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Kent County Council Minutes

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Kent County Council

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL.

Quarterly Report of the Medical Officer of Health,

QUARTER ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1926.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee of the Kent County Council.

MY LORDS, MISS WIGAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present the following report for the quarter ended 31st DECEMBER, 1926.

1.—**Maternity and Child Welfare.**—(A) ADMINISTRATION OF MIDWIVES ACTS, 1902 & 1918.—

(i.) The following summary indicates the work carried out by the inspectors of midwives from 1st October—31st December, 1926 :—

District.	No. of Inspections of Midwives.	Total Number of Visits.	Midwives inspected.	
			Trained.	Bonâ fide.
North and West ...	121	176	107	14
South and East	85	156	83	2
Totals	206	332	190	16
			206	

(ii.) PUERPERAL FEVER.—Thirteen notifications were received during the above period. In six instances a doctor attended at the confinement, and in seven instances a midwife attended alone. In one case a midwife acted as nurse.

(iii.) SUSPENSIONS.—The following midwives were suspended for the reasons stated, and until satisfactory disinfection had been carried out :—

Midwife No. 39923.	Twenty-four hours, after attendance on a case of puerperal fever.
„ No. 28356.	Three days, during attendance upon a case of puerperal fever.
„ No. 25772.	Two days, after having been in contact with a case of diphtheria.
„ No. 36933.	Two days, during attendance upon a septic case.
„ No. 63750.	Three days, after attendance upon a case supposed to be infectious.
„ No. 27995.	Ten days, while suffering from a boil on the right hand.
„ No. 50425.	Two days, after attendance upon a case of puerperal fever.
„ No. 54871.	Six days, while attending a case of cystitis.
„ No. 62537.	Two days, after being in contact with a case of diphtheria.
„ No. 66797.	Five days, during attendance on a case of pemphigus.
„ No. 31742.	Two days, after being in attendance on a case of puerperal fever.

(iv.) COMPENSATION FOR SUSPENSION.—I have received an application for compensation from Certified Midwife No. 28356, who was suspended for three days. I beg to **recommend** that this midwife be paid one pound three shillings (£1 3s. 0d.).

(v.) RESIGNATIONS.—The following midwives have resigned their certificates voluntarily, and their names have been accordingly removed from the Midwives Roll and their certificates cancelled :—

Midwives Nos. 568, 2518, 14366, 20834, 2679, 18268, 16046.

With one exception, the above midwives had ceased to practise and resigned their certificates as a result of the action taken by the Central Midwives Board under Section 3, Sub-section (2) of the Midwives and Maternity Homes Act, 1926.

(B) MIDWIFERY SERVICE.—(i.) TENTERDEN AND DISTRICT.—Adverting to paragraph 1 (A) (vi.) (b) of my report for the quarter ended September 30th, 1923, I have to report that Miss Thomas resigned the appointment of subsidised midwife as from 27th November, 1926, and I have **appointed** Mrs. W. E. Cane, Certified Midwife No. 48688, to this post from and including 15th December, 1926. The subsidy will be the same, viz., £40 per annum, payable by monthly instalments, with a guaranteed minimum income of £100 per annum.

(ii.) Snodland and District. Cliffe and Higham.—Midwives are badly needed for both these districts, and I am of opinion that there should be a livelihood from midwifery work in each when once practices have been established. If suitable candidates can be found who will undertake so to establish themselves, I **recommend** that grants of £50 each, payable in monthly instalments, be made to them, for one year.

(C) Assistance to Nursing Association.—Throwley and District.—This Association have applied for a grant to assist them, owing to financial difficulties. At the end of September, 1926, the Association had a deficit of £7, notwithstanding that £24 had been raised during the year by means of sales and that the expenditure had been kept very low.

The County Council made a grant of £20 to this Association in 1924, and I **recommend** that a similar grant be made to assist them at the present time, subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health.

This Association is not affiliated to the County Nursing Association.

(D) Post-Certificate Course for Midwives at the Sessions House, Maidstone, 4th–8th October, 1926. Adverting to paragraph 1 (C) (i.) of my report for the quarter ended June 30th last, I have to report that the above course proved most successful. One hundred and ninety-four individual midwives attended and the total attendances were 1,994. These figures compare favourably with those of the previous year, which were 172 and 1,555, respectively.

As in previous courses, the health visitors of all local authorities in the county (in addition to county health visitors), received an open invitation to attend.

It may interest your Committee to know that requests for copies of the syllabus of the above courses have been received from places as far distant as Australia; and that the Health Officer of San Francisco writes "I consider your annual lectures or institutes for midwives one of the most valuable adjuncts in preventive medicine and public health work. . . . ."

(E) Ministry of Health Grant to Nursing Associations.—The Ministry of Health, in a letter dated 24th December, 1926, stated that they had decided to make a grant of £145 10s. 0d. in aid of midwifery and maternity nursing carried out during the year ended 31st March, 1926, by certain district nursing associations not affiliated to the County Association. This sum has been forwarded to the County Council to be divided among the Associations concerned.

This is an annual grant payable by the Ministry in respect of the maternity or midwifery service, and each local nursing association is invited to make application by submitting particulars of its finances and of the work undertaken during the year. A separate grant is made by the Ministry direct to the Kent County Nursing Association for division among affiliated associations, and the grant for non-affiliated associations is made in a lump sum, as above, to be distributed by the County Council.

I have allocated the grant according to the needs of the Associations as shown by their balances in hand or their deficits at the end of their financial year.

The information supplied by the Associations showed that three had small deficits, three had small balances in hand, six medium balances, and three larger balances of varying amounts. I append below, for your **approval**, my recommendation for the division of the grant:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Chislehurst ...	15	0	0	Ash & Fawkham	8	0	0	Willington, Otham			
Pembury ...	15	0	0	Lydd	8	0	0	and Langley	8	0	0
Throwley ...	15	0	0	Stansted ...	8	0	0	Eastry, &c. ...	6	10	0
Boxley	11	0	0	Wainscott ...	8	0	0	Swanscombe ...	6	10	0
Ightham	11	0	0	Wye	8	0	0	Tenterden, &c. ...	6	10	0
Great Chart ...	11	0	0								

(F) Midwives and Maternity Homes Act, 1926.—Part II., Registration of Maternity Homes.—Adverting to paragraph 1 (D) on pages 2 and 3 of my last quarterly report, I beg to state that applications have been received from one hundred maternity homes in the county for registration under the 1926 Act. I have personally inspected seventy-two of these homes in detail, and I beg to **recommend** that the application in the following cases be acceded to.

No.	Name and Address of Home.	Name of Person responsible for the Management of the Home.	No. of Midwifery and Maternity Cases admitted during the last Twelve Months.
1	Maternity Home, 24, Bond Road, Ashford...	Miss E. M. Townsend.....	12
2	The Brooklyn Nursing Home, 2, Sydenham Avenue, S.E. 26	Miss A. R. Gaman	1
3	"Parklands" Nursing Home, 19, Crystal Palace Park Road, Sydenham	Miss B. Sawtell	1
4	Newlands Park Nursing Home, 24, Newlands Park, S.E.	Mrs. E. Whiteside	3 (in 3 months)
5	General Nursing Home, 66, Crook Log, Bexley Heath	Mrs. A. Fowler	4
6	Private Maternity Home, 9, Warwick Road, Welling, Bexley	Mrs. F. A. Taylor	9
7	Avondale Nursing Home, 65, Avondale Road, Bromley	Miss T. Willder and Mrs. Gibbs	7
8	Greta Nursing Home, Blyth Road, Bromley	Mrs. G. G. Carleton...	1
9	The Haven Maternity Home, 43, West Street, Bromley	Mrs. E. E. Perrett	8
10	The Bromley, Chislehurst and District Maternity Hospital, Burlington House, 118, Widmore Road, Bromley	Mrs. A. G. Mann, Chairman Hospital Committee	103
11	Elmfield House, Elmfield Road, Bromley ...	Miss H. L. Wells	8
12	118, Luton Road, Chatham	Mrs. R. Barnard	7
13	Nevill House Surgical, Medical and Maternity Home, 2, New Road, Chatham	Miss M. A. Storey	7
14	The Crays, Sidcup Hill, Chislehurst	Miss M. M. Watson.....	6
15	Crayford Maternity and Nursing Home, Barnes Cray House, Crayford	Miss D. Evans, Hon. Sec. to the Trustees of the Home	100
16	Summerhill, Oakfield Lane, Dartford.....	Mrs. F. E. Woolhouse.....	40
17	Penshurst Villa, 41, Maison Dieu Road, Dover	Mrs. C. T. Waller	21
18	Dover Nursing Home, 107, Maison Dieu Road, Dover	Misses E. W. and A. E. Taylor	9
19	Nursing and Maternity Home, 84, Maison Dieu Road, Dover	Miss A. F. Hopson	—
20	Faversham Nursing Home, Hillside, Faversham	Mrs. E. M. Withers	9
21	Nursing Home, 32, Charlotte Street, Folkestone	Mrs. A. G. Shaw	2
22	Private Nursing Home, 23, Cambridge Gardens, Folkestone	Mrs. E. A. Milburn.....	14
23	Beachborough Nursing Home, 15, Beachborough Villas, Shorncliffe Road, Folkestone	Mrs. E. G. Fowler	10
24	Randall House, Canterbury Road, Folkestone	Miss A. C. Love	6
25	"St. Gabriel's" Home, Lennard Road, Folkestone	Miss E. A. Westcott	2
26	Larkfield Maternity Home, Gillingham... ..	Miss M. A. Crofts	22
27	Royal Naval and Marine Maternity Nursing Home, Barnsole Road, Gillingham	E. J. Young, Esq., Secretary to the Committee of the Home	289
28	Private Home, 119, Windmill Street, Gravesend	Mrs. M. Harrington.....	1
29	"The Elms," Victoria Park, Herne Bay ..	Miss A. C. Bayly	8
30	"St. George's" Nursing Home, Grand Drive, Herne Bay	Mrs. F. R. Wilson	16
31	"St. Edward's" Nursing Home, Station Road, Herne Bay	Miss J. Wood	1
32	"Acacia" Nursing Home, 15, and 16, Connaught Road, Margate	Mrs. H. L. and Miss G. R. Dolton	41
33	"Ashmanhaugh" Nursing Home, 14, Clarendon Road, Cliftonville, Margate	Miss K. O'Connell	1

No.	Name and Address of Home.	Name of Person responsible for the Management of the Home.	No. of Midwifery and Maternity Cases admitted during the last Twelve Months.
34	Private Nursing Home, Northdene, 26, Madeira Road, Margate	Misses I. Duffus and V. L. Thornton	3
35	Private Home, 86, Unity Street, Milton Regis	Mrs. A. E. Carter	4
36	Private Nursing Home, The Larches, London Road, Rosherville, Northfleet	Miss A. M. Chapman	23
37	Nursing Home for Medical, Surgical and Maternity Cases, Devon House, Weighton Road, Anerley	Miss A. March	22
38	Cosmo House, 210, Hereson Road, Dumpton, Ramsgate	Miss E. L. de Vere	21
39	Thorpe Morieux Nursing Home, 72, Dane Park Road, Ramsgate	Mrs. M. J. Perry	2
40	91, Winstanley Crescent, Ramsgate	Mrs. M. A. Cock	2
41	Nursing Home, 61, West Cliff Road, Ramsgate	Misses E. & E. Olliff	9
42	Redgate House, 4, Queen's Road, Ramsgate	Mrs. J. G. Bolton	8
43	Maternity Home, Wiggen Hall, Camden Road, Sevenoaks	Miss F. A. Lake	1
44	Maternity Home, 6, Vine Villas, Dartford Road, Sevenoaks	Mrs. M. A. Hider	25
45	Foye Nursing Home, Foye, Sevenoaks	Misses A. E. Whebby and M. Duncan	6
46	Danehurst Nursing Home, 57, Hatherley Road, Sidcup	Miss M. George	4
47	Strathallan Nursing Home, 13, Hatherley Road, Sidcup	Miss F. M. Tillson	5
48	"Vectis," Goldsmid Road, Tonbridge	Mrs. F. E. Hart	—
49	12, Uridge Crescent, Tonbridge	Mrs. M. Penney	7
50	Tonbridge Nursing Home, Dry Bank House, Tonbridge	Misses E. Booth and P. C. Hill	6
51	Nurse Tippen's Maternity Home, 6, Judd Road, Tonbridge	Mrs. A. L. Tippen	2
52	Linden House Nursing Home, 5, London Road, Tonbridge	Miss E. G. Hobbs	8
53	Dunstan Hill Nursing Home, 10, Dunstan Road, Tunbridge Wells	Mrs. M. J. Upfield	4
54	Molyneux Park Nursing Home, Molyneux Park, Tunbridge Wells	Miss A. M. Hemming	—
55	53, St. James Park, Tunbridge Wells	Mrs. A. Adams	2
56	Clarence Nursing Home, Tunbridge Wells	Miss Sadie Bradshaw	—
57	Lonsdale Nursing Home, 7, Lonsdale Gardens, Tunbridge Wells	Misses S. A. Featherstone and S. L. Oram	4
58	Kent Nursing Home, Jerningham House, Mount Zion, Tunbridge Wells	Miss A. C. Mottram	4
59	Tweeddale Nursing Home, 1 & 2, Tweeddale Terrace, Tunbridge Wells	Mrs. M. I. Walmsley	7
60	Tunbridge Wells & District Maternity Home, 46 & 48, Upper Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells	Lady Bennett, Chairman of Committee	127
61	"Dorina" Nursing Home, 3, Cromwell Road, Whitstable	Mrs. M. A. Callis	5
62	"West Cliff Home," 11, West Cliff, Whitstable	Mrs. R. E. Cresswell	1
63	"St. Heliers" Nursing Home, Church St. Road, Tankerton, Whitstable	Miss A. J. M. Sharman	15
64	Springfield Nursing Home, Canterbury Road, Whitstable	Misses S. & E. J. Macaulay	13
65	"Little Haven," Edward Road, Biggin Hill, near Bromley	Mrs. L. Dilloway	8
66	"Llanberis," Edwin Road, Rainham	Mrs. A. M. Trimble	8
67	Mine Head, 1, Quex View Road, Birchington	Mrs. E. M. Sexton	3
68	3, Irene Terrace, Reculvers Road, Westgate-on-Sea	Mrs. M. Sawyer	—
69	Selsfield Nursing Home, St. Mildred's Road, Westgate-on-Sea	Mrs. A. S. Harris	7
70	Upton Lodge, Birchington	Miss M. E. Horsburgh	6

During my inspections I formed the impression that the majority of maternity homes in Kent are satisfactory from the points of view of construction, equipment, and management. Indeed I only found two such homes which I could not recommend for registration, and the applications for registration of such were voluntarily withdrawn on my advice. Generally speaking the homes varied in size from small houses containing six rooms altogether, to very large houses which formerly were private spacious dwellings.

As a rule medical men attended the patients in their confinements.

Where medical and surgical cases were admitted, in addition to maternity cases, the latter were separated, satisfactorily, in their own rooms.

In many of the larger homes there was an operating theatre fitted with all modern appliances, including a sterilising machine working under high pressure. Some of these homes, however, did not encourage maternity work unduly. Practically all the homes contained bathrooms and satisfactory lavatory accommodation. Central heating was found often in the larger homes.

It was the rule to find a locked poison cupboard, and the laundry arrangements were generally satisfactory.

A very small amount of puerperal infection had been recorded in the homes during the past three years.

Where necessary, I suggested various improvements, and I believe that all these will be carried out at once.

I consider this Act to be a most useful piece of recent legislation.

Five Hospitals, as below, have applied for exemption from registration, and following my inspection of the institutions concerned I beg to report that I have no reason to oppose such applications:—

Royal Victoria Hospital, Dover.
Sevenoaks and Holmesdale Hospital, Sevenoaks.
Queen Victoria Cottage Hospital, Tonbridge.
Tunbridge Wells General Hospital, Tunbridge Wells.
Homœpathic Hospital, Church Road, Tunbridge Wells.

There still remain twenty-eight maternity homes and one hospital to inspect at the time of writing this report, and I shall visit these at the earliest possible opportunity.

By Section 8 of the Act, the local supervising authority may make bye-laws—

(*a*) with respect to records to be kept of patients received into and children born in a maternity home, and of children so born who are removed from the home otherwise than to the custody or care of any parent, guardian or relative.

(*b*) as to notification of any death, and the cause thereof, occurring in a maternity home.

The Ministry of Health have issued model bye-laws in this connection, and I have printed the same as an appendix to this report.

I beg to **recommend** that the County Council adopt these bye-laws.

I would also suggest that a register as referred to in the bye-laws should be printed and kept in stock by myself for the necessary supply to such homes.

(G) Health Visiting.—(i.) The following is a brief summary indicating the work carried out by the county health visitors during the quarter under review:—

No. of Birth notifications received.	No. of Births not yet visited.	No. of Visits.									No. of removals.	No. of Births not investigated.	No. of Deaths.			No. of Still-births investigated.	No. of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	No. of Births not notified
		To Infants under 12 months.				To Children 1 to 5 years.	To Expectant Mothers.		Special.	Fruitless.			Under 1 month	1 month to 1 year.	1 year to 5 years.			
		First.			Subsequent.		First.	Subsequent.										
		Drs. cases.	Mid. cases.	Other.														
1352	214	603	717	37	4757	8181	320	310	441	440	251	116	25	24	17	25	8	58

Details of complaints by health visitors:—*Re* midwives, 2; unqualified women, 1; housing conditions, 41; N.S.P.C.C., 4; other matters, 6.

(ii.) I beg to report that Nurse Hardy, the part-time health visitor for Chelsfield, resigned her appointment as from December 31st, 1926. I will make suitable arrangements for the work to be continued.

I may mention that part-time arrangements for health visiting in this and the neighbouring areas, were made originally by the local district councils before the work was transferred to the County Council on the requirement of the Ministry of Health. The arrangements have since been continued on the same lines, but I hope that it will be possible, in the near future, to extend arrangements for the more satisfactory whole-time service, in at any rate part of the area.

(H) MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.—(i.) The work carried out during the past three months in the maternity centres in those areas in which the Notification of Births Acts are administered by the County Council, is shown in the following tabulation:—

No. of attendances.						No. of attendances of Midwives.	Ages of children at first attendance.						Cases seen by doctor in charge of Clinic.		Cases referred to private doctors and hospitals for treatment.	No. of deaths of children.		
1st Attendance.			Subsequent Attendances.				Under 3 mths.	3-12 mths.	1-2 years.	2-3 years.	3-4 years.	4-5 years	Mthrs.	Chldn.		Under 1 mth.	1 mth. to 1 yr.	1-5 years.
Mothers.			Mothers.															
Expectant.	Others.	Chldn.	Expectant	Others	Chldn.													
35	16	20	56	30	10116	196	216	148	76	38	25	17	73	2600	35	–	3	–

(ii.) DENTON CENTRE.—For some considerable time, efforts have been made to arrange for the facilities of the Gravesend Maternity and Child Welfare Centre to be available for the mothers living in Denton, but the Gravesend Town Council are not prepared to make any such arrangement.

One or two local residents at Denton have therefore been instrumental in commencing a small centre in the local Johnstone Institute. There is no charge for rental, but payment is made to cover the cost of heating, lighting and cleaning. The centre is to open weekly, on Wednesdays from 2.30 to 4 0 p.m., and the Committee of the Gravesend Centre have been kind enough to provide the services of a voluntary nurse for a time.

The Voluntary Committee at Denton have formed this centre in the hope that the County Council will take over immediate responsibility as from the date of opening (January 12th). I beg to **recommend** that this request should be acceded to, and that I should have authority to appoint a medical officer at a fee of one guinea per monthly attendance, if and when such appointment is found necessary.

(iii.) OTFORD CENTRE.—The Voluntary Committee which inaugurated this centre, have applied for it to be taken over by the County Council. It is held in the Church Hall, High Street, Otford, on the first and third Fridays in each month. Dr. R. Walker is the medical officer in attendance, and the county health visitor (Miss Watt) attends at each session. The rental of the room is seven shillings and sixpence per opening, and a special charge is made for heating in cold weather.

It will be remembered that I have referred previously to the fact that a centre is usually started on a voluntary basis in order to prove whether the need exists for such an institution in the district, before the County Council are asked to assume responsibility. The Otford Centre has proved a success, and I **recommend** that it be taken over as from January 1st, 1927, Dr. R. Walker being asked to continue as medical officer in charge at a fee of one guinea per fortnightly attendance.

(iv.) PLAXTOL CENTRE.—The Plaxtol Nursing Fund have applied for a grant for the services rendered by their nurse, who is in charge of the infant welfare centre.

Nurse Mayger gives excellent service on the occasions of her weekly attendances at this centre, and I beg to **recommend** that the County Council should make to the Nursing Fund a payment of £12 10s. per annum, subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health.

(v.) ST. MARY CRAY CENTRE.—Dr. Elliott has terminated her appointment as medical officer of this centre, as from January 6th, and, subject to your **approval** and that of the Ministry of Health, Dr. John Grant, of St. Mary Cray, has been appointed as her successor.

The fee for the work is one guinea per fortnightly attendance.

I beg to report that, in view of the greatly increased cost of fuel and gas, the officers of the Temple Church find the present contribution for the use of the rooms used for the purpose of a child welfare centre at St. Mary Cray, insufficient to meet present expenses. They have therefore been compelled to increase their charges by five shillings per week from October 1st, 1926, to March 31st, 1927.

(vi.) West Malling Centre.—I beg to report that the rental of the Badminton Hall, which is used as a maternity and child welfare centre at Malling, has been increased from fifteen shillings to twenty shillings per opening as from October 1st, 1926. The landlord mentions that he has been compelled to increase all charges in connection with the Hall by 50%, except in the case of the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, which is increased by 33⅓% only.

(vii.) Yalding Centre.—The Ministry of Health have suggested that an additional room should be arranged for at this centre, to be adapted as a separate consultation room. Such room will be available without additional rent provided the County Council supply the necessary means of heating (gas to be laid on and gas fire provided) and undertake any necessary re-decoration, etc. The cost of this work will not be high, and I recommend that the additional room be taken on these terms.

The Ministry also suggest that, in the event of the centre continuing to be used as much as at present, the County Council should consider the desirability of arranging for the medical officer to be present at each session. I will report further on this point at a future meeting.

(viii.) Aylesford Voluntary Centre.—A voluntary centre has been started in the Brassey Room, Aylesford. The centre commenced on October 20th, 1926, and is held each alternate Wednesday, at 2.30 p.m.

Dr. Richmond is medical officer in charge of the centre, and the county health visitor, Miss Johnson, acts as nurse.

(ix.) Bearsted Voluntary Centre.—A voluntary centre has been started in suitable rooms in the Street, Bearsted. The centre commenced on October 8th, 1926, and is held on the second Friday in each month.

Dr. Alton is the medical officer in charge of the centre, and the county health visitor, Miss Nugent, acts as nurse.

(I) Dental Scheme for Mothers and Children under School Age.—In accordance with the instructions given at your last meeting I have prepared a scheme, as follows, for the provision of dental facilities for mothers and children under the county maternity and child welfare scheme. The scheme has been submitted to the Ministry of Health, and I anticipate that the Ministry's approval will be received before the date of your meeting. The Ministry have already intimated, however, on consideration of paragraph 1 (I) of my last quarterly report, that the scheme proposed appears to be on lines which the Minister would be prepared to sanction.

It is suggested that clinics should be held at the following centres :—

Faversham M.C.W. Centre.—To serve the Faversham, Newnham, Boughton and Teynham Centres.

Snodland School Clinic.—To serve Snodland and West Malling Centres.

Tonbridge School Clinic.—To serve Tonbridge, Southborough and High Brooms Centres (and possibly Yalding).

St. Mary Cray School Clinic.—To serve St. Mary Cray, Chislehurst and Farnborough Centres.

Hythe School Clinic.—To serve Cheriton Centre.

Borough Green School Clinic.—To serve Borough Green and Plaxtol Centres.

Herne Bay School Clinic.—To serve Herne Bay, Herne and Whitstable Centres.

Deal or Walmer M.C.W. Centre.—To serve Deal and Walmer.

We already have dental arrangements in connection with the Westerham Centre, and Brasted mothers may attend here.

Arrangements exist similarly at Swanscombe and Greenhithe Centres for work to be undertaken by local dentists (who give an estimate of the cost of the work for individual patients), and it is proposed for the present to continue these arrangements, which were inaugurated when the Dartford Rural District Council was responsible for the Maternity and Child Welfare scheme. In the event of difficulty arising in providing dental clinics at any of the different centres proposed above, a county clinic at Greenhithe or Swanscombe would be substituted in place of the local arrangements.

The only County Council centres not included above are Hollingbourn, Leeds, Staplehurst, Elham and Lyminge.

It will be observed that six of the centres would be held at school clinics. With the exception of Borough Green, these are already equipped for dental work for school children, and a proposal will shortly be before the Board of Education to approve a school dental clinic in this parish. The special equipment needed at these centres will be the substitution of a pump chair for the children's chairs already installed (except at Snodland and Tonbridge, where pump chairs are in use), and the provision of gas apparatus, a recovery bed, and certain special items in connection with the work of arranging for dentures. A few cupboards may also be required.

At Faversham and Walmer (or Deal) it is suggested that the clinic should be held on the Maternity and Child Welfare premises, and complete equipment would be needed thereat.

The Kent Education Committee already have three whole-time dental surgeons on their staff, and it is proposed that a fourth should be appointed, each of the four to give approximately one-quarter of his time to the Maternity and Child Welfare service. Attendance could be made at each centre one day per fortnight, the remainder of the time available being devoted to examination and selection of cases at the Maternity and Child Welfare sessions (when the nurse would arrange for probable patients to be in attendance), with an occasional extra day's treatment at centres where needed. The health visitor for the district would attend at each opening of the clinic.

Arrangements would be made with local medical practitioners (if possible with the medical officer of the clinic in the towns where the centres are held) to give anæsthetics to groups of patients, at a suggested fee of one and a half guineas per session.

Dentures would be provided by arrangement with a dental mechanic, and I have printed below a copy of a typical price list which has been obtained in this connection. If later it were found practicable, and more economical, a dental workshop would be established in a central position and a whole-time mechanic employed. It is probable that this would only be considered in the event of an extension of the work to the county tuberculosis scheme at some future date.

A charge would be made for treatment, and it is suggested that this should be a flat rate of one shilling per attendance, except in the case of persons who would need to travel from one of the neighbouring centres, in which event the treatment might be free or at a reduced cost. Where the provision of dentures is necessary, the actual cost of the dentures should be chargeable against the mother. In necessitous cases both treatment and dentures should be free or at a reduced rate, and in exceptional instances travelling expenses would be paid. The following is a suggested scale of income to be applied in this connection :—

Treatment (including provision of dentures where necessary) to be provided free where the total income of the family, after deducting rent, rates, &c., does not exceed twelve shillings per week for each adult, plus eight shillings per week for each child.

For each shilling of weekly income additional to this basis, an amount of not exceeding ten shillings and sixpence towards the total cost to be recovered, in weekly instalments, if necessary.

The rental of the rooms for M.C.W. dentistry would be the subject of direct agreements with the landlords of the premises concerned, and separate accounts would be kept of materials used for M.C.W. purposes.

The following is a provisional estimate of the cost of the work for the year 1927-28 :—

	£
Contribution towards salaries of Dentists	525
Contribution towards travelling expenses of Dentists	50
Rentals of Premises	75
Materials, renewals of apparatus, &c.	110
Dentures (net cost after allowing for payments by patients)	25
Provision of Anæsthetics	30
Fees of Anæsthetists	75
	890
Less Receipts from patients	75
Estimated total cost of maintenance	£815
Equipment—Faversham and Deal M.C.W. Centres @ £115	230
Pump chair for four school clinics @ £33	130
Special equipment for six centres at school clinics (Gas apparatus, recovery bed, and various additional items not included at school clinics) @ £40	240
Estimated total capital expenditure	£600

In addition to the County Council's maternity and child welfare centres provided for above, voluntary centres are held in the following districts, and it is proposed that patients from any of these centres who require dental treatment, should receive the same at the nearest dental clinic, provided the dentist has sufficient time to treat such extra cases. No charge would be made against the voluntary committee, but patients would pay in accordance with their means, as provided for above :—

Cudham, Aylesford, Edenbridge, Hythe, Meopham, Stone Street, Ivy Hatch, Eythorn, Bearsted, Denton, Otford, Kemsing, Wateringbury.

I have inquired with regard to the terms on which the premises mentioned in the early part of this report, could be leased on one day a fortnight for the purpose of a dental clinic, and the following are provisional terms :—

Snodland ...	Five shillings an opening.
St. Mary Cray ...	Seven shillings and sixpence per day during the months June to September, and ten shillings and sixpence per day during the months October to May.
Hythe ...	Five shillings a day (it may be necessary to incur a small capital expenditure by installing a sink).
Herne Bay ...	£13 0s. 0d. per annum.
Walmer ...	£10 per annum (plus possible extra charge for use of additional room).
Faversham ...	Seventeen and sixpence per day. (I am also in communication with the local Medical Officer of Health with a view to the possible joint use of the Faversham Education Committee's School Clinic in place of establishing a clinic at M.C.W. premises).

At Borough Green there would be no charge with the exception of one for heating, lighting and cleaning, and at Tonbridge the clinic would be held on premises belonging to the Kent Education Committee, on terms to be arranged.

I beg to ask for **authority** to make the necessary arrangements to put a scheme, as above, into operation by or as soon as possible after April 1st, 1927.

Since writing the above, a communication, as follows, dated January 10th, 1927, has been received from the Ministry of Health :—

"With reference to your letter of the 24th ultimo, I am directed by the Minister of Health to state that if the Kent County Council decide to submit a scheme for the provision of dental treatment for mothers and children on the lines of that enclosed with your letter, it would receive his favourable consideration.

It will be understood that the mothers for whom facilities are to be provided will be expectant and nursing mothers only; and it is considered very desirable that the scheme should afford equal facilities for patients attending Centres provided by Voluntary Committees as for those attending Centres provided by the County Council.

I am to add that the Minister would require to be satisfied by the submission of detailed estimates that the cost of equipment and the apportionment of expenditure as between the Maternity and Child Welfare and School Medical Services were reasonable."

As regards the second paragraph of the communication, I have selected for the purpose of dental clinics as set out above, those centres which would appear to afford facilities for serving as large a population as possible, and I will do my best to ensure that the Ministry's suggestion shall be met.

With regard to the apportionment of expenditure as between the maternity and child welfare and school medical services, it will be seen above that I have suggested that accounts for materials would be kept separate for each of these two services. With regard to expenditure not coming under this heading, I see no difficulty in making reasonable administrative arrangements for allocation.

PRICE LIST OF DENTURES (referred to in preceding report).—

VULCANITE WORK.

	£	s.	d.
Up to 8 Teeth, per Tooth		2	6
Over 8 Teeth		2	0
Minimum per case		7	6
Complete Upper or Lower	1	5	0
Complete Set	2	5	0

For workmanship, plus cost of Teeth, according to class used.

	£	s.	d.
16 ct. Wires from		1	6
16 ct. Bands „ 2s. 0d. to		3	0
Repairs from		4	0
Gum Sections (Upper or Lower) extra		15	0
Flasking and finishing only. Complete Upper or Lower		12	6
Special Trays		3	6

These charges are inclusive of Waxbites when required and a try-in.

GOLD WORK.

	£	s.	d.
Casting Plate and Fitting Bands	1	0	0
Struck Plate	1	5	0
Teeth Vulcanised on, per Tooth		2	6
Teeth Soldered on, per Tooth		4	6
Tubes		5	0

Above prices do not include cost of Gold and Teeth used.

Seamless Crowns:—
Bicuspids ... from 10s. 6d. Molars ... from 11s. 6d.

(J) MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE AT SWANSCOMBE.—It will be remembered that I reported to your Committee at their last meeting on the question of health visiting at Swanscombe (for which the County Council became responsible on October 1st, 1926, under a special Ministry of Health Order), and the matter of the appointment of a permanent nurse to undertake the work was deferred for further consideration at the present meeting. In the meantime, the Dartford Rural District Council kindly arranged for one of their nurses who had previously done the health visiting and attended at the two Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, to continue to do so, the County Council to pay an appropriate proportion of her salary and expenses.

I now beg to recommend the appointment of a whole-time nurse in this area, such nurse to devote the same amount of time to the work as has been given in the past, *i.e.*, approximately seven-elevenths. The child welfare service would be charged with this proportion of her salary and expenses, and I have recommended to the Kent Education Committee that they should be responsible for the balance, as there is urgent need for more school work to be undertaken in North-west Kent, and this proposal would enable such a need to be met.

Subject to the approval of the above recommendations by the County Council and the Education Committee, I will take steps to revise the nursing areas in North-west Kent so far as may be necessary and will appoint another nurse at a salary of £160, increasing by £10 increments to £200 (Grade IVa), with an appropriate travelling allowance based on the extent of the new area.

In connection with this matter, the Ministry of Health, on December 7th, communicated with the County Council as follows:—

> "The Minister considers that the present temporary arrangements should be terminated as soon as possible, and permanent arrangements made which will as far as possible be acceptable to the district (Swanscombe). He would therefore be glad if the County Council would submit their proposals with this object in view for his approval as early as practicable.
>
> In this connection I am to add, in reply to the letter from the County Medical Officer of Health to Sir George Newman of the 19th October last, that the Minister would be prepared to consider proposals for the appointment of an additional whole-time nurse."

With regard to the position of Swanscombe in the matter, as referred to in the first paragraph of the Minister's communication, I recently received from the Clerk of that Council a petition signed by a large number of mothers, that Nurse Radburn should be appointed as clinic nurse. In reply I

pointed out that the qualifications of Nurse Radburn had previously been submitted to the Ministry of Health by the Swanscombe U.D.C. in connection with a proposal to appoint her as health visitor, but the Ministry indicated that she was not sufficiently qualified to undertake the work. The appointment of a whole-time nurse appears to be the only possible satisfactory arrangement.

I gave details in my last report of the two maternity and child welfare centres at Swanscombe. Dr. Richmond, Medical Officer of Health of the Dartford Rural District, has been appointed acting medical officer in charge *pro tem.*, on my request and with the approval of his Council, pending the appointment of a permanent medical officer. His fee will be at the rate of one guinea per attendance. Consideration is at the present time being given to the question of recommending an extension of the principle that the Kent Education Committee's school medical inspectors should act as medical officers of certain of the county Maternity and Child Welfare Centres and I may find it desirable to appoint at the two Swanscombe centres, with your approval, one of the present staff of medical inspectors.

(K) Notification and Treatment of Ophthalmia Neonatorum and Puerperal Infection.—I reported at your last meeting, on the new Ministry of Health Regulations respecting the above, and in accordance with the authority then granted, I have approached each hospital authority in the county as to the terms on which cases of ophthalmia neonatorum and puerperal fever will be accepted for admission to hospital under the county maternity and child welfare scheme.

The majority of the hospital authorities concerned were not in a position to admit such patients, but the following are prepared to do so, on the terms set out:—

Name of Institution.	Terms for Hospital Treatment. Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Puerperal Infection.
Ashford Urban (Isolation Hospital)	Four guineas per week (five guineas per week if mother also admitted) and in addition the expenses of any extra requisite nursing staff.	Four guineas per week and cost of extra staff, if necessary.
Dover Borough (Isolation Hospital)	Two guineas per week (£3 13s. 6d. per week if mother also admitted)	Four guineas per week.
Blean Rural (Isolation Hospital)	Not admitted	Four guineas per week.
Faversham Rural (Isolation Hospital)	No charge for cases from the Faversham Rural District. Charge to be fixed for outside cases.	As for Ophthalmia.
The Isle of Thanet Joint (Isolation Hospital)	Not admitted.	Free from Isle of Thanet and Broadstairs.
*Sevenoaks Rural (Isolation Hospital)	Three guineas per week, together with fee of one guinea to be paid to the Medical Officer, and in addition the whole cost of any additional staff required in connection with the reception of such cases. One guinea per week extra if a mother is admitted with a child suffering from ophthalmia.	As for Ophthalmia.
Kent and Canterbury Hospital	£2 9s. 0d. per week.	Not admitted.
Folkestone, Royal Victoria Hospital	Forty-nine shillings per week.	Forty-nine shillings per week.
Ramsgate General Hospital	Three guineas per week (four guineas if mother also admitted).	Not admitted.
Tunbridge Wells General Hospital	£2 16s. 0d. per week, patient only.	£2 16s. 0d. per week.
Tunbridge Wells Homœopathic Hospital	Two guineas per week (three guineas if mother also admitted).	Not admitted.
Metropolitan Asylums Board Hospital	£3 10s. 0d. per week (£7 if mother also admitted).	£3 13s. 6d. per week, plus any out-of-pocket expenses the Board might incur, including extraordinary medical attendance, conveyance of patients, clothing on discharge and funerals.

* The Sevenoaks Rural District Council suggest that, as they are not the authority under the Maternity and Child Welfare Act they do not feel inclined to take these cases without making the above charges, but that if the powers under the Act were delegated to them, they would be prepared to re-consider the charges. (I might say that very few cases for institutional treatment are likely to occur, and I should not be prepared to recommend your Council to transfer the powers under the Act).

I **recommend** that agreements be made with the authorities of the above institutions, on the terms set out, subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health. A few cases have been admitted to Hospital during the past quarter, in emergency.

All cases of puerperal fever and some cases of ophthalmia neonatorum, would require to be removed to hospital by ambulance, and I also recommend that the County Council be responsible for such charges where necessary.

With regard to skilled home nursing the authorities of the following two institutions would be prepared to supply nursing assistance on the terms set out:—

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT NURSING HOME.—£3 13s. 6d. per week or each part of a week, with a fee of one guinea to defray expenses of disinfection and an extra fee not exceeding £2 2s. 0d. if an operation is involved. In addition, a charge would be made for board, laundry, &c., where the nurse did not sleep in the home of the patient. Travelling expenses additional.

KENT NURSING INSTITUTION, WEST MALLING.—£3 13s. 6d. per week, or at the rate of 10s. 6d. per day for half a week or less. An extra fee of one guinea would be charged to defray expenses of disinfection and a charge made for board where necessary. Travelling expenses additional.

Laundry fee 3s. 6d. weekly.

The use of a nurse as above would be usually confined to very occasional cases of puerperal infection, and in the case of ophthalmia neonatorum, the need could probably usually be met by the daily attendance of the nurse attached to the local nursing association where one is available. I should say that the average fee charged in such cases would be approximately one shilling and sixpence per visit.

I beg to ask for **authority** to engage the services of a nurse, when required, on the terms mentioned.

I have included in the estimates the sum of £80 to cover the cost of hospital accommodation and nursing as above, for the first six months of the financial year 1927-28.

In view of the fact that it would appear from experience that only on very few occasions will the services of an obstetric specialist be called for, I am not at present prepared to make a recommendation for the appointment of a whole-time medical officer in this connection. I think the case would be met by the County Council guaranteeing the fee, where necessary, of a local surgeon as consultant.

(L) INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT FOR CONFINEMENT CASES.—(i.) During the quarter one patient was admitted to an institution for her confinement:—

Institution.	Total period in residence.	Charge per week per patient.
Royal Naval and Marine Maternity Nursing Home Gillingham.	Fourteen days.	£2 12s. 6d.

(ii.) On the 13th March, 1926, a patient, who had been approved for admission to an institution for her confinement, entered the St. George's Private Nursing Home, Grand Drive, Herne Bay, for that purpose. At that time the approval of the above Home, by the Ministry of Health, was pending and provisional approval has since been received. I **recommend** that the following charge in this case, which is in accordance with the arrangements made with the Home, be paid by the County Council:—

Total period in residence.	Charge per week.
Fourteen days.	£4 4s. 0d.

(iii.) Some time ago, arrangements were made with the Kent and Canterbury Hospital Authorities for abnormal confinement cases to be admitted to the Hospital, at a charge of seven shillings per day.

The payment for maintaining a patient in this hospital last year was approximately eight shillings and sixpence per day, and the Hospital Committee ask that the payment for county cases, admitted on my nomination, should be increased to that figure. Surgeon's fees are payable in addition.

I consider that the request is reasonable, and I **recommend** that it be agreed to.

(M) GENERAL.—During the past quarter, 247 recommendations for grants of milk to expectant and nursing mothers and infants were approved, covering an aggregate supply of 807 gallons of cows' milk and seventy-four pounds of dried milk. In 127 of these cases, grants were made without a doctor's certificate to support the same.

2.—**Infectious Diseases.**—The following summary has been prepared from the weekly returns of the district medical officers to the Ministry of Health. The returns show that the total of the diphtheria notifications slightly exceeded that of the previous quarter, but was less than that of the corresponding quarter of last year. The incidence of scarlet fever greatly exceeded that of each of these past periods. Owing to an outbreak of enteric fever at an institution in Margate, the number of notifications was the highest recorded in a quarter for several years. A reference to the prevalence of acute poliomyelitis is contained in paragraph 7, on page 15, of this report.

Summary of cases of Infectious Disease notified during the thirteen weeks ended 25th December, 1926.

Districts.	Population, 1925.	Smallpox.	Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup).	Fevers.					Acute Poliomyelitis.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Tuberculosis.	
				Scarlet.	Enteric Typhoid.	Puerperal. Pyrexia.	Puerperal. Fever.	Cerebro-Spinal.				Respiratory.	Other Forms.
Urban	779,600	— (—)	302 (302)	446 (402)	111 (11)	22 (—)	8 (7)	3 (3)	38 (2)	10 (7)	25 (14)	257 (280)	95 (109)
Rural	330,900	— (—)	73 (123)	161 (121)	2 (2)	6 (—)	5 (3)	— (—)	10 (—)	3 (2)	7 (2)	87 (95)	34 (31)
Total ...	1,110,500	— (—)	375 (425)	607 (523)	113 (13)	28 (—)	13 (10)	3 (3)	48 (2)	13 (9)	32 (16)	344 (375)	129 (140)

The figures in brackets relate to the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

3.—**Venereal Diseases.**—(i.) The following are particulars of the work carried out at the eleven county venereal diseases clinics during the quarter under review :—

Institution.	No. of Openings of Clinic.	New Patients.				Attendances of Patients.				No. of "days" of Inpatient Treatment.	Patients discharged after completing Treatment.	Patients who ceased to attend		Patients still under Treatment.	Arsenobenzol Compounds.	
		Gonorrhœa.	Syphilis.	Soft Chancre.	Other conditions (not V.D.)	Gonorrhœa.	Syphilis.	Soft Chancre.	Other conditions (not V.D.)			Before completing Treatment, including Transfers.	Before Final Test as to Cure.		Patients Treated.	Number of doses given.
Ashford	13	1	3	—	1	18	106	—	5	—	—	—	—	34	11	74
Canterbury...	24	2	5	—	4	45	86	—	12	—	4	—	—	103	19	47
Dartford.....	39	4	4	—	4	441	109	—	4	—	—	1	14	50	15	42
Dover	25	5	7	—	7	88	148	—	19	—	10	9	—	64	29	117
Faversham ...	13	—	5	—	1	27	62	—	9	—	—	1	—	43	7	34
Folkestone ...	25	6	4	1	3	187	45	1	5	—	3	9	4	31	11	39
Gravesend ...	13	57	38	2	9	1604	471	12	21	—	33	27	2	190	94	216
Margate	13	14	12	—	6	124	218	—	31	—	6	—	—	116	20	103
Rochester ...	53	32	20	2	3	2142	1023	10	28	52	54	33	14	399	72	231
Sheerness ...	13	3	—	—	2	30	29	—	6	—	2	—	—	28	3	12
Tunbridge Wells	26	11	2	—	4	188	50	—	6	20	4	12	5	73	6	31
Total ...	257	135	100	5	44	4894	2347	23	146	72	116	92	39	1131	287	946

Eight hundred and seventy-two doses of arsenobenzol compounds have been supplied to the one hundred and two registered medical practitioners in Kent during the quarter, namely, two hundred and fifty to private practitioners, and seven hundred and twenty-two to medical officers of treatment centres.

4.—**Clerical Staff.**—(i.) I have received applications from the undermentioned members of my clerical staff that they should be promoted to Grade II. (b) of the Council's scale of salaries. These clerks have, for several years, been in charge of sections of my department viz. :—(*a*) Maternity and Child Welfare Section, (*b*) School Medical Service, and (*c*) Tuberculosis. They are responsible for the work carried out in these respective sections, and have important duties to perform, as shewn in their applications. I strongly **recommend** your Committee to report in favour of such promotions to the Staffing and Salaries Sub-Committee.

The Clerks concerned are Messrs. C. A. Prothero, W. F. Ottewill and H. W. Smith.

When the Council's scheme was adopted, the above clerks made an appeal against being placed in Grade III., but the appeals were dismissed as, at that time, their salaries were below the maximum of Grade III.

This recommendation is being made to your Committee in accordance with paragraph four of the Scheme for Grading the Staff (see page 44 of the Reports of the Committees of the County Council, dated February, 1925).

(ii.) I also beg to support an application from Miss M. Norman for revision of her salary.

(iii.) I beg to report that I have found it necessary to engage temporary clerical help on school medical service work from October 11th to 16th and from November 24th to December 16th, and also on maternity and child welfare work from December 17th to 23rd, at thirty shillings per week. I beg to ask for your **approval** of this expenditure.

5.—**Nursing Staff.**—I regret to report that Nurse Dugger met with an accident whilst cycling in the course of her duties on August 20th, the accident being due to a boy on another bicycle colliding with her.

Nurse Dugger did not sustain serious personal injury, and she was only off duty until August 25th, but her bicycle (a B.S.A. machine purchased new in July, 1926) was badly damaged. The cost of repair amounted to £2 17s. 9d., whilst the hire of a machine during the time the repairs were being undertaken, was £1.

Nurse Dugger asks for compensation, and I beg to **recommend** that the request should be given favourable consideration.

6.—**Treatment of Crippled Children.**—I beg to report that the Ministry of Health have had before them the county scheme for the treatment of crippled children, and they have stated that, subject to satisfactory information being received on certain points, the Minister regards the proposals as generally satisfactory. Supplementary information has been forwarded to the Ministry, as required.

The agreement with the central hospital at Swanley is awaiting the final approval of the Ministry, and when this is to hand the agreement will be sealed.

The main details of the scheme have already been before your Committee, and the following is a brief summary of the arrangements made up to the present:—

Alexandra Hospital.—Eighty beds reserved (forty-eight of which are for tuberculous cripples) at a charge of two guineas per bed per week. This cost includes the provision of education for children of school age.

"Approved" Hospitals at Canterbury, Maidstone and Dartford.—Beds will be provided for short-period in-patient treatment, as required, at a rate of two guineas per bed per week.

Out-patient treatment will be provided at the hospital out-patient departments, at a charge of one shilling and sixpence per attendance.

County Out-patient Clinics.—Arrangements are in progress for the provision of three clinics as set out below. An orthopædic surgeon and a nurse from the Alexandra Hospital will attend the clinics, payment for the services of surgeon to be at the rate of two guineas per attendance, with travelling and subsistence expenses; and for the services of the nurse at the clinics, £100 per annum, also with travelling and subsistence expenses.

Broadstairs.—Clinic to be held at the school room of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, York Street. Rental twelve shillings and sixpence per day, with four shillings and sixpence for fires, and cost of cleaning in addition. Provisional days of attendance of surgeon—second and fourth Thursdays in each month.

Ashford.—Clinic to be held in the Kent Education Committee's present school clinic premises at 14, Canterbury Road, the Kent Education Committee to charge the County Council with one quarter of the cost of rent, rates, heating, lighting, cleaning, &c. Provisional days of attendance of surgeon—first and third Tuesdays in each month.

SEVENOAKS.—The Sevenoaks Urban District Council have offered the use of rooms at their new maternity and child welfare clinic ("Dorset House"), at a charge of seven shillings and sixpence per session, together with an agreed charge for heating, lighting and cleaning. Provisional days of attendance of surgeon—second and fourth Mondays in each month.

VARIOUS.—Surgical appliances for patients will be provided in the same way as under the county tuberculosis scheme, and the cost will be recovered from patients where possible.

The travelling expenses of necessitous patients should be paid, and all patients who receive institutional treatment should be asked to contribute what they can afford towards the cost of their treatment.

Arrangements will be made with local radiographers for x-ray photographs where necessary.

Local arrangements for the services of masseuses in connection with out-patient treatment, will be necessary, and possibly some of this work will be voluntary.

To commence with, the County Council out-patient clinics will be limited to the three mentioned above, but I understand that the Sheerness Urban District Council are ready to co-operate and an additional clinic should be established in that town, as soon as it may be convenient.

7.—**Special Reports.**—I have received from the Medical Officer of Health of the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council, a special report, dated October 15th, 1926, on an outbreak of polio-encephalitis and acute poliomyelitis, which occurred in that district.

Altogether a total of thirty-two cases of the former disease and twenty-nine of the latter, were notified. No cases have occurred since early in November.

In addition to the above, cases of the diseases have been reported during the quarter as follows:—Polio-encephalitis—Gillingham Borough, 1; Faversham Rural, 1. Acute poliomyelitis—Ashford Urban, 1: Beckenham Urban, 1; Bexley Urban, 1; Faversham Borough, 1; Milton Regis Urban, 1; Ramgate Borough, 2; and Tunbridge Wells Borough, 2: Blean Rural, 2; Bridge Rural, 1; Eastry Rural, 1; Faversham Rural, 2; Milton Rural, 1; Sevenoaks Rural, 1; and Tonbridge Rural, 2.

8.—**Ministry of Health Inquiries.**—(*a*) RAMSGATE BOROUGH.—An inquiry into certain proposals of the Corporation of Ramsgate for the improvement of an unhealthy area, was held by an Inspector of the Ministry of Health at Ramsgate on October 26th, and adjourned until November 16th, with a further adjournment until December 7th and 8th.

The proposals of the Corporation affected an area of some two acres, in which was a number of small dwelling-houses, dwelling-houses and shops combined, stables, sheds and stores. The condition of the dwelling-houses was described as "appalling," the structural defects being many and various; while the existence of stables, stores, etc., led to an unsatisfactory state of affairs by reason of the accumulation of fish-boxes, manure and rubbish, and infestation by rats. The medical officer of health of the Borough was of opinion that the area was an unhealthy one.

It was proposed to utilise the area for the erection of shops and for the widening of an important street. The objections to the scheme were on the grounds that the houses could be put into efficient repair, and that the scheme for re-housing the dispossessed tenants was unsuitable owing to the fact that such tenants would be called upon to pay increased rents.

I attended this inquiry and gave evidence in support of the Corporation, after making a personal detailed inspection of the area on two previous occasions.

(b) BROMLEY RURAL.—On November 30th, an Inspector of the Ministry of Health visited West Wickham to inquire into an application by the Bromley Rural District Council for sanction to borrow £23,595 for works of sewerage, at West Wickham. It was stated that the question of sanitation in this village had been a matter of concern for many years, and special reports on the subject had been made in 1895 and 1904; while in 1914 a scheme had been prepared and approved, under which the sewage of the village would discharge into the Beckenham Urban District's sewers, and thence into the main sewer of the West Kent Sewerage Board, but this scheme could not be carried out owing to the intervention of the war. Since then the matter had been re-considered, and the present proposal made, viz., local sewers to join the West Wickham main sewer, which would be extended. There was some opposition to this scheme, such opposition being on the grounds that the sewage should run into the Beckenham sewers.

The present system of percolating cesspools was condemned at the Inquiry, by the medical officer of health, as the high level of the subsoil water resulted in continual overflowing of such cesspools, with consequent complaints, while many of the cesspools were in close proximity to the houses and the great majority were defective. In his opinion the present conditions were a menace to the public health, and the provision of main drainage a matter of grave urgency.

It was mentioned that development of a large estate, with the ultimate erection of some 750 houses, had already started, and the contractors in that scheme had agreed to make a payment of £10,000 towards the cost of adequate sewerage.

(c) Sevenoaks Rural.—An Inspector of the Ministry of Health attended Sevenoaks on October 12th and 14th to hold an inquiry into the application of the Sevenoaks Rural District Council for approval of a Preliminary Statement of proposals for development in connection with the Sevenoaks Rural Town Planning Scheme No. 1.

The proposals dealt mainly with the construction of roads, particularly a road through the Shoreham Valley, linking the Dartford Road with a bye-pass road. A previous scheme had been abandoned for the present suggested course, but there was considerable opposition to the latter, on the ground of possible destruction of the amenities of the village of Shoreham.

(d) Sevenoaks Urban.—The same Inspector as above held an inquiry on October 13th into the application of the Sevenoaks Urban District Council for approval of preliminary proposals in connection with the Sevenoaks Urban Town Planning Scheme. As in the case of the Sevenoaks Rural inquiry, there was opposition to the proposals on the ground of possible destruction of amenities.

(e) West Kent Main Sewerage Board.—Application had been made by this Board, to the Minister of Health, for sanction to borrow £13,420 for an extension of the Ravensbourne sewer, and an inquiry into such application was held at Bromley on December 1st.

Rapid growth of parishes in the rural area of Bromley had made necessary this application. The proposed sewering of the parish of West Wickham would be effected by the extension of this Ravensbourne sewer, and at the same time there was urgent need for the sewering of the parishes of Hayes and Keston. The part now proposed to be constructed formed the first portion of a complete scheme of construction.

There was no opposition to the proposals.

9.—**Housing Act, 1925.**—Isle of Thanet Rural District.—I beg to report that I have received a copy of a representation made by the medical officer of health of the Isle of Thanet to the Rural District Council, respecting a dwelling-house known as Church Cottage, Canterbury Road, Birchington, which was in a state so injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. A closing order was sealed on November 25th.

10.—**Maidstone Water Supply.**—On December 17th I made another inspection of the various works connected with the water supply of the Borough of Maidstone, in the company of Professor Eyre, Dr. C. Pye Oliver (Medical Officer of Health of Maidstone) and Mr. Ware (Chief Engineer of the Maidstone Waterworks Company).

Fencing and turf at the Barming Reservoir were in good condition, the engine-house was clean and tidy, and the new engine working smoothly. At Barming Tower the conditions were perfectly satisfactory.

The enclosing fence of the Boarley Reservoir has been remodelled. At this reservoir the turf is in good condition, with an advantageous admixture of moss with the grass. The same remarks apply to the Detling Reservoir.

The Loose Reservoir is not yet covered by grass, but no doubt there will be in time a good covering of turf. The enclosing fences are in good condition; the adjacent ground has been cleaned and harrowed, and in due course will be placed permanently under grass; and the land adjacent, beyond the fence, is being put under cultivation. The water in this reservoir is not being used at the present time, being held in reserve against emergencies.

Forstall Pumping Station was in all respects neat and clean. The flaw in a portion of one of the engines (which was pumping at the time of our inspection) has not been remedied, though it has been "braced"; and water is ejected through this flaw by the piston-upstroke. This matter should receive attention.

At Boarley, the enclosing fences to Springs 1, 2 and 3 have all been remodelled and put in thorough repair, whilst wire-netting has been affixed to the lower portion of the fencing. At these springs, the protecting chambers were all in good repair, the interiors clean and the man-holes sealed and cemented. At the No. 4 Spring, the cover and the exposed (cemented) portion of the wall were in excellent condition, and the latrine on the rifle-range was in a satisfactory state.

At Cossington, the fence enclosing No. 1 Spring has been remodelled, and an inner protection of wire-netting has been re-staked; while the protecting chambers of all three springs, and the man-holes, are in satisfactory condition. The surrounding fence of No. 2 Spring has been remodelled, but awaits wiring, and a good deal of the brush-wood on the surrounding land has been cleared.

Six samples of the waters, collected from six separate points, were submitted to analysis, and on the whole these showed a high degree of excellence.

11.—**Pathological Laboratories.**—The year 1926 shows a large increase in the work carried out in the laboratories; the total of 24,919 examinations being the second largest figure for any year.

On March 8th last, Mr. A. E. Stanford commenced duty as junior laboratory assistant, at a wage of fifteen shillings per week, his appointment being probationary for the first six months.

Mr. Stanford has proved a satisfactory assistant, and I recommend that he should be placed on Grade V. of the Committee's scale of salaries (£52 per annum, rising by £10 increments to £92 per annum), as from April 1st, 1926.

Details of the work carried out in the laboratories during the past quarter (including that undertaken by Dr. Hills at Sheerness) are shown in the following tables:—

(i.) Routine Examinations in connection with Infectious Diseases.

Nature of Examination.	Positive.	Negative	Total.
Bacteriological examinations of swabbings taken from the throat in cases of suspected diphtheria	1022	4306	5328
Widal examinations of serum from patients suspected to be suffering from typhoid fever	19	62	81
Bacteriological examinations of sputum from patients suspected to be suffering from phthisis	233	647	880
Microscopical examinations of hairs from children suspected to be suffering from "ringworm"	59	79	138
Totals	1333	5094	6247

(ii.) Special Examinations in connection with Infectious Diseases.

Examinations of fæces—? typhoid group of organisms	46
Examinations of urine—? typhoid group of organisms	37
Milk for biological test for tubercle bacilli	13
Examinations of fæces—? *B. dysenteriæ*	7
Testing virulence of *B. diphtheriæ*	7
Examinations of fæces—? tubercle bacilli	4
Examinations of urine—? tubercle bacilli	4
Examinations of pus—? tubercle bacilli	3
Examinations of cerebro-spinal fluid—? meningococcus	3
Examinations of fæces—? *Lamblia intestinalis*	2
Examination of blood films—? *B. anthracis*	1
Examination of cerebro-spinal fluid—? tubercle bacilli	1
Examination of blood film—? malaria	1
Synovial fluid for biological test for tubercle bacilli	1
Examination of pleural fluid—? tubercle bacilli	1
Total	131

(iii.) Examinations in Connection with Venereal Diseases.

Smears for *Gonococcus*	192
Serum for *Spironema pallidum* (Syphilis)	8
Wassermann Reactions—blood	421
,, ,, cerebro-spinal fluid	21
Urine—? *Gonococci*	8
Examinations of cerebro-spinal fluid for increase of globulin	21
Total	671

(iv.) Special Examinations in connection with Non-Infectious Diseases.

Histological examinations of tissues	111
Preparation of autogenous vaccines	49
Bacteriological examinations of urine	51
Chemical ,, ,,	14
Microscopical ,, ,,	11
Examinations of blood—differential count, etc.	18
Examinations of cerebro-spinal fluid—? organisms	12
Examinations of pus—? organisms	12
Blood sugar tests	11
Examinations of fæces -? occult blood	8
Examinations of fluids—? organisms	7
Examinations of swabs—? organisms	5
Examinations of blood cultures—? organisms	3
Examinations of fæces—? organisms	3
Post Mortems	2
Examination of worms—? nature	1
Examination of cystic fluid—? cancer cells	1
Examination of rectal discharge—? nature	1
Bacteriological examination of mussels	1
Examination of sputum—? organisms	1
Examination of appendix—? organisms	1
Examinations of fæces--? undigested fat	1
Microscopical examination of fæces	1
Examination of throat swab—? Vincents Angina	1
Total	326

(v.) Examinations of Water, Milk, &c.

Bacteriological examinations of water	17
Government examinations of Graded milk	43
Bacteriological examinations of Milk (District M.O.'s H.)	15
Total	75

(vi.) Examinations of Milk, &c., made in connection with the Tuberculosis Order, 1925.

From County Veterinary Inspectors	5

(vii.) Examinations carried out in the Sheerness Auxiliary Laboratory (Dr. W. C. D. Hills).

Nature of Examination.	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Bacteriological examination of swabbings taken from the throats of patients suspected to be suffering from diphtheria	1	14	15
Bacteriological examinations of sputum from patients suspected to be suffering from phthisis	0	5	5
Microscopical examinations of hairs from children suspected to be suffering from "ringworm"	3	5	8
Totals	4	24	28

Grand total (all examinations) 7663

12.—Tuberculosis Work.—(A) DISPENSARIES.—(i.) The following is a summary of the Tuberculosis Officers' returns for October, November and December, 1926:—

Name of Dispensary.		New Patients.		Attendances.		Occasions Open.
		Insured.	Non-Insured.	Insured.	Non-Insured.	
Area No. 1	Bromley	10	15	68	195	13
	Dartford	12	19	110	354	25
	Erith	13	17	106	283	25
Area No 2	Gillingham	13	26	63	245	26
	Gravesend	10	23	52	207	13
	Rochester	22	41	90	486	26
Area No. 3	Sevenoaks	3	5	14	54	12
	Tonbridge	6	25	34	240	25
	Tunbridge Wells	12	18	67	230	25
Area No. 4	Maidstone	32	84	150	568	26
	Sheerness	4	21	27	161	13
	Sittingbourne	9	24	45	182	12
Area No. 5	Canterbury	16	31	93	164	28
	Dover	9	36	157	208	26
	Folkestone	25	57	147	232	36
	Deal	9	15	63	128	12
Area No. 6	Faversham	2	9	15	81	12
	Herne Bay	–	12	16	68	6
	Margate	11	26	83	152	14
	Ramsgate	21	30	76	171	13
Area No. 7	Beckenham	12	30	269	242	25
Area No. 8	Ashford	14	12	52	93	13
Totals for Area No. 1		35	51	284	832	63
" " No. 2		45	90	205	938	65
" " No. 3		21	48	115	524	62
" " No. 4		45	129	222	911	51
" " No. 5		59	119	460	732	102
" " No. 6		34	77	196	472	45
" " No. 7		12	30	269	242	25
" " No. 8		14	12	52	93	13
Totals for December Quarter		265	556	1797	4744	426
Grand Totals for 1926		1233	2788	7095	19394	1684

(ii.) SEVENOAKS DISPENSARY.—I have been endeavouring for some years to find suitable alternative premises in Sevenoaks to house the tuberculosis dispensary, which is now held at 4, Cramptons Road. These latter premises comprise a small house and have never been regarded as satisfactory. They were, however, the only ones available when the dispensary organisation commenced. The rental is at the rate of £21 2s. 4d. per annum.

The Sevenoaks Urban District Council have recently purchased premises known as "Dorset House" for a nurses' home and a maternity and child welfare clinic, and they are in a position to offer the County Council the use of suitable rooms in this building for dispensary purposes, at a rental of £50 per annum, such rent to be subject to reconsideration at the end of the first year. These terms include rates, but exclude cost of heating, lighting and cleaning. The dispensary rooms will be suitably re-decorated before occupation, the County Council then to be responsible for upkeep. I very strongly recommend that the offer be accepted, subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health.

(iii.) CANTERBURY DISPENSARY.—I beg to report that, on the lease of the tuberculosis dispensary premises at 11, Longport Street, Canterbury, falling due for renewal, the landlord asked for an increase of rental from £42 to £50 per annum.

I consider that £50 is a reasonable rental and I beg to recommend that the increase be agreed to as from September 1st, 1926.

(B) PATIENTS RECEIVING RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT.—The following statement shows the numbers of patients admitted to institutions during the quarter, the numbers discharged and the numbers remaining under treatment:—

Name of Institution.	Maintenance Charge per week on January 1st, 1927.	Numbers admitted during quarter.	Numbers discharged during quarter.	Numbers under treatment on Dec. 31st, 1926.
Sanatoria.				
‡KENT COUNTY SANATORIUM, LENHAM	*54s.	88	88	165
Benenden National Sanatorium	50s.	—	—	1
Croydon Sanatorium, North Cheam	*41s. 6d.	5	5	5
Fairlight Sanatorium, Hastings	50s.	—	—	1
Frimley Sanatorium	56s.	1	2	1
Grosvenor Sanatorium, Kennington	50s. 2d.	26	21	29
Holy Cross Sanatorium, Haslemere	25s. & 50s.	1	2	3
King George's Sanatorium, Bramshott	49s.	—	1	2
Maltings Farm Sanatorium, Nayland	49s. & 32s. 6d.	1	1	3
Pinewood Sanatorium, Wokingham	*42s.	1	1	—
The English Sanatorium, Davos, Switz.	42s.	—	—	1
Mundesley Sanatorium, Norfolk	50s.	—	1	—
Old Manor House, Broadstairs	44s. 6d.	1	—	1
Special Homes and Sanatoria for Children.				
Bruce Porter Home, Folkestone	42s	1	—	9
Church Army Sanatorium, Heath End	30s.	—	3	4
Heatherwood Hospital, Ascot	25s.	—	—	2
Oak Bank Open-air School, nr. Sevenoaks	30s.	2	2	9
Princess Mary's Hospital, Margate	*49s.	1	1	1
Victoria Home, Margate	27s.	3	1	8
Hospitals.				
Brompton Hospital	56s.	4	3	6
Dover Isolation Hospital	47s. 6d.	—	9	—
Eversfield Chest Hospital, St. Leonards	48s.	6	2	8
Keycol Hill Hospital, nr. Sittingbourne	*a*	44	44	60
Oak Lane Hospital, Sevenoaks	47s. 6d.	4	4	12
St. Anthony's Hospital, Cheam	50s.	—	—	1
St. Luke's Hospital, Bayswater	42s.	1	2	—
St. Andrew's Hospital, London	52s. 6d.	1	1	—
Surgical Institutions.				
KENT COUNTY CONVALESCENT HOME, CRANBROOK	*37s. 6d.	6	6	26
Alexandra Hospital, Swanley	42s.	3	2	10
Gravesend General Hospital	56s.	—	1	1
Hip Hospital, Sevenoaks	21s.	3	4	12
King's College Hospital, London	70s.	1	—	1
R. National Orthopœdic Hos. Brockley	40s.	1	1	1
Royal Sea Bathing Hospital, Margate	50s.	32	23	67
Royal Victoria Hospital, Dover	42s.	1	—	1
Royal Victoria Hospital, Folkestone	42s.	1	4	—
St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester	54s.	2	2	3
St. Peter's Home, Woking	30s.	1	—	1
St. Columbus Hospital, London	50s.	1	—	1
St. George's Hospital, London	42s.	3	—	3
Treloar Cripples Hospital, Alton	30s.	—	—	3
University College Hospital, London	50s. & 63s.	2	1	2
Beckenham Cottage Hospital	66s. 6d.	—	1	—
Training Colonies for Ex-Service Men.				
Papworth Hall, Cambridge	52s. 6d.	1	2	3
Preston Hall, Aylesford	52s. 6d.	10	8	26
Men †	—	130	128	222 { Insured ...285
Women	—	94	85	155 { Uninsured 208
Children	—	35	36	116
TOTALS	—	259	249	493

* Provisional rates until actual cost is ascertained.
a Thirty shillings, plus average percentage cost of living figure as given in Labour Gazette.
‡ These figures include ten beds reserved for the City of Canterbury.
† Includes all ex-service men whose disease has been held to be attributable to war service.

(C) PATIENTS RECEIVING OUT-PATIENT TREATMENT ON DECEMBER 31st, 1926:—

Name of Institution.	Charge per attendance.	No. under treatment.
London Hospital	From 6d. to 5/-	26†
Brompton Hospital	10/6	5
Royal Sea Bathing Hospital	5/- & 10/6	6
Royal Victoria Hospital, Folkestone	*	6
Kent and Canterbury Hospital	—	2
St. Thomas's Hospital, London	—	4
West Kent General Hospital	—	1

* Three guineas per session of two-and-a-half-hours for X-ray treatment and 1/6 per attendance for dressings.
† Seven of these patients are being "boarded-out" near the Hospital at a cost to the Council of from 5/- to 25/- per week each.

(D) Various Details respecting Institutional Treatment—

1. Number of ex-service men in institutions at the end of the quarter, the responsibility for the cost of whose treatment has been accepted by the Ministry of Pensions owing to the disease being held to be attributable to war service 38

2. Contributions towards cost of institutional treatment :—

(a)	No. of patients contributing...	65
(b)	Aggregate amount per week of such contributions	£12 7 0
(c)	No. of patients unable or unwilling to contribute	341
(d)	No. of cases in course of settlement	44
(e)	Pensioners and Canterbury City cases	43
		493

3. Number of patients on waiting list—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
For Sanatoria	32	21	7	60
„ Hospitals	39	31	1	71
„ Surgical Institutions.....	11	3	36	50
				181

(E) Lenham Sanatorium.—(i.) Management Sub-Committee.—Meetings of the Lenham Sanatorium Management Sub-Committee were held on November 12th, 1926, and on January 14th, 1927.

It will be noted from the Minutes that it has been found necessary to substitute an iron tank for the old concrete reservoir on the water supply service, at a cost of approximately £100.

(ii.) Sanatorium Staff.—It will be seen from the Minutes that there have been two resignations and one appointment of nurses, and four resignations and five appointments of domestic staff. Two members of the latter staff have been promoted.

(F) Cranbrook Convalescent Home.—A meeting of the Management Sub-Committee was held on December 10th, 1926. It will be noted from the Minute Book that there has been one new appointment of a nurse, whilst one nurse has been promoted.

I am, my Lords, Miss Wigan and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

(Signed) ALFRED GREENWOOD,

County Medical Officer.

Appendix.

MIDWIVES AND MATERNITY HOMES ACT, 1926.

MODEL BYELAWS ISSUED BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, WITH REGARD TO MATERNITY HOMES.

1. Throughout these byelaws, the following words and expressions shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meanings hereafter assigned to them, that is to say :—

"Council" means the County Council of.....

"Keeper of a maternity home" means any person who carries on a maternity home as defined in section 12 of the Midwives and Maternity Homes Act, 1926, which is not for the time being exempt under section 11 of that Act;

"Register" includes a book, card or form;

"Patient" means a woman received into a maternity home for the purposes of childbirth or of the treatment of the immediate effects of childbirth;

"Infectious disease" means an infectious disease which a keeper of a maternity home may be required to notify to the medical officer of health of the district in pursuance of the Infectious Disease (Notification) Acts, 1889 and 1899.

2. A keeper of a maternity home shall—

(1) keep in proper order a register of patients received into and children born in the home:

(2) enter therein fully, punctually, and legibly the following particulars:

(*a*) a reference number for each patient;

(*b*) the name and address of the patient as given by or on behalf of the patient;

(*c*) the date on which the patient entered the home;

(*d*) the amount of every payment made to such keeper by or on behalf of the patient and the number of the receipt given for such payment;

(*e*) the date and hour of delivery of the patient, the number of children then born, their sex, and whether born alive or dead;

(*f*) the name and address of the person who delivered the patient;

(*g*) the method of feeding each child;

(*h*) the date on which the patient and every child born to her in the home left the home;

(*i*) if the patient or any child born to her in the home died at the home, the date and hour of death;

(*j*) if the patient suffered from an infectious disease or any illness due to abnormal causes while at the home, the nature of such disease and the action taken:

(3) either keep the particulars of every patient together in alphabetical order in the register according to the name of the patient or keep a correct alphabetical index of the patients:

(4) keep a case record giving, in connexion with every patient in the home, a daily statement of her health and that of every child there born to her, and the action taken in any illness due to abnormal causes.

3. A keeper of maternity home shall, whenever he arranges or is a party to any arrangement for the removal of a child born in the home to other premises to be placed in the custody or care of any person other than its parent or guardian or a relative, keep in the register of patients and in readily ascertainable connexion with the entry relating to the mother of the child a record specifying the address of such premises, the name of the person in whose custody or care the child is placed, the date of the removal of the child and the amount of payment (if any) made to the keeper in respect of the arrangement.

4. A keeper of a maternity home shall, in addition to other records required by these byelaws to be kept of patients received into the home—

(1) keep a book of forms of numbered receipts with a duplicate of each receipt;

(2) keep in such book a duplicate of the receipt;

(3) enter or show on every receipt issued by him:—

(*a*) his name and the address of the home;

(*b*) the date of payment;

(*c*) the name and reference number in the register of patients of the patient in respect of whom a payment has been made for which the receipt is given;

(*d*) particulars of any payment (included in that for which the receipt is given) to any medical practitioner or other person for services or goods supplied; and

(*e*) if the payment is made in respect of a child, the date of the birth of the child and its name or names.

5. A keeper of a maternity home shall—

(1) within *twenty-four hours* of the death at the home of any patient, or of any child born to any patient, send to the Council notice in writing by letter post, or in an equally suitable manner, stating on such notification—

(i) the date and hour of death, and

(ii) where a certificate* of the cause of death has been given to him, the cause of death as therein stated, or

(iii) when a certificate of the cause of death has not been given to him, the cause of death to the best of his knowledge:

(2) if an inquest is held in respect of any such death, within *twenty-four hours* of the conclusion thereof send to the Council notice in writing by letter post, or in an equally suitable manner, stating the date of the inquest and the cause of death as found by the coroner or jury thereat.

PENALTIES.

6. Every person who shall offend against any of the foregoing byelaws shall be liable for every such offence to a penalty of *five pounds*, and in the case of a continuing offence to a further penalty of *forty shillings* for each day after written notice of the offence from the Council.

Provided, nevertheless, that the justices or court before whom any complaint may be made, or any proceedings may be taken in respect of any such offence, may, if they think fit, adjudge the payment as a penalty of any sum less than the full amount of the penalty imposed by this byelaw.

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*NOTE.—(*October, 1926*) Verbal revision will be needed here if the Births and Deaths Registration Bill, now before Parliament, passes in its present form.

