet by 20 feet, containing the following instruments:-

Dry Bulb Thermometer	}	Mounted in a Stevenson Screen
Wet Bulb Thermometer		
Maximum Thermometer		
Minimum Thermometer		
Rain gauge, 5" diameter		

Geographical position - Latitude 51.20'N. Longitude 1.25'E.

Height above sea level - 80 feet.

A Campbell Stokes Sunshine Recorder is set up on a platform on the roof of Albion House.

A Kew pattern Barometer graduated in Millibars is kept in the Municipal Buildings.

Readings are taken daily at 9.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. throughout the year, and coded telegrams sent to the Air Ministry at these times.

During the summer season, an Information Board is maintained in the fenced enclosure, giving details of Sunshine, Rainfall and temperatures, together with the official forecast for the S.E. region.

In addition, separate boards are maintained at the Main Sands Bathing Station, East Cliff and West Cliff, giving comparative weekly Sunshine and Rainfall figures for Ramsgate and other resorts.

Weather details of special interest to visitors are broadcast from the Main Sands Bathing Station.

The sunshine and rainfall figures for 1963 are as follows:-

SUNSHINE

January	34.8 hours	Daily average	1.1 hours
February	76.9 "	"	2.7 "
March	133.5 "	"	4.3 "
April	146.0 "	"	4.9 "
May	194.0 "	"	6.3 "
June	191.3 "	"	6.4 "
July	241.3 "	"	7.8 "
August	154.8 "	"	5.2 "
September	124.6 "	"	4.2 "

.../Contd.

SUNSHINE (Contd.)

October	106.7 hours	Daily Average	3.4 hours
November	67.5 "	"	2.3 "
December	46.2 "	"	1.5 "

Total	1517.6 hours	Total	1,690.5 hours
		for 1963	

	Most Sunshine recorded in any one day	Date	Sunless Days
January	6.9 hours	9	18
February	9.3 "	25	3
March	9.3 "	24	3
April	11.7 "	12	5
May	14.4 "	25	3
June	14.7 "	6	2
July	14.5 "	26	1
August	12.3 "	29	2
September	11.5 "	15	4
October	9.5 "	12	10
November	8.3 "	3	11
December	6.5 "	23	15

RAINFALL

Most recorded in any one day

January	.29 Inches	.09 Inches
February	.54 "	.22 "
March	2.63 "	.65 "
April	2.15 "	.41 "
May	2.46 "	.74 "
June	2.01 "	.36 "
July	1.25 "	.63 "
August	2.98 "	.88 "
September	2.54 "	1.17 "
October	1.75 "	.77 "
November	6.22 "	1.02 "
December	.27 "	.17 "
Total	25.03 Inches	Total 19.37 Inches
		for 1962

SECTION IV

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Samples of water, ice cream and other pathological specimens are sent to the nearest Public Health Laboratory situated at Preston Hall, Maidstone.

Examinations of pathological specimens are also carried out at the laboratories at the Ramsgate and Margate General Hospitals for medical practitioners.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

In August, 1963 the new ambulance station was opened. This is situated in Haine Road, Ramsgate and provides ample accommodation for ambulances and sitting cars and also office and rest room facilities.

A total of ten ambulances and nine cars for sitting cases are based at the station; all ambulances are fitted with radio, which greatly assists the smooth administration of the service.

The total number of patients transported during 1963 was 58,030 and the total mileage amounted to 21,693.

On the 1st. October, 1963, the Westbrook Day Hospital was opened, which necessitates transporting some 50 to 60 patients per day, thus increasing the amount of work placed on the station.

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 6.30 - 7.30 p.m. and provides a useful service both for residents and visitors. Emergency requests are dealt with by the Superintendent, telephone Thanet 51017. In addition, a First Aid Beach Hut is provided and manned by the Corps during the summer season at which minor accidents can be dealt with on the spot, thus relieving a certain amount of pressure on the Ambulance Service.

MORTUARY

The Municipal Mortuary situated in the grounds of the Police Station continues to function. The number of bodies admitted during the year was 116, 107 of which had post mortems carried out.

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.

Dental Clinics: By appointment

Orthopaedic " do.

Ophthalmic " Tuesday 9 - 11 a.m.

FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC

This Clinic, is now in its ninth 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 reason 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 1963:-

		<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>
In-patients:	Maternity	1099	997
	Others	2232	2100
Out-patients:	Casualty Department	9459	8367
Special Departments:	Medical	467	416
	Surgical	1306	1277
	Gynaecological	361	235
	Ophthalmic	529	539
	Paediatric	145	34
	Ear, Nose and Throat	703	650
	Rheumatic	96	75

...Contd.

Special Departments (Contd.)	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>
Ante-natal	498	488
Post-natal	491	344
Dermatological	268	388
Mental illness	171	234
Orthopaedic	1902	1683
Dental	103	74
+ Physical Medicine	-	93
Diseases of chest	181	138
Radiotherapy	52	163

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

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>
Radiological	18834	17385
+ Physiotherapy	10934	17299

+ Owing to shortage of physiotherapy staff the Physical Medicine and Physiotherapy Out-Patient Departments were transferred temporarily to the Royal Sea Bathing Hospital, Margate, as from 19th April, 1962.

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

14540	12224
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HAIKE HOSPITAL

Mr. J. W. Burdett, Secretary of Haik Hospital, informs me that the following patients were dealt with during 1963 compared with 1962:-

Infectious Diseases	248	228
Chronic sick	105	71
Dermatological	147	163
Medical	246	261

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 2 homes on the register, providing beds for medical patients only :-

21 Vale Square and annexe	60 beds.
Laurel Bank, 16, South Eastern Road	10 beds.

On the 15th May, 1963, The Nursing Homes Act, 1963, came into operation. This Act repeals Section 192 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which originally dealt with exemption from registration of Nursing Homes, and also empowers the Minister of Health to make Regulations as to the conduct of these Homes.

Subsequently, The Conduct of Nursing Homes Regulations came into operation as from 27th August, 1963. These Regulations are similar to those previously in operation for the conduct of disabled and old persons homes and Registration Authorities now have powers similar to those applied to residential and mental nursing homes.

Briefly, the Regulations deal with accommodation, care and staffing of a satisfactory standard, and the maximum number of patients allowed.

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

These 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.

It was not found necessary to make application to the Court for the removal of any persons coming within the categories mentioned, but enquiries were made into the circumstances of 6 elderly persons. In one case arrangements were made for admission to Hill House hospital voluntarily, and in the others, various arrangements were made with voluntary bodies to suit the circumstances.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 50

Four persons were buried during 1963 by the Local Authority at a cost of approximately £50.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

This service, provided by the Kent County Council, dealt with the following cases in Ramsgate during 1963 :-

Family Care	18
Family Welfare	1
Maternity cases	29
Aged	361
Others	32
Evening service	5
All night service	2
Chronic sick	20
Tubercular patients	2

An average of 1,000 hours per week was worked by helpers and the average number of cases attended each week was 270 .

HOME NURSING.

MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

These 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

There has been no change in the source of supply, which is sufficient for all purposes. Should the need arise it can be augmented from other sources within the area served by the Thanet Water Board.

The water is drawn from the deep chalk strata and is very hard, though much of this is temporary and is removed by heating, thus leaving the typical 'fur' on the inside of pipes and kettles.

Although a high standard of purity is expected, and indeed is maintained, all water is chlorinated before passing into the public supply.

Water is sampled frequently by the officers of the Thanet Water Board and submitted for bacteriological examination; independent samples are also taken at regular intervals by the Public Health Inspectors, also for bacteriological examination. This ensures a complete coverage and provides a further check on the supply. Bacteriological examination of water supplies is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory service, Preston Hall, Maidstone. A total of 48 samples were submitted for examination, and all were reported as being satisfactory.

In addition, four samples were taken and submitted to the South Eastern Laboratory, Canterbury, for chemical analysis, and a copy of one of the reports is reproduced hereunder:-

Appearance	Clear and bright
Odour	None
<u>Parts per million</u>	
Free chlorine	Nil
Free and saline ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid ammonia	Nil
Nitrogen as nitrites	Nil
Nitrogen as nitrates	10.0
Chlorine as chlorides	103
Temporary hardness	253
Total hardness	314
Permanent hardness	61
Total solids	566
pH value	7.0

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

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Work upon the provision of main drainage in the Manston and Cliffsend districts was commenced in April, 1963, and is scheduled to be completed by October, 1965.

During the year a new spur sewer, 300 yards in length, was constructed to connect the industrial estate, now being developed at Haine, to the Newington trunk sewer.

A length of main sewer is at present under construction to serve the new high-density housing development that is being undertaken by the Council in Manston Road.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

All domestic and trade refuse is dealt with at the Controlled Tip on the seaward side of Sandwich Road at Ebbsfleet, and recently the area available for this purpose has been extended by some 60 acres in a south-westerly direction by agreement with the owners of the land.

During the year 87,500 cubic yards of refuse was collected and disposed of at the tipping site, 70,230 cubic yards being domestic refuse and 17,270 cubic yards trade refuse.

A 15 cubic yard enclosed 'Fore and Aft' collecting vehicle is on order for use in the collection of trade refuse and will be put into service in the summer of 1964.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

There were no major alterations to the system of street sweeping and cleansing in the Borough which employs a gang system with electric orderly trucks in the residential areas and individual beat sweepers on the seafront and in business streets.

All roads are also swept by a mechanical road sweeper/collector once every week and shopping streets are regularly washed during the summer months by two gulley emptiers fitted with special street washing equipment.

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.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The Public Health Inspectors paid a total of 6,019 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 is to be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Caravans and Control of Development Act, 1960

Eight sites are licensed to accommodate a total of 313 caravans, and are restricted to use during the holiday season only. All sites are subject to the conditions laid down in the Model Standards as modified for holiday sites. There are no residential sites within the Borough.

The sites are reserved for bona-fide mobile caravans and tents are not encouraged. The Council has made accommodation available for 42 caravans or tents on a site in Nethercourt Park, and there is provision for overflow in the peak 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 largely confined to domestic smoke, and, with our fortunate situation, dilution and dispersal is so rapid that pollution is infinitesimal.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The Act came into force on 1st April, 1962, and being a consolidating Act, has made very little change in administration. The following table shows the number on the register at 31st December 1963, together with inspections and defects dealt with.

<u>(i) Inspections</u>	<u>Number of premises</u>	<u>Number of:</u>	
		<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Written notices</u>
Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4,6 are enforced by Local Authority.	31	5	-
Factories not included above in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority	157	23	-
Other premises	37	11	-
TOTAL	225	39	-

(ii) Defects No. of cases in which defects were :-

	<u>Found.</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred:</u>		
			<u>To H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>By H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>Prosecutions</u>
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences:-					
Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
Unsuitable	-	-	-	-	-
Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences	1	1	-	-	-

Twenty-four outworkers were registered, all of which were engaged in the making of wearing apparel.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

The Marina Swimming Pool is the only one available to the general public. This is an open air pool under the Council's management, and is operated on the continuous circulation principle.

It is worthy of remark that since the Corporation took over the management, there has been a considerable improvement in the amenities

and maintenance of the Pool.

The pool is filled with sea water at the beginning of the season, and topping-up water is added from time to time to make up any loss. There is a considerable loss of water through leaks where the concrete bottom is cracked and fresh water has to be taken in at every available tide. During operation, water is drawn off through the outlet at the bottom of the diving well, filtered and chlorinated, and then returned to the pool through inlets spaced around the perimeter. Similarly, fresh sea water is filtered and chlorinated before being admitted to the pool.

Colorimetric tests for residual chlorine and pH values are taken daily, and samples of the water are despatched to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination at weekly intervals. It is not claimed that the water is sterile, but the results of this examination have not given any cause for anxiety.

There are three other pools in the area, these are not available to the public. Two are reserved for school use, and the other, newly constructed, forms part of the recreational facilities at one of the caravan sites.

Three slipper baths are available for public use, one for men in the Charlotte Court conveniences, and two for women in the Paragon conveniences. In addition there are four shower baths in the Pier Yard conveniences.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

Five 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

Five 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

Local Authority responsibility in this field is limited to the provision of sanitary accommodation for workers on the land, the Minister is responsible for the enforcement of the provision of washing facilities. There seems to be no valid reason for this rather peculiar division of responsibility, and it is odd that Local Authorities cannot be entrusted with the enforcement of the whole of Section 3 of the Act. Particular stress is laid on the employment of casual labour at certain seasons of the year, then Chemical closets and screens are provided where existing facilities are inadequate, and it has not been found necessary to take any enforcement action.

SECTION VI

H O U S I N G

CLEARANCE AREAS

The houses in the two clearance areas declared in 1961, Newcastle Hill and Alfred Cottages were still standing at the end of the year.

Newcastle Hill houses had been vacated but demolition had not commenced.

Negotiations are still proceeding for the acquisition of the Alfred Cottages area and the houses were still occupied at the end of the year.

The Turner Street area has proved difficult and these houses also were still occupied at the end of 1963.

During 1963 the position regarding the provision of housing accommodation for displaced families showed signs of improvement and it was decided that the time was now ripe to recommence work on slum clearance, and during October a large area comprising some 50 houses and other buildings in the Hertford Street area was declared as a Clearance Area.

It is intended that this area shall be acquired by compulsory purchase for future housing development.

Eight houses have been dealt with as individual unfit houses. Demolition Orders have been made in respect of two of these and the houses were demolished during the year. With six houses, where because of their situation, demolition was impracticable, Closing Orders were made.

Further, a Closing Order was made on one basement dwelling and a Closing Order made on part of a building where a loft over a garage was being used for living accommodation.

Two houses, where Demolition Orders were made in the previous year, were demolished by the Local Authority in default.

A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED

<u>In Clearance Areas</u>		<u>Houses</u> <u>demolished</u>	<u>Displaced:</u> <u>Persons</u> <u>Families</u>	
(i)	Houses unfit for human habitation	-	55	19
(ii)	Houses included by reason of bad arrangement	-	-	-

<u>In Clearance Areas (contd.)</u>	<u>Houses demolished</u>	<u>Persons</u>	<u>Displaced: Families</u>
(iii) Houses on land acquired under Sec. 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957.	-	-	-

<u>Not in Clearance Areas</u>	<u>Houses demolished</u>	<u>Persons</u>	<u>Displaced: Families</u>
(iv) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec. 17 (1) Housing Act	4	5	3

B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED

	<u>Number</u>
(v) Under Sects. 16(4), 17(1), and 35(1), Housing Act 1957.	6
(vi) Under Sects. 17(3) and 26 Housing Act 1957.	-
(vii) Parts of building closed under Sect. 18 Housing Act 1957.	2

C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT

	<u>By owner</u>	<u>By Local Authority</u>
(viii) After informal action by Local Authority	148	-
(ix) After formal notice under:		
(a) Public Health Acts	3	-
(b) Sects. 9 and 16 Housing Act	-	2
(x) Under Sec. 24 Housing Act	-	-

HOUSING APPLICATIONS

A total of 242 applications were received during 1963. At the end of the year there were 1131 applications on the housing waiting list.

SECTION VII

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES

STATISTICS

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1963 :-

Age group	Poliomyelitis:		Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough	Measles	Dysentery	Puerperal Pyrexia
	Para-lytic.	Non para-lytic.					
0-1	-	-	-	4	13	9	-
1-2	-	-	-	4	51	6	-
2-3	-	-	1	3	87	8	-
3-4	-	-	1	4	91	7	-
4-5	-	-	1	1	76	5	-
5-10	-	-	4	19	287	53	-
10-15	-	-	-	2	4	31	-
15-25	-	-	-	1	3	12	4
25-45	-	-	-	-	2	25	-
45-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	7	38	614	156	4
Number of cases removed to hospital.	-	-	5	-	-	-	-

DIPHTHERIA

No case of this disease has been notified in Ramsgate for the past 16 years. During the year, 571 primary and 463 re-inforcing injections were given to children under the age of 15 years as a result of the immunisation campaign.

WHOOPING COUGH

Thirty-eight cases were notified, and a total of 501 children were given a primary inoculation against the disease.

MEASLES

As stated in the introductory letter to this report, the majority of the 614 cases were notified in the early months of the year and occurred among children. No deaths were attributed to this disease.

POLIOMYELITIS AND POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

No case of Poliomyelitis occurred.

The County Medical Officer informs me that the following injections were given under the poliomyelitis vaccination scheme during 1965:-

2 Injections (Salk)	5
3rd Dose (Salk and Oral)	184
4th Dose (Salk and Oral)	468
3 Orals (Complete course)	587

FOOD POISONING

Only 3 cases were notified.

SCARLET FEVER

Seven cases were notified during the year and 5 were removed to Haine Hospital.

DYSENTERY

156 cases were notified. These occurred in sporadic outbursts and were not confined to any particular part of the town nor to any specific age group. Where school children were notified, these cases were not allowed into school until they were proved negative by their own doctors, and children of school age who were contacts with any cases, were excluded until proved negative also. This Department undertook the duty of making sure that all contacts were negative which placed an appreciable amount of administration and work on all members of the staff.

TUBERCULOSIS

It was not found necessary to take any action during the year 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 1963 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	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-35	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-45	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-55	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-65	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTAL	14	3	-	-	2	-	-	-

The number of cases remaining of the Tuberculosis Register at 31st December, 1963 was :-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Respiratory	94	57	151
Non-respiratory	15	8	23
	109	65	174

This shows a reduction of 23 compared with the previous year. Of the removals, 48 in all, which occurred, 32 were classified as having recovered from the disease, 11 had removed to other areas and 5 as having died.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

The Mobile Radiography unit did not visit Ramsgate during the year. There is however, facilities available for the general public at the Royal Sea Bathing Hospital, Margate, each Thursday between the hours of 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.

VENEREAL DISEASES

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

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

Dr. D. Sharvill, Medical Officer in charge of the Clinic informs me that the work continues to be light and the area does not share in the nation wide increase in gonorrhoea, possibly because there is no substantial immigrant population. There were four new cases of syphilis during the year, and seven new cases of gonorrhoea from Ramsgate. It is known that a greater proportion of them were casual workers and the infection was acquired outside the Borough.

In spite of these small numbers, one cannot be complacent about the situation, and vigilance and contact tracing are still necessary.

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, one plant only has been in operation during the year.

The experiment in carton packaging introduced during 1961 has proved successful, and is being continued as a permanent measure. Thus milk in glass bottles is no longer available for retail sale from shops, but glass bottles are being retained for door to door delivery and for school milk.

LICENCES

There has been no general issue of licences during the year, a limited number of new licences have been granted which relate mainly to changes in occupancy. The total number of licences to retail milk now amounts to 151.

EXAMINATION AND TESTING

Samples of milk are taken at frequent intervals at all points in the chain of distribution and submitted for examination by the methylene blue and phosphatase tests, and, in the case of sterilised milk, for the turbidity test. School milks are sampled at the same time and the Education Authority notified of the results. A total of 69 samples were taken during the year, all satisfied the prescribed tests.

ADULTERATION

Forty formal samples were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis, all were reported as being genuine. The informal sample was taken from a milk vending machine.

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

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>
Fats	4.46	4.28	3.93	3.78
Solids not fat	9.0	8.93	8.79	8.76
Total	13.46	13.21	12.71	12.54

A break-down of the figures for 1963 only gives:-

(i) Pasteurised milk. Average: Fats 3.72
Solids not fat 8.65
Total 12.37

(ii) Channel Islands Milk: Average: Fats 4.77
Solids not fat 9.13
Total 13.90

(Channel Islands milk must contain not less than 4% fats)

ICE CREAM

Thirty-eight samples of ice cream were taken for bio-chemical examination, i.e. testing and grading according to the methylene blue test in the manner indicated in Circular 8/59 Ice Cream (Heat treatment) Regulations 1959, and the grades were as follows:-

Grade I	33
Grade II	-
Grade III	4
Grade IV	1

The only sample falling into Grade IV was produced outside the Borough. Both the manufacturer and the Authority concerned were notified. The four Grade III samples were produced locally; in each case a thorough investigation was made, follow-up samples were taken and there was an improvement by the end of the year.

For the information of the Committee, testing of ice-cream and grading is carried out in accordance with Circular 8/59 dated 21st April, 1959 and the grading is set out as follows:-

<u>Provisional Grade</u>	<u>Time taken to reduce Methylene Blue</u>
I	Fails to reduce in 4 hours.
II	$2\frac{1}{2}$ - 4 hours.
III	$\frac{1}{2}$ - 2 hours.
IV	No hours.

The majority of samples should fall into Grades I and II. Where samples fall into Grades III and IV, there is an indication to some fault, either in materials or processing and in this case examination of the plant is carried out and further samples are taken.

Standard

Four samples of ice cream have been taken and submitted for analysis. All were found to comply with the standard prescribed in the Food Standard (Ice Cream) Regulations 1959. The prescribed standard for ice cream in each case is 5% fats and 7½% solids not fat, but in the case of dairy ice cream, the fat must be milk fat, no other fat is permitted.

The greater part of the ice cream sold in the Borough is pre-packed, the sale of loose ice cream from bulk in mixed shops is not encouraged. There is a flourishing trade in 'soft' ice cream sold direct from the freezer.

FOOD PREMISES

(a) Restaurants

Restaurants and cafes in the town number 95, there are also 55 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 was 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

Sixty 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	39
Preparation of cooked 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 no slaughtering carried on in the Borough.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

A total of 10 tons 9 lbs. of unsound meat and various tinned goods etc. was surrendered.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955. ADULTERATION

One hundred and thirty one samples (forty-three formal and eighty-eight informal) were taken by the Public Health Inspectors and submitted for analysis by the Public Analyst:-

<u>Description</u>	<u>Formal</u>	<u>Informal</u>
Cornflour	1	-
Chicken & Ham Roll.	-	1
Vinegar	-	2
Dried Onions	-	1
Anchovy Essence	-	1
Packeted Vegetables	-	3
Butter	-	1
Lard	-	1
Milk	40	1
Confectionery	-	6
Bread Rolls	-	1
Tinned Steak	-	2
Corn Oil	1	1
Cochineal	-	1
Minced Beef & Onions	-	1
Vitamin Drink	-	1
Custard Powder.	-	2
Cheese Flaps	-	1
Potted Beef	-	1
Figs	-	1
Sugar	-	1
Puff Pastry	-	1
Soup	-	1
Savormix	-	1
Pumpnickel	-	1
Lemonade Crystals	-	1
Mussels	-	1
Pickle	-	1
Evaporated Milk	-	1

<u>Description</u>	<u>Formal</u>	<u>Informal</u>
Mayonnaise	-	1
Ready Mix Ice Cream	-	4
Chinese Dishes	-	3
Tinned Dairy Cream	-	1
Sauce	-	4
Cheese	-	1
Jam	-	3
Ice Cream	2	2
Almonds	-	1
Self raising Flour	-	2
Tinned Mushrooms	-	1
Beef Milano	-	1
Cod Roe	-	1
Porridge	-	1
Tea	-	1
Plain Flour	-	1
Tinned Fruit	-	1
Instant Coffee	-	2
Cake	-	2
Cooking Fat	-	1
Instant Milk Set	-	1
Medicine	-	5
Fruit Drink	-	1
Dried Fruit	-	4
Mixed Grill	-	3
Margarine	-	1
Semolina	-	1

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD) REGULATIONS

In cases where appropriate the Public Analyst examined the foregoing samples for the presence of preservatives, all were declared to be within the prescribed limits.

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 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 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, 1963

Amount of shipping entering the port

Ships from:	Number.	Tonnage	No. inspected:		No. reported as having had infectious disease on board.
			By MOH.	By PHI.	
Foreign ports	850	91,720	-	16	-
Coastwise	1163	34,000	-	-	-
TOTAL	2013	125,700	-	16	-

Character of shipping and trade

Passenger traffic:

No. of passengers inwards 42,826

No. of passengers outwards 42,904

Cargo traffic:

Principal imports - Motor vehicles, timber, wheat and
fertiliser.

Principal exports - Car tyres and steel scrap.

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 1963.

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 by air.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors during the past year.

While the report is essentially statistical, I have taken the opportunity of making comment on some aspects of the work.

During the greater part of the year there was no change in the staffing position but in December Mr. F.A. Sadler resigned to take up an appointment with another Authority. He had not been replaced by the end of the year.

I have to express my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their co-operation and support, to the Medical Officer of Health and to my fellow officers and members of the staff.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. H. WELLER,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING

During 1963 work started on the building of three tower blocks of flats and because of this it was thought that the time would now be opportune to start again on the programme for slum clearance, thus towards the end of the year the Hertford Street area, comprising some 50 houses in Hertford Street, James Street, Cross Street and a part of Albert Street, together with some other buildings, was represented for clearance and because this would be a suitable site for redevelopment, it was decided to proceed by way of a Compulsory Purchase Order.

No further areas were represented during the year.

Turner Street Compulsory Purchase Order

These houses were still occupied at the end of the year.

Newcastle Hill Compulsory Purchase Order

The houses in this area have been demolished and the site cleared in preparation for the construction of the third block of multi-storey flats.

Alfred Cottages Compulsory Purchase Order

Negotiations for the purchase of houses in this area were still proceeding at the end of the year and the families have not been rehoused.

INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES

Six Demolition Orders have been made during the year, four of these houses have not yet been demolished; one is being included in the Central Development and in the case of the two other houses, these are to be demolished in part and the lower part of the structure used for other purposes.

Four houses, where Demolition Orders have been made, were demolished during the year, two of these were demolished by the Local Authority in default of the owners.

Six houses have been closed, in each case it was not practicable to make Demolition Orders because of the situation of the property.

One basement dwelling has been closed; it was found to be unfit and failed to comply with the Regulations for underground rooms and the living accommodation improvised in a loft over a garage has also been closed. In this case the occupation was completely unauthorised.

RENT ACT, 1957

One application for a Certificate of Disrepair has been received, and an undertaking was given by the owner. Four applications for cancellation of certificates have been received, and one objection was received, three were cancelled. Since the Rent Act came into force, a total of 69 Certificates have been granted, 18 have been cancelled, leaving 51 still in force.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Applications for Improvement Grants are dealt with by the Borough Engineer, and in order to avoid the possibility of grants being made in unsuitable cases, such as where property is likely to be included in a Clearance Area and cannot be given the required life, all applications are referred to the Health Department for a report.

One hundred and nine applications for grants were made and 103 were granted.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

Regular and frequent inspections of food premises are carried out in an endeavour to maintain as high a standard as possible. These frequent inspections are important as it means that faults can be detected and corrected at the outset before they can become serious. It was not found necessary to take any enforcement action during the year.

PROSECUTIONS ETC.

Six prosecutions have been taken under the Food and Drugs Act during the year, each of these was connected with mould on varying types of food.

1. Chocolate Eclairs - Mouldy. The vendors pleaded guilty and were fined £20.0.0d. plus costs.
2. Cream Sponge. The cream was found to be mouldy; again the vendors pleaded guilty and fined £20.0.0d plus costs.
3. A gateaux. The texture of the cake was deeply impregnated with mould and the vendors pleaded guilty and were fined £20.0.0d. plus costs.
4. Cornish Pasty - The meat was mouldy and the vendors pleaded guilty and were fined £20.0.0d. plus costs.
5. Pork Sausages. Spotted with mould and were sour. The vendors pleaded guilty and were fined £10.0.0d. plus costs.
6. Individual Chocolate Cakes. Spotted with mould. The vendors pleaded guilty and were fined £20.0.0d. plus costs.

Certain other matters concerning foods were reported to the Public Health Committee and when all the facts were considered, it was decided that warning letters would be more appropriate.

1. Minced Beef Loaf: When this tin was opened a black stain was found on the surface of the meat. Examination of the meat content showed this to be a sulphide and it was decided that a warning letter in this case would suffice.
2. Glass in Jam: This was imported jam and there was some doubt about how the glass got into the jar. The greater part of the contents had already been eaten when the complaint was made. In this case it was decided that a warning letter should be sent.
3. $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. Packet of Minced Beef: This was found to be sour when cooked but because of the time lag between purchase and complaint, it was considered that a warning letter should be sent.
4. Frozen Peas: A bag of frozen peas, in which the contents had become mushed and discoloured and had the appearance of having been thawed and then refrozen. There was no supporting evidence on this, therefore, a warning letter was sent.

SHELLFISH

The shellfish stalls in the Pier Yard continue to operate as hitherto. These are kept under observation and they are as satisfactory as such stalls are ever likely to be.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Ramsgate's fortunate situation and the absence of heavy industry keeps the area free from serious atmospheric pollution. There has been an almost complete conversion to oil fuel where steam raising apparatus is used, and when these are properly maintained, there is little, if any, visible smoke.

CAMPING SITES

Eight sites are licensed under the provisions of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960. These licences are limited to the period from the 1st March to the 31st October in each year and cater for the holiday traffic only.

The total number of caravan spaces amounts to 288, in most cases caravans are stationed on the sites all the year round but remain unoccupied during the winter months. A few spaces are left available for touring caravans, and there is no space for tents on any of the licensed sites.

A part of Nethercourt Park is set aside for the Corporation to provide accommodation for tents and provision for overflow at the peak season is available at King George VI Memorial Park. This is not sufficient to meet the demand and there is a great deal of unauthorised camping during the holiday season. These unauthorised sites are not provided with proper facilities and are extremely difficult to control, but until more sites are made available for use by both tenters and caravaners, this type of misuse is likely to continue.

SHOPS ACT

The whole of the administration of the Shops Act comes within the purview of the Health Department, and 378 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 no complaints of nuisance from noise during the year.

CINEMAS, THEATRES, DANCE HALLS

The number of places of amusement for public music and/or dancing in the Borough is 89, and conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

COMPLAINTS

The number of complaints from all sources was 565. 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 etc. 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	170
Nuisances abated on verbal instructions	117
Work carried out voluntarily	67
Statutory notices served	10

INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

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

Public Health Act:

Inspections	119
Re-inspections	588
Other Matters	181

Housing Act:

Inspections	78
Re-inspections	217
Work in progress	19
Overcrowding	2
Houses measured	1
Council Houses	13
Improvement Grants	117
Houses let in lodgings	2

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IMPROVEMENTS AS RESULT OF INSPECTIONS

Drainage system:

Drains cleared	75
Drains amended	23
Sink gully traps provided	4
Inspection Chambers built	7
Soil and Vent Pipes Fitted	11
Soil and Vent Pipes Repaired	10
Houses Redrained	13

Internal Repairs:

W.C. cisterns provided	14
W.C. cisterns repaired	22
Sash Cords renewed	12
Windows repaired	20
Sinks trapped	9
Sinks provided	4
Lavatory basins provided	3
Fireplaces renewed	2
W.C. pans fixed	34
W.C. seats renewed	14
Plaster repaired	20
Water service provided	9
Water service improved	17
Floors repaired	5
Doors repaired	11
Baths provided	1

External Repairs:

Chimney stacks, flues, etc. repaired	7
Eaves gutters renewed	3
Eaves gutters repaired	8
Walls repointed	1
Roofs repaired	32
Yards paved	2

Shops:

Rooms decorated	4
Water heaters provided	6
Heating provided	1
Washbasins provided	3
Lighting improved	1

Factories:

Lavatory basins provided	1
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Miscellaneous:

Accumulations removed	16
Verminous houses cleansed or disinfected.	25
Houses renovated throughout	5
Refuse receptacles provided	56

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

Thirty-one rooms were disinfected after infectious disease and cancer, and 30 sets of bedding were treated in the steam disinfecter.

PEST CONTROL

It is almost traditional for the Health Department to be called 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 wasp 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:	
	<u>Premises</u>	<u>Rooms</u>	<u>Premises</u>	<u>Rooms</u>
Bugs	2	5	5	9
Fleas	1	6	20	100
Flies, beetles, insects etc.	7	15	9	13

In addition 20 premises were treated for wasps' nests.

Nine sets of bedding believed to be infested or soiled after death were removed for treatment and 24 lots were destroyed at the request of owners.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT

One full-time Rodent Operator is employed to deal with complaints of rodent infestation and treatments are carried out in all classes 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 worthwhile as the rat population is being kept under control. The few agricultural buildings in the area are surveyed from time to time, mainly to ensure that treatments are being carried out. Occupants know about Warfarin and use it. They know the importance of keeping their premises clear of rats and do not hesitate to ask for the services of the rodent operator when considered necessary.

A perennial source of infestation is the controlled tip on Sandwich Road. This is kept under observation and any signs of infestation are quickly dealt with.

The nature of the material, i.e. household refuse tends to encourage rats and there is other wild life present, including many protected birds.

Warfarin is being used to deal with these pests, baits are laid in large quantities and baiting points are protected in such a manner as to exclude forms of wild life other than rats, so far as is possible.

Sewer treatments are continued at six monthly intervals. As a result of this regular treatment, the rat population in the sewer is extremely low. Complete eradication is not to be expected, some sections of sewer are beyond reach, but we are able to keep rats within a manageable number.

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