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# Contributors

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# BOROUGH OF RYE



# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

# Medical Officer of Health

# for the Year 1958

By

M. I. SILVERTON, O.B.E., 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 Borough of Rye.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1958.

The statistics reveal that the health of the Borough compares favourably with the rest of England and Wales.

It is most satisfactory to note the increased activity with regard to the elimination of slum properties in the Borough.

Rehousing of these tenants has been made possible by the completion of the seventy-two Unity houses on the Illing Green Estate.

I am obliged to the Chief Fublic Health Inspector who has supplied the statistical information relating to the sanitary circumstances of the Borough included in this report. It will be noted that his other duties include those of Borough Surveyor and Water Engineer, and that he has reported on these subjects.

This will be the last full year that I shall report on the Diphtheria Immunisation Service, as despite the good response obtained by the delegation of this duty, it is to be administered centrally by the County Medical Officer of Health at Lowes. This Council was unanimous in its wish that delegation should remain but the County Council felt that they could introduce economies if centrally administered, and in addition, not fall below the present acceptance rate. One sincerely hopes that the numbers protected will not drop and that this dread disease will continue to be kept at bay. The success of the Immunisation Campaign owes much to the careful work of the local Immunisation Clerk (Miss Hearnshaw).

The Town Clark has supplied the information in Section III relative to the letting of Council houses. His unfailing courtesy and help are much appreciated.

I am grateful to the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors for their stimulating interest and support.

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

#### M. I. SILVERTON

The Watch Oak, BATTLE, Sussex Telephone: Battle 214 - 217. Medical Officer of Health.

#### BOROUGH OF RYE

### STAFF

#### Medical Officer of Health:

M. I. SILVERTON, O.B.E., T.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector, Surveyor, Town Flanning Officer and Water Superintendent:

E. TURNELL, M. I.H.E., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.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

\* (County Staff employed locally)

#### STATISTICS RELATING TO THE BOROUGH OF RVE

			1955	1956	1957	1958
Area of the Borough in acres	••••		1,021	1,021	1,021	1,021
Population (Registrar General's estimate for mid-year)		••••	4,570	4,550	4,520	4,470
Rateable Value		••••	£46,617	£70,800	\$5,374	£67,083
Number of inhabited houses		••••	1,569	1,569	1,568	1,612
Number of rateable premises	••••	•••	1,938	1,897	1,902	1,953
Sum represented by a Penny Rate			£183	£278	£252	£256

# SECTION I

HIRTHS AND BIRTH RATES				Male	Fenale	Total
Live Births	Legitimate Illegitimate	••	••	24 1 25	27 1 28	51 2 53
Stillbirths	Legitimate			0	1	1
				Borough of Ryc		England and Wales
Live birth rate per populati		00	••	11.8	}	
Comparability facto			••	1,02	}	16.4
Corrected birth rat		••	*•	12,09	)	
Stillbirth rate per (live au	w still)			18,5		21.6
Stillbirth rate per populati	1,000 home			0.22		0.36
DEATHS AND DEATH RATES				Borough of Ryc		England and Wales
Death rate per 1,00 populati	lon			14.5 12.4)		11.7
Deaths of infants		••	••	Nil		11,969
Death rate of infar per 1,00	nts under 4 week 00 live births			Nil		16.2
Deaths of infants	under 1 year	••		1		16,684
Death rate of infan per 1,00	nts under 1 year 00 live births		••	18.8		22.6
Maternal mortality and stil	rate per 1,000	live 		Nil		0.42

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SUDMARY OF BIRTH AND IEATH RATES, 1949-1958

80		Γ									7
Natural Increase	or Decrease	5 +	+ 20	+ 51	+ 10	6+	+ 15	4 -	9+	+ 2	- 12
Death Rote	Wales	7.11	11.6	12.5	11.3	11.44	11.3	11.7	11.7	11.5	11.7
Corrected	Rete	11.7	6°6	8.8	10.5	11 a1	11.3	9.6	<b>6</b>	11.0	12.4
	Total	99	59	51	62	99	99	56	50	58	65
Tota:	B	33	38	31	33	8	37	56	23	27	35
	M	33	21	20	8	37	8	30	8	31	30
Birth Rote	Nales	16.7	15.8	15.5	15 °3	15.5	15.2	15.0	15.6	16.1	16.4
Corrected	Rate	15.6	18.6	24.47	17.2	17.7	18.1	11.6	12.6	13.5	12.0
el	Total	69	62	102	72	75	81	52	56	60	53
Total	E E	32	15	58	35	38	47	30	27	32	88
	M	37	34	4	37	37	쳤	22	8	38	8
Estimated	Population	4, 398	4,,506	4,9442	4++517	4,,570	4,,600	4,,570	4,,550	4+2520	0/17 = 170
Year		1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958

The increased proportion of agod retired people in the population of this Borough will account for the decreased birth rate as compared with England and Wales.

The corrected Death Rate pays due regard to the aged population.

The Estimated Population figures are received from the Registrar General and the Natural Increase or Decrease is calvary proportionately. The reason may be one of removals from the Borough but this does not appear evident when one considers culated by comparing the deaths with the births. It is therefore not understood why the Registrar-General's figure does not the amount of new building and the very few empty properties.

(4)

	And a state of the

Causes of Death	Male	Female	Total
Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	6	10
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	6	8	1 14
Coronary disease, angina	6	4	10
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
Other heart diseases	1	7	8
Other circulatory diseases	1	1	2
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Bronchitis	1	2	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	0	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	0	1	1 1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	0	1 1
Other defined and ill defined diseases	1	3	4
Accidents other than motor vehicle	4	1	5
Suicide	1	0	1
	30	35	65

#### DETAILED CAUSES OF DEATH

(5)

It is most satisfactory to note that there were no deaths from tuberculosis (respiratory or non-respiratory).

Respiratory tuberculosis can be eradicated if local unknown reservoirs of infection are eliminated. Mass Miniature Radiography is a potent preventive measure designed to discover the early case before spread takes place. Farents and grandparents may be the unwitting agents in infecting their children and workmates, and they have an obligation to make sure that they are free from infection. All adults should therefore take advantage of this service when it makes its periodic visit.

Chronic coughs, whether in the aged or the young, are suspect and Mass Miniature Radiography will give the answer, not only disclosing early tuberculosis lesions but other abnormal conditions in the heart and lungs which may be amenable to treatment.

In all health investigations it is vitally important to treat any deviation from health as soon as possible; early discovery makes successful treatment more likely. Modern therapeutic measures can be relied upon to effect a cure if early diagnosis is made.

	Borou	gh of Rye	England and Wales		
the star Shipsonia of dealing days	No. of Deaths	Per 1,000 Pop.	No. of Deaths	Per 1,000 Pop.	
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	Nil	-	4,000)	0.40	
Tuberculosis (other)	Nil	-	480)	0.10	
Influenza	Nil	-	2,402	0.05	
Pneumonia	1	0.22	24,577	0.54	
Bronchitis	2	0.44	29,392	0.65	
Poliomyelitis	Nil	-	130	0.00	
Coronary and arteriosclerotic heart disease	10	2.23	84,048	1.86	
Cancer of the lung, trachea and bronchus Motor vehicle accidents	1 Nil	0.22	19,809	0.44	

#### DEATHS FROM SPECIFIC CAUSES AND RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION

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	(6)		
MAIN	CAUSES	OF	JEATH
		_	

	1955	1956	1957	1958
<ul> <li>(i) Diseases of the heart and circulatory system</li> <li>* (Coronary disease)</li> </ul>	27 (48.2%) 9 (16.0%)	15 (30.0%) 2 (4.0%)	23 (39.6%) 6 (10.3%)	
(ii) Vascular lesions of the nervous system	8 (14.2%)	12 (24.0%)	11 (18.9%)	14 (21.5%)
(iii) Malignant neoplasms (Cancer) (Cancer of lung and bronchus)	7 (12.5%) 1 (1.7%)	7 (14.0%)	13 (22.4%) 3 (5.2%)	10 (15.3%) 1 (1.5%)
(iv) Respiratory diseases (excluding tuberculosis	)4 (7.1%)	5 (10.0%)	3 (5.2%)	5 (7.7%)

\*Coronary disease - Research has not revealed a definite cause but it would appear that increased girth and lack of exercise accentuated by the advent of the motor car, particularly related to the professional and business executive classes, are important contributory factors. Deaths from coronary heart disease in England and Wales are still mounting: 70,597 in 1955; 74,790 in 1956; 76,321 in 1957 and 84,048 in 1958.

	B	brough of 1	Rye	London (England and Wales not available)					
Total deaths No. of deaths	1956	1957	1958	1956	1957	1958			
Total deaths	50	58	65	38,317	37,078	38,026			
No. of deaths 65 years and over	38	44	48	26,239	24,717	25,870			
Percentage of total deaths	76.0	75.7	73.8	68.4	66.9	69.0			

DEATHS - 65 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER

#### LUNG CANCER, BRONCHITIS AND SMOKING

Lung Cancer Deaths in England and Wales

19

930	 ••	••	 	1,489
				19,127
				19,809

Bronchitis deaths in England and Wales

1930	 	••	••	 19,125
1957	 	••		 26,930
1958	 	••		 29,392

The figures of deaths from these causes are mounting.

Smoking is considered to be a potent factor in this increase, but there may be other contributory causes emanating from increased pollution of the atmosphere by the internal combustion engine (petrol and diesel) and industrial waste gasses. These latter factors accentuate the severity of bronchitic conditions but have not definitely been accepted as factors in the causation of lung cancer.



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101		200		033	60

Anness Street	P		onary ses	Nor	case	monary s	Total case (all forms		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Ibtal
1. No.on Register at 1st January, 1958	9	2	11	1	3	4	10	5	15
2. Cases previously removed and re-notified in 1958	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Primary notifications received in 1958	1	-	1	2	1	3	3	1	4
4. Cases moved into Borough as transfers in 1958	3	-	3	-	-	-	3	-	3
TOTALS	13	2	15	3	4	7	16	6	22
5. Cases removed from Register in 1958	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<ol> <li>No.cn Register at 31st December, 1958</li> </ol>	13	2	15	3	4	7	16	6	22

Tabulated List in age groups of new cases (primary notifications) in 1958

	Look Contraction	onary ses	Non-pulmonary cases			
Age	M	F	М	F		
0-2 years 3-5 years 6-10 years 11-15 years 16-25 years 26-45 years 46-60 years over 60 years			1 1			
Totals	1	-	2	1		

## New Cases notified giving age groups, occupations and housing states.

	(Pri		Cases otificat:	ians)		
Age	Pulmonary Non-pulmonary		Occupations	Housing		
	M	F	M	F	1999-1-	
0 - 2	-	-	-	-		
3-5	-	-	-	-		
6 - 10	-	-	-	-	Stephenis In (157	
11 - 15	-	-	-	-		
16 - 25	-	-	1	-	Ex-Army	Tenant (parent)
26 - 35	-	-	-	-	a a policied of acces	
36 - 45	1	-	-	1	Engineer	Council house
					Housewife	Owner/occupier
46 - 60	-	-	-	-		
Over 60	-	-	1	-	Retired Cobbler	Council house.

									(77)		,						

#### INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

#### Comparative Statistics for the Years 1953 - 1958

1st January - 31st December

white the first and	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Scarlet fever	2	3	7	-	1	3
Measles	156	-	74	16	-	115
Pneumonia	10	11	12	16	18	8
Erysipelas	2	1	3	5	3	2
Whooping cough	26	5	66	2	1	23
Dysentery	-	-	-	62	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	1

#### Poliomyelitis

It is most heartening to record that there were no cases of policmyelitis in this Borough during 1958.

One hopes that this is the result of vaccination but it is too early to come to a definite conclusion. The numbers being vaccinated are not high enough and an increased response would be a worthwhile safety measure. Measles

Measles was widespread within the Borough, particularly in the month of August. Although this was unfortunate from the point of view of school holidays, school attendance did not suffer and the children had fully recuperated before the commencement of the autumn term.

Fortunately there were no complications necessitating admission to hospital.

Over 90% of the population have suffered from this infection and it is usually less severe in school children. Measles in an adult can be quite serious, apart from the loss of working days.

#### Whooping cough

This continued to be notified, but diagnosis is difficult. No complications of note were recorded.

The Immunisation Campaign is having a definite effect in lessening the severity of attacks in those who having been immunised are still susceptible in a minor degree.

#### Scarlet fever

Mild in character and of no special significance, the usual

283			
			total particular and and and

#### Scarlet fever (continued)

investigations were made in each case regarding the possibility of food handlers being involved, and where indicated, alternative work was advised and accepted.

#### Food Poisoning

Although no cases were notified it is essential that there should be no relaxation in personal hygiene.

#### Influenza

Unlike 1957 there was no evidence of any widespread influenza epidemic. There were a number of localised outbreaks of respiratory infection at the end of January but no marked rise in notifications of death from influenza.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	YAM	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Scarlet fever	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	3
Pneumonia	2	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	8
Erysipelas	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	- 1	-	2
Whooping cough	5	1	6	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
Measles	-	-	-	-	2	-	10	91	11	-	1	-	115
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
TOTAL	8	3	16	8	17	-	10	92	13	1	2	21	152

SEASONAL INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING 1958

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN AGE GROUPS

	Scarlet fever	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Whooping cough	Measles	Pusrperal pyrexia	TOTAL
Under 1 yr	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
1-2 years	-	1	-	3	14	-	18
3-4 years	-	1	-3	5	23	-	29
5-9 years	2	-	-	7	23 69	-	78
10-14 years	1	-	-	5	9	-	15
15-44 years		- 1		-		1	1 1
45-64 years		2	2	-	-	-	4
65 and over	-	4	-	-	-	-	4
TOTAL	3	8	2	23	115	1	152

# PERIODS OF EXCLUSION IN CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES

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# MINISTRY OF EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

		Interval	Period of 1	Exclusion
	Usual Incubation period (days)	be tween onset and appearance of rash (days)	Patients	Contacts, i.e. the other members of the family or household living together as a family, that is, in one tenement.
SCARLET FEVER AND STREPTOCOCCAL SORE THROAT	1-7	1-2	Exclude from school 7 days after dis- charge from hospital or from home isola- tion. Not allowed back if discharge from the nose or ear, sore throat or sep- tic spots be present.	Officer of Health allows return to work. Other contacts, if healthy, need not be excluded.
DIPHTHERIA	2-7	-	Until pronounced by a medical practi- tioner to be free from infection.	At least 7 days. Return to school should not be permit- ted until bacterio- logical examination has proved negative.
MEASLES	7-14	3-4	10 days after the appearance of the rash if the child appears well.	Children under 5 years of age who have not had the disease should be excluded for 14 days from the date of the appearance of the rash in the last case in the house. Other contacts can attend school. Any contact suffering from a cough, cold, chill or red eyes should be immediately excluded.
GERMAN MEASLES	5-21	0-2	7 days from the appearance of the rash.	None.
WHOOPING COUGH	6-18	-	28 days from the beginning of the characteristic cough.	Children under 7 years who have not had the disease should be ex- cluded for 21 days from the date of onset of the disease in the last case in the house
MUMPS	12-28	-	7 days from the subsidence of the swelling.	None.
CHICKEN FOX	11-21	0-2	14 days from the date of appearance of the rash.	None.
INFLUENZA AND THE COMMON COLD	1-2	-	Exclude immediately for 7 days or until recovery is com- plete.	None.
RINGWORM OF THE BODY (including ATHLETE'S FOOT)	be excl nor in	uded. He sho	a can be kept covered ould not, however, tak ringworm of the feet	the patient need not e part in swimming - - in gymnastic classes



#### IMMUNISATION SERVICE

This Borough is enjoying the benefit of its locally administered immunisation campaign against diphtheria and I am happy to record that there have not been any cases of this dread disease during the past eighteen years.

A review of the past ten years of the Diphtheria/Campaign revealed that the percentage of children immunised in the 1 to 5 age groups showed a gradual but increasingly satisfactory rise, with a plateau from 1952 to 1957 with a most encouraging rise to 81.41% in 1958 as per the accompanying table.

The comparable figure for 1958 in the 5 to 11, age groups being 94.32%.

Year	Percentage
1949	65.96
1950	66.66
1951	67.85
1952	69.11
1953	69.64
1954	70.00
1955	70.80
1956	69.28
1957	72.81
1958	81.41

This is due to the undiminised vigour with which this campaign has been pursued.

The table given below is self-explanatory with regard to the benefits which have been obtained in England and Wales.

Year	Deaths	Corrected Notifications
1948	156	3,575
1949	84	1,890
1950	49	962
1951	33	664
1952	32	376
1953	23	376 266
1954	9	173
1955	13	
1956	8	155 53
1957	6	39
1958	8	39 78

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#### IMMUNISATION SERVICE (Continued)

Number of children who received injections in 1958 :-

Primary Inmunisation	Under		-		
Against Diphtheria	<u>1 yr.</u>	1-4	<u>5-9</u> 6	10-14	Total 7
		-	0	1	'
Against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough	-	-	-		-
Against Diphtheria, Whooping cough and Tetanus	42	10	3	-	55
	42	10	9	1	62
Re-inforcing Injections					
Against Diphtheria	-	13	28	101	142
Against Diphtheria and Whooping cough	-	1	1	1	3
Against Diphtheria, Whooping cough and Tetanus	-	3	4	1	8
	-	17	33	103	153
Total immunised during 1958 :-					- 1
	50				
5 - 14 (inc)	52 10 153				
Total number of children under 15 years of had been immunised by 31st December, 1	age, res 958:-	ident in	the 1	Borough,	who
	219				
5 - 14 (inc)	950				
Comparative figures for the past three year	s:-				
Number immunised under 5 years		<u>1956</u> 212	1	217	<u>1958</u> 219
Child population (under 5)		306		298	269
Percentage of child population immunised .		69.28%	7:	2.81%	81.41%
Number immunised 5 - 14 (inc)		731		735	731
Child population 5 - 14 (inc)		739		750	775
Percentage of child population immunised .		98.91%	98	8.00%	94.32%
1		-			

(Population figures are estimated - Registrar General is unable to supply them)

It is generally accepted that immunisations given more than five years previously confer a diminised immunity. The state of immunity of a child population at any given time is therefore more realistically expressed as the number immunised (primary or booster) within the previous five years. This figure is known as the Immunity Index.

#### (Dearghtent) SETRICE (Dearbits

Norther of children the reactive fait and the 1932 -----

Intel			
2			
-			
62			
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### IMMUNISATION SERVICE (Continued)

	Under 1 yr.	1-4	5-14	Total
In 1956	46.15%	71.42%	80.78%	77.41%
In 1957	44.11%	76.51%	75.60%	74.80%
In 1958	70.00%	82.32%	72.90%	75.09%
	In 1957	<u>1 yr.</u> In 1956 46.15% In 1957 44.11%	<u>1 yr.</u> <u>1-4</u> In 1956 46.15% 71.42% In 1957 44.11% 76.51%	1 yr.         1-4         5-14           In 1956         46.15%         71.42%         80.78%           In 1957         44.11%         76.51%         75.60%

Incidence of Whooping Cough in children who have been immunised.

	1	954		1955		1956		1957			1958				
		Notified Cases Immunised	Immunisations	Cases	Notified Cases Inmunised	Immunisations	Cases	Notified Cases Imunised	Immunisations performed	Cases	Notified Cases Immunised	Imunisations performed	Cases	Notified Cases Immunised	Immunisations performed
Under 1 year	1	-	25	3	-	44	-	-	37	-	-	39	1.	-	42
1 - 2	3	-	16	5	1		1	-	8	-	-	10	3	2	10
3 - 4	1	-	1	24	2	23 .	-	-	0	-	-	12	5	3	
5 - 9	-	-	-	31	1	1	1	-	-	1	1	1	7	-	3
10 - 14	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-
Totals	5	-	42	65	4	68	2	-	45	1	1	52	23	5	55

# VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

The following persons were vaccina	ted in	1958	:-			
	Under				15 or	
	1 yr.	1	2-4	5-14	over	Total
Primary vaccination	38	1	2	3	4	48
Re-vaccination	-	-	4	9	33	46
Travel abroad accounted for 3 prim	ary vac	rinat	tions an	d 20 re	-vaccina	ations.
Number of babies born in 1958						53
Number of babies under 1 year vaccinated	in 1958	з,				38
Percentage vaccinated, under 1 year		•••				71.7
Comparison with previous years :-					1.00	
	19	956		1957	19	8
Total Primary vaccinations	•• •	43		58	42	3
Re-vaccinations	••	31		26	44	5
Percentage vaccinated, under 1 year	62	.50%	8	0.00%	71 .	7

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		Percentage of babies under 1 year vaccinated
1949	 	23.18
1950	 	72.15
1951	 	45.09
1952	 	66.66
1953	 	70.66
1954	 	55.55
1955	 	84.61
1956		62.50
1957		80.00
1958		71.70

The Annual Report of the Ministry of Health for the year ended 31st December, 1958, states "The smallpox infant vaccination rate has increased from an average of 36.8% of live births in the ten years 1937-1946 to 44.5% in 1958. While still not high enough this rate represents a considerable record of achievement on the part of Local Health Authorities and General Practitioners".

Fortunately, our figures are much better than those given for England and Wales as a whole but this is no reason for complacency.

The speed of air travel makes the likelihood of the introduction of smallpox an ever-present possibility. Parents are exhorted to make use of vaccination during the early months of their children's lives in order that they may achieve full protection as early as possible with the minimum of inconvenience.

#### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH

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

\* (i) Ambulance Service

	19	1956		<u>1957</u>		1958	
	Cases 710	Mileage	Cases 640)	Mileage	Cases 1,147)	Mileage	
Illness	7103		640)	17,387		72	
Accident	116)	18,590	155)		214}		

The Rye Branch of the St.John Ambulance Brigade is staffed by three full-time members with the ambulance and one dual purpose ambulance with provision for six seats or one stretcher. The members give a first class service.



#### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH (Continued)

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

(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 by the joint organisation of the British Red Cross Society and the St.John Ambulance Brigade. The Area Transport Office for this district is at 8, Endwell Road, Bexhill-on-Sea (Telephone Bexhill 152).

(vii) Infant Welfare Centres.

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

\*(viii) Immunisation and Vaccination Service

Please refer to pages 11 - 14.

(ix) Policryelitis Vaccination Service

In September, 1958, the vaccination offer was extended to those born in 1933 and persons at special risk including expectant mothers. Booster injections were also made available.

Regular clinics are held on the 3rd Monday in the month at the Further Education Centre, Lion Street, Rye, at 10.15 a.m.

- (x) B.C.G.Vaccination of School Children from 13 years.
- (xi) Mental Health Service.
- (xii) Registration of Nursing Homes.

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

- (xdii) School Dental Service.
- (xiv) School Medical Service (\* Routine medical examinations including the assessment of handicapped pupils).

\* Delegated duties to the District Medical Officer of Health, who also acts as School Medical Officer.

#### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH (Continued)

#### (B) HOSPITALS

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

Darvell Hall Hospital, 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-Sea. Eversfield Chest Hospital, St.Leonards-on-Sea. Hellingly Hospital, Hellingly. Pembury Hospital, Pembury. Hill House, Rye Foreign.

Administered by the South-Eastern Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board through their respective Hospital Management Committees.

#### (C) FUHLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

The Public Health Laboratory Service is a free national laboratory service designed to assist all those concerned in the diagnosis, prevention and control of communicable diseases. The benefits are not limited by health authority, hospital region or other administrative boundary. These facilities are available to all doctors, both for the submission of specimens and for consultation.

Gamma globulin, prepared from pooled plasma from normal healthy adults by the Lister Institute for the Ministry of Health, is distributed to doctors in England and Wales through laboratories of the Public Health Laboratory Service. Requests for supplies should be made to the director of the nearest laboratory of the Service. So far as supplies allow, it is issued for the protection of susceptible contacts of measles, rubella and poliomyelitis as shown overleaf:

#### (16)


# (17)

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH (Continued)

Gamma globulin (Cor	ntinued)	
Disease	Available for	Usual Dosage Prevention
Measles	(i) Control of hospital and institutional outbreaks	3 years and over - 750 mg.
	(ii) Persons suffering from intercurrent illness or living in a poor environment for whom an attack of measles would be dangerous.	1 - 2 years 500 mg. Under 1 year 250 mg.
	(iii) Children under 3 years of age	Attenuation All ages 250 mg.
Rubella	Women exposed to infec- tion in the first 4 months of pregnancy	1,500 mg.
and lasts	n is immediate providing no rash 2-3 weeks, no side effects. Opti first week after exposure.	has appeared mum prevention
Poliomyelitis	(i) Nurses and medical students who are to be closely associated with the care of early cases and who so far as is known have not been in contact with the infec- tion previously. It is intended that only one injoction should be given and that prior to their going on the polionyelitis wards.	Under 1 year 500 mg.

- (ii) Babies in a hospital or maternity home exposed to infection soon after birth.
- (iii) Children in a hospital ward in which a case develops - especially children who have recently undergone tonsillectomy.

In addition, a small stock of gamma globulin prepared from the blood of persons recently vaccinated against smallpox is held for the treatment of cases of generalised vaccinia, accidental vaccinal infections endangering the eye and, in special circumstances, for the protection of unvaccinated smallpox contacts.

The address of the nearest laboratory is The Public Health Laboratory, Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton (Telephone, Brighton 63506, Director -Doctor J. E. Jameson).



### (D) HLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE.

The National Elocd Transfusion Service visits Rye periodically.

I am informed that the numbers of donors have decreased latterly.

This is the one Service to the community which can literally be described as life-saving.

To be able to give one's blood to one's fellows when they are in dire need is surely the essence of charity. Without this timely help many lives of all ages would be lost.

There is no ill effect to the donor and no discomfort. In fact, if anything, the donor feels better, secure in the knowledge that one's contribution has at least eased suffering.

Stamped addressed leaflets for volunteer donors (self-explanatory) are available at the Council Offices.

# (E) NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

(i) Section 47: Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of Care and Attention

Fortunately, I have been able to avoid using this Section.

(ii) Section 50: Burial or Cremation of the Dead.

No action was necessary.

### (F) HOME PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICE

This Service fulfils a worthwhile function by allowing patients to be treated in the comfort of their own homes, a great boon to the elderly and generally incapacitated. Additionally, much tedious waiting at draughty bus stops is eliminated and the Ambulance Service mileage in taking patients to hospital clinics is much reduced.

The Physiotherapy Service relies for its continuance on the voluntary efforts of its Committees and the goodwill of the public in supplying the necessary income.

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

Liaison has been maintained with mutual benefit.

### MILK PRODUCTION

The following is an estimate of the designated and non-designated farms in the district surrounding the Borough of Rye :-

	<u>1956</u>		<u>1957</u>		<u>1958</u>	
	Farms	1/2	Farms	70	Farms	%
Tuberculin tested milk	239	67.51	281	81.21	309	91.42
Non-designated milk	115	32.49	65	18.79	29	8.58

The production of Tuberculin Tested milk has continued to increase. I am reliably informed that most of this milk is pasteurised.



# MILK PRODUCTION (Continued)

This is an important factor in the conservation of health within this Borough, there having been no deaths attributable to bovine tuberculosis during the past year.

Although Tuberculin Tested milk is considered by the layman to be safe and free from infection, this is not always borne out when samples have been submitted to the Laboratory. From time to time actual cases of bovine tuberculosis do appear in the best conducted herds and it may be some time before the case is discovered, in the interim the public, and in particular young children, are being exposed to the possibility of disease. It must be remembered that in drinking raw milk one is imbibing the natural secretion of an animal who may at any time become the victim of disease. Pasteurised milk will eliminate this element of danger without affecting the nutritive properties and must therefore be considered to be the only safe milk.

A bulk sample taken from a Tuberculin Tested herd in Battle Rural District revealed the presence of Brucella Mellitensis. The offending animals were taken out of the herd by informal arrangement with the owner who was most co-operative. Continued sampling of this herd has revealed other carriers and these have been similarly treated. The herd in question is being kept under close surveillance.

This finding once more serves to emphasise that raw milk, whether Tuberculin Tested or non-designated, can be a vehicle for other diseases in addition to tuberculosis.

### WELFARE COMMITTEE

Ryc Welfare Committee was formed as a Sub-Committee of the Bequests and Welfare Committee, the object being, primarily, to visit old persons who were in need of help with shopping, collection of pensions, and the "good neighbour" relationship. Suitable visitors were to be enrolled in order to achieve these objects. A further step envisaged for 1959 will be "Meals on Wheels".

No visits will be made unless requested by the Health Visitor.

This service should make a useful contribution to the easing of the perplexities of modern living for these old people.

### (19)



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# FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

I have noted the comments of the Public Health Inspector on page 25 but am not satisfied with the progress made, and hope that next year will show more positive action in this respect.

### LITTER ACT, 1958

Litter is the end result, in large measure, of wrapped ice cream, pionic meals, packaged foods and cigarette cartons, plus the internal combustion engine (in its varied guises) bringing the countryside to the doorstep of the people.

This combination has resulted in a universal scourge of filth which contaminates the most desirable grass verges, creating foci of infection for the breeding of disease and danger from broken bottles, etc.

An understandable urge to get out and enjoy the health-giving properties of seaside and country must not be discouraged in our efforts to eliminate this offensive habit of indiscriminate scattering of refuse.

Once again we are confronted with a problem analagous in some degree to other addictions. The adult who actively contributes to this problem is apparently impervious to exhortation, and leads his family blissfully and without any consciousness of guilt into copying his antisocial actions.

Litter bins, although obviously helpful, are not the sole solution. The rigour of the law is a deterrent buttoo difficult to administer. It would appear that once more we have to think in terms of education of the young at school, and so devise the indoctrination of litter-consciousness that anyone who indulges in this obnoxious practice will be considered to be socially inferior.

### INDUSTRIES

The numbers engaged in the main industries located in the Borough are given in the table overleaf :-

### (20)



1	24	×.
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# INDUSTRIES (Continued)

The second se	is at 3	is at 31st December, 1958			
	Male	Female	Total	1957 Total	
Aerated Water Manufacturers	4	4	8	9	
Bakeries	17	32	49	57	
Bedding Makers	4	1	5	5	
Builders	106	1	107	99	
Cinema	4	10	14	-	
Corn Chandlers	20	3	23	24	
Engineering Works	181	17	198	243	
Furniture Removers	12	1	13	13	
Hotels	9	19	28		
Loundries	14	56	70	68	
Nurserymen	3	-	3	-	
Pottery Works	6	7	13	11	
Printing Works	11	6	17	16	
Sawrdlls	15	2	17	18	
Ship Repairing	5	-	5	5	
Toy Manufacturers	14	80	94	94	
Wastepaper Sorters	3	-	3	4	

Shop-keeping and Catering

Shop-keeping and catering are two mainstays which contribute greatly to the prosperity of this attractive town and emphasise the necessity for effective supervision from the hygienic point of view.

#### Rye Market

The Market occupies a prominent position in the life of Rye.

It is not possible to give the numbers of agricultural workers in the Borough of Rye as a separate entity. In the area covered by Hastings County Borough, the Boroughs of Rye and Bexhill, and Battle Rural District (excluding Burwash and Ticehurst), there were in June, 1958, 1,858 men and 451 women (total 2,309) engaged in agricultural work.

The comparable figures for 1957 were 2,160 men and 493 women (toal 2,653).

This exemplifies the present trend of the drift from the land to industry which might have been accentuated by more versatile machinery in farming.

The following numbers of live stock sold in Rye Market during 1958 are indicative of the activity on Market days, when farmers from near and far gather in large numbers to buy and sell, the Romney Marsh sheep being world famous and the fat stock of excellent quality:-

Fat cattle	 2,175	Fat sheep and lambs 21,184
Store cattle	 10	Store sheep and lambs 7,736
Barren cows	 320	Fat pigs 7,873
Calves	 564	Store pigs 710

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# INDUSTRIES (Continued)

(22)

Port of Rye

- 25 vessels are registered at the Port of Rye.
- 1 foreign ship brought four loads of timber.
- 27 yachts from overseas (pleasure craft) used Rye berthing facilities.

It has been ascertained that there are 105 vessels engaged in fishing between Bexhill and Dungeness. They make use of the facilities available from time to time.

# HOUSING

Where an applicant for rehousing is found to be living in a dwelling which is suspect the Fublic Health Inspector makes an inspection. If considered to be Section 16 (Housing Act, 1957) it is "represented" and the necessary action is taken to ensure demolition or an undertaking is accepted from the owner not to relet until made fit for human habitation according to the Council's standards.

A difficulty arises when a clear cut decision cannot be made and although the living conditions are not desirable the statutory requirements for "representation" cannot be fulfilled. If the Housing Committee were to rehouse, another family could enter into residence and be subject to the same undesirable influences that affected the former tenants. There is thus an understandable reluctance on the part of the Housing Committee to rehouse from this type of property, so these luckless but usually deserving tenants must continue to eke out their existences in substandard accommodation, without hope.

The Housing Act, 1957, Section 113(2) states: "The local authority shall secure that in the selection of their tenants a reasonable preference is given to persons who are occupying insanitary or overcrowded houses, have large families or are living under unsatisfactory housing conditions".

With the advent of the (1959) Standard improvement grant and the existing Discretionary grant it is hoped that some owners may agree, albeit informally, to do the necessary improvements before reletting. I feel strongly that this field should be explored and the opportunity grasped to bring these houses up to present day standards and requirements.





# HOUSING (Continued)

If administered with sympathy and intelligence, the improvement grant could be a great social measure making a potent contribution to the well-being of these sorely tried families particularly in the field of the preservation of mental health within the family unit. The frustration engendered by poor living conditions exert a cumulative strain on the stability of the housewife and mother with resultant unfortunate repercussions throughout the whole family.

Herewith definition of the two grants referred to above :-

- The new (1959) Standard grant under which house owners and certain leaseholders can obtain, as a right, half the cost, up to a maximum of £155, of installing five basic improvements - a bath or shower, a wash-hand basin, a water closet, a hot water system and a food store.
- (2) The existing Discretionary Grant, under which up to half the estimated cost of more extensive improvements may be paid, at the discretion of the local Council, subject to a maximum grant of £400. For conversion of houses into flats, the maximum grant will be £400 for each flat so provided.

An excellent explanatory leaflet has been prepared by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and may be obtained from the Council Offices on request.

I hope the greatest publicity will be given to making the existence of these grants known to interested persons within the Borough.

### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Public conveniences with wash-basins are provided by the Council

at:-

Strand Quay Tower Street Cricket Salts.

Public conveniences without washing facilities at :-

Gun Garden Putting Green Ypres Tower Steps.



# SECTION II

The following table gives a general summary of the visits and work carried out by the Public Health Inspector during the year 1958:-
Visits to houses re housing defects 120 """" other than housing defects 12
Visits to Factories
Visits to Bakehouses
Visits re Infectious Diseases
Visits to Council owned properties

# ICE CREAM

There are 20 premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the sale of ice cream which is all sold pre-packed.

There are no manufacturers of ice cream within the Borough.

# EXAMINATION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

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

	Stones	Lbs
Meat	6	8
Meat (canned)	8	2
Fruit (canned)	3	0
Fish	2	0
Vegetables (canned)	2	0
	21	10

# (24)



# FOOD PREMISES

During the year the progress of inspection of premises has again been retarded due to pressure of work in other directions but it is again pleasing to note the improvements which have taken place in various shop premises, and the handling and display of foodstuffs.

#### MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

The following are in operation :-

12 samples were taken for laboratory examination and passed the prescribed tests.

# HOUSING

The following information is in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health:

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(i)(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	86
(b)	Number of inspections made for this purpose	107
( <b>11</b> )(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under subhead (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932.	-
(b)	Number of inspections made for this purpose	-
(111)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	54
(iv)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	9
	of defects during the year without Service of Notice.	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the	

Local Authority or their Officers.. ... ...

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

2

(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 & 12 of the Housing Act, 1957:- 9



(26)
HOUSING (Cont)
(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices:-
<ul> <li>(a) By owners</li></ul>
(iii) Number of dwelling-houses acquired and subsequently rendered fit by the Local Authority
(B) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :-
(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices :-
<ul> <li>(a) By Owners</li></ul>
(C) Proceedings under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957:-
(i) Number of Representations, etc., made in
respect of dwelling-houses unfit for habitation
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 9
(iii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 15
(iv) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted from owners:-
(a) To render the house fit for human habitation 17
(b) As to usage other than for human habitation 1
(v) Closing Orders under the Housing Act, 1957 32
(vi) Number of Houses dealt with under Housing Act, 1957, Section 17(3)
(D) Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.
(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made -
(ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were deter- mined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit

# (27)

# HOUSING (Cont)

# 4. Rye Corporation Houses.

Included in the aforementioned information is the following :-

The year under review has been one of pronounced activity and as a result of Closing Orders served and undertakings accepted the repair and improvement of many properties has and is now being effected. Accommodation for displaced occupiers has been provided in many cases by exchanges of tenancies and accommodation made available in the new housing development on the Council's Tilling Green Estate where the erection of 72 houses and flats was completed during the year.

#### RENT ACT, 1957 - CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

Thirteen applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received and twelve Certificates were issued.

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937

#### 1. Inspections

	Number				
Premises	Register	Inspec- Informal Occupies tions Notices Prosecut			
1. Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	9	3		la parente esta ma antesen-	
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	43	4	-	x	

2. Cases in which defects were found :-

Service of the servic	Number	Number of cases in which defects were				
Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M.Inspector	Prose- cutions		
Want of Cleanliness	-	-	-	-		
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-		
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-		
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-		
Inadequate drainage of floors		-	-	-		
Sanitary Accommodation (offences)	1	1	1	-		

There are no Outworkers under Section 110(1)(c)



# Work carried out under The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Number of properties inspected as a result of complaints ... ... 173 Number of properties inspected by survey ... ... ... ... ... 128 Number of properties found to be infested by rats... ... ... 181 Number of properties treated by Council's Operator for rats ... 251 Number of properties treated by occupier for rats... ... 5 Number of visits by Rodent Operator ... ... 517

All infestations were of a minor character, no major infestations being found.

A Rodent Operator, employed part time, is engaged on this work and his duties also include the treatment of the town sewers and the refuse tip.

#### Sewer Treatment

Two maintenance treatments were carried out during the year, the methods employed being in accordance with the routine approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. An Officer of the Ministry paid visits during the course of the treatments and expressed himself as highly satisfied with the results of the work carried out and the obvious reduction of the number of rats in the sewers which also results in the reduction of surface infestations.

### Water Supply

The yield from the public supply wells at the Cadborough Water Works and the springs at the Military Road pumping station was found to be adequate to meet all demands.

Fortnightly samples continue to be taken for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory, Brighton, and samples are submitted to the Counties Public Health Laboratory, London, for chemical analysis.

During 1958, 73 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination of which 48 were chlorinated and 25 unchlorinated. Three samples were submitted for chemical analysis. All the samples examined were found to be satisfactory.

One complaint of mains water discolouring on being boiled was investigated, bacteriological and chemical examinations being carried out, and it was found that the results of the chemical analysis were "indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes".

The consumption of water for all purposes during the year is as follows :-

From	Cadborough Waterworks	 73,184,000 gallons.
From	Military Road Waterworks	 12,675,750 gallons.
		85.859.750 gallons.

This is an increase of 1,051,230 gallons over the previous year.

The distribution of water was as follows :-

1957		1958
72,699,110	Borough of Rye	75,618,830 gallons
4,351,000 7,712,000	Hastings C.B (Rye Harbour) Battle R.D.C (Playden)	10,229,000 gallons
46.410	Standpipe	11,920 gallons
84,808,520		85,859,750 gallons
and the second		The surface that the state of the state state of the stat

#### (28)



Drainage and Sewerage

The automatic ejectors lifted the following amounts of sewage :-

Station A.	Cadborough Marsh	 734,325 gallons.
Station B.	Winchelses Road	 27,157,850 gallons.
	New Winchelsea Road	2,277,750 gallons.
	Kings Avenue	 2,917,660 gallons.
Station E.	Mason Road	 10,009,698 gallons.
	To tal	 43,097,283 gallons

This is an increase of nearly 14 million gallons  $(47\frac{3}{4})$  over the year 1957 when the rainfall was 22.874 inches and an increase of  $10\frac{1}{2}$  million gallons  $(32\frac{1}{2})$  over the year 1956 when the rainfall was 23.1 inches. The increase in the present year was in large measure due to the higher rainfall, 31.345 inches.

# Rainfall

	1221	
Number of days on which rain fell Longest period of drought Periods of drought	140 40 days 28th Mar-6th May (inclusive)	125 25 days 27th Feb-23rd Masch (inclusive)
	30th Sep-15th Oct	14th Nov-8th December.

1957

1958

31,345 inches.

Rainfall ... ... ... ... ... 22.874 inches

1958 <u>Month</u>	Total Rainfall inches		Notes
January February March	3.365 2.845 1.01	(22) (12) (23)	10th. 0.79" 29th. 0.46"
April May	1.20	(23) (23)	16th. 0.48"
June July	3.345 2.44	(17) (22)	20th, 0.46": 25th, 0.55": 26th, 1.5". 26th, 0.46".
August	4.02	(18)	8th, 0.48": 13th, 0.48": 25th, 0.84": 29th, 0.74".
September October November	2.86 3.16 1.68	(20) (17) (24)	15th, 0.57": 24th, 0.52". 6th, 0.47": 7th, 0.56". 3rd, 0.56".
December	4.24	(19)	14th, 1.04": 15th, 0.5": 30th, 0.67".

( ) indicate total number of days without measurable rainfall.

### Refuse Collection and Disposal

6,661 cubic yards of refuse have been disposed of at the Camber Fields Tip, this comprised 4,655 cubic yards of domestic refuse and 2,006 cubic yards of builders refuse, excavated materials, etc.

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# SECTION III

Accommodation under the letting control of the Council at 31st December, 1958:-

> Assisted Schemes - Pre-War Houses... ... 115 Assisted Schemes - Post War Houses & Flats.. 322 Expired Leases, pre-1914 houses ... ... 76 Total dwellings ... 513

Applicants on Council's Housing List at 31st December, 1958 :-

Operative... 43 Deferred ... ... 63 106

Arrears of Rent	Total Rent		
Year ending	Collectible	Arrears	Percentage
31. 3. 1957	£33,812. 11. 4d	£10. 4. 2d	0.030
31. 3. 1958	£35,809.10. 8a	£7.17.10d	0.022
31.3.1959	£39,904. 2. 10d	£27. 8. 5a	0.068

Improvement Grants

Applications	received	••••	••••	•••	1
Applications	approved		••••		1
Amount promis	sed in grant:	s fo	r 195	58	£300