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**Contributors**

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1944

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

WHITSTABLE.

July, 1945.

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To the Chairman and Members of the

WHITSTABLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Councillor Mrs. Phillips and Gentlemen,

I have to present to you my fifteenth Annual Report as  
Medical Officer of Health for the Urban District of Whitstable.

Area of Urban District	..	..	..	..	8,283 acres.
" " " " (before 1934)	..	..	..	..	794 "
Population at Census 1931	..	..	..	..	10,820
" (estimated mid-1939)	..	..	..	..	15,620
" ( " mid-1944)	..	..	..	..	13,320
Number of Houses 1931	..	..	..	..	3,466
" " Inhabited houses 1931	..	..	..	..	3,105
" " Houses, 1944	..	..	..	..	5,855
" " Inhabited houses 1944 (estimated)	..	..	..	..	5,187
" " Families or Separate Occupiers (1931)	..	..	..	..	3,327
Rateable Value 1943	..	..	..	..	£138,347
Sum represented by a penny rate 1943	..	..	..	..	£472
Rateable Value 1944	..	..	..	..	£138,676
Sum represented by a penny rate 1944	..	..	..	..	£520

AREA - The area of the Urban District is 8,283 acres,  
made up as follows:-

Old	(Central Ward	..	..	..	..	78 acres
Urban	(East Ward	..	..	..	..	422 "
Area	(West Ward	..	..	..	..	294 "
	Swalecliffe	..	..	..	..	927 "
	Whitstable-cum-Seasalter	..	..	..	..	4,350 "
	Dunkirk (part)	..	..	..	..	936 "
	Graveney (part)	..	..	..	..	886 "
	Hernhill (part)	..	..	..	..	390 "

TOTAL. 8,283 "

POPULATION. The Registrar General's estimate of the population for mid-1944 is 13,320. For last year it was 12,710, an increase of 610. In the last half of 1944 the population began to increase fairly rapidly, and according to food rationing statistics was on 31st December 14,144.



VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Total for 1943.
<u>Live Births.</u>	266	138	128	(224)
Legitimate.	249	131	118	(208)
Illegitimate.	17	7	10	(18)
<u>Still Births.</u>	6	3	3	(2)
Legitimate.	6	3	3	(2)

The Birth Rate per 1,000 population is:-

Live Births	...	19.9	Rate for 1943. (17.6)
Still Births	...	0.45	(0.15)

The Birth Rate, still rising, is very much higher than last year, an increase of 42 births in the year. It has only been exceeded three times in the last twenty-five years, namely 1911, 1913 and 1920.

DEATHS.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Total for 1943.
	220	101	119	(222)

The death rate per 1,000 population is:-

Crude death rate	...	16.5	Rate for 1943. (17.4)
(No comparability factor available for 1944)			

CAUSES OF DEATH FOR 1944:-

	Males	Females		Males	Females
Diphtheria	-	1	Bronchitis	5	3
Tuberculosis of the			Pneumonia	2	1
respiratory system	1	2	Ulcer of stomach		
Other forms of T.B.	-	-	and duodenum	1	1
Syphilitic Diseases	-	1	Diarrhoea under		
Influenza	2	3	2 years	-	1
(Cancer of buc.cav.)			Appendicitis	1	-
(and Oesophagus (M))	2	1	Other digestive		
(Uterus (F))			diseases	2	-
Cancer of stomach			Nephritis	6	6
and duodenum	3	2	Puerperal & post-		
			abort: sepsis	-	-

CAUSES OF DEATH FOR 1944 (continued)

	Males	Females		Males	Females
Cancer of Breast	-	6	Other Maternal Causes	-	-
Cancer of all other sites	13	15	Premature births	3	1
Intra-cran:vascular lesions	8	17	Congenital malform-ations	4	2
Heart Disease	34	43	Suicide	1	-
Other diseases of circulatory system	1	3	Road Traffic accident	2	-
			Other violent causes	3	2
			All other causes	7	8

ALL CAUSES      MALES 101      FEMALES 119

Year	Notifiable Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Respiratory Diseases	Influenza	Cancer	Heart and Circulatory	All Causes
1935	2	7	11	-	34	82	186
1936	1	8	12	-	32	71	197
1937	-	10	9	8	30	75	195
1938	1	10	11	4	35	97	212
1939	-	8	11	13	54	110	269
1940	1	10	17	6	30	80	248
1941	1	7	19	8	46	62	237
1942	1	5	12	2	34	107	220
1943	-	7	16	10	33	106	222
1944	1	3	11	5	42	106	220

The transferred deaths were:-

Inward      ...      46      Outward      ...      12

The age distribution of total deaths was:-

Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-5 years	5-15 years	15-25 years	25-45 years	45-65 years	65 and upwards
9	1	2	2	Nil	8	34	164

Of the deaths over 65, 24 were between the ages of 65 and 70, 75 between 70 and 80, 58 between 80 and 90, and 7 over 90.



# CAUSES OF DEATH FOR 1944 (continued)

Deaths from all causes show little variation from last year's figures, and there are no special remarks I wish to make.

MATERNAL MORTALITY. There were no deaths from puerperal sepsis, or from other maternal causes.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Deaths of infants under one year were as follows:-

	Total.	Males.	Females.	(Totals for 1943)
Legitimate	9.	6	3	(7)
Illegitimate	-	-	-	(-)

Infantile Mortality Rates are as follows:-

		(Rates for 1943)
All infants per 1000 live births,	33.8	(31.2)
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate births	36.1	(33.9)
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate births	0.00	(0.00)

The infantile mortality rate is slightly higher than during 1943, but is much lower than the average for the rest of the country,

The ages at and causes of deaths under one year were as follows:-

1 minute	/suffocation (Inquest)
45 "	/hydrocephalus
2 days	/intercranial haemorrhage
2 "	/premature birth
4 "	/"
5 "	/"
5 "	/"
3 months	/gastro enteritis
8 "	/hydrocephalus

There was one death among children under two years from diarrhoea and enteritis.

TABLE OF BIRTH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY  
MATERNAL DEATH-RATES, AND CASE-RATES FOR  
CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1944

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
		England & Wales	186 County Boro's & Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census	London Admin- istra- tive County
<hr/>					
BIRTHS.	Rates per 1000 Civilian Population.				
Live	19.9	17.6	20.3	20.9	15.0
Still	0.45	0.50	0.64	0.61	0.42
DEATHS.					
All Causes	16.5	11.6	13.7	12.4	15.7
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.04
Diphtheria	0.07	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.01
Influenza	0.37	0.12	0.10	0.11	0.08
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	-	-	-
Measles	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
NOTIFICATIONS:-					
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.00	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.06
Scarlet Fever	1.42	2.40	2.41	2.67	1.57
Whooping Cough	3.30	2.49	2.49	2.29	2.90
Diphtheria	0.97	0.58	0.67	0.69	0.31
Erysipelas	0.37	0.29	0.32	0.28	0.37
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	5.25	4.16	4.51	3.94	2.98
Pneumonia	1.12	0.97	1.13	0.82	0.93
<hr/>					
	Rates per 1000 Live Births				
Deaths under 1 yr of age	33.8	46	52	44	61
Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age.	3.7	4.3	7.3	4.4	10.1



Rates per 1000 Total Births (Live & Still)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
MATERNAL MORTALITY.					
Abortion with sepsis	0.00	0.31)			
" without sepsis	0.00	0.09)			
Puerpural infection	0.00	0.28)	NOT AVAILABLE		
Other	0.00	1.25)			
Abortion (Mortality per million women aged 15 - 45)					
With sepsis	Nil	25 )	"	"	
Without sepsis	Nil	7 )			
NOTIFICATIONS:-					
Puerpural Fever)	7.5	10.34	13.13	9.25	(3.61
" Pyrexia)					(14.14

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR THE AREA

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

The staff engaged on Public Health work consists of myself, Medical Officer of Health, part-time; Mr. C.R.A. Martin, Chief Sanitary Inspector; Messrs C.A. Tilley and P.K. Marsh, General Assistants.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Arrangements remain as described in previous reports.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The two Town Ambulances have been operated during the year by the Chief Sanitary Inspector, but as it became obvious that Civil Defence personnel would not be available much longer for ambulance duties, he reported to the Council that the Service would have to be put upon a peace-time basis. A variety of methods of operating the Service were discussed by the Council, including the stationing of the ambulances at the local hospital, but at the end of the year nothing had been completed

NURSING HOMES.

The Nursing Homes were full to capacity during the year, and the difficulty of finding accommodation for maternity cases was, if anything, worse last year than previous years.



#### ISOLATION HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

Accommodation here has been again severely taxed during the year, owing principally to the continued reception of Thanet infectious cases in the hospital. I appreciate that staff, and especially domestic staff difficulties, is the one big problem of the Joint Hospital Committee, but I think the time has arrived when the Thanet Hospital should deal with the cases in its district.

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

##### WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply in the area as a whole and of its several parts has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. Samples of both sources of public supply, namely the Canterbury Company and the Mid-Kent Water Company (for the Yorkletts area) have been taken periodically for chemical and bacteriological examination, and the results obtained have been satisfactory.

There still remain a number of areas in the rural part of the district where a piped supply of water is not available, and householders have to rely upon rain water supply; Redfall Ride and Yorkletts are examples of these areas, but the number of such houses is under a hundred. There are also within the built up part of the Urban District approximately ninety houses relying upon well supplies.

##### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The extremely serious flooding of 1943 was not repeated last year, although the dangers of sewer flooding still remain, and if anything flooding is likely to occur more often in the future than during the war years, because the population is now approaching pre-war normal. This problem has been before the Council for a great many years, and some very real attempt should be made to solve it.

With the lifting of the coastal ban, and re-occupation of the many huts and bungalows at Seasalter, the problem of dealing with pail closet contents will again arise, and the Chief Sanitary Inspector has endeavoured to bring into operation for the summer of 1945 the collective scheme of privy cleansing which was fairly satisfactorily operated by the owners themselves before the war.

#### SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

TOTAL NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS & RE-INSPECTIONS.....	4038
INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES.....	187
" " SLAUGHTER HOUSES.....	8
" " SHOPS.....	107
" " WORKSHOPS.....	119
" " BAKEHOUSES.....	16
" " DAIRIES & COWSHEDS.....	124



## SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT (Continued).

INSPECTION OF VAN DWELLINGS, etc.....	196
" " AIR RAID SHELTERS.....	994
VISITS TO INFECTED HOUSES.....	122
" " WORKS IN PROGRESS.....	293
MISCELLANEOUS VISITS.....	986
TOTAL NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED.....	146

## INSPECTIONS OF WORKSHOPS, FACTORIES, Etc.

	Inspections.	Notices served.
WORKSHOPS.....	96.	4
FACTORIES.....	23	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	119	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>
NUMBER OF DEFECTS FOUND.....	5	
" " " REMEDIED.....	5	

H O U S I N G.

When it was necessary to billet between twenty and thirty families in an air raid incident in January, 1945, the Chief Sanitary Inspector discovered that there was a distinct shortage of houses, and that the families were re-housed only with the greatest difficulty. This position had arisen during 1944, and is, of course, certain to become progressively worse. At the beginning of the year there were a great many empty houses, both for sale and to let. The Council have had under consideration the housing needs of the district, and are acquiring a compact and practically unbuilt area in the Grimshill district, bounded on two sides by the Stream Dyke, and on the other by Saddleton Road and Grimshill Road, which is the site of the last pre-war Housing Scheme for re-housing displaced persons. The area is 23.16 acres, and will provide for approximately two hundred houses. This, of course, will not meet the full housing needs of the district, but it is a start.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of notifiable infectious disease cases during 1944, which compares favourably with previous years, except for the number of cases of



NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Continued).

diphtheria. There has also been an increase in measles and whooping cough, but a reduction in non-pulmonary tuberculosis cases.

	<u>1944.</u>	<u>1943.</u>	<u>1942.</u>	<u>1941.</u>	<u>1940.</u>
Scarlet Fever	19	23	28	26	48
Diphtheria	13	5	2	3	2
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	5	7	7	1	4
Pneumonia	15	21	11	12	10
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	9	9	11	7	3
" (Other forms)	6	16	9	4	4
Cerebro-spinal fever	-	-	-	-	1
Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	1	-	1
Puerperal fever )	2	-	2	-	1
" Pyrexia)					
Measles	70	32	248	15	5
Whooping Cough	44	23	8	37	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	1	-	-

The notifications of measles were received in the first half of 1944, and those for whooping cough in the last half. There were no return cases of scarlet fever and no introduction of infectious disease into the district from outside. There was an improvement in the notification of infectious diseases by doctors during the year.

**DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION.** There were no special immunization sessions held during the year, but children under school age were treated at the Child Welfare Clinic by Dr. Barker, and school children by private practitioners. The following are the numbers so treated:-

<u>Under 5 yrs.</u>	<u>5 - 15yrs.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
170 (683)	34 (1139)	204 (1822)

The figures in brackets are the total numbers immunized since the immunization treatment was commenced. The Registrar-General's estimate of child population at mid-1944 was:-

	<u>Age group 0-4 inc.</u>	<u>5 - 15 yrs.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
	1029	1658.	2687.
Percentages of Registrar-General's Estimate	66.37%	68.69%	67.80%

Thirteen cases of diphtheria were notified during the year, four of which received immunization treatment in 1941; in these cases the symptoms were very slight indeed.



## NOT PUBLISHED DURING 1924.

Cases  
Removed  
to  
Hospital

TUBERCULOSIS 1944

	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY		T O T A L
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
Cases on Register at commencement of 1944	59	25	16	38	118
Cases notified during 1944	7	2	2	4	15
Cases restored to Register during 1944	-	1	-	-	1
Other additions	3	2	-	1	7
Cases removed from Register during 1944	8	7	4	4	23
Cases remaining on Register at end of 1944	41	24	14	39	118



New Cases and Mortality, 1944

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-15 years	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
15-25 years	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
25-35 years	3	2	-	2	1	1	-	-
35-45 years	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
45-55 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-65 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 years & up.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
TOTAL	7	2	2	4	1	2	-	-

There was one death from pulmonary tuberculosis which had not been previously notified. There is no evidence of excessive incidence of or mortality from tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district.

The total number of cases on the Register is now higher than before the war, although the first notifications of persons in the district remain about the same per year. The increase is due to persons moving into the district from outside. During 1944 there were 15 first notifications and 8 transfers from other districts, making a total of 23; there were also 23 removals from the Register during the year.

C O N C L U S I O N. 1944 has, like its immediate predecessors, been a year of difficulties, although once again we in particular, and the country in general, have escaped large scale epidemics which characterized the closing years of the last Great War. This is indeed fortunate, for had there been any serious incidence of disease, the few medical practitioners of the town could not have coped with it. Once again I express my thanks to the Chief Sanitary Inspector and the members of his Department for the public health work that is being carried on despite the heavy going, and especially to thank Mr. Martin for the help he has given me personally. I should like also to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their courtesy and co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES E. ETHERIDGE, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.  
Medical Officer of Health.



The Castle,

Whitstable.

April, 1945.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
WHITSTABLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Councillor Mrs. Phillips and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my twentyfirst Annual  
Report of the work carried out by my department during the  
year 1944.

1. GENERAL.

Number of Inspections	...	...	2146		
" " Reinspections	...	...	1892	Total:	4038
" " Complaints received	...	...			541
" " Notices served to execute works:-					
Preliminary	...	...	143		
Statutory	...	...	3	Total:	146.
" " Notices complied with by persons responsible (including those outstanding at end of 1943)	...	...			130
" " Notices complied with by Council in default					2

2. HOUSING NUISANCES.

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	7
Eaves gutters and rain water pipes repaired or renewed					30
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	60
Floors ventilated	...	...	...	...	7
Sites concreted	...	...	...	...	1
Doors and windows repaired	...	...	...	...	10
Dirty rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	9
Coppers repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Stoves repaired and renewed	...	...	...	...	7
Brickwork repaired	...	...	...	...	15
Yards paved and drained	...	...	...	...	Nil
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	Nil
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...	...	28

3. DRAINS, W.C's ETC.

Drains relaid and repaired	...	...	...	...	8
" Ventilated	...	...	...	...	5
" Cleared	...	...	...	...	52
" Tested	...	...	...	...	30
Surface water drains laid	...	...	...	...	Nil
Rain water pipes disconnected from sewers	...	...	...	...	1
Houses connected to sewers	...	...	...	...	3



3.	DRAINS. (continued)				
	Cesspools abolished	...	...	...	Nil
	" constructed	...	...	...	Nil
	Pail closets converted to W.C.'s..	...	...	...	Nil
	Movable sink waste receptacles abolished	...	...	...	Nil
	W.C's built	...	...	...	Nil
	W.C's repaired	...	...	...	7
	W.C's provided with flushing apparatus	...	...	...	1
	Privies built	...	...	...	Nil
	Inspection chambers built	...	...	...	7
	Sinks provided	...	...	...	2
	Dustbins provided	...	...	...	2
4.	BAKEHOUSES.				
	Number on register	...	...	...	14
	" of Inspections	...	...	...	16
	" " defects found	...	...	...	Nil
	" " defects remedied	...	...	...	Nil
5.	DAIRIES COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.				
	Number of Cowkeepers on Register	...	...	...	18
	" " Retail Purveyors	...	...	...	5
	" " Registered Retailers with Milkshops	...	...	...	4
	" " Registered Retailers with premises outside Urban District...	...	...	...	1
	" " Inspections	...	...	...	124
	" " Defects found	...	...	...	11
	" " " remedied	...	...	...	8
6.	SLAUGHTERHOUSES.				
	Number of premises registered or licensed before 1940	...	...	...	7
	" " Inspections	...	...	...	8
7.	FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.				
	Number of Workshops	...	...	...	66
	" " Workplaces	...	...	...	27
	" " Inspections	...	...	...	119
	" " Defects found...	...	...	...	5
	" " Defects remedied	...	...	...	5
	" " Workplaces cleansed	...	...	...	Nil
8.	WATER SUPPLIES.				
	Number of Samples taken for analysis	...	...	...	4
	" " " reported unfit...	...	...	...	Nil.
	" " Houses connected to mains	...	...	...	11.

VARIOUS.

Inspection of Butchers', Grocers', Fish, Fruit,						
Cream, etc., shops	...	...	...	...	...	107
" " Van Dwellings, Sheds etc.	...	...	...	...	...	155
" " Schools	...	...	...	...	...	6
" " Stables	...	...	...	...	...	35
" " Air-Raid Shelters	...	...	...	...	...	994
Visits to works in progress	...	...	...	...	...	293
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	47
Animals kept insanitary	...	...	...	...	...	1
Premises baited with rat poison	...	...	...	...	...	114

Much of the working class property is gradually falling into a parlous state of repair, and whilst every effort is being made to secure housing repairs, only the most serious defects can be remedied, and these with the greatest of difficulty. The recent extension of the area covered by the £10 licensing limit is likely to make things worse. One appreciates that bomb repairs in London are an urgent problem, but the present system of control of building work, is, in my opinion, likely to make an even bigger and more widespread housing problem. I cannot fail to notice also that housing conditions are being made worse by a diminution of household cleanliness, especially among the younger house-wives, many of whom seem to me to be re-acting rather badly to the continuance of the War.

That the habit of complaining is flourishing may be gathered from the increased number of complaints, viz. 541.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

Visits to Infected Houses	...	...	...	...	...	122
Number of rooms disinfected following						
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	19
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	13
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	5
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	18
						61

6 cases of Scarlet Fever and 11 Diphtheria were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

Number of articles disinfected in Steam Disinfector:-

		Whitstable.				Herne Bay & Blean Institute.
		Civil.	A.R.P.	Fire G.	N.F.S.	
Mattresses	...	116	38	20	1	198
Pillows	...	173	40	20	1	373
Bolsters	...	44	-	-	-	10
Blankets	...	221	335	41	4	30



Continued:-

		Civil.	Whitstable. A.R.P.	Fire G.	N.F.S.	Herne Bay & Blean Institute.
Sheets	...	83	-	-	-	-
Quilts	...	42	55	6	-	2
Cushions	...	22	25	8	1	21
Beds	...	15	-	2	-	-
Miscellaneous...		158	-	10	7	141

Total.....2263

### PUBLIC MORTUARY

		Males	Females
Number of bodies admitted - Resident	...	8	3
Non - resident	...	5	-
		<hr/> 13	<hr/> 3

Post-mortem exams	...	...	7
Inquests only	...	...	4

### CAUSES OF DEATH:-

Natural Causes	...	...	...	10
Misadventure	...	...	...	-
Suicide	...	...	...	1
War deaths, British	...	...	...	1
" " Allied	...	...	...	1
" " Enemy	...	...	...	3
				<hr/> 16

### FOOD SUPPLY

The following table shows the amount of unsound food condemned during the year:-

		lbs.		lbs.
Beef	...	70	Tinned Meat	...
Pork	...	40	" Fish	...
Fish	...	452	" Milk	...
Jam	...	77	Miscellaneous	...
Cheese	...	30		60½

Total 1050½ lbs.

## FOOD SUPPLY (continued)

Slaughtering continues to be concentrated by the Ministry of Food in Canterbury, but 12 pigs killed locally were inspected during the year. A total of 142 certificates were issued to food vendors in respect of condemned food. The total number of shops inspected during the year for the purpose of supervising the food supply was 107.

## MILK SUPPLY.

The number of cow keepers and retail purveyors on Register remains the same, viz. eighteen and five. Three bottling licences for Tuberculin Tested Milk and one dealer's licence for Pasteurised Milk were issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936.

87 samples were taken during 1944 with the following results:-

- (1) From Accredited Producers (8) - 36, of which 3 failed to reach the standard.
- (ii) From Tuberculin Tested Producers (3) - 18 of which 3 failed to reach the standard.
- (iii) From Ungraded Producers (7) - 19 of which 3 failed to reach the standard.
- (iv) From retailers (5) - 10 of which 1 failed to reach the standard.

Three samples were taken for Tuberculosis examination, (Biologically) in no case was defects of Tuberculosis found.

During the year the Act for taking away from local authorities all their powers relating to the production of milk was passed but will not come into force until an 'appointed day', and under the Act power is given to refuse registration to a producer if his premises or methods are unsatisfactory. Had this power been given to local authorities, many of the unsatisfactory producers could have been dealt with, and whether it is wise to remove control of milk production from officers with local knowledge to a central department, time will show. At the moment, the unfortunate milk producer can hardly know where he is with all the various departments supervising and inspecting him.



H O U S I N G

Number of Houses erected during the year:- NIL

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:-
  - (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 187
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 187
  - (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations ... 8
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 8
  - (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation... Nil
  - (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 ... 94
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 ... 89

Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:-

  - A. - Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act 1936:-
 

N I L
  - B. - Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-
    - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... 3
    - (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
      - (a) By owners ... 3
      - (b) By local authority in default of owners ... Nil



# HOUSING (continued)

3. C. - Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936 :-
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... Nil
  - (2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.. ... Nil

D. - Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act 1936 :-

N I L

4. Housing Act 1936, Part IV, Overcrowding :-

- (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... 16
- (2) Number of families dwelling therein ... 24
- (3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... 86
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... Nil
- (c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved ... Nil

CLEARANCE AND COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDERS. Two cottages forming part of a clearance area were demolished during the year and the position to date with reference to clearance of slum dwellings is as follows :-

	No. of Houses demolished.	Buildings Closed.	Total Number of Persons displaced.
Formal action up to 31/12/30	12	-	43
Formal action since above date, per quarterly returns to Ministry of Health.	124	6	376
Informal action	38	13	85
TOTALS	174	19	504

DISINFESTATION. 16 houses were disinfested by my staff during the year, and fumigants etc. issued to owners or occupiers for the disinfestation of a further 18 houses.

SCABIES CLEANSING. 10 adults and 33 children were subjected to scabies treatment at the First Aid Post, Cromwell Road, N. In each case the premises were disinfested (13), also clothing and the following bedding:-

Mattresses	33	Pillows	58	Bolsters	22	Blankets	71
Sheets	30	Quilts	7	Misc.	112	Total 313	



# SCABIES (continued)

With the closing of the First Aid Post in Cromwell Road, N. at the end of 1944, there will no longer be available the facilities for scabies cleansing. As soon as the War in Europe is over, I propose to explore the possibilities of converting the Cleansing Station in Station Road for this and other similar purposes.

## GOVERNMENT EVACUATION SCHEME.

The number of Government evacuees in the district increased in the district considerably during the flying bomb activity, and in the summer of 1944, approximately 800 people were billeted. This involved a considerable amount of work, most of which was done by voluntary helpers. The regular visits to the billets of unaccompanied children has been continued by two lady visitors during the year.

The number of each class in the district at the end of 1944 were as follows:-

Unaccompanied children (remaining from first Government Evacuation Scheme	...	...	...	1
---	-----	-----	-----	---

Unaccompanied children received in the district since the end of 1943:-	...	...	...	27
---	-----	-----	-----	----

Persons from Evacuation Areas,  
(Defence Regulations)

Men.....	53
Women.....	456
Children.....	515

Total.....	1024
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Evacuated persons received into Whitstable and those who have returned home during 1944:-

	<u>Received.</u>	<u>Returned.</u>
Men.....	51	43
Women.....	444	234
Children....	504	338

Persons rendered homeless by air-raids:-	33
--	----

TOTAL.....	1085
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# GOVERNMENT EVACUATION SCHEME (continued)

Towards the end of the year, I received an urgent request from the Regional Evacuation Officer to billet immediately school children from Folkestone who had endured a particularly gruelling time during the flying bomb activity, the cost of householders' allowances being borne by the Lord Mayor's Air-raid Distress Fund. Altogether, some 220 children were billeted, and a round of cinema visits and entertainments arranged for them.

## DRAINAGE

There are two cesspools in the old urban district, all other property being connected to the sewers. 882 houses in the added area are also connected to the sewers; 133 to the South Tankerton sewer, 187 to the North Tankerton sewer, 172 to the Chestfield sewer, 264 to the Swalecliffe sewer and the remainder into extensions of the urban sewerage system.

For the remainder of the added area, the following table shows the means of drainage provided:-

Area	Cesspools taking		Sink waste receptacles	Premises without sink drainage	Pail closets	Privy middens
	W.C's and waste water	Waste water only				
Swalecliffe	7	1	3	-	7	-
Chestfield	43	-	11	6	15	-
Radfall	13	1	47	3	48	2
South Street	16	-	1	4	6	-
Millstrood	40	-	13	5	14	-
Canterbury Road (including Willow Wood and Wraike Hill)	79	9	36	9	57	2
Seasalter:-						
(a) Joy Lane to Jolly Sailor	32	-	2	-	2	-
(b) Granville Estate and Seasalter Cliff	81	1	24	4	40	-
(c) Jolly Sailor & U.D. Boundary	47	5	88	1	95	-
Yorkletts	49	32	1	2	36	-
	407	49	226	34	320	4



## DRAINAGE (continued)

During the year the work of emptying cesspools has suffered considerably owing to a breakdown in the emptying plant. A great many complaints of over-flowing cesspools were received, and every effort was made to cope with the problem.

Now that the restriction on persons coming into the area has now been removed, a few of the bungalows at Seasalter are being occupied, and it will be necessary during the year to once again bring into operation the scheme of emptying pail closets in the district.

## HOUSE REFUSE, COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Financial data for house refuse, collection and disposal, are for the year ended 31st March, 1945.

### REFUSE COLLECTION

A once weekly collection of house refuse has been maintained throughout the year despite increasing difficulty. Repairs are again costly and one reconditioned engine was obtained from Shelvoke & Drewry, makers of S.D. freighters. Had it not been for the foresight I exercised in obtaining a large-capacity new machine in 1940, refuse collection in Whitstable would certainly have suffered from the shortcomings affecting other towns.

### REFUSE DISPOSAL

There were two deliberate firings of the tip during the year, one of which was traced to youths, but the usual precautions sufficed to control their spread and eventually extinguished them. The appearance of the disposal site has for sometime been marred by a very large collection of light scrap, which owing to the insistence of the Ministry of Supply continued to accumulate long after the market for this type of material had closed. I have endeavoured on numerous occasions to dispose of it, and several officials, including ladies, have paid visits in cars but so far with no result. Then to further increase the difficulties the Surveyor's Department sent large coils of barbed wire taken from the defence works along the cliffs.

I have continued to take cesspool contents from motor exhausters employed on this work by the Surveyor's Department.



FINANCIAL DATA FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st MARCH 1945.

R E V E N U E.

	£.	s.	d.
Trade Refuse and Salvage ... ..	591	12	7.
Highways Dept, Collection of Street Sweepings. ... ..	10	0	0
	601	12	7

E X P E N D I T U R E

Collection	£.	s.	d.
Labour ... ..	849	13	0
Garage Rent ... ..	16	16	0
Repairs ... ..	99	2	1
Tyres ... ..	37	13	0
Insurances.. ... ..	10	15	4
Licence Duty ... ..	85	0	0
Loan Repayments... ..	109	9	1
Petrol & Oil ... ..	202	6	7
Miscellaneous ... ..	7	16	5
	1418	11	6

Disposal

Labour ... ..	415	19	11
Rates & Tithe ... ..	5	8	0
Income Tax.. ... ..	3	17	6
Materials... ..	14	1	0
Wayleave ... ..	5	5	0
Road ... ..	45	7	9
Loan Repayments ..	14	3	4
Kent War Agricultural Committee	20	0	0
	524	2	6

Less Revenue ... ..	1942	14	0
	601	12	7
	1341	1	5



The total quantity of refuse collected and disposed of was 2086 $\frac{3}{4}$  tons, the weights for other years being shown below:-

	1944-5	(1943-4)	(1942-3)	(1941-2)	(1938-9)
	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons
House Refuse	1984 $\frac{3}{4}$	(1903 $\frac{1}{2}$ )	(1946 $\frac{1}{2}$ )	(1975 $\frac{1}{2}$ )	(4021)
Trade Refuse	51	(48 $\frac{1}{2}$ )	(54)	(33)	(312)
Street Sweepings	8	(8 $\frac{1}{2}$ )	(9)	(13)	(121)
Miscellaneous	43	(55)	(90 $\frac{1}{2}$ )	(58)	(132)

There has been a slight increase in the amount of house refuse collected during the latter part of the year, since the ban on return to the coast was lifted.

The principal items salvaged are as under :-

	Tons	cwts	grs	lbs	(1943-4)	(1942-3)	(1941-2)
Paper	69	3	3	-	(77tons)	(97 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons)	(65 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons)
Ferrous Metals	3.	5	2	-	(9 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons)	(30 tons)	(26 tons)
Non-ferrous Metals	-	5	-	9	(7 cwt)	(16 cwt)	( 7 cwt)
Rags	2	6	1	6	(3 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons)	( 5 tons)	( 9 cwt)
Bones	3	8	3	1	(4 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons)	(5 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons)	( 4 tons)
Rubber	1	16	-	-	(3 $\frac{1}{4}$ tons)	(7 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons)	(16 cwt)
Broken Glass	2	10	-	-	( Nil )	( 3 tons)	(4 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons)
Kitchen Waste	2	10	-	-	( 3tons)	(2 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons)	(5 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons)
Bottles and Jars	423 $\frac{1}{2}$	doz.			(432 $\frac{1}{2}$ doz)	(277doz)	(89 doz)

There has been a slight reduction in the amount of revenue and a reduction of approximately 8 tons in the amount of waste paper salvaged. I would like to draw attention to the fact that I have been salvaging materials from house refuse for the last seventeen years, long before the country as a whole became imbued with the idea of saving valuable materials from house refuse, and that in this period I have raised the sum of £5,836 - all from the things people throw away.

1. Total Refuse in Tons	2086 $\frac{3}{4}$ tons
2. Population (estimated)	13500
3. Area	8283 acres
4. Number of houses and premises visited (Approx)	6000
5. Average length of haul	3.25 miles
6. Petrol consumption	2039 gallons
7. Oil	97 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
8. Hours vehicles worked	4048 hours.

The cost per ton of refuse for collection and disposal for the year is 12/8.2 pence.



TOWN AMBULANCE SERVICE.

Expenditure during the year 1944-5 was as follows:-

Petrol etc ... ..	£69	6	0.
Repairs & maintenance of vehicles ... ..	31	14	5.
Garage rent ... ..	8	8	0.
	<hr/>		
	£109	8	5.
	<hr/>		

The amount received in fees for the year ended 31/3/45 was:-

£243 15 0.

The following is a summary of the journeys made during the year:-

Cottage Hospital ... ..	203
Infectious Disease Hospital:-	
From Whitstable... ..	11
" Herne Bay ... ..	33
	<hr/>
Canterbury Hospital... ..	162
Public Assistance cases ... ..	34
Private cases ... ..	81
Mortuary ... ..	15

TOTAL 539 (488 - 1943/4)

The mileage was 6582. (6736 - 1943/4)

During the whole of the war the Town Ambulance Service has been operated by Civil Defence personnel, and when during 1944 it became obvious that the war was gradually drawing to a close, and that there would be considerable reductions in whole-time personnel, I reported to the Council early in September the necessity of re-organising this Service on a peace-time basis, so that when the eventual disestablishment of Civil Defence came the Town Ambulance Service would go on uninterrupted. The Council agreed that this should be done, and to this end held numerous meetings with local organisations, but up to the end of the year no arrangements had been made, and I was obliged to carry on the Service with a considerably reduced personnel as in other war years.



SECOND DECADE SUMMARY, 1934 - 1943.

I show below a summary of the work carried out in the ten years ended 31st December, 1943. The last one was published in 1934.

Total number of Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	50566
" " " Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	2981
" " " Complaints investigated	...	...	...	...	...	2328
Housing Defects Remedied:						
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	93
Eaves gutters and rain water pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	71
Rainwater pipes disconnected from drains	...	...	...	...	...	22
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	198
Doors and windows repaired	...	...	...	...	...	141
Dirty rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	211
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	134
New damp-proof courses	...	...	...	...	...	13
Coppers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	41
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	30
Stoves renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	67
Brickwork repaired	...	...	...	...	...	153
Outbuildings rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	9
Yard paved or drained	...	...	...	...	...	57
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	18
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	503
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...	...	...	384
Number of unfit dwelling houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	123
" " " " " closed	...	...	...	...	...	19
" " persons displaced	...	...	...	...	...	491
Drainage defects Remedied:						
Drains relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	769
" ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	211
" cleared	...	...	...	...	...	344
" tested	...	...	...	...	...	1542
Inspection chambers built	...	...	...	...	...	334
Surface water drains laid	...	...	...	...	...	75 feet
W.C's rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	190
" repaired	...	...	...	...	...	114
" provided with flushing apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	213
Water Supplies:						
Number of samples taken	...	...	...	...	...	171
" " " reported unfit	...	...	...	...	...	40
Wells cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	9
Number of houses connected to mains as result of action taken	...	...	...	...	...	116
Infectious Diseases:						
Number of visits to infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	1530



Second Decennial Summary (continued)

(Infectious Diseases)

Number of rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	642
" " articles disinfected in steam disinfecter	...	...	...	...	...	13297

Food Inspection:

Total quantity of diseased and unsound food condemned	...	...	...	...	17 tons 6 cwts. 1 qr. 4 lbs
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----------------------------

Total number of animals inspected	...	...	...	...	39374
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Beasts	...	...	2330
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Calves	...	...	2897
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Sheep	...	...	17254
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Pigs	...	...	15834
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Total number of samples of milk taken	...	...	...	...	632
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T.B. examination	...	...	...	...	10
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Graded	...	...	...	...	372
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Ungraded	...	...	...	...	249
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Other Food Samples	...	...	...	...	20
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Premises baited with rat poisons	...	...	...	...	591
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Ships inspected	...	...	...	...	70
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CONCLUSION:

I conclude this, my twenty-first Annual Report with renewed expressions of gratitude for the hard work and loyalty of my staff. If I were asked to single out any one member whose service and loyalty was outstanding, I should select Mr. P.K. Marsh, my general assistant and disinfecter. I am grateful to the whole-time staff of the Civil Defence Control Centre for the help they have given me, to Dr. Etheridge, Medical Officer of Health, for his understanding and the wise advice that only long experience enables one to give, and to the Chairman of the Council for his help and co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

C. R. A. MARTIN,  
M.R.S.I., A.M.I.S.E., etc.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.



