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BOROUGH OF



RYDE, I.W.

THE 83rd
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1961

including the separate Report of the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1961
(as constituted at 25th May 1961)

The Mayor—Councillor E. H. Castle

Alderman Ramage (<i>Chairman</i>)	Councillor Burridge
Councillor Lewer (<i>Vice-Chairman</i>)	Councillor Cleaver
Alderman Evans	Councillor Colledge
Alderman Matthews	Councillor Hill
Councillor Baxter	Councillor Reid
Councillor Bourn	Councillor Sutton

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS, 1961

JOHN D. RUSSELL, M.B., B.S. (Syd.), D.P.H. (Lond.) (Office—
County Hall, Newport. Tel. Newport 2261).

35% Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Ryde, Sandown-
Shanklin and Ventnor U.D.C.'s. (Combined population
39,000).

65% Senior Medical Officer, Isle of Wight County Council.
Deputy Medical Referee to Isle of Wight Crematorium.

Senior Public Health Inspector S. DUNMORE,
M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector L. N. JORDAN,
M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk MISS D. G. BOYCE

Rodent Operator W. A. GOBLE

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MUNICIPAL OFFICES

5 LIND STREET

RYDE, I.W.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

Ryde Borough Council

LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances for the year 1961, in accordance with the direction of the Minister of Health.

STATISTICS

General

1961 was a warm year with mean temperatures for eight months of the year being above average.

Vital

The Registrar General's population figure of 19,440 is lowest recorded this decade. However, the trend in the number of births is upwards, reaching a record number of 295 this year. Thus the gap between the comparative birth rate and the live birth rate for England and Wales has narrowed to one.

The number of deaths is fairly constant and the comparative death rate approximates to that for the country.

The number of deaths in infants under one year compared with previous years but was five more than last year.

Causes of Death

The yearly increase in the number of deaths from coronary heart disease and lung cancer, evident in the local and national figures, continued. There being 58 deaths from coronary heart disease compared with 46 last year and 12 deaths from lung cancer compared with seven last year.

The same as last year there were eleven accidental deaths.

The high number of deaths from coronary heart disease, lung cancer and accidents might well be described as the price we have to pay for civilisation—is it worth it?

There was only one death attributable to pulmonary tuberculosis. Deaths from this cause continue to be fewer, the figure for England and Wales was 107 less than the 1960 figure.

I am pleased to report no maternal death.

Prevalence and Control of Infectious and other Diseases

Again this year cases of non notifiable non specific disease were most prevalent. As far as ascertainable hundreds of cases occurred during the months of May, June and July. School children were specially affected, becoming suddenly stricken with a high temperature which lasted 2-4 days. This was variously accompanied by headache, sore throat, diarrhoea and vomiting. One child was admitted to the Children's Hospital, Great Ormond Street, London, with nausea and vomiting lasting eight days. No other signs or symptoms were evident but a diagnosis of virus encephalitis was made as a result of a lumbar puncture. Two other children in the same family and at the same time suffered from sore throat and stiffness of the neck, but both responded within 48 hours to penicillin therapy.

In August, notification of a West Indian family of six, three of whom were suffering from typhoid fever, was received from the Medical Officer of Health of Willesden. They had eaten out on only one occasion and that was at a cafe in Ryde.

A full investigation was carried out with negative results. In the meantime we were informed that the outbreak was more than certainly due to one member of the family being a carrier.

An outbreak of food poisoning at a large holiday camp affecting 34 persons was notified in September.

A full investigation was carried out involving the collecting of specimens from the patients, the medical examination of kitchen staff, including the collecting of specimens, samples of food sent to the laboratory but all were negative.

Mains water was sampled from 13 points in the camp and found to contain coli but no faecal coli. The investigation was taken up by the Isle of Wight Water Board, who found contamination back to the point of chlorination, and took steps to eliminate this.

Subsequent samples taken in the camp were pure.

Consideration of all aspects of the outbreak indicated that a toxin present in the food was responsible, and that the contamination of the mains supply was incidental.

An outbreak of food poisoning affecting all six members of one family renting furnished holiday accommodation was notified in August.

The casual organism was salmonella typhimurium but the food vehicle could not be discovered due to late notification.

Again in August notification of a number of cases of diarrhoea and vomiting occurring in a school party was received. Although there were no cases to be found on the day of notification, a full investigation was carried out, with, as it happened, negative results. No similar illness occurred in subsequent school parties.

Six cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, five less than last year, and there were three transfers from the mainland.

No cases of acute poliomyelitis were notified for the fourth successive year.

Removal of Persons in Need of Care and Attention

An ill old lady living alone in deplorable conditions of filth and infestation was removed to hospital by an order made under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

Health Education

The display of posters and the distribution of pamphlets were used to propagate health education during the year paying special regard to seasonal and topical subjects. The risks attending the use of thin polythene film were emphasised following the reported cases of suffocation of babies by film

used as pillow or mattress covers and of young children using bags as "space helmets".

Some dozen talks on various subjects were given to groups and organisations.

Conferences and Courses

I attended a one day meeting in London on "Food Sampling".

New Legislation

The Home Safety Act, 1961 enables certain local authorities to promote safety in the home and to make contributions to voluntary organisations concerned with safety in the home.

The Factories Act, 1961 consolidates the Factories Acts, 1937 to 1959, and certain other enactments relating to safety, health and welfare of employed persons.

The Public Health Act, 1961 amends the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to building byelaws, makes amendments of the law relating to Public Health and the functions of County Councils and other local authorities as are commonly made in local Acts, amends the law relating to trade effluents and amends Section two hundred and forty-nine of the said Act of 1936, which relates to canal boats.

Among the provisions of this Act are sections, which allow authorised officers to take immediate action where urgent attention is required to drains and sewers.

The 1936 Act empowered local authorities to require the provision of sanitary conveniences in inns, public houses and refreshment houses and the 1961 Act defines refreshment house as any building in which food or drink is sold to and consumed by the public. In holiday areas especially the provision of sanitary conveniences in cafes and restaurants should be regarded as part of the expected facilities. It is a pity that washing facilities are not included in this section.

Powers relating to the prevention and notification of disease are strengthened.

Byelaws relating to hairdressers and barbers can be adopted and shall be by this Council.

The Housing Act, 1961 makes further arrangements for the giving of financial assistance for the provision of housing accommodation and confers further powers on local authorities as regards houses let in lodgings or occupied by more than one family, and houses or other buildings affected by clearance orders and demolition orders. Other provisions alter the circumstances in which improvement and standard grants may be made.

Staff

There have been no changes during the year.

Acknowledgements

I have pleasure in acknowledging the support given to me by the Senior Public Health Inspector, Mr. Dunmore. My appreciation of the work done by the Additional Public Health Inspector, Mr. Jordan and the Clerks, Mr. Pierce and Miss Boyce, is gladly noted.

Finally, I thank the Public Health Committee and the Council for their interest and support.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN D. RUSSELL

Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS

(1) GENERAL

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	7,876
No. of inhabited dwellings according to rate books (as at 31/3/62)	...	...	...	...	7,271
Rateable value (as at 1/4/61)	...	...	...	...	£299,817
Sum represented by 1d. rate (1959/61)	...	...	...	...	£1,197
Rainfall	...	...	...	...	32.35 inches
Sunshine	...	...	...	...	1,890.3 hours

(2) VITAL

Population (Registrar's Figure)	...	...	...	19,440
BIRTHS	M.	F.		
No. of live legitimate births	150	124	...	274
No. of live illegitimate births	11	10	...	21
Live birth rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	...	...	15.2
Comparative factor (births)	...	...	...	1.08
Comparative Birth Rate	...	...	...	16.4
Live Birth Rate England and Wales	...	...	...	17.4
Total live and still births	...	...	...	297
	M.	F.		
No. of legitimate stillbirths	—	1	...	1
No. of illegitimate stillbirths	—	1	...	1
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	...	...	...	6.7
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...	...	7.1
DEATHS	M.	F.		
Total number of deaths	151	157	...	308
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	15.8
Comparative factor (deaths)	...	...	...	0.75
Comparative death rate	...	...	...	11.9
Death rate England and Wales	...	...	...	12.0
No. of deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year of age	M.	F.	...	7
No. of deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year of age	3	4	...	7
	1	—	...	1
Death rate all infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	27.1
Death rate legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	25.5
Death rate illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	47.6

Statistics—Continued

Infant Mortality Rate (England and Wales ...	21.6
Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1000 live births	23.7
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	23.7
Perinatal Mortality Rate	30.3
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 live and still births	Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH

CAUSE	MALE	FEMALE
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1 (2)	— (—)
Tuberculosis, other	— (—)	— (—)
Syphilitic disease	— (—)	— (—)
Diphtheria	— (—)	— (—)
Whooping Cough	— (—)	— (—)
Meningococcal infections	— (—)	— (—)
Acute Poliomyelitis	— (—)	— (—)
Measles	— (—)	— (—)
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1 (—)	— (—)
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3 (—)	3 (5)
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	9 (7)	3 (—)
Malignant neoplasm, breast	— (—)	8 (5)
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	— (—)	4 (3)
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16 (16)	15 (14)
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	— (2)	— (1)
Diabetes	2 (—)	— (2)
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	13 (21)	36 (29)
Coronary disease, angina	36 (32)	22 (14)
Hypertension with heart disease ...	5 (3)	3 (8)
Other heart disease	30 (16)	32 (41)
Other circulatory disease	5 (3)	7 (8)
Influenza	— (—)	— (—)
Pneumonia	5 (3)	2 (5)
Bronchitis	6 (7)	3 (6)
Other diseases of respiratory system	1 (5)	1 (1)
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1 (3)	— (1)
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1 (—)	— (—)
Nephritis and nephrosis	— (1)	1 (2)
Hyperplasia of prostate	— (2)	— (—)
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	— (—)	— (—)

Causes of Death—*Continued.*

Congenital malformations	...	...	2	(1)	1	(—)
Other defined and ill-defined diseases			5	(6)	10	(13)
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	3	(2)	—	(—)
All other accidents	...	...	4	(3)	4	(6)
Suicide	...	...	2	(1)	2	(—)
Homicide and operations of war	...	...	—	(—)	—	(—)
ALL CAUSES	...	...	151	(136)	157	(164)

N.B.—Figures for 1960 are entered in brackets.

Prevalence of Infectious and other Diseases.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	5	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection...	—	—	—
Meningitis (Unspecified)...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis (Infective)	1	1	—
Measles	95	—	—
Whooping Cough	8	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—
Pneumonia	2	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	36	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	6	2	—
Tuberculosis (Meninges & C.N.S.)	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (Other)	—	—	—
Totals	154	4	—

Age at Date of Notification

Age	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Malaria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Whooping Cough	Measles	Meningococcal Infection	Meningitis (Unspecified)	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Acute Encephalitis (Infective)	Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	Tuberculosis (Meninges & C.N.S.)	Tuberculosis (Other)	Paratyphoid fever
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	13	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	55	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	5	—	—	—	—	—	4	6	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	5	—	—	—	2	—	8	95	—	—	1	—	36	1	—	—	6	—	—	—

Food Poisoning Outbreaks

Total number of outbreaks	...	...	...	...	3
Number of cases	...	...	...	...	36
Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	Nil

**Infectious and Other Diseases Return from
Head Teachers of Schools**

Mumps	...	...	...	...	18
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	...	13
Influenza and Influenzal Colds					3
Measles	...	...	...	...	98
Whooping Cough			...	...	2
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	3
German Measles	...	...	...	...	1
					138

Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Acts, 1944

Number of samples taken during 1961	...	...	70
Number of samples found to be T.B. positive	...	...	Nil
Number of samples in which Brucella Abortus was isolated	...	...	10

Tuberculosis, 1961

AGE PERIODS		Totals	New Cases				Totals	Deaths			
			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
M	F	M	F	M	F						
0 and under	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	„	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	„	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	„	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	„	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	„	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	„	35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	„	45	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	„	55	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	„	65	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
65	„	75	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
75 and over		1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	...	*9	6	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	—

*This total includes 3 transfers from the Mainland. In addition, 3 patients on the Tuberculosis Register died from other causes.

Table showing the number of new cases and deaths from Tuberculosis during the period 1951-1961.

<i>New Cases</i>				<i>Deaths</i>		
	Pulm.	Non.-Pulm.	Total	Pulm.	Non.-Pulm.	Total
1951 ...	19	5	24	4	—	4
1952 ...	13	15	28	2	1	3
1953 ...	10	9	19	2	—	2
1954 ...	16	2	18	3	—	3
1955 ...	4	5	9	—	1	1
1956 ...	6	2	8	2	—	2
1957 ...	15	1	16	—	—	—
1958 ...	11	1	12	2	—	2
1959 ...	12	3	15	1	—	1
1960 ...	17	—	17	2	—	2
1961 ...	9	—	9	1	—	1

Child Welfare Clinics

<i>Name of Clinic</i>	<i>Place where held</i>	<i>How often held</i>
Ryde ...	Well Street	*Every Wednesday and Friday 2.30—4.30 p.m.
Binstead ...	The Institute	Every Tuesday, 2.30 p.m.
St. Helens ...	Lower Green Methodist Sunday School	Fourth Thursday, 2.30 p.m.
Seaview ...	Methodist Sunday School	First Monday, 2.30 p.m.

**Doctor in attendance*

Factories Act, 1937.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the
Year 1961, for the Borough of Ryde, in the County of the
Isle of Wight.

Part I of the Act

1.—**Inspections** for the purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	10	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	109	58	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is en- forced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total ...	119	60	3	—

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) ...	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	7	5	—	6	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	7	5	—	6	—

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,
Ryde Borough Council*

LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my twelfth Annual Report, which is again presented, by permission of the Medical Officer of Health, as a separate part of his Report.

I would first like to comment briefly upon the details of my Report, which is set out in four sections, and which I hope gives a picture of the inspections, visits, interviews, etc., Mr. Jordan and I have made during the year, and the considerable amount of clerical work done in connection with such work by Miss Boyce, in the office. The ever-increasing amount of paper work coming our way absorbs more and more of the time which used to be available for practical work, but, despite this problem, we trust that the service, both in the office and outside, has been a satisfactory one to the residents of the Borough.

In regard to Sanitary Circumstances (Section I) an important additional duty came under my control on 1st April last, when, as a result of the cessation of the I.W. (Rodents Destruction) Joint Committee, the duties of rodent control were transferred to this Borough's Health Department, and necessitated the appointment of a Rodent Operator. Mr. W. A. Goble was appointed to the staff to carry out these duties, and this appointment is proving very satisfactory, as Mr. Goble had previously been doing similar work in the Borough before the change took place.

In almost all my earlier Reports, you will have read of my concern regarding the lack of adequate sewerage arrangements in the Fishbourne—Kitehill—Wootton Bridge area, with an occasional ray of hope that the problem was to be resolved. However, it remains as yet unsolved, since no scheme has become a reality.

The necessary readjustments brought about by the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, have resulted in considerable consultations and negotiations, which

were still continuing at the end of the year, between the Island's site owners, the County Planning Department and the local authorities, regarding the issue of licences and the conditions which will be attached thereto. I do not visualize, when the negotiations are completed, that caravan site owners operating within the Borough will have serious difficulty in meeting the new standards, since their sites, in the main, are already well equipped and satisfactorily operated.

Section II—the Council's first post-war slum clearance programme having been virtually completed, I have submitted a further list, for a second programme, to the Council, comprising 42 properties which are considered as unfit and should be scheduled. The figure is an approximate one, and may be subject to modification either way by the Council. This programme will necessitate a stepping up in the numbers of houses to be built to house the families from the condemned properties. Towards the end of the year, it was discovered that an owner of a cottage which is subject to a Closing Order had re-let it for human occupation and steps were taken to prosecute him for so doing.

Section III—The overall picture as regards the food premises in the Borough has been a satisfactory one, and good standards of hygiene have been maintained. Three complaints concerning extraneous matters in food were lodged at the Department, and fully investigated and then reported upon to the Public Health Committee, who accepted the offenders' explanations, issuing, at the same time, warnings as to any further offences.

Section IV (Miscellaneous) is included to set out the several miscellaneous duties carried out by the Health Department which are not included in the Sanitary Officers' Regulations.

Where figures subsequently appear in brackets, they refer to the previous year.

In concluding these general remarks, I would again wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their confidence, the Medical Officer of Health and other Chief Officers and all members of the staff for help readily given, Mr. Jordan, who, although troubled by in-

different health, has always given of his best, Miss Boyce, who has had to cope with the Department's clerical work, and Mr. Goble, who effectively carries out both the practical and clerical duties of rodent destruction.

I have the honour to be, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

STANLEY DUNMORE

Senior Public Health Inspector

Section I—Sanitary Circumstances

Complaints

279 (327) general complaints were received and dealt with during the year. This year (as from 1st April) this figure does not include complaints concerning rodent infestations.

Water Supply

A very satisfactory and adequate supply of pure and wholesome water has been maintained throughout the year, the bulk of the demand being met by the Knighton Waterworks and Ashey Waterworks, supplemented by supplies to the eastern areas of the Borough from the Sandown supply, when necessary. During the year a new, larger main was laid to improve supplies in the Upton district and Havenstreet.

The majority of the routine samples collected from sources and main supplies for bacteriological examination have been taken by the Board's inspectors. 75 samples of untreated water at the sources were examined, the results of which were—56 satisfactory and 19 unsatisfactory or suspicious: 132 samples of treated water were examined, of which 117 were satisfactory and 15 unsatisfactory or suspicious—these latter occurred in one area only, and revealed a defect in chlorination, which was subsequently rectified.

The reports of chemical analyses of two sources are as follows:—

Source of Sample	Knighton Chalk Well	Sandown Pumping Station
Date taken	3.5.61	13.2.62
Appearance	Clear and bright	Faint opalescence
Odour and taste	Nil	Not abnormal
Reaction	pH 7.3	pH 7.6

	<i>Parts per million</i>	<i>Parts per million</i>
Total solid residue dried at 180°C	300	260
Suspended solids	Nil	Nil
Ammoniacal nitrogen	0.01	0.07
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.01	0.15
Nitrate Nitrogen	1.4	7.0
Nitrite Nitrogen	0.01	Nil
Chlorine present as chloride	30	40
Oxygen absorbed, 4 hrs. at 27°C	0.25	0.80
Hardness		
Carbonate (temporary)	190	72
Non-carbonate (permanent)	35	70
Total	225	142
Metals; Lead, zinc, copper, iron	Nil	Nil
Sandown Pumping Station		
Residual Chlorine	0.03	
Phenolic Substances	Absent (negative when tested to a limit of 1 part in 50 million)	
Chlorphenolic Substances	Absent by taste (the sample is superior in taste to a water containing 1 part chlorophenol in 50 million)	

The local supplies are not considered to be liable to plumbo-solvent action, and therefore no precautions have been taken.

No contamination of supplies has occurred during the year.

There are no houses in the Borough supplied from stand-pipes only.

It is not possible to give the number of existing premises connected to the main supply during the year, as the Board's statistics do not differentiate between connections to new properties and existing properties.

Drainage Matters

The bulk of the Borough's foul drainage, and much of its surface water, is discharged, untreated, through long outfalls, well beyond low-water mark, into the strong currents of the Solent flowing eastwards into the open sea. The purification plants serving Havenstreet and St. Helens districts have dealt satisfactorily with the sewage there. The proposals under consideration for sewerage the Fishbourne, Wootton Bridge and Kitehill districts has had to be revised, as sites for disposal works have not materialized, and now the possibility of linking up with the newly completed system at Wootton, in the Newport Borough, is being investigated. Progress has also been made towards the eventual installation of full treatment works for the Binstead district and the bulk of the town's sewage. Schemes which the Borough Surveyor has for removing large amounts of surface water from the foul sewers are now underway, particularly in the eastern areas of Ryde.

All alterations or new drainage works involving existing buildings are supervised by the Health Department. 38 such works have been supervised, and these included nine which necessitated action under Section 24, Public Health Act, 1936.

The Council's mechanical emptier dealt with septic tanks and cesspools in those areas in the Borough not served by a sewerage system.

Public Cleansing

This service is operated by the Borough Surveyor. All districts in the Borough receive at least a once-weekly collection, and a trade refuse collection service is also provided.

An estimated total of 11,830 tons of refuse was collected and dumped at the Council's tip at Nettlestone. Because of the problem of coping with the cartage space required to accommodate domestic and trade refuse, which is becoming ever more bulky in nature, the Council has had to add a large, compressor-type collection lorry to its fleet of collection vehicles. Towards the end of the year, the Public Health Committee decided to review the present collection system and scales of charges in respect of refuse removed from trade premises. The tip has received regular treatments by the

Rodent Operative for the destruction of rats, and, during the fly-breeding season, tip dressing insecticides have been regularly sprayed on exposed surfaces.

Although there has been a decrease in the demand and value of salvageable materials, collection efforts have been maintained, resulting in £845 for waste paper and £114 for woollens and mixed metals—both amounts being up on last year's figures.

Infectious Disease

Some cases of infectious diseases, which in the years now passed were followed up by applying terminal disinfection, which was dubiously effective and nowadays accepted as being unnecessary, have called for little action during the year. It is also now considered unnecessary to retain our old steam disinfectant plant, and this is to be dismantled. Arrangements have been made to use the steam disinfectant at Fairlee Isolation Hospital, should it be necessary to do so.

The Medical Officer's report contains details of two local outbreaks of food poisoning in the autumn, and a visit made to Ryde by a family who were typhoid contacts. Upon his direction, these occurrences were fully investigated and the necessary reports prepared and submitted.

Caravans and Camping

No new caravan or tentage camping sites have come into operation during the year, and the licensed sites have been satisfactorily maintained and operated during their seasonal period of use. We have only five licensed sites for tents, all of which are of quite small capacity, and two of these are likely to be further reduced in size in the near future. Short term holiday camping is almost entirely confined to the Nettlestone and St. Helens area. Camping holidays under canvas are still nationally popular and beneficial, especially for young people, and nowadays, with all the new lightweight and other essential equipment available, the vagaries of our climate have largely been counteracted, and I hope that camping facilities for this group of holiday enthusiasts will continue to be available within the Borough.

The problems which have arisen as a result of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, have resulted in consultations and negotiations between the Island's local authorities, the County Planning Department and the Caravan Site Owners' Association, which have continued throughout the year with the object of all the interested parties agreeing and accepting standard licence conditions, especially as regards duration of licences, density of vans on sites, and site conditions to be attached to licences. Before the Act referred to above came into operation, the density on local sites was about 15 vans per acre, and, as a result of negotiations, this figure is likely to be increased to 20 per acre. Eight site owners have made applications for licences, and the total number of caravans applied for is only 157. Assuming licences are granted, there will be five sites with between 10 and 50 vans, and three with less than 10. The large sites are all generally well equipped, and the owners concerned will not have any serious difficulty in fully complying with the new set of comprehensive site licence conditions. Site standards proposed for the three very small sites will be less exacting, and can readily be met.

Swimming Pools

There are no public swimming pools in the Borough—there are two privately-owned, open-air swimming pools at Warners' Puckpool and St. Clare Holiday Camps. Both pools have filtration and chlorination plants, which are efficiently supervised. Four samples were taken for bacteriological examination, and all were satisfactory.

Vermin

(a) 36 (45) premises were treated to destroy vermin, using liquid insecticides, followed up when necessary with residual smoke generators. Cockroach infestations have generally been dealt with by use of powders, applied by blower or hand sprinklers. No bed-bug infestations were discovered, the commonest insects to be dealt with being fleas and cockroaches.

(b) As mentioned in my preamble to this Report, the I.W. (Rodents Destruction) Joint Committee, which in past years had provided a rodent control service covering the whole Island, was disbanded on 31st March, and the service trans-

ferred to the local authorities. Mr. Goble, previously an operator with the I.W. Committee, who already had excellent knowledge of this Borough, joined my staff, and, at the same time, it was possible to purchase most of the equipment necessary, at a very economical cost, from the defunct Committee's stocks. I am satisfied that the rodent destruction service now being given in the Borough is equal to any previously given, and will, I can confidently forecast, at the same time cost considerably less to operate.

Details of investigations, treatments, etc., carried out by the Rodent Operative are as follows:—

Number of properties visited:—

Council properties	...	...	...	...	33
Dwellinghouses (including Council Houses)					516
Agricultural premises	...	...	...		41
All other premises (including Business Premises)	...	...	...	...	241
Major infestations (rats) discovered and treated					1
Minor infestations (rats) discovered and treated					326
Minor infestations (mice) discovered and treated					185

(c) 44 wasps' nests and one bees' nest were destroyed during the summer and autumn.

Shops Act, 1950

There were 441 (447) shops on the register at the end of the year, the majority of which are small premises, family-owned and operated. 145 (187) inspections were made, either of a routine nature or to investigate contraventions of the Act, give advice, and approve alterations.

Factories Acts, 1937-59 and 1961

Factories registered numbered 119 (114). As would be expected in this mechanical age, 109 (103) of these have power installed, and only 10 (13) have no powered machinery. Efforts by the Borough Council, in co-operation with the County Council, to encourage light industries to set up factories in the Borough have now met with considerable success, and a small factory estate has materialized adjoining the Binstead housing estate, and the prospect of others to follow

is encouraging. The new Factories Act has transferred the duties respecting means of escape in case of fire from the Health Department to H.M. Inspector of Factories. 60 inspections were carried out at which 7 contraventions were found.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no registered common lodging houses within the Borough.

Summary of Inspections and Visits

Complaints	103
Public Health Act	111
Re-visits to Premises under Notice—Public Health Act	77
Interviews with Owners, Agents, Builders, etc. ...	587
Work in Progress	190
Insanitary Houses and Rooms	40
Verminous Premises or Rooms	54
National Assistance Act	23
Infectious Diseases	41
Drainage Inspections and Tests	348
Septic Tanks, Cesspools, etc.	22
Camping Sites, Caravans, Tents and Houseboats	47
Stables, Piggeries, Poultry, etc.	15
Factories, with Power	58
Factories, without Power	2
Places of Entertainment, etc.	3
Shops Act	145
Schools	3
Foreshores, Streams, etc.	15
Vacant Land and Dumps	23
Common Yards and Passages	5
Swimming Pools	9
Offensive Trades	1
Smoke Nuisances	19
Rodent Infestations	11
Dangerous Structures	21
Noise Abatement Act	4
Miscellaneous Visits	161

Nuisances Abated and Defects Remedied

Drains and Sec. 24, Public Health Act, 1936,	
Sewers Cleared of Obstructions	52
Drains and Sec. 24, Public Health Act, 1936,	
Sewers Repaired, Reconstructed or Altered ...	37
Inspection Chambers Provided or Repaired ...	26
Cesspools Cleansed or Repaired	1
Offensive, etc., Accumulations Removed ...	1
Dirty Premises Cleansed	5
Contraventions Remedied in Factories, etc. ...	5
Contraventions Remedied in Shops	1
Contraventions Remedied in Camping Sites,	
Caravans, Tents and Houseboats	2
Dangerous Structures Made Safe or Demolished	6

Section II—Housing

The Council's housing estates, which are controlled by the Housing Manager, comprise 598 houses (194 two-bedroomed, 390 three-bedroomed and 14 four-bedroomed), 32 flatlets and bed-sitting rooms, and 28 flats and one-bedroomed bungalows.

At the end of the year there was a waiting list of 116 (100) applicants for family units, and these are entirely dependent upon being housed when vacancies occur, since, for the second year in succession, no new Council houses have been built. It is felt that many applicants for family units only apply as a last resort, because, although they would prefer to purchase their own homes, or rent accommodation other than a Council house, they are unable to either meet the present high house purchase rates or pay the high rents now demanded for such privately-owned rented properties as are still available. Local private housing accommodation is being further limited by a new holiday business—small houses, and properties in flats or suitable for conversion as such, are being bought up and let furnished, at high rents, only as holiday accommodation.

The problem of housing old people seeking accommodation remains acute, and, at the end of the year, there were 29 couples requiring two-roomed units and 43 persons wanting single rooms. Again in 1961 it has not been possible to provide any additional dwellings for this group of applicants,

although there is hope of a considerable improvement in the future, if a large new scheme which the Council is now preparing materializes.

Because no houses were built to re-house occupants who would be displaced as the result of slum clearance, action during the year has been almost entirely limited to dealing with those houses on the list which were unoccupied. 11 housing units (9 vacant) comprising 10 houses and 1 basement flat, were represented to the Council as being unfit for human habitation, and, by the end of the year, undertakings not to re-let for human habitation had been accepted concerning seven houses, and a Closing Order made on the basement flat. As a result of action instituted during 1960, two houses have now been demolished, and an Undertaking accepted to carry out works at a basement flat.

The building industry has had a very busy year, shown by the fact that the Council approved a total of 285 plans. 71 private houses were built, ten houses were converted into twenty-six units, and two buildings not previously used as dwellings were converted into two houses. These figures are a substantial increase over 1960.

During the year the Council's S.D.A.A. facilities continued popular with local would-be owner-occupiers, and 86 Advances (53) were made. In addition 12 Repair Loans were advanced.

Now that the assistance available by means of the Government's Discretionary Grants Scheme has become more widely known by house owners and the building trade, there has been satisfactory progress in this field, and 36 (26) such grants were approved. Likewise the Standard Grant scheme has shown a steady improvement—23 (15) having been approved.

Work carried out as a result of the Rent Act, 1957, had shown a marked decline by last year, and the amount has remained about the same during 1961. As heretofore, Mr. Jordan has dealt with Rent Act matters, which are summarised as follows:—

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair

Number of applications for certificates	6
Number of decisions not to issue certificates	—
Number of decisions to issue certificates	7
Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	3
Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedules	—
Number of certificates issued	4

Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	5
Objection by tenants to cancellation of certificates	4
Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objection	—
Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	1

Application for Certificates as to Remedying Defects

Number of applications for certificates	
(a) from tenants	—
(b) from landlords	—
Number of certificates issued	—

Complaints relative to housing defects, and the investigations and notices which are made as a result, vary surprisingly little from year to year. The co-operative relationship with property owners and local agents has again stood us in good stead, and generally resulted in getting complaints expeditiously remedied. During the year, only 6 (5) applications were made to the Public Health Committee for the service of Formal Notices, of which two involve one owner against whom Court proceedings have had to be taken, and who, despite receiving a Court Order to abate the nuisances complained of, has still not done so.

Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the Year

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	330
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	559

Details of Inspections, Visits, etc.

Complaints	82
Public Health Act	92
Re-visits to Premises under Notice—Public Health Act	170
Housing Acts	238
Re-visits to Premises under Notice—Housing Acts	59
Rent Act	26
Interviews with Owners, Agents, Builders, etc. ...	553
Water Samples	21
Overcrowding	10
Miscellaneous	109

Nuisances Abated and Defects Remedied

Chimneys and Stacks Repaired	13
Ceilings Repaired, Renewed or Provided ...	8
Dampness Abated	74
Doors Repaired or Renewed	14
Eaves Gutters Repaired, Renewed or Provided	13
Fireplaces Repaired, Renewed or Provided ...	1
Floors Repaired or Renewed	4
Food Stores Provided	18
Roofs Repaired or Renewed	36
Rainwater Pipes Repaired or Renewed	5
Sashcords Provided or Renewed	5
Walls (External) Re-pointed or Repaired ...	3
Walls (Internal) Repaired	25
Windows Repaired or Renewed	23
Water Supplies Provided or Repaired	3
Waste Pipes Cleared, Repaired or Renewed ...	2
New Bathrooms Provided	29
New W.C.'s Provided	19
W.C. Compartments Repaired	4
W.C. Pedestals Provided	20
W.C. Cisterns Provided or Repaired	21

Section III—Inspection and Supervision of Food

There have only been minor changes in the number of food premises operating in the Borough, the figure now being 350 (358), nor have there been any great changes in these premises. A number have carried out structural improve-

ments and alterations, mainly to meet the necessity to provide increased and attractive display space, additional storage equipment for frozen foods, improved artificial lighting, etc. The standards demanded by the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, have generally been well observed, and it was only necessary to take action to get contraventions of the Regulations remedied at a small number of premises.

Meat Inspection

There are no slaughterhouses within the Borough: the bulk of fresh meat supplies comes from slaughterhouses at Newport and nearby counties. The excellent quality of both home killed and imported meat has been maintained throughout the year, and the amount which had to be destroyed as unfit was the lowest yet recorded. Likewise the amount of unsound fish destroyed was very low, due largely to greatly improved hygiene and storage methods now provided on the trawlers, at the fish ports and on the railways.

The following quantities of meat were condemned as unfit:—

Meat (Home Killed)	...	45lb.
Meat (Imported)	...	17lb.
Fish	... ..	16 stone (approx.)

Condemned Foods

The quantity of tinned and packaged foods condemned during the year is set out below. All such food was disposed of at the Council's tip, where it was dumped with the first refuse of the day at the bottom of the tip.

Bacon	... ..	315lb.
Cooked Meats	...	165lb.
Mixed Sweets	... ..	74lb.
Macaroni	... ..	56lb.
Meat, Milk, Fruit, Vegetables, Fish, etc.	...	1,576 (1,555) tins, jars and bottles

A consignments of damaged foodstuffs from a defective refrigerator.

Food Analysis

During the year ended 31st March, 1962, the Food and Drugs Authority (I.W. County Council) officials took samples of the undermentioned foods, etc., and submitted them for analysis. Their report is as follows:

<i>Article Sampled</i>	<i>No. of samples obtained</i>	<i>Samples adulterated or otherwise irregular</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Milk (a)	198	22	14 failed Meth. Blue test 8 failed Phosphatase test
Milk (b)	51	5	3 deficient in solids-non- fat 2 contained small amounts of added water
Ice Cream	4	—	
Sugar			
Confectionery	2	—	
	<hr/> 255	<hr/> 27	

Milk (a) taken for heat treatment and/or keeping quality tests.

Milk (b) taken for compositional quality test.

Milk Supplies

The number of distributors of milk registered is 32, and 10 premises are registered as dairies. All milk locally supplied is bottled designated milk. A high proportion of pasteurised milk is "flash" treated at a large factory in the Newport Borough, the remainder being pasteurised by a local dairyman who operates a small "holder" plant.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 16

Premises registered under the above Act and Section, and which comply with the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, are:—

Registered for the Manufacture of Sausages and/or	
Preserved Foods	30
Registered for the Manufacture, Storage/Sale of	
Ice-Cream	137
	<hr/>
	167
	<hr/>

Ice-Cream

134 premises are registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream, the majority of which find it most convenient to sell this popular food in wrapped form. It is accepted that the manufacture and supply of ice-cream is largely in the hands of three large, nationally-operating Companies, whose modern, hygienic factories ensure that their products are safe, pure and of first-class quality. However, there is an increasing demand for soft ice-cream which is sold directly from machines and is, of course, unwrapped. The highest standards of hygiene are called for at premises operating this new sales line.

There are three small, well-equipped factories which manufacture ice-cream in Ryde, and these are operated in accordance with Regulations appertaining to them.

Bakehouses

There are 16 (16) bakehouses in operation, none of which is underground. Three bakeries operated by two Companies produce a large proportion of the bread and confectionery consumed locally. The remainder are mainly well-established small businesses. 22 routine inspections of these premises have been made.

Licensed Premises

The 61 licensed premises situated in the Borough have received visits during the year. These premises are all now satisfactorily equipped in accordance with the standards required by the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, and work has been put in hand at several of the older houses to modernize and increase toilet accommodation.

Details of Inspections, Visits, etc.

Complaints	23
Interviews with Owners, Agents, Builders, etc. ...	156
Re-visits to Premises under Notice—Food and Drugs Act	22
Butchers' Shops	16
Fishmongers and Poulterers	7
Greengrocers	9
Grocers and Other Food Shops	41
Bakehouses	22
Fried Fish Shops	9
Dairies	25
Dairy Farms	11
Ice-Cream Premises	29
Restaurants and Kitchens	46
Food Stalls	7
Food Factories	23
Licensed Premises	14
Hotels	16
Food Enforcement	72
Infestations	3
Miscellaneous	11

Number of Food Premises in which Contraventions Remedied:

Greengrocers	1
Grocers and Other Food Shops	2
Bakehouses	1
Ice-Cream Premises	1
Restaurants and Kitchens	3
Licensed Premises	8

Summary of Notices Served (Sections I, II and III)

Public Health Act (Informal)	84
Public Health Act (Formal)	6
Housing Act (Formal)	13
Factories Act (Mechanical Power)	7
Shops Act	2
Food and Drugs Act	17

Section IV—Miscellaneous

Duties carried out in addition to those contained in the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935-51, are as follows:—

Petroleum (Consolidated) Act, 1928

During 1961-62, commencing 1st May, 1961, 35 premises were licensed for the storage of petroleum spirit. (Total gallonage: 43,200). In addition, 12 Petroleum Mixtures licences were issued. 67 visits were made to the petroleum establishments for the purpose of ascertaining that the Act and Regulations were being complied with and to supervise any repairs or improvements carried out.

Shops Act—Closing Hours

The Department is responsible for the compliance with "hours of closing" by shops within the Borough, as required by the Shops Act and several operative Closing Orders made by the Council.

Now that so many shops sell a wide range of goods, which usually means that they are subject to different closing hours, effective enforcements as regard both Sunday and evening closing is well-nigh impossible. Without doubt, the present legislation is way out of date, complex as to border on the ridiculous, and in need of drastic simplified revision.

Hackney Carriages and Drivers

The local byelaws governing hackney carriages licensed to ply for hire on the Council's stands are administered by the Health Department, and this necessitated 76 inspections of the 35 licensed vehicles.

During the year, many owners of vehicles have moved with the times and replaced their old-style vehicles with new and attractive models.

39 drivers for these vehicles are also licensed by the Council and subject to similar surveillance.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

During the year, one further pet shop has been licensed, bringing the total number licensed to four, and these have been operated in accordance with their conditions of licence. The Council required the proprietors to supply pamphlets with animals sold, advising on their care.

Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952

Mr. Jordan, as the Council's officer responsible for the requirements of this Act, kept shops selling gas, oil and electric fires under occasional observation, in particular those dealing with second-hand appliances. It was necessary to warn one such dealer not to sell unguarded fires.

Lectures, etc.

Continuing a practice of recent years, Mr. Jordan has again, at the invitation of the I.W. Hospital Board, given a series of lectures and demonstrations on public health subjects to three Preliminary Training Courses of student nurses, and these have been well received and much appreciated.



