

Annual report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1963.

Contributors

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METROPOLITAN
BOROUGH OF BERMONDSEY



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1963

J. E. EPSOM, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.I.H.
Medical Officer of Health



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MUNICIPAL OFFICES,

SPA ROAD, S.E.16.

Tel: Bermondsey 2441

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(As at 31st December, 1963)

Chairman ...	...	Councillor Mrs. E. V. Coyle, J.P.
Vice-Chairman ...	...	Councillor L. A. J. Henley
Alderman A. M. Downing		Councillor G. A. Freestone
" A. V. Kidd	"	Mrs. M. A. Henley
Councillor Mrs. L. N. Brown	"	Jos. Mahoney
" Mrs. S. L. Creswick	"	W. E. Nicklin
" W. L. Ellis	"	T. J. Osborn
" F. W. Florance	"	Miss M. A. Roll
" Mrs. A. E. Freestone	"	G. H. Tindall

Ex-Officio

Councillor E. A. Rowe J.P., Mayor of Bermondsey

STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

J. E. Epsom, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.I.H.

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

William Stott, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

F. L. Richardson, M.A.P.H.I.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

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

PUBLIC ANALYST

Dr. Hugh Amphlett Williams, F.R.I.C.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

W. A. Campbell (Appointed Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector & Wharves Inspector Sept. 1963)

H. E. Butcher, Wharves Inspector.

W. C. Tapsfield, Wharves Inspector.

A. W. Hancock, Food and Drugs Inspector.

W. F. Smith, (Appointed Smoke Inspector & Drainage Inspector Sept. 1963)

L. T. Knott, District Inspector.

G. Shakespeare, District Inspector.

W. T. Evans, District Inspector.

M. W. Bridgman, District Inspector

CLERICAL STAFF

H. D. White (Senior Clerk).
A. E. Gambrell.
E. T. Hodgkins.
G. A. Blake.
T. W. Pheby.
E. M. Watkins.
C. Luff (Transferred to Borough Treasurer's Dept. May 1963)
G. V. Mersh.
Miss C. A. Edwards (Appointed Welfare Assistant, September 1963)
A. Pike, (Student Public Health Inspector) (Appointed May 1963)
E. G. Swainsbury (Appointed November 1963)

CLEAN AIR ASSISTANT

H. E. Staples

PUBLIC HEALTH ASSISTANTS

W. R. White, S.R.N.
Mrs. N. T. Witherden, S.R.N.
Mrs. D. W. Beeton, S.E.N. (Resigned November 1963)

MUNICIPAL CLUB ORGANISER

Mrs. M. V. Reynolds, M.W.I.

STREET AND OPEN MARKETS

J. A. Hart
C. E. Featherstone } Supervisors.

DISINFECTING AND CLEANSING STATION

J. J. Roberts, Supervisor
1 Foreman Disinfector & Drain Tester.
3 Cleansing Station Attendants.
2 Disinfectors/Washing Machine Attendants.
2 Laundresses.
1 Stoker.

RODENT CONTROL

A. T. Bladon, Rodent Control Supervisor.
2 Rodent Operators.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

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

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Borough of Bermondsey

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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

I have the honour to present to you for your consideration a report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Borough for 1963.

The number of deaths in the Borough shows a slight increase over last year. Those for malignant neoplasm have fallen and the number caused by coronary disease/angina have increased. There was a marked increase in the number of notified cases of infectious disease caused, mainly, by the usual tri-annual outbreak of measles and double the number of cases of Acute Gastro Enteritis than occurred in 1962 although it is interesting to note that the number of cases of food poisoning dropped from 32 in 1962 to 14 in 1963.

The week-end meals service for the homebound elderly continues to increase and has proved to be a most worthwhile service. During the year its future seemed to be in jeopardy as the frozen food used ceased to become available. Through the kindness of the Governor's of Guy's Hospital the meals are now supplied by the kitchens of the hospital and I would like to record my grateful thanks to them for their co-operation.

In October the Women's Voluntary Service opened a meals club at their headquarters in Brunel Road on two days a week and in a very short time it was working to capacity, an indication of the excellence of the service provided.

Under the provisions of the National Assistance Act 1948 (Amended 1962) the Department assumed responsibility for a number of services previously provided by the Bermondsey & Rotherhithe Council for the Welfare of Old People. Grants were made to 398 elderly persons towards a holiday and outings were arranged for the elderly homebound to the seaside or country.

No cases of persons needing compulsory removal to hospital or old persons' home were encountered during the year but 3 old people agreed to admission voluntarily. This is undoubtedly due to the patience and kindly persuasive powers of the staff engaged in this work.

Included in my report is data on the investigation of lacquer hair spraying and an article I have had published in Guy's Gazette on Air Pollution.

Five outbreaks of paratyphoid B occurred during the year—in Edinburgh, Cambridgeshire, Carshalton, Lewisham and in the East Riding of Yorkshire. These outbreaks emanated in each case from bakehouses where Chinese Frozen Whole Egg had been used for cake and pastry making. Consignments of Chinese Frozen Whole Egg, along with other imported egg, had shown food poisoning organisms from time to time by bacteriological examination and had been detained. However, negative bacteriological results had been shown to be unreliable when resampling had established that some of this ostensibly satisfactory egg had, in fact, contained food poisoning organisms. Chinese Frozen Whole Egg was the only imported egg to have occasionally grown the paratyphoid organism, although extensive sampling had been carried out on all imported egg, from whatever source. Whilst no direct evidence was available that this egg had caused the outbreaks (the paratyphoid organism was not found in samples taken from the bakehouses) nevertheless the circumstantial evidence was very strong, and a cargo already detained by this authority had contained a batch positive for paratyphi B. Accordingly, I decided that the only safe method of dealing with this product was for all of it to be pasteurised and I issued instructions that all unpasteurised Chinese Frozen Whole Egg in stock in Bermondsey and arriving in the borough in the future must be held under detention for pasteurisation, by which it would become a perfectly safe product. At a meeting of the egg importers at my office unanimous agreement was reached that

- (a) No more unpasteurised Chinese Frozen Whole Egg should be imported.
- (b) That existing stocks should only be released to the public after pasteurisation.
- (c) That there be uniformity of action on these lines throughout the United Kingdom.

The Ministry of Health were immediately informed and the Minister of Health in written answer to a parliamentary question stated that no further unpasteurised Chinese Frozen Whole egg would be imported and existing stocks pasteurised.

In conclusion I would like to say that no praise is too high for the members of the egg trade, who showed the fullest co-operation in this matter.

May I extend my thanks to members of the Council and to the Public Health Committee for their support and encouragement during the year, also to all members of the staff for their help and loyal support.

I am, Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. E. EPSOM.

VITAL STATISTICS.

AREA

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

POPULATION

Census		Estimate of Registrar-General	
1951	1961	to 30th June, 1962	to 30th June, 1963
60,640	51,860	51,000	50,540

Rateable Value, 1st April, 1963	£4,088,666
Actual net product of 1d. rate, 1962/63	£6,417 18s. 5d.
Estimated number of separately assessed dwellings, 1st April, 1963	15,183

In the following Table will be found particulars of deaths from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System since the year 1953.

BIRTHS

The total number of births belonging to the borough registered during 1963 was 899 consisting of 449 males and 450 females. The number for 1962 was 870.

	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Live Births	886
Live Births, rate per 1,000 population	17.52
Still Births	13
Still Births, rate per 1,000 live and still births	14.46
Total live and still births	899
Infant Deaths	14
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births (Total)	15.80
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births (legitimate)	16.98
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births (illegitimate)	—
Neo-natal Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	7.90
Illegitimate live births % of total live births	6.99
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 1963 was 640, consisting of 329 males and 311 females. The number for 1962 was 588. The death rate for 1963 was 12.6 per thousand persons living, compared with 11.5 for 1962.

MARRIAGES

The total number of marriages in the borough in 1963 was 394 being 37 below the average for the last 10 years.

The figures have been supplied by the Superintendent Registrar.

Year	No.	Rate
1953	520	17.52
1954	475	16.21
1955	501	17.40
1956	468	16.60
1957	430	15.70
1958	357	13.30
1959	370	13.70
1960	374	14.03
1961	410	12.43
1962	410	8.03
Average for years 1953-1962	431	14.59
1963	394	7.80

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Year	Whole Borough		London	
	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Births	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Births
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
1958	18	19	1,218	22·60
1959	17	19	1,238	22
1960	23	27	1,232	21·61
1961	18	19	1,282	21·53
1962	13	15	1,316	21·0
Average for years 1953-1962		21	1,197	21·9
1963	14	15	1,385	21·8

TUBERCULOSIS OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM

In the following Table will be found particulars of deaths from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System since the year 1953.

Year	Whole Borough		London	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
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
1958	6	0·11	379	0·12
1959	4	0·07	343	0·11
1960	3	0·06	235	0·07
1961	5	0·09	294	0·09
1962	4	0·07	252	0·08
Averages for years 1953-1962		0·19	435	0·13
1963	5	0·09	265	0·08

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1963.

Causes of Death	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.																	
	Total All Ages		Under 4 weeks		4 weeks & under 1 year		1—4		5—14		15—24		25—34		35—44		45—54	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, other ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Syphilitic disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	6	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	19	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	35	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diabetes ...	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	21	39	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coronary disease, angina ...	73	59	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

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 Gastro Enteritis	Measles
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	Membranous Croup
Acute Primary Pneumonia	Meningococcal Infection
Acute Poliomyelitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Anthrax	Plague
Cholera	Puerperal Pyrexia
Continued Fever	Relapsing Fever
Diphtheria	*Scabies
Dysentery	Scarlatina or Scarlet Fever
Enteric Fever (includes Typhoid and Paratyphoid)	Small-pox
Erysipelas	Tuberculosis
Food Poisoning	Typhus Fever
Glanders	Whooping Cough
Hydrophobia in Man	
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

Fourteen 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 1963

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED												TOTALS PER WARD												TOTAL		
	At all Ages	At Ages—Year											Saints	Neckinger	Central	Tunnel	Dockyard	Park	Raymouth	South	Thorburn	Willow Walk	South West	Abbey		Leather Market	Non Parishioners
		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 over															
Scarlet Fever ...	41	1	11	21	6	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	6	8	2	1	2	2	—	5	3	2	6	—	41
Whooping Cough ...	26	4	13	7	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	9	1	6	2	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	26
Measles ...	679	38	429	201	10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	41	58	90	87	73	40	40	16	36	31	46	40	81	—	679
Dysentery ...	70	5	22	6	3	7	2	6	4	5	2	8	2	2	3	2	5	10	5	4	3	6	10	7	3	8	70
Meningococcal Infection	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia ...	22	2	2	—	1	1	—	1	3	1	3	8	—	1	1	1	7	2	—	3	3	—	1	1	1	1	22
Erysipelas ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Food Poisoning ...	14	—	2	3	—	1	2	2	2	1	1	—	2	3	2	3	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	14
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	7	—	—	—	—	1	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	7	
Acute Gastro Enteritis ...	665	34	114	71	69	52	35	79	76	55	41	39	23	61	130	215	65	24	25	20	23	14	10	45	9	1	665
Scabies ...	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	28	—	4	1	2	—	—	5	3	2	4	7	—	1	1	7	—	2	2	2	1	3	4	2	3	—	28
Other Forms	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
TOTALS	1559	84	599	311	93	64	44	95	90	64	52	63	74	130	233	335	155	85	76	50	67	60	77	100	106	11	1559

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEARS 1954-1963

Notifiable Disease	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Scarlet Fever	62	113	82	69	52	64	25	34	19	41
Whooping Cough	135	51	43	113	32	14	78	19	7	26
Acute Polio-Myelitis and Acute Polio-Encephalitis	—	14	2	—	2	—	2	—	—	—
Measles	183	1271	149	1099	268	635	218	879	239	679
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Dysentery	56	29	164	7	183	101	357	75	46	70
Meningococcal Infection	6	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia (Acute Primary and Acute Influenzal)	19	23	30	32	47	41	5	—	8	22
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fevers	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	7	7	4	3	3	5	1	2	2	1
Food Poisoning	7	12	19	7	33	47	43	47	32	14
Tuberculosis—										
Respiratory System	63	54	60	76	51	46	26	36	27	28
Other Forms	10	6	6	—	9	2	4	3	—	2
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	2	—	—	1	21	46	7
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—
*Acute Gastro-Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	194	329	152	307	665
Scabies	5	4	4	7	11	3	9	2	2	2
*Notifiable as from 1st January 1959										
TOTALS	558	1588	564	1420	691	1152	1098	1276	740	1559

OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE

The visiting of the elderly in the Borough has continued throughout the year. The District Nurses, Home Helps, Hospital Almoners and others who are in frequent touch with the elderly all assist by drawing attention to those they meet who require the assistance of the various welfare services provided by the Council.

The fullest use was made of the bathing service provided at the Council's Cleansing Station and of the domiciliary service. An average of 47 persons per week were bathed either in their own homes or in the Cleansing Station.

The Council continued to act as agents for the Council for the Welfare of Old People in operating the Meals on Wheels Service and the meals served to the Municipal Club until 31st March, when under the provisions of the 1962 amendment to the National Assistance Act 1948 they became directly responsible for operating this important service. At the same time opportunity was taken to reduce the charge to old people from 1/1d. to 1/- whilst keeping the cost of the meal at 2/3d. Because requests for the Meals on Wheels had increased considerably it was found necessary to introduce a fourth unit to meet the demand.

There was also an increase in the demand for the Weekend Meals service. It will be recalled that this service was introduced in May 1961 to supply a hot meal at weekends to handicapped and homebound persons unable to prepare or to obtain a meal, the food used being individual portions frozen in sealed bags which could be quickly heated by immersion in boiling water. The summer brought misgivings as to the future of this service when it was learned that production of this particular range of food would cease at the end of June. Fortunately sufficient stocks were procured to enable the service to continue whilst other arrangements were made. It was through the kindness of the Governor's of Guy's Hospital that a solution to this problem was quickly found. The Board of Governors readily agreed to the suggestion that the meals for this special group of persons should be cooked in the hospital kitchens and delivered by Council staff. The new arrangement started from the beginning of October. I was most impressed by the interest and enthusiasm shown by Guy's for this service.

The local section of the Womens' Voluntary Service offered to open a luncheon club for experimental period for old people living in the Rotherhithe Area where their premises are situated. The accommodation, utensils and staff were to be found by the W.V.S. and the Council to supply the food. The Council accepted the offer and from the first week in October the club opened on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There is every indication that this venture will be successful and there may possibly be justification for it to be extended to more than two days each week.

The following table sets out the number of meals provided during the year:

	<i>Meals on Wheels</i>	<i>Municipal Club</i>	<i>Weekend Meals</i>	<i>W.V.S. Luncheon Club</i>
January	2,657	934	139	—
February	2,521	1,146	147	—
March	2,729	858	191	—
April	2,651	1,106	169	—
May	3,085	1,146	146	—
June	2,483	858	210	—
July	1,984	1,106	168	—
August	2,583	821	204	—
September	2,774	937	234	—
October	3,097	1,234	245 (Guy's)	171
November	2,882	1,206	307 „	196
December	2,610	834	300 „	194
	<u>33,056</u>	<u>12,185</u>	<u>2,460</u>	<u>561</u>

Under the provisions of the National Assistance Act 1948 (Amendment) Act, 1962 the Council, as from 1st April, 1963, also assumed responsibility for the provision of recreation for old people. Arrangements were made for 179 elderly people to spend holidays at the seaside and a standard grant was made in each case, the balance of the cost being met by the individual. The same rate of grant was paid to 219 people proceeding on holiday under private arrangements.

The Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Council for the Welfare of Old People have for some years arranged afternoon outings for the elderly homebound as these old people rarely have the opportunity of seeing something of the countryside. The Council decided to continue with this greatly appreciated activity and during the year four afternoon outings were arranged consisting of a ride into the countryside with a stop for tea on the way. Those who by reason of infirmity were unable to get to a central point to board the coach were collected from their homes and returned at the end of the day. Some 300 old people participated in these outings, the success of which was in no small measure due to the kindness, courtesy and great consideration shown by the coach drivers.

Arrangements were made for fireguards to be fitted in the homes of 37 elderly people. I appreciate the co-operation shown by owners of property in the Borough in helping to reduce a very real risk of accidents to those who are frail and infirm.

During the year 82 articles of home nursing equipment held by the Council on behalf of the Red Cross were issued on loan.

MUNICIPAL CLUB

The Club in its sixth year has considerably increased its membership which now totals 628.

The members were fortunate in having made available to them extensive additional accommodation which allowed for an enlarged dining room, a rest room, a television room and an extra recreation room. New furnishings and furniture were purchased with the result that the Club now provides an excellent meeting place for the elderly people of the Borough where they may find companionship, entertainment and relaxation.

The programme of entertainments followed the pattern established in previous years, namely Whist Drives, 'Bingo', Old Time Dancing, Darts, and Arts and Crafts classes.

Theatre parties were arranged for the annual visit to the pantomime and to see 'My Fair Lady'. Visits were also made to the 'Corona' factory at Finchley and to the 'Ovaltine' factory at Kings Langley.

The Club members and the members in the Workrooms chose a trip to Southsea for their Annual Outing and they were accompanied by the Mayor and Mayoress and other Members of the Council. Further outings were also made to the Isle of Wight and to the Kent hopfields.

Arrangements were made in May for a group of the membership who are handicapped to be taken to Eastbourne for the day. This particular section of the Club have limited opportunity to join in the Club's activities. However, special arrangements are made on Thursdays to provide transport so that they can be brought to the Club. Plans are in hand for the purchase of an ambulance which will allow them more frequent visits.

A member of the staff kindly gave talks, which he illustrated with film, on India, Ceylon and Spain. The Entertainments Officer also assisted during the year by arranging for concert parties to entertain the members.

The members in the Workrooms have been fully engaged throughout the year in fulfilling the contracts arranged for them. Some examples of the work undertaken are the assembling of suspender belts, packing knitting needles, preparing manilla folders and cutting braids for braces. It will be seen that none of this work is too exacting. The value of the Workrooms in helping to rehabilitate elderly people who have suffered some psychological upset cannot be underestimated.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 47

During the year under report no cases were encountered which warranted compulsory action under the provisions of Section 47, or of the Amendment Act of 1951.

During the course of the year three old persons agreed voluntarily to be admitted to a home for the elderly and the necessary arrangements were made.

Section 50

It is the Council's responsibility under this Section of the Act to arrange for burial or cremation of a person dying in the Borough when there are no relatives, or other persons, who would be prepared to make the funeral arrangements. Where possible in such cases the Council's expenses, inclusive of an administrative charge, are recoverable from the deceased's estate.

During the year under report six burials were arranged and particulars of these cases are given hereunder:

1. Miss L. P. Found dead in her flat and burial arranged at the request of next-of-kin who indicated that he could not meet the cost. Council's expenses recovered from deceased's estate.
2. Still-born Body recovered from Thames and burial arranged at request of Coroner's Officer. Cost written off as irrecoverable.
3. Mr. E. J. T. Found dead in his flat and burial arranged at the request of stepson who subsequently met the Council's costs.
4. Mr. J. D. Found dead in men's hostel and, at the request of Coroner's Officer, funeral arrangements made in the absence of any known relatives. Council's costs partly reimbursed from estate.
5. Mr. A. R. A. Body recovered from Thames and funeral arrangements made at the request of Coroner's Officer as deceased's wife, from whom he had been separated for many years, was unable to meet the expense. Council's costs written off as irrecoverable.
6. Unidentified man Body recovered from Thames and burial arranged at request of Coroner's Officer. Council's costs written off.

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 11 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.

STREET AND OPEN MARKETS

Bermondsey Square (New Caledonian)

Number of licences in operation ...	...	...	...	237
Income for 1963 ...	...	...	£5738	5 0

Street Markets

Total Income for 1963 ...	...	...	£5165	11 0
Number of licences in operation:				
Albion Street ...	...	...	...	10
Bermondsey Street ...	...	...	...	53
Railway Approach ...	...	...	...	15
Southwark Park Road ...	...	...	...	56
Tower Bridge Road ...	...	...	...	30
Trident Street ...	...	...	...	2
Various ...	...	...	...	11
			Total	177

There were no prosecutions for unlicensed trading during 1963.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH

During the year two areas were represented—the New Place Area comprising 67 dwelling houses and 1 shop with dwelling over and the Cherry Garden Street Area comprising 9 dwelling houses.

The Borough Council completed 224 dwellings, 192 were in course of erection at the end of the year and plans for 663 were prepared or in course of preparation.

394 families from the waiting list, clearance areas etc. have been rehoused and 328 transfers and exchanges were arranged. This has resulted in 722 families being provided with improved accommodation by the Borough Council.

358 families were rehoused by the London County Council and 18 families were accommodated in new towns.

20 E.F.M. Bungalows were demolished during the year and 80 remain.

HOUSING ACT, 1957—OVERCROWDING

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

In private dwellings	8
In Bermondsey Borough Council dwellings	—
In London County Council dwellings	—
Total	8

Total number of cases of overcrowding at present on the Register	36
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ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

The following table shows the fumigations carried out during 1963:—

	Disinfested
Council houses or flats	46
Other houses or flats	62

INSPECTIONS, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

Hereunder will be found particulars of Inspections, Proceedings, etc., for the year 1963:—

INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1,572
(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose	9,654
(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	5
(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose	12
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	5
(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	78

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	611
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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	659
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(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners	177
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

(C) Proceedings under Housing Act 1957:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	3
(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	Nil
(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

(D) Twentyone underground rooms in properties owned by the Council were certified as unfit for human habitation.

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

(1) Number of prosecutions	3
(2) Fines imposed	—
(3) Costs awarded or received	£6 6 0

REGISTERED PREMISES—

Premises	Number on Register at end of 1963	Number of Inspections	Number of Prosecutions
Common Lodging Houses	1	34	—
Milkshops	119	108	—
Ice Cream Premises	196	104	—
Offensive Trades (including Poultry Slaughter-houses)	8	28	—
Hairdressers and Barbers	65	124	—

SMOKE NUISANCES—

Number of observations	....	....	....	141
Number of notices	....	....	....	—
Number of complaints	....	....	....	10
Number of summonses	....	....	....	—

SALE OF FOOD—

Number of premises used other than ice-cream premises, milk-shops and cowsheds	....	....	503
Number of inspections	....	....	2,458

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 1963:—

Drains Inspected	....	....	....	765
Drains tested	....	....	....	426
Other Visits	....	....	....	408
Total visits	....	....	....	1,599

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

All houses in the Borough are connected to the main drainage system, the sewage passing to the London County Council's main sewers and to sewage disposal works outside the Borough.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There is one registered Common Lodging House in the Borough which is inspected regularly to ensure compliance with the By-laws relating to such premises. It was not found necessary to take any action during the year.

WORK OF DISTRICT INSPECTORS, 1963.

		Mr. BRIDGMAN	Mr. KNOTT	Mr. SHAKESPEARE	Mr. SMITH	Mr. EVANS	TOTALS
1	House-to-House	41	45	32	2	33	153
2	Special Inspections ...	676	929	1485	1174	1470	5734
3	Complaints	436	449	461	149	522	2017
4	Infectious Diseases ...	205	601	294	226	511	1837
5	Rats	27	32	163	—	103	325
6	Outworkers' Inspection ...	29	16	26	9	45	125
7	Drains Tested	56	33	2	3	8	102
8	Other Calls and Visits ...	732	1784	1202	934	1329	5981
9	Chimneys watched	—	93	47	—	1	141
10	Bakehouses	3	10	31	7	16	67
11	Common Lodging Houses...	—	1	31	1	1	34
12	Butchers	42	136	122	70	23	393
13	Fishmongers, Friers and Curers	13	24	38	19	10	104
14	Food Stores	70	171	207	39	93	580
15	Fruiterers and Greengrocers	8	41	99	7	17	172
16	Pet Animals	2	1	—	—	2	5
17	Markets	104	75	37	63	2	281
18	Restaurants and Eating Houses	3	12	—	—	—	15
19	Destruction of Food ...	20	18	14	28	1	81
20	Hairdressers	12	47	36	16	13	124
21	Factories	189	53	165	37	48	492
22	Inspections under Rent Act, 1957	1	2	3	2	—	8
23	Offensive Trades	—	—	6	22	—	28
24	Inspections under Clean Air Act, 1956	6	433	258	472	118	1287
25	Houses in Multiple Occupa- tion	502	48	13	—	31	594
	TOTALS { Inspections ...	3177	5054	4772	3280	4397	20680
	{ Intimation Notices	114	160	108	65	222	669

FACTORIES ACTS, 1961 INSPECTIONS

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	178	201	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	395	1019	2	—
iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	31	62	—	—
Total	604	1282	2	—

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	2	2	—	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective	—	—	—	2	—
Not separate for Sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work)					
Total	2	2	—	2	—

WORK OF DISTRICT INSPECTORS, 1963.

OUTWORK

Nature of work	Number of out-workers in August lists as required by Sect. 110(1)(c)(2)	Number of Bermondsey residents included in lists
Wearing Apparel ...	23	15
Cotton Bag Stringing ...	17	10

Out-workers resident in Bermondsey notified by other Boroughs:

Nature of work	Number of Out-workers
Wearing Apparel ...	8
Lampshades ...	5
Showcards ...	6
Button Carding ...	1
Leather Goods ...	2

There were no instances of work in unwholesome premises and no notices were served or prosecutions undertaken.

WATER SUPPLY

The whole of the Borough is supplied direct from the public water mains of the Metropolitan Water Board. The Board is the authority responsible for the purity of the supply which has been satisfactory in quality and quantity throughout the year.

RENT ACT, 1957

There were no applications for certificates under this Act during the year.

RODENT CONTROL—Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council houses)	All others (inc. business premises)	Total
1. Number of properties	32	15,183	5,334	20,549
2. Number of properties found to be infested following inspection as result of:—				
(i) <i>Notification</i>				
Common Rat: Major	—	—	3	3
Minor	—	41	13	54
Ship Rat: Major	—	—	1	1
Minor	—	—	7	7
House Mouse: Major	—	—	—	—
Minor	1	162	58	221
(ii) <i>Survey under the Act.</i>				
Common Rat: Major	—	—	—	—
Minor	3	—	12	15
Ship Rat: Major	—	—	1	1
Minor	—	—	28	28
House Mouse: Major	—	—	—	—
Minor	1	—	21	22
(iii) <i>When visited primarily for some other purpose.</i>				
Common Rat: Major	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	15	—	15
Ship Rat: Major	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—
House Mouse: Major	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	16	—	16
3. Total number of infested properties treated by Local Authority ...	5	234	125	364
4. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments ...	5	234	128	367
5. Number of Notices served under Sect. 4 of the Act. ...	—	—	—	—
6. Number of "block" control schemes carried out ...	2			

FACTORY BAKEHOUSES

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

HOUSE, TRADE AND MARKET REFUSE

The following table shows the amount of house, trade and market refuse disposed of during 1963 :—

Disposal	Loads	tons	cwts.	qrs.
House Refuse to Barge	8,719	15,931	4	—
Trade Refuse to Barge	3,959	4,084	3	3
Street and Open Markets Refuse to Barge	1,489	668	7	—
Totals	14,167	20,683	14	3

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 1 licence to keep a pet shop was granted and this was in respect of a stall in a market place.

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

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are three swimming baths in the Borough open for public use, two indoor pools controlled by the Borough Council and one outdoor pool controlled by the London County Council. The water in each is examined for chemical and bacteriological condition at least once each summer during a period of peak use.

Bath	Controlled by	Source of water and capacity of Bath	Method of treatment	Frequency of change of water i.e. turn-over period	Filtration area available	Bacteriological Condition of Water		
						No. of micro organisms living and capable of developing upon agar at 37°C.	No. of micro organisms living and capable of developing upon agar at 22°C.	Coliform group, Cl. welchii Streptococci.
Central Baths 1st Class	Bermondsey Borough Council	Metropolitan Water Board 120,000 gals.	Continuous rapid filtration Breakpoint chlorination	4 hrs.	250 sq. ft.	Nil	1 per c.c.	Absent from 100 c.c.
Central Baths 2nd Class	Bermondsey Borough Council	Metropolitan Water Board 80,000 gals.	Continuous rapid filtration Breakpoint chlorination.			2 per c.c.	Nil	Absent from 100 c.c.
Southwark Park Open-air Pool	London County Council	Metropolitan Water Board 365,000 gals.	Filtration, chlorination and aeration. Wallace & Turner plant BD/PIM (chlorine injection 8 lbs. per hour)	8 hrs.	96 sq. ft.	8 per c.c.	29 per c.c.	Absent from 100 c.c.

LACQUER HAIR SPRAYING

A full report by M. Bergman and others, "Thesauriosis due to Inhalation of Hair Spray", New England Journal of Medicine, April 1962, suggested that hair sprays may have been responsible for a condition known as thesaurosia (storage disease), better called "hair spray lung disease" (A. I. G. McLaughlin and P. L. Bidstrup, "The Effects of Hair Lacquer Spray on the Lungs", Food and Cosmetics Toxicology, Vol. 1, 1963).

These simulated, in one instance, classical pulmonary sarcoidosis but, more generally, in the others, hilar gland enlargement and diffuse X-ray shadowing in the lung fields. Press and radio publicity was given on the subject in the UK with added warnings on the dangers, especially to hairdressers.

PUBLICITY

It was thought the condition might be due to types of hair sprays being used containing the plastic polyvinyl pyrrolidone, or those containing shellac. Either this publicity was alarmist or a serious hazard was in our midst about which we virtually knew nothing.

A survey to investigate this problem was carried out. First, a nominal roll of all hairdressers and their assistants was made by the public health inspectors, together with the age, sex, period of working at hairdressing, the type of spray being used, and the name of each person's medical practitioner. We felt there would be a potential occupational hazard if one or more persons at risk in Bermondsey showed the signs of this new disease. Accordingly, all hairdressers and their assistants agreed to come to our public health centre for chest X-ray. Approval for this procedure was obtained from their medical practitioners.

The survey covered 24 female hairdressing establishments, and included 14 male and 59 female hairdressers. All had been working with hair sprays for at least six months, the majority for several years. Nine different brands of hair spray were being used which, on analysis, were found to contain, with one exception, percentages of shellac varying between 5 and 7 per cent. The one exception contained no polyvinyl pyrrolidone but a nitrogenous film forming resin. The results of the X-rays are summarized in the accompanying table.

TOTAL X-RAYED	AGE GROUPS				
	Under 20	20-30	30-40	40-50	50
73	34	25	8	5	1
X-ray results					
Normal	64
Re X-rayed for comparison purposes and found to be normal	2
Seen by chest physician and myself and declared to be within normal limits...	7
TOTAL	73

Conditions in the hairdressing saloons which are regularly inspected by my staff were favourable. In all there was adequate ventilation which I think is the most important factor in the prevention of any chest disease.

It can be seen that no person working in female hairdressing establishments in Bermondsey where hair sprays of the shellac type were in continuous use was suffering from any effect that could be described in any way as relating to hair spray lung disease.

Perhaps the most useful aspect of carrying out the survey was the personal contacting of the general practitioners by telephone in seeking approval to X-ray their patients. All were keenly interested in the survey itself and readily gave their approval.

Several practitioners mentioned that since hair spraying became fashionable they had seen contact dermatitis in a limited number of patients. It occurred at the adjoining areas of skin to hair, namely the neck, the ears and the forehead.

In "Hazards of Beauty Culture", Part II, The Practitioner, September 1962, G. Hodgson confirms this when he states "contact dermatitis, usually from the lacquer, is seen on the ear, neck, and eyelids but the arms may also be involved."

Thus, an element of sensitivity of the individual to hair sprays is a fact and there is no reason why very rarely individuals may not develop an atypical sensitivity in pulmonary tissues which may eventually lead to storage.

It is a possibility, too, that where sprays are used very frequently, solvents or the propellant may affect the mucosa as well in some way, especially the cilia, e.g. "by anaesthetic effect", and prevent their proper functioning, thus allowing conditions favour-

able for this unusual storage to take place. Most of the particle sizes of the hair sprays are small enough to enter the alveoli (McLaughlin and Bidstrup).

SARCOIDOSIS

Dr. Read, general practitioner of Longfield, Kent, whose consent I obtained to X-ray a hairdresser working in Bermondsey, asked me to see a most interesting case of another female hairdresser, aged 28, who had had some 12 years experience and had been using sprays for seven years and who is now well and back at hairdressing in a part-time capacity.

She, in fact, in March 1962, had developed erythema nodosum with pyrexia and, subsequently, a classical picture of sarcoidosis developed with X-ray changes in the chest that could be mistaken for hair spray lung disease in view of her occupation.

She was treated in York, having temporarily moved to her mother's residence there, where she could be more carefully looked after. I am grateful to Dr. Laing, Consultant Medical Specialist at the County Hospital York, for forwarding full details of this case which indicates that hairdressers using lacquer hair sprays daily are as liable as any other person to develop ordinary sarcoidosis which, fortunately, is rare.

I am certain that hair spray lung disease is extremely rare and the diagnosis is not easy. However, withdrawals from hairspraying usually clears the X-ray picture to a variable, but significant, extent fairly quickly. There was no such clearing in the above mentioned case of sarcoidosis despite a long absence from work. Resumption of working in sprays has not affected the X-ray picture at all. The patient is now reasonably fit.

In any consideration of the hazards of lacquer hairspray, full reference must be made to the work of Dr. McLaughlin and Dr. Bidstrup whose very full and excellent account in "The Effects of Hair Lacquer Spray on the Lungs" covered a survey of 505 persons working in a representative cross-section of the female hairdressing business in the London area. This survey did not uncover a single case of their spray lung disease.

THESAUROSIS

However, as in the course of my investigations came the case mentioned earlier of sarcoidosis in a hairdresser from outside the Bermondsey area, so Dr. McLaughlin also had a lady referred to him from outside the London area, but she was proved, by exhaustive investigation, to be a fully established case of hair spray lung disease.

It can be seen that the likelihood of developing this disease is still very remote but that, nevertheless, one proved case exists out of 756 hairdressers examined; this being the total in all the various known surveys undertaken so far in the United Kingdom.

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

Surveys of properties in connection with the establishment of Smoke Control Areas continued throughout the year in accordance with the Council's objective of establishing one Area each year until the whole of the Borough is covered. During the year 5,422 visits were made by the staff of the Department.

The Bermondsey No. 5 (Leathermarket) Smoke Control Order, 1962

This Order came into force on 1st October, 1963 and details of the Smoke Control Area made by this Order are as follows:—

	Area: 105.5 acres
Types of properties within the Area:	
Industrial	81
Commercial	233
Dwellings	1,722
Others	19

Of the 1,722 dwellings exemptions were made in respect of 103 dwellings which are situated within Clearance or Redevelopment Areas.

Works of replacement and adaption of fireplaces were considered necessary in 998 dwellings and the provision of gas or electric points in 535 dwellings. The estimated total cost of these works is £18,333.

The Bermondsey No. 6 (Riverside) Smoke Control Order, 1963.

This Order was made by the Council during 1963 and was awaiting confirmation at the end of the year. Details of the Smoke Control Area made by this Order are as follows:—

	Area: 166.1 acres
Types of properties within the Area:	
Industrial	44
Commercial	240
Dwellings	3,079
Others	30

Of the 3,079 dwellings exemptions were made in respect of 414 dwellings situated within Clearance and Redevelopment Areas.

Works of replacement and adaption of fireplaces are considered necessary in 842 dwellings. The estimated total cost of these works is £24,065. 3. 6d.

Notification was subsequently received from the Minister of Housing & Local Government that the South Eastern Gas Board were unable to undertake the servicing of the Area so far as supplies of open fire gas coke were concerned. In view of the Ministry's Circular 69/63 and the need for replanning of smoke control areas on a different basis where supplies of open fire coke are not available, the Council were requested to review the fuel and cost estimates for this Smoke Control Order and to submit revised schedules to the Minister.

The fuel and costs estimates were reviewed by the Council and also the question of smoke control areas generally consequent upon the terms of the Circular, and it was decided that no further action be taken in respect of this Order and that the programme for the making of further Smoke Control Orders be suspended.

The Council is represented on various bodies dealing with the problems of Clean Air such as the National Society for Clean Air and the Standing Conference of Co-operating Bodies and a number of Meetings have been attended by the Council's representatives.

INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The extent of atmospheric pollution has continued to be studied during the year in co-operation with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

Of the 1722 dwellings exemptions were made in respect of 103 dwellings which are situated within Clearance or Redevelopment Areas. I am grateful to Dr. Laing, Consultant Medical Officer at the County Hospital, York, for forwarding details of this case. Works of replacement and adaptation of fireplaces were considered necessary in 998 dwellings and the provision of gas or electric points in 332 dwellings. The estimated total cost of these works is £18,333.

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AIR POLLUTION

Few people nowadays are unaware of the blessings of really clean air; a trip outside the London area is usually necessary to obtain it.

What of the permanent residents of inner London who breathe polluted air by day and night, year by year? Obviously they are going to suffer pulmonary effects on a greater scale than rural or seaside dwellers. Statistics amply confirm this supposition insofar as bronchitis and cancer of the lung are concerned.

DEATH RATES PER THOUSAND/POPULATION

	1960		1961	
	Bronchitis	Cancer of the Lung and Bronchus	Bronchitis	Cancer of the Lung and Bronchus
England and Wales ...	.57	.48	.67	.49
Bermondsey ...	.8	.8	.9	.75
Bethnal Green ...	.88	.80	1.31	.78
Islington ...	.85	.81	1.10	.75
Poplar... ..	.85	.63	1.20	.59
Southwark ...	.94	.84	1.16	.79
Stepney ...	1.09	.56	1.09	.87

STANDARDISED MORTALITY RATIO

Statistics supplied by General Register Office, Somerset House

	1961			1961		
	expected	Males actual	S.M.R.	expected	Females actual	S.M.R.
Bermondsey	295.20	317	107	297.37	288	97
Southwark	484.39	630	130	494.18	618	125
Stepney	525.72	661	126	446.75	542	121
Poplar	363.41	379	104	339.42	335	99
Bethnal Green	276.45	290	105	288.55	278	96
Islington	1,223.29	1,337	109	1,296.82	1,253	97
Admin. County of London	—	—	105	—	—	96

The Standardised Mortality Ratio (S.M.R.) shows the number of deaths in each area as a percentage of the numbers which would have been expected had the sex/age mortality of England and Wales been experienced in these areas.

Pollution from Chimneys

In so important a matter what has been done, what is being done and what will be done to attenuate the serious long-term effects of air pollution? The answer lies in the hands of the residents themselves to demand cleaner air and to act accordingly. There has indeed been

a demand and action in Bermondsey. The Council, through its Public Health Committee and its officers, has effected considerable achievements already in lessening air pollution. The effort continues at an ever-greater pace and, well before the original target date for completion in 1970, the whole of the Borough will be covered by smoke control areas.

But, of course, controlling the visible smoke from chimneys is not the entire answer to air pollution; invisible sulphur oxides present a considerable problem in themselves. However, recent research suggests that sulphur is more dangerous when combined with carbonaceous particles as in non-controlled smoke emissions.

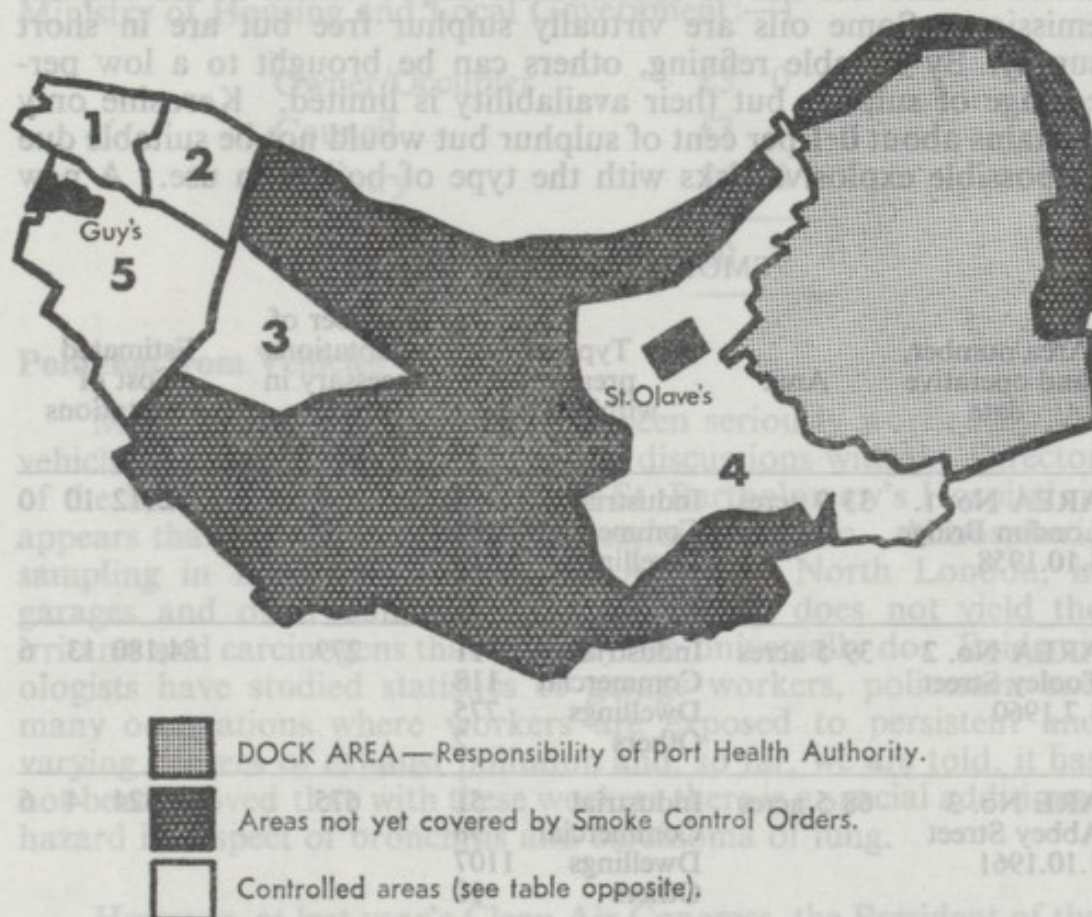
A lot of nonsense has been talked about the efficacy of smoke control under the Clean Air Act of 1956. It is now established beyond any reasonable doubt that the use of smokeless fuel in properly approved appliances has definite beneficial effects for the following reasons:—

- (i) Bituminous elements having been removed, the fuel burns clearly, i.e., without the greyish/black, yellow tinged smoke.
- (ii) Efficiency of the old type of coal fire grate is about 25%, whereas the new approved closed appliances are about 70% efficient. The gain of this efficiency means that only about half the quantity of fuel need be burnt to obtain the same heat and hence sulphur emission will be cut by one-third to a half.
- (iii) Existing industrial and commercial establishments are inspected by the Public Health Inspectors and advice for the improvement of the plant is given. If this advice is ignored, prosecution can be undertaken. Plans for new premises are only passed if boilers and fires are of the approved type.

As far as Bermondsey is concerned, the oil-fired burners of St. Olave's Hospital have an extremely good record and cause no trouble at all. It is not by chance that the hospital is in the centre of a big smoke control area. This is seen on the map as the No. 4 area of 237 acres.

Likewise it is not by chance that at the west end of the Borough the Nos. 1, 2 and 3 areas were already in operation from the dates stated on the map. On October 1st this year, No. 5 area comes into operation and this will include New Guy's House and the College. Thus a continuous area of smoke control will stretch along the Borough boundary from London Bridge, through Great Maze Pond, Crosby Row, Long Lane, Weston Street to the Old Kent Road, and eastwards from this boundary to some 250 acres. This should be of undoubted benefit to patients and staff alike at Guy's, as well as residents and other workers in the area.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF BERMONDSEY

Smoke Control
Areas

When an area is surveyed for smoke control all houses and premises are visited and a plan prepared. Each fireplace is inspected and an estimate obtained to convert it, if necessary, to an approved appliance, either solid fuel, gas, electricity or oil. When complete, the Minister approves the plan and a date is fixed for the operation of the Act. This involves an immense amount of work. Always the Inspectors have another area coming along so that work continues on two areas at the same time.

From an operative date the essential features are:—

- (i) It is an offence to emit smoke from any chimney and the offender is liable to prosecution;
- (ii) Only approved smokeless fuel to be used;
- (iii) Approved methods of lighting fires to avoid unnecessary smoke (e.g. gas pokers).

Having dealt with the domestic dwellings, the problem of the large, solid fuel boilers and oil-fired boilers as used in big establishments and factories remain. The conversion over to oil does not necessarily mean an improvement in the sulphur content. *Solid fuel*

and the *crude oils* (cheaper oils) contain about 3 per cent of sulphur. To effect an improvement therefore it is essential for conversion that oil to be used should contain not more than 1 per cent. This is aimed at and has shown considerable improvement in the sulphur emission. Some oils are virtually sulphur free but are in short supply. By suitable refining, others can be brought to a low percentage of sulphur but their availability is limited. Kerosine only contains about 0.1 per cent of sulphur but would not be suitable due to possible explosive risks with the type of boilers in use. A new

SMOKE CONTROL AREAS

Area number, and operative date	Area	Type of premises within Area	Number of adaptations necessary in private dwellings		Estimated Cost of Adaptations
AREA No. 1. London Bridge 1.10.1958	33.9 acres	Industrial Commercial Dwellings Others	4 144 19 3	7	£112 10 0
AREA No. 2 Tooley Street 1.7.1960	39.5 acres	Industrial Commercial Dwellings Others	11 118 775 2	279	£4,180 13 6
ARE No. 3 Abbey Street 1.10.1961	68.5 acres	Industrial Commercial Dwellings Others	51 98 1107 10	675	£5,324 4 6
AREA No. 4. Southwark Pk. 1.10.1962	237 acres	Industrial Commercial Dwellings Others	24 249 2984 32	2047	£33,730 0 0
AREA No. 5. Leathermarket 1.10.1963	105.5 acres	Industrial Commercial Dwellings Others	81 233 1722 19	1571	£18,333 1 3
TOTALS	484.4 acres	Industrial Commercial Dwellings Others	171 842 6607 66	4579	£61,680 9 3

Total area to be covered by Smoke Control Orders—1,135 acres.

package boiler installed in our Cleansing Station uses 35 second flash oil and only has 0.85 per cent of sulphur.

Thus, a methodical attack is being made on *smoke* and *sulphur* and the results show clearly that it is worthwhile.

The extent of the work and estimated cost can be seen from the map and table. From 1st October, 1963, a total of 484 acres will then be in operation out of an area of 1,135 acres, with a total

estimated cost of £61,680. The cost of an adaptation in, for example a £10 estimate will be shared as follows (following approval by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government:—)

Owner/Occupier	....	£3	0	0
Council	....	£3	0	0
Ministry	....	£4	0	0
		<hr/>		
		£10	0	0
		<hr/>		

Pollution from Vehicles

Many people, like myself, have been seriously worried by the vehicle pollution problem. Following discussions with the Director of the M.R.C. Air Pollution Unit at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, it appears that the chimney is still the serious problem. Atmospheric sampling in Blackwall Tunnel, the Archway, North London, in garages and other confined areas apparently does not yield the irritants and carcinogens that chimneys so universally do. Epidemiologists have studied statistics of garage workers, policemen and many occupations where workers are exposed to persistent and varying degrees of exhaust pollution and, so far, we are told, it has not been proved that with these workers there is a special additional hazard in respect of bronchitis and carcinoma of lung.

However, at last year's Clean Air Congress, the President of the National Society for Clean Air, Lord Cohen of Birkenhead, in a masterly address, pointed out that *Scheper*¹ has said, "about 3,000 chemical particles have been identified which can be dispersed in air; less than 10 per cent of these we know something about and less than 1 per cent of that which we know is relevant". Therefore it is easily seen what the enormity of the task will be to follow up effectively all known pollutants of air. Lord Cohen also revealed some further American work by *Mills*²: "in an interesting survey of lung cancer deaths in greater Cincinnati, it was found that there were highly significant correlations between deaths from lung cancer and three other variables, namely cigarette smoking, urban residence, and the number of miles driven annually in urban traffic. In a recent analysis of his findings he asserts that, in general, urban residents exposed in urban traffic for over 12,000 miles per annum exhibit over twice the lung cancer incident rates of those with lesser urban dwelling mileage".

I think it is still wise to suspect vehicle traffic pollution as being dangerous, especially at street level. It is clear, however, that all the specific researches are going to take time. Some means must be made available to lessen the intensity of vehicular pollution on our urban highways as soon as possible. To this end the Los Angeles

state authority have kept me informed of the progress being made. Temperature inversion occurs there most days of the year; mist comes in from the Pacific and is held by the Rocky Mountains surrounding; dreadful conditions have arisen because of the two million or so vehicles pouring out fume which is trapped. Three interesting effects of this smog have been noted there:—

- (i) Watering of eyes;
- (ii) Plants' normal green changed to a silvery colour;
- (iii) New tyres in stock becoming cracked.

Following a thorough investigation during the last three years it was discovered that a chemical reaction was taking place in the smog; the fume, nitrites and sunlight all combining in a reaction to form the complex substance effecting the above three conditions. As a result, various laws were passed, one of which was to provide that by a certain date ahead, all vehicles must be fitted with a state approved exhaust device (either catalytic or flame after-burner, or some other effective invention) to render fume as innocuous as possible. This has led to research and competition to win the approval of the authorities and hence market an effective instrument. There are hopes that a practical solution will be available for world use. Reports so far, however, suggest that, generally, the devices are inefficient when starting from cold, and in slow running. Their effectiveness is in the region of 12,000 miles.

However, exhaust pipe fume is not the only contaminant from vehicles; even in a new engine it is thought that "blow by" fume amounts to about 25 per cent of the total exhaust from the engine. "Blow by" fume comes out of the engine breather from the sump and contains, therefore, a high ratio of the *mineral oils*. This can be overcome to some extent by connecting the breather pipe to the air induction near the manifold and burning the fume in the cylinders. Also spilt oil on a hot engine leads to vaporisation. Worse still, older engines with the invariable oil leaks and overheating, vaporise much oil. The two-stroke engine as well, in which oil is placed in the petrol in definite amounts, presents further unpleasant fume with high mineral oil content, especially when starting up from cold.

It is through the conventional radiator grill that polluted air, mostly from vehicles in front in urban areas, passes at great speed and carries also some of the oil fumes from the engine onwards into the car since very few cars really have an effectively sealed body from the engine compartment. This gets worse in time as the various pedal shaft openings loosen up and the rubber seals disintegrate or slip off.

The additional contamination from "blow by" oil may be a serious one in view of the report³ that certain mineral oils used in

engines and gearboxes may possess *carcinogens* in varying amounts. There is also the carbon monoxide problem. Clearly, much research is needed here to confirm or dispel the danger. Body compartments on vehicles should be completely air-tight sealed from the engine. Air intake for heaters should not come from the engine compartment. Car manufacturers should find no difficulty in making the air intake from more suitable sites, and ducting even this air through inexpensive air conditioners (filtered by activated charcoal). A simple procedure on these lines would reduce the pollution burden for drivers who have to work persistently in dense traffic in urban areas.

However, all this does not help local residents and workers who have the additional heavy burden of vehicle air pollution to cope with. It is certain, with a vigorous programme of smoke control, that the chimney pollution can be effectively reduced. Progress in overcoming the pollution due to vehicles is at present virtually nil. A walk during business hours along Borough High Street, Tooley Street, Long Lane, Tower Bridge Road, Old Kent Road, or Jamaica Road, reveals the extent of the daily pollution. Something must be done either to reduce the exhaust fume and/or limit vehicles, and it would seem that there is not much chance of either in the immediate future. If ever a benefactor, whether State or private, is needed to fully endow research to clear our roads of this scourge, it is needed now. With hopes focused on the Los Angeles competition, should a practical means be invented to eliminate vehicle fume it would take some time to prove and increase its effectiveness. Then, if really effective, it would take further time to tool up for new vehicles and to fit the device to old vehicles.

I am certain that it will be possible to overcome all the difficulties and find the answer but, in my opinion, *the tempo of research has been, and still is, far too slow.*

Smoking

Finally, it will be clear from what has gone before that the hazards of air pollution are many. But why add to them unnecessarily? In a debate as long ago as 1954 at the Royal Society of Health, on smoking. I found it necessary to make the point that although there are the intrinsic hazards of smoking cigarettes per se, nevertheless there is still this further hazard which must be directly linked to all I have said previously, namely the inhalation of polluted air through the red hot ball of the cigarette tip. Here temperatures reach 600° to 800°C. and the pollutants mix, heat, activate, or combine and react.

The opportunities of some of the 3,000 known chemicals (mentioned before) are endless. It is known in industrial medicine that lead poisoning can develop quickly by smoking in certain parts of a lead factory. Similarly, smoking in various occupations where cer-

tain dusts or gases may be in the atmosphere increases the risk and speed of toxic reactions. Smoking in the presence of many of the halogenated hydrocarbons causes phosgene to be produced. Smoking in the presence of the dust of "Fluon", a plastic (polytetrafluoroethene), is liable to cause symptoms similar to metal fume fever. Of course, the Factories Act, 1961, and the regulations made under it, forbid smoking in specified occupations.

These examples relate to very short-term effects in risk occupations. However, persistent smoking in the ordinary way in our air polluted cities over the years must present a very real additional risk as far as bronchitis and cancer of lung are concerned.

REFERENCES

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- 2 MILLS, C. A. (1960). *Amer. J. Med.* SX, 239, 316.
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FOOD CONTROL

PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1937/48

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

As a riparian Borough with a considerable river frontage, Bermondsey has a vast quantity of imported foodstuffs arriving at the various wharves and Cold Stores, and the Wharves and Food Inspectors maintain constant surveillance to ensure that the cargoes are fit for human consumption. Their responsibilities include sampling for both bacteriological and chemical analysis.

The following samples were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year:

Egg Products	4,340
Desiccated Coconut	16
Frozen Prawns	340
Cheese	566
Canned Meats	3
	<hr/>
	5,265
	<hr/>

211 samples were taken for chemical analysis as follows:

Article Examined	No. of Samples	Purpose of Examination	Result	Action
Ampelopoulia (Pickled Birds)	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Apricots, Dried ...	2	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Arobon Powder ...	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Asparagus in Cheese Sauce	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Beef Gulyas ...	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Beetroot (Pickled) ...	1	For presence of preservatives	Contained 160 parts per million Benzoic Acid	Detained
Beetroot (Pickled) ...	2	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Beetroot (Pickled) ...	1	For presence of preservatives	Contained 70 parts per million Benzoic Acid	Warning letter to importer

Article Examined	No. of Samples	Purpose of Examination	Result	Action
Blackcurrants in Syrup	1	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Butter	6	To ascertain condition	Satisfactory	Released
Cake... ..	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Cake Mixes... ..	7	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Caviar of Lumpfish	1	For presence of preservatives	Contained 500 parts per million Benzoic Acid	Detained and re-exported
Cheese	5	To ascertain condition	Satisfactory	Released
Cheese Spread ...	2	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Coconut, Desiccated	5	To ascertain condition	Satisfactory	Released
Coffee Powder ...	1	To ascertain condition	Satisfactory	Released
Confectionery ...	3	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Cream, Artificial ...	2	To ascertain composition	Found to contain a prohibited thickening substance	Detained
Cucumbers, Pickled	2	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Curry Sauce ...	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Egg Albumen ...	1	To ascertain condition	Satisfactory	Released
Ginger	5	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Ginger	1	For presence of preservatives	Contained 280 parts per million Sulphur Dioxide	Warning letter to importer
Gooseberry Pulp ...	1	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Grape Juice ...	2	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Grapefruit Juice ...	1	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released

Article Examined	No. of Samples	Purpose of Examination	Result	Action
Groundnuts ...	1	To ascertain condition	Satisfactory	Released
Ham, Chopped ...	1	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Ice Cream Powder...	1	To ascertain composition	Label incorrect	Released with warning
Jam	4	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Java Crackers ...	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Lard... ..	2	To ascertain condition	Satisfactory	Released
Luncheon Meat ...	2	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Macaroni	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Margarine	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Meat Balls	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Melon	1	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Milk, Evaporated ...	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Milk Powder ...	2	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Morello Syrup ...	1	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Mushrooms, Pickled	1	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Mustard with White Wine	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Nutmeg, Ground ...	2	To ascertain condition	Contained large quantity of insect fragments	Detained
Nutmeg, Ground ...	1	To ascertain condition	Satisfactory	Released
Olive Oil	1	To ascertain condition	Found to be unfit for retail sale in United Kingdom	Discovered to be gift parcel
Orange Concentrate	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released

Article Examined	No. of Samples	Purpose of Examination	Result	Action
Ox Tongue, Canned	1	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Ox Tongue in Madeira Sauce	1	For composition and preservatives	Ingredients not fully stated on label	Released with warning
Plums, Canned ...	1	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Prunes ...	2	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Raspberry Juice ...	1	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Raspberry Syrup ...	1	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Ravioli ...	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Rice ...	4	To ascertain condition	Satisfactory	Released
Rye Bread ...	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Sald, Mixed ...	1	To ascertain composition	Ingredients not fully stated on label	Released with warning
Salad, Fruit... ..	1	To ascertain composition and for preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Sardines in Olive Oil	2	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Sauces ...	3	To ascertain composition and for preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Sauerkraut ...	1	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Seed, Fenugreek ...	1	To ascertain condition	Satisfactory	Released
Shrimps, Canned ...	10	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Soup... ..	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Soup Stock ...	2	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Soutjoukkos (Confectionery) ...	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released

Article Examined	No. of Samples	Purpose of Examination	Result	Action
Stewed Steak, Canned	2	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Strawberry Pulp ...	1	For presence of preservatives	Satisfactory	Released
Tea	34	For metallic contamination	Satisfactory	Released
Tomatoes, Canned...	3	For metallic contamination	Satisfactory	Released
Tomato Powder ...	2	For metallic contamination	Satisfactory	Released
Tomato Puree ...	27	To ascertain condition	Satisfactory	Released
Tomato Puree ...	19	To ascertain condition	Found to contain excessive mould	Detained
Trachanas (Biscuits)	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released
Turkish Delight ...	1	To ascertain composition	Satisfactory	Released

IMPORTED FROZEN PRAWNS				
101	340	samples of imported frozen prawns were taken during the year. Samples from six consignments showed bacteriological counts per gram at 37°C in excess of 2,000,000 and one disclosed the presence of <i>Salmonella typhimurium</i> . consignments were detained.		
8	1	Where a consignment showed a plate count of more than 250,000 the importer was warned that the prawns should be used immediately after defrosting.		
20	2	Surface plate count at 37°C		No. of samples
		Less than 250,000	3	220
		250,000—2,000,000	1	11
		More than 2,000,000	1	8
10	2	2		Concentrate...
18	19	6		Tomato Juice...
8	3	143		Tomato Paste...
				Tomato Puree...
				Various
				Vegetables
				Canned
				Various
18	2	logical examination during the year. No <i>Salmonella</i> organisms found in any of the samples examined.		Total

PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1937/48

	Disposed of for purposes other than human food				Destroyed				Removed for sorting under Sanitary Authority				Re-exported			
	T.	C.	Q.	L.	T.	C.	Q.	L.	T.	C.	Q.	L.	T.	C.	Q.	L.
Bacon ...	—	—	—	—	—	12	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Beans ...	10	19	—	—	1	6	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Beetroot ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	15	3	6
Butter ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	18	2	2	3	25	—	—	—	—
Cake and Biscuits	—	—	—	—	—	12	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carrots...	—	—	—	—	40	13	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cheese ...	—	—	—	—	18	2	2	—	—	2	—	16	—	—	—	—
Cocoa ...	—	—	—	—	1	13	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coconut ...	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Confectionery	—	—	—	—	2	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coriander Seed	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cream ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	22	—	—	—	—	4	19	1	4
Cucumbers ...	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Egg Albumen ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	10	—	—	12	1	—	—
Egg Dried ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	7	15	—	—
Egg Frozen ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1162	—	—	—	50	—	—	—
Fruit, Fresh ...	—	—	—	—	8	4	3	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fruit, Dried ...	—	12	—	—	—	9	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fruit, Canned	—	—	—	—	16	7	—	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fruit Pulp ...	—	—	—	—	8	12	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ginger ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jam ...	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lard ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Meat ...	—	—	—	—	—	5	3	23	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—
Meat, Canned...	—	—	—	—	31	6	1	11	—	—	—	—	8	6	1	8
Milk, Condensed	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nuts ...	2	18	3	12	—	4	—	18	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Offals ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onion Powder...	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peas ...	—	—	—	—	5	11	2	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poultry...	—	—	—	—	1	11	2	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Potatoes ...	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prawns...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	5	2	—
Rice ...	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sausage ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sausage Smoked	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shrimps ...	—	—	—	—	—	14	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	20
Sugar ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	17	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tea ...	3	—	3	22	—	—	2	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomatoes ...	—	—	—	—	—	9	3	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomatoes, Canned ...	—	—	—	—	1	9	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomato Concentrate...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	5	2	10
Tomato Juice ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomato Paste ...	—	—	—	—	1	5	1	26	—	—	—	—	6	19	—	18
Tomato Puree...	—	—	—	—	19	16	—	5	—	—	—	—	143	9	3	8
Various ...	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vegetables, Canned ...	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Various ...	—	—	—	—	104	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	17	10	3	6	279	1	2	7	1193	16	1	13	251	7	2	18

NEW ZEALAND 2nd GRADE CHEESE

566 samples of New Zealand 2nd Grade Cheese were examined during the year with the following results:—

<i>Coagulase-positive staphylococci</i>	<i>No. of samples</i>
Not found	370
Less than 500 per gm.	1
500—50,000 per gm.	145
50,000—500,000 per gm.	20
500,000—1,000,000 per gm.	6
1,000,000—2,000,000 per gm.	10
2,000,000—50,000,000 per gm.	14
	<hr/> 566

Brands with counts in excess of 500,000 per gm. were destroyed. The remainder was allowed to go for processing.

IMPORTED FROZEN PRAWNS

340 samples of imported frozen prawns were taken during the year. Samples from six consignments showed bacteriological plate counts per gram at 37°C in excess of 2,000,000 and one sample disclosed the presence of *Salmonella typhi-murium*. All these consignments were detained.

Where a consignment showed a plate count of between 250,000 and 2,000,000 the importer was warned that the prawns must be used immediately after defrosting.

<i>Surface plate count at 37°C.</i>	<i>No. of samples</i>
Less than 250,000	220
250,000—2,000,000	112
More than 2,000,000	8

Dried Whole Egg	15	10	340
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DESICCATED COCONUT

16 samples of Desiccated Coconut were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year. No *Salmonella* organisms were found in any of the samples examined.

SAMPLING OF EGG PRODUCTS, 1963

Country of Origin	Type of Egg Product	Quantity Sampled			No. of Samples taken	No. of Samples positive	Quantity of contaminated egg		Disposal of contaminated egg	
		T.	C.	Q. L.			T.	C. Q. L.	Released for pasteurisation T. C. Q. L.	Re-exported T. C. Q. L.
ARGENTINA	Frozen Albumen	17	6	— —	11	1	1	3 — —	1 3 — —	
AUSTRALIA	Frozen Whole Egg	3844	10	— —	1024	54	165	6 — —	165 6 — —	
	Frozen Albumen	66	5	— —	24	—				
	Frozen Yolk	10	—	— —	14	—				
BELGIUM	Frozen Albumen	—	11	— —	1	—				
CHINA	Frozen Whole Egg	433	19	— —	745	42	433	19 — —	383 19 — —	50 — — —
	(Total shipments pasteurised or re-exported by agreement with importers)									
	Frozen Albumen	857	16	— —	1171	6	18	18 — —	15 7 — —	3 11 — —
	Dried Whole Egg	208	3	— —	342	9	8	18 — —	1 3 — —	7 15 — —
	Dried Yolk	7	8	— —	13	—				
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	Dried Whole Egg	60	—	— —	25	—				
	Dried Yolk	10	—	— —	1	—				
DENMARK	Frozen Albumen	22	4	— —	4	—				
	Dried Whole Egg	2	—	— —	1	—				
	Dried Albumen	3	—	— —	2	—				
	Dried Yolk	1	—	— —	1	—				
HOLLAND	Frozen Whole Egg	15	4	— —	8	—				
	Frozen Albumen	132	18	— —	35	—				
	Dried Whole Egg	10	11	— —	41	—				
ISRAEL	Frozen Whole Egg	31	16	— —	17	—				
	Frozen Albumen	56	16	— —	30	2	4	10 — —		4 10 — —
NEW ZEALAND	Frozen Whole Egg	1084	6	— —	145	1	5	7 — —	5 7 — —	
POLAND	Frozen Whole Egg	524	14	— —	63	—				
	Frozen Albumen	78	9	— —	11	—				
	Dried Whole Egg	15	—	— —	4	—				
SOUTH AFRICA	Frozen Whole Egg	1169	7	— —	383	32	128	18 — —	128 18 — —	
U.S.A.	Dried Albumen	25	18	— —	16	—				
YUGOSLAVIA	Dried Albumen	4	—	— —	7	3	4	— — —		4 — — —
	Totals ...	8693	1	— —	4139	150	770	19 — —	701 3 — —	69 16 — —

The following types of Salmonellae were isolated during routine sampling of egg products during 1963:—

	No. of samples
Salmonella aberdeen	5
Salmonella anatum	14
Salmonella bareilly	1
Salmonella enteritidis	1
Salmonella hessarek	4
Salmonella infantis	3
Salmonella kisangani	1
Salmonella meleagridis	1
Salmonella minnesota	1
Salmonella mississippi	1
Salmonella montevideo	2
Salmonella newport	2
Salmonella oranienburg	6
Salmonella potsdam	7
Salmonella st. paul	3
Salmonella thompson	27
Salmonella typhi-murium	71
	150

From May 1963 onwards the alpha-amylase test was carried out on a number of consignments of egg products, in addition to the bacteriological test for Salmonellae, to determine whether adequate pasteurisation had been effected.

Type of Egg	No. of samples	Passed	Failed
Frozen Whole Egg	324	237	87
Frozen Albumen	5	5	—
Dried Whole Egg	15	10	5
	344	252	92

In addition to the routine sampling above, as the result of outbreaks of paratyphoid in various parts of the country, further samples were taken from stocks of Chinese Frozen Whole Egg remaining from 1962 shipments with the following results:—

	<i>No. of samples taken</i>	<i>No. of samples positive</i>	<i>Type of contamination</i>
Consignment "A"	47	6	S. paratyphi B—2 S. thompson —1 S. soahanina —1 S. dahlm —1 Arizona organism 1
Consignment "B"	32	9	S. thompson —9
Consignment "C" (all contaminated stock)	50	43	S. paratyphi B—3 S. thompson —17 S. meleagridis —15 S. mikawasima —2 S. chinovum —6

40 samples were also taken from stocks of Chinese Dried Egg products, with negative results.

BRITISH EGG

32 samples were taken of British Frozen Whole Egg. One sample was found to contain *Salmonella thompson*.

SECTION 14, FOOD & DRUGS ACT

	<i>No. of Premises</i>	<i>No. of Inspections</i>
Ice Cream Premises	196	104
Preserved Food, etc.	91	196

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	99
Factory Canteens	64
Grocers and General Provisions	118
Butchers	42
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	73
Fishmongers and Curers	26
Bakers and Pastrycooks	29
Confectioners	56
Public Houses	135
Food Factories	178
Wholesale Food Stores	112
Food Wharves and Depots	53

CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS

Inspections and re-visits	834
Notices served	43

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

Legal proceedings taken as result of complaints made by members of the public.

Date	Offence	Result
17.7.63	Selling a loaf of bread containing part of a cigarette	Fine — Costs £5. 5s. 0d.
31.7.63	Selling a bottle of milk containing a piece of wire	Case dismissed
4.12.63	Selling a bottle of orange drink containing fungus, dust, a dead fly maggot and the remains of a moth	Fine £100. 0s. 0d. Costs £10. 10s. 0d.

Sixteen warning letters were sent in respect of other articles of food complained of by members of the public.

Dealers' (Prepacked Milk) Licences

To sell Pasteurised Milk	3
To sell Sterilised Milk	2
To sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	1

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960

All food premises are inspected by the Public Health Inspectors and, during the year, written notice of requirements under the Regulations was given in respect of 43 premises.

Legal Proceedings

<i>Type of Premises</i>	<i>Offence</i>	<i>Result</i>
Cafe	Absence of hot water supply to sink. Absence of suitable wash-hand basin for persons engaged in the handling of food. (Regulations 16 & 19)	Work in hand. Summonses adjourned sine die
Grocery & Provision Shop	Defective and dirty condition of shop and store rooms. Defective and dirty condition of Water Closet (Regulations 23 & 14)	Work in hand. Summonses adjourned sine die

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.

<i>Description of Food</i>	<i>Weight</i>			
	<i>tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Fruit, Canned	—	7	1	23
Meat, Canned	—	8	2	7
Vegetables, Canned	—	—	1	4
Fish	—	1	2	—
Poultry	—	—	2	17
Meat, not canned	—	1	2	18
Offals	—	—	3	—
Various	—	1	2	1
Total	1	2	2	14

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.

ICE CREAM

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

Methylene Blue Grading

Grade 1	...	...	...	...	26
2	...	...	...	...	3
3	...	...	...	...	1
4	...	...	...	...	4
					34

Chemical Analysis

16 samples of ice cream were submitted for chemical analysis under the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order 1953. Two samples were found to be deficient in milk fat.

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT 1933

PHARMACY AND MEDICINES ACT 1941

37 premises were entered on the Council's List for the year under report.

MILK PREMISES

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1959

3 milksellers were registered under the above mentioned Acts during 1963 and 3 were removed from the Register. There were 119 milksellers on the register at the end of the year.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1960

During the year under report the following licences were granted to remain in operation until 31st December, 1965:—

Dealers' (Prepacked Milk) Licences

To sell Pasteurised Milk	...	...	3
To sell Sterilised Milk	...	...	2
To sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	1

MILK SAMPLING

Samples of milk, both for bacteriological and chemical examination, are taken from milksellers and special arrangements are made for the sampling of milk supplied to all schools, school meals services and hospitals in the borough. The total number of samples submitted for analysis during 1963 was 185 of which number 110 were taken from schools, hospitals, etc.

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

Condensed Milk	3
Evaporated Milk	2
Sterilised Milk	1
Pasteurised Milk	65
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk	3
Channel Islands Milk	1
	<hr/>
	75
	<hr/>

For Bacteriological Examination.**Pasteurised Milk:**

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

For Examination under Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.

Pasteurised Milk (from schools, hospitals, etc.)	55
Pasteurised Milk (other than from schools)	22
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk	19
Sterilised Milk	11
Channel Islands Milk	3
	<hr/>
	110
	<hr/>

To sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	1
To sell Sterilised Milk	2
To sell Pasteurised Milk	3

FOOD AND DRUGS

During the year 511 samples were submitted by the Food and Drugs Inspector. In 19 cases the analysis disclosed an infringement of the law.

No.	Date Purchased	Sample	Infringement	Remarks
69	29.1.63	Cough Balsam	Contained 0.5% chloroform. According to the label mixture should have contained 1% chloroform.	Letter to manufacturer
95	22.2.63	Marzipan	Presence of 500 parts per million sorbic acid not disclosed on label.	Letter to manufacturer
149	12.3.63	Pork Sausages	Contained only 55% meat	Letter to manufacturer
160	18.3.63	Beef Steak with Gravy (Canned)	Contained only 64% meat	Letter to manufacturer
189	29.3.63	Corned Beef (Canned)	Sample was unlabelled	} Letter to manufacturer
190	29.3.63	Baked Beans (Canned)	Sample was unlabelled	
191	2.4.63	Rose Hip Syrup	Presence of sulphur dioxide and colouring matter not disclosed on label.	Letter to manufacturer
201	5.4.63	Butter	Found to be rancid and unfit for human consumption	Letter to manufacturer and retailer
207	8.4.63	Tomatoes (Canned)	Contained 7 parts per million of Lead	Remainder of stock destroyed.
211	16.4.63	Lard	Contained 40 parts per million Butylated hydroxytoluene	Letter to manufacturer
254	6.5.63	Lard	Contained 50 parts per million Butylated hydroxytoluene	Letter to manufacturer
291	25.5.63	Dairy Ice Cream	Contained only 2½% milk fat instead of not less than 5%	Letter to manufacturer
308	30.5.63	Lard	Contained 90 parts per million Butylated hydroxytoluene	Letter to manufacturer
383	19.7.63	Butter	Contained 16.2% water instead of not more than 16%	Re-sampled
421	9.8.63	Dairy Ice Cream	Contained only 2½% milk	Re-sampled
476	3.9.63	Raspberries in Syrup	Contained 200 parts per million of Iron	Remainder of stock destroyed
511	23.9.63	Peeled Shrimps (Canned)	Contained 350 parts per million Iron and 90 parts per million Tin	Remainder of stock destroyed
594	5.11.63	Lard	Presence of 15 parts per million Butylated hydroxytoluene not disclosed on label	Letter to manufacturer
636	14.11.63	Ground Nutmeg	Contained insect fragments	Letter to manufacturer

WORK OF THE WHARVES AND FOOD INSPECTORS, 1963.

		Mr. BUTCHER	Mr. TAPSFIELD	Mr. CAMPBELL	Mr. HANCOCK	TOTALS
Visits	Food Wharves and Depots	1862	1515	1609	93	5079
	Food Factories	132	171	80	154	537
	Food Stores	673	470	145	243	1531
	Milksellers	—	—	—	108	108
	Ice Cream Premises	—	—	—	104	104
	Pharmacy and Poisons	—	—	—	27	27
	Catering Establishments	—	10	—	824	834
	Various	161	94	284	328	867
Number of samples taken for analysis	Consignments of Imported Food detained	127	147	86	—	360
	Certificates issued for Unsound Food	206	330	366	140	1042
	Intimations Served	—	—	—	43	43
	Chemical					
	Food and Drugs	—	—	—	511	511
	Imported Food Regulations	23	72	117	—	212
	Bacteriological					
	Egg Products	2210	957	1015	158	4340
	Frozen Prawns & Shrimps	—	176	164	—	340
	Desiccated Coconut	—	16	—	—	16
	Canned and Cooked Meats	3	—	—	17	20
	Other Foods	—	—	—	14	14
	Milk (Special Designation) Regulations	—	—	—	110	110
	Milk for T.B.	—	—	—	1	1
	Milk for Brucella Abortus	—	—	—	2	2
	Ice Cream	—	—	—	35	35
	Swimming Bath Water	—	—	—	4	4