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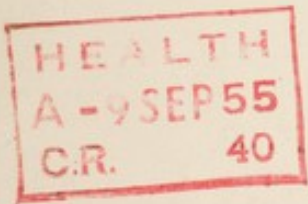
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CITY OF ROCHESTER



ANNUAL REPORT

of the


MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

of the

PORT OF ROCHESTER

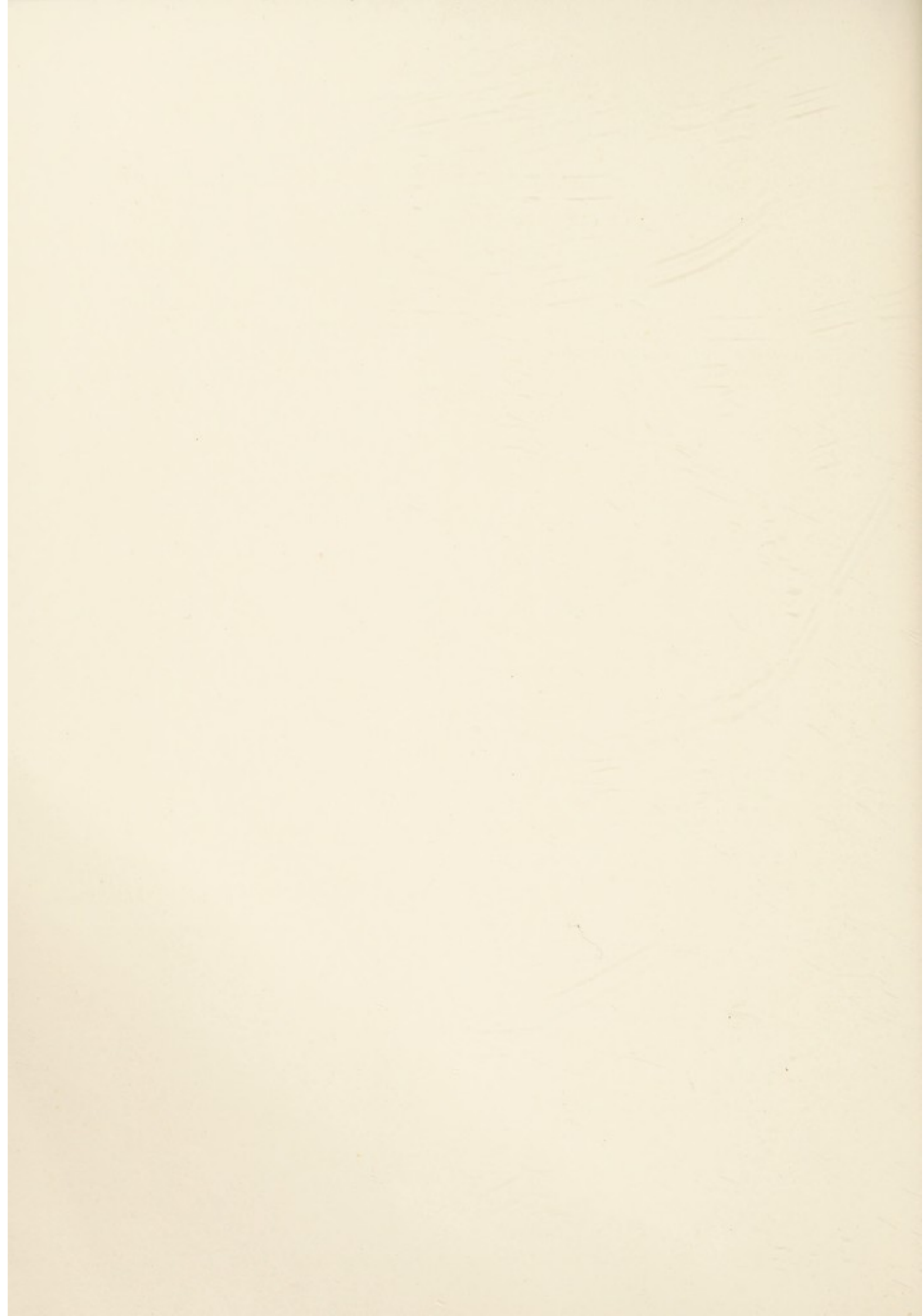
1954





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G. PORT OF ROCHESTER

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PORT MEDICAL OFFICER FOR 1954

I. Staff.

TABLE A

No change.

II. Amount of Shipping Entering the District during the Year.

TABLE B.

| Ships from | Number | Tonnage | Number Inspected | | Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board. |
|---------------|--------|---------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | | By the Medical Officer of Health | By the Sanitary Inspector | |
| Foreign Ports | 236 | 239,069 | 5 | 197 | None |
| Coastwise | 610 | 252,873 | 2 | 531 | None |
| Total | 846 | 491,942 | 7 | 728* | None |

*Plus 183 Rivercraft.

III. Character of Shipping and Trade during the Year

TABLE C.

(a) PASSENGER TRAFFIC.

Number of Passengers INWARDS) Only passenger traffic in Port is day trips
Number of Passengers OUTWARDS) during Summer to adjacent seaside resorts.

(b) CARGO TRAFFIC

Principal IMPORTS. Wood pulp, timber, china clay, coal, crude oil, flour, wheat, fertilizers, animal feeding stuffs.
Principal EXPORTS. Cement, plasterboard, bitumen, creosote, diesel and gas oil.

(c) PRINCIPAL PORTS FROM WHICH SHIPS ARRIVE.

Holmsund, Valvi, Kasko, Kotka, Kragero, Avendal, Oslo, Faeker, Hammelvik, Many-
luoto, Gothenburg, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Simdsvald, Quebec, Clarke City, Las Pedros,
Indian Bay.

IV. Inland Barge Traffic.

Not applicable to this Port.

V. Water Supply.

1. No change.

2. REPORTS OF TESTS FOR CONTAMINATION.

27 samples of the Chatham and District Water Company supply, and 30 samples of the

Strood Water Works supply were taken for bacteriological examination. In addition 2 samples of the Strood Water Works supply were taken for chemical analysis: 15 samples were taken from ships' tanks.

The results proved them to be good waters.

3. PRECAUTIONS AGAINST CONTAMINATION OF HYDRANTS AND HOSEPIPES.

No change.

4. NUMBER AND SANITARY CONDITION OF WATER BOATS AND POWERS OF CONTROL BY THE AUTHORITY.

No change.

VI. Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

1. LIST OF INFECTED AREAS.

No change.

2. RADIO MESSAGES.

No change.

3. NOTIFICATIONS OTHERWISE THAN BY RADIO.

No change.

4. MOORING STATIONS.

No change.

5. ARRANGEMENTS FOR:-

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|------------|
| (a) Hospital Accommodation |) | |
| (b) Surveillance |) | No change. |
| (c) Cleansing and disinfection) | | |

VII Smallpox.

1. Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent:-

Long Reach Hospital, Dartford. Tel. Dartford 3231.

2. Transport of smallpox cases to hospital.

This is provided by the London County Council Ambulance service. Tel. Waterloo 3311.

Application is made by telephone and written confirmation sent to the County Medical Officer, County Hall, London.

3. Consultants Available.

Dr. J.P. Marsden)
Dr. W.J. Coughlan) River Hospitals, Joyce Green, Dartford. Tel. Dartford 3231.
Dr. M. Mitman)

4. Laboratory Diagnosis Facilities.

Specimens are sent to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Colindale Avenue, Colindale, London, N.W. 9.

VIII. Venereal Disease.

No change.

IX. Cases of Notifiable and other Infectious Diseases on Ships.

TABLE D.

| Category | Disease | Number of cases during the year | | Number of ships concerned |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------|------|---------------------------|
| | | Passengers | Crew | |
| Cases landed from ships from foreign ports | — | — | — | — |
| Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival. | — | — | — | — |
| Cases landed from other ships | — | — | — | — |

X. Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships.

The bulk of the shipping is from Scandinavian and North American Ports and malaria is not generally met with in the Port of Rochester: there have been no cases during the year.

XI. Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected for plague.

No infected or suspected vessels have arrived during the year.

XII. Measures taken against rodents in ships from foreign Ports.

(1) PROCEDURE FOR INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR RATS.

As a routine Deratization or Deratization Exemption Certificates are examined. Further course of action is determined as a result of such inspection. When inspecting crews' quarters etc., a general enquiry is usually enough to discover the presence of rats on board, some seamen complain very readily if they know of rats on board the ship.

Cargo workers are a good source of information. The trade in which the vessel has been engaged since her last Deratization, or Deratization Exemption Certificate was issued is an important factor in determining what further inspection should be carried out. Cargoes of wood pulp and pulp wood have little attraction for rats and vessels engaged constantly in this trade are not often infested: if rats are found they are generally confined to a peak or store room and are not distributed throughout the ship.

On the other hand, a ship that has been employed for some time in carrying grain, or has carried out a long trip with such a cargo, merits further investigation particularly if her rat certificate is some months old. Such cargoes, at present, do not arrive in this Port but occasionally large vessels, which have carried such cargoes, arrive empty to load cement.

(2) BACTERIOLOGICAL OR PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF RODENTS.

There is no rodent operator permanently on Port work but, in all cases where it is deemed necessary, the shore rodent operator is employed in order to obtain specimens of rats for bacteriological examination.

(3) DERATIZATION OF SHIPS.

For the issue of International Deratization Certificates, an arrangement exists under Article 4 of the Regulations whereby the local Port Health Inspector carries out the inspection and forwards the report to the London Port Health Authority for issue of the certificate. If it should be necessary to derat a ship by fumigation, the firm employed would be that approved by the London Authority. In other cases of deratting poisons, traps, sulphur and varnish boards are the methods in use. Deratting Exemption Certificates are issued by the Port of Rochester.

When inspecting a vessel for the issue of an International Sanitary Convention

Certificate the inspection is carried out as required by the regulations governing the issue of such a certificate. The whole vessel from peaks, holds and engine room to chart and wireless rooms is inspected and report is made on harbourage, specifying the particular harbourage found in each compartment.

(4) RAT-PROOFING OF SHIPS.

There are no vessels, other than naval vessels, built in this Port and measures concerning rat-proofing are confined to dealing with existing rat-proofing which has suffered damage on board vessels in service, and inspecting rat-proofing on the smaller vessels undergoing repair and refit in local repair yards.

A proportion of the rats caught in the vicinity of the river is sent, as a routine, for bacteriological examination.

During the year 9 black rats were submitted for bacteriological examination for plague - no B. Pestis was found.

TABLE E.

RODENTS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

| Category | Number |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Black rats... | Nil |
| Brown rats... | 10 |
| Species not known | 19 |
| Sent for examination... | 19 |
| Infected with Plague... | 19 |

TABLE F.

DERATTING CERTIFICATES AND DERATTING EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES ISSUED DURING THE YEAR FOR SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

| No. of Deratting Certificates issued | | | | | No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates Issued | Total Certificates Issued |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| HCN | After Fumigation with Other fumigant (state method) | After Trapping | After Poisoning | Total | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | 7 | 7 |

12 Deratting Certificates were also issued to British coastwise vessels making occasional trips to Continental Ports.

In addition 14 rodent Control Certificates were issued.

XIII. Inspection of Ships for Nuisances

TABLE G.

INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES.

| Nature and Number of Inspections | Notices served | | Result of Notices |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | Statutory Notices | Other Notices | |
| British Vessels 517 | - | 52 | 49 complied |
| Foreign Vessels 209 | - | 18 | 15 complied |
| River Craft 183 | - | 9 | 8 complied |

XIV. Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations 1934 and 1948.

No change.

XV. Medical Inspection of Aliens.

No change.

XVI. Miscellaneous.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BURIAL ON SHORE OF PERSONS WHO HAVE DIED ON BOARD SHIP FROM AN INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

No change.

RIVER SAMPLES.

12 samples of river water were submitted for bacteriological examination which showed evidence of recent faecal contamination but no pathogenic organisms were cultivated.

FOOD INSPECTION.

94 cargoes of flour, wheat, cheese and potatoes were examined and all were in a sound condition.

COLORADO BEETLES.

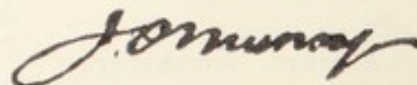
During the discharge of a cargo of wood pulp two beetles, suspected to be colorado beetles, were found by a cargo worker. The beetles were handed to the Port Health Inspector who took them to the police.

Subsequently, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries confirmed that the beetles were 'colorado' and sent their representatives to visit the ship.

No further action was taken by the Port Health Authority.

MOSQUITOES.

Anti-mosquito measures have continued to be carried out on the local marshes under the direction of the Port Health Inspector. Numerous pools and collections of water have been treated where necessary and practicable. The spraying with D.D.T. has reduced the mosquito nuisance to negligible proportions.



APPENDIX

INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS WITH 20 OR MORE EMPLOYEES

IN THE DISTRICTS OF THE RIPARIAN AUTHORITIES

IN THE PORT OF ROCHESTER

H. M. ESTABLISHMENTS AND NATIONALISED INDUSTRIES EXCLUDED

| <u>Name of Factory or Undertaking</u> | <u>Products</u> | <u>No. of Employees.</u> |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>ROCHESTER (City)</u> | | |
| Atlas Stone Co., Canal Road, Strood. | Cement blocks | 31 |
| Bagshaw & Son, 235, High Street, Rochester. | Sheet Metal | 37 |
| Berry, Eade & White, Willis Avenue, Rochester. | Stationery etc. | 215 |
| Blaw Knox, Willis Avenue, Rochester. | Machinery | 440 |
| British Sisalcraft Ltd., Temple Farm Est., Strood. | Reinforced Waterproof paper | 31 |
| Burnett & Rolfe Ltd., The Esplanade, Rochester. | Sheet Metal, Dairy Machinery. | 76 |
| C. A. V., Willis Avenue, Rochester. | Machinery | 1,470 |
| Colcrete Ltd. | Concrete Machinery | 32 |
| Doust & Co., High Street, Rochester. | Ships (and repairs) | 75 |
| Dove, Phillips & Pett, 188, High Street, Strood. | Mineral Waters | 41 |
| Drake & Co. Ltd., Canal Road, Strood. | Timber Merchants. | 36 |
| Elliot Bros., Airport, Rochester. | Machinery. | 1,349 |
| Gyproc Products Ltd., Gas House Road, Rochester. | Plasterboard | 260 |
| Hobourn Aero Components Ltd., Priory Road, Strood. | Machinery | 800 |
| Kent Alloys Ltd., Priory Road, Strood. | Machinery | 520 |
| Leech (Rochester) Ltd., High Street, Rochester. | Lenses | 47 |
| LeGrand, Sutcliffe & Gell Ltd., Airport, Rochester. | Oil mining equipment. | 217 |

| <u>Name of Factory or Undertaking</u> | <u>Products</u> | <u>No. of Employees</u> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <u>ROCHESTER (City)</u> | | |
| Luxram Electric Ltd., Knight Road, Strood. | Electric lamps | 301 |
| M. Lynch & Son, Ltd., Bridge Wharves, Rochester. | Scrap metal and cutting etc. | 28 |
| Medway Yacht Basin, Manor Lane, Borstal. | Ships | 27 |
| Morgan & Co. Ltd., Knight Road, Strood. | Timber Merchants | 65 |
| Osborne & Garret, Knight Road, Strood. | Hairdressing Sundries | 74 |
| Palfrey W. Ltd., Willis Ave., Rochester. | Paper bags | 239 |
| Short Bros. (Rochester Airport) | Aero Engineers | 373 |
| Standard Telephone & Cables Ltd., Airport, Rochester. | Cables, valves, etc. | 874 |
| Staples Press Ltd., Love Lane, Rochester. | Printing | 185 |
| Williams Charles, Rochester House, Commercial Road, Strood. | Clothing | 509 |
| Wingets Ltd., High Street, Strood. | Concrete mixing & other machinery | 1.067 |
| Woodfield Hoist & Man. Co., Commissioners Road, Strood. | Machinery | 300 |
| <u>CHATHAM (Municipal Borough)</u> | | |
| Bourne & Son, 224, High Street, Chatham | Bread, etc. | 48 |
| Cement & Steel Ltd., Second Avenue, Chatham | Engines | 20 |
| Clements Ltd., 339, High Street, Chatham | Printing & bookbinding | 58 |
| Filmer Ltd., Second Avenue, Chatham. | Cardboard Containers | 150/160 |
| Hooker & Sons, (Town Mills) Medway Street, Chatham. | Flour | 30 |
| Kent Art Printers, The Brook, Chatham. | Printing & Bookbinding | 39 |
| Mackays Ltd., Fair Row, Chatham. | Printing | 144 |

| <u>Name of Factory or Undertaking</u> | <u>Products</u> | <u>No. of Employees</u> |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <u>CHATHAM (Municipal Borough) (Cont'd.)</u> | | |
| Michael & Co. (Invicta) High Street. | Clothing | 50 |
| Moon Workshops, 2-4 Meeting House Lane. | Toys, etc. | 93 |
| Parrett & Neves Ltd., 30 High Street. | Printing & Bookbinding | 99 |
| Photo Production, 55-59 The Brook. | Fine Art Printing | 83 |
| Scott W. & S. Ltd., 132a High Street. | Timber | 35 |
| Weald Bakery, Ltd., High Street. | Bread, etc. | 131 |

GILLINGHAM (Municipal Borough)

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----|
| Easiworks Ltd., Featherby Road. | Light Eng. | 80 |
| Elm Plastics, Motney Hill Road. | Plastics | 40 |
| Ingram Charles, Ingrasyl Works, Strover Street. | Ladies Underwear | 64 |
| Moore & Southcot Ltd., 142 Napier Road. | Clothing | 48 |
| 311 Station Road | | 60 |
| Mullard Radio Valves, Coulman Street. | Valves (radio) | 60 |
| Novadel Ltd., Pier Road | Chemicals | 90 |
| Raynor & Sturgess, Victoria Works, Westcourt Street, Brompton. | Clothing | 54 |
| Smith J.H. & Son (Leyton Ltd.) Leyfield Road. | Gowns | 60 |
| Tull A.J. & Son, Canterbury Street. | Printing & bookbinding | 22 |
| Welding Supplies Ltd., Beechings Way, Gillingham. | Welded metal goods | 51 |

STROOD RURAL DISTRICT.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|-----|
| Alpha Cement Works, Cliffe. | Cement | 300 |
| Atlas Stone Co., Shorne. | Artificial stone | 41 |

| <u>Name of Factory or Undertaking</u> | <u>Products</u> | <u>No. of Employees</u> |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>STROOD RURAL DISTRICT</u> | | |
| Berry Wiggins & Co., Ltd., Hoo. | Oil Refinery | 365 |
| British Basket & Besto Co., Ltd., Cuxton. | Basket making | 90 |
| Cellactite & British Uralite Ltd., Higham. | Asbestos Cement Products | 415 |
| Crown & Quarry Works, Frindsbury Extra. | Cement | 160 |
| Kent Oil Refinery, Isle of Grain. | Oil Refinery | 1850 plus floating population (tankers) 500 per week |
| London & Rochester Trading Co., Frindsbury Extra. | Tarpauling and sails. Barge repairs | 292 |
| Martin Earle's Works, Cuxton. | Cement | 90 |
| Medway Buildings & Supplies Ltd., Frindsbury Extra. | Timber buildings | 200 |
| Rugby Portland Cement Works, Halling | Cement | 350 |
| <u>SHEERNESS (Urban District)</u> | | |
| Newlands, Hope Street | Shirts & Collars | 105 |
| Sheppey Shirt Co., Blue Town. | Shirts & Blouses | 52 |
| <u>QUEENBOROUGH (Borough)</u> | | |
| Canning Town Glass Works, Ltd. | Glass bottles, Jars, table glassware | 600 |
| Johnson, Alfred & Son, Ltd. | Sanitary Earthenware | 400 |
| Lodder, W. Ltd. | Iron | 50 |
| Sheet Glass, Ltd. | Sheet glass | 350 |
| Sheppey Glue & Chemical Works, Ltd. | Glue, Chemical and Fertilisers | 350 |

| <u>Name of Factory or Undertaking</u> | <u>Products</u> | <u>No. of Employees</u> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| MALLING RURAL DISTRICT | | |
| Amalgamated Roadstone Corp., (Kent Quarries) Basted House, Borough Green. | Quarrying and Tar Macadam | 60 |
| Arnolds (Branbridges) Ltd., Branbridges, East Peckham. | Engineering and Agric. merchants | 100 |
| Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers Limited, Holborough Cement Works, Snodland. | Cement Manufacture | 300 |
| do. | Cement Packing | 23 |
| do. | Lime Plant | 41 |
| Austen, Charles, Limited, Abbey Works, Swan Street, West Malling. | Engineering | 40 |
| Baird, Wolton and May Ltd., Barming Canning Factory, Hermitage Lane, Aylesford. | Canning and Bottling | 235 |
| British Legion Industries, British Legion Village, Aylesford. | Printing | 29 |
| do. | Joinery | 28 |
| do. | Fancy Goods | 33 |
| do. | Engineering and M.V.R. | 31 |
| Brookgate Industries Ltd., New Hythe Lane, Larkfield, East Malling. | Paper slitting and reeling | 419 |
| do. | Paper Towels | 61 |
| do. | Constructional Division | 47 |
| do. | Fibre Conduit | 42 |
| Cooper & Co., A.W., Legge Lane, Birling. | Fruit preservation | 30 |
| Diamond Tread Co. (1938) Ltd., Kiln Barn Road, Ditton. | Stone crushing and Tarmacadam | 40 |
| Frozen Fruit (Ditton Court) Ltd., Ditton Court Farm, Ditton. | Fruit and vegetable preservation | 100 |
| Gerrish and Gwyn Ltd., Little Mill, East Peckham. | Leather currying and dressing | 45 |

| <u>Name of Factory or Undertaking</u> | <u>Products</u> | <u>No. of Employees</u> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <u>MALLING RURAL DISTRICT (Cont'd.)</u> | | |
| Goldwell Farms Ltd., Goldwell Cider Mills, East Malling. | Cider Manufacture | 50 |
| Hamstead (Roughway) Paper Mills Ltd., Roughway Paper Mills, Plaxtol. | Paper Manufacture. | 50 |
| Holoplast Ltd., New Hythe Lane, Larkfield, East Malling. | Holoplast products | 250 |
| Hyders Limited, Old Forge, Plaxtol. | Ornamental ironwork | 45 |
| Ightham Brick and Tile Co., "Nutfields", Ightham. | Brick and Tile Manufacture | 30 |
| Ightham Brick and Tile Co., Ightham Common, Ightham. | Brick and Tile Manufacture | 30 |
| The Kentish White Brick Co., Ltd., Borough Green Road, Ightham. | Brick Manufacture | 30 |
| The Lead Wool Co., Ltd., Churchfields, Snodland. | Lead Wool Packings | 50 |
| Lead Wool Tools Co., Ltd., Churchfields, Snodland. | Engineering | 20 |
| Fredk. Leney and Sons, Ltd., Phoenix Brewery, Wateringbury. | Brewery | 125 |
| Medway Corrugated Paper Co., New Hythe Lane, Larkfield, East Malling. | Corrugated boxes | 620 |
| do. | Tubes | 60 |
| do. | Joinery | 3 |
| do. | Corrugated Paper Products | 30 |
| Medway Paper Sacks Ltd., New Hythe Lane, Larkfield, East Malling. | Bag Manufacture | 400 |
| Nichols and Son Ltd., East Street, Snodland. | Paper Bag Manufacture | 60 |
| Odhams Press Limited, Basted Paper Mills, Basted, Platt. | Book Storage, etc. | 70 |
| John H. Ratzer Ltd., Nepicar House, London Road, Wrotham Heath, Platt. | Light Engineering | 30 |

| <u>Name of Factory or Undertaking</u> | <u>Products</u> | <u>No. of Employees</u> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| MALLING RURAL DISTRICT (Cont'd.) | | |
| Albert E. Reed & Co., Ltd., New Hythe Lane, Larkfield, East Malling. | Paper Manufacture | 3,100 |
| Ryarsh Brick and Sand Co., Ltd., Brick Factory, Ryarsh. | Sand Lime Bricks | 35 |
| Rootes Ltd., Wrotham Heath, Platt. | Motor Engineering | 25 |
| S.E. Gas Board, Churchfields, Snodland. | Gas Manufacture | 35 |
| C. Townsend Hook & Co., Ltd., Mill Street, Snodland. | Paper Manufacture | 950 |

