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BOROUGH OF RYE







ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1953

By

M. I. SILVERTON, T.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.



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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors, of the Rye Borough Council.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1953.

The health of the Borough continues to compare favourably with the rest of England and Wales, the Corrected Death Rate being 11.1 for the Borough as against 11.4 for the whole of England and Wales.

The Immunisation campaign against Diptheria has proved so successful that no cases have been reported in this Borough for the past nine years.

New housing has been pushed ahead and the speedy rehousing of young families living in conditions militating against their welfare has been much appreciated.

I am grateful to the Chief Sanitary Inspector and the Additional Sanitary Inspector for their willing co-operation at all times.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector has supplied the statistical information relevant to the Sanitary circumstances of the Borough given in this report. It will be noted that his other official duties include those of Borough Surveyor and Water Superintendent, and that he has included reports on these matters.

I am obliged to the Town Clerk and the Treasurer for their courtesy and help.

I wish to thank you for your encouragement and support during the past

I have the honour to be, Mr.Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

M.I.SILVERTON

Medical Officer of Health.

The Watch Oak, BATTLE, Sussex.

BOROUGH OF RYE

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

M. I. SILVERTON, T.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor, Town Planning Officer and Water Superintendent:

H.C.GOWER, M. Inst.R.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

R.C.GREEN, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.

The staff of the Battle Rural District Council Public Health Department carry out all the clerical work of the Medical Officer of Health.

* Diphtheria Immunisation and Vaccination Clerk:

MISS M. H. HEARNSHAW

STATISTICS RELATING TO THE BOROUGH OF RYE

	1951	1952	1953
Area of Borough in acres.	1,021	1,021	1,021
Population by census (Provisional)	4,511		
Population (Registrar General's estimate for mid-year)	4,442	4,517	4,570
Rateable value	£44,926	\$45,227	£46,284
Number of inhabited houses	1,515	1,542	1,575
Number of rateable premises	1,834	1,863	1,910
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£171	£174	£179

^{* (}County Staff employed locally)

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SECTION I

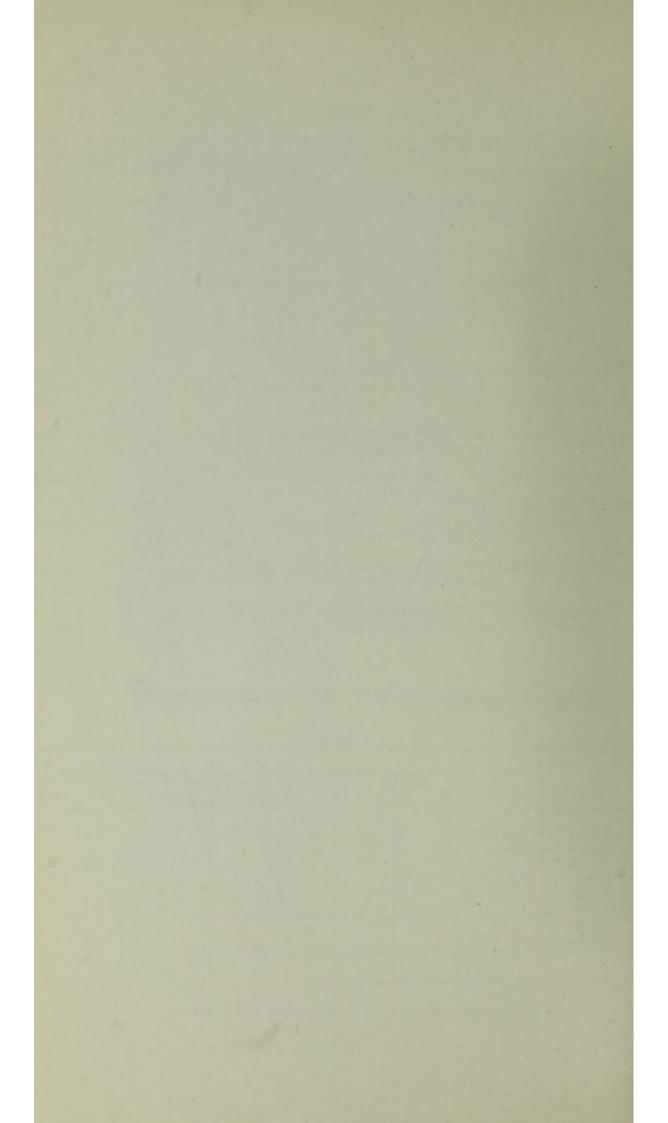
Male	Female	Total	
35 2 37	37 1 38	72 <u>3</u> <u>75</u>	
1 0 1	1 0 1	2 0 2	
			16.4
			17.7
			15.5
			0.43
			0.35
1)			25.97
1)			22.4
	35 2 37 1 0 1	$\frac{35}{\frac{2}{37}} = \frac{37}{\frac{1}{38}}$ 1 1 0 0 1	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

DEATHS AND DEATH RATES.

Dea ths

Year	Male	Female	Total
1948	23	33	56
1949	33	33	66
1950	21	33 38	59
1951	20	31	51
1952	29	33	62
1953	37	29	66

Death Rate per 1,000 of home population (Borough of Rye)	14.44
Corrected Death Rate for Borough of Rye	11.11
Death Rate per 1,000 of home population (England & Wales)	11.4



It is well known that this Borough is particularly favoured by those persons retiring from active life and is thus heavily weighted for age as compared with England and Wales as a whole, and so we get an apparently increased death rat The Registrar General is aware of this and has given us a method of overcoming this bias by introducing a "comparability factor" of 0.77 for this Borough, thus giving a Corrected Death Rate of 11.1 which compares with 11.4 for England and Wales.

Infant Deaths and Death Rates.

Deaths of infants under 1 year (Borough of Rye)	Two
Infant Death Rate per 1,000 live births	26.6
Infant Death Rate per 1,000 related live births (England and Wales)	26.8
Death Rate for diarrhoea (infants under 2 years) per 1,000 live births (Borough of Rye)	Nil
Death Rate for diarrhoea (infants under 2 years) per 1,000 live births (England and Wales)	1.1

Maternal Deaths.

Borough of Rye	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births, Borough of Rye	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births, England & Wales	0.76

Death Rates per 1,000 home population for certain specific causes.

	England and Wales		Borough of Ry		
	1952	1953	1952	1953	
Typhoid and paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	Nil	Nil	
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.00	Nil	Nil	
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	Nil	Nil	
Tuberculosis	0.24	0.20	Nil	0.65	
Influenza	0.04	0.16	Nil	0.43	
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	Nil	Nil	
Pneumonia	0.47	0.55	Nil	0.43	
Acute poliomyelitis and					
policencephalitis	0.01	0.01	0.44	Nil	

Detailed Causes of Death

Causes of Death	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	3	0	3
Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	5	12
Vascular lesions of nervous system	1	4	5
Coronary disease, angina	2	2	4
Hypertension with heart diseases	1	3	4
Other heart diseases	7	9	16
Other circulatory diseases	0	2	2
Influenza	1	1	2
Bronchitis	2	0	2
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	0	1
Congenital malformations	2	0	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	1	4
Motor vehicle accidents	1	0	1
Accidents, other than motor	2	0	2
Suicide	1	0	1
Totals	37	29	66

The chief causes of death in order of frequency were:-

(i)	Diseases of the heart and	1952	1953
(1)	circulatory system	34 (54.8%)	24 (36.3%)
(ii)	Malignant neoplasms (cancer)	8 (12.9%)	12 (18.1%)
(iii)	Vascular lesions of the nervous system	5 (11.2%)	5 (7.5%)

DEATHS - 65 YEARS OF ACE AND OVER

	Total Deaths 1952	No. of Deaths 65 yrs & over	Percentage of total deaths	Total Deaths 1953	No.of Deaths 65 yrs & over	Percentag of total deaths
Rye Borough	62	47	75.8	66	47	71.2
England & Wales	40,368	26,785	66.3	38,636	25,821	66.8

TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary Cases			Non	-	lmonary ses			l cases forms)
	M	F	Total	M	P	Total	M	F	Total
. No.on register at 1st January, 1953	9	13	22	3	4	7	12	7	29
. Cases previously removed and re-notified in 1953	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Primary notifications received in 1953	4	-	4	-		-	4	-	4
Cases moved in to area as transfers	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Totals	14	13	27	3	4	7	17	17	34
Cases removed from Register in 1953	4	3	7	1	2	3	5	5	10
Number on Register at 1st December, 1953	10	10	20	2	2	4	12	12	24

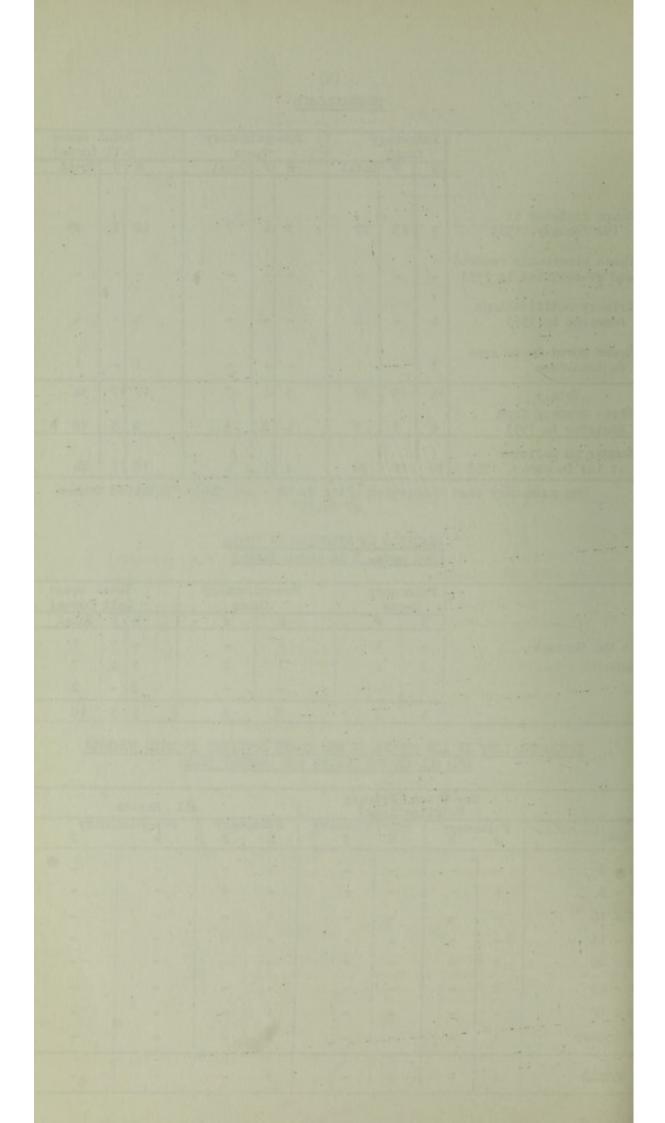
One pulmonary case discovered after death - see Table "Detailed Causes of Death"

* ANALYSIS OF REMOVALS IN 1953 (See para. 5 in above Table)

	Pulmo			lmonary ses	Total cases (all forms)		
	М	F	M	F	M	F	Total
Left the Borough	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Cured	2	2	1	2	3	4	7
Died	2	-	-	-	2	-	2
	14	3	1	2	5	5	10

TABULATED LIST IN AGE GROUPS OF NEW CASES NOTIFIED IN THIS BOROUGH AND ALL DEATHS DURING THE CURRENT YEAR

	1	New Cas Notif	es (Pri ication	mary s)	All Deaths					
Age		onary F	Non-p M	ulmonary F	Pulmo	onary F	Non-pulm M	onary F		
0 - 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		
3 - 5	-	-	- 1	-	-	-	-	-		
6 - 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
11 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
16 - 25	1		-	-	-	-	-	-		
26 - 45	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
46 - 60	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	- '		
61 & over	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-		
TOTALS	4	-	-	-	3	-	-	-		



INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Comparative Statistics for the years 1948 - 1953

1st January - 31st December, respectively

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Scarlet Fever	4	4	13	10	22	1 :
Measles	132	30	0	116	8	156
Pneumonia	0	13	3	12	12	10
Erysipelas	1	1 4	2	3	1	1
Whooping cough	76	0	58	54	1	2
Poliomyelitis	0	0	2	2	16	1
Meningococcal infection	0	0	0	0	1	

Poliomyelitis.

Although 1953 showed a moderate incidence in policmyelitis in England and Wales, this Borough was fortunately free from this disease.

Diphtheria.

It is gratifying to note that for the past nine years this Borough habeen free from this disease.

The average deaths for England and Wales for the period 1931/1940 was 2,800 per year. The deaths for the current year (England and Wales) were 23.

There is no doubt that immunisation is responsible for this dramatic reduction in mortality.

Relevant statistics are on page 9.

Measles. There was a sharply increased incidence in 1953 in contrast to the previous year. 150 cases or 96% of the total number occurred in the first quarter of the year.

There were no deaths from measles.

Scarlet Fever.

There was a marked decrease during 1953. The disease was mild in character end there were no admissions to hospital.

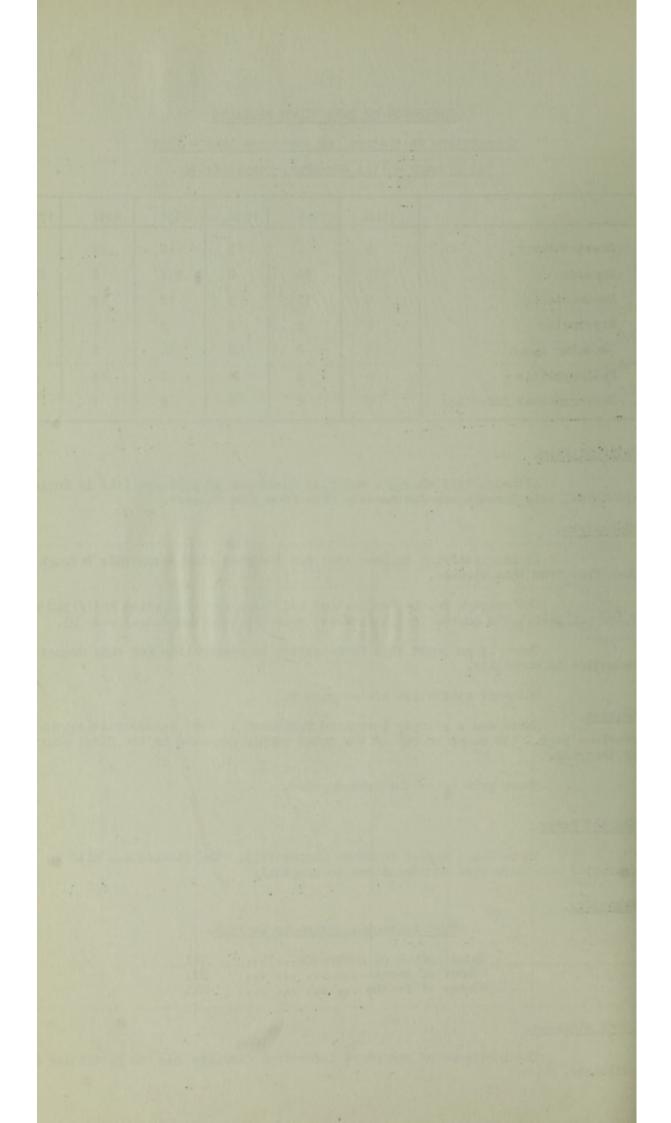
Dysentery.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks in 1953.

Total	numb	er	of	ou	th	re	a	ks	3.			Nil
Number	of	cas	ses									Nil
Number	of	Des	ths									Nil

Other diseases.

The incidence of the other infectious diseases has no particular significance.

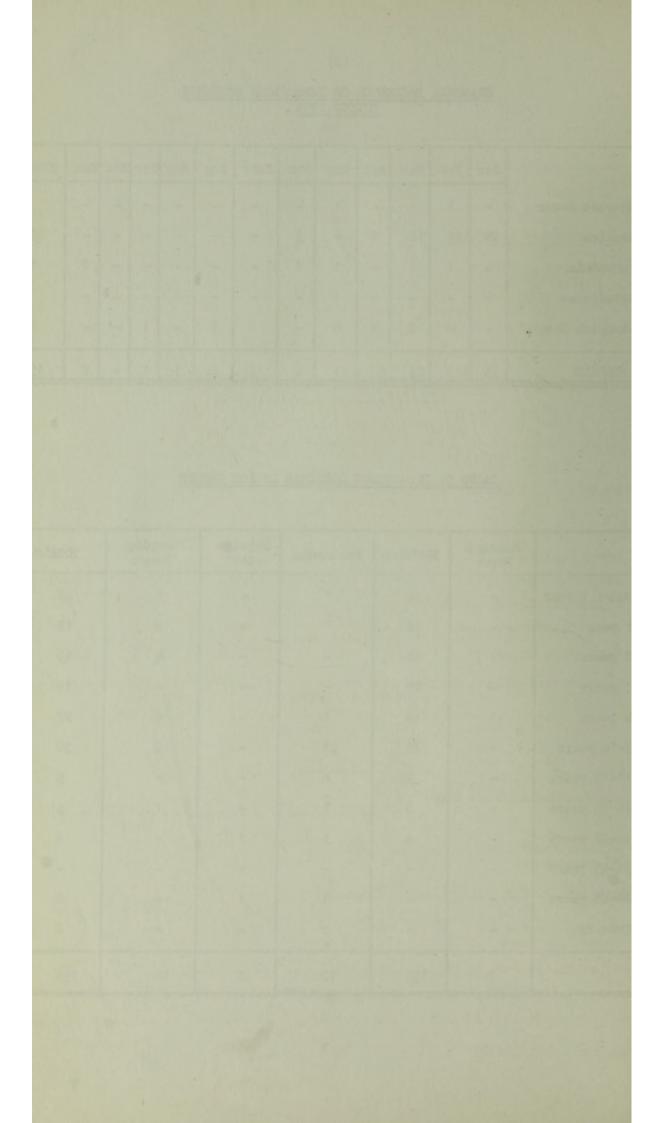


SEASONAL INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING 1953

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apl	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTALS
Scarlet Fever	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Measles	29	111	10	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	156
Pneumonia	4	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	10
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Whooping Cough	-	-	2	8	8	-	2	5	-	1	-	-	26
TOTALS	33	113	13	11	11	4	2	5	1	1	-	2	196

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN ACE GROUPS

	Scarle t Fever	Measles	Pneumonia	Erysip- elas	Whooping Cough	TOTALS
Under 1 year	-	4	1	-	1	6
1 year	-	10	1	-	2	13
2 years	1	14	-	-	4	19
3 years	-	19	-		-	19
4 years	1	18	2	-	6	27
5-10 years	-	79	1	-	12	92
11-15 years	-	5	-	-	-	5
16-25 years	-	3	1	-	1	5
26-35 years	-	4	1	1	-	6
36-45 years	-	-	-	-	-	-
46-65 years	-	-	1	1	-	2
Over 65	-	-	2	-	-	2
	2	156	10	2	26	196



DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

During 1953 the following children received injections:-

Primary Immur	nisation	Under 1	1_	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total
Treated at	Clinics	3	12	2	1	3	12	2	35
By Private	Doctors	25	22	2	-	-	-	-	49
Re-inforcing	injection								
Treated at	Clinics	-	-	_	_	4	61	12	77
By Private	Doctors	-	-	-	-	5	23	-	28
	Tot		er 5 4 (inc)		70 14 105				

The number of children under 15 years of age, resident in the Borough, who had been immunised by 31st December, 1953:-

Under 5 years 257 5-14 (inc)... ... 642 899

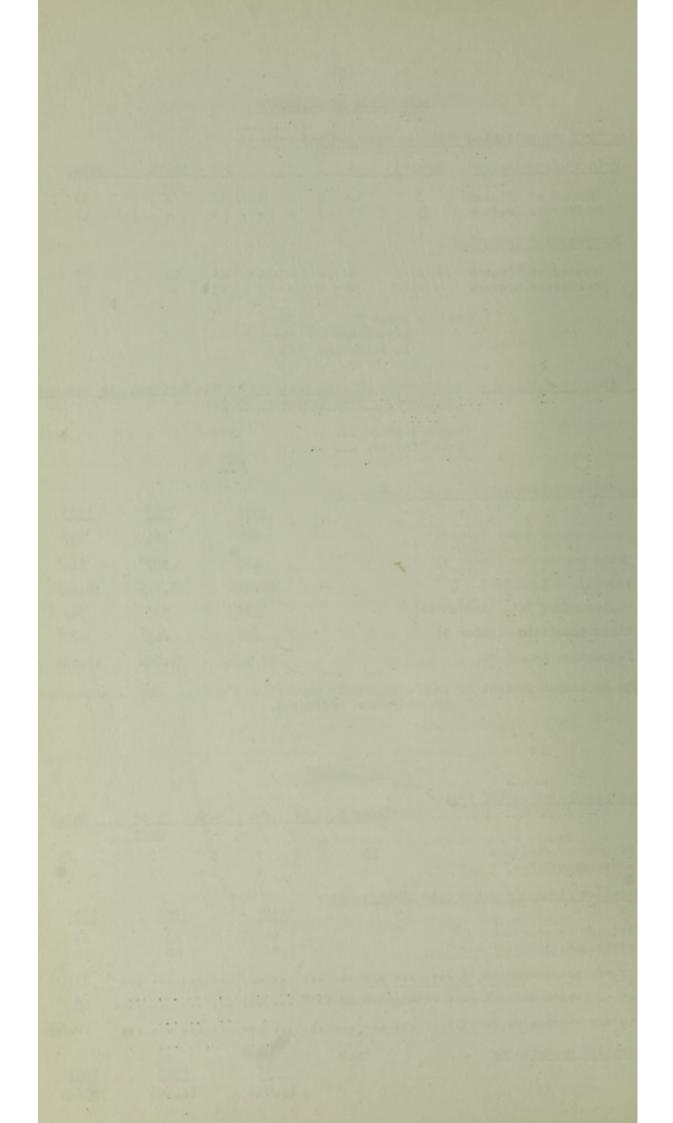
Comparative figures for the past three years:-

parasive righted for the part three yours.	1951	1952	1953
No.immunised under 5 years	285	264	257
Child population (under 5)	420	382 ^x	369 ^x
Percentage immunised	67.85%	69.11%	69.64%
No.immunised 5-14 (inclusive)	595	597	642
Child population (under 5)	610	649 ^x	672 ^x
Percentage immunised	97.54%	91.98%	95.53%

x The Registrar General is unable to supply population figures. The figures given are therefore estimated.

VACCINATION

		-				
Number vaccinated during 1953:-						
	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or	Total
					over	
Primary vaccination	53	2	1	5	2	63
Re-vaccination	-	1	1	3	. 15	20
Comparative figures for the pas	t three years:	-				
			1951		1952	1953
Primary vaccination			91		53	63
Re-vaccination			96		18	20
Number of babies born in 1953						75
Number of babies under 1 year ve	accinated in 1	953 .				53
Percentage vaccinated in 1953						70.66%
Comparative percentages.						
		. :	1951		1952	1953
		4.	5.09%	(6.66%	70.66%



GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH

(A) PROVIDED BY THE EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

*(i) Ambulance Service

	1950	1951	1952	1953
Cases	533	546	627	805
Mileage	16,142	13,626	14,208	16,959

The St.John Ambulance Brigade continued to provide a first class service in this Borough.

- (ii) Care of Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Children under School Age.
- (iii) Contraceptive Advice.

Subject to the limitation that advice is only given where pregnancy or childbirth is liable to be injurious to the health of the mother, arrangements are made for contraceptive advice to be given to married women at a clinic conducted by Hastings Corporation.

- (iv) District Nurses (Midwives) and Health Visitors.
- (v) Home Help Service.
- (vi) Hospital Car Service.

The Hospital Car Service in this county is provided entirely by the joint organisation of the British Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade. The Area Transport Office for the Borough of Rye is at 8, Endwell Road, Bexhill-on-Sea (Telephone: Bexhill 152).

(vii) Infant Welfare Centre.

The Infant Welfare Centre is held on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays in overy month at the Youth Club Centre, Lion Street, Rye.

*(viii) Immunisation and Vaccination Service.

Please refer to page 9 for statistics.

- (ix) Mental Health Service.
- (x) Registration of Nursing Homes.

There are no registered Nursing Homes in the Borough of Rye.

- (xi) School Dental Service.
- (xii) School Medical Service (*Routine medical examinations including the assessment of handicapped pupils).
 - * Delegated duties to the District Medical Officer of Health.

(B) HOSPITALS

The following are the main hospitals providing accommodation and treatment for residents in the Borough of Rye:-

Darvell Hall Sanatorium, Robertsbridge,

Battle Hospital, Battle,

Memorial Hospital, Rye Foreign,

Royal East Sussex Hospital, Hastings (including V.D.Clinic),

Mount Pleasant Isolation Hospital, Hastings,

St. Helen's Hospital, Hastings,

Fernbank Maternity Home, Hastings,

Buchanan Hospital, St. Leonards on Sca,

Eversfield Chest Hospital, St. Leonards on Sea,

Hellingly Hospital, Hellingly,

Pembury Hospital, Pembury,

Fairlight Sanatorium, Fairlight,

Hill House, Rye Foreign.

They are all administered by the South-Eastern Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board through their respective Hospital Management Committees.

(C) PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE.

Facilities are available at the Public Health Laboratory, Brighton, and I am grateful to the Director (Dector J.E.Jameson) for his help and co-operation.

(D) NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

(a) Section 47. Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of

Fortunately it was not found necessary to invoke these provisions during the year under review.

(b) Section 50. Burial or Cremation of the Dead.

No action was necessary under this Section.

(E) HOME PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICE.

During the period 1st April, 1953 to 31st March, 1954, 2,120 visits to 147 patients were made in the Borough of Rye and Battle Rural District, compared with 2,552 in the corresponding period of the previous year.

This service is much appreciated by all concerned.

(F) NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

Liaison has been maintained.

CLEAN FOOD

The Sanitary Inspectors exercise perpetual vigilance throughout the Borough and every opportunity is taken to advise and educate the food handlers. This is achieved by personal inspections, interviews and the dissemination of relevant pamphlets, and in this connection the new booklet "Clean Catering" published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office is especially valuable.

Protection of foodstuffs from flies and droplet infection sprayed by customers and staff onto exposed foods while awaiting disposal are continually being advocated.

The impervious plastic type working surfaces are a great help in hygienic food preparation and storage, their widespread use is strongly advised, ease of cleaning and lasting qualities are an eventual economy apart from the pleasing appearance.

Personal hygiene is stressed at all times; washing the hands after the use of the lavatory must be the cornerstone of all instructions to food handlers; owners of catering establishments are asked to co-operate by making this essential amenity easily available.

MILK PRODUCTION AND PRODUCERS

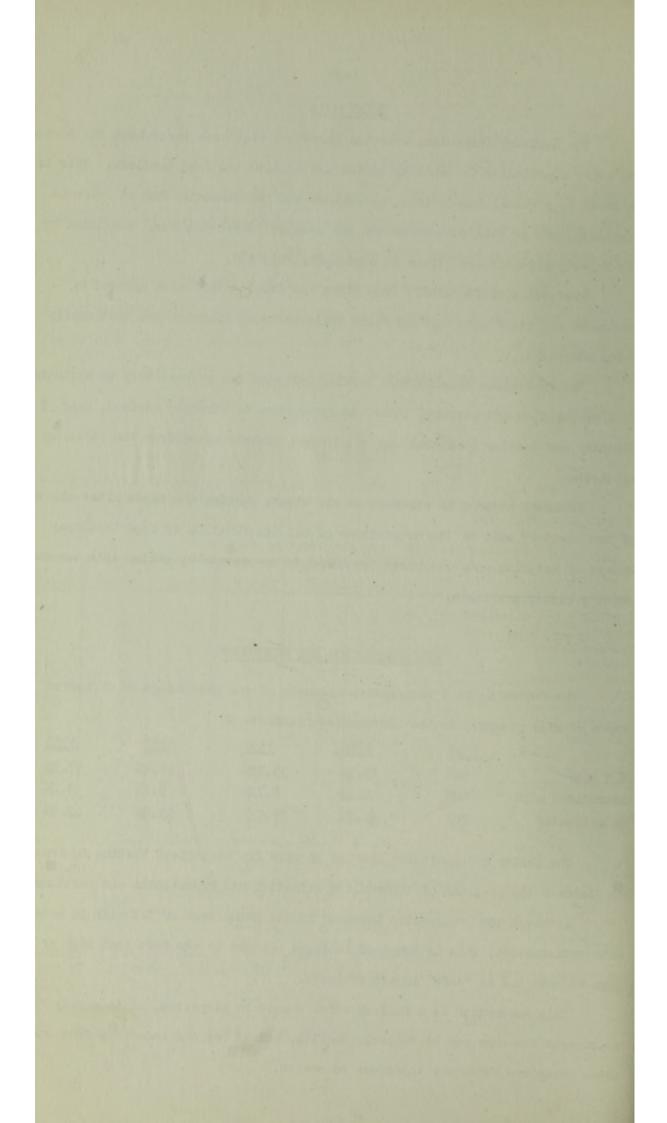
The following is a comparative estimate of the percentages of different types of milk produced in the surrounding district:-

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
T. T milk	20%	29.3%	35.35%	41.0%	47.5%
Accredited milk	10%	5.4%	8.72%	5.1%	3.7%
Undesignated	70%	65.3%	55.93%	53.8%	48.8%

The policy of submitting samples of milk for biological testing in order to discover the presence of tuberculous infection and brucellosis was continued.

Although the progressive increase in the percentage of T.T milk is noted with satisfaction, this is tempered in large measure by the fact that milk of this type is accepted as "safe" in all respects.

This assumption is a fallacy which should be dispelled, it is merely "safe" as regards the abosence of Tubercle Bacilli, but it may and sometimes does contain other organisms which are injurious to health.



During the year I received informal notification from a hospital that they were treating a patient suffering from Undulant Fever (Brucella Abortus infection, a non-notifiable disease). Investigation revealed that he had been in the habit of drinking raw milk from a T.T herd. He eventually died and the post mortem confirmed the presence of this disease. The case was published by me in an article which appeared in the Medical Officer on 9th April, 1954.

This is a warning that pasteurised milk is the only certain, safe milk and that raw milks of any designation are liable to contain pathogenic organisms. The cream level is decreased by about 1/7th when pasteurised, however, this is not lost but merely disseminated throughout the milk, the nutritional value is not at all impaired.

INDUSTRIES

The numbers employed in the main industries in the Borough are given below. Working conditions are generally good and the employers have been co-operative There were no outworkers.

	mormoni	eon '	10	mo do	m4 th	the	previous	170071-
- 4	TIECHILO	avii .	10	HELUG .	THE WILL	ULIG	DIGATORS	Acar

	Male	1952 Female	Total	Male	1953 Female	Total
Aerated Water Manufacturers Bakeries	2 21	1 29	3 50	6 16	4 20	10 36
Bedding Makers Builders	124	3 2	126	94	3 2	96
Corn Chandlers Dyers and Cleaners Engineering Works	16	19	18	20 7 120	4 15	21
Furniture Removers	14 8	1 50	15 58	13	1 50	135 14 60
Nursery Gardens Pottery Works	3 5	2	3 7	3 4	1 5	4
Printing Works Sawmills	7	8 2	19	12	6 2	9 18 11
Ship Repairing Wastepaper Sorters	5	1	6	5 4	1	5 5

Shipping:

- 16 vessels are registered at the port of Rye.
- 2 foreign ships brought cargoes of Timber.
- 3 foreign ships brought cargoes of Bricks.
- 20 yachts from overseas (pleasure craft) used Rye berthing facilities.

It has been ascertained that there are 102 vessels engaged in fishing between Hastings and Dungeness. They make use of the facilities available at Rye from time to time.

Shop-keeping and Catering: Shop-keeping and catering are two mainstays which contribute greatly to the prosperity of the Town.

SECTION II

The Chief Sanitary Inspector reports:-

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

	Visits.	Informal notices served	Informal Notices complied with.
Alleged nuisances	122	15	15
Smoke nuisances	10	2	2
Provision of dustbins	12	4	14
Existing drains	44	9	9
New building work	50	-	-
Infectious diseases	10	2 houses disinfected	
Vermin and insect pests	-	15 houses disinfected	

HOUSING ACT, 1936

392 inspections and re-inspections of dwelling houses were carried out for the following reasons:-

- 1. Houses controlled by the Borough Council.
- 2. Investigations of complaints by Tenants.
- Applications for re-housing on medical grounds, overcrowding, etc.

12 informal notices were served requesting house repairs and all were complied with.

The following improvements have been carried out at properties controlled by the Borough Council:-

- 15 tiled surround fireplaces complete installed in lieu of ranges or combination grates.
- 3 baths installed.
- 1 brick built solid fuel copper removed and replaced with gas copper.
- 17 power and additional lighting points installed at 7 houses.
- 2 sinks.

HOUSING ACT, 1949

No applications for Grants were received in respect of improvements under the above mentioned Act.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

The only dairy premises in the Town are now used for the receipt, storage and distribution of designated milks obtained already bottled from suppliers outside the Town. No processing or bottle washing is carried out on the premises. Frequent inspections of the premises have been made.

The following licences were issued during the year:-

Dealers licences for "Pasteurised" milk - 2
Dealers licences for "Tuberculin Tested" milk - 2

8 samples of milk were taken for examination and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Brighton. All passed the prescribed tests.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

ICE CREAM.

There are now 19 promises registered under the above mentioned Act, all for the storage and sale of ice cream. The bulk of ice cream sold from these premises is pre-packed.

The general standards of hygiene of the ice cream trade in the Borough is good.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The one slaughterhouse remaining in the Town is used almost entirely for occasional emergency slaughter of animals. The premises are old but are kept in a reasonable state of cleanliness.

All animals destined for human consumption are sent to the central sleughterhouse in Hastings.

Inspections of meat and other foods are often made at the request of the retailers who have noted an abnormal condition prior to sale.

80 inspections of food premises (food shops, catering establishments, etc) have been made.

The following is a list of foods inspected during the year and certified as being unfit for human consumption:-

	cwts.	stones.	lbs.
Meat	4	4	33
Sausages	1	-	2
Meat (Tinned)	1	-	3 ³ / ₄ 2 2 ¹ / ₄
Bacon Fruit (Tinned) Milk (Tinned)	1	6	4 ¹ / ₂ 6 ¹ / ₄ 8
Fish (Tinned)		1	10
Fish (Wet) Vegetables (Tinned)		3	13 1
Riscuits Miscellaneous		2	13
	10	0	124
	THE REAL PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY AND		

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY FESTS ACT, 1949

The following is an abstract from particulars supplied to the Ministry of Agriculture and Pisheries.

No. of compla	aints received regarding infestations	
by rats	and mice	120
No. of proper	rtics inspected	328
No. of minor	rat infestations	332
	infestations	24
No. of proper	rties treated by Council operator X	352

x This involves from 4-6 visits to each property.

Rodent Control treatment of sewers was carried out in April and November. Each course of treatment involves inspecting, baiting and poisoning each of the manholes known to exist on the older sewers together with test baiting at manholes on the newer systems. During the year this means that upwards of 250 inspections of sewer manholes are made in this connection.

Opportunity was taken during minor sewer reconstructions to incorporate baiting points at two places.

Visits are made by Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (Rodent Control Division) and close liaison is maintained in order that the best possible methods are used.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

12 inspections and visits were made to factories and workplaces.

There were 53 factories on the register at the end of the year, of these 39 used mechanical power whilst the remaining 13 had no mechanical power.

The duties of the Council in connection with the Factories Act, 1938 are mainly concerned with the provision of suitable and adequate sanitary accommodation.

WATER SUPPLY

Routine samples are taken for Bacteriological examination once a month and for chemical analysis once a quarter. Other samples are taken as required.

During 1953, 33 Bacteriological samples (16 unchlorinated and 17 chlorinated) and 5 chemical samples (4 chlorinated and 1 unchlorinated) were taken. All the samples proved to be satisfactory. Samples of water taken after chlorination at all times proved highly satisfactory.

The consumption of water during the year was as follows :-

Pumped from Cadborough Waterworks - 61,073,000 gallons
Pumped from Military Road " - 11,333,000 gallons
72,406,000 gallons

This represents an increase of 2,493,000 gallons over the consumption figures for 1952.

The distribution of the water consumed was as follows :-

Borough of Rye
Hastings C.B (Rye Harbour)
Battle R.D.C (Playden)
Standpipe

4,504,970 gallons
3,548,000 gallons
4,155,000 gallons
198,030 gallons
72,406,000 gallons

The Cadborough boreholes continued to produce an ample supply of water and at times during the year overflowed some few hours after the cessation of daily pumping.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The automatic sewage ejectors lifted the following amounts of sewage:-

Station A. Cadborough Marsh
Station B. Winchelsea Road
Station C. New Winchelsea Road
Station D. King's Avenue
Station E. Tilling Green

731,225 gallons
1,380,800 gallons
1,647,325 gallons
1,816,535 gallons
12,648,182 gallons
34,224,067 gallons

REFUSE COLLECTION

In all 4,784 cubic yards of refuse have been disposed of at Camber Fields tip. Of this amount 3,436 cubic yards were collected as domestic refuse the remaining 1,384 cubic yards being accounted for by builders refuse, etc., deposited directly at the tip.

PRIVATE ENTERPRISE BUILDING.

During 1953, 3 houses were completed by private enterprise.

CONTROL OF CIVIL BUILDING

During the year, 6 licences amounting to a value of £7,039 were issued by the Council and 8 licences to a value of £19,547 were issued by the Ministry of Works.

SECTION III

HOUSING

The Borough Treasurer, who is responsible for lettings of Council Houses has supplied the following information:-

Accommodation under the letting control of the Council at the 31st, December, 1953:-

Assisted Schemes - Pre-war houses	115
Assisted Schemes - Post-war houses & flats	227
Expired leases - pre 1914 houses	93
Requisitioned houses and flats	9
Temporary hutments	24
Total dwellings	468

Applicants on Council's Housing Lists at 31st December, 1953:-

Operative 90

Deferred 84

174

New Dwellings - Provided by the Council.

To 1938	115
During 1939	0
1946	2
1947	8
1948	40
1949	28
1950	70
1951	39
1952	12 + 8 Garages
1953	28 + 2 Shops & 4 Garages

At present occupied by approximately 1,100 persons.

ARREARS OF RENT.

Year ending	Total Rent Collectible			Ā	Arrears		Percentage	
	£	S	d	£	s	d		
31st March, 1952	21,671	9	2	17	9	10	0.080	
31st March, 1953	22,421	15	6	20	13	6	0.092	
31st March, 1954	24,202	6	8	41	13	8	0.172	

The post-war provision of houses and flats of good design has raised the standard of accommodation regarded as satisfactory and tenants of pre-war houses are becoming increasingly intolerant of badly placed stairways, antiquated cooking arrangements, portable baths, poor light and ventilation and outside W.C.'s.

This demand for improved accommodation can be met, in the main, only by way of subsidies, grants, advances and guarantees resulting in an increased rate for housing purposes.

Compared, on the grounds of essentiality, with the present cost of other rate borne services a substantial increase in this direction may be well justified.

Under-occupation continues to cause concern and although every endeavou has been made to persuade, among others, widows and widowers alone occupying three-bedroom houses to accept accommodation of a more suitable size, a number remain immovable.

A suggestion to withold the benefits of subsidies in such cases would appear particularly harsh when the offenders are old age pensioners, yet compulsion seems to be the only practicable alternative.

By reason of temporary work at high wages, and optimism, some post-war houses are secured by tenants who subsequently suffer long spells of unemployment. Continued occupation with the aid of public assistance does cause resentment by many applicants in regular employment who have refused offers of post-war houses through inability to meet the rent demanded.