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HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health


AND

School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR

1927.

W. J. BANNISTER, M.D., D.P.H.



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Ramsgate.

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

(1927 - 1928).

Chairman: Alderman T. S. CHAYNEY.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR	Councillor T. W. MOCKRIDGE.
(Alderman W. Coleman, J.P.)	„ H. NEWBY.
Alderman H. T. HOLLANDS.	„ C. NIXON.
„ T. H. PRESTEDGE.	„ F. N. PORTER.
„ R. W. PHILPOTT.	„ Miss REEVE.
„ Dame JANET	„ R. REYNOLDS.
STANCOMB-WILLS, J.P.	„ H. E. ROCK.
Councillor Rev. J. H. ASKWITH.	„ J. W. ROGERS.
„ Mrs. DUNN.	„ J. D. ROSCOW.
„ J. C. GRUMMANT.	„ H. TERRY.
„ W. HOLT.	„ T. B. H. TISDELL.
„ C. HOME.	„ R. W. TREMAIN.
„ J. S. G. LANGLEY.	

MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Chairman: Councillor Mrs. DUNN.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR	Councillor C. NIXON.
(Alderman W. Coleman, J.P.)	„ Miss REEVE.
Alderman H. T. HOLLANDS.	„ J. W. ROGERS.
„ Dame JANET	Mrs. AMOS.
STANCOMB-WILLS, J.P.	Mrs. DEVESON.
Councillor Rev. J. H. ASKWITH.	Mrs. FASSAM.
„ T. W. MOCKRIDGE.	Mrs. SYMONS.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Chairman: His Worship the MAYOR (Alderman W. Coleman, J.P.).

Vice-Chairman: Rev. E. L. A. HERTSLET.

Alderman T. S. CHAYNEY.	Councillor W. HOLT.
„ R. W. PHILPOTT.	„ J. S. G. LANGLEY.
„ Dame JANET	„ T. W. MOCKRIDGE.
STANCOMB-WILLS, J.P.	Mr. E. F. G. CHAPMAN.
Councillor Rev. J. H. ASKWITH.	Rev. A. WATERHOUSE.
„ Mrs. DUNN.	Rev. N. A. TURNER-SMITH, M.A.
„ J. C. GRUMMANT.	Miss L. WHITING.

*To his Worship the Mayor, the Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Ramsgate.*

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1927, prepared in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health and Board of Education, on the Health, Sanitary circumstances and administration of the Borough and on the work in connection with the School Medical Service.

The Health of the Borough continues to be satisfactory with remarkable freedom from infectious disease and nothing of exceptional importance occurred during the year.

The position as regards shortage of housing accommodation in the Borough was relieved to a considerable extent by the completion during the year of a total of 295 houses, 180 by the Local Authority and 115 by other bodies or persons, this is a much larger number of houses built than in any year since the war.

The various services and schemes continue to function satisfactorily.

I would acknowledge the assistance rendered by my medical colleagues, the loyal co-operation of all the members of the staff of the department and would express my thanks to the Chairmen and Members of Committees for support during the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. J. BANNISTER,

*Medical Officer of Health and
School Medical Officer.*

Health Office,

26, Albion Place,

Ramsgate.

May, 1928.

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Staff of the Health Department

*Medical Officer of Health,
School Medical Officer and Bacteriologist :*

W. J. BANNISTER, M.D., B.S., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector :

W. T. SMITH, M.R.San.I., F.S.I.A.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector :

E. YOUNG, Assoc. R.S.I.

Cert. Meat Inspector, R.S.I.

Health Visitors :

*Miss G. CLARK.

*Miss F. PEARCE.

Miss A. ASHWELL.

Miss R. HOWELLS.

*Certificated Midwife, Central Midwives Board.

Clerks :

S. GORHAM.

A. SAWORD

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

1.—General Statistics.

Area of the Borough in Acres (excluding Foreshore) ...	2,278
Population, Census, 1921	36,561
Population, as adjusted by the Registrar General for statistical purposes, 1927	30,100
Number of inhabited structurally separate dwellings (1921)	6,609
Number of buildings containing dwellings (1921) ...	7,082
Number of private families or separate occupiers (1921)	7,491
Rateable Value	£185,537
Sum represented by a penny rate	£725
Rainfall, 1927	30.09 ins.
Sunshine, 1927	1647.1 hrs.

2.—Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year 1927.

		Total	Males	Females	
Births	Legitimate	431	228	203	Birth Rate 14.98
	Illegitimate	20	6	14	
Deaths	...	453	210	243	Death Rate 12.5 (corrected).

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth } from sepsis ... Nil
 } from other causes Nil

Deaths of infants under one year of age, per 1,000 births :—

Legitimate ...	66.5	Illegitimate ...	2.2	Total ...	68.7
Deaths from Measles, all ages	Nil
„ „ Whooping Cough, all ages	1
„ „ Diarrhoea, under 2 years of age	2

The following Table has been drawn up to render possible a comparison as regards Vital Statistics for 1927, between England and Wales as a whole, etc., and Ramsgate

	Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Population	Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Population.									Rate per 1,000 Births		Percentage of Total Deaths			
		All Causes	Enteric Fever	Small-Pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diphtheria and Enteritis (under Two Years)	Total Deaths under One Year	Certified by Registered Medical Practitioners	Inquest Cases	Certified by Coroner after P.M. No Inquest.	Uncertified Causes of Death
England and Wales ...	16.7	12.3	0.01	0.00	0.09	0.01	0.09	0.07	0.57	0.51	6.3	69	91.7	6.6	0.7	1.0
107 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London...	17.1	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.12	0.01	0.10	0.08	0.49	0.46	8.3	71	91.9	6.6	0.9	0.6
155 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000—50,000) ...	16.4	11.3	0.01	0.00	0.07	0.01	0.08	0.05	0.58	0.41	5.0	68	92.7	5.8	0.3	1.2
London ...	16.1	11.9	0.01	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.12	0.09	0.39	0.51	7.5	59	90.3	7.9	1.8	0.0
RAMSGATE ...	14.98	12.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.46	0.43	4.4	68	91.19	4.65	0.24	3.92

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

Physical Features and General Character of the District.

The Borough of Ramsgate, situated in the most favoured position in the Isle of Thanet, has a south aspect. It covers an area of 2,306 acres, and is roughly triangular in shape, having the sea along the whole of its base, which extends from the adjoining district of Broadstairs on the north-east to the Borough Boundary west of Pegwell. With the exception of a small area near the Royal Harbour, the Borough may be said to stand on high ground with a fine outlook on the sea, and views of the Kent coastline and hills towards the South Foreland. The many natural advantages include a sub-soil of chalk, comparative freedom from rain and fog, abundant sunshine, an equable temperature, and protection from north and east winds. A large expanse of particularly fine sand covers most of the foreshore. Ramsgate consequently has been long famous as a health resort and residential town. With the exception of the various activities in connection with a large fishing industry and some minor industries, the inhabitants are chiefly occupied in catering for the wants and pleasures of residents and a large number of visitors during the season. The low rainfall, much bright sunshine, and breezes from the open sea render Ramsgate an ideal place for recuperation for those run down in health. The natural advantages and amenities of the town render it a favourable place of residence for persons retiring from active life, and induce a certain number of parents to take up their permanent residence here with the object of restoring their delicate children to robust health.

For administrative purposes the Borough is divided into two parishes, Ramsgate and St. Lawrence Intra; and into six wards: East Cliff, West Cliff, East Central, West Central, Sir Moses Montefiore and St. Lawrence.

Meteorology.

The following tables give information in reference to some of the meteorological observations made in the Borough:—

The Borough Surveyor has kindly furnished records of Sunshine, Rainfall and Temperatures.

METEOROLOGY.

SUNSHINE, 1927.

Month.	Total Sunshine in hours.	Daily Average in hours.
January	58.0	1.87
February	65.2	2.33
March	137.1	4.42
April	203.8	6.79
May	273.7	8.83
June	171.6	5.73
July	178.6	5.76
August	202.1	6.52
September	135.5	4.52
October	121.2	3.91
November	61.7	2.06
December	38.6	1.25
Total	1647.1	

RAINFALL, 1927.

Month.	Total in inches.	Greatest Fall in 24 hours.	No. of Days with 0.01 inches or more.
January	1.43	0.24 on 21st	20
February	3.14	0.96 on 1st	17
March	1.80	0.43 on 31st	22
April	1.58	0.41 on 5th	14
May	0.78	0.31 on 31st	10
June	3.31	0.58 on 24th	17
July	5.68	2.26 on 6th	14
August	3.68	0.80 on 1st	21
September	2.27	0.48 on 14th	10
October	1.00	0.37 on 22nd	10
November	2.18	0.56 on 29th	17
December	3.24	0.70 on 26th	15
Total	30.09		

MEAN TEMPERATURES, 1927.

	Deg.		Deg.
January	45.8	July	66.0
February	46.0	August	67.5
March	50.8	September	63.0
April	54.8	October	58.6
May	58.9	November	49.7
June	62.2	December	41.1

Lowest Mean Temperature, 24.0 degrees on 18th December.

Highest Mean Temperature, 76.0 degrees on 10th July.

Population.

The estimate of the Registrar General of the population of the Borough at mid-year 1927 is 30,100; it is, therefore, considered that there has been a decrease of 170 in the population since mid-year 1926. There are good reasons for considering this to be an under estimate and the figure is supplied only for use in connection with vital statistics for the year 1927. It has been derived from the corrected 1921 Census population after allowance for births, deaths and indefinite information regarding migration which occurred between the census date and 30th June, 1927, and is believed to provide as true a measure of the position as the data permit.

For the first time since some of the years during the war, the number of deaths (453) exceeded the number of births (451) during the year; in 1926 the excess of births over deaths was 104 and the average excess during the past five years was 137.

The uncorrected Census 1921 returns gave the population of the Borough as 36,561, consisting of 16,649 males and 19,912 females.

Births.

The number of births registered for the Borough during the year was 451, boys 234, girls 217; the birth rate for the year was, therefore, 14.98 per 1,000 as compared with a rate of 16.5 in 1926 and 16.9 in 1925. Of the total number of births, 20 were illegitimate children, a percentage of 4.4, as compared with 5.58 in 1926.

Deaths.

The number of deaths registered in the Borough during the year was 408, of these 42 were non-residents and must be deducted; 87 deaths of residents occurred outside the Borough and these must be added. The net number of deaths of residents was consequently 453, males 210, females 243, giving a net death rate of 15.04 per 1,000 of the population as compared with a rate of 13.1 in 1926 and 14.1 in 1925.

Census returns have shown that as regards age and sex distribution the population of Ramsgate differs greatly from that of the country as a whole, and in order to allow and equalise for this the crude death rate must be multiplied by the standardizing factor supplied by the Registrar General. The corrected death rate for 1927 for the Borough is, therefore, 12.5 per 1,000 as compared with a rate of 12.3 per 1,000 for England and Wales.

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 31, giving an infant mortality rate of 68.7 per 1,000 births, as compared with a rate of 71.86 in 1926 and 54.1 in 1925.

Of the infants under one year who died, one was illegitimate and as births of 20 illegitimate children were registered during the year the mortality rate amongst illegitimate infants was 50.5 per 1,000 as compared with 35.7 per 1,000 in 1926.

The causes of and ages at death are given in the Mortality and Infant Mortality Tables which follow.

Inquests.

Inquests were held by the Coroner for the district as to the causes of death of nineteen persons who died in the Borough during the year.

SUICIDES	4	OTHER CAUSES	...	4
By Hanging	2	Natural Causes	...	4
By Coal Gas Poisoning	1			
By Poisoning	1			
ACCIDENTS	11			
Injury (shock)	10			
Tetanus	1			

Uncertified Deaths.

The Borough continues to hold a most unsatisfactory position as regards the large proportion of uncertified deaths. During the year 1927, of the 408 deaths which occurred in the Borough 16 were uncertified, *i.e.*, were registered although in respect of none of these deaths was a certificate as to the cause of death given by a medical practitioner or an inquest held. Such deaths are not registered by the local Registrar unless the Coroner intimates that he does not consider an inquest necessary. It will be seen from the following how very unfavourably the percentage of uncertified deaths in the Borough compares with percentage figures supplied by the Registrar General.

Uncertified Causes of Death.	Percentage of Total Deaths.	Inquest Cases.
England and Wales ...	1.0	6.6
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	0.6	6.6
158 Smaller Towns (1921 adjusted populations 20,000—50,000) ...	1.2	5.8
London ...	0.0	7.9
RAMSGATE ...	3.92	4.65

In the returns of deaths supplied by the local Registrar the following words appear in the column for causes of death in respect of the uncertified deaths of which the age and sex is given.

Cause of Death.	Sex.	Age.
"Heart Failure" ...	Female	56 years.
"Heart Failure" ...	Male	60 years.
"Heart Failure" ...	Female	66 years.
"Heart Failure" ...	Male	68 years.
"Heart Failure" ...	Female	70 years.
"Probably Heart Failure" ...	Male	58 years.
"Probably Old Age and Heart Failure" ...	Female	79 years.
"Probably Bright's Disease" ...	Female	88 years.

The causes to which the remaining uncertified deaths were attributed were as follows:—

Cause of Death.	Age.
"Old Age" ...	94, 79, 97
"Heart Failure due to rheumatism and old age" ...	78
"Bursting of pulmonary artery of the lung" ...	56
"Cerebral Hæmorrhage" ...	75
"Atelectasis Pulmonum" ...	2 hours
"Prematurity, debility" ...	1 day

MORTALITY TABLE.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1927.

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

Cause of Death.					Net Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.										Total Deaths, whether of Residents or Non- Residents, in Institu- tions in the District.
					All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and under 75 years.	75 years and upwards.	
All Causes	Certified	440	28	2	3	7	12	30	116	101	141	74
	Uncertified	13	2	2	3	6	...
Enteric Fever
Small-pox
Measles
Scarlet Fever
Whooping Cough	1	...	1
Diphtheria
Influenza	14	1	3	5	5	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	1	2
Meningococcal Meningitis
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	28	1	6	12	7	2	...	4
Other Tuberculous Diseases	5	1	...	2	2	4
Cancer, Malignant Disease	60	2	23	20	15	10
Rheumatic Fever	4	1	...	1	1	1
Diabetes	10	1	5	3	1	2
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	39	1	10	13	15	3
Heart Disease	51	15	13	23	2
Arterio-sclerosis	11	1	10	...
Bronchitis	41	3	...	1	...	1	...	10	8	18	...
Pneumonia (all forms)	27	2	1	1	3	6	8	6	8
Other Respiratory Diseases	5	1	3	...	1	...
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	3	2	1	...	2
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	2	2
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	3	1	...	1	1	3
Cirrhosis of Liver	2	1	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	14	1	3	4	5	1	3
Puerperal Sepsis
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition
Congenital Debility and Malforma- tion, Premature Birth	17	17	4
Suicide	5	4	1	...	1
Other Deaths from Violence	8	1	...	1	3	1	2	13
Other Defined Diseases	97	4	1	3	3	17	19	50	13
Causes ill-defined or unknown	5	1	2	2
					453	30	2	3	7	12	30	118	104	147	74

INFANT MORTALITY, 1927.

Net Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under 1 year of age.

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

Cause of Death.		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All Causes {	Certified ...	5	3	3	2	13	6	6	2	2	29
	Uncertified ...	2	2	2
Small-pox
Chicken-pox
Measles
Scarlet Fever
Whooping Cough
Diphtheria
Erysipelas
Tuberculous Meningitis
Abdominal Tuberculosis	1	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	...	1
Meningitis
Convulsions	1	1	...	2	1	3
Laryngitis
Bronchitis	2	...	1	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	1	1	...	2
Diarrhœa
Enteritis	2	2
Gastritis
Syphilis
Rickets
Suffocation (overlying)
Injury at Birth
Atelectasis ...		1	1	1
Congenital Malformations
Premature Birth ...		6	2	8	2	10
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	2	2	4	3	7
Other Causes	1	1
		7	3	3	2	15	6	6	2	2	31

Net Births in the year { Legitimate, 431.
Illegitimate, 20.

Net Deaths in the year { Legitimate Infants, 30.
Illegitimate Infants, 1.

Infectious Diseases.

The following diseases are notifiable in the Borough :—

By the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889.

Smallpox	Typhus Fever	Puerperal Fever
Scarlet Fever	Cholera	Erysipelas
Diphtheria	Plague	Continued Fever
Enteric Fever	Relapsing Fever	

By Special Orders of the Ministry of Health.

Tuberculosis (all forms)	Acute Poliomyelitis	Trench Fever
Cerebro Spinal Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Acute Primary Pneumonia
Encephalitis Lethargica	Malaria	Acute Influenzal Pneumonia
Acute Polio-encephalitis	Dysentery	Puerperal Pyrexia

Intimations of other infectious diseases which are not compulsorily notifiable, such as Measles, Chicken-pox, Whooping Cough, etc., are received from medical practitioners, head teachers and parents. Especially in the case of children when nursing or other assistance can be arranged through the Health Department, the sending of such intimations is encouraged.

There was no undue prevalence of any infectious disease during the year; all the cases notified, the ages of the patients, etc., are shown in the tables which follow.

Scarlet Fever.

Most of the 51 cases notified were of a very mild type of the disease. Forty-nine of the patients were removed to the Isolation Hospital. There was one "return" case of the disease. No death was caused by this disease in 1927.

Diphtheria.

The Borough continues to be relatively free from this disease, during the year 18 cases were notified and all the patients were removed to the Isolation Hospital. No death was caused by this disease in 1927.

Anti-toxin.

Supplies of Diphtheria Anti-toxin are kept at the Health Office and issued to medical practitioners who can also in emergency or at night time obtain it at the Police Station where a small stock is kept and replaced as required.

In 1927, a total of 24,000 units of Diphtheria Anti-toxin were supplied to local medical practitioners, the total cost to the Council in respect of 12,000 units issued for use in cases in which it would not otherwise have been obtainable owing to necessitous circumstances, in accordance with the Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order, 1910, was 12s. 10d.

Enteric Fevers.

Two cases of Paratyphoid Fever were notified during the year, both cases were treated at their homes and made uneventful recoveries. Enquiries made in connection with these two cases failed to elicit the sources of infection.

Pneumonia.

Forty-eight cases of acute primary pneumonia or of acute influenzal pneumonia were notified during the year, of the 27 deaths caused by pneumonia two were under one year of age, one was between one and two years, one between 15 and 20 years, three between 20 and 35 years, and 20 were over 45 years.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Five cases were notified during the year to which the Health Visitors paid 52 visits, assisting the mothers in carrying out the treatment ordered by the medical attendant.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

One case of Puerperal Fever and seven cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified during the year.

In accordance with arrangements made in 1926 the case of Puerperal Fever was admitted to the Isolation Hospital; no deaths due to these conditions occurred during the year.

Influenza and other non-notifiable diseases.

Influenza and catarrhal conditions were somewhat prevalent in the early months of the year, 14 deaths were attributed to Influenza as compared with four in 1926.

Measles and German Measles were not prevalent and no deaths resulted from these diseases. Information as to the existence of cases of Measles, Chicken-pox, Whooping Cough and Mumps is obtained chiefly through intimations sent by head teachers and during the year 97 cases of Chicken-pox, 49 cases of Whooping Cough, 29 cases of Mumps and two cases of Measles were intimated by Head Teachers on the special form provided for the purpose.

Notification of Tuberculosis.

Notification of cases of this disease is carried out in an increasingly satisfactory manner in this Borough. During the year there came under notice the death from pulmonary tuberculosis of one person who had not been notified during life, and one of non-pulmonary tuberculosis. Explanations of the failure to notify these cases were requested and received from the local medical practitioners concerned who were reminded of their legal obligations under the Tuberculosis Regulations.

Investigations were made as to the possible need for taking action under Article 3 of the P.H. (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, relating to tuberculous employees in the milk trade, but no ground for taking action was found.

No action was taken under Sec. 62 of the P.H. Act, 1925.

Smallpox and Vaccination.

Fortunately no case of Smallpox occurred in the Borough, but several persons who were contacts of cases in other districts or on board ships and who came to the Borough were kept under observation.

In view of the steadily increasing number of cases of Smallpox in the country as a whole during recent years it is advisable to draw attention to the large proportion of persons in the Borough who are not protected by vaccination. In consequence of this, the introduction of the disease into the Borough might prove very serious and costly and it is to be regretted that a great number of parents here, as elsewhere, can and do avail themselves of the proviso in the Vaccination Act of 1907 through which they are exempted from penalties on making a statutory declaration of conscientious objection to the vaccination of their children.

The Vaccination Officer for the district has kindly supplied me with the following particulars which, as regards the number of children unvaccinated, must be considered most unsatisfactory.

Of 466 children born in the district, 18 were removed, 25 died unvaccinated, and at the end of the year 63 were still under the statutory age; particulars as to the remaining 360 children are as follows :—

Successfully vaccinated	153
Vaccination postponed	12
Certificates procured by Conscientious Objectors	194
Insusceptible of vaccination	1

From this it will be seen that over 57 per cent of these children were at the end of the year unprotected by vaccination, as compared with 57 per cent in 1926.

The records as to the vaccinal condition of children examined during the year at routine medical inspections at the public elementary schools in the Borough show that

of 475 "Entrants"	...	161 (33.75 per cent)	were vaccinated.
of 466 "Intermediates"	...	182 (39.05 per cent)	" "
of 468 "Leavers"	...	181 (38.84 per cent)	" "

Bacteriological Work.

All the ordinary bacteriological work required in the Borough is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health at the Borough Bacteriological Laboratory at the Health Office.

During the year 1927 the following specimens were examined and reported upon :—

			Total Number examined.	Number positive.
Swabs from Noses and Throats—				
As to the presence of Diphtheria Bacilli	242	15
Sputum—				
As to the presence of Tubercle Bacilli	71	13
Blood—				
As to Widal Reaction	7	1
As to the presence of Malaria Parasite	1	—
Hairs—				
As to infection by Ringworm Fungus	9	7
Pus—				
As to the presence of Gonococci	1	1
Other pathological materials examined	5	1
Total	336	38

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1927.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	AGE INCIDENCE.													Total Deaths.
			(Numbers in brackets indicate Deaths)													
			Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65		
Diphtheria ...	18	18	—	1	—	—	4	4	6	1	1	1	—	—	27	
Scarlet Fever...	51	49	—	1	—	3	8	24	9	2	3	1	—	—		
Enteric Fever (includ- ing Paratyphoid) ...	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Pneumonia ...	48	—	3 (2)	2 (1)	1	1	2	10	2	2 (1)	5 (3)	6	11 (6)	3 (14)		
Erysipelas ...	9	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	4	1		
Malaria ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Puerperal Fever ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—		
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	—	—		
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 (2)	—	2	
Total ...	146	69														29

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases.			Vision unimpaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
Notified.	Treated					
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
5	5	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...			1		1		1	
1 ...			3	1			1	1
5 ...		1	2	5				1
10 ...			3	4			1	
15 ...	1	4				1		
20 ...	4	3		3	2	2		
25 ...	5	9			3	1		
35 ...	7	5		1	6	3		
45 ...	6	4			6	1		
55 ...	4							
65 and upwards	1				1	1		
Total ...	28	26	9	14	19	9	3	2

General Provisions for Health Services for the Borough.*Hospitals.*

The Ramsgate General Hospital, West Cliff Road, chiefly supported by voluntary contributions, is a modern institution with a total of 60 beds. A new ward for children containing 20 beds was opened in April, 1925. During the year the new Annexe for the Nursing Staff referred to in last year's report was completed.

The Hospital is for the treatment of the sick poor resident in the Borough and in neighbouring districts and for disabled seamen of all nations brought to the Port of Ramsgate. The Honorary Staff consists of two Physicians, four Surgeons, and a Dental Surgeon. A resident House Surgeon is also employed.

The Infectious Diseases Hospitals for the Borough are those used in conjunction with the other Local Authorities of the Isle of Thanet, and are situate at Haine, just outside the Borough Boundary. There is accommodation for 54 cases of Scarlet Fever in two blocks, each containing 27 beds, one block for cases of Diphtheria containing 14 beds and one block for Enteric Fever cases containing 14 beds. In addition there is considered to be accommodation in three huts for eight patients, four beds in a receiving block, and the new cubicle block has eight beds.

The Smallpox Hospital is in the same neighbourhood on a separate site and has two wards each containing eight beds.

The Poor Law Infirmary is at Minster, some five miles from the centre of the Borough.

There is no hospital for Tuberculosis or for maternity cases in or near the Borough.

The Thanet Hostel for Unmarried Mothers, 55, Ashburnham Road, Ramsgate, is a home at which an average number of 13 unmarried mothers and their babies are admitted each year. During their residence the duties of a mother are taught and training in domestic work is given.

*Clinics and Treatment Centres.***MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.**

This is provided at commodious centrally situated premises, Curtis House, and Cliff House, Cliff Street, by the St. Lawrence Maternity Association and Mothercraft Club working in co-ordination with the Town Council.

The Medical Officer for the Centre, a local medical practitioner, conducts Clinics on these premises as follows :

Ante-natal Clinics on alternate Wednesday afternoons.

Infant Consultation Clinics on Friday afternoons.

Consultation Clinics for children aged 1 to 5 years on alternate Wednesday afternoons.

The Ramsgate Crèche, supported by voluntary contributions, is in Hereson Road.

SCHOOL CLINICS.

The School Inspection and Treatment Clinic is provided by the Local Education Authority at the Health Office and is held on five mornings each week.

The Special Treatment Clinics in connection with the School Medical Service are also conducted at the Health Office and consists of an Ophthalmic Clinic, a Dental Clinic and a Clinic at which Scalp Ringworm is treated by means of the Education Authority's X-Ray installation.

By an agreement with the Authorities of the Ramsgate General Hospital school children are admitted for operative treatment for Nose and Throat conditions.

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

At Charlotte Cottage, Market Place, provided by the Kent County Council, and is open on Wednesdays in each week throughout the year.

VENEREAL DISEASES TREATMENT CENTRE.

This is provided by the Kent County Council for the Isle of Thanet at Eaton House, St. Peter's Road, Margate, and Clinics for men and women are conducted on Tuesdays.

Nursing Arrangements.

The Nurses employed by the Ramsgate and St. Lawrence District Nursing Association and the St. George's Parish Nurse carry out the general nursing of patients at their homes in the Borough.

In times of emergency these nurses are assisted in this work by members of the Ramsgate Nursing Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

Home Nursing of children suffering from minor infectious diseases, ophthalmia neonatorum, etc., is carried out by the Council's Health Visitors, and in the event of further assistance being required, as, for instance, during epidemics of measles, influenza, etc., an arrangement exists by which the Ramsgate and St. Lawrence Nursing Association has agreed to co-operate and provide nursing assistance in the homes for fifty cases in any year, a payment of 2s. 6d. to be made to the Association by the Town Council in respect of each case nursed at the request of the Medical Officer of Health.

Midwives.

Although the Town Council is the Authority responsible for the administration of the Maternity and Child Welfare scheme for the Borough, under present arrangements the Midwives Acts are administered by the Kent County Council. The midwives practising in the Borough are consequently supervised from Maidstone—an obviously unsatisfactory arrangement which causes an important part of the work affecting the welfare of mothers and children in the Borough to be supervised by an authority outside the Borough. No midwife is employed or subsidised by the Council. No particulars as to the number or qualifications of the midwives who during the year practised in the Borough are available.

Ambulance Facilities.

For cases of infectious disease the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital Board provide an up-to-date motor ambulance stationed at the Isolation Hospital.

For non-infectious and accident cases the motor ambulance and services of the Ramsgate Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade are available.

Chemical Work.

A chemical analysis of water from the public supply is carried out each quarter by the Public Analyst. Periodical chemical and bacteriological examinations are also carried out by the Medical Officer of Health. The source and consistent good quality of the constant water supply of the Borough has been referred to in detail in previous annual reports.

A sample of water taken in June, 1927, and submitted to chemical analysis at the South Eastern Analytical Laboratory, Canterbury, was reported on as follows :

WATER ANALYSIS—BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

All numerical results expressed in parts per 100,000.

Description of Sample	" From Public Supply, Letter F."			
Appearance	Clear
Colour	Green-blue
Smell	Normal
Chlorine in Chlorides	12.20
Phosphoric Acid in Phosphates	None
Nitrogen in Nitrates	1.43
Ammonia	None
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0029
Oxygen absorbed in 15 minutes	Trace only
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours	0.023
Hardness before boiling (Total)	32.3
Hardness after boiling (Permanent)	10.0
Total Solid Matter	58.70
Microscopical Examination of Deposit	Slight and unimportant
Chlorine as " Salt "	20.10

REMARKS.—The above results are satisfactory and indicate water organically pure and free from sewage percolation. The Microscopical Examination is also satisfactory. The water has not varied much since last examined in March, and the figures for " Chlorine " " Hardness " and " Total solid matter " are for all practical purposes unchanged.

(Signed) ERNEST M. HAWKINS,

Public Analyst, Borough of Ramsgate.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

There are no part-time officers on the staff of the Health Department, and contributions under Public Health or Exchequer grants are made towards the salaries of the Medical Officer of Health, the Sanitary Inspectors and the Health Visitors.

The Staff consists of :—

One Medical Officer of Health, who is also School Medical Officer and Borough Bacteriologist.

One Sanitary Inspector, who is Inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, and Officer under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act.

One Assistant Sanitary Inspector, holding the Meat Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Four Health Visitors, two of whom in addition to being trained Nurses, hold the Certificate of the Central Midwives Board.

Two Clerks.

Two Disinfectors.

Legislation in Force.

List of Adoptive Acts, Bye-Laws, etc., in force in the Borough.

ADOPTED ACTS.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE.

Common Lodging Houses (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 80).

Houses Let in Lodgings (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 90).

Cleansing, Etc., and Removal of Refuse (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 44).

Tents, Vans, Sheds, Etc. (H.W.C. Act, 1885, Sect. 9 (2)).

Slaughter-houses (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 169).

Prevention of Nuisances (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 44).

Keeping of Animals (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 44).

Offensive Trades (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 113).

New Streets and Buildings (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 157, P.H. Act, 1890, Sect. 23).

Regulations under Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1885.

PRIVATE ACT.

The Ramsgate Corporation Act, 1922.

The Pegwell Bay (Shellfish) Regulations.

These Regulations were made by the Minister of Health and came into force on the 1st December, 1925, with a view to the control of the sale and distribution of cockles gathered from the beds at the mouth of the river Stour.

Section 3 of the Regulations states that

" A person shall not sell, distribute or offer for sale for human consumption any cockles taken from the prescribed area unless and until they have been subjected to a process of sterilisation by steaming under pressure for at least six minutes. The sterilisation shall be carried out either by a sanitary authority or in a manner approved by the medical officer of the district in which the cockles are landed."

The Regulations provide that for the purpose of execution and enforcement the Ramsgate Corporation shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the Sanitary Authority in the district of the Sandwich Port Sanitary Authority, in the Urban District of Broadstairs and St. Peter's and in such parts of the Borough of Sandwich and of the Rural Districts of Eastry and of the Isle of Thanet as are not included within the district of the Sandwich Port Sanitary Authority.

No action under these Regulations was found necessary during the year.

SHELLFISH STATION.

This station is in Broad Street and is equipped and worked by the Town Council. The premises consist of a large concrete floored room, yard space and covered storage accommodation. Its equipment consists of sinks with water supply to each, a boiler and two sets of ovens each comprised of three compartments into which steam under pressure can be admitted and retained. No charge is made by the Council to vendors of shellfish for the sterilisation of shellfish brought by them to the Station. During the year 22,904 gallons of cockles were sterilised.

DISINFECTING STATION.

These premises are situated in Broad Street and are equipped with a Manlove Alliott Steam Disinfector and special vans, trucks, etc., for dealing with infected material.

CLEANSING STATION.

This is situated in St. Luke's-avenue in a portion of the yard of the Gas and Water Department.

It is equipped with a Bath with Geyser, lavatory basin, W.C., and a Manlove Alliott gas-heated disinfector for dealing with verminous clothing, etc.

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

This Mortuary has been used for many years and as its arrangements are antiquated and insufficient the Council decided during the year to erect a new Mortuary in the grounds of Cavendish House, which is to be reconstructed, with additional buildings, for the purpose of a new Police Station. At the end of the year the plans and accepted tender for the construction of the Mortuary received the consideration of the Ministry of Health.

Maternity and Child Welfare.*Notification of Births Act.*

During the year 469 births were notified; of these 460 were live births and 9 were stillbirths; in addition there were 4 births in the Borough which were not notified. Failure to notify births as required by the Act has now become infrequent in this Borough. In each instance of failure the attention of the party responsible is drawn to the omission and an explanation is requested.

Doctors notified 217 births, midwives 232, doctors and midwives 11; four of the stillbirths were notified by doctors, four by midwives, and one by a doctor and midwife. The number of births registered for the Borough during the year was 451, giving a birth rate of 14.98 per 1,000 as compared with the rate of 16.5 in 1926.

Work of Health Visitors.

Each of the four Health Visitors employed by the Council carries out in the area assigned to her all the health visiting and school work required in that area. This arrangement has proved satisfactory and economical, rendering visits to a home by more than one Health Visitor unnecessary, and also enabling each Nurse to become more familiar with the conditions of the families in her area.

The Health Visitors made 468 first visits to children under 1 year; 723 children under 1 year received a total of 2,856 visits. Children aged 1 to 5 years numbered 1,202, to whom 4,820 visits were made, and 325 visits were made to 172 expectant mothers. Except in cases in which visits are not indicated, efforts are made to visit all births which occur in the Borough. Mothers are always invited to attend with their infants at the Maternity and Infant Welfare Centre, at which two of the Council's Health Visitors attend on the days it is open.

Nursing assistance was rendered at the homes by the Health Visitors in 8 cases.

Maternity and Infant Welfare Centre.

Previous annual reports described the arrangements made by the Ramsgate and St. Lawrence Maternity Association, working in co-ordination with the Town Council, at their premises, Curtis House and Cliff House, Cliff Street.

During the year 51 sessions were held at the Centre on Fridays, on each occasion an infant consultation clinic was conducted by the Medical Officer of the Centre, a local medical practitioner, the number of consultations was 658 in connection with 272 individual infants. A consultation clinic for children aged 1 to 5 years was also held on 22 Wednesdays, on which 102 individual children were seen by the Medical Officer. The total number of attendances of mothers at the Centre was 2,344.

The proposed arrangements having received the approval of the Ministry of Health, a definite Ante-Natal Clinic was established during 1926. It was arranged that in the first instance this clinic should be held once each fortnight, and efforts were made to encourage midwives practising locally to attend with their patients at the Clinic. The number of women who attended and were examined during the year 1927 was 57, consisting of 21 primiparæ and 36 multiparæ.

Issue of Milk in Necessitous Cases.

Throughout the year arrangements were in force by which, after investigation as to financial circumstances, necessitous mothers are supplied with milk for themselves or for their infants. Mothers who were granted milk were as a rule certified at the Centre to be in need of it for themselves or for their infants, owing to health reasons, by the Medical Officer of the Centre; in other cases certificates were given by the Medical Officer of Health. The total cost to the Council during the year for fresh milk supplied was £10 18s. 10d. and for dried milk £1 16s.

Infant Mortality.

This matter is referred to under Vital Statistics, and from the Table it will be seen that more deaths of infants were attributed to premature births than to any other cause, 10 out of a total of 31 deaths.

The Infantile Mortality rate for 1927 was 68.7 per 1,000 births as compared with a rate of 71.8 in 1926; 54.1 in 1925, and with a rate of 69 for England and Wales in 1927.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.*Public Water Supply.*

The consistent good quality of the constant water supply for the Borough and neighbouring villages was maintained throughout the year. The source of the supply is rain which falls on a large open and sparsely populated agricultural district, the soil of which is a light loam superimposed on the upper chalk strata. After filtration through this it penetrates to the deep chalk in which it travels through fissures to the adits and thence to the Pumping Station at Whitehall, which is situated in the northern outskirts of the Borough.

The adits are over a mile from the sea, and including that completed in 1926, measure practically three miles in length. Each adit is 8 feet in height and 6 feet in width, and thus constitutes large underground reservoirs at a depth from the surface varying from 98 feet to over 160 feet.

From the Pumping Station the water is pumped to the high level water tower at Southwood which is an enclosed reservoir 220 feet above sea level and approximately three-quarters of one mile distant. From this reservoir it is distributed by gravitation to all parts of the Borough and neighbouring villages in the Isle of Thanet, the highest point of elevation of which is 182 feet above sea level.

The quantity of water pumped during the year was 393,132,000 gallons, the average amount being 7,560,231 gallons per week. This is approximately 29.84 gallons daily per person.

The quantity and quality of this water remain for all practical purposes constant year after year, variation in the amount of rainfall rarely causing any diminution in the supply. Chemical analysis of the supply has been referred to previously in this report, and the results of these analyses, as also of bacteriological examinations, show that the water is organically pure and free from contamination.

Being derived from chalk strata the water has no plumbo solvent action and, as is usual in most of such waters, is somewhat hard; much of this hardness is of a "temporary" nature, being largely removed by boiling. It is well aerated and is very palatable.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Borough has an efficient water carriage system which has the great advantage of simplicity owing to the fact that the formation of the land rendered it possible to lay sewers so that the sewage flows freely by gravitation from all parts of the town to the sea. Pumping plants, tank sewers, etc., are consequently absent from the system. The sewers, which are ventilated and regularly flushed with water, unite near the Harbour and form the outfall sewer in which the sewage is conveyed to a point over 1,250 feet from the shore. This site was chosen for the outfall many years ago after extensive float experiments had proved that at whatever state of the tide the sewage may be there discharged it is carried by currents straight out to sea.

Closet Accommodation.

With the exception of a few isolated houses on the outskirts of the Borough all houses are connected with the water carriage system, the soil pipes being ventilated and intercepting traps provided.

Water closets with flushing cisterns and connected with the water carriage system are provided for all houses with the exception of 14; of these 10 are connected to cesspools, 2 are earth closets and 2 are pail closets.

Removal and Disposal of Refuse.

The Corporation collects refuse daily from all premises in the town; this is conveyed to the four-celled Horsfall Destructor in an outlying portion of the town. This work is carried out by the Works Department, and the Borough Engineer has supplied information that 9,636 tons 14 cwts. 1 qr. of refuse were collected and dealt with during the year, the average amount each month being 803 tons 1 cwt. In addition, 3,104 loads of road sweepings and 721 loads of gully mud were collected.

During the year efforts to ensure that all premises shall have impermeable receptacles with movable covers for the deposition of refuse in accordance with the Bye-laws were continued; inspections of 271 houses showed that only 115 had proper receptacles, and during the year 130 were provided on preliminary notices being served and 26 on statutory notices being served.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The following tabular statement summarises the work carried out during the year by the Inspectors and has been prepared by Mr. W. T. Smith, Sanitary Inspector. The necessary supervision of all work carried out under the various notices served, including some left over from the previous year, made considerable demands on the time of the Inspectors, and the following particulars show the large amount of labour involved in supervising the sanitary condition of dwelling houses and other premises in the Borough.

INSPECTIONS.

Under Public Health Acts	2,905
Of Houses, number inspected under H.T.P. Acts, etc. ...	462
In connection with infectious diseases	137
Of Common Lodging Houses	17
— Houses Let in Lodgings	57
— Cowsheds	32
— Milkshops	84
— Dairies	48
— Factories, Workshops and Workplaces	157
— Premises at which are conducted Offensive Trades ...	77
— Ice Cream Vendors	82
— Slaughter-houses	720
— Fish Market	24
— Stables	39
— Bakehouses	92
— Premises as to provision of refuse receptacles ...	477
— General Inspections with Medical Officer	12
— Premises with reference to rat infestation	39
— Premises licensed for music and dancing	86
— Premises under Rent Restriction Act, Certificates ...	2
— Schools	26
— Shipping	7
— Shops and Stores coming within Meat Regulations ...	203
— Miscellaneous	46

NOTICES SERVED, ETC.

Statutory Notices served	49
Preliminary notices served or letters written	473
Nuisances abated on notice or letter	278
Nuisances abated on verbal instructions	154
Complaints received and investigated	315

COMPLAINTS OF NUISANCES RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR.

A record of all complaints is kept at the Health Office, and during the year 315 complaints were made. Two of these were frivolous or concerning matters which could not be dealt with by the Health Department under the several Acts.

Of the other 313 complaints :—

6 were referred to the Borough Surveyor's Department :—

Public Sewers choked	2
Insanitary condition of a public passage	1
Unauthorised building over a back yard	1
Rats infesting ashes dumped from Destructor	1
Defective flushing valve to public sewer	1

5 were referred to the Gas and Water Department :—

Offensive smells from gas in houses	4
Continual waste of water from a dwelling house	1

2 were referred to the Chief Constable :—

Rubbish and filth deposited in a public passage	1
Dangerous animal being kept on premises	1

The remaining 300 may be roughly classified as follows :—

Choked drains	22
Smells from drains	9
Refuse dumped	10
Unsound articles of food	30
Dirty houses	17
Damp houses	11
Defective drains and water closets	44
Overcrowding	6
Defective and insufficient water supply	16
Accumulation of manure	5
Choked or defective wastepipes	1
Defective guttering	9
Rats on premises	19
Leaky roofs	19
Defective stoves, cooking ranges and coppers	13
Improper keeping of animals	13
Offensive refuse receptacles	15
Broken floors and yard surfaces	4
Smoke from chimneys	12
Miscellaneous	25

With one exception the nuisances discovered during the year were abated upon service of informal or statutory notices. In this case legal proceedings were taken against the owner and occupier of a dwelling house who had been required to cease throwing filthy matter on to the surface of a private passage-way used in common by the occupiers of seven other dwelling houses, and also to cease throwing filthy liquid on the public pavement and roadway. The Justices made an order with costs £1 14s. The order was not obeyed, and a further summons was issued for a continuing offence of six days. On this summons the Justices inflicted a fine of 10s. per day (£3) with £2 2s. costs. This did not prevent the nuisance being continued, and a further summons was issued for a continuing offence of 37 days. The Justices imposed a fine of 5s. per day (£9 5s.), or 38 days' imprisonment. The nuisance was then abated and has not been committed since that date.

WORK DONE IN CONNECTION WITH THE DRAINAGE OF PREMISES.

Houses, Drains Tested.

After infectious disease	53
On complaint or alteration of drainage	115
Number of houses re-drained	29
Number of houses, drains repaired or partly relaid	59
New inspection chambers built	66
New gullies fixed	64
New covers to inspection chambers provided	10
Inspection chambers rendered	6
Defective soil or ventilating pipes renewed or repaired	52
New pedestal closets or closet basins or traps fixed	103
New flushing cisterns to W.C.'s provided	32
Fresh air inlet valves renewed or repaired	26
Cesspools and underground rainwater tanks abolished	19
New water closets and urinals erected	16
Cesspools emptied	3
Cesspool drainage abolished and drains connected to sewer	3

Housing.

The following defects were remedied and improvements carried out :—

Defective flushing cisterns repaired	30
Blocked drains cleared on notice	28
New stoneware sinks and baths provided	49
Wastepipes renewed and trapped	66
Rainwater pipes or guttering repaired or renewed	50
Defective roofs repaired	45
Yards paved or existing paving repaired	37
New floors laid or repaired	29
New sanitary refuse receptacles provided	24
Rainwater pipes disconnected from the drains	4
Dampness in walls abated	20
Broken plaster of walls and ceilings repaired	46
Stoves, ranges or coppers renewed or repaired	73
Broken sashcords renewed	124
Accumulations of rubbish removed	12
Defective chimneys or flues remedied	9
Interior of houses renovated	13
Storage for food provided	2
Miscellaneous defects remedied	39

With respect to Refuse Receptacles.

Houses inspected	271
Number found with suitable receptacles	115
Number found without suitable receptacles	156
Number provided on preliminary notice	130
Number provided on statutory notice	26
Number supplied by Local Authority	0

With respect to Overcrowding.

Rooms measured as to overcrowding	7
Overcrowding abated	2

With respect to Dirty Houses.

Houses cleansed	8
Rooms cleansed	68
Dirty W.C. basins cleansed	20
Filthy beds or mattresses destroyed	12

With respect to Water Supply.

Corroded water service pipes renewed to houses	30
Water service pipes repaired	8

With respect to keeping Animals.

Removal of animals improperly kept	3
Stable yard paving repaired	3
Stables cleansed and limewashed	4
Notices, letters or verbal instructions re removal of manure	4

With respect to Schools.

Sanitary conveniences inspected	20
Nuisances remedied	5

WORK DONE IN CONNECTION WITH HOUSES IN WHICH INFECTIOUS
DISEASES OCCURRED.

Drain Testing.

Disease.	No. of Houses the drains of which were tested.	No found to have slight defects.	No. found to have serious defects.	No. found to have no defects.
Scarlet Fever ..	36	7	2	27
Diphtheria ...	16	4	1	11
Enteric Fever ...	1	—	—	1

All defects discovered were remedied on service of intimation notices. An entire new drainage system was found to be necessary in the case of two houses.

Disinfection.

In connection with 127 cases of infectious disease which were removed to the Isle of Thanet Isolation Hospital, Haine, or isolated at home, and other diseases and conditions, the following work was carried out :—

Disease or Cause.	Number of Houses.	Number of Rooms.
Scarlet Fever ...	50	52
Diphtheria ...	17	17
Enteric Fever ...	2	3
Phthisis ...	31	52
Cancer ...	11	21
Vermin ...	7	8
Other Causes ...	9	9
	<hr/> 127 <hr/>	<hr/> 162 <hr/>

Also 184 sets of bedding, clothing, etc., were removed from houses, disinfected at the Station and returned. The Corporation's Disinfecting Station, in which is installed a Manlove Alliott Steam Disinfector, is situate in Broad Street, and all articles removed for disinfection are conveyed to it in a special covered van.

The Public Mortuary is on the same premises as the Disinfecting Station.

During the year the Police placed in the Mortuary the bodies of five persons who had been killed by accident or had died from other causes.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS
AND REGULATIONS.

Common Lodging Houses.

The number of Common Lodging Houses on the register is now three, all situate and adjoining each other in Central Road. During the year 17 visits of inspection were made and the houses were found to be kept in a clean condition and conducted in a satisfactory manner. Seven minor defects were discovered and remedied.

Houses Let in Lodgings.

There were 48 of these houses on the register at the end of the year, to which 57 visits of inspection were made. During the year three of these houses were entirely renovated and repaired and 12 dirty rooms were cleansed and renovated. Also 14 minor defects such as defective W.C. tanks, defective water supply, leaky roofs, etc., were discovered and remedied. No prosecution under the Bye-laws was found necessary, although in two cases it was found necessary to serve statutory notices.

Slaughter Houses.

The number of registered and licensed slaughter-houses on the register in 1914 and 1927 was as follows :

	In 1914.	In January, 1927.	In December, 1927
Registered	... 14	... 7	... 7
Licensed	... 1	... 1	... 1
	—	—	—
	15	8	8
	—	—	—

The Sanitary Inspectors made 720 inspections of these premises during the year; these inspections coincided with meat inspections. The premises have been kept in a satisfactory condition and there has been no need for action under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations or Bye-laws. All notices or verbal instructions given have received attention.

Offensive Trades.

The number of offensive trades carried on during the year in the Borough was 23, as follows :—

	Premises.	Inspections.
Fish Friers	16	46
Marine Store Dealers	5	19
Fat Melters and Bone Boilers	2	12

All fried fish shops in the Borough are now fitted with modern fish frying ranges. In four of the shops the interiors were entirely renovated during the year, and in some of the premises stoves heated by coal have been replaced by gas heating, being a great improvement so far as cleanliness in the shop and the emission of smoke from flues is concerned. No new licences for offensive trades have been granted during the year, and one application for a licence to establish a fried fish shop was refused.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

In connection with the destruction of rats and mice during the year, a considerable amount of work was carried out and 39 inspections of premises were made, chiefly owing to complaints received. During " Rat Week " a special campaign was undertaken, advertisements were inserted and articles were published in the two local newspapers calling the attention of the public to their responsibilities under the Act. The proprietors of three leading cinemas displayed notices at each performance during the week calling the attention of the public to " Rat Week." A large quantity of poison baits were laid in the sewer headings and special attention was given to premises likely to

be harbouring rats and mice. There is no doubt that these efforts were the means of causing a very considerable number of rodents to be destroyed. The Council have decided to cause the sewer headings to be baited with poison baits four times during each year.

Sanitary Condition of Theatres, Music Halls, etc.

The 43 places of public amusement licensed for public music and dancing in the Borough were visited by the Sanitary Inspector during the year and found to be kept in a clean and satisfactory condition generally. More attention has been given to the cleanliness of the smaller halls than previously. The Sanitary Inspector furnishes a report to the Licensing Justices at the Annual Licensing Meeting as to the sanitary conditions, etc., prevailing on the premises, and the report is taken into consideration by them before renewing the licences.

Twelve defects in sanitary appliances, etc., were discovered and all were remedied upon attention being called to them.

Sanitation of Schools.

The sanitary condition, water supply, etc., of all the public elementary schools in the Borough is dealt with in the report on the School Medical Service. Two only of the nine public elementary schools are provided by the Local Education Authority; the equipment and general sanitary condition of these and of one of the non-provided schools which was largely reconstructed recently are satisfactory, but although improvements have been made in recent years as regards the sanitation of the other non-provided schools, their faulty design and the unsuitable situation of some of them leave much to be desired.

Action taken to prevent the spread of infectious disease is also referred to in the report on the School Medical Service and no difficulty arises in co-ordinating the public health administrative work with the school medical work, the Medical Officer of Health being also the School Medical Officer.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1927 for the Borough of Ramsgate, on the administration of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, in connection with Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework.

TABLE I.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Premises.	No. of Inspections.	No. of Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories : (including Factory Laundries) ...	41	3	—
Workshops : (including Workshop Laundries)	99	14	—
Workplaces : (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	17	1	—
Total	157	18	—

TABLE II.

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.	
	Found.	Remedied.
Nuisances under the Public Health Act :—		
Want of Cleanliness	9	9
Want of Ventilation	1	1
Overcrowding	—	—
Want of Drainage to Floors	2	2
Other Nuisances	10	10
Sanitary Accommodation { Insufficient	2	2
Unsuitable or Defective	4	4
Not Separate for Sexes	2	2
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :		
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bake-house	—	—
Breach of Special Sanitary Requirements for Bakehouses	6	6
Other Offences	5	5
Total	41	41

TABLE III.

HOMEWORK.

Outworkers' Lists. Section 107.						
NATURE OF WORK.	Lists received from Employers.					
	Sending twice in a year			Sending once in a year.		
	Lists.	Outworkers.		Lists.	Outworkers.	
		Con-tractors.	Work-men.		Contractors	Workmen
Making Wearing Apparel	20	—	26	10		13
Furniture and Upholstery	2	—	2	1		1
Other Trades	2	—	12	1		6
Total	24		40	12		20
Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists :—						
Making Wearing Apparel	5					
Furniture and Upholstery	1					
Total	6					

TABLE IV.
REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.	Number.
Bakehouses	38
Dressmakers and Milliners	11
Tailors and Bootmakers	17
Laundries	6
Building Trade	41
Upholsterers	3
Engineers and Whitesmiths	24
Printers	8
Miscellaneous	39
Total	187

TABLE V.
OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act	—
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector of Factories as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts :—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	—
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	—
Other	—
Underground Bakehouses :—	
Certificates granted during the year	—
In use at the end of the year	4

Bakehouses.

The number of Bakehouses in the Borough and on the Register at the end of the year was 38, and of these only 4 are underground bakehouses. The number of notices served and verbal notices given in connection with bakehouses during the year was 17, and 92 inspections were made. The notices served were 6 as to limewashing and 11 for other defects, which included defective W.C.'s, dirty W.C. basins, dirty floors, defective guttering, etc. These defects were in each case remedied.

Port Sanitary Administration.

All cases of infectious diseases entering the Harbour have the same prompt attention as is given to all other cases of infectious diseases occurring within the Borough.

The following information is in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, and set out in the form suggested.

FORM A.

Amount of Shipping inspected in the Port Sanitary District during the year 1927.

	Number.	Tonnage	Number inspected.		Number reported to be defective	Number of Orders Issued
			By the Medical Officer of Health.	By the Sanitary Inspector		
Foreign {	Steamers ...	5	1529	—	5	2
	*Motor ...	1	140	—	1	—
	Sailing ...	—	—	—	—	—
	Fishing ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total Foreign ...	6	1669	—	6	2	2
Coastwise {	Steamers ...	1	138	—	1	—
	*Motors ...	—	—	—	—	—
	Sailing ...	—	—	—	—	—
	Fishing ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total Coastwise ...	1	138	—	1	—	—
Total Foreign & Coastwise	7	1807	—	7	2	2

*Includes mechanically propelled vessels other than steamers.

FORM B.

Rats destroyed in 1927 ... Nil

FORM C.

Vessels " Infected " or " Suspected " from infected Ports Nil

FORM D.

Vessels subjected to measures of Rat Destruction ... Nil

During the year no vessel infected with or suspected of plague or other infectious disease arrived at the Port.

Facilities for the cleansing and disinfecting of verminous persons and their belongings exist at the Council's Disinfecting and Cleansing Stations.

The imports from foreign ports consist chiefly of timber from various ports in Sweden, Norway and Finland, and bricks from Nieuport. Coal is imported from the Tyne, wheat re-shipped from the London Docks, and bricks from Sittingbourne.

A large number of the entries is in connection with the important fishing industry based at the Port of Ramsgate.

Shellfish.

No action was necessary during the year in connection with cockles gathered from the beds at the mouth of the River Stour which are known to be liable to pollution. Cockles from these beds which are imported into this Borough are sterilised by steam under pressure at the Council's Shellfish Station, and during the year a total of 22,904

gallons were dealt with. The Pegwell Bay (Shellfish) Regulations, 1925, give power to control the sale, distribution and offering for sale for human consumption of all cockles gathered from this area.

Rats.

Owing to the work of extermination carried out in previous years the presence of rats was not evident. Traps are regularly laid at various places in the Harbour, but only occasionally are rats caught.

Shipping.

I am indebted to the Harbour Master for the following information in reference to shipping which entered the Port during the year 1927 :—

	No. of Entries.	Total Tonnage.
British Vessels (all kinds) (including Trading, Yachts, Passenger Steamers and Ramsgate Fishing Vessels) ...	2,100 ...	171,133
Foreign Vessels	16 ...	3,730

Housing.

General.

During the year 180 houses for which contracts were entered into by the Council in 1926 were completed and occupied, and thus to some extent was the situation caused by the shortage of housing accommodation relieved.

At the end of the year 198 houses of the 352 houses for which the Council's Housing Scheme on the Whitehall Estate provides were occupied and contracts were entered into for the erection of 104 non-parlour and 38 parlour type houses.

The pressing need is for accommodation at sufficiently low rentals and the completion of the non-parlour type houses will be helpful in this direction.

Unhealthy Areas.

During the year an Improvement Scheme for the Ratcliff-square Area, with reference to which a public local enquiry was held in 1926, was approved by the Ministry of Health. Although modified, this scheme when completed will lead to a great improvement in the district through the demolition of some most undesirable property.

Up to the end of the year no practical work had been done under the scheme.

HOUSING.

Statistics for the year 1927.

Number of houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	343
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :	
(i) By the Local Authority	180
(ii) By other bodies or persons	115

1.—*Inspection of Dwelling-houses during year.*

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	462
(2) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ...	225
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	25
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	140

2.—*Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	72
---	----

3.—*Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.*A.—*Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 :*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners ...	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ...	Nil

B.—*Proceedings under Public Health Acts :*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	199
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—	
(a) By owners ...	8
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

C.—*Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 :*

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders ...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ...	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	Nil
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	Nil

Increase of Rent (Restriction) Act.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector is the Officer who inspects dwelling-houses with regard to the granting of Certificates under the Act. During the year application was received from the tenant of one house for a Certificate that his dwelling-house was not kept in a reasonable state of repair. A Certificate was granted by the Council in April and the tenant from that date stopped the proportion of the increase of rent permitted by the Act. Considerable difficulty with the owner arose before the house was put in a reasonable state of repair and his application for a Certificate could be granted by the Council.

Food.*Milk Supply.*

The average number of milch cows in the cowsheds within the Borough was 141. The number of cowsheds, dairies and milkshops on the register at the end of the year was as follows:—

DAIRIES.

Number on the Register on 31st December, 1927	...	21
Notices served on occupiers	...	9
Inspections	...	48

COWSHEDS.

Number on the Register on 31st December, 1927	...	5
Notices served on occupiers	...	6
Inspections	...	32

MILKSHOPS AND PURVEYORS.

Number on the Register on 31st December, 1927	...	25
Notices served	...	10
Inspections	...	84

One application was received from a person desirous of being registered to sell milk, which was granted. Two other persons already registered applied for a transfer of their business to other new and greatly improved dairy premises which they had erected. One other registered person gave up selling milk during the year and his name was removed from the register.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923, one dairyman was granted "Dealers' Licences" to sell "Grade A" and "Grade A, Tuberculin Tested" milk. There are four dairymen licensed to sell "Certified Milk" in the Borough. All notices served on occupiers were in each case complied with.

*Public Health (Milk and Cream) Regulations, 1912 and 1917.**Report for the year ended 31st December, 1927.*

All samples of Milk and Cream were taken in accordance with the provisions of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

(I.) *Milk and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream.*

	(a) Number of Samples examined for the presence of a Preservative.	(b) Number in which Preservative was reported to be present and percentage of Preservative found in each sample.
Milk ...	39	Nil.
Cream ...	2	Nil.

Nature of Preservative in each case in column (b) and action taken under the Regulations in regard to it.

(II.) *Cream sold as Preserved Cream.*

(a) Instances in which samples have been submitted for analysis to ascertain if the statements on the label as to preservatives were correct.

(i) Correct statements made	2
(ii) Statements incorrect	Nil

Total	2
-------	-----	-----	---

(iii) Percentage of Preservative found in each sample.	Percentage stated on Statutory Label.
--	---------------------------------------

Sample No. 493	...	0.31%	Not to exceed 0.4% Boric Acid.
Sample No. 500	...	0.40%	Not to exceed 0.4% Boric Acid.

(b) Determinations made of milk fat in cream sold as preserved cream.

(1) Above 35 per cent	2
(2) Below 35 per cent	Nil

(c) Instances where (apart from analysis) the requirements as to labelling or declaration of preserved cream in Article V. (1) and the proviso in Article V. (2) of the Regulations have not been observed ... Nil

(d) Particulars of each case in which the Regulations have not been complied with and action taken ... Nil

(III.) Thickening Substances—Any evidence of their addition to cream or to preserved cream. Action taken where found Nil

(IV.) Other observations, if any ... Nil

Meat and Other Foods.

A large proportion of meat sold in the Borough is imported foreign meat, three of the most important firms engaged in the meat importing trade have depots in the town from which meat is distributed to retailers in all parts of the Isle of Thanet.

There are eight private slaughter-houses in the Borough, spread over a wide area, where the slaughtering of animals for human consumption takes place. Every effort is made and considerable time is devoted each week by the Inspectors in inspecting as far as possible all carcasses killed in these slaughter-houses, but as the day and hour fixed for slaughtering is at the discretion of the butcher, and takes place on different days and at various hours, even including Sundays and as late as 8 o'clock in the evening, supervision is rendered difficult. Under the requirement of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924,

butchers or persons slaughtering animals intended for human consumption must give notice in advance to the Health Department of the time and place of slaughtering. These Regulations, which have now been in operation since 1925, have brought about a very considerable improvement in the transport and conveyance of meat through the streets, and in the storage and handling of meat, but there is still room for improvement in the direction of replacing existing movable glass shutters to butchers' shops with the fixed plate glass shop front, and by so doing endeavouring to take all reasonable precautions to protect the meat from contamination by dust, flies, etc.

During the year 203 visits of inspection were made to the Meat Depots, Retail Butchers and Grocers' Shops to see that the requirements of the Regulations were carried out.

It was found necessary to take proceedings against a farmer under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, the Towns Improvement Clauses Act of 1847 and the Swine Fever Order of 1908, there being altogether eight summonses issued for offences committed under these Regulations, Acts and Orders, as follows :

Three for not giving notice of the slaughtering of pigs, on three separate dates.

Three for slaughtering pigs on unlicensed or unregistered premises, on three separate dates.

Two for removing carcasses of pigs after slaughter without giving notice, an embargo being on the premises under the Swine Fever Order, on two separate dates.

The defendant pleaded guilty to all charges, and fines and costs amounting to £39 5s. were inflicted by the Justices.

Through an insurance scheme the butchers in the Borough are covered against loss arising from any meat being condemned, and intimation is always given to the Health Department as to any carcase, organs, etc., diseased or suspected to be diseased.

Fish is periodically inspected at the Fish Market, as is also fish exposed for sale in shops and on barrows.

Shellfish is referred to under Port Sanitary Administration.

No seizure of meat or any other food was made during the year, the unsound food voluntarily surrendered is given in a list which follows.

Ice Cream.

A considerable trade is carried on during the summer months by vendors of ice cream from stalls and barrows on the sands and other places in the Borough. As there is no legal obligation for these persons or their premises on which the ice cream is manufactured to be licensed or registered, it is made most difficult to control this trade. Under the Ramsgate Corporation Act, 1922, every dealer in ice cream selling from any cart, barrow or other vehicle or stand is required to have his name and address inscribed thereon, and is liable to a penalty of 40s. for non-compliance, and by this enactment supervision of these premises has been greatly assisted. As there is no legal standard for ice cream much of the article sold as such is of a very inferior quality.

Number of Vendors from barrows, stalls, etc. ...	31
Number of Vendors at shops, restaurants, etc. ...	40
Number of inspections made	82

UNSOUND FOOD.
VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED DURING 1927.
Carcases Condemned for Tuberculosis.

Animals Affected.	Number of Carcases with all internal organs condemned.	Number of animals of which parts of Carcases and all organs were condemned.	Number of animals of which heads and tongues only were condemned.	Weight. Total weight in lbs.
Cows ...	5	2	14	4356
Pigs ...	—	—	20	167
				4523

Food Condemned for Other Reasons.

Article.	Condition.	Total weight in lbs.
1 Bullock	Fevered (accident)	388
8 Pigs	Erysipelas	1,010
1 Pig	Dropsical	70
1 Pig	Jaundice	94
Beef, imported	Unsound	47
Ox Livers, imported	Unsound	71
Sheeps' Kidneys, imported	Unsound	36
Bullocks' Offal, various	Unsound	422
6 Pigs' Livers	Cirrhosis	50
5 Sheeps' Livers	Fluke	15
Prawns	Unsound	440
Shrimps	Unsound	209
Fish, wet	Unsound	1,698
		4,550

Total weight condemned ... 4 tons 1 cwt. 0 qrs. 1 lb.
Other unsound food articles were 105 Imported Eggs.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

During the year 100 samples (69 Formal and 31 Informal) were taken by the Senior Sanitary Inspector, who is the Officer appointed under the Acts, and submitted for analysis to the Public Analyst.

Article.	Sample.	Found to be Genuine	Found to be Adulterated.	Total.
Milk	Formal	36	3	39
Butter	Formal	4	—	4
Butter	Informal	4	—	4
Lard	Informal	4	—	4
Margarine	Informal	7	—	7
Cheese	Informal	3	—	3
Cream	Formal	2	—	2
Cream	Informal	2	—	—
Sausage Meat	Formal	11	—	11
Vinegar	Formal	3	1	4
Camphorated Oil	Informal	4	—	4
Sponge Cake	Informal	2	1	3
White Pepper	Informal	2	—	2
Baking Powder	Informal	2	—	2
Medicine	Formal	6	3	9

Particulars of the eight samples reported by the Public Analyst to be not genuine, and action taken in regard to each of these samples :

Identification No. of Sample	Articles	Result of Analysis.	Action Taken.	Result.
13	Medicine	13% deficient in Potassium Iodide	Legal proceedings.	Dismissed on payment of £2 15s. 0d. costs.
15	Medicine	12% in excess of Potassium Iodide 25% deficient in Sodium Sulphate	Legal proceedings.	Dismissed on payment of £2 2s. 0d. costs.
16	Medicine	26% deficient in Sodium Salicylate	Legal proceedings.	Dismissed on payment of £2 2s. 0d. costs.
45	Sponge Cake	5.6 grains per lb. of Boric Acid.	Cautioned.	
462	Vinegar	12% of added water.	Legal proceedings.	Dismissed on payment of £1 10s. 0d. costs.
479	Milk	17% deficient in fat.	Legal proceedings.	Fined £2
488	Milk	5% deficient in fat.	Legal proceedings.	Fined £2
489	Milk	11% deficient in fat.	Legal proceedings	Fined £2

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR

1927.

W. J. BANNISTER, M.D., B.S., B.A.O., D.P.H.

SCHOOL MEDICAL STAFF.

Ophthalmic Surgeon:

G. E. HALSTEAD, M.D., B.S., B.Sc., B.A. (Lond.).

X-Ray Treatment of Ringworm:

B. H. PALMER, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Camb.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.),
L.R.C.P. (Lond.).

Operative Treatment of Tonsils and Adenoids:

(The Hon. Surgeons of the Ramsgate General Hospital)

R. G. HICKS, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.).

E. FISK, M.D., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.).

A. J. K. DREW, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.).

W. J. DUNLOP, F.R.C.S.I., L.R.C.P.I.

Dental Surgeon:

J. B. REED, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.).

Health Visitors:

*Miss G. CLARK.

Miss A. ASHWELL.

*Miss F. PEARCE.

Miss R. HOWELLS.

* Certificated Midwife, Central Midwives Board.

Clerks:

S. GORHAM.

A. SAWORD.

School Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health:

W. J. BANNISTER, M.D., B.S., B.A.O. (Q.U.Belf.), D.P.H. (Lond.).

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

School Medical Service,

For the Year ended 31st December, 1927.

1. Staff.

The whole-time officers on the Staff of the School Medical Service are the School Medical Officer, who is also the Medical Officer of Health, and four Health Visitors; two Clerks devote one-half of their time to clerical work in connection with the Service. The re-arrangement of the work of the Health Visitors by which each Nurse carries out in the area assigned to her all the health visiting and school work required in that area has worked satisfactorily during the year. It has proved to be an economical arrangement, rendering visits to a home by more than one Nurse unnecessary and enabling each Nurse to become familiar with the conditions of the families in her area.

2. Co-ordination.

(a) *Infant and Child Welfare.*

The Clinics at the Maternity Centre are attended by the Health Visitors, who thus know many of the children from birth till the time they reach school age, and the medical records kept at the Infant Welfare Clinics in due course are filed with and supplement records of routine medical inspections at the schools.

(b) *Nursery Schools.*

There are no Nursery Schools in the Borough.

(c) *Care of Debilitated Children under School Age.*

As Medical Officer of Health the School Medical Officer administers the infant welfare scheme on behalf of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee of the Council, and each Health Visitor follows up each child born in the area in which she works and reports on debilitated children under school age in the homes visited, steps being taken to have such children dealt with at the Infant Clinic or other arrangements made as indicated.

3. School Hygiene.

In the report on the school medical service for the year 1926 a detailed report on the hygienic condition of each public elementary school in the Borough was given.

Plans for new Roman Catholic Schools to be used in place of the existing St. Augustine's Schools have been approved, and considerable alterations to Christ Church Schools are being carried out. During the summer holidays new sanitary work was carried out at Christ Church Schools; this included the provision of new pedestal w.c.'s and lavatory basins for boys and girls. A new cloakroom for boys was also provided.

Other improvements during the year included new wood block flooring for one classroom at Holy Trinity Infants' School, two new pedestal w.c.'s, two new lavatory basins and a drinking fountain at St. Lawrence Boys' School, two new lavatory basins and a new cupboard, shelves, etc., at Thornton Road Schools; a new drinking fountain was fitted in the Junior Boys' playground at St. George's Central Schools.

The Domestic Subjects Centres at Ellington, St. George's Central and Lillian Road Schools were equipped for Laundry Work.

During the year a total of 69 new dual locker desks, 67 tables and 198 chairs were supplied to the Schools, and thus many of the old-fashioned long desks and seats without backs were replaced.

Considerable improvement was effected in the artificial lighting; at an approximate cost of £125 the lighting arrangements of seven of the schools was overhauled by the Gas Engineer, new types of burners fitted and in many instances triple and twin burners were provided in place of single burners.

The cleanliness of the school buildings is a matter of such great importance that it is to be hoped that as soon as possible the sub-committee specially appointed for the purpose will issue revised instructions to caretakers and also complete arrangements for ascertaining that such instructions are properly and continuously carried out. The health of school children is intimately associated with the degree of cleanliness in which the school premises are maintained. Their condition should always be above reproach, and as examples of cleanliness tend towards cleaner conditions in the homes.

4. Medical Inspections.

Routine Medical Inspections are always carried out in the school premises; in the most recently constructed schools a special room for these inspections is provided, but at the other schools children are examined either in the Head Teacher's room or, more usually, in a classroom, which, when possible, is temporarily vacated, the children being sent to another classroom or to the school playground. The Head Teachers heartily co-operate in securing the best arrangements at their schools for the conduction of the inspections, but at some of the schools it is quite impossible to secure reasonably satisfactory conditions, unavoidable noise rendering accurate examinations difficult, and testing of acuity of hearing by means of the whisper test impracticable; while poor lighting of some of the rooms used renders difficult the testing of the acuity of vision.

The total accommodation at the schools is for 4,619 children, the average number on the registers during the year was 4,415, and the average attendance was 3,938.

(a) *Age Groups inspected.*

" Entrants "	...	Children admitted during the year.	
		Number inspected	... 475
" Intermediates "	...	Children between 8 and 9 years of age.	
		Number inspected	... 466

"Leavers"	...	Children between 12 and 13 years of age and children over 13 years of age who have not already been examined after reaching the age of 12 years.	
		Number inspected ...	468

- (b) *The Schedule of the Board of Education was followed.*
- (c) *Steps taken to secure the earlier ascertainment of Crippling Defects.*

Defects in children of the code age groups are detected at the Routine Inspections, also by the examination of "Specials," i.e., children of any age presented for examination by the Head Teachers at each visit of the School Medical Officer to the Departments for the purpose of conducting Routine Medical Inspections, or specially sent through various agencies for examination to the School Inspection Clinic at the Health Office on account of suspected illness or defect. The number of special cases examined at the schools during the year was 50, and the number examined at the School Clinic, which is open on five mornings each week, was 1,232.

- (d) *Extent to which disturbance of School arrangements was involved by the Medical Inspections.*

Reference has already been made to the unavoidable disturbance caused by the necessary vacating at times of classrooms while Routine Medical Inspections are conducted therein.

Many of the Head Teachers show a sympathetic interest in the work, and all possible is done to minimise the disturbance to school arrangements.

5. Findings of Medical Inspections.

- (a) *Uncleanliness.*

In addition to the Routine Medical examinations of children by the School Medical Officer systematic surveys of all children in the schools were carried out by the Health Visitors. At the Routine Inspections during the year, out of a total of 1,422 children, 19 or 1.33 per cent. were found to have unclean hair, and at the 120 surveys as to cleanliness of skin, hair, scalp and clothing, 17,973 examinations of children were made by the Health Visitors, who found 27 children verminous and 68 with very nitty hair. These children were excluded from school and their homes visited by the Health Visitors, who explained to the parents or guardians measures indicated for the proper cleansing of the children. Printed directions are also given at these visits stating the necessity for prompt action in the matter and that the child will not be re-admitted to school until certified by the School Medical Officer at the School Clinic to have been cleansed and all nits to have been removed. During the year, 10 children who were verminous and 14 children who had very nitty hair were at subsequent surveys again excluded owing to these conditions, and during the year 8 children who were verminous and 9 who had very nitty hair were excluded on three occasions.

These surveys, which are always made on "surprise" visits to the schools, and the subsequent procedure outlined have effected considerable improvement as regards the cleanliness of the person and clothing of the children.

Parents who do not cleanse their children within a period of seven days from date of exclusion from school and service of notice are proceeded against under the School Attendance Bye-Laws. This procedure has proved to be quite efficient and the loss of attendance due to exclusion from school owing to uncleanness has very considerably decreased during recent years.

During the year legal proceedings had to be instituted in one instance only—a fine of 10s. being imposed—as compared with two instances in 1925 and three in 1926.

(b) *Minor Ailments.*

The minor ailments found during the year at the Routine Inspections and at the Inspection Clinic are detailed in Official Table II., and the number of children treated for these defects are summarised in Official Table IV. Both these tables will be found at the end of the report.

It may here be stated that during the year six new cases of scalp ringworm came under observation as compared with 15 in 1926; 12 cases of scabies as compared with 9 in 1926; 189 cases of impetigo as compared with 177 in 1926; 25 cases of external eye disease as compared with 25 in 1926; 30 cases of ear disease or otorrhoea as compared with 48 in 1926.

(c) *Tonsils and Adenoids.*

During the year a total of 92 children were found to have enlargement of their tonsils or adenoid tissue which required treatment of some kind. The abnormal condition of the noses and throats of many of these children were found to yield to indirect treatment, such as the removal of carious teeth, etc., and 19 only received operative treatment for the removal of the growths.

(d) *Tuberculosis.*

Seven children in a pre-tubercular condition came under observation during the year and 2 children who were suspected to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis came under observation at the School Clinic or at the examination of "specials" at the schools. These children and 6 others found to be suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis were referred by the School Medical Officer for treatment and observation to the Tuberculosis Officer at the County Council's Dispensary in the town. In the absence of an open-air school in the Borough, many of these children have to be excluded from school for long periods.

(e), (f) and (h) *Skin Disease, External Eye Disease and Ear Disease.*

Referred to under heading "Minor Ailments."

(g) *Vision.*

During the year the number of children found to have defective vision, squint or symptoms of eye strain, and who were referred for further examination by the Education Committee's Ophthalmic Surgeon, was: At the Routine Inspections, 75; among "specials," 46.

(i) *Dental Defects.*

In Table IV., Group IV, which follows will be found a summary of the work at the inspections at the schools and of treatment at the Dental Clinic at the Health Office. At the routine medical inspections at the schools the School Medical Officer found that 552 of the 1,422 children inspected had teeth in a perfectly sound condition.

(j) *Crippling Defects.*

Various degrees of crippling were caused by Tuberculosis in the cases already referred to, and 4 children who had deformities came under observation. These included loss of fingers or limbs, the result of trauma or other causes, paralysis of different degrees following infantile paralysis and the result of old rickets.

Vaccinal Condition.

At the routine medical inspections it was found that of the 475 Entrants examined, only 161 (or 33.75 per cent.) were vaccinated; of 466 Intermediates, only 182 (or 39.05 per cent.); and of the 468 Leavers, 181 (or 38.84 per cent.).

It is regrettable that over 62 per cent. of these children were not protected against small-pox.

6. Infectious Diseases.

Influenza and catarrhal conditions were somewhat prevalent among school children during the earlier months of the year, but no action was taken under Article 45 (b) or 57 of the Code Regulations.

The control of infectious diseases in schools is best effected by immediate exclusion and isolation of individuals suffering from illness of an infectious or contagious nature and by excluding and keeping under observation children living in infected houses. Closure for purely medical reasons is very rarely desirable; it does not prevent intimate association at play, at cinemas, etc., of the excluded children, while it impedes supervision with the possibility that some of the contacts may develop disease subsequent to school closure and for a time act as additional foci.

The Board of Education's amended regulations secure that diminished attendance during a period of epidemic shall not be considered in itself an adequate reason for closing a school, and that when a local Education Authority close a school on the advice or with the approval of the School Medical Officer such advice or approval shall only be given on the ground that such closure is necessary for medical reasons.

Authorities are secured against financial loss when schools are kept open with a greatly lowered attendance.

Throughout the year the School Medical Officer authorised the exclusion of children when their exclusion was desirable to prevent the spread of infectious diseases, on the ground that their uncleanly or verminous condition was detrimental to the other scholars, or on the ground that owing to the state of their health or their physical or mental defects they were incapable of receiving proper benefits from the instruction in school.

Certificates of exclusion are brought to the notice of the School Attendance Officer, who informs the Head Teachers. Children so excluded are not re-admitted to school until the School Medical Officer is satisfied that they can attend school without risks to themselves or others. The School Attendance Officer and the Head Teachers give information to the School Medical Officer in reference to children who are absent from school owing to illnesses which possibly may be infectious, and all such cases are investigated.

During the year the number of intimations received from the Head Teachers was 185. These included intimations in reference to 97 children who were suffering from or suspected to be suffering from Chickenpox, 49 from Whooping Cough, 29 from Mumps and 2 from Measles.

Children suffering from infectious diseases and contacts living in infected houses are excluded from school in accordance with the definite periods set out in the Board's Memorandum of Closure of and Exclusion from school.

7. Following-up Work.

Work of Health Visitors.

The Health Visitors attend the routine medical and dental inspections, the School Clinic and the special treatment clinics, and follow up at the homes children found to be suffering from defects with a view to securing adequate treatment.

As will be seen from the Tables, most of the children suffering from minor ailments were dealt with at the School Treatment Clinic, which they continued to attend until cured. A large number of children were dealt with at the special treatment clinics; of 298 children found to have defective vision who were referred for refraction no fewer than 265 were dealt with at the Eye Clinic; 248 children were referred for dental treatment as the result of dental inspection, and a total of 308 received treatment at the Dental Clinic. It is chiefly in connection with children who need treatment and whose parents promise the School Medical Officer at inspections or the Health Visitors at the homes that they will secure treatment privately that difficulty arises. Too often it is found on re-visitation of these homes that the parents have failed to carry out their promises and are still unwilling to avail themselves of the facilities for treatment afforded by the Education Committee.

In connection with many such cases the co-operation of the Head Teachers is sought, in others the members of the Children's Aid Committee have been successful in having adequate treatment secured. In this connection the Health Visitors during the year made 3,613 visits to 1,497 individual children at their homes.

8. Medical Treatment.

The arrangements in connection with the payment by parents for medical treatment of their children, through the clinics provided by the Education Committee, which were approved by the Board of Education and were fully stated in a previous annual report, continued during the year.

The total amount paid in respect of such treatment in accordance with the scales was £40 12s. 0d.

(a) Minor Ailments.

The School Treatment Clinic is held on five mornings each week when the schools are in session and during the school holidays as required. The great majority of children suffering from minor ailments are treated at this Clinic till cured. The Health Visitors carry out treatment under the general supervision of the School Medical Officer. In cases in which proper supplementary treatment is found not to have been carried out at the home, the parents are visited and a demonstration given of the correct methods of applying remedies, etc., there given by the Health Visitors.

Many of the parents attend at this clinic with their children, thus learning the correct methods of dealing with minor ailments.

The following summary shows the cases dealt with and the number of attendances at the School Clinic during the year :—

Disease or Condition.	Number of Children.	Attendances
Impetigo	176	1,267
Vermipous Impetigo	4	32
Eczema, Seborrhœa, etc.	61	348
Abscesses, Whitlows, Cuts, Burns, Abrasions, etc.	244	1,239
Ringworm of scalp	6	128
Ringworm of body	11	112
Scabies	11	117
External Eye Diseases	43	226
Otorrhœa	26	238
Nose, Mouth & Throat Conditions	87	208
Tuberculosis, all forms	15	57
Other Diseases or Conditions	655	1,761
Total	1,339	5,733

In addition, 91 children who were convalescent from or contacts of infectious disease made 106 attendances at the clinic for examination as to their fitness to attend school.

X-Ray Treatment for Scalp Ringworm.

This treatment is administered by means of the Education Committee's apparatus at the Health Office by Dr. B. H. Palmer, and during the year one child received X-Ray treatment.

(b) Tonsils and Adenoids.

During the year 92 children who required some form of treatment on account of abnormal conditions of their tonsils or adenoid tissue came under observation. These children had various degrees of excessive or unhealthy naso-pharyngeal tissue, which was not due to temporary inflammation, for which different forms of treatment—from the removal of a septic tooth to the removal of the tissue by operation—were indicated. As a rule children are not referred for operative treatment for these conditions until measures directed to obtaining a healthier state of the mouth and naso-pharynx fail, after a reasonable trial, to produce improvement. Many of the cases yielded to the practice of regular breathing exercises following dental treatment.

During the year 19 children were operated on for the removal of enlarged tonsils or adenoids; two of these received treatment privately, and seventeen at the Ramsgate General Hospital through the Education Committee's scheme, under which the Hospital authorities were paid £1 11s. 6d. in respect of three children of a group of seven or eight and £1 for the others. Parents of children about to be operated on receive instructions from the School Medical Officer in reference to the preparation of their children, and after the operation every effort is made to follow up each child to ensure the continuation of regular breathing exercises and teeth cleaning.

(c) Tuberculosis.

It has been stated previously that children found at the inspections to be suffering from tuberculosis, and certain others suspected to be suffering from the disease, are referred to the County Council's Dispensary in the town for treatment by the Tuberculosis Officer, who periodically informs the School Medical Officer as to the fitness or otherwise of the children to attend school.

(a), (e) and (g) dealt with under "Minor Ailments."

(f) Vision.

During the year 298 children were referred for further examination owing to errors of refraction; of these, 265 were examined and prescribed for at the Eye Clinic, refraction under the influence of homatropin being carried out in 33 cases. The Ophthalmic Surgeon conducted the Eye Clinic on 38 occasions in 1927. Five other children received treatment privately. Glasses were prescribed for 235 children and up to the end of the year had been procured in 231 cases. The children made 649 attendances at the Clinic.

Dr. Halstead reports, with reference to new cases examined, as follows:—

21	...	Hypermetropia.
27	...	Hypermetropia with Astigmatism.
10	...	Myopia.
15	...	Myopia with Astigmatism.
9	...	Mixed Astigmatism.
19	...	Strabismus.

During the year the following cases were also referred to the Eye Clinic :—

5 Phlyctenular Ophthalmia.	3 Blepharitis.
2 Nystagmus.	2 Old Corneal Opacities.
1 Follicular Conjunctivitis.	1 Choroiditis.

(h) *Dental Defects.*

During the first three months of the year the Education Committee's Dental Scheme was not in operation owing to an interval following the resignation as part-time Dental Surgeon of Mr. Hatton, L.D.S., and the appointment of his successor, Mr. J. B. Reed, L.D.S., from 30th March, 1927.

At the end of the year an agreement was entered into with the Authorities of the Ramsgate General Hospital to treat thereat any school child referred by the School Medical Officer who requires the extraction of teeth while under the influence of a general anaesthetic. A total payment of £1 for each case so treated to be made by the Education Committee.

Inspections at the schools took place at two sessions, the average number of children inspected at each session being 156. The Dental Clinic was held on 38 occasions, and the work carried out is summarised in Table IV., Group IV., which will be found at the end of this report.

A large but gradually decreasing number of parents unfortunately refuse to take advantage of the facilities available for the preservation of their children's teeth, and many parents still postpone treatment until further deterioration leading to pain takes place.

(i) *Crippling Defects and Orthopædics.*

During the year the treatment of children suffering from disabilities and crippling were dealt with as in former years by their admission to Orthopædic Hospitals in London and after-treatment at the local St. John Ambulance Brigade Massage Clinic. Cases of crippling caused by Tuberculosis were dealt with through the Tuberculosis Dispensary. Two children were sent by the Education Committee to the National Orthopædic Hospital.

The Massage Clinic which was established in 1925 ceased to function in December, 1927, and at the end of the year the Education Committee began to consider the formulation of an Orthopædic scheme for the Borough in conjunction with the Authorities of the Ramsgate General Hospital.

9. Open-air Education.

There is no open-air school in the Borough. Open-air classes are held in the playgrounds of the public elementary schools, and it is highly desirable that every facility should be given to the Head Teachers to increase the number of such classes. A definite need exists for a school in which certain children could be educated throughout the year under open-air conditions. There would be no difficulty

in compiling a list of children who would undoubtedly greatly benefit physically and mentally were it possible to educate them in the open air instead of, often, in none too well ventilated classrooms in which at present they spend at least five hours on five days each week.

While there can be no doubt as to the need for an open-air school in the Borough, the very considerable expenditure involved will probably for some time cause the erection and equipment of such a special school to be postponed. It is therefore most desirable that careful consideration should be given to the practicability of providing in connection with the proposed new centrally situated school for two special classes in which children could receive open-air education throughout the year.

10. Physical Training.

Physical exercises in accordance with the syllabus of the Board of Education are carried out in all the schools, and whenever possible take place in the school playgrounds. The co-operation of the Head Teachers is requested in connection with children found at the inspections specially to need breathing exercises, etc. There is no organiser of physical training for the area, but there is no doubt that general supervision by an expert of the physical education given in the schools of the Borough would be a distinct advantage; were some such arrangements made, an easy development which would be extremely useful would be the formation of classes for short periods of corrective exercises daily for children discovered at medical inspections to have slight lateral curvature of the spine, round shoulders, flat foot, etc.

11. Provision of Meals.

Meals are provided in emergencies and in definite instances of under-feeding. Milk is supplied at the schools and other assistance is arranged for through the Children's Aid Committee on the recommendation of the School Medical Officer.

12. School Baths.

There are no Baths at the schools.

13. Co-operation of Parents.

Parents are always invited to attend at the schools during the routine medical inspection of their children. If present and a defect is discovered in a child, advice is given to the parent as to the need for obtaining treatment; if not present the child is followed up by one of the Health Visitors at the home.

During the year 304 parents attended at the routine inspections of 475 Entrants; 242 parents attended at the routine inspections of 466 Intermediates; 141 parents attended at the routine inspections of 468 Leavers.

14. Co-operation of Teachers.

Several references have been made previously in this report to the assistance given by the Teachers in connection with medical inspection; it may be added that they compile from the school registers lists of children of the code groups due for routine medical inspection. At each visit of the School Medical Officer to a department for the purpose of conducting routine medical inspection, the Head Teacher presents for examination as 'specials' all children who are not due for routine inspection, but are suffering from or suspected to be suffering from any defect or ailment. They also throughout the year refer such children to the inspection clinic at the Health Office. Some of the Head Teachers take great interest in the work and personally attend at the routine inspections. In view of the great influence which Teachers have with parents, an asset of the greatest importance to the success of the school medical work is the co-operation of all Teachers in doing everything possible to secure appropriate treatment for children suffering from remedial defects.

15. Co-operation of School Attendance Officer.

This officer brings to the notice of the School Medical Officer children absent from school who are said to be ill but not under treatment by a doctor, and such children are referred to the School Clinic, or, when necessary, enquiries are made at the homes. As has been stated, certificates of exclusion from school and of fitness to attend given by the School Medical Officer are each day brought to the notice of the Attendance Officer, who accordingly informs the Head Teachers and sees that certificates are acted upon.

Certificates as to illness of school children given by local medical practitioners are, on receipt, submitted to the School Medical Officer. The School Attendance Officer is informed by the School Medical Officer of all children who have not been cleansed within seven days after having been excluded; enquiries are made by him as to the existence of any special circumstances, such as temporary incapacity of the mother, which might influence the School Attendance Committee in deciding as to the institution of legal proceedings under the Attendance Bye-Laws.

16. Co-operation of Voluntary Bodies.

Supplies of Cod Liver Oil, Milk, etc., are obtained for the children of necessitous parents when recommended by the School Medical Officer through the Children's Aid Committee, out of voluntary funds, and during the year three children received supplies at the School Clinic. This Committee also arranges for and meets the expenses of sending debilitated children to convalescent homes, to London Hospitals for special treatment, and in suitable cases assists in the obtaining of surgical boots, etc.

17. Blind, Deaf, Defective and Epileptic Children.

(a) The model arrangements of the Board of Education under the Elementary School (Defective and Epileptic Children) Act, 1899, and the Mentally Deficiency Act, 1913, have been adopted by the Local Education Authority.

Such children are detected at the routine medical inspections and at the examination of "specials" at the schools and Inspection Clinic. Cases of defective vision are referred for treatment and are usually dealt with at the Eye Clinic, cases of deafness are referred for appropriate treatment, some receiving operative treatment for abnormal throat and nose conditions through the Education Committee's scheme. These cases are followed up, and in instances of severe defects which after treatment do not show improvement sufficient to enable benefit to be derived from instruction at a public elementary school, arrangements are made by the Education Committee for education at suitable institutions.

(b) There is no special school in or near the Borough.

18. Nursery Schools.

There are no Nursery Schools in the Borough.

19. Secondary Schools.

All work in connection with the Secondary Schools in the Borough is carried out by the Kent County Council.

20. Continuation Schools.

Such schools have not yet been established in the Borough.

21. Employment of Children and Young Persons.

The School Medical Officer is the certifying officer of the Local Education Authority under the Employment of Children Act, 1903. Ramsgate is not an industrial town and employment of children is practically limited to delivering newspapers and milk, running errands for tradesmen, or, in the case of girls, assisting at homes.

BOARD OF EDUCATION TABLES.

TABLE I.

Return of Medical Inspections.

(a) ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Code Group Inspections:						
Entrants	475
Intermediates	466
Leavers	468
Total						1,409
Number of other Routine Inspections						13

(b) OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	1,282
Number of Re-inspections	153
Total				1,435

TABLE II.

(a) *Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended 31st December, 1927.*

Defect or Disease.		Routine Inspection.		Special Inspections.	
		Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.
Skin	Malnutrition	5	3	7	4
	Uncleanliness (see Table IV. Group V.)	—	—	—	—
	Ringworm:				
	Scalp	—	—	6	—
	Body	—	—	11	—
Eye	Scabies	2	—	10	—
	Impetigo	9	—	180	—
	Other Diseases (non-tuberculous) ...	5	—	90	—
	Blepharitis	3	—	5	—
	Conjunctivitis	1	—	16	—
Ear	Keratitis	—	—	1	—
	Corneal Opacities	—	—	—	—
	Defective Vision (excluding Squint) ...	60	21	43	4
	Squint	15	2	3	—
	Other Conditions	1	—	33	—
Nose and Throat	Defective Hearing	1	1	—	—
	Otitis Media	3	—	27	—
	Other Ear Diseases	1	—	12	—
	Enlarged Tonsils only	16	14	29	—
	Adenoids only	2	—	1	—
Heart and Circulation	Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids ...	7	—	7	—
	Other Conditions	12	1	56	—
	Enlarged Cervical Glands (non-tuberculous) ...	2	—	3	—
	Defective Speech	1	1	—	2
	Teeth—Dental Diseases	120	1	155	—
Lungs	Heart Disease:				
	Organic	—	1	—	—
	Functional	—	3	—	—
	Anæmia	5	—	1	—
	Bronchitis	3	—	7	—
Tuberculosis	Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases ...	—	5	17	2
	Pulmonary:				
	Definite	—	—	—	—
	Suspected	—	—	—	2
	Non-Pulmonary:				
Nervous System	Glands	—	—	2	1
	Spine	—	—	—	—
	Hip	—	1	—	1
	Other Bones and Joints ...	—	—	—	—
	Skin	—	—	—	1
Deformities	Other Forms	—	—	—	—
	Epilepsy	1	—	1	—
	Chorea	—	—	1	—
	Other Conditions	—	—	—	1
	Rickets	—	—	—	—
Other Defects and Diseases	Spinal Curvature	—	—	—	—
	Other Forms	2	1	1	—
Total		2	4	376	4

TABLE II.—Con.

(b) *Number of Individual Children found at Routine Medical Inspection to require treatment (excluding uncleanliness and dental diseases).*

Group.	Number of Children.		Percentage of Children found to require treatment.
	Inspected.	Found to require treatment.	
Code Groups:			
Entrants	475	74	15.57
Intermediates	466	107	22.96
Leavers	468	101	21.58
Total (code groups) ...	1409	282	20.01
Other routine inspections	13	3	23.07

TABLE III.
Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

			Boys	Girls	Total
Blind (including partially blind).	(1) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally blind.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind	2	—	2
		Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	—	—	—
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution	—	—	—
	(2) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially blind.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind	1	—	1
		Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	—	—	—
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution	—	—	—
Deaf (including deaf and dumb and partially deaf).	(1) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally deaf or deaf and dumb.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf	—	1	1
		Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	—	—	—
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution	—	—	—
	(2) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially deaf.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf	—	—	—
		Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	—	—	—
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution	—	—	—
Mentally Defective.	Feeble-minded (cases not notifiable to the Local Control Authority).	Attending Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children	—	—	—
		Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	1	—	1
		At other Institutions	2	—	2
		At no School or Institution	—	—	—
	Notified to the Local Control Authority during the year.	Feeble-minded	—	—	—
		Imbeciles	—	—	—
		Idiots	—	—	—
			—	—	—
Epileptics.	Suffering from severe epilepsy.	Attending Certified Special Schools for Epileptics	1	—	1
		In Institutions other than Certified Special Schools	—	—	—
		Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution	1	—	1
	Suffering from epilepsy which is not severe.	Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	2	2	4
		At no School or Institution	—	—	—
Physically Defective.	Infectious pulmonary and glandular tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	—	—	—
		At other Institutions	2	—	2
		At no School or Institution	7	12	19
	Non-infectious but active pulmonary and glandular tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	—	—	—
		At Certified Residential Open-air Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Open-air Schools ...	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools	21	13	34
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution	—	—	—
	Delicate children (e.g. pre—or latent tuberculosis, malnutrition, debility, anæmia, &c.).	At Certified Residential Open-air Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Open-air Schools ...	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools	23	22	45
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution	4	2	6
	Active non-pulmonary tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Hospital Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	2	—	2
		At Public Elementary Schools	10	9	19
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution	5	4	9
	Crippled children (other than those with active tuberculous disease e.g. children suffering from paralysis &c. and including those with severe heart disease).	At Certified Hospital Schools	1	1	2
		At Certified Residential Cripple Schools ...	1	—	1
		At Certified Day Cripple Schools ...	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools	5	7	12
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution	1	1	2

TABLE IV.

Return of Defects treated during the year ended 31st December, 1927.

TREATMENT TABLE.

GROUP I.—*Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see GROUP V.).*

Disease or Defect.	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise,	Total,
Skin :			
Ringworm, Scalp ...	6	—	6
Ringworm, Body ...	9	2	11
Scabies	10	2	12
Impetigo	160	29	189
Other Skin Diseases ...	69	26	95
Minor Eye Defects	40	19	59
Minor Ear Defects	36	7	43
Miscellaneous	349	37	386
Total	679	122	801

GROUP II.—*Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—GROUP I.).*

	Number of Defects dealt with.			
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Submitted to Refraction by private practitioner or at hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise	Total.
Errors of Refraction (including Squint)	265	5	—	270
Other Defect or Disease of the Eye ...	7	—	—	7
Total	272	5	—	277

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed:

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	235
(b) Otherwise	5

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles:

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	231
(b) Otherwise	5

GROUP III.—*Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.*

Number of Defects.				
Received Operative Treatment.			Received other forms of Treatment	Total number treated.
Under the Authority's Scheme in Clinic or Hospital.	By private practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme	Total.		
17	2	19	67	86

GROUP IV.—*Dental Defects.*

(1) Number of Children who were :—

(a) Inspected by Dentist :

Aged :	5	...	2			
	6	...	62			
	7	...	90			
	8	...	51			
	9	...	27			
Routine Age Groups	10	...	25	Total	...	306
	11	...	11			
	12	...	21			
	13	...	15			
	14	...	2			
Specials		6
Grand Total						312
(b) Found to require treatment	248
(c) Actually treated	308
(d) Re-treated during the year as the result of periodical examination	84
(2) Half days devoted to	{ Inspection 2 Treatment 38 }	Total	40
(3) Attendances made by children for treatment	631
(4) Fillings	{ Permanent Teeth ... 101 Temporary Teeth ... 13 }	Total	114
(5) Extractions	{ Permanent Teeth 51 Temporary Teeth 553 }	Total	604
(6) Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions	
(7) Other Operations	{ Permanent Teeth — Temporary Teeth — }	Total	—

GROUP V.—*Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.*

(1) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	13
(2) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	17,973
(3) Number of Individual Children found Unclean	95
(4) Number of Children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority	—
(5) Number of cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken :					
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	—
(b) Under School Attendance Bye-Laws...	1

