

## **Annual report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1958.**

### **Contributors**

Bermondsey (London, England). Metropolitan Borough.  
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METROPOLITAN  
BOROUGH OF BERMONDSEY



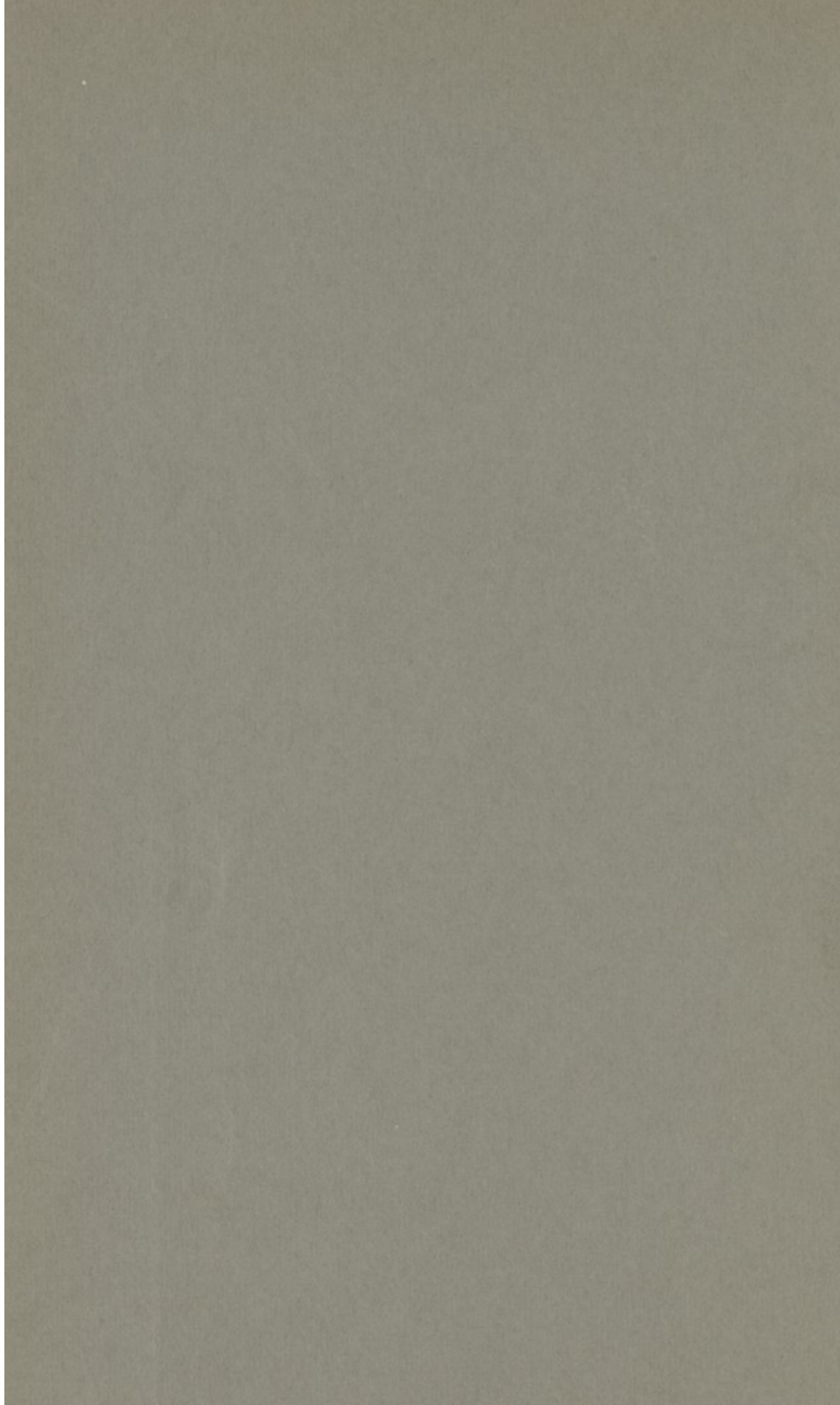
ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF  
HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR  
1958



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B. J. L. MOSS, M.B., B.S., D.C.H., D.P.H.

*Medical Officer of Health*



METROPOLITAN  
BOROUGH OF BERMONDSEY

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT



PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(As at 31st December 1958)

Chairman Councillor JOS. MAHONEY

Vice-Chairman Councillor F. W. FLORANCE

Aldermen Nicklin, Miss M. Shaw, G. H. Tindall

Councillor W. L. Ellis, Mrs. E. V. Coyle, J.P., J. Lacey

L. A. J. Henry, Mrs. L. B. Thomas

Mrs. A. E. Martin, Mrs. L. B. Thomas

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METROPOLITAN  
BOROUGH OF BERNHOLM



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF  
HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1928

J. B. ROSE, M.B., B.S., D.C.H., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

## PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MUNICIPAL OFFICES,

SPA ROAD, S.E.16

Bermondsey 2441

### PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(As at 31st December, 1958)

Chairman ... Councillor JOS. MAHONEY

Vice-Chairman ... Councillor F. W. FLORANCE

Alderman	A. M. Downing	Councillor	W. E. Nicklin
"	A. V. Kidd	"	Miss M. Shaw
"	Miss I. G. Neighbour	"	G. H. Tindall
Councillor	W. L. Ellis	"	Mrs. E. V. Coyle, J.P.
"	L. A. J. Henley	"	J. Lacey
"	Mrs. A. E. Martin	"	Mrs. I. B. Thomas
"	J. H. Newbery	"	T. Hendy

*Ex-Officio*

Councillor W. H. WARDELL, J.P., Mayor of Bermondsey

### STAFF

#### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

B. J. L. Moss, M.B., B.S., D.C.H., D.P.H.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

J. W. J. Saward, A.F.C., M.R.I.P.H.H.

#### PUBLIC ANALYST

D. G. Allen, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

F. L. Richardson, Chief Public Health Inspector and Drainage Inspector.

H. E. Butcher, Wharves Inspector.

W. C. Tapsfield, Wharves Inspector.

W. A. Campbell, Wharves Inspector.

A. W. Hancock, Food and Drugs Inspector.

L. T. Knott, District Inspector.

W. F. Smith, District Inspector.

C. H. Whitelock, District Inspector.

R. C. Charlton, District Inspector.

G. Shakespeare, District Inspector.

### CLERICAL STAFF

H. D. White (Senior Clerk).  
A. E. Gambrell.  
E. T. Hodgkins.  
G. A. Blake.  
G. A. Hunt (Transferred to Libraries  
Dept. Dec. 1958)  
A. J. Kiddell.  
E. M. Watkins.  
M. W. Bridgman } Student Public  
W. T. Evans } Health Inspectors

### WELFARE ASSISTANTS

Mrs. M. V. Reynolds, M.W.I.  
Miss E. B. Collins, S.R.N.  
(Temp. app. w.e.f. 20th Oct, 1958)  
Mrs. P. Kirby, S.R.N.  
(Temp. app. w.e.f. 27th Oct. 1958)

### MUNICIPAL CLUB LEADER

Miss S. A. Denham

### STREET AND OPEN MARKETS

J. A. Hart, C. E. Featherstone—Market Collectors and Supervisors.

### DISINFECTING AND CLEANSING STATION

R. Towll, Supervisor.  
1 Foreman Disinfector & Drain Tester.  
4 Disinfectors/Washing Machine  
Attendants.  
3 Laundresses.  
1 Stoker.

### RODENT CONTROL

H. E. Staples, Rodent Control Officer.  
3 Rodent Operators.

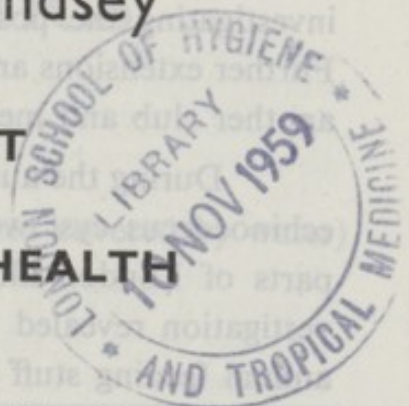
### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

16 Female Convenience Attendants.  
16 Male Convenience Attendants.  
2 Urinal Cleaners.



# Borough of Bermondsey

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Bermondsey.*

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Borough.

Several new projects have been undertaken during this last year but of particular importance has been the work carried out amongst elderly people. Interesting results are available from the survey of old people now being undertaken in the Borough. Information is already available on some 800 cases fully investigated and a further 800 case reports will be available for study at a later date. If the figures published are a true reflection of the position in regard to old people in Bermondsey as a whole, then the implications are a matter for serious consideration. Housing policy may have to be remoulded in the light of these findings to cope with the increasing numbers of old people. Furthermore, there is little doubt that fuller powers should be given to Borough Councils who wish to undertake a progressive and courageous policy of help to the elderly.

Once again dysentery has been a problem in some of the schools in the Borough. In order that the investigations and follow up of cases could be more satisfactorily and speedily undertaken, a request was made to the Minister to extend notification to include acute gastro enteritis. This has now come into effect for a trial period of 3 years but already it has shown that it is a worth while procedure. A number of outbreaks have been abated at an early stage by exclusion of patients with diarrhoea.

The Municipal Club has well justified its inception, having brought comfort, good food and happiness to many. As a result of its steady growth and obvious success the Council are now



investigating the possibilities of extending the work in this field. Further extensions are anticipated in the meals service and a site for another club and meals centre is under consideration.

During the autumn it was discovered that livers infected with echinococcus cyst were reaching retail butchers' shops in various parts of London although, fortunately, not in Bermondsey. Investigation revealed that the livers were imported theoretically for animal feeding stuff but, once having evaded the wharf inspector's supervision, they were being removed from the marked bags and passed out for distribution as sound meat, a much higher price being obtained in this way than if the goods had gone for animal feeding. A request was made that all these infected livers should be stained if imported for animal feeding and unfit for human consumption. Having agreed to the request and made the appropriate regulation, the Ministry then changed their minds. Undoubtedly, the importation of this type of meat should be prohibited. Unfit as it is for human consumption it is a positive danger to many animals. Failure to take action in this matter is little short of condoning the dissemination of a parasite dangerous to man and animals.

One Smoke Control Area is already in existence in the Borough. A second area has been agreed to in principle by the Minister and is being surveyed in detail for final submission and confirmation. A further large area and several small areas are also under consideration for inclusion in plans for 1959.

During the year a number of investigations has taken place with the wholehearted co-operation of the general practitioners in the Borough. I would like to thank them for their help and support which have been much appreciated.

Despite many difficulties and setbacks I think that the year has indeed been a successful one. To the Public Health Committee and my staff I should like to give thanks for all the help and encouragement I have received.

I am, Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

B. J. L. MOSS

# VITAL STATISTICS.

## AREA

The area of the borough (exclusive of area covered by water) is 1,336 acres.

## POPULATION

Census		Estimate of Registrar-General	
1931	1951	to 30th June, 1957	to 30th June, 1958
111,542	60,640	54,750	54,450

Rateable Value, 1st April, 1958	£1,306,040
Estimated net product of 1d. rate	£5,159
Estimated number of separately assessed dwellings, 1st April, 1958	15,164

## BIRTHS

The total number of births belonging to the borough registered during 1958 was 915 consisting of 474 males and 441 females. The number for 1957 was 946.

Live Births	891
Live Births, rate per 1,000 population	16.37
Still Births	24
Still Births, rate per 1,000 live and still births	26.66
Total live and still births	915
Infant Deaths	18
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births (Total)	20.20
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births (legitimate)	19.99
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births (illegitimate)	24.39
Neo-natal Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	16.84
Illegitimate live births % of total live births	4.59
Maternal deaths	Nil
Maternal mortality per 1,000 live and still births	Nil



### DEATHS

The total number of deaths belonging to the borough registered during 1958 was 632, consisting of 329 males and 303 females. The number for 1957 was 629. The death rate for 1958 was 11·6 per thousand persons living, compared with 11·5 for 1957.

The incidence of coronary disease as a cause of death has increased by 17% in the case of males and 35% in the case of females compared with the previous year's figures. There is a further increase in the deaths from malignant disease affecting men chiefly. Although there is a slight fall in the number of deaths from cancer of the lung this is not significant as it is probably due to the fall in total deaths.

### MARRIAGES

The total number of marriages in the borough in 1958 was 357 being 73 below the number for 1957, and 167 below the average for the last 10 years.

The figures have been supplied by the Superintendent Registrar.

Year	No.	Rate
1948	595	19·70
1949	609	20·15
1950	545	18·23
1951	582	19·28
1952	516	17·26
1953	520	17·52
1954	475	16·21
1955	501	17·40
1956	468	16·60
1957	430	15·70
Average for years 1948–1957	524	17·80
1958	357	13·3

## INFANTILE MORTALITY

Year	Whole Borough		London	
	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Births	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Births
1948	20	16	1,869	31
1949	33	29	1,517	27
1950	23	20	1,372	26
1951	27	25	1,333	25
1952	20	20	1,189	23
1953	27	27	1,216	24
1954	23	24	1,047	21
1955	21	23	1,157	23
1956	18	16	1,106	21
1957	20	21	1,160	22
Average for years 1948-1957	23	22	1,296	24
1958	18	19	1,218	22·6

## TUBERCULOSIS OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM

In the following Table will be found particulars of deaths from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System since the year 1948.

Year	Whole Borough		London	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1948	45	0·74	2,044	0·62
1949	41	0·68	1,900	0·57
1950	23	0·38	1,585	0·47
1951	21	0·35	1,225	0·36
1952	20	0·35	1,154	0·34
1953	14	0·24	933	0·28
1954	14	0·24	596	0·18
1955	8	0·14	517	0·16
1956	10	0·18	423	0·13
1957	9	0·16	378	0·12
Averages for years 1948-1957	20	0·34	1,075	0·32
1958	6	0·11	379	0·12



# CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1958.

Causes of Death	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.															
	All Ages		0—4		5—14		15—24		25—44		45—64		65—74		75 & over	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Tuberculosis, respiratory .....	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	2	—
Tuberculosis, other .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Syphilitic disease .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases .....	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach .....	17	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	1	5	3	3	1	—
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus .....	34	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	19	1	10	1	4	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast .....	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	4	—	5	—
Malignant neoplasm, uterus .....	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .....	39	28	1	1	—	—	—	2	3	17	7	6	10	13	7	—
Leukaemia, aleukaemia .....	1	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Diabetes .....	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	20	35	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	6	7	12	9	16	—
Coronary disease, angina .....	55	43	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	25	6	18	19	11	17

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1958—*continued.*

Causes of Death	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District															
	All Ages		0—4		5—14		15—24		25—44		45—64		65—74		75 & over	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Hypertension with heart disease .....	5	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	2	2	10
Other heart disease .....	32	33	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	11	7	7	5	14	20
Other circulatory disease .....	12	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	2	4	7	4	15
Influenza .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia .....	24	27	2	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	3	4	16	19
Bronchitis .....	30	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	13	10	10	8
Other diseases of respiratory system .....	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	2	—	—	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .....	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	4	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .....	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Hyperplasia of prostate .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations .....	4	2	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases .....	15	29	6	6	1	—	—	1	—	1	1	2	3	6	4	13
Motor vehicle accidents .....	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	—
All other accidents .....	8	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	1	3	3
Suicide .....	6	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	1	—	2	—	—	—
Homicide and operations of war .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	329	303	13	10	2	—	2	4	10	12	109	46	89	90	104	141
TOTAL CERTIFIED DEATHS .....	632		23		2		6		22		155		179		245	

# INFECTIOUS DISEASES

## NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Every medical practitioner attending on, or called in to visit a patient, shall, as soon as he becomes aware that the patient is suffering from a notifiable infectious disease, send to the Medical Officer of Health of the district in which the disease occurs a certificate stating the name and address of the patient and the disease from which the patient is suffering.

Books of certificates are available free of charge from this Department.

The following diseases are notifiable:—

Acute Encephalitis	Malaria
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	Measles
Acute Primary Pneumonia	Membranous Croup
Acute Poliomyelitis	Meningococcal Infection
Anthrax	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Cholera	Plague
Continued Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia
Diphtheria	Relapsing Fever
Dysentery	*Scabies
Enteric Fever (includes Typhoid and Paratyphoid)	Scarlatina or Scarlet Fever
Erysipelas	Small-pox
Food Poisoning	Tuberculosis
Glanders	Typhus Fever
Hydrophobia in Man	Whooping Cough
Leprosy (to be notified to Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Health).	

\*A notification is not required where to the knowledge of the medical practitioner, a case of scabies has occurred in the house and has been notified within the four weeks immediately preceding the date on which he first became aware of the disease in the case he is attending.

## FOOD POISONING

Thirty-three cases of food poisoning were notified to me during the year under The Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 26.



# CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1958

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED												Whole Borough	Saints	Neckinger	Central	Tunnel	Dockyard	Park	Raymouth	South	Thorburn	Willow Walk	South West	Abbey	Leather Market	TOTAL	Total Cases removed to Hospital			
	At all Ages	At Ages—Year																													
		0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and upwards																			
Tuberculosis—																															
Respiratory System	51	—	2	—	1	4	7	8	7	10	4	8	—	4	1	4	6	—	2	5	1	2	9	8	4	5	51	—	—	—	—
Other forms	9	—	1	1	4	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	5	9	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	52	—	19	30	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	4	15	3	1	4	—	3	7	2	6	3	52	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	32	4	19	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	3	8	4	4	3	—	—	1	3	1	1	32	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	268	15	146	104	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	12	9	14	45	20	6	17	18	44	16	17	29	21	268	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	47	5	3	1	1	1	2	6	—	10	10	8	—	1	5	1	9	1	1	3	1	1	1	8	7	5	47	—	3	—	—
Dysentery	183	7	47	52	18	6	4	16	7	11	10	5	—	1	16	20	57	25	6	23	5	10	5	1	11	3	183	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	33	1	4	5	—	2	1	4	5	6	3	2	—	—	4	8	10	—	1	1	—	4	—	—	5	—	33	—	—	—	—
Scabies	11	—	2	2	1	1	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	1	2	11	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	691	32	243	204	30	14	18	37	19	40	29	25	—	27	39	54	151	55	22	58	26	65	41	41	64	45	691	3	—	—	—



# CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEARS 1949-1958

Notifiable Disease	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Scarlet Fever	85	72	82	87	59	62	113	82	69	52
Whooping Cough	40	267	75	40	124	135	51	43	113	32
Acute Polio-Myelitis and Acute Polio-Encephalitis	4	3	2	1	2	—	14	2	—	2
Measles	771	367	1197	716	514	183	1271	149	1099	268
Diphtheria	65	3	2	2	1	1	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	4	131	7	25	56	29	164	7	183
Meningococcal Infection	—	1	6	2	1	6	1	—	3	—
Pneumonia (Acute Primary and Acute Influenzal)	43	16	28	25	40	19	23	30	32	47
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—
Erysipelas	7	9	9	8	7	7	7	4	3	3
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	7	12	19	7	33
Tuberculosis—										
Respiratory System	120	105	89	59	72	63	54	60	76	51
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	12	10	9	8	10	10	6	6	—	9
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	4	18	19	1	1	1	1	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	—	1	2	1	1	1	—	—	—
Scabies	7	2	6	4	—	5	4	4	7	11
TOTALS	1,164	863	1,656	980	857	558	1,588	564	1,420	691

## Immunisation

During the year it is reported that some 7,600,000 people were immunised in Great Britain against Poliomyelitis and yet there is still a reluctance on the part of parents to accept this procedure for the protection of their children. Similarly, the immunisation programme in regard to diphtheria and whooping cough is jeopardised by the apathy of parents.

The following table records the immunisations carried out in the Borough during the year.

<i>Completed Cases</i>	<i>Welfare Centres and Nurseries</i>		<i>General Practitioners</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Under 5 years</i>	<i>5—14</i>	<i>Under 5 years</i>	<i>5—14</i>	
Diphtheria					
Prophylaxis only ...	151	49	28	7	235
<i>Combined antigen:</i>					
Diphtheria and					
Whooping Cough ...	78	9	49	3	139
<i>Triple antigen:</i>					
Diphtheria, Whooping					
Cough and Tetanus ...	390	1	93	—	484
Diphtheria Boosting					
doses—all ages ...	661		73		734
Whooping Cough only—					
all ages					
(completed cases) ...	64		5		69

Subsequent to the introduction of the scheme for protection against poliomyelitis, it has been shown that the risks of getting paralysis are eight times as high in the unprotected as in those who have been immunised.

## Dysentery

In the early part of July an outbreak of dysentery occurred, involving 62 children. During the course of investigation into the cause and mode of spread of the outbreak the school was visited and a report was made to the London County Council on the unsatisfactory conditions found.

As many as 4 out of 5 lavatories were found to be defective and at least a quarter were nailed up as repairs had not been effected.

In addition to this, however, the dining rooms, and particularly the facilities for washing up, were found to be both defective and inadequate. After some 4 or 5 months a new draining board has been fitted to one of the sinks. It had been in the dining room for at least two months before being fitted. As to providing double sinks and adequate hot water—so far only seven months have passed and only one further outbreak of dysentery has occurred.

No amount of health lectures or propaganda by means of pretty pictures is going to educate the young child if his school environment is to be allowed to be so deplorable !



Fortunately, as a result of a closer liaison with head-teachers in the Borough many small outbreaks of dysentery have been quickly brought under control. A feature, however, which is of concern is the increasing number of organisms which are found to be resistant to a wide range of antibiotics.

### **Road Accidents**

If there had been 72 cases of poliomyelitis in the Borough it would have been considered a serious outbreak and the public would quite rightly wish to take every step to prevent it. There was, however, an epidemic of road accidents involving 72 children—an epidemic of just as serious a nature from which one can certainly die.

During 1958 there were 1,132 accidents, resulting in personal injury to 395 people. Of these, three died, and a further 58 suffered serious injury. Oblivious to the trail of sorrow and hardship that accompanies these casualty figures, it is easy for one to dismiss them as mere statistics! In no less than 753 instances the cause of the accident was said to be due to errors of judgment which is more significant still when read in conjunction with the report of the medical officer of a transport organisation which indicated that, of applicants to drive, 50 per cent, at interview, were rejected as unsatisfactory and that 20 per cent of the remainder were found to be medically unfit, more than half because of defective vision.

### **Lung Cancer**

Cancer of the lung still takes its toll. Since 1950, when the connection between cigarette smoking and lung cancer was first demonstrated, over 100,000 deaths have occurred in Britain from this disease.

Each year the tobacco companies spend £2,000,000 in making their products known to the public; this excludes the money spent on commercial television. Highly competent advertisers are paid fabulous sums to delude the public into a sense of complacency. Yet, as the deaths due to lung cancer rise to 33% of all males, the Treasury collects £700,000,000 in tax from the victims of this addiction and are too mean to offer more than a pittance towards health education and research.

As recent research has shown that less than 35% of the cases discovered are considered operable, few of the victims of smoking are able to make much comment by the time they know the consequences of addiction. Out of every 100 cases diagnosed not more than 5 or 6 will be alive in 5 years time and it is estimated that a further million victims will die of this disease before the end of the century.

### **Preventable Deaths**

Approximately 45 persons lose their lives every day in Great Britain as a result of accidents; seventy per cent of these are said to be sustained by old people, approximately two thirds of these being women.

Falls account for fifty-eight per cent of the fatal home accidents and no less than ninety per cent of these relate to the elderly. In Bermondsey five men and two women died as the result of falls; four of these were sustained by persons over 80 and another by a person aged 72.

Coal gas poisoning also constitutes a particular hazard for the elderly whose sense of smell is impaired. Unfortunately, it was also the means by which four people committed suicide.

Although burns account for ten per cent of the accidents in the home and fifty-eight per cent of these are among old people, no deaths due to burns have occurred in the Borough.

During the year one accident occurred which profoundly shocked many people. A small boy, aged 2, playing on a bomb site was decapitated when a section of wall fell on him. Subsequently, the property adjoining, which had, on many occasions been the subject of complaint, was demolished.

There was a considerable increase in the number of suicides occurring in 1958. Although domestic coal gas was the predominant method, other means employed included barbiturate poisoning, hanging, jumping from a height and a self-inflicted stab wound.

### **National Assistance Act 1948**

#### **Section 47**

Under this section of the Act, the Council are authorised to apply for a Court Order for the removal to hospital, or institution, of an aged, infirm, or physically incapacitated person whose living conditions are insanitary. The National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951 also makes provision for a magistrate to order the emergency removal of such persons to an institution for a period not exceeding twenty-one days, on certification by the Medical Officer of Health and a general practitioner.

During the year, 13 persons were persuaded, in their own interests, to enter institutions voluntarily and only in the case of one old lady, aged 87, was it considered necessary to make application for a committal order. During the course of regular visits it had become increasingly evident that this old person, who was living alone and had no known relatives, was incapable of caring for herself adequately. When the committal order expired the old lady decided to remain in the home to which she had been admitted. Fortunately, it is rarely necessary for such action to be taken and it is only resorted to when there is no alternative and all persuasive efforts have failed.



**Section 50**

This section of the Act requires the Council to arrange for burial or cremation of a person dying in the Borough where there are no relatives or friends prepared to accept the responsibility. Where appropriate, the Council's costs, inclusive of administrative expenses, are recoverable from the deceased's estate.

During the year, two burials were arranged at the request of the Coroner's Officer, one being that of a still-born child whose body was recovered from the Thames on 8th March 1958. The other burial was that of a man aged 67 who died at his lodgings on 6th April 1958. It was believed that the deceased had a surviving son but all efforts to trace him proved to be fruitless. Expenses incurred by the Council in this case were reimbursed by the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance in the payment of a death grant.

Insofar as this Borough is concerned, it is pleasant to be able to report that during 1958 no bodies of suicides were recovered on the Thames foreshore.

**Public Health (London) Act 1936, Section 122**

The Council are authorised to remove and cleanse personal effects where the Medical Officer considers that the condition of such articles is likely to cause the spread of infectious disease.

During the year, the Medical Officer visited the homes of 41 old people who were seriously ill or senile. Quantities of soiled bedding and personal clothing were found in each case and it was necessary for these articles to be regularly collected for cleansing in the Disinfecting Station and returned to the owners.

**Municipal Club**

For a number of years, the Public Health Committee have been conscious of the ever increasing problem of the care of old people. Sufficient evidence was produced by the Welfare Assistants to show that, in addition to the Meals on Wheels service, there was need for a club which could provide hot mid-day meals to elderly persons who were not housebound and, therefore, did not come within the scope of the service. There were many individuals, living a solitary existence, who found that, apart from the expense involved, it had become too much of an effort to cook a daily meal for themselves and they had gradually adopted a regular diet of bread, margarine and tea. This is frequently the case when a man loses his wife and finds great difficulty in feeding for himself. A diet of this kind rapidly causes deterioration in mind and body and, if not supplemented, often produces a condition from which there is little likelihood of recovery.



TRUMPED!





CORNER OF DINING ROOM



IN THE WORKSHOP





THE OLD TIME DANCING CLASS

Although the Borough is fortunate in that it has a number of voluntarily operated clubs which are an invaluable source of relaxation for old people it was obvious that, mainly because of the shortage of voluntary assistance, alternative methods would have to be adopted if a meals club were to be operated successfully and the Council therefore considered the possibility of opening a Municipal Club under the provisions of Section 4 of the Physical Training and Recreation Act 1937. Whilst the matter was under discussion the Hospital Management Committee announced that certain hospital services were being transferred from the Public Health Centre in Grange Road to St. Olave's Hospital and that, consequently, half the first floor of the building, which had hitherto been used for physio-therapeutic treatment, would become vacant. The Council have always regarded the Public Health Centre with pride as, before the war, it was considered to be one of the finest centres of its kind in Europe, and it was felt that there was no better purpose for which this vacant accommodation could be used than to provide additional comfort for elderly people in the Borough. The fact that it had been used for physio-therapy meant that the heating installation was such that a temperature higher than that which is considered adequate for the average building could be maintained. The rooms were decorated in varying pastel shades, suitable furniture and kitchen utensils and equipment were purchased and, in January 1958, a Club Leader was appointed. These preparations were completed in late April and the club began to operate on 1st May after those qualified for membership had been made aware of the facilities being offered. It was emphasised that these facilities were *additional* to those being provided by voluntarily conducted old people's clubs and that membership of the Municipal Club was in no way to be considered prejudicial to membership of any of the former.

The club was officially opened by His Worship the Mayor, Councillor T. Hendy, J.P., on 15th May, in the presence of Council members, welfare workers and club members. This provided a favourable opportunity for the reactions of the old people to be obtained.

Perhaps not surprisingly, some of the subsequent reactions of members to the facilities provided at the club were not anticipated. For instance, one large room was divided into fairly spacious cubicles and it was thought that these would be suitable for uninterrupted games of dominoes or cards, or even group gossip, but it soon became apparent that members preferred the community atmosphere of the main club room. This was also found to be true in the workrooms where it was evident that employees preferred to work as one unit rather than in small groups. In view of this, the Public Health Committee gave authority for the cubicles to be dismantled and it is proposed to use the accommodation as an additional dining room as well as for social activities during the afternoon when the club is often full to capacity. As a result, it is



anticipated that approximately 50 meals per sitting, from Monday to Friday, can now be served as compared with the estimated number of 30 when the club was being planned. Frequently over 60 meals are served per day.

Members are encouraged to assist as much as possible in running the club. There is no shortage of volunteers to wash up, serve meals or prepare tea during the afternoon, and it is evident they appreciate the fact that good quality plates, cruets, cutlery, &c., do much to enhance the enjoyment of a meal. In fact they are so anxious to help that some tact is needed when, at times, the number of willing helpers has, of necessity, to be reduced.

As many entertainments as possible are arranged during the afternoon. The Council's Entertainments Officer has been most co-operative in this respect, and arrangements have also been made with the Libraries Department for films to be shown once a fortnight during the winter months. Community singing is greatly enjoyed and members of the staff have often given their spare time to play the piano for the old people. During the summer, members paid for a coach to visit the seaside, the cost of tea and lunch being met from a fund organised by the staff, in co-operation with the club members, to raise money by selling jumble and other articles which are donated. The Club Leader is always willing to accept small contributions from the members so that, when outings are arranged, a sum of money is available to help meet the cost. Insofar as the old people who attend the club are concerned, it would appear that while, like nearly everyone else, they would not be unappreciative of an increased income, shortage of money is not one of their main worries.

A visit was also made to a Women's Institute where members were invited to tea, shown the surrounding countryside and entertained during the evening. The club members reciprocated by inviting a number of members of the Women's Institute to Bermondsey where they were received by the Mayor and shown the regalia and the Council Chamber. After a visit to the Norwegian Church they were entertained to tea at the club where they joined in community singing. These mutual visits were enjoyed very much and it is hoped to repeat them during the following year.

In October, the girls of Fawcett House at the Aylwin School decided to adopt the Municipal Club as it is one of their objects to assist some local social activity. They subsequently decided to pay for relay wireless to be installed on the premises and three receivers are in operation. This service is very much appreciated, particularly by employees in the workrooms who enjoy "Music While You Work" programmes.

A Harvest Festival was also organised by the Headmistress of Laxon Street School and pupils were invited to bring gifts of tea and packed groceries. These gifts were presented to the Municipal Club in such quantities that it will be possible for the members





## Survey of Old People

Although, for some years, the people of Bermondsey have been endowed with that family spirit which made them realise that the care of the more elderly members was the responsibility of the community, it was not until 1957 that a planned assessment of their conditions was commenced.

In the spring of that year two welfare workers began what may now be termed as "Operation Ferret". Their orders were simple: To locate the old people in the Borough and bring succour to them where necessary. Putting this operation into effect, however, was a laborious task.

### Phase I

A meeting was called of all those people and organisations having any connection with the care of the elderly. At this meeting, it was proposed that the Town Hall, on account of its central position, should become a co-ordinating centre for all welfare problems relating to old people. By this means, it was hoped to prevent duplication of visiting and also to be able to collect information not only for the use of the Public Health Department but also for hospitals or other agencies dealing with old people.

### Phase II

Following this meeting many cases of an urgent nature requiring immediate action were referred to the department, and visiting was also commenced in Borough Council flats. With the co-operation of the Housing Department, a list was compiled of all old people and this was divided into two groups—(a) those considered by the estate superintendent to be in urgent need of help, and (b) those not in such great need.

### Phase III

After all these cases had been located, systematic visiting of private property was commenced.

### Results

During 1957 there were many interruptions to the visiting programme. Unfortunately, this also occurred in the early part of the following year and, as a result, the clerical work got far behind. Despite this, however, it has been possible to produce a detailed account of the findings for 1958. Additional information for the preceding year will be available at a later date. Thus, the figures relate to the last 804 cases found and not to the total number on the register which amounts to 1,642 cases. One additional factor is that during 1957 most of the really bad cases were seen, whereas the year under review probably gives a more reliable picture of the current position.



Table I—Age and sex distribution

<i>Age</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
50—59	5	7
60—64	8	50
65—69	36	118
70—74	70	152
75—79	67	133
80—89	47	105
90+	1	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>570</b>

This table shows the preponderance of females at all ages, especially 65 years and onwards.

Table II—Mobility

<i>Age</i>	<i>Mobile</i>	<i>Male House- bound</i>	<i>Bed bound</i>	<i>Mobile</i>	<i>Female House- bound</i>	<i>Bed- bound</i>
50—59	2	1	2	3	4	—
60—64	6	—	2	44	5	1
65—69	32	2	2	106	11	1
70—74	58	12	—	129	19	4
75—79	55	8	4	102	26	5
80—89	34	9	4	61	37	7
90+	1	—	—	—	4	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>19</b>

While showing the proportionate distribution of homebound cases, this table gives, for both sexes, some idea of the problem of growing old, i.e., the range of mobility gradually diminishes and as it does the patient is gradually cut off more and more from outside contacts and friends. This increasing isolation is not, however, the only problem, for arthritis and other disabilities reduce not only the facility to work but the ability to keep both home and person clean. Unfortunately, this often gives rise to discouragement and unless help is forthcoming the pensioner may give up hope, becoming resentful and antagonistic.

Whereas it would appear that the males do not live long enough to become housebound, a quarter of the number of women will inevitably become so,



Table III—Isolation

Age	Total	Male Living alone	No next of kin	Total	Female Living alone	No next of kin
50—59	5	3	1	7	3	—
60—64	8	4	2	50	28	9
65—69	36	8	—	118	42	5
70—74	70	22	6	152	74	5
75—79	67	17	3	133	77	8
80—89	47	24	3	105	67	9
90+	1	1	—	5	2	—
Total	234	79	15	570	293	36

This table shows the large number of old people who do, in fact, live alone. From the experience already gained, it is known that these are the very ones who are probably most in need of help. Particularly significant is the large number with no known relatives and, therefore, with no one to care for them. Although the number found at first may appear small, when it is realised that the present survey figures cover about a tenth only of the aged population then the seriousness of the problem of old people becomes at once apparent.

Table IV—Utilisation of welfare services

Age	MALE					FEMALE				
	Home Help	Dist. Nurse	Bathing	Laundry	Meals on Wheels	Home Help	Dist. Nurse	Bathing	Laundry	Meals on Wheels
50—59 ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—
60—64 ...	1	—	—	2	2	6	1	—	—	3
65—69 ...	32	1	—	—	—	10	4	1	2	3
70—74 ...	14	2	1	3	4	21	9	—	3	1
75—79 ...	15	3	1	4	3	41	7	—	3	5
80—89 ...	19	4	—	4	5	46	16	—	11	12
90+ ...	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	2
	63	10	2	13	15	127	38	1	21	26

This table shows clearly the increasing demands made by the old of both sexes as age advances. Further study of the comparative figures in each age group showing the extent to which the home-help service is utilised also substantiates the impression gained by field workers that those living alone are most in need of help.

<i>Age</i>	<b>Male</b>		<b>Female</b>	
	<i>Total Home Help</i>	<i>Living alone &amp; Home Help</i>	<i>Total Home Help</i>	<i>Living alone &amp; Home Help</i>
70—74	14	10	21	13
75—79	15	6	41	23
80+	20	11	49	35
Total all ages	49	27 (55%)	111	71 (64%)

**Table V—Disability Distribution**

Although no attempt has been made to ascertain all disabilities or to grade them, yet it was considered to be worth recording when the disability was of sufficient severity to handicap the old person in living a normal life. In a few cases there was more than one handicap. The following table gives an idea of the increasing incidence and distribution.

**Male**

<i>Age</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Disability</i>	
50—59	5	Respiratory System	1
60—64	6	Locomotion	2
		Gastro Intestinal Tract	1
65—69	35	Locomotion	1
		Gastro Intestinal Tract	1
70—74	67	Locomotion	6
		Cardio Vascular System	1
		Respiratory System	10
		Deaf and blind	1
75—79	64	Locomotion	1
		Respiratory System	4
		Cardio Vascular System	5
		Gastro Intestinal Tract	5
		Deaf	1
		Blind	1
80 & over	43	Locomotion	5
		Respiratory System	2
		Cardio Vascular System	2
		Gastro Intestinal Tract	2
		Deaf	2
		Blind	2



**Female**

<i>Age</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Disability</i>	
50—59	6	Locomotion	3
60—64	49	Respiratory System	6
		Locomotion	6
		Gastro Intestinal Tract	1
		Cardio Vascular System	1
		Blind	1
65—69	116	Locomotion	11
		Respiratory System	3
		Gastro Intestinal Tract	1
		Blind	2
		Deaf	1
70 & over	147	Locomotion	16
		Cardio Vascular System	10
		Respiratory System	2
		Blind	3
		Gastro Intestinal Tract	7

Thus it may be seen that the primary cause of hardship is the impairment of locomotion. Even in the small numbers recorded the preponderance of respiratory embarrassment is noted in the males.

No special note has been made of the frequent mental impairment that is seen as this is considered to be almost within the normal for the aged. Many of those who are a source of worry during their life on account of increasing mental deterioration often die of some intercurrent infection even though gross cerebrovascular degeneration may be noted at autopsy.

**Table VI—Housing**

It was felt to be worth while to discover the relative distribution of old people amongst different classes of property. This, it was considered, might throw some light on the problem to be faced in dealing with the rehousing of people from proposed clearance areas. Subject to the information being obtained early enough it might even be taken into account at the planning stage of the rehousing programme.

<i>Age</i>	<i>Male</i>			<i>Female</i>		
	<i>L.C.C.</i>	<i>B.B.C.</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>L.C.C.</i>	<i>B.B.C.</i>	<i>Private</i>
50—59	—	3	2	1	4	2
60—69	3	15	26	—	52	116
70—79	2	44	91	—	77	208
80—89	—	14	33	2	26	77
90+	—	—	1	—	1	4
Total	5	76	153	3	160	407

From this table it is obvious that in rehousing occupants of properties in clearance areas it will be essential to take into consideration the needs of old people. With their limited capabilities it will, therefore, be most desirable that accommodation should be available which will be sufficiently small for them to keep clean.

**Table VII—Deaths**

During the year, 31 deaths occurred amongst the old people on the register. Of these, 20% had been known to the department for less than a week before death; 50% survived for less than a month from the time they were first notified and over 75% died within six months of their being registered. Two thirds of the deaths occurred in hospital and, of those dying at home only two cases were those of old people living entirely alone.

	Home		Hospital		Total
	Relatives	Living alone	Relatives	Living alone	
Male	3	2	3	5	13
Female	6	—	5	7	18

It was also considered of interest to note the place where death took place and the interval between finding the patients and their ultimate decease. Nearly half the deaths occurred amongst those living alone, the great majority dying in hospital. Although the numbers involved are too small to draw any definite conclusion, it would appear that, with the exception of two males, all cases were under the supervision of relatives or in hospital at the time of death.

### **Atmospheric Pollution**

During periods of high concentration smog kills whilst the sub-acute pollution that occurs as a nearly constant feature of winter nights in urban areas produces marked deterioration in the condition of patients with bronchitis or cardiac conditions. There is also growing evidence that atmospheric pollution is an important factor in the causation of chronic bronchitis.

Reference to Charts numbered 1, 2 and 3, shows the steady build up of smoke and  $\text{SO}_2$  during the last quarter. The relatively low figures found from mid-April to October are probably accounted for to a considerable extent by the fact that it was the period of maximal rainfall in 1958.

Sufferers from coronary disease and bronchitis are amongst those whose condition is most aggravated by the products of atmospheric pollution. During the last ten weeks of the year there were repeated periods of fog and 16 people died of coronary thrombosis and a further 18 of bronchitis.



Undoubtedly, the winter of 1958 will be remembered by the surviving patients, and relatives of many, on account of the suffering and deaths that occurred. From 27th October until Christmas there were no less than 26 days on which fog occurred. Traffic was frequently disorganised. The Emergency Bed Service was hard put to it on many occasions to find beds for the most deserving cases.

Already Bermondsey has taken active steps to combat this menace to the inhabitants of towns. One smokeless zone has been declared, another has had the preliminary approval of the Minister and further extensive areas are being investigated with a view to extending the clean areas of the Borough.

It has been noted that another London Borough has been pressing the Minister to make grants available to everyone who voluntarily incurs expense in altering grates and fireplaces whether or not they live in a smoke control area. Every effort should be made to encourage people to become clean air conscious.

Investigation into the extent of atmospheric pollution has been continued during the year in co-operation with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and the tables hereunder show the concentration of smoke and sulphur-dioxide, as recorded at the Municipal Offices, and the amount of deposited matter recorded by the deposit gauges at Brunel Road, Rotherhithe, and the Public Health Centre, Grange Road.

#### Concentration of Smoke and Sulphur-Dioxide

Month	Smoke expressed in mgs. per cubic metre		Sulphur dioxide expressed in parts per million	
	Monthly Average	Highest Daily Average	Monthly Average	Highest Daily Average
January	·201	·711	·222	·443
February	·231	·733	·139	·213
March	·257	·700	·140	·308
April	·169	·345	·112	·337
May	·070	·266	·080	·223
June	·060	·093	·072	·158
July	·036	·135	·052	·116
August	·035	·090	·066	·147
September	·060	·144	·094	·184
October	·192	·993	·112	·278
November	·559	1·690	·200	·382
December	·517	1·273	·203	·540

## Deposited Matter

Month	Grange Road		Brunel Road	
	Rainfall ins.	Matter deposited in tons per sq. ml.	Rainfall ins.	Matter deposited in tons per sq. ml.
January	1.61	22.62	1.75	26.37
February	2.04	23.73	no analysis made	
March	1.03	29.66	1.07	26.11
April	1.17	21.58	1.57	14.80
May	1.71	16.85	2.04	16.48
June	5.39	19.34	4.70	19.99
July	1.38	15.37	1.98	11.21
August	3.40	19.59	3.37	12.04
September	3.54	24.25	3.67	19.98
October	2.40	18.93	2.17	14.37
November	1.74	23.82	1.64	10.87
December	2.74	23.25	2.56	32.11



Chart showing the Concentration of Sulphur Dioxide  
in Bermondsey in 1958

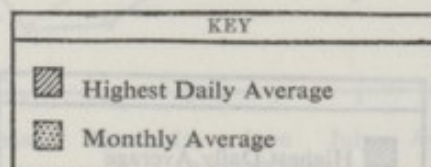
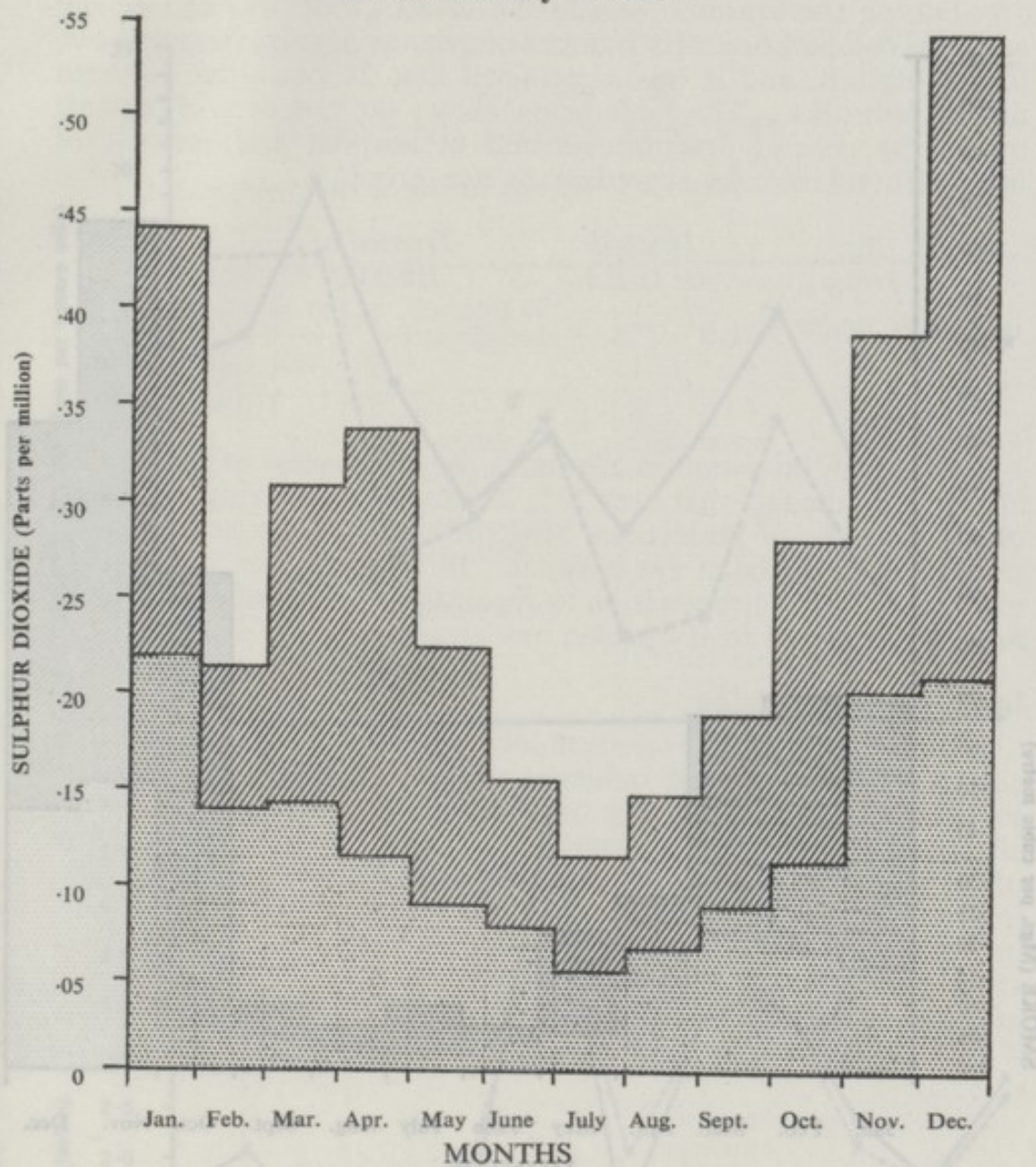


Chart showing the Concentration of Smoke  
in Bermondsey during 1958

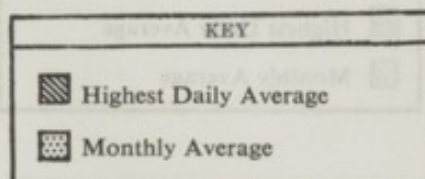
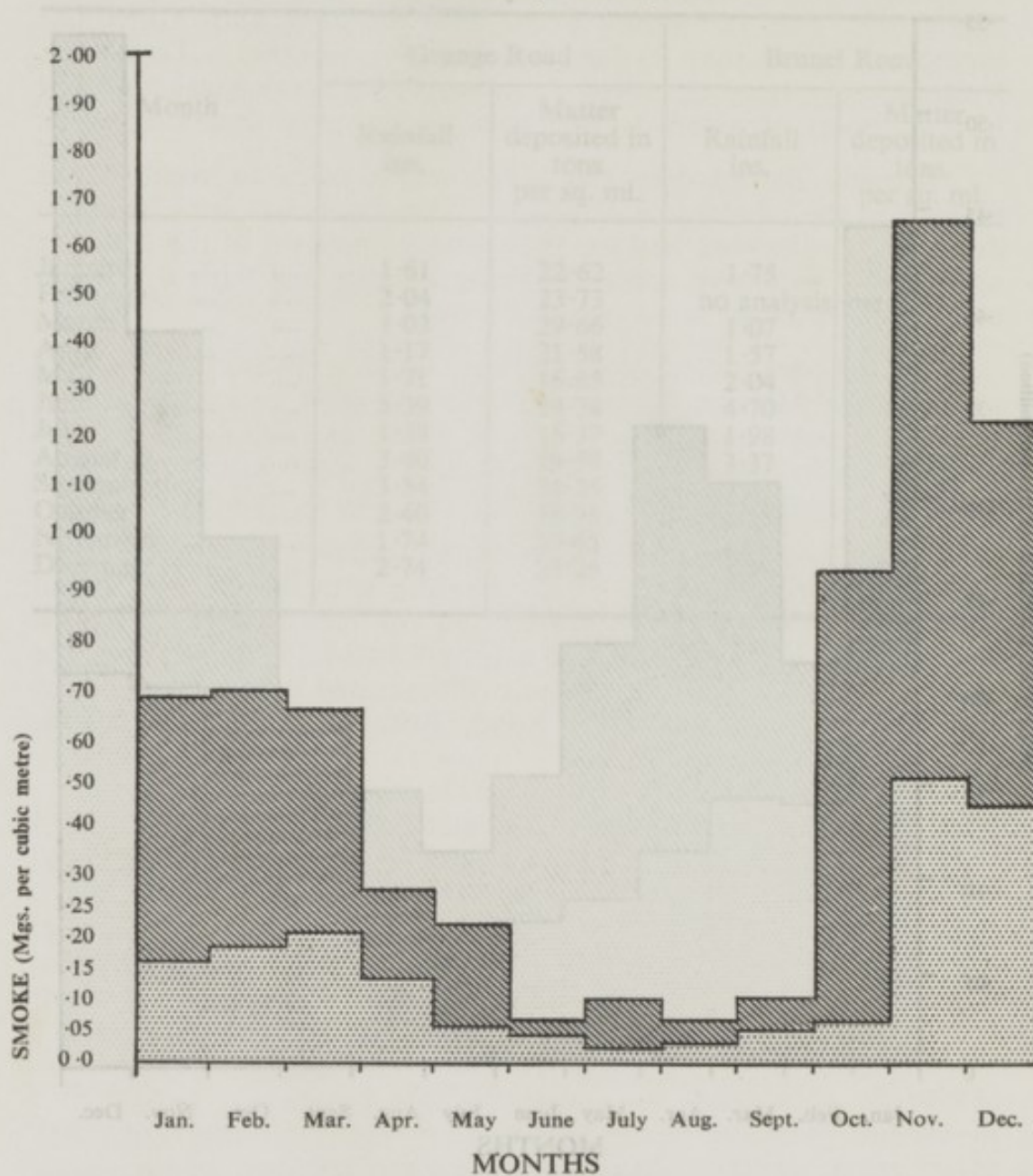
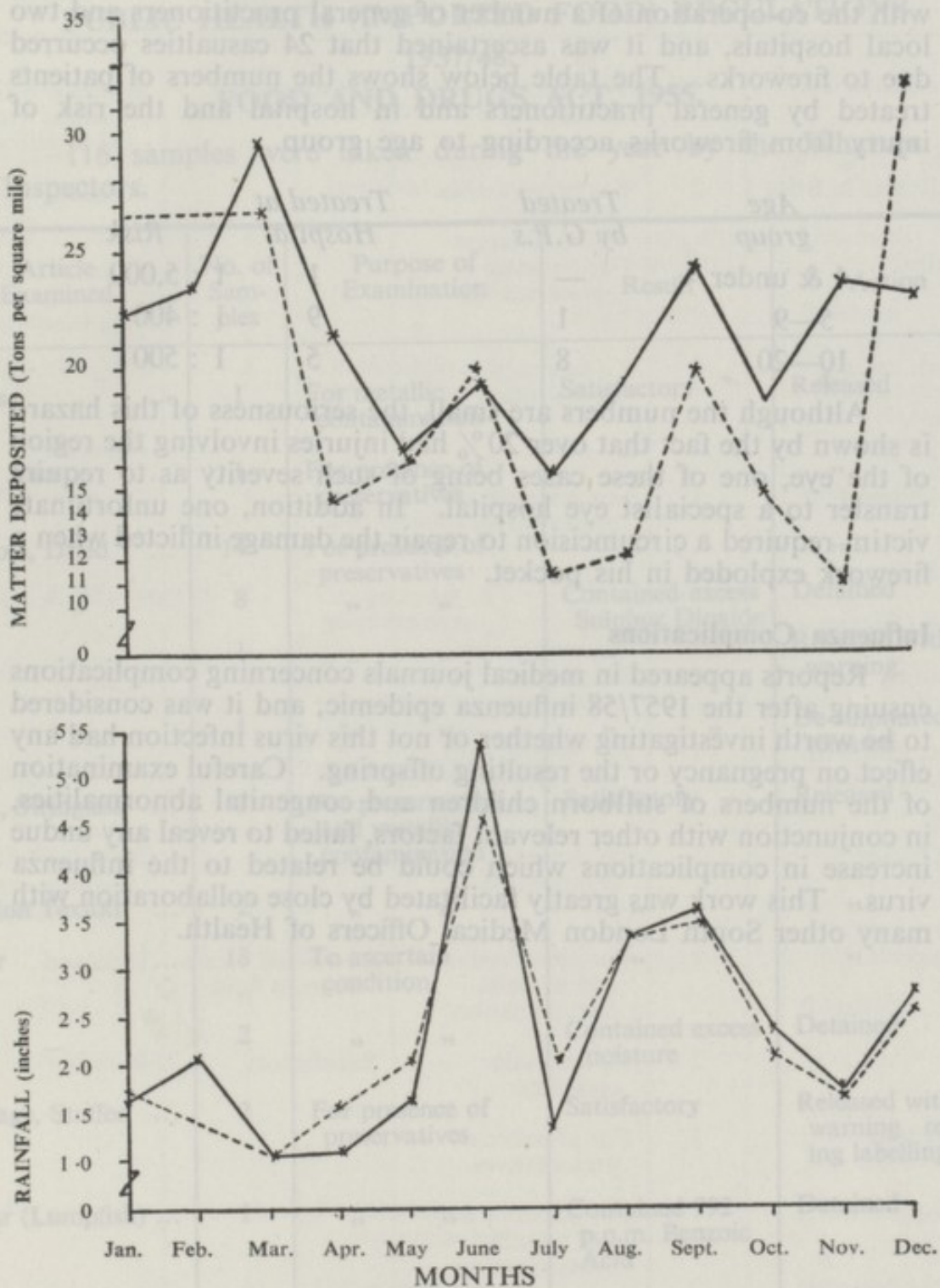




Chart showing Deposited Matter at Two Centres  
in Bermondsey during 1958



KEY	
—x—	Grange Road
-x--x-	*Brunel Road (*No analysis made Feb.)

### Firework Injuries

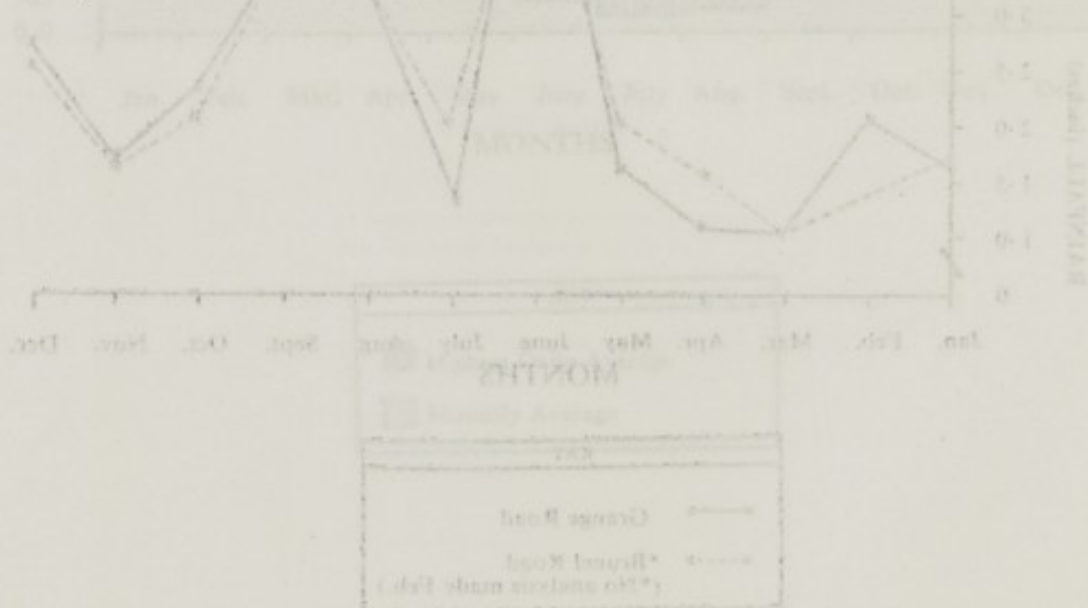
During the firework 'season' an investigation was carried out with the co-operation of a number of general practitioners and two local hospitals, and it was ascertained that 24 casualties occurred due to fireworks. The table below shows the numbers of patients treated by general practitioners and in hospital and the risk of injury from fireworks according to age group.

Age group	Treated by G.P.s	Treated at Hospital	Risk
4 & under	—	1	1 : 5,000
5—9	1	9	1 : 400
10—20	8	5	1 : 500

Although the numbers are small, the seriousness of this hazard is shown by the fact that over 20% had injuries involving the region of the eye, one of these cases being of such severity as to require transfer to a specialist eye hospital. In addition, one unfortunate victim required a circumcision to repair the damage inflicted when a firework exploded in his pocket.

### Influenza Complications

Reports appeared in medical journals concerning complications ensuing after the 1957/58 influenza epidemic, and it was considered to be worth investigating whether or not this virus infection had any effect on pregnancy or the resulting offspring. Careful examination of the numbers of stillborn children and congenital abnormalities, in conjunction with other relevant factors, failed to reveal any undue increase in complications which could be related to the influenza virus. This work was greatly facilitated by close collaboration with many other South London Medical Officers of Health.





# FOOD CONTROL

## PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1937/48.

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

116 samples were taken during the year by the Wharves Inspectors.

Article Examined	No. of Samples	Purpose of Examination	Result	Action
Apples ...	1	For metallic contamination	Satisfactory	Released
Apple Juice ...	1	For presence of preservatives	"	"
Apricots, Dried ...	14	For presence of preservatives	"	"
" "	8	" "	Contained excess Sulphur Dioxide	Detained
" "	1	" "	" "	Released with warning.
" "	1	" "	" "	De-sulphured and released
Beans, Stringless ...	1	For preservatives and metallic contamination	Satisfactory	Released
Bouillon Texton ...	2	" "	"	"
Butter ...	18	To ascertain condition	"	"
"	2	" "	Contained excess moisture	Detained
Cabbage, Stuffed ...	2	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released with warning regarding labelling
Caviar (Lumpfish) ...	1	" "	Contained 992 p.p.m. Benzoic Acid	Detained
Cheese Delites ...	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Cheese Powder ...	1	To ascertain condition	"	"
Chocolates, Milk ...	2	" "	"	"
Cucumbers in Brine	2	For presence of preservatives	"	"

Article Examined	No. of Samples	Purpose of Examination	Result	Action
Dill Sauce, Dried	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released with warning regarding labelling
Frankfurters in Brine	2	For preservatives and metallic contamination	"	Released
Gherkins ... ..	1	For presence of preservatives	"	Released with warning regarding labelling
Goulash ... ..	1	To ascertain composition	"	" "
"	1	" "	"	Released
Ham, chopped ...	1	For presence of preservatives	"	"
Ham & Tongue ...	1	" "	"	"
Ham & Chicken Roll	1	" "	"	"
Hamburger Patties...	1	To ascertain composition	"	"
Herring Fillets in Mustard Sauce	1	For preservatives and metallic contamination	"	"
Java Crackers ...	1	To ascertain composition	"	Released with warning regarding labelling
Ketchup ... ..	1	For preservatives and metallic contamination	Contained excess Benzoic Acid	Detained
Lard ... ..	2	To ascertain condition	Satisfactory	Released
Lemon Juice ...	1	For presence of preservatives	"	"
Lollipops ... ..	1	For preservatives and metallic contamination	"	"
Luncheon Meat ...	1	For presence of preservatives	"	"
" "	1	" "	"	Released with warning regarding labelling
Meatballs with Spaghetti	1	For preservatives and metallic contamination	"	Released



Article Examined	No. of Samples	Purpose of Examination	Result	Action
Milk, Evaporated ...	1	To ascertain condition	Satisfactory	Released
Mushrooms, Dried...	1	For presence of preservatives	"	"
Mustard, Liquid ...	1	" "	Contained excess Benzoic Acid	Detained
" "	1	" "	Satisfactory	Released
Noodles with Meat...	1	To ascertain composition	"	Detained (Imported without Official Certificate)
Octopus on Skewer	1	For preservatives and metallic contamination	"	Released
Oranges & Wrappers	1	For presence of preservatives	"	"
Ox Tongue (Canned)	1	For preservatives and metallic contamination	"	"
Papain ...	1	For presence of preservatives	"	"
Peas, Canned ...	1	" "	"	"
" "	1	" "	"	Released with warning regarding labelling
Pork Cutlets ...	1	" "	"	Released
Pork Luncheon Meat	3	" "	"	"
" " "	1	" "	"	Released with warning regarding labelling
Pork Paste ...	1	To ascertain composition	"	Released
Pork Slice ...	1	For presence of preservatives	"	Released with warning regarding labelling
Poulet de la Bonne Femme	1	" "	"	Released

Article Examined	No. of Samples	Purpose of Examination	Result	Action
Premier Jus ...	1	To ascertain condition	Satisfactory	Released
" "	1	" "	"	Re-exported (Imported without Official Certificate)
Red Currant Juice ...	1	For presence of preservatives	"	Released
Rice with Meat ...	1	To ascertain composition	"	Detained (Imported without Official Certificate)
Salmon ...	1	For metallic contamination	"	Released
Sambal Manis ...	1	To ascertain composition	"	"
Sardines in Oil ...	2	For metallic contamination	"	"
Sardines in Tomato	1	" "	"	"
Sauerkraut with Meat	1	To ascertain composition	"	Released with warning regarding labelling
Smoked Salmon Mayonnaise	1	For preservatives and metallic contamination	"	Released
Soup, Canned ...	1	For preservatives and metallic contamination	"	"
Soup Powder ...	1	For presence of preservatives	"	"
" "	2	" "	"	Released with warning regarding labelling
Sultanas ...	2	For presence of preservatives	"	Released
Turkey, Boneless ...	1	For preservatives and metallic contamination	"	"
Turkey in Natural Jelly	1	" "	"	"



**PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT 1933 AND****PHARMACY AND MEDICINES ACT 1941**

54 premises were entered on the Council's list for the year under report.

**MILK PREMISES****FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955****MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS 1949**

14 milk sellers were registered under the above-mentioned Acts during 1958 and 15 were removed from the Register. There were 134 milk sellers on the Register at the end of the year.

**MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK)  
REGULATIONS, 1949**

**MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND  
STERILISED) REGULATIONS, 1949**

During the year under report the following licences were granted:—

**Dealers' Licences.**

To sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	....	....	....	....	38
To sell Pasteurised Milk	....	....	....	....	91
To sell Sterilised Milk	....	....	....	....	108

**Supplementary Licences**

To sell Pasteurised Milk	....	....	....	....	15
To sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	....	....	....	....	15
To sell Sterilised Milk	....	....	....	....	21

All premises used for the sale of milk are regularly inspected to ensure that the standard of cleanliness laid down is maintained,

## MILK SAMPLING

Samples of milk, both for bacteriological and chemical examination, are taken from milksellers and special arrangements are made for the sampling of the milk supplied to all schools, school meals services and hospitals in the borough. The total number of samples submitted for analysis during 1958 was 375 of which number 180 were taken from schools, hospitals, etc.

### For Chemical (i.e., Fat and non-Fatty Solids Analysis).

Condensed Milk	....	....	....	....	....	6
Evaporated Milk	....	....	....	....	....	6
Sterilised Milk	....	....	....	....	....	19
Pasteurised Milk	....	....	....	....	....	148
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk	....	....	....	....	....	7
Channel Islands Milk	....	....	....	....	....	8
Dried Milk	....	....	....	....	....	1
						<hr/> 195

### For Bacteriological Examination.

#### Pasteurised Milk:

For tubercle bacilli	....	....	....	....	....	2
For brucella abortus	....	....	....	....	....	1
						<hr/> 3

### For Examination under Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.

Pasteurised Milk (from schools, hospitals, etc.)	....	....	....	....	....	90
Pasteurised Milk (other than from schools)	....	....	....	....	....	37
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk	....	....	....	....	....	36
Sterilised Milk	....	....	....	....	....	17
						<hr/> 180



## ICE CREAM

47 samples of ice cream have been examined, with the following results:—

### 1. Bacterial Count.

Up to 500 per 1 c.c. ....	26
Over 500 to 1,000 per 1 c.c. ....	6
Over 1,000 to 5,000 per 1 c.c. ....	5
Over 5,000 to 10,000 per 1 c.c. ....	1
Over 10,000 to 50,000 per 1 c.c. ....	6
Over 50,000 per 1 c.c. ....	3
	<hr/>
	47
	<hr/>

### 2. Presence of B. Coli.

B. Coli present in 1 c.c. and 1 10th c.c. and 1 100th c.c. ....	—
B. Coli present in 1 c.c. and 1 10th c.c. ....	—
B. Coli present in 1 c.c. ....	—
B. Coli absent in 1 c.c., 1 10th c.c. and 1 100th c.c. ....	47
	<hr/>
	47
	<hr/>

### 3. Methylene Blue Grading.

Grade 1 ....	32
2 ....	10
3 ....	2
4 ....	2
Not graded ....	1
	<hr/>
	47
	<hr/>

### 4. CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

Nine samples of ice cream were submitted for chemical analysis under the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order, 1953. All samples were satisfactory.

### Bread—Notes on an Investigation

Although there is undoubtedly a greater variety of food offered to the general public than ever before, bread is still of major importance in the diet, particularly in families where there are children. Bread is still in fact the staple food. This is made clear in the National Food Survey Committee's Report (1956), published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office, which says:

"In 1956, bread and flour provided, in the average diet, 24.7% of the energy; 26.3% of the protein; 26.9% of the vitamin B; 24.2% of the nicotinic acid; and 23% of the iron."

It was with this point in mind that, during November and December, a special investigation into the nutritional quality of the various types and makes of bread on sale in the Borough was undertaken.

In recent years there has been a big change in the baking industry. The number of small "one-man bakeries" has declined considerably and their place has been taken by large combines in which the baking of bread is less of an art and more of a scientifically controlled industry.

In 1939 in Bermondsey there were 45 small bakeries; there are now only 9 and, in addition, a number of bakers' shops which are, in effect, retail selling points for the factory made products. The standard of hygiene of the factory bakery and of the retail shops it controls is generally higher than that found in the small bakehouse. There are several reasons for this, the two main ones being:

1. The use by the small baker of old premises which are difficult to keep clean and are often on projected clearance areas;
2. The lack of capital with which to effect any lasting and radical alterations in premises or plant.

Against this must be set the decided views of many people who are prepared to sacrifice a little hygiene for what they consider to be the superior taste and appearance of bread baked on the "oven bottom".

Since the war and, to some extent, following the American pattern, various new types of bread have been put on sale with such names as "American type", "Super", and "Enriched". These breads usually sell at higher prices and the investigation included an assessment of the claims made for them.

Bread is made essentially from flour, water and salt, with yeast as the raising agent. The quality of the bread and, to some extent its keeping properties, depend on the quality of the flour and the skill with which the various fermentation and baking processes are



carried out, but the addition of other ingredients can have a big effect. These additional ingredients may be fat and milk products, usually skim milk powder, and both increase the nutritional value of the bread which is, however, basically determined by the flour used.

Soya flour products are known to be widely used in very small quantities in bread making (12 ozs per sack of 280 lbs of flour) and cannot easily be detected. Addition of soya flour to such a small extent is not sufficient to affect the nutritive value of the bread but, at the same time, it cannot be regarded as a chemical addition. It is said to inhibit staling.

All the samples examined were made from white flour.

### **Analytical Results**

In the detailed examination undertaken the following constituents were determined:

#### **1. *Moisture***

This is not significant in itself, but the higher the moisture content, the more the other constituents are diluted.

#### **2. *Protein***

This is an important factor. Normally it would be derived solely from the flour but if a milk product has been used as an ingredient this would substantially increase the protein content.

#### **3. *Fat***

Flour naturally contains a trace of oil, and bread made with no added fat would contain about 0·7 to 1·2 per cent oils and fats.

#### **4. *Mineral Matter***

This consists of (1) the salt which has been added (approximately 1 per cent), (2) potash, lime, magnesia, iron, phosphates and sulphur compounds natural to wheat flour, and (3) additives, viz., creta praeparata and iron.

#### **5. *Carbohydrates***

This is mainly starch, but includes a very small proportion of fibre, natural to wheat flour, which is not digestible.

#### **6. *Iron***

The human diet must contain sufficient iron. If the outside portion of the wheat grain is discarded (as in the case when white flour is milled, with only 70 to 72 per cent extraction) the iron content is drastically reduced; from 3·55 mgms per 100 gms for wholemeal flour, down to 0·92 mgms per 100 gms for white flour (70 to 72 per cent extraction). Under the Flour (Composition) Regulations

all flour must contain not less than 1.65 mgms iron per 100 gms. corresponding to a minimum of 1.2 mgms per 100 gms. of bread.

The natural iron content of flour varies to some extent, and it is difficult for the millers to ensure even distribution of the added iron which goes into the flour as a master mix of iron and vitamins (see below). It might be expected, therefore, that the iron content might vary somewhat.

#### 7. *Calcium*

This is the basic element in lime and chalk, and is very important in human nutrition. Under the Flour (Composition) Regulations, small quantities of "creta prae-parata" (purified chalk) have to be added to flour (not less than 235 mgms. and not more than 390 mgms per 100 gms). The natural calcium present in flour is of the order of 37 mgms per 100 gms (expressed as chalk).

If milk product is added to bread, this would increase the calcium content since milk is rich in lime.

The figure for calcium (as calcium carbonate) given in the tables below includes the small quantities of magnesia naturally present in flour.

#### 8. *Milk Powder*

This is sometimes added to bread, usually in the form of skim milk powder. It produces a finer texture bread and increases its nutritional value, particularly the protein and mineral constituents.

#### 9. *Vitamin B<sub>1</sub>*

This is one of the important vitamins present in flour, and which is substantially decreased if the wheat grain is milled to a low percentage extraction. For this reason, the Flour (Composition) Regulations require all flour to contain not less than 0.24 mgms vitamin B<sub>1</sub> per 100 grams of flour. The extra is added by the millers in the form of a master mix containing vitamin concentrate and iron.

Vitamin B<sub>1</sub> is not very stable, and some is lost during baking.

#### 10. *Glycerol mono-stearate*

This is a chemical substance which acts as an anti-staling agent and was found in two samples of the bread examined. So far as is known this substance is quite harmless and, in fact, is used as an emulsifier in other food industries.

17 samples of bread were examined, 12 being ordinary or "standard" bread and 5 "American-type" or "enriched" bread sold at a premium.



The samples show the following variations in composition and price (ranging from maxima to minima):—

<i>STANDARD BREAD</i>		<i>"ENRICHED BREAD"</i>	
8.69—7.97%	<i>Protein</i>	9.33—7.95%	
8.45%	<i>Average</i>	8.60%	
37.00—34.7%	<i>Moisture</i>	36.00—34.70%	
36.06%	<i>Average</i>	35.47%	
1.55—0.56%	<i>Oil and Fat</i>	4.04—1.61%	
1.20%	<i>Average</i>	2.74%	
1.87—1.60%	<i>Mineral Matter</i>	2.05—1.25%	
1.74%	<i>Average</i>	1.78%	
54.18—51.58%	<i>Carbohydrates</i>	52.86—50.49%	
52.55%	<i>Average</i>	51.41%	
424—283 mgms/100 gms	<i>Calcium</i>	477—354 mgms/100 gms	
2.36—1.42 mgms/100 gms	<i>Iron</i>	2.46—1.54 mgms/100 gms	
0.14—0.08 mgms/100 gms	<i>Vitamin B<sub>1</sub></i>	0.12—0.07 mgms/100 gms	
0.53%—NIL	<i>Milk Solids</i>	2.0%—NIL	
	<i>Not Fat</i>		
.63d—.411d	<i>Price per oz</i>	.619d—.571d	
.495d	<i>Average</i>	.597d	

In the "standard" bread examined only two samples contained skim milk. The average figure for oil and fat present was of the order of that normally expected in flour although fat has certainly been added in more than half the samples. The price of .63d per oz of one sample of "standard" bread was very much higher than any of the remaining samples. The prices generally were remarkably even throughout.

One sample of "standard" bread was claimed to have been "ultra-violet ray treated" but the irradiation of cereal products in this way has no recognised nutritional benefit.

In the five samples of "enriched" bread the main form of enrichment in every case was additional fat and/or skim milk powder. The claims made in every sample except one were considered to be justified by reason of the presence of this additional fat and/or skim milk powder.

In one case the claim of enrichment was not considered to be accurate and the firm concerned were advised of this. A subsequent sample was found to be satisfactory.

To sum up, to-day's "standard" loaf appears to compare favourably with the pre-war loaf in nutritional value whatever one may think of the taste and appearance.

The claims of enrichment for the "enriched" bread which costs 1d to 1½d more for a small loaf (14 oz) are based, in the main, on additional fat and/or skim milk powder which does increase the

nutritional value and may improve the texture of the crumb. Whether these advantages are worth a 20% increase in price is not within the scope of this investigation.

### Pre-War White Loaf

For purposes of comparison, the average composition of the pre-war white loaf is given below:

Protein	...	...	...	7.9%
Moisture	...	...	...	32.0%
Fat	...	...	...	0.7%
Mineral matter	...	...	...	1.5%
Carbohydrates	...	...	...	57.9%
				<hr/>
				100.0
				<hr/>
Calcium (as calcium carbonate)	...	...	...	35 mgms per 100 gms
Iron	...	...	...	1.00 mgms per 100 gms
Vitamin B <sub>1</sub>	...	...	...	0.04 mgms per 100 gms

In the "standard" bread examined only two samples contained skim milk. The average figure for oil and fat present was of the order of that normally expected in flour although fat has certainly been added in more than half the samples. The price of -63d per oz of one sample of "standard" bread was very much higher than any of the remaining samples. The prices generally were remarkably even throughout.

One sample of "standard" bread was claimed to have been enriched in every case with additional fat and/or skim milk powder. The claims made in every sample were considered to be justified by reason of the presence of this additional fat and/or skim milk powder.

In one case the claim of enrichment was not considered to be accurate and the firm concerned were advised of this. A subsequent sample was found to be satisfactory.

On the whole, the "standard" loaf appears to compare favourably with the pre-war loaf as nutritional value, whatever one may think of the taste and appearance, is as good as that

The claims of enrichment for the "enriched" bread which costs 1d to 1½d more for a small loaf (14 oz) are based on the main, on additional fat and/or skim milk powder which does increase the



## SECTION 14, FOOD & DRUGS ACT

	<i>Inspections</i>
Ice Cream Premises .....	201      60
Preserved Food, etc. ....	84      280

## DISPOSAL OF UNSOUND FOOD

Condemned food suitable for animal feeding is disposed of for this purpose under supervision.

Condemned food for destruction is collected by Council's van and barged with household refuse.

## FOOD PREMISES AND TYPES OF BUSINESS

Restaurants, cafes and snack bars .....	132
Factory Canteens .....	79
Grocers and General Provisions .....	131
Butchers .....	52
Greengrocers and Fruiterers .....	76
Fishmongers and Curers .....	28
Bakers and Pastrycooks .....	31
Confectioners .....	80
Public Houses .....	144
Food Factories .....	178
Wholesale Food Stores .....	112
Food Wharves and Depots .....	53

## CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS

Inspections and re-visits .....	744
Notices served .....	45

## UNSOUND FOOD

The general inspection of food in shops and on stalls forms part of the duty of the District Public Health Inspectors. Food, in the quantities stated, came under the notice of the Inspectors during the year, and being found unfit for human consumption was destroyed or disposed of for purposes other than human food.

Description of Food	Weight			
	tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Meat .....	—	1	2	6
Meat, Canned .....	—	6	3	1
Poultry .....	—	—	1	1
Offals .....	—	—	3	14
Fruit, Canned .....	—	1	—	18
Fish, Canned .....	—	—	—	7
Fish .....	—	1	3	—
Milk, Canned .....	—	—	—	26
Preserves .....	—	1	2	8
Vegetables, Canned .....	—	—	1	2
Various .....	—	—	2	9
<b>Total</b> .....	—	15	—	8

### Food Hygiene

During the year, six lectures on food hygiene were arranged for persons employed in the food trade in the Borough. There was a total attendance of 69.

Films were shown at each lecture and particular emphasis was placed on personal cleanliness and the proper storage of food.

The attendance was not very encouraging and it continues to be very difficult to get people to come along. Those who did attend showed considerable interest.

### Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

During the year, legal proceedings were taken in respect of two premises for contravention of the Food Hygiene Regulations. In one case, four infringements were proved against the proprietor of a small cafe and the magistrate imposed fines of £11 with £6.6.0 costs. In the other case, which involved a factory bakehouse, six infringements were proved and fines totalling £69 were imposed and £31.10.0 costs awarded to the Council.

## FOOD AND DRUGS

During the year 787 samples were submitted by the Food and Drugs Inspector. In 36 cases the analysis disclosed an infringement of the law.

No.	Date purchased	Sample	Infringement	Remarks
263	1.1.58	Pork Sausages	Contained 51% meat instead of not less than 65%	Prosecution:— Summons dismissed with £5.5.0 costs



No.	Date purchased	Sample	Infringement	Remarks
264	1.1.58	Beef Sausages	Contained 44% meat instead of not less than 50%	Prosecution:— Summons dismissed with £5.5.0 costs
331	27.1.58	Minced Beef Loaf	Contained 68% meat instead of not less than 80%	Letter to manufacturer
332	27.1.58	Ham Roll—Chicken Centre	Contained 56% meat instead of not less than 65% and chicken centre contained starchy materials	" "
385	12.2.58	Canned Braised Steaks	Contained 55% meat instead of not less than 75% and label incorrect	" "
387	13.2.58	Milk	Contained fragment of glass	Letter to supplier
392	17.2.58	Spaghetti in Tomato Sauce with Cheese	Contained 270 parts per million tin instead of not more than 250 parts per million	Letter to manufacturer
448	10.3.58	Puff Pastry	Contained 21% fat instead of not less than 25%	" "
464	13.3.58	Ham Roll—Chicken Centre	Chicken centre contained starchy materials	" "
479	19.3.58	Juniper Backache Kidney and Bladder Pills	Contained 37.5% potassium nitrate whereas label declared 42.85%	" "
530	2.4.58	Meat Pie	Contained 13.5% meat instead of not less than 20%	" "
574	23.4.58	Beef Sausages	Contained 44% meat instead of not less than 50%	Prosecution:— Absolute Discharge with £5.5.0 costs
619	12.5.58	Glycerin B.P.	Did not satisfy requirements of British Pharmacopoeia and contained 96.5% of Glycerin instead of not less than 98%	Letter to manufacturer
711	13.6.58	Pickling Spice	Contained pieces of stone and coarse grit	Warning to manufacturer
716	16.6.58	Pork Lunch-eon Meat	Contained 67% meat instead of not less than 90%	Letter to manufacturer
785	3.7.58	Plain Flour	Contained 95 milligrams Creta Praeparata per 100 gm. instead of not less than 235 milligrams	" "
892	6.8.58	Currants—Cleaned	Currants had not be properly cleaned	Letter to supplier

No.	Date purchased	Sample	Infringement	Remarks
920	18.8.58	Dried Parsley	Infested with live insects	Remainder of stock destroyed
921	18.8.58	Luncheon Meat	Presence of sodium nitrite not declared on label	Letter to importer
936	22.8.58	Malted Milk Biscuits	Contained no milk fat and milk solids present were derived from skimmed milk	Letter to manufacturer
942	25.8.58	Lentil Soup with Smoked Ham	Absence of solid pieces of smoked ham	" "
966	1.9.58	Sterilised Milk	5.3% deficient in milk fat	Letter to supplier
968	1.9.58	Milk Gums	Contained no milk fat and milk solids present were derived from skimmed milk	Letter to manufacturer
10	22.9.58	Butter	Contained 17.1% water instead of not more than 16%	Letter to supplier
998	10.9.58	Buttered Rolls	Fat used was mixture of butter and margarine in equal proportions	Letter to retailer
88	15.10.58	Plain Flour	Contained 45 milligrams Creta Praeparata per 100 gm. instead of not less than 235 milligrams	Letter to manufacturer
113	27.10.58	Luncheon Meat	Contained 63% meat instead of not less than 80%	" "
116	27.10.58	Margarine	Contained 550 international units of Vitamen A instead of not less than 760	" "
212	27.11.58	Dripping	Contained 1.60% free fatty acids instead of not more than 1.5%	Remainder of stock withdrawn
225	2.12.58	Apricot Jam	Contained 28% fruit instead of not less than 40%	Letter to manufacturer
232	2.12.58	Bread (Enriched)	Description 'Enriched' unjustified	" "
246	8.12.58	Shredded Beef Suet	Contained 78.4% beef fat instead of not less than 83%	" "
273	15.12.58	Orange Squash	Contained 2 gallons instead of 2½ gallons orange juice per 10 gallons squash	" "



No.	Date purchased	Sample	Infringement	Remarks
299	29.12.58	Cut Stringless Beans	Presence of added salt not declared on label	Letter to importer
304	30.12.58	Butter	Contained 16.45% water instead of not more than 16%	Prosecution:— Absolute Discharge with £5.5.0 costs

Six warning letters were sent to manufacturers in respect of articles of food complained of by members of the public.

### SAMPLING OF EGG PRODUCTS 1958

Sampling of egg products to determine possible contamination by *Salmonella* organisms was continued during 1958. The total amount of egg entering the borough proved to be almost double that of 1957. Under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations 1937 local authorities are allowed only 48 hours as a period of detention for sampling purposes and, in order to obtain a punctual examination and rapid decision, the importers paid for a considerable number of the samples to be examined privately.

The method of sampling was by batch numbers (signifying packing dates). Where a sample showed evidence of contamination the whole batch was placed under detention and later either re-exported or released for pasteurisation before use.

The main importations were of frozen whole egg of which the chief exporters were China and Australia and laboratory results showed that 4.6% of the samples taken from these consignments contained *Salmonellae*. The total number of samples from all egg products found to be contaminated was 244 and the following table shows the type of contamination.

				No. of samples
Salmonella aberdeen	...	...	...	17
Salmonella anatum	...	...	...	5
Salmonella bareilly	...	...	...	1
Salmonella bovis morbificans	...	...	...	1
Salmonella muenchen	...	...	...	3
Salmonella newport	...	...	...	12
Salmonella potsdam	...	...	...	4
Salmonella senftenburg	...	...	...	2
Salmonella thompson	...	...	...	147
Salmonella typhi-murium	...	...	...	51
Salmonella thompson & typhi-murium	...	...	...	1
				<hr/> 244 <hr/>

# IMPORTATION OF EGG PRODUCTS, 1959

Country of Origin	Type of Egg Product	Quantity Im-ported (to nearest cwt.)	No.of samples taken	No.of samples positive	Quantity of contaminated egg	Disposal of contaminated egg								
		T. C. Q. L.			T. C. Q. L.	Re-exported			Released for heat treatment			Still under detention		
						T. C. Q. L.	T. C. Q. L.	T. C. Q. L.	T. C. Q. L.	T. C. Q. L.	T. C. Q. L.	T. C. Q. L.	T. C. Q. L.	T. C. Q. L.
ARGENTINE	Frozen Albumen	95 5 — —	62	—										
	Dried Whole Egg	24 18 — —	24	1	2 — — —		2 — — —							
AUSTRALIA	Frozen Whole Egg	4156 4 — —	1508	42	85 4 — —				59 10 — —			25 14 — —		
CHINA	Frozen Whole Egg	13975 5 — —	3107	171	1396 — — —			172 9 — —	687 18 — —			535 13 — —		
	Frozen Albumen	2040 1 — —	563	11	31 19 — —			8 16 — —				23 3 — —		
	Frozen Yolk	4 15 — —	2	—										
	Dried Whole Egg	596 19 — —	185	5	5 16 — —			5 16 — —						
	Dried Yolk	36 4 — —	15	1	2 13 — —			2 13 — —						
DENMARK	Dried Albumen	12 8 — —	34	2	— 17 — —			— 17 — —						
	Dried Yolk	3 3 — —	6	—										
GERMANY	Frozen Albumen	24 8 — —	18	—										
HOLLAND	Frozen Whole Egg	1 — — —	2	—										
	Frozen Albumen	50 6 — —	20	—										
	Dried Whole Egg	— 10 — —	1	—										
	Dried Albumen	4 2 — —	7	1	— 5 — —			— 5 — —						
ITALY	Dried Albumen	1 3 — —	16	10	1 3 — —			1 3 — —						
IRELAND	Frozen Whole Egg	2 — — —	1	—										
POLAND	Frozen Whole Egg	30 — — —	10	—										
	Dried Whole Egg	29 16 — —	5	—										
U.S.A.	Dried Albumen	6 19 — —	4	—										
	Totals	21093 6 — —	5590	244	1525 17 — —			193 19 — —	747 8 — —			584 10 — —		



## PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1937/48

	Disposed of for purposes other than human food				Destroyed				Removed for sorting under Sanitary Authority				Re-exported			
	Weight				Weight				Weight				Weight			
	T.	C.	Q.	L.	T.	C.	Q.	L.	T.	C.	Q.	L.	T.	C.	Q.	L.
Bacon	—	16	3	15	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Beans	48	8	2	—	—	5	3	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Butter	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	21	2	4	1	25	—	—	—	—
Casings	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	—
Cheese	—	—	—	—	4	19	1	2	1	10	—	16	—	—	—	—
Cheese, Processed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	17	3	—
Cocoa	—	19	1	—	—	—	1	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coconut	—	2	2	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coffee	—	—	—	—	1	19	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Confectionery	83	10	—	—	61	6	2	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dhall	—	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
Egg Albumen	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	14	1	—
Egg, Dried	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	3	4
Egg, Frozen	1	4	2	—	—	4	3	14	488	19	2	24	146	4	2	24
Egg Yolk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	16
Fish	—	—	2	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fish, Canned	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Flour	—	15	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fondant	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fruit	—	—	—	—	2	9	2	6	5	13	2	8	1	5	—	—
Fruit, Canned	—	—	—	—	18	5	2	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fruit, Dried	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fruit Juice and Pulp	—	—	—	—	17	17	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gherkins	—	—	—	—	—	17	1	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lard	—	—	—	—	—	8	3	18	—	—	2	17	—	—	—	—
Lentils	—	3	3	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maize	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Margarine	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meat	—	16	2	—	—	9	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	2	11
Meat, Canned	6	4	—	8	30	16	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	2	1	24
Milk, Canned	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Milk Powder	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mushrooms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	16	—	—
Mustard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Nuts	4	5	2	27	—	11	3	3	—	3	2	8	80	—	—	—
Offals	—	6	2	—	1	1	3	18	—	—	—	—	—	16	—	—
Onions	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peas	3	19	2	13	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poultry	—	—	—	—	—	19	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poultry, Canned	—	—	—	—	—	6	3	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Potatoes	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premier Jus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	23	5	2	—
Preserves	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rice	7	8	2	1	—	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	9	—	—
Sausage, Smoked	—	—	—	—	14	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Soups, Canned	—	—	—	—	—	16	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sugar	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tapioca	—	4	3	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	14	—	—
Tomatoes	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomatoes, C'ned	—	—	—	—	11	18	—	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomato Juice	—	—	—	—	—	6	2	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomato Ketchup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Tomato Paste	—	—	—	—	—	12	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomato Puree	—	—	—	—	15	8	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Various	2	11	—	—	109	12	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vegetables, C'ned	—	—	—	—	4	6	—	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	162	15	2	11	311	4	1	21	500	15	1	14	303	6	3	23

# WORK OF THE WHARVES AND FOOD INSPECTORS, 1958.

		Mr. BUTCHER	Mr. TAPSFIELD	Mr. CAMPBELL	Mr. HANCOCK	TOTALS
Visits	Food Wharves and Depots	2013	1348	1443	—	4804
	Food Factories	148	235	143	—	526
	Food Stores	447	343	417	133	1340
	Condemnation of Food	252	565	447	71	1335
	Milksellers	—	—	—	192	192
	Ice Cream Premises	—	—	—	60	60
	Pharmacy and Poisons	—	—	—	41	41
	Catering Establishments	—	—	—	744	744
	Various	113	71	157	653	994
	Consignments of Imported Food detained	85	98	56	—	239
Number of samples taken for analysis	Certificates issued for Unsound Food	470	313	328	55	1166
	Intimations Served	2	—	—	47	49
	Food and Drugs	788	—	—	—	788
	Imported Food Regulations	28	30	58	—	116
	Egg Products	91	260	22	—	373
	Frozen Foods	—	—	—	6	6
	Fish, Canned	—	6	—	—	6
	Jellied Eels and Shellfish	—	—	7	10	17
	Canned and Cooked Meats	—	—	3	8	11
	Other Foods	—	—	—	2	2
	Milk (Special Designation) Regulations	—	—	—	180	180
	Milk for T.B.	—	—	—	2	2
	Milk for Brucella Abortus	—	—	—	1	1
	Ice Cream	—	—	—	47	47



## STREET AND OPEN MARKETS

## Bermondsey Square (New Caledonian)

Number of licences in operation ....	248
Income for 1958 ....	£3677 15 6

## Street Markets

Total Income for 1958 ....	£3983 3 6
Number of licences in operation :	
Albion Street ....	7
Bermondsey Street ....	43
Railway Approach ....	15
Southwark Park Road ....	38
Tower Bridge Road ....	30
Trident Street ....	2
Various ....	15
Total	150

There were no prosecutions for unlicensed trading during 1958.

# SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH

## HOUSING

During the year two areas were represented—the Cranham Road/Parfitt Road Area comprising 140 dwelling houses and 2 shops with dwellings over and the Alice Street Area comprising 11 houses and 1 shop with dwelling over.

The Borough Council completed 102 flats, 295 were in course of erection at the end of the year and plans for 994 were prepared or in course of preparation.

227 families from the waiting list, clearances areas etc. have been rehoused and 270 transfers and exchanges were arranged. This has resulted in 497 families being provided with improved accommodation by the Borough Council.

357 families were rehoused by the London County Council and 23 families were accommodated in new towns.

33 E.F.M. Bungalows were demolished during the year and 175 remain.

## HOUSING ACT, 1957—OVERCROWDING

The following new cases of overcrowding have been encountered during the year:—

In private dwellings	14
In Bermondsey Borough Council dwellings	7
In London County Council dwellings	1
Total	22

Total number of cases of overcrowding at present on the Register	105
--	-----

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

The following table shows the fumigations carried out during 1958:—

	Disinfested
Council houses or flats	65
Other houses or flats	173



# INSPECTIONS, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

Hereunder will be found particulars of Inspections, Proceedings, etc., for the year 1958:—

## INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .....	2,836
(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose	19,335
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 .....	103
(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose	187
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	131
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding subhead) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .....	36

## 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 .....	663
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## ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:—

### (A) Proceedings under the Housing Act, 1957:—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .....	Nil.
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a)	By owners .....	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners .....	Nil

### (B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .....	1,417
-----	--	-------

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners	499
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	3

(C) Proceedings under Housing Act 1957:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	2
(2) Number of dwelling-house in respect of which Closing Orders were made	2
(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
(4) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	10
(5) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit....	Nil

PROSECUTIONS UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH (LONDON) ACT, 1936:—

(1) Number of prosecutions	4
(2) Fines imposed	—
(3) Costs awarded	£12 12 0

#### REGISTERED PREMISES—

Premises	Number on Register at end of 1957	Number of Inspections	Number of Prosecutions
Common Lodging Houses	2	69	—
Milkshops	134	192	—
Ice Cream Premises	201	60	—
Offensive Trades (including Poultry Slaughter-houses)	8	18	—
Hairdressers and Barbers	51	175	—



**SMOKE NUISANCES—**

Number of observations	....	....	....	....	213
Number of notices	....	....	....	....	—
Number of complaints	....	....	....	....	4
Number of summonses	....	....	....	....	—

**SALE OF FOOD—**

Number of premises used other than ice-cream premises, milk-shops and cowsheds	....	....	....	....	609
Number of inspections	....	....	....	....	2,590

**RAG, FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951:**

Number of premises registered	....	....	....	....	3
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**DRAINAGE WORK**

Particulars of work carried out by the Drainage Inspector during 1958:—

Drains Tested	....	....	....	....	482
Visits to new building works	....	....	....	....	1,123
Other Visits	....	....	....	....	378
Total visits	....	....	....	....	1,983

**RENT ACT, 1957**

Number of applications for Certificates of Disrepair	....	....	....	....	121
Number of decisions not to issue Certificates	....	....	....	....	—
Number of decisions to issue Certificates—					
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	....	....	....	....	106
(b) in respect of all defects	....	....	....	....	15
Number of undertakings given by landlords	....	....	....	....	100
Number of undertakings refused	....	....	....	....	—
Number of Certificates issued	....	....	....	....	21
Number of applications by landlords for cancellation of certificates	....	....	....	....	13
Number of objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	....	....	....	....	—
Number of decisions to cancel in spite of tenants' objection	....	....	....	....	—
Number of Certificates cancelled	....	....	....	....	13

## WORK OF DISTRICT INSPECTORS, 1958.

		Mr. SMITH	Mr. SHAKESPEARE	Mr. WHITELOCK	Mr. KNOTT	Mr. CHARLTON	TOTALS
1	House-to-House ....	267	114	168	449	95	1093
2	Special Inspections ....	1276	619	747	675	1064	4381
3	Complaints ....	245	417	304	445	443	1854
4	Infectious Diseases ....	76	140	110	105	336	767
5	Rats ....	—	86	37	23	30	176
6	Outworkers' Inspection ....	17	19	11	11	25	83
7	Drains Tested ....	21	51	10	14	39	135
8	Other Calls and Visits ....	1593	2598	1851	3835	1145	11022
9	Chimneys watched ....	26	146	3	2	36	213
10	Bakehouses ....	14	22	52	12	3	103
11	Common Lodging Houses ....	41	28	—	—	—	69
12	Butchers ....	86	106	183	111	48	534
13	Fishmongers, Friers and Curers	21	20	156	28	17	242
14	Food Stores ....	80	123	322	171	64	760
15	Fruiterers and Greengrocers ....	8	19	127	28	22	204
16	Pet Animals ....	1	—	57	1	3	62
17	Markets ....	121	—	3	83	82	289
18	Restaurants and Eating Houses....	—	14	57	2	8	81
19	Destruction of Food ....	27	18	7	19	21	92
20	Hairdressers ....	23	23	88	22	19	175
21	Factories ....	33	81	19	68	171	372
22	Inspections under Rent Act, 1957	—	166	3	36	51	256
23	Offensive Trades ....	17	—	—	1	—	18
TOTALS { Visits ....		3993	4810	4315	6141	3722	22981
{ Intimation Notices ....		217	194	303	491	223	1428



## FACTORIES AND OTHER PREMISES INSPECTION

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) <b>Factories</b> in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .....	227	489	—	—
(ii) <b>Factories</b> not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	414	616	—	—
(iii) <b>Other Premises</b> in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) .....	49	198	—	—
<b>Total</b> .....	690	1303	—	—

## DEFECTS FOUND

Particulars	Number of Cases in which Defects were found				Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.) .....	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.) .....	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.) .....	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6.) .....	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)—					
Insufficient .....	1	—	—	1	—
Unsuitable or Defective	2	2	—	1	—
Not separate for Sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences .....	—	—	—	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work)					
<b>Total</b> .....	3	2	—	2	—

# **FACTORIES AND OTHER PREMISES**

# **HOMEWORK**

NATURE OF WORK	Section 110			Section 111		
	Number of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	Number of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel—						
Making .....	31	—	—	—	—	—
Sacks .....	8	—	—	—	—	—
Making of boxes, etc. ....	5	—	—	—	—	—
Carding of Buttons, etc. ....	5	—	—	—	—	—
Christmas Crackers ....	1	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>



# RODENT CONTROL

## Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

	Type of Property			
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	All other (including Business and Industrial)	Total
I. Total number of properties in Local Authorities District ....	33	15,164	2,283	17,552
II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1953 as a result of (a) of notification or (b) otherwise.	(a) 14	276	140	430
	(b) 14	—	664	678
III. Number of properties (under II) found to be infested by rats. ....	Major 1	—	9	10
	Minor 15	160	250	425
IV. Number of properties (under II) found to be seriously infested by mice	7	116	137	260
V. Number of infested properties (under III and IV) treated by the Local Authority ....	23	276	288	587
VI. Number of Notices served under Section 4:—				
1. Treatment ....	—	—	—	—
2. Structural Works (i.e. Proofing) ....	—	—	—	—
Total ....	—	—	—	—
VII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of Notice under Section 4....	—	—	—	—
VIII. Legal Proceedings ....	—	—	—	—
IX. Number of "block" control schemes carried out ....				9

### FACTORY BAKEHOUSES

There are nine factory bakehouses in use, all of them situated above ground.

Type of Property				
Total	All other (including Business and Industrial)	Dwelling Houses	Local Authority	
17,522	2,282	12,147	33	I. Total number of properties in Local Authorities District
430	140	270	14	II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority
678				III. Number of properties found to be defective

### HOUSE, TRADE AND MARKET REFUSE

The following table shows the amount of house, trade and market refuse disposed of during 1958 :—

Disposal	Loads	tons	cwts.	qrs.
House Refuse to Barge ....	10,890	16,536	5	—
Trade Refuse to Barge .....	4,568	5,620	4	—
Street and Open Markets Refuse to Barge ....	887	482	6	—
Totals ....	16,345	22,638	15	—

### OFFENSIVE TRADES

The offensive trades on the Register are as follows :—

Fellmongers ....	3	Dresser of Fur Skins ....	4
Glue and size makers ....	1		

### PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

During the year 5 licences to keep a pet shop were granted. Two of these were in respect of stalls in market places.

Inspections are made to ensure that the terms of the licence are complied with.