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Contributors

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
WHITSTABLE.

July 21st 1947.

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



Mr. Chairman, Councillor Mrs Stanley and Gentlemen,

I have to present to you my seventeenth 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-1945)	...	...	...	...	14,330
" (" mid-1946)	...	...	...	...	16,040
Number of Houses 1931	...	...	...	...	3,466
" " Inhabited houses 1931	...	...	...	...	3,105
" " Inhabited houses 1946 (estimated)	...	...	...	...	6,890
" " Families or Separate Occupiers (1931)	...	...	...	...	3,327
Rateable Value 1945	...	...	...	...	£138,968
Sum represented by a penny rate 1945	...	...	...	...	£523
Rateable Value 1946	...	...	...	...	£142,279
Sum represented by a penny rate 1946	...	...	...	...	£565

AREA During the year, alterations were effected to
boundaries of wards of the Urban District, and
the areas of wards (down to High Water Mark
Ordinary Tides) are now given as follows:-

Seasalter Ward	...	...	...	2,698 Acres
West Ward	...	...	...	434 "
Central Ward	...	...	...	145 "
South Ward	...	...	...	1,646 "

c/fwd: 4,923 Acres

Brought forward:-	4,923 Acres
Tankerton Ward	266 "
Swalecliffe Ward	<u>2,374 "</u>
	<u>7,563 Acres</u>

Area between High Water Mark
Ordinary Tide and Low Water
Mark Ordinary Tide as
measured from 6" Ordnance
Survey Map

2,333 Acres

POPULATION The Registrar General's estimate of the population for mid-1945 is 14,330. This year it is 16,040, an increase of 1,710. It is interesting to note that according to information from the local food office, population based on rationing statistics was at 31st December 1946, 17,003. From this, it will be seen that the population has now returned to its pre-war annual increase.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

During the year, the building trade has made some progress although not yet attaining its pre-war proportions. Most of the houses completed during the year have been erected by private builders. Some of the traffic in the harbour has returned - coastal steamers and a not inconsiderable barge traffic. Employment here, however, is, as always, rather precarious. Boat-building continues less actively than during the War, but in advance of pre-war standards. A few small factories have opened up, but the district has no large industrial establishments and no obnoxious trades. The oyster industry, for which the town is famed, has little to compare it with the flourishing state of former years. Whereas thirty, forty or more yawls laid in the bay, now there are only one or two.

Whitstable, with its long reputation for beneficial results in cases of tuberculosis and other respiratory disease, is again attracting visitors, and the Council are undertaking a number of small but important schemes along its long open front to the sea. A limited number of huts

have been reinstated on the slopes - the crowded conditions of pre-war years have been avoided.

PUBLIC PARKS AND OPEN SPACES. - These are as follows:-

	Acreage	
Tankerton Sea Front and Slopes	25.1	
Tankerton Circus Tennis Courts	1	
Tankerton Castle	4	
Westgate Terrace	0.66	
West Cliff Slopes	2.5	
West Beach Tennis Courts	1	
Westmeads Recreation Ground	5	
War Memorial	0.1	
Belmont Sports Ground	6.8	
Fox's Cross - new space	4	
Prospect House Field	6.52	
Duncan Downs	1.91	58.59
<hr/>		
Parks, Walks and Open Grounds, etc...	44.79	
Playing Fields	13.8	
<hr/>		
	58.59	

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Total for 1945.
<u>Live Births</u>	317	153	164	(227)

Legitimate	294	146	148	(206)
Illegitimate	23	7	16	(21)

<u>Still Births</u>	6	3	3	(7)

Legitimate	4	2	2	(6)
Illegitimate	2	1	1	(1)

The Birth Rate per 1,000 population is:-

		Rate for 1945.
Live Births	... 19.7	(15.81)
Still Births	... 0.37	(0.48)

After the drop in the number of births in 1945, the rate is again high, and the births for 1946 are the highest recorded, although the birth rate is a little lower than in 1944, which was a record, because the population shows a fairly big increase on previous years. The number of births exceeds deaths by 50, again something of a record. There have been few occasions in the last twenty years when this has happened, chiefly owing to the character of the population with its large proportion of retired people.

DEATHS

Total	Males.	Females.	Total for 1945.
267	128	139	(239)

The death rate per 1,000 population is:-

Crude death rate	... 16.6	Rate for 1945. (16.6)
------------------	----------	--------------------------

CAUSES OF DEATH FOR 1946:-

	Males.	Females		Males.	Females.
Diphtheria	-	-	Pneumonia	2	3
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	4	2	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	5	-
Other forms of T.B.	-	1	Diarrhoea under two years	-	-
Syphilitic diseases	1	-	Appendicitis	-	-
Influenza	1	2	Other digestive diseases	1	6
Cancer of buc.cav and Oesophagus	2	-	Nephritis	11	5
Cancer of uterus	-	3	Puerperal and post-abort: sepsis	-	-
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	3	2	Other maternal Causes	-	-
Cancer of Breast	-	2	Premature births	-	2
Cancer of other sites	19	17	Congenital malformations.	4	5
Diabetes	1	3	Suicide	1	-
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	11	15	Road traffic accidents	1	1
Heart disease	41	45	Other violent causes	3	6
Other diseases of circulatory system	2	5	All other causes	8	11
Bronchitis	7	3			

ALL CAUSES - MALES 128 FEMALES 139

Year	Notifiable Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Respiratory Diseases	Influenza	Cancer	Heart and circulatory diseases	All causes
1937	-	10	9	8	30	75	195
1938	1	10	11	4	35	97	212
1939	-	8	11	13	64	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
1945	-	4	10	-	32	145	239
1946	-	7	15	7	48	119	267

The transferred deaths were:-

Inward: 49 Outward: 26

The age distribution of total deaths was:-

Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs	2-5 yrs	5-15 yrs	15-25 yrs	25-45 yrs	45-65 yrs	65 and upwards
12	1	1	2	nil	11	47	194

Of the deaths over 65, 21 were between the ages of 65 and 70, 98 between 70 and 80, 67 between 80 and 90, and 8 over 90.

One outward transferable death was at 108 years.

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

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under one year were as follows:-

	Total	Males	Females	Totals for 1945
Legitimate	12	5	7	(6)
Illegitimate	-	-	-	(1)

Infantile Mortality Rates are as follows:-

		(Rates for 1945)
All infants per 1000 live births	37.8	(30.8)
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate births	40.8	(29.1)
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate births	0.00	(47.6)

The ages at and causes of death under 1 year were as follows:-

2½ hrs.	Prematurity.	Intercranial haemorrhage.
3 hrs.	"	Heart failure.
6 hrs.	"	Cerebral haemorrhage.
9 hrs.	"	Intercranial haemorrhage.
1 day.	"	Heart failure.
3 days.	Intercranial haemorrhage.	
2 weeks.	Spina bifida.	
3 weeks.	Influenzal pneumonia.	
3 weeks.	Congenital retroperitoneal cyst.	
2 months.	Influenzal pneumonia.	
3 months.	Strangulated hernia; operation.	
4 months.	Asphyxia.	

The infantile mortality rate is higher than in previous years at 37.8 per 1000 live births and 40.8 per 1000 legitimate births.

There were no deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year.

TABLE OF BIRTH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY
MATERNAL DEATH-RATES, AND CASE-RATES FOR
CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1946

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	W	England	126	148	London
	H	and	County	Smaller	Admin-
	I	Wales	Boro's	Towns	istra-
	T		& Great	Resident	tive
	S		Towns	Populations	County
	T		including	25,000 to	
	A		London	50,000 at	
	B			1931 Census	
	L				
	E				
<hr/>					
BIRTHS.	Rates per 1000 Civilian Population				
Live	19.7	19.1	22.2	21.3	21.5
Still	0.37	0.53	0.67	0.59	0.54
DEATHS.					
All Causes	16.6	11.5	12.7	11.7	12.7
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	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Diphtheria	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Influenza	0.18	0.15	0.13	0.14	0.17
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	--
Measles	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
<hr/>					
NOTIFICATIONS:-					
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	0.12	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.06
Scarlet Fever	0.43	1.33	1.51	1.53	1.42
Whooping Cough	2.49	2.23	2.43	2.05	2.22
Diphtheria	0.12	0.28	0.32	0.51	0.24
Erysipelas	0.74	0.22	0.25	0.22	0.27
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	9.35	3.92	4.73	3.70	7.35
Pneumonia	1.93	0.89	1.02	0.74	0.75
<hr/>					
	Rates per 1000 Live Births				
Deaths under 1 yr of age	37.8	43	46	37	41
Diarrhoea and Enteritis under two years of age	0.00	4.4	6.1	2.8	4.2

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT A classified
summary of inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors
is as follows:-

Total number of inspections and re-inspections	...	...	...	...	3323
Inspection of dwelling houses	...	...	...	...	698
" of shops	...	...	...	...	93
" " factories	...	...	...	...	63
" " bakehouses	...	...	...	...	22
" " dairies and cowsheds..	...	...	...	...	168
" " camping sites etc.	...	...	...	...	107
" " ice-cream premises	...	...	...	...	58
" " food preparing rooms..	...	...	...	...	79
" " food premises...	...	...	...	...	236
" " infected houses.	...	...	...	...	55
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	764
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	980
Number of complaints received.	...	...	...	...	390
" " Notices served - Preliminary	...	...	...	...	150
" " " " Statutory	...	...	...	...	17
" " " " complied with by persons responsible.	...	...	...	...	111
" " " " complied with by Council in default..	...	...	...	...	1
Total: 167					

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR
THE AREA.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

This consists of myself, Medical Officer of Health; Mr.F.W.I.Whitehouse, Chief Sanitary Inspector, to assist whom, an additional Sanitary Inspector, Mr.Carr, was appointed during the year, Mr.P.K.Marsh, General Assistant, and Miss Slingsbury, Clerk.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Arrangements remain as described in previous reports and I should like to again express my appreciation for the services rendered by the staff of the County Public Health Laboratory.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES. HOME NURSING.

These have continued as in previous years. In common with

most districts, there are a number of periods during the year when the nursing services are totally inadequate.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

The arrangement whereby only cases of Scarlet Fever are received into the Joint Hospital at Herne Bay has continued throughout the year - other cases of infectious disease have been taken to the Dartford Hospital.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The main source of water supply to the Urban District is the Canterbury Water Co., with a small portion of the area (Yorkletts and part of Seasalter) by the Mid-Kent Water Co. A number of areas with sporadic development rely on rain-water and scattered throughout the district approximately 90 houses have shallow wells.

Samples of the public supply taken during the year for chemical and bacteriological examination have been satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The sewerage question has continued to exercise the consideration of the Council during the year and the very great difficulty is now the enormous cost of the project. It is indeed a great pity that the Council, in the pre-war years, did not expedite the scheme.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

This was transferred to the Surveyor's Department on 1st January 1946, but was returned to the Health Department on 1st April of this year. Complaints were received during the year of a nuisance from a fire burning at the tip at Yorkletts.

HOUSING

The Council's housing programme provides for the erection of 270 permanent houses, which includes 24 houses to be built

in predominantly agricultural areas. They also propose to build 22 flats. 24 three-bedroomed houses and two bungalows for aged couples were completed during 1946. In the current year, there are 8 agricultural houses and 32 others in course of erection with contracts for a further 8 of the former and 26 of the latter expected to be placed before the end of 1947.

The Council's main housing scheme is at Grimshill which, when complete, will comprise about 200 houses. It is proposed to erect the 22 flats on a commodious bombed site in the centre of the town. The Council have not erected, nor do they propose to erect, any of the pre-fabricated types of building. They consider there is very little to gain by such development and that as far as Whitstable's subsoil and particularly the strong gales which blow on these shores are concerned, they are not a satisfactory type.

As well as their own building development, the Council has granted the maximum permitted number of licenses for building houses by private builders, and these are mostly filling in vacant building plots left over from pre-war building development. The Council has also requisitioned 7 properties for housing purposes, five of which have been converted into flats.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of notifiable infectious disease cases during 1946.

	<u>1946.</u>	<u>1945.</u>	<u>1944.</u>	<u>1943.</u>	<u>1942.</u>
Scarlet Fever	7	19	19	23	28
Diphtheria	2	2	15	5	2
Enteric Fever	-	1	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	2	1	-	-	-
Erysipelas	12	12	5	7	7
Pneumonia	31	14	15	21	11
Tuberculosis (Pul:)	12	9	9	9	11
" (other forms)	7	6	6	16	9
Dysentery	-	4	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	1
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	1	-	-	-	-

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Contd)

	<u>1946.</u>	<u>1945.</u>	<u>1944.</u>	<u>1943.</u>	<u>1942.</u>
Puerperal Fever)	-	3	2	-	2
" Pyrexia)	-				
Measles	151	205	70	32	248
Whooping Cough	40	35	44	23	8
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	-	1	-	-	1

Diphtheria Notifications and Deaths in relation to Immunisation.

Notifications			Deaths		
Age at date of notification.	No. of cases notified.	No. of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation.	Age at date of death	Number of deaths	No. of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation.
Under 1	-	-	Under 1	-	-
1	-	-	1	-	-
2	1	-	2	-	-
3	-	-	3	-	-
4	-	-	4	-	-
5 to 9	-	-	5 to 9	-	-
10 to 14	-	-	10 to 14	-	-
TOTALS:	1	-	TOTALS:	-	-

No. of children immunised in 1946:-

0 - 4 years	...	224		
5 - 15 years	...	<u>102</u>	Total:	326

In the table of age groups of immunised children, it will be noticed that the total for the upper age group (5 - 15) has decreased, but that there has been a uniform increase in all the other age groups. This reflects the very useful work done at the Child Welfare Clinic in immunising the small children.

Of the two cases of diphtheria notified during the year, neither had been immunised, and one was an adult in the 25 - 35 years age group.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December 1946.

age at 31/12/46 i.e. Born in year	Under 1 1946	1 1945	2 1944	3 1943	4 1942	5 to 9 1937/ 1941	10 to 14 1932/ 1936	Total under 15
Number Immunised *	1 (2)	178 (168)	194 (185)	199 (156)	163 (107)	597 (498)	538 (560)	1870 (1676)
Estimated mid-year population 1946.	Under 5 years 1086			5 - 15 years 1439				2525

* Totals for 1945 in brackets.

The Registrar-General's estimated child population for mid-1946 is as above; the estimate for the previous year was 1210 and 1790 respectively. The reduced figures are more nearly accurate.

Percentages on Registrar-General's estimated child population mid-1946:-

Under 5 years	(1945)	5 - 15 years	(1945)
67.7%	(58.9%)	78.8%	(59.1%)

In the table of age groups of immunised children, it will be noticed that the total for the upper age group (5 - 15) has decreased, but that there has been a uniform increase in all the other age groups. This reflects the very useful work done at the Child Welfare Clinic in immunizing the small children,

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality 1946

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 years	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 years	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	1
15 - 25 years	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 years	4	2	1	1	-	1	-	-
35 - 45 years	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 - 55 years	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
55 - 65 years	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
65 years & up	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTAL:	8	4	3	4	4	2	-	1

TUBERCULOSIS 1946

	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY		TOTAL
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
Cases on Register at commencement of 1946	48	23	14	40	130
Cases notified during 1946	8	4	3	4	19
Cases restored to Register during 1946	-	-	-	-	-
Other additions	5	1	-	1	7
Cases removed from Register during 1946	4	2	-	2	8
Cases remaining on Register at end of 1946	57	31	17	43	148

CONCLUSION

The chief work of the year has been repair of war damage - to the health of the civilian population and their houses. Both have been somewhat hampered and restricted by the shortage of supplies - certain articles of food, particularly fats - and building materials for repair work. There was a small outbreak of measles; the cases were mostly mild, and there were no deaths from complications.

I would like to express my thanks to Mr.Whitehouse, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, for the valuable help he has given me through the year. His work all through has been very thorough, under rather trying conditions, and he has been ably assisted by Mr.Carr, Assistant Sanitary Inspector. I would also like to express my thanks to Miss Slingsbury for her help in the clerical part of the work, and finally, I would express to you Mr.Chairman, and the members of the Council my thanks for the courtesy with which you have invariably treated me.

Your obedient Servant,

Charles E.Etheridge, M.B., M.R.C.S.,L.R.C.P.,

Medical Officer of Health.

CONCLUSION

The chief work of the year has been repair of war damage - to the health of the civilian population and their houses. Both have been somewhat hampered and restricted by the absence of supplies - certain articles of food, particularly fats - and building materials for repair work. There was a small outbreak of measles; the cases were mostly mild, and there were no deaths from complications.

I would like to express my thanks to Mr. Whitcomb, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, for the valuable help he has given me through the year. His work all through has been very thorough, water supply, drainage, and he has been ably assisted by Mr. Galt, Assistant Sanitary Inspector. I would also like to express my thanks to Miss Alexander for her help in the clerical part of the work, and finally, I would express to you, Mr. Chairman, and the members of the Council my thanks for the courtesy with which you have invariably treated me.

Your obedient servant,

Charles H. Esborough, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Medical Officer of Health.

1918

NOT RECORDED

1918

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
GATE LODGE, THE CASTLE,
WHITSTABLE.

HEALTH
SEP 1947
C.R. 3

Sanitary Inspection Rep.

28th August 1947.

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



Mr. Chairman, Councillor Mrs Stanley and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my first Annual
Report for the work carried out by the Department
during the year 1946.

GENERAL

Total number of inspections made was 3323,
made up as follows:-

Bakehouses	...	...	...	22
Dairies	...	...	...	92
Milk Samples	...	...	...	59
Cowsheds	...	...	...	76
Ice-Cream Premises and sampling.	...	...	...	88
Butchers Shops	...	...	...	69
Other Food Shops	...	...	...	44
Food Preparing Rooms	...	...	...	61
Fishfryers	...	...	...	18
Dwellinghouses (P.H.A)	...	...	...	387
Dwellinghouses (Housing Act)	...	...	...	93
Council House Applicants..	...	...	...	92
Overcrowding	...	...	...	78
Verminous Houses	...	...	...	30
Houses let-in-lodgings	...	...	...	19
Camping Sites etc...	...	...	...	107
Refuse Heaps and Accumulations..	...	...	...	59
Re-visits and Works in Progress.	...	...	...	508
Drainage	...	...	...	169
Drains Tested	...	...	...	26
Keeping of Animals..	...	...	...	10
Rodent Control	...	...	...	764

Infectious Diseases	...	...	22
Public Conveniences	...	...	13
Factories Act	...	...	63
Shops Acts	...	...	93
Water Samples	...	...	5
Requisitioning	...	...	67
Unsound Food	...	...	102
Bedding & disinfection	...	...	13
Slaughterhouses	...	...	21
Miscellaneous	...	...	53

NOTICES SERVED

During the year 150 Preliminary Notices and 17 Statutory Notices were served.

NUISANCES

The following nuisances were abated:-

Roofs repaired	...	...	30
Eaves gutters and rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	12
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	44
Floors ventilated	...	...	12
Doors and windows repaired	...	...	23
Dirty rooms cleansed	...	...	34
Coppers repaired	...	...	2
Stoves repaired and renewed	...	...	9
Brickwork repaired	...	...	6
Overcrowding abated	...	...	6
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	29
Fireplaces repaired and renewed	...	...	6
Drains relaid and repaired	...	...	16
Drains cleared	...	...	27
Rainwater pipes disconnected from sewers	...	...	1
W.C's repaired	...	...	33
W.C's provided with flushing apparatus	...	...	2
Dustbins provided	...	...	2
Ceiling and wall plaster repaired	...	...	51

Owing to the shortage of materials it is proving much more difficult to secure the completion of essential and urgent repairs. Many more visits have to be made to

secure the repair of insanitary houses and the removal of conditions prejudicial to health.

H O U S I N G

Number of Houses erected during the year:- 49

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) 418
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 480
 - (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 24
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 30
 - (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. 157
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 111

Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

 - A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936:- NIL
 - B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-
 - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 17

B.	(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-		
	(a) By owners	... ..	9
	(b) By local authority in default of owners	... ..	1
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:-	... ..	NIL
4.	Housing Act 1936, Part IV, Overcrowding:-		
	(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	... ..	78
	(2) Number of families dwelling therein	... ..	149
	(3) Number of persons dwelling therein.	... ..	439
	(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	... ..	NIL
	(c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved	... ..	3
	(d) Number of persons concerned in such cases	... ..	24
	(e) Number of new cases of overcrowding	... ..	55

Clearance and Compulsory Purchase Orders

No premises were demolished during the year and the position is, therefore, as follows:-

174 Houses demolished, 19 Buildings closed; total number of persons displaced thereby - 504.

BAKEHOUSES

The number of bakehouses on the register at present in use is 11. Regular visits are made and in two cases defects were found which were subsequently remedied.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES

There are 19 registered cow-keepers in the area, one addition being made during the year. Of these, four

are producers of Tuberculin Tested milk and seven producers of Accredited milk. There are four retail purveyors of milk with premises in the Urban District and one with premises situated outside.

MILK SUPPLY

Four bottling licenses for Tuberculin Tested milk and one dealer's licence for Pasteurised milk were issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order.

49 samples were taken during 1946 with the following results:-

- (i) From Accredited Producers (7) - 30, of which 9 failed to reach the standard.
- (ii) From Tuberculin Tested Producers (4) - 19, of which one failed to reach the standard.

Milk from all producers is now submitted to fortnightly cleanliness tests under the National Milk Testing Scheme, and water washings are regularly taken from churns, bottles, etc., to test the efficacy of sterilization.

It is interesting to note that a considerable quantity of heat treated milk is imported into the Area to supplement the local supply, particularly in the summer, when the influx of visitors is at its height.

CONTROL OF MOVABLE DWELLINGS

During the year 14 licences were issued by the Council to allow land to be used as sites for movable dwellings, embracing a total area of 54 acres, and permitting a total of 812 movable dwellings.

Owing to the indifferent summer season, camping seldom reached its maximum peak. There is no doubt that camping has, and is increasing in popularity, and will require constant supervision for the effective control of same.

FACTORIES ACT

There are 70 factories on the register. 63 visits were made resulting in 4 defects being found, two of which were remedied during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION

The number of rooms disinfected during the year is as follows:-

Scarlet Fever	...	...	10
Tuberculosis	...	...	12
Diphtheria	...	...	2
Cancer	...	...	4
Typhoid	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	4
			<hr/>
TOTAL:			33
			<hr/>

Number of articles disinfected in steam disinfectant:-

Beds	...	...	22
Mattresses	...	...	236
Pillows	...	...	429
Bolsters	...	...	24
Blankets	...	...	85
Shhets	...	...	29
Cushions	...	...	12
Quilts	...	...	22
Miscellaneous	...	...	38
			<hr/>
			897
			<hr/>

PUBLIC MORTUARY

The Public Mortuary at Island Wall Depot is under the control of this Department. Considerable difficulty was experienced during the hot weather in keeping bodies in an hygienic condition.

An assistant is provided for medical practitioners conducting post mortem examinations.

Number of bodies admitted - Resident	...	Males	9	Females	4
Number of bodies admitted - Non-resident...			3		-
			<hr/>		<hr/>
			12		4
			<hr/>		<hr/>

Number of bodies admitted for post mortem examinations	12
Number of inquests	11

CAUSES OF DEATH:-

Natural Causes	11
Misadventure	5
Suicide	<u>Nil</u>
	<u>16</u>

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTIONS

Concentration of slaughtering continues to take place at Canterbury. A central slaughterhouse in the district is used as a reception depot from which the meat is allocated and collected.

Frequent inspections are made to secure compliance with the Meat Regulations and to ensure the wholesomeness of the meat.

It is pleasing to note that considerable improvement has taken place in the transport and handling of meat, due to the new vans of improved design.

A considerable amount of time is spent in making inspections as it is necessary for all traders now to have condemnation certificates signed by the Sanitary Inspectors to enable them to replace their rationed and points goods.

The following table shows the amount of Unsound Food condemned during the year:-

Meat	217 lbs
Fish	2261 "
Tinned Meat	1491 "
Tinned Fish	41 "
Tinned Milk	142 "
Cheese	41 "
Fruit	<u>75 "</u>
c/fwd:	4268 lbs.

Brought forward:-		4268lbs.
Fats	... ..	44 "
Jam	.... .	60 "
Tinned Fruit	... ..	133 "
Miscellaneous	... ..	<u>222 "</u>
		<u>4787 lbs</u>

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND SLAUGHTERMEN

Previous to the war there were five annual licenses and two registered slaughterhouses, but owing to the centralization of killing, none of these premises are now used for slaughtering.

Three licenses to slaughter animals under the Slaughter of Animals Act were issued during the year.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

Considerable work was carried out during the year in connection with the destruction of rats and mice. The methods adopted to deal with the problems are those recommended by the Ministry of Food, which are based on experiments carried out by their Research Department.

Test baits carried out in the Council's sewers denoted various areas of infestation, and two initial treatments were carried out during the year. 117 manholes were treated and the amount of poison bait taken denoted the energy expended was well worth while. It is a wellknown fact that sewer rats do not confine themselves to the sewer, but frequently appear as surface infestations with attendant danger to health.

A survey and treatment on a block system was commenced during the latter part of the year of the whole of the Council's administrative area.

The Council's Refuse Tip and Sewage Works are treated as and when necessary, and infestations are kept at a minimum.

The following table summarizes work carried out in connection with rodent control:-

Complaints received	...	Major	2
		Minor	78
Infestations found as a result of investigations.		Major	34
		Minor	25
Infestations treated by Council's Operator	...	...	139
Infestations treated by occupiers	...	...	2
Infestations reported to Kent War Agricultural Executive Committee			3
Joint operations with Kent War Agricultural Executive Committee			1

NOTE Major infestations denote twenty rats or more.

MOSQUITO CONTROL

All dykes and stagnant pools in the Urban District were sprayed for the destruction of mosquito larvae.

SHOPS ACTS

In addition to the health provisions of the Shops Acts, the Sanitary Inspectors administer the whole of the Shops Acts, with certain minor exceptions, by virtue of powers delegated by the County Council.

ALLOCATION OF COUNCIL HOUSES

The Council have adopted a points scheme to assist them in selecting tenants for the new post-war houses and such requisitioned ones as may become available.

All applicants are personally visited by the Sanitary Inspectors, in order to obtain a true picture of the applicants' circumstances.

REQUISITIONING OF UNOCCUPIED PROPERTIES

Assistance was extended to the Clerk's Department in connection with requisitioning of unoccupied properties, and whilst the actual net result of houses taken over by the Council is small, it does have the effect of ensuring that some family, whether of the Council's choosing or not, is being re-housed.

ERADICATION OF VERMIN

32 rooms were disinfested for the eradication of vermin. It is exceedingly difficult to deal with many cases of uncleanliness, owing to the fact that old age and infirmity do not permit of the occupier carrying out his or her domestic duties efficiently.

Institutional accommodation is strictly limited, and even when available, acquiescence of persons concerned is necessary, and this is seldom forthcoming.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, may I express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for the support and consideration they have given me, to the Medical Officer of Health for his help and advice, to my staff for their willing and able assistance, and for the co-operation always extended me by Officials of other Departments.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

F.W.I. WHITEHOUSE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.